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UMaine Researchers Begin Development of Red Tide Detection Device

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777; Laurie Connell 581-2470

Facial numbness, tingling in the arms and legs, nausea, dizziness -- and those are the milder symptoms.

Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, or PSP, is a very real danger in the state of Maine. Resulting from the consumption of shellfish tainted with toxins found in the algae that cause red tide, PSP has become a growing concern in recent years due to dramatic increases in the extent and frequency of red tide blooms in Maine's coastal waters.

While the state has an extensive monitoring program for detecting the presence of the various species of algae responsible for red tide, current testing procedures are costly and time consuming. Utilizing breakthrough techniques in molecular biology and sensor technology, UMaine marine scientist Laurie Connell and researcher Rosemary Smith of UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science Technology are teaming up to develop a faster, more efficient device that can detect PSP-causing algae in the field.

Backed by nearly \$400,000 in funding provided by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Monitoring and Event Response for Harmful Algal Blooms Program, the project's primary goal is to develop a small testing device that is based on a direct detection mechanism rather than enzymes or biological materials that need to be frequently replaced. The hand-held device will use a DNA-like molecule that binds to the genetic material of the organisms present in the sample. Light reflected from the bound molecules would then be measured to reveal the identity of the organisms present in the sample.

The rapid detection device will have the ability to provide on-site results nearly instantaneously at low cost, and could also be deployed on buoys to create red tide detection arrays in critical areas.

In serious cases, PSP can lead to muscle paralysis and respiratory failure. Connell and Smith's work will assist water quality managers in preventing future poisonings in Maine and around the world.

Vetelino Reaches out with Sensors!

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

Anyone who has ever had the opportunity to work with Electrical and Computer Engineering professor John Vetelino knows that "Vet" is a man on a mission. Exceptionally focused and decidedly direct, Vetelino discovers a need, establishes a goal, takes aim, and fires -- and it's a rare target that escapes his carefully engineered assault. Known around the globe as one of the leading researchers in the cutting-edge field of sensors technology, he is a world-renowned scientist and a UMaine phenomenon -- having stalked the halls in Orono for more than 35 years.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Vetelino continues to pursue a vigorous program of teaching and research, and is currently making the most of more than \$4 million in grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF). On a quest to further UMaine's reputation as a leader in engineering and science research, Vetelino's programs are bringing the

country's best and brightest young engineers and scientists to UMaine, and making the most of their talents both in the lab and in secondary school classrooms across the state.

Vetelino sees a healthy climate for engineering and science research as the best environment for economic success in the state.

"When you look at the economic condition of Maine, you realize that something needs to be done," said Vetelino. "By making the university a rallying spot for engineers and scientists, and by educating and motivating students in middle school and high school to become engineers or scientists, we can incubate small business, strengthen the state, and reverse the so-called "brain drain" that is going on."

In addition to various other research projects Vetelino is pursuing at UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST), he is the guiding force behind several interconnected programs funded by the NSF. Two such programs, GK-12 Sensors! and RET Sensors!, work together to inspire Maine's middle school and high school students to pursue careers in science and engineering. The GK-12 program connects PhD students in engineering and science with public school teachers in classrooms throughout Maine. GK-12 fellows learn by doing, helping to integrate sensors research into the existing curriculum.

RET, also known as Research Experience for Teachers, brings secondary school teachers on campus during the summer to learn about sensors by carrying out research projects related to their own areas of interest. Together, the programs put cutting-edge sensor research into the hands of high school and middle school students in Maine.

Another of Vetelino's recently funded sensors projects, the NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Program, brings high-achieving engineering undergrads from across the country to the LASST facility over the summer to share ideas and conduct research. NSF has provided more than \$2 million for these and other student research programs, giving student participants the opportunity to turn their classroom knowledge into real research experience.

Efforts are currently underway to make sponsorship of the GK-12 Sensors! a line item in the Maine state budget, helping to ensure ongoing funding for the program. In the meantime, Vetelino will continue to push forward with a growing list of engineering and science programs at UMaine. He wouldn't have it any other way.

Renewed Interest in Research Suggests Long-term Commitment in North Woods

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777; Bob Wagner 581-2903

ORONO - When commercial landowners began selling off massive tracks of the state's northern forests in the late 1990's, many Mainers wondered what the change in ownership would mean to access, land management, and conservation. Over three million acres, representing roughly one-third of Maine's commercial forest lands, changed hands in less than seven years, becoming part of the investment portfolios of institutional investors as they were sold off by wood products giants like International Paper, MeadWestvaco, and Georgia Pacific.

The new owners, ranging from small limited partnerships to retirement programs with hundreds of members, quickly switched gears with regard to forest management, shortening the length of their management plans from decades-long projections of repeated harvest and growth to five or ten-year plans aimed at ensuring an investment return in the short term.

Not surprisingly, this shift left many communities wondering about the new owners' commitment to Maine's forests and the local industries that depend on them. Recent investment by the North Woods' newest landlords suggests that they may indeed be in it for the long haul, however.

Wagner Forest Management, Black Bear Forest, Inc., and Katahdin Forest Management recently brought approximately three million acres back into the fold with regard to forest research and sustainable management strategies, aligning themselves with the goals of the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit (CFRU), a research and management co-op that has led the charge towards sustainable forestry in Maine for more than 30 years.

Representing a unique cooperative effort between the University of Maine and the state's commercial forestland owners, the CFRU supports research ranging from surveys of lynx habitat to computer-modeled strategies for sustainable tree harvests.

"The University of Maine takes a very long-term view of forest management, and has a strong commitment to contributing to the continued success of the wood products industry," said CFRU Director Bob Wagner. "Participation in the co-op by the new institutional investors is great news. It's a strong signal of both their stability and their commitment to the state."

Wagner, a University of Maine professor who has spent most of his career conducting research in the North Woods, said that the massive sale of woodland in the 1990's led to a widely-held misconception that long-time forest landowners and commercial interests were leaving because they simply couldn't make a profit in Maine. According to Wagner, the change in ownership that occurred in Maine is part of a national trend that is driven primarily by changes in business structure and tax codes. While he shares the same name with one of the major forest management firms in Northern Maine, Wagner Forest Management, Wagner and his fellow researchers do not represent any one forest products company, helping to ensure that the research being conducted benefits everyone involved, including the people of Maine.

One of the longest-lived forest research cooperatives in the country, the CFRU pursues cutting edge research initiatives for its members using a nominal per-acre membership fee. For every dollar that is contributed to the program through membership fees, the CFRU adds \$12 or more through research grants, government funding, and university support. With an annual budget of over \$400,000, the program gives its members an opportunity to benefit from research that they might not have the time or the resources to pursue on their own.

"The research unit provides the industry access to scientists and scientific rigor in a way that makes the best use of the scientific expertise that is available. The cooperative model is able to come in and conduct the type of research that no single company would want to foot the bill for," said Greg Adams, Silviculture Manager for Irving Woodlands LLC, a longtime member of the CFRU with more than a million acres of forest lands in Maine. "Irving Woodlands has been a strong supporter of the CFRU for a long time. They have done an outstanding job making sure that the research they do is relevant to good forest management."

Food Science Project Studies Fruity Ways to Prevent Diabetes

04 Jan 2006

Contact: Mary Camire (207) 581-1627; David Munson (207) 581-3777

With type 2 diabetes on the rise in Maine, UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition researcher Mary Camire and graduate student Amy Henderson are studying the ways in which common foods may reduce the risk of developing the disease. Utilizing a \$61,700 grant from the Gustavus & Louis Research Foundation, Camire will try to determine whether foods rich in the naturally occurring chemicals known as anthocyanins could help to fend off type 2 diabetes.

Known to affect some aspects of diabetes, anthocyanins are the chemicals that give purple and red fruits such as blueberries, cranberries, and strawberries their bright colors. Naturally high in anthocyanins, wild blueberries are an important crop in Maine, with an annual crop value of more than \$75 million.

Researchers involved in the project will monitor risk factors for diabetes in adult volunteers who consume two servings of anthocyanin-containing foods per day over a period of three months. If the risk factors are measurably reduced, the project could identify a simple and easy way to reduce the risk of developing diabetes.

A Well-engineered Family

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson 581-3777; Steve Adam 581-2262

Five members of the Sargent family, spanning four generations, were honored at the University of Maine's Francis Crowe Society Induction Ceremony on December 16 for their successes in engineering and their family's ever-growing list of accomplishments in the construction trades.

UMaine College of Engineering alumni Herbert Sargent, James Sargent, Herb Sargent, Shane Sargent, and Ralph Leonard were inducted into the college's prestigious Francis Crowe Society as distinguished members, joining the likes of Senator John Glenn as outstanding contributors to the field of engineering.

From commercial construction projects, to airport runways, to hydroelectric renovations, H E Sargent, Inc. of Old Town has been tackling Maine's toughest engineering challenges for more than 75 years. The family was recognized by the university for their long history of accomplishments in engineering, both as a Maine-based company and as a group of individual engineers.

The annual Francis Crowe Award recognizes outstanding contributions by alumni and others to the various engineering disciplines. UMaine Engineering alumnus Francis Crowe, 1905, was a renowned civil engineer who designed and constructed nearly 20 major dams in the western United States, including Boulder Dam.

Biodiesel Project shows Promise in Northern Maine

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson 581-3777; Peter Sexton 764-3361

UMaine Cooperative Extension Crops Specialist Peter Sexton's expertise has played a key role in examining biodiesel as an alternative form of energy in Northern Maine. Working through a cooperative arrangement with the Presque Isle consulting firm Regent Associates, he contributed to a feasibility study for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians that may make northern Maine a key supplier of refined biodiesel products throughout the state.

According to Regent's John Cancelarich, the proposed facility would produce five million gallons of biodiesel per year for distribution in the state of Maine. While the state's current production of oils crops like soybeans and canola are too low to support such a facility at present, the processing plant would create a demand that could be a boon to Maine farmers.

"Maine does not produce enough to supply the plant with the present acreage, but we would expect that acreage to double or even triple within a short time," said Cancelarich. "The operation would start off by processing mostly what's called raw, degummed soy oil from out of state, that would be made into biodiesel and distributed by rail within the state."

Cancelarich said that tentative agreements had already been made regarding markets for the fuel, and that he, Sexton, and representatives of the Maliseet would be formally approaching investors beginning in January.

From contributing to the initial grant proposal to outlining the potential for oil crop production in the state, Sexton's involvement in the project contributed valuable research data, field expertise, and the considerable scientific and communication infrastructures of the UMaine Cooperative Extension, helping to make a good idea into a workable proposal. Sexton is currently pursuing another research project that is testing the viability of Maine-grown canola and other oil crops as potential sources of raw material for the manufacture of biodiesel.

Rasaiah Honored as American Physical Society Fellow

04 Jan 2006

Contact: David Munson 581-3777; Jayendran Rasaiah 581-1179

UMaine professor Jayendran C. Rasaiah was recently recognized for his many contributions to eletrolyte theory and thermodynamics research when he was elected by his peers into Fellowship of the American Physical Society (APS).

No more than one-half of one percent of APS members are elected to Fellowship, which recognizes those members who have made truly outstanding contributions to the field of physics. Founded in 1899, APS has more than 43,000 members.

A professor in the Department of Chemistry for more than 30 years, Rasaiah's research interests include theoretical and computer simulation studies of the structure and dynamics of liquids, nanotubes, and confined systems. Rasaiah is both a professor of chemistry and a cooperating professor of physics at UMaine, and has received numerous other honors during his long career.

Rasaiah will be recognized in the March, 2006 issue of APS News, as well as on the APS website at <http://www.aps.org>

Local Storm Water Educator Available to Schools, Groups

03 Jan 2006

Contact: Michael Dennett, (207) 581-3213, or Laura Wilson (207) 581-2971 or (800) 870-7270

ORONO, Me. -- Environmental educator Michael Dennett wants to teach your class or group about storm water runoff. Dennett uses hands-on models and interactive activities to show how runoff from lawns, rooftops and driveways pollutes our streams and rivers via storm drains. His program introduces practices and habits that can keep our local waterways cleaner.

The Natural Resources Defense Council names runoff one of the worst sources of water contamination: worse than factories and sewage plants. Storm water runoff collects dangerous bacteria, toxic chemicals, soil and garbage on its way to our waterways.

Dennett is an AmeriCorps volunteer working for University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Bangor Area Storm Water group. Focusing primarily on Bangor, Old Town, Orono, Milford, Veazie, Hampden, and Brewer, he is

seeking schools, teachers, environmental groups, home-school groups, Scouts or other local organizations that want to include watershed and storm water education in their curriculum or activities. Program activities can be aligned with Maine Learning Results.

Dennett is available through August 2006 to do one-time visits, or regular sessions that incorporate more specific aspects of water and water pollution, with the possibility of service-learning activities through a spring stream clean-up or other volunteer service projects. His programs are tailored to grades five through seven, but can be adjusted to other age groups. Contact Dennett at 207-581-3213 for more information.

UMaine Professor Honored by American Physical Society

10 Jan 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine Professor of Chemistry Jayendran C. Rasaiah has been elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS).

Rasaiah, who also is a cooperating professor of physics at UMaine, specializes in physical, theoretical and computational chemistry and chemical physics. He was cited by APS for his "pioneering contributions to fundamental electrolyte theory, the thermodynamics of polar fluids, the transport of ions in polar solvents and water through carbon nanotubes, and studies of water in nonpolar cavities."

The society's fellowship program recognizes members who make advances in knowledge through original research and publication, or made significant and innovative contributions in the application of physics to science and technology. They also are recognized for contributions to the teaching of physics and for their APS activities. Each year, no more than one-half of 1 percent of the society's membership is recognized by their peers for fellowship status.

Rasaiah joined the UMaine faculty in 1969. Twice he was a guest scientist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and in 2000, was a visiting scientist at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In 1981, he was a visiting professor at the University of New South Wales and, in previous years, a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University and Science Research Council Fellow at Oxford University.

His multidisciplinary research interests include theoretical and computer simulation studies of the structure and dynamics of liquids and electrolyte solutions, the thermodynamics of polar fluids, the mobility of ions in solutions and in channels and water permeation of carbon nanotubes and cavities. His early theoretical contributions to electrolyte solutions and polar fluids, done in collaboration with Professors Harold Friedman and George Stell at Stony Brook, are widely cited in textbooks and journals, and used extensively by scientists and engineers working in these fields.

Letters from his peers state that Rasaiah "has sought and solved some of the really substantial problems in the statistical mechanics of electrolyte solutions and more recently in liquids with polar molecules. His work is of very high quality, and has rightly given him an international reputation."

"There is no question about the importance of Rasaiah's work; it is very significant and of excellent quality."

Rasaiah's studies of ion mobility in water, with graduate student S. Koneshan and Professor Ruth Lynden-Bell, then at Queens University in Belfast U.K, helped explain a long-standing problem on the size and charge dependence of the transport of ions in solution.

His most recent research findings, published in Nature and Proceedings of the National Academy, were done in collaboration with colleague Gerhard Hummer of NIH, postdoctoral Fellow Jerzey P. Noworyta and graduate students

(Aparna Waghe, Subramaniam Vaitheeswaran and Hao Yin). They used computer simulations to discover how water molecules are transported through partially confined systems, such as carbon nanotubes, and to explore water clusters in nonpolar cavities. He and his students (Vaitheeswaran and Yin) have also used molecular dynamics simulations to study surface wetting and phase transitions of thin films of water between plates in an electric field.

Rasaiah's research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation.

UMaine Continuing Ed for Maine Business Speaks to Bottom Line Skills

12 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Linda Godfrey or Wanda Westley, 581-3414; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO - In a state like Maine, where many business leaders rise through the company ranks with excellent job skills but often little training in managing people, the learning curve can be expensive in terms of time and money. Over the last 20 years, several thousand men and women and at all levels of company and organization hierarchies have addressed that deficit through short intensive programs offered by the University of Maine's Division of Lifelong Learning. They have improved communications, teambuilding, time, priority, conflict and project management skills, and learned new leadership techniques. The division's Continuing Education for Maine Businesses (CEMB) program has announced its spring 2006 series of six one-day business management courses offered on the Orono campus beginning Jan. 24. Classes begin at the university's Hutchinson Center in Belfast on March 1. Participants may enroll for individual classes or package classes together to achieve a Certificate in Supervisory Leadership. CEMB also brings customized programs directly into business and organization worksites throughout Maine for tailor-made classes on a wide range of supervisory and management topics. They range from dealing with difficult people to delegation and coaching. CEMB also can design a course of study or address a particular challenge a company is facing. Through this format, an instructor offers the training to a whole group of employees within the host company or organization. Classes are geared for managers at both ends of the spectrum -- those who have had no formal schooling in skills critical to effective management, and employees with advanced college business degrees, who would like to boost their management and people skills quickly and inexpensively. Continuing Education for Maine Businesses allows employers to pick and choose from a wide range of courses, which can be just one day or extended over several months, according to Linda Godfrey, program coordinator. "Our goal is to meet a group's needs in a focused, practical, bottom-line approach," she says. "It's kind of the Cliff Notes on business management," Godfrey says. "Our program really engages the people's minds as well as addressing specific situations to give people new ways to think about their roles and learn new techniques for working with and motivating the people they manage." In celebration of the CEMB program's 20th anniversary this year, Godfrey says tuition is being reduced by 20 percent for this spring's classes. "This is a way for us to celebrate two decades of serving Maine businesses, and also inspire employees and employers to try out this type of training." All too often, Godfrey says, skilled employees are promoted to supervisory or management positions without regard for the employee's ability to work with people, and without any training programs to support their new responsibilities. Studies have shown that corporate investment in professional development skills is one of the best investments a company can make. Good leadership skills lead to productive employee relationships and contribute to an environment of teamwork - - and ultimately, more success, she says. People skills, often called "soft skills," are the most challenging skills to excel at in the workplace, says Godfrey. "We address these in a very specific way so people can achieve new ideas in a very short amount of time," she adds. "We bring energized instructors, who themselves are successful professionals, together with employees to boost each worker's ability to rise to his or her highest level of competency, contribute significantly to the success of a work group, and also to find personal satisfaction in supervisory, management and leadership roles." Information about the Continuing Education for Maine Businesses program is available by contacting Wanda Westley in the Division of Lifelong Learning at (207) 581-3414. The Continuing Education for Maine Businesses classes for Orono and Belfast are as follows: "Critical Skills of Supervision and Management" This class provides an in-depth look at the full range of skills necessary for effective supervision and management. Specific aspects of human dynamics receive special attention during this course. Case studies are included. (Required to complete certificate) MGT801, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Jan. 24, Orono, March 1, Belfast "Effective Communication Skills for Supervisors and Managers" This class deals with the most important skill for effective supervision and management -- good communication. Practical applications and effective ways to inform, coordinate and motivate people will be covered. MGT803, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.,

Feb.14, Orono, March 14, Belfast "Managing Conflict and Dealing with Difficult People" Conflict can ruin job satisfaction, productivity, and retention. It can poison a healthy work climate. Skills learned in this class can transform negative and destructive behavior and reduce conflict. MGT811, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Feb.28, Orono, April 5, Belfast "Teamwork and Successful Project Management:" Data and techniques for creating and leading effective teams. A focus on visioning, goal setting, planning, communication and problem solving, teams member's roles and productive interpersonal relationships. MGT806, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., March 15, Orono, April 18, Belfast "Time and Priority Management for Top Performance" Practical tips, tools and solutions for increasing workplace efficiency and effectiveness. Improving organizational skills to effectively and efficiently manage people, time, energy and resources. MGT810, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., March 28, Orono, May 2, Belfast "Delegation, Coaching and Influencing Others" Influential leadership in the workplace includes expertise in delegation, and the development of employees. Success happens when trust and respect bring out the best in each person and creates the commitment needed to achieve a company's or organization's goals. Practical applications, best practices and cases included. MGT802, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., April 4, Orono, May 16, Belfast

University of Maine Musicians Part of Ellsworth Gilbert & Sullivan Celebration

13 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Lud Hallman, 581-1249; Marilyn Brossmer (207) 374-2516; George Manlove, 581-3756

Editors' note: Cast members with major roles and their home towns are listed in this release. Communities include Bangor, Bar Harbor, Blue Hill, Ellsworth, Herman, North Penobscot, Orland, Orono, Trenton, Southwest Harbor, Sullivan, and West Tremont and Wiscasset.

ELLSWORTH - If there is any music from the 19th Century classics you might find people singing in the shower, it could well be a catchy song from one of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operas.

Whether it is a signature song of the character "poor little" Buttercup or the "three little maids from school" from "The Mikado," or of Captain Corcoran, the "well-bred captain of the Pinafore," or Sir Joseph, the admittedly unskilled "ruler of the Queen's 'Navee,'" from "H.M.S. Pinafore," it is the kind of memorable music that can go around in your head to the point of distraction.

"Gilbert and Sullivan is almost a cult," says UMaine music professor and baritone Lud Hallman of Bangor. "People either love it or hate it."

Hallman, who worked with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society in Waterville for a half dozen productions, has been part of the production team for the last two years with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County. He is music director for the society's upcoming 30th anniversary production of two operettas, "H.M.S. Pinafore" and "Trial by Jury."

The cast and orchestra include amateur singers and instrumentalists from the coast, and several from the University of Maine in Orono and the University of Maine System offices in Bangor. The two operettas are being performed Jan. 27-Jan. 29 and Feb. 3-6 at The Grand Auditorium in Ellsworth.

Geoffrey Shovelton, a former principal tenor with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company of London (Gilbert & Sullivan's original venue), is artistic director, and singer and dancer Deborah Clague is assistant director and choreographer.

"H.M.S. Pinafore" is one of Gilbert & Sullivan's best known and loved comic operas. It is set aboard the ship Pinafore, and tells the tale of class structure and impossible loves. "Trial by Jury," a short parody of the British judiciary system, will be the opening act.

David Wilson, director of facilities for the University of Maine System, has participated off and on with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock for 20 years and has sung many lead roles. The Stockton Springs tenor has two lead parts

this year, the Learned Judge in "Trial by Jury," and Captain Corcoran in "H.M.S. Pinafore."

Wilson likes Gilbert & Sullivan for several reasons.

"I'm a fan of British humor, anyway, and that's a pretty good example of British humor," he says. "I really like singing and it's good fun stuff to sing and it does involve acting, which is also fun."

He calls the characteristically irreverent themes of lyricist William Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan "crazy, fun operettas."

Hallman, who also is music director and conductor of the UMaine Oratorio Society and has served as music director and conductor for dozens of productions, from Broadway musicals to opera at both amateur and professional levels, has carried lead roles in many Gilbert & Sullivan productions. He finds Sullivan's music an important standard. "I think Gilbert & Sullivan operas are an extremely important part of the repertoire," he says.

Important or just fun, the Gilbert & Sullivan operettas parody British royalty, aristocracy, government and pomposity. Many of their themes still apply aptly to society, Hallman says - much like a 19th Century version of today's witty musical comedy troupe, The Capitol Steps, which jabs at Washington, D.C. politicians with hilarious accuracy.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County was formed in 1976 by a group of local Gilbert & Sullivan aficionados as a way to entice more people to come to the theater. It has presented Gilbert & Sullivan every season since then, usually in winter and reprised in the summer for summer visitors. This year's Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 3-5 Friday and Saturday performances are at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18, adults; \$15, seniors; and \$9 students. Tickets may be ordered from The Grand at (207) 667-9500, or via the Internet at www.grandonline.org/. This year's summer performance is scheduled July 13 through July 16.

In addition to Wilson, cast members for "Trial by Jury" include recent UMaine graduate Abra Iwanko of Orono, Lisa Blanchette of Sullivan, her father David Blanchette of Orland, Jason Smith of Bar Harbor, Irv Hodgkin of Ellsworth, Todd Beckerman of Southwest Harbor, Jennifer Chalout of Herman, Bethany Van Gorder of West Tremont and Anna Sproule of Trenton.

The cast for "H.M.S. Pinafore" includes David Wilson, Steve Elliott of North Penobscot, Zack Field, Roland Dube and Bill Williams of Bangor, Todd Beckerman of Southwest Harbor, Lindsay Wilson of Ellsworth, Sandi Blanchette of Orland and Debra Hangge of Ellsworth. University of Maine student musicians playing in the orchestra include Nathaniel Kellogg of Orono, Joshua King of Wiscasset and Andrew Sullivan of Caribou. UMaine New Media major Nyssa Gaffney-Kessell of Blue Hill is a soprano in the chorus.

Cabaret at UMaine this Week

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Matthew Small, (646) 256-0865

ORONO -- Six University of Maine performers will present a cabaret called "Songs for Change" this Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Class of 1944 Bear's Den Pub in Memorial Union. Ticket sales will benefit Alternative Spring Break, a university program that annually dispatches over 50 student volunteers to service projects across the country during their March vacation.

Emily Ann Cain, Andrew Bodwell, Rebecca Guildford, Matthew Small and Molly Webster will perform a variety of musical theatre tunes with Dr. Laura Artesani, assistant professor of music, on piano. All are current and former

members of University Singers, UMaine's premier choral ensemble. The evening will include songs from "Rent," "A Chorus Line," "Jekyll & Hyde," "Avenue Q," "Pippin," "Cabaret," "Newsies," "Chicago," "The Wizard of Oz," "Guys and Dolls," "Cats," and others.

"Songs for Change" is produced by Lauri Sidelko, Cain and Small. The same team presented the critically-acclaimed "Broadway Rocks" in 2000 to benefit the Shaw House in Bangor. The stage manager is UMaine alum Lindsey J. Harriman. Small, a graduate student in counselor education, will direct the ensemble. The event is sponsored by Student Entertainment and the Division of Student Affairs.

Seating in the first-ever cabaret for the new Bear's Den will be limited. The cabaret will run Wed., Jan 18 and Thurs., Jan. 19, at 8 p.m. Tickets (faculty, staff, students \$5; general public \$8) will be available at the door at 7:30 p.m.

Expert on German Politics at UMaine Jan. 30

16 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A. James McAdams, a leading expert on contemporary German politics, will visit the University of Maine on Monday, Jan. 30 to deliver a talk, "The German Election and the Victory of Angela Merkel : Its Impact on European Union and Relations with the United States."

Merkel, Germany's newly elected chancellor, made her first visit to this country as chancellor last week. She was elected late in 2005, replacing Gerhard Schr

UMaine Athletic Director Search Underway

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Brent Williamson at (207) 581-4158 ORONO, Me. -- A national search for a University of Maine athletic director is underway, with a ten-member search committee at work on identifying qualified candidates to lead the Black Bear athletic department. In November, UMaine President Robert Kennedy appointed the search committee, which is chaired by UMaine oceanography professor David Townsend. The group met several times in late 2005 to develop a job description and related materials, so that active searching could begin this month. "This is an important position in our administration, and I am pleased that we are moving forward in this process," Kennedy says. "Athletics represent an important part of our student experience at UMaine, and sports provide a strong link to the greater community. I believe that UMaine has the appropriate perspective on intercollegiate athletics, and we aim to hire a strong leader who will manage a department that continues the Black Bear tradition of excellence both in the classroom and on the field of play." UMaine has 416 varsity student-athletes, competing in 19 sports. The Black Bears are Maine's only Division I sports program. UMaine sports generate statewide news coverage, and games in some sports are broadcast live on radio and television in both Bangor and Portland. "This is an exciting opportunity," says Townsend, who is the director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. "As one who has been affiliated with UMaine since graduating from high school, I appreciate the enthusiasm that people feel for Black Bear sports, and the important role athletics plays in our campus life. As a professor, I have had the opportunity to teach many UMaine student-athletes. I have been impressed with their commitment to the necessary balance between sports and studies, and I am hopeful that we will find an athletic director who exemplifies and models that ethic." Blake James has served as UMaine's interim athletic director since July 2005. James was senior associate athletic director during the tenure of athletic director Patrick Nero, who left UMaine last summer to become commissioner of the America East Conference. The search committee includes two additional UMaine faculty members: Sandra Caron from the Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies and George Jacobson of the Dept. of Biological Sciences. Jacobson also serves as UMaine's NCAA Faculty Representative. Women's basketball coach Ann McInerney and hockey coach Tim Whitehead represent the

athletics department staff on the committee. Joe Carr, director of university relations, Tammy Light, interim director of student records, Associate Dean of Students Angel Loreda and Dan Willett, a planned giving officer in the University of Maine Foundation, are also on the committee, along with community members Barb Dalton and Tom Patrick. Dalton is a 1981 UMaine graduate who lives in Veazie; Patrick, who graduated from UMaine in 1962, lives in West Boothbay Harbor. When finalists are identified, they will come to UMaine for a series of interviews and meetings.

Home Study Course for First-Time Investors Available

16 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Kyle McCaskill, UMaine Cooperative Extension, (207)581-3185 or 800-287-0274

ORONO--You don't need a lot of money to begin increasing your net worth. University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a home-study course for beginning investors with small dollar amounts. "Investing for Your Future: A Cooperative Extension System Basic Investing Home Study Course "was developed for people who are new to investing and may not have thousands or even hundreds of dollars to start with.

The first three units explain how and why to invest, and explore credit management, retirement planning, risk, and creating a savings plan. The next five units break down types of investing: equity investing, fixed-income investing, mutual fund investing, tax-deferred investing, and investing with small dollar amounts. The final three units review investment resources, the selection of professional financial advisors, and investment fraud. Each unit wraps up with specific steps you can take to apply the course material to your life, and includes examples, worksheets, and a glossary.

The 158-page eleven-unit home study guide was developed by a consortium of six land-grant universities, and is available from UMaine Extension

Senior Companion Volunteer Honored at Blaine House

16 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Anna Saar, 207-743-6329 or 800-287-1482

Note: a photo is available upon request

AUGUSTA--Denise Lacasse of Lewiston has been honored by the Home Care Alliance of Maine for her outstanding commitment and compassion as a Senior Companion volunteer. In November, Lacasse received the Home Care Volunteer of the Year award at the Blaine House Tea in Augusta, which is organized annually by the Home Care Alliance of Maine and the Maine Hospice Council.

Sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Senior Companion Program (SCP) is part of the National Senior Service Corps. SCP volunteers are aged 60 and over and provide companionship and support to homebound adults. Through a partnership between UMaine Extension and Androscoggin Home Care and Hospice, Lacasse volunteers 15

UMaine Study Looks at Maine Sea Scallop Populations

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Paul Rawson (207) 581-4326; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - UMaine Professor of Marine Science Paul Rawson and Ph.D. candidate Erin Owen are using funds provided by the National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration and Maine Sea Grant Program to study populations of sea scallops along the Maine coast.

An economically important fishery in the state, the scallop harvest has been steadily declining in recent years, with state scallop landings dropping in value from more than \$15 million in 1981 to less than \$1 million in 2004. Rawson and Owen are using the \$110,000, two-year grant to look at the ecology and genetics of scallop populations in the context of various environmental factors. This study will determine whether the Cobscook Bay sea scallop population is a separate stock from the population found in Penobscot Bay.

By looking at the relationships between different scallop populations along the coast, Rawson hopes to assist in fine-tuning management strategies for specific coastal regions.

UMaine Report Helps State Prepare for Oil Spills

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Caroline Noblet (207) 581-3172; David Munson (207) 581-3777

With the occurrence of two major oil spills along the coast of Maine in recent decades, preparing the state for a quick recovery in the event of a spill has become a critical need. Analysts at UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center have helped meet that need by identifying more than 700 recreational sites that have the potential to be directly impacted by an oil spill and determining the usage patterns at those sites.

The MCSPC report is an important first step toward establishing the economic value of affected sites to the state. Reliable usage data is required in order to facilitate timely and effective recovery efforts and to quickly process claims against those parties responsible for the spill.

The report has been posted on the MCSPC website at: <http://www.umaine.edu/mcsc/reports/Final-OilSpillReportv2.pdf>

Of Land and Water and Trudging Stone-age Men

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact; Joe Kelley (207) 581-2162; David Munson (207) 581-3777

It seems that UMaine scientist Joe Kelley is wrapped up in yet another research project.

The intrepid marine geology professor recently presented his findings from a three-month research foray into Ireland, where he directed his considerable expertise towards unraveling the dynamic history of the Irish coast.

Despite a bout of unsavory weather that was wet and dreary even by Irish standards, Kelley and his fellow researchers Andrew Cooper and Derek Jackson of the University of Ulster were able to gather some eye-opening data regarding the history of sea-level change at various points along the island's spectacular coastline. Utilizing seismic reflection equipment and coring techniques finely tuned through years of similar data collection in the Gulf of Maine, the small group quite literally broke new ground beneath the waves of the North Channel, disproving some previous theories about the composition of marine sediments off Ireland's coast. Ultimately, the data told an exciting new story about the Emerald Isle and its historical relationship with Scotland, quickly swinging the eager eye of the Irish press toward Kelley and his colleagues.

"The core samples we took put the (sea-level) low point at about 30 meters below present levels. The low point occurred at approximately 12,000 years before the present, based on radio carbon dating. " said Kelley. "The data suggested that Ireland was never linked to Scotland, which was really big news in Ireland. The press was there taking our picture on the boat, and the story was in the major papers. This data solves an important geological and anthropological problem."

The conclusions drawn from the study's four-and-one-half-inch diameter samples hit the Irish public like a ton of bricks, briefly lifting Kelley to celebrity status and eroded some long-held beliefs about the Emerald Isle's geological and anthropological history. At the heart of the story's popularity was Kelley's interpretation of sea level change over time. Using carbon dating of buried seashells as a temporal point of reference, Kelley examined the stratification of sand, gravel, and marine mud deposits, establishing a timeline for the emergence of the unique geological characteristics of the Irish coast spanning tens of thousands of years. That timeline, as it turned out, contradicts the long-held notion that Ireland's first human population arrived via a land bridge connecting Ireland to Scotland.

"Our study challenges the notion of a former land bridge to Ireland to enable humans to walk from Scotland," Kelley told the Irish press. "We believe the first human inhabitants of the island were mariners."

As in Maine, much of the geography in Ireland has been sculpted by glacial ice, massive sheets of which pushed across the Pleistocene landscape over thousands of years and then retreated as the climate warmed. Kelley's data showed that sea level varied widely in response to glacial forces, ranging from 30 meters above to 30 meters below the current average. A glacial ice cap may have linked Ireland and Scotland during the late Quaternary period, but archeological evidence to date suggests that there were no humans present during that time to make the dangerous journey.

The data supporting Kelley's conclusions didn't come easy. For the entire three months, Kelley and his team carried out their fieldwork under a shroud of near-constant precipitation. Alternating periods of light rain and driving rain, punctuated by drizzle, made core-gathering excursions aboard the Ireland Department of Agriculture's research vessel Lough Foyle difficult if not impossible, scaling back the project's time at sea to just two days. As if the wet weather wasn't enough, one of Europe's largest motorcycle races, the North West 200, tied up Kelly's base of operations in the tiny town of Coleraine for more than a week.

Unfazed, Kelley worked through the chaotic mix of squealing tires and burning petrol, slipping out of town to explore the uniquely beautiful geography of Ireland. Kelley continues to interpret the data he gathered at several other sites during the trip, including radar images taken near the small coastal town of Millan Bay where his family originated.

"There are ancient beaches, ruined castles, and sheep everywhere, and I couldn't begin to show you the range of geography," Kelley said this enthusiasm. "Ireland is just a beautiful place."

Biophysical Society Presents UMaine Grad Student with Travel Award

17 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Ellen Weiss (301) 634-7176; David Munson (207) 581-3777

Jennifer Rochira, a graduate student in UMaine's Functional Genomics program, has received a travel grant from the Biophysical Society to attend the organization's 49th annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah in February.

Rochira was selected based on the merit of her research, which focuses on the use of nanoparticles and specialized microscopy techniques in medical and other biological applications. She will be formally recognized for her work on February 18th, and will present her paper, "Fluorescence correlation spectroscopy reveals intermittency and improved photobleaching resistance of CdSe/ZnS quantum dots for biological applications" at the conference.

The Biophysical Society was founded in 1957 to encourage development and dissemination of knowledge in biophysics. The organization's annual meeting brings together over 6,000 research scientists in the multidisciplinary fields representing biophysics, and is the largest meeting of biophysicists in the world.

Cognitive Neuroscientist to Share Views on Education

18 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Cognitive neuroscientist and clinical psychologist Herbert J. Weingartner will present a free, public lecture on Tuesday, Jan. 24. His topic will be "Cognitive Neuroscience and Education: Establishing a Dialogue." Weingartner's talk, which will explore existing themes, emerging research and implications for teaching and learning, takes place at 4 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Maine Center for the Arts.

An acclaimed researcher in cognitive science and its relevance for education and effective learning environments, Weingartner has held top cognitive neuroscience leadership positions at the National Institutes of Health and served on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Weingartner is the College of Education and Human Development's 2005-06 Distinguished Visiting Shibles Professor. During his appointment, Weingartner is working with UMaine faculty to build an interdisciplinary approach to investigating the various psychological and neuroscience bases of human intelligence.

"There's a great divide between cognitive neuroscience and the practical problems of how we educate not just our youth but throughout the lifespan," says Weingartner. "While we know a great deal about detail at a molecular level, we still have much to learn when it comes to understanding complex cognitive functioning relevant to education and creating effective learning environments." And, he says, cognitive neuroscientists and educators have much to learn from one another.

Weingartner will point out some of the premises, as well as possible pitfalls, in translating and applying cognitive neuroscience to education. He will also discuss the "knowledge-centered" classroom environment where attention is given to what is taught, why it is taught, and what competence or mastery looks like. This environment, he says, must include formative and ongoing assessments designed to make student thinking visible to both teachers and learners. Such determining assessments are essential, he says, if the teacher is to grasp students' preconceptions, understand where they are in the developmental corridor from informal to formal thinking, and design instruction accordingly.

The audience will have the opportunity to submit questions during the lecture.

Women's Issues, Progress is Focus of UMaine Lunchtime Lecture Series

18 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Mazie Hough or Angela Olson 581-1228 ORONO -- The Women's Study Center and Women in the Curriculum at UMaine will take up women's rights issues and check in on progress over the last several decades. All lunch series programs are held in the Bangor Lounge at the Memorial Union unless otherwise noted, and all are accessible. The public is invited to these free lectures by University of Maine faculty members, students, staff and special invited guests. March is Women's History Month. The spring lectures are scheduled as follows: Tuesday, Jan. 24 "Is 20 Years of UMaine's Nonsexist Language Policy Enough? Reflections on the Past, Challenges for the Future," with

Eric Peterson, professor, communication and journalism, and John Diamond, executive director of external affairs, University of Maine System; Tuesday, January 31 "Retelling Our Stories: Women's Rights and Social Justice," with Sarah Bigney, undergraduate student, international affairs and Honors College, Daya Taylor, undergraduate student, biology and German, and Tiffany Warzecha, undergraduate student, anthropology; part of Human Rights Awareness Week; Wednesday, February 8 "A Panel on the Traffic in Bodies: Systems of Slavery in 19th Century Women's Writing," with Silvana Costa, "Uncle Tom's Cabin: The Presence of Silence and Other Such Shadows," Taryn Norman, "A Legal Sexual Market: Marriage as a Broad-Based Economy," and Patricia Sithole, "Harriet Jacobs: Configuring Women in the Private and Public Workplace"; part of Black History Month; Wednesday, February 15 "Saving Title IX: A Call for Action," with Lynn Atherley, UMaine head volleyball coach, Janice Clark, interim director of student services, athletics program, and Rena Lolar, graduate student in psychology, with Kristin Langellier, Mark and Marcia Bailey Professor of Speech, moderating; Wednesday, February 22 "Women in Black: Creating International Feminist Alliances for Peace," with Lee Sharkey, assistant professor of English and women's studies, University of Maine at Farmington; Tuesday, February 28 "Oral History: Students Appreciating the Art of Nursing," with Catherine Berardelli, Elizabeth Clark and Ann Sossong, assistant professors of nursing; Tuesday, March 21 "Opening the Club: Overcoming Gender-Related Barriers in School Administration," with Dianne Hoff, assistant professor of educational leadership; Tuesday, March 28 "Activism in the Women's Studies Classroom," with Susan Iverson, adjunct faculty, women's studies and higher education leadership, Kati McCarthy, undergraduate student in women's studies, and Aimee Poulin, undergraduate student in the Honors College; Tuesday, April 4 "The ABCs of Date Rape Drugs at the University of Maine," with Kathryn Jennings, graduate assistant, alcohol and drug education program, Sgt. Deb Mitchell, crime prevention specialist, UMaine Public Safety, and Carey Nason, coordinator, Safe Campus Project; part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month; Wednesday, April 12 "Voices of Honduran Women: Reflections on a Service Learning Course," with Kathleen March, professor of Spanish, and students from SPA 496 and MLC 496; Wednesday, April 19 (Coe Room) "Ozzie and Harriet, Same-Sex Marriage, and the Culture Wars: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Families in Maine, 1960-Present," with Howard Solomon, scholar in residence, LGBT Collection of the Sampson Center on Diversity, University of Southern Maine; part of Gay Pride Week; Wednesday, April 26 "Creating Community Through Diversity: Bangor Area Clergy Talk About Shared Leadership, Collaboration and Consensus," with Grace Bartlett, United Methodist Church, Elaine Hewes, Lutheran Church, Elaine Peresluha, Unitarian Universalist Church, and Constance Wells, United Church of Christ; Tuesday, May 2 "Telling Somali Women's Stories," with Mazie Hough, associate director, Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, Kim Huisman, assistant professor, sociology, Kristin Langellier, Mark and Marcia Bailey Professor of Speech, and Carol Toner, coordinator, Maine Studies Program. The WIC/WST program seeks to help the University of Maine achieve a balanced curriculum that includes the contributions, perspectives, values, and needs of women as well as of men. More information about the program and its activities is available on the Women in the Curriculum, Women's Studies website at <http://www.umaine.edu/wic/>

Faculty, Staff, Students Sought to Welcome Junior Biathlons to Maine

18 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Steve Bowler, (207) 866-3400; Scott Arndt, marketing and promotions director, 2006 Biathlon Junior World Championships, 207-540-1000 (work), 207-551-3573 (cell)

ORONO -- UMaine students, staff and faculty volunteers are being sought to help greet nearly 90 international youngsters arriving Jan. 23-25 at Bangor International Airport to compete in the first Biathlon Junior World Championship to be held in the United States.

The 2006 Biathlon Junior World Championship is attracting 450 team members from 30 countries for a 10-day competition Jan. 26-Feb. 3. They'll be staying in the Presque Isle area. Most of the young athletes are flying directly to Northern Maine, but many will land in Bangor and take buses to Presque Isle.

"Our job in Bangor is to greet, tag luggage, answer questions and get the athletes on their way to Presque Isle," says Steve Bowler, a volunteer for the biathlon events for the last two years. Bowler, now the marketing director at Dirigo

Pines Retirement Community in Orono, remains an active supporter of the annual biathlon championships. "In the past two years in Presque Isle, we had hundreds of school children and community people come to the airport to meet and greet the athletes. They said it was the nicest welcoming they ever experienced - it was just good Maine hospitality."

Flying into Bangor the evening of Monday, Jan. 23 will be six people from the Netherlands and 13 from Finland, arriving at 9:23 p.m.

Arriving Tuesday evening at 8:14 p.m. will be 12 people from Sweden. On Wednesday evening, Jan. 25, two people from Switzerland and 16 from France arrive in Bangor at 8:14 p.m. On Wednesday, 13 Italians are scheduled to arrive at 9:23 p.m., with 11 Bulgarians and 15 people from the Czech Republic due in at 9:48 p.m.

The success in the last two years of the adult Biathlon championship in Presque Isle has great implications on future World Cups and Olympic trial events in Maine, Bowler says.

More information is available on the website: <http://www.nordicheritagecenter.org/>

Bowler expects 20 or so student members of the Hampden Latin Club also will join the welcoming party on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. He notes that biathlon organizers will be grateful to anyone who turns out to welcome the young athletes.

"We also would welcome any UMaine students or university faculty or staff to come by to help transfer luggage from the airport terminal to the buses," Bowler says. Some of the athletes are not fluent in English.

For more information or further details, Bowler can be reached at (207) 866-3400.

UMaine's Annual Career Fair Connects Students, Jobs

25 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Patty Counihan, (207) 581-1359, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- College students who want to leapfrog much of the job search process after graduation might do well to consider attending the UMaine Career Center's 2006 Career Fair Feb. 1 in the university field house and Memorial gym.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the annual event is free to attend and will gather more than 100 companies and organizations, whose representatives are anxious to scout out future employees or interns from one of the biggest educated young labor pools around.

Companies registered this year represent a wide array of fields, including construction, technology, healthcare, financial, educational, social services, communications, recreation, military and government. Employers also are in search of interns, teachers, engineers, foreign language interpreters, nurses, park rangers, bankers, cadets, scientists, social workers, customs agents, journalists, researchers, retail managers, insurance professionals, landscapers, transportation specialists, medical staffers and business professionals.

"We encourage every student, even if they haven't picked a major yet, to go," said Patty Counihan, director of the UMaine Career Center. "You rarely see this number of employers all under one roof. Learning about what many of these companies do can even help students choose a major. That's why we call it a career fair, not just a job fair."

Several of the organizations or companies new to the career fair this year include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, T.Y. Lin International structural engineers and the Lee County School District in Fort Myers, Fla.

"We have a lot of students interested in the FBI, so that's a draw," Counihan says.

Worldwide Language Resources, a company that trains translators for deployment nationally and around the world, also will be at the fair. "It's fascinating," Counihan says of the Rumford, Maine company. "They're based in Rumford. It really is a world-wide scope."

Serving as both career and job fair, the event provides an opportunity for students to discuss products, services, workplace environment and benefits with prospective employers. Seniors can get great leads -- and interviews -- on job opportunities after graduation and underclassmen and women can learn about internships or other experiential education opportunities to help prepare them for when they are ready to enter the job market.

"It's strictly information gathering, so they can explore what type of careers they'd like to pursue," Counihan says.

The career fair will have an Internet Cafe again this year, with eight wireless laptops available for students to use for anything from researching companies to registering with the Career Center's eRecruiting system to filling out job applications on-line, Counihan says.

As in the past, some of the companies participating in the career fair will set up temporary offices in the Career Center, on the third floor of the Memorial Union, for a few days after the fair to conduct follow-up interviews.

Though specific numbers are unknown, Counihan says anecdotal evidence suggests that hundreds of students do make solid job contacts during the annual career fair.

As an added incentive to attend, there will be a drawing for door prizes for those students who visit the Internet Cafe and register with the Career Center eRecruiting system.

Additional information, including a list of employers and organizations signed up for this year's fair and tips on making the best use of the fair, is available on the Career Center website at www.umaine.edu/career or by calling the Career Center at (207) 581-1359.

Counihan says students can learn some important do's and don'ts from the Career Center website before heading off to the career fair, including tips on dress, interviews, what to carry, what to say and how to prepare.

Career Fair 2006 is presented by the Career Center and sponsored by Coca-Cola, Pike Industries, Sweetser, Acadia Hospital, Cintas Corporation, Citigroup Global Transaction Services, Citistreet, CVS Pharmacy, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Irving Woodlands LLC, Lenovo, National Grid, Poland Spring/Nestle Waters North America, T.Y. Lin International, Tyler Technologies, MUNIS Division, UMaine Alumni Association, UMaine Bookstore, UMaine Computer Connection, UMaine Corporate Affiliate Program, UMaine Division of Student Affairs and Unicef.

UMaine Music Faculty Presenting Evening of Mozart Jan. 28

25 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Music faculty members in the UMaine School of Performing Arts will perform an evening of Mozart on Saturday, Jan. 28, in honor of the 250th anniversary of the Austrian maestro's birthday.

"Cadenzato" will celebrate Mozart's birthday with a concert of his chamber music beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall. On the night of Mozart's birthday, Friday Jan. 27, the Music Division will present a screening of the film "Amadeus" in Minsky Recital Hall, also at 7:30 p.m. The film is particularly noted for its scenes of opera productions

from Mozart's lifetime.

Born Johann Chrysostom Wolfgang Theophilus Mozart, he lived from Jan. 27, 1756 to Dec. 5, 1791. He is considered one of the most significant popular composers of European classical music, whose prolific output includes works widely acknowledged as pinnacles of symphonic, chamber, piano, operatic and choral music. Much of his music is part of today's standard concert repertory.

The program includes the following works and faculty musicians:

"Andantino f

School of Performing Arts Introducing New Jazz Minor

04 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Karel Lidral, 581-1256; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The UMaine School of Performing Arts' Music Division has created a new jazz studies minor, to be introduced in the fall of 2006.

Karel Lidral, associate professor of music and director of jazz studies at UMaine, says the new program will substantially round out music performance and music education students' preparation, plus it will offer non-music majors immersion into improvisation, piano and jazz arranging for piano and virtually any other instrument.

The minor will consist of 19 credit hours in the following subject areas: jazz improvisation; chamber jazz arranging and piano; jazz history; and the performance of jazz in the university's newly formed Chamber Jazz Ensemble and, optionally for up to two credits, the Jazz Ensemble.

The School of Performing Arts currently offers a bachelor of arts degree in music, a bachelor of music degree in music education, a bachelor of music degree in performance, a master of music degree and a minor in music.

"The overall purpose is for students to develop integrated skills in jazz theory, composition and performance, which will allow them to continue to be involved in this music throughout their future musical lives," says Lidral, who will teach five new courses created to satisfy requirements of the new minor.

Additionally, the curriculum includes teaching highly specific arranging skills for piano, as well as sufficient piano skills for the performance of arrangements created in the coursework, according to Lidral.

Music majors, particularly those who do not play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, drums or vibes, rarely have any background or opportunity in jazz, says Lidral.

"For music education majors, this means that they will not be at all prepared in this area, which is and will become more important in school music programs, at both the elementary and secondary levels," he says. "For all other music majors, a lack of background in this area could seriously limit their opportunities in a musical universe, which is increasingly becoming more diverse and demanding of skills in this area."

From a state, regional, national and international perspective, Lidral adds that few, if any, institutions of higher education that do not specifically offer degree coursework in jazz studies would be able to offer the intensive study of jazz improvisation available through the new UMaine jazz minor.

Stuart Marrs, chair of the SPA's music division, says the new minor will add an important component to the education and preparation of future Maine music teachers.

"I think this is going to be a milestone for us and our department," Marrs says. "I think it's going to be very well received in the community of music educators as an important addition to our program."

Etna Artist Paints State Plate for Farmers

04 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Willie Grenier, (207) 287-7548; Charlie Armstrong (207) 581-2940 Note: a JPEG image of the agriculture license plate is available on request. ORONO--Etna artist Charlie Armstrong has volunteered his talent and time to help make the Maine Ag Tag

UMaine Students, Alum Take First in International Business Plan Competition

06 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Matthew Rodrigue, 774-487-8396; Richard Grant, 581-1971; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- As winter descended on the Canadian Maritimes last month, the timing for two University of Maine students and a recent graduate couldn't have been better to introduce at an international business plan competition a marketable proposal to improve the efficiency of home heating oil delivery in frigid climates.

Competing against 19 other teams from as far away as Eastern Europe and Asia, the UMaine team won the first place overall "private sector" grand prize and an award of \$5,000 for its innovative business plan. Team members included Brigham McNaughton, a UMaine junior from Springfield, Vt., majoring in business, William Sulinski, a senior from Dedham, Maine majoring in economics, and Matthew Rodrigue, an engineering major from Wilton who graduated in 2004.

The CIBC (Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce) Business Plan Competition was a two-day event held in early December at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Richard Grant, director of graduate programs and executive education for the Maine Business School, accompanied the UMaine team as coach and advisor.

Rodrigue and McNaughton presented the team's detailed business plan for a hypothetical new company, Consumer Energy Research Corporation, at the competition. The company and concept may become a reality, according to Rodrigue, who now works as an engineering consultant for Woodard & Curran engineers' Dedham, Mass. office and is a member of the UMaine Board of Visitors.

Because of the likelihood that Rodrigue, McNaughton and Sulinski will seek patents for the company, they were unable to publicly discuss specifics of how they can improve the efficiency and reduce the cost of home heating oil delivery. However, they did impress a panel of judges.

"Mr. Rodrigue and Mr. McNaughton were polished in their presentation, they knew their plan well and fielded questions effortlessly and with confidence," observed one judge, Barbara Touchie, a trade executive with Business New Brunswick in Fredericton. "Both young men were 'on their game' the day of the competition and went the extra mile to pay attention to detail. The business plan was well put together and during the presentation component, both Mr. Rodrigue and Mr. McNaughton removed any confusion surrounding the technology on which the product is based and made the concept easy to understand," she said.

With Sulinski's concept, the team borrowed from the expertise of the university's Target Technology Incubator and Advanced Manufacturing Center, which helps inventors develop prototypes to take to market. They refined the concept, cost analysis, predicted outcomes, marketing strategies and the estimated return on investment - in short, a plausible business plan.

"We knew we had a good idea going into it, but there were a lot of sharp folks up there," Rodrigue says of the competition.

Other competing proposals included starting companies that used computers to evaluate symptoms to help doctors diagnose diseases, building and selling customized mailboxes to resemble a customer's automobile or house, opening a restaurant and new ways to protect airline pilots and crew from unruly passengers.

The international business plan competition also taught Rodrigue and McNaughton to think more like business managers than students.

"Matt and I had a kind of defining moment when we realized we were looking at this (project) from an undergraduate perspective," McNaughton says. "The perspective we learned was 'what do I need to do to get this to a mass market in six months?'"

They also got to meet the judges, some of whom are well-placed in business in New England and who could become future consultants, business allies or even investors.

Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, says the international business competition is one of many off-campus experiences that expose students to the realities of business.

"We're extremely proud of these students and of Matt," Innis says. "University education extends beyond the classroom and into the business community. The Maine Business School makes an effort to insure that students have the tools that they need to compete regionally, nationally and globally in the constantly changing business environment. The results of this competition demonstrate that we're achieving that goal."

Winter Art Camp Feb. 20-24, 2006

12 Jan 2006

Contact: Media Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli (207) 561-3352

BANGOR -- Brighten up your child's February vacation at the second annual University of Maine Museum of Art Winter Art Camp, an in-depth art experience held at the Museum of Art in downtown Bangor. The camp will run from Monday, Feb. 20 through Friday, Feb. 24 for students in grades 3 -- 5. Sessions will be from 8:30 a.m. -- 12 noon in the museum classroom, offering direct access to the exhibitions in the galleries. The cost is \$115 for the week and includes all supplies. Please call the museum to learn more about this exciting program and to register your child.

Please call 561-3350 for more information and to register your child.

Research Discussion Topics Announced

27 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium begins Friday, Feb. 10. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or

recently completed-- and to learn from each other.

These seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

The colloquium series includes:

Feb. 10 - "Health-related issues in individuals with agenesis of the corpus callosum," Gary Schilmoeller, Shihfen Tu, Donna Doherty.

Feb. 24 - "The Preschool Curriculum Evaluation Research Project in Newark: A look at program implementation and professional development," Marcia Davidson.

March 24 - "The nature and prevalence of student hazing," Elizabeth Allan, Mary Madden.

April 7 - "Instructional practices in Reading First classrooms in Maine," Janet Fairman.

April 21 - "School size and the 'power rating' of poverty: Substantive finding or statistical artifact?," Ted Coladarci.

May 5 - "Growth rates in aerobic performance by children in grades 4-8," Steve Butterfield, Bob Lehnhard, Craig Mason.

May 19 - "Comparing instructional modes: One element of physics education research," Michael Wittmann.

Research Discussion Topics in Education and Human Development Announced

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761; David Munson 581-3777

ORONO, Me -- The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium begins Friday, Feb. 10. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or recently completed -- and to learn from each other.

The seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

The colloquium series includes:

Feb. 10 -- "Health-related issues in individuals with agenesis of the corpus callosum," Gary Schilmoeller, Shihfen Tu, Donna Doherty.

Feb. 24 -- "The Preschool Curriculum Evaluation Research Project in Newark: A look at program implementation and professional development," Marcia Davidson.

Clam Research Sheds New Light on Red Tide

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Laurie Connell (207) 581-2470; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - UMaine Marine Scientist Laurie Connell isn't one to brag: she would rather talk about the potential of her current research than the popularity of what she has published in the past. With more than five months at the top of the charts in the highly respected scientific journal *Nature*, however, discussion of her "clam paper" is nearly unavoidable.

"I was shocked to hear that the paper was so popular. It's had more than 60,000 downloads since November, and it's still going," Connell said with enthusiasm. "I'm not sure what made it so popular, but it does have a very broad appeal."

Connell's report, *Sodium channel mutation leads to saxitoxin resistance in clams increases risk of PSP*, was the culmination of more than eight years of intensive research by an international team of scientists aimed at achieving a better understanding of a notorious and potentially deadly compound known as saxitoxin. Saxitoxin is the primary culprit in cases of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, or PSP, the always dangerous, sometimes-deadly consequence of the coastal phenomenon known as red tide.

Filter feeders like clams accumulate saxitoxin in their tissues as they dine on the algae that carry the poison, passing along a concentrated dose to their mammalian predators. The first research to take a comprehensive look at the affects of saxitoxin on clams, Connell and her team, including retired UMaine researcher Betty Twarog, found that the mollusks suffer many of the same symptoms as human PSP victims.

Well, at least some of them do.

Connell discovered is that not all clams are created equal when it come to fighting off the affects of PSP, and has begun to unravel a microscopic mystery that speaks to the very nature of the nervous system itself.

Thanks to a mutation in their genetic code, red tide resistant clams were able to survive and reproduce despite the presence of saxitoxin, eventually becoming the dominant strain in clam populations that are frequently exposed to red tide.

In fact, Connell and her team of specialists found that the mutant clams were more than 1000 time more resistant to the affects of red tide than their unmutated brethren, a surprising discovery that has significant implications in both clam management and medical research.

Because of its power over the nerve impulse, saxitoxin has been used extensively by medical researchers to study the function of the nervous system and its associated diseases. Connell's comprehensive approach opens new doors to future research by connecting sodium channel function to specific control sites in the organism's DNA.

The discovery that some clam populations were genetically much more resistant to red tide poisoning than others could open up new directions for managing the soft-shell clam fishery.

"The ability of individual populations to resist the affects of saxitoxin could be used to determine how long clam beds would have to remain closed after a red tide event," said Connell. "Genetically resistant clams are able to continue feeding much longer, accumulating more toxins in their tissues which take longer to purge. Knowledge of the genetic susceptibility of clams to red tide could help managers make better decisions on what clams to use in seeding programs, how long to close clam beds, and other issues."

The project's implications don't stop there. Connell's discoveries have been of interest to marine ecologists, public health officials, bioengineers, fishermen: the list goes on and on. The significance of the research in such a broad range of disciplines certainly speaks to its popularity in *Nature*.

Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research Spring Lecture Series

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Ruth Hallsworth (209) 581-3196; David Munson (207) 581-3777 Penobscot River Research -- Looking to the future THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2006 Topic: NOAA Salmon Research in the Penobscot River, Estuary, and Bay Speaker: John Kocik, NOAA Fisheries THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2006 Topic: Atlantic Salmon Management in the Penobscot Drainage Speaker: Joan Trial, Atlantic Salmon Commission Unless otherwise noted, all seminars take place at 12 noon in Norman Smith Hall at the University of Maine campus in Orono. If you are coming from off-campus, and need parking permits and/or directions, please contact Ruth Hallsworth at 207/581-3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu. Seminars are sponsored by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research and the UMaine Program in Ecology and Environmental Science. The goal of this seminar series is to provide information on current research projects taking place on the Penobscot River ahead of the proposed dam removals. This seminar series coordinates with the Penobscot River Synthesis project.

Lobster-based Pet Treat Now on the Market

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Pat Pinto (207) 321-2109; Cathy Billings (207) 581-2751; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. -- Your dog can now be a lobster connoisseur. Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. has launched the newest addition to its dog biscuit line -- Blue Seal Lobster "Bisque-its." -- based on a concept devised by the Lobster Institute at The University of Maine, and their commercialization partner Saltwater Marketing LLC. These unique dog biscuits are baked with real lobster meal, which is a source of natural flavor and protein. "Consumer" tests show that dogs love these tasty, all-natural treats. They are packaged in an attractive re-sealable pouch bag to preserve freshness. Blue Seal Lobster "Bisque-its" are currently available through the Blue Seal Dealer network.

"Saltwater Marketing has been working with the Lobster Institute for the past two years on the idea of a nutritious and flavorful lobster-based pet treat," according to Pat Pinto, President of Saltwater Marketing. "Bringing the production team from Blue Seal Feeds into the project was the final piece to the puzzle that made it all happen."

"Our product development work here at the Lobster Institute is geared toward creating a more efficient and profitable use of the lobster resource," said Dr. Bob Bayer, Executive Director of the Lobster Institute and Professor at The University of Maine. "Working with Saltwater Marketing and now Blue Seal Feeds, we were able to get this product out of the lab and into the commercial market. It is yet another example of the collaboration between business and the University that is such a critical part of economic development for Maine and New England."

The Lobster Institute, a division of the University of Maine's Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, has been working with and on behalf of the lobster industry since 1987. It is an industry-driven organization focusing on research, technical assistance, communications, and educational outreach.

Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. is a subsidiary of Muscatine Foods Corporation of Muscatine, Iowa. Since 1868, Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. has been manufacturing quality pet foods and animal feeds. The company also manufactures organic lawn and garden products. Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. operates manufacturing facilities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic United States and distributes its products throughout the United States.

Saltwater Marketing, LLC, a Maine limited liability company, was founded in 2003. Its focus is on licensing, developing and launching innovative seafood technologies and products. The Portland-based company serves as the exclusive commercialization arm of the Lobster Institute.

For further information on this project, contact Patricia Pinto, President of Saltwater Marketing, LLC at 207-321-2109.

School of Forest Resources to Open at UMaine

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Charlene Herrick (207) 581-3204; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. -- UMaine's Department of Forest Ecosystem Science and Department of Forest Management will come together this summer to form the new School of Forest Resources. Scheduled to take place just weeks after the nationally-known forestry programs bid farewell to their 100th graduating class, the transition promises to provide new opportunities for communication and collaboration with the many people and organizations that depend on Maine's forests.

"Maine is the most heavily forested state in the nation, percentage-wise, and the University of Maine has played a key role in managing the state's forestry resources for more than 100 years," said UMaine College of Natural Science, Forestry and Agriculture Dean Bruce Wiersma. "By consolidating the two departments, we are creating a single point of contact for forest resource information and education."

In addition to the formation of the school, a new Center for Sustainable Forestry Research will be created. An independent research center with close ties to the School of Forest Resources, the center will be the new home for UMaine's forestry-related research programs, improving upon a long tradition of forestry and forest ecosystems research at the university.

UMaine officials hope to open both the School of Forest Resources and the Center for Sustainable Forestry Research on July 1, 2006

UMaine Researchers Look at Ecological Effects of Trawling

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - Working in cooperation with Maine trawler captain Cameron McLellan and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, UMaine graduate student Emily Knight and UMaine Marine Science Professor Les Watling recently completed a long-term study that examines the effects of groundfish trawling on the complex ecology of the sea floor in the Gulf of Maine.

Based on the gradual increases in complexity and diversity of seafloor communities that have been protected from bottom trawling for two, four, and six years, Watling estimates that it will take roughly a decade for the surface-dwelling organisms to reestablish themselves, but cautioned that a full recovery of the habitat would take much longer.

"I am pretty firmly convinced that if the groundfishing industry doesn't soon begin to undertake measures to conserve complex bottom habitat, there will be little chance that fishery will ever recover to levels seen 50 or 100 years ago. Small, bottom fish need complex habitat and it is clear that rock hopper gear reduces habitat complexity," said Watling. "No good habitat, hardly any fish."

The good news is that recently protected habitats are recovering. While anything resembling a "natural" condition would certainly be far in the future, Knight found that significant gains had been made in the short term.

"Scientists were predicting it would take decades for recovery, but didn't have an opportunity to look at it," said Knight. "This is the first project that has been able to look at areas closed for six years. We're already seeing signs of recovery after a significant amount of time. We're not seeing a huge trajectory change, but we can say it is recovering toward stability."

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers Beekeeping Course

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4207 or 800-287-0274

NEW GLOUCESTER--Successful Beekeeping in Maine,

Brownie Schrupf Legacy is Lunch Discussion Topic

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The life and legacy of celebrated Maine food expert, author and home economist Brownie Schrupf will be the topic of a lunchtime talk Feb. 16 at the Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine. The speaker for the free public discussion is Karen Tolstrup, a UMaine graduate student and teaching assistant in history, who has been researching the life of Schrupf and is writing a book on the long-time Orono resident and former part-time UMaine instructor. Guests are invited to bring along a bag lunch. Parking permits will be available from museum director Patty Henner. The talk begins at noon. In addition to teaching at UMaine about foods, food preservation and camp cookery to forestry students, Schrupf also was a food columnist for the Bangor Daily News from 1951 to 1993). She was a strong advocate of using native, Maine-grown foods and simple methods of food preparation, known for tweaking recipes to suit individual tastes. Tolstrup's talk is titled, "If Maine Had a Queen," and will cover what she has learned about Schrupf's youngest years through her college graduation. Tolstrup intended to use her research on Brownie Schrupf for a master's thesis, but found she had amassed enough information for an entire book, with photographs. "I want to write a book folks will want to read and I thought that a half page of footnotes on every page would be less than attractive," she says. Tolstrup interviewed Schrupf's niece Joan Dow Scott and several Schrupf's closest friends in the Orono area. Schrupf was born in 1903 in Readfield and held a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Maine. She was assistant 4-H Club leader for the state of Maine from 1925-1932 and was the Penobscot County 4-H Club agent from 1932-39. In the 1950s and 1960s, Schrupf was the Maine Food Products Promoter for the Maine Department of Agriculture at the Eastern States Exposition. She also produced a television series of food demonstrations and worked on the staff of the General Alumni Association of the University of Maine. During the 70s and 80s, Schrupf served as a food expert in another TV series, "A Time to Live," and taught YMCA cooking classes for 20 years. She also wrote two successful cookbooks, "The Flavor of Maine" and "Memories from Brownie's Kitchen." Schrupf died in March of 2001 at the age of 98. The Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus has a kitchen exhibit dedicated to Brownie Schrupf. The museum can be reached by telephone at 581-4100 or visited on the Web at <http://www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/>

UMaine Music, Theater, Dance Schedule Announced

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Contacts: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine School of Performing Arts has announced its spring 2006 music, theater and dance schedule, featuring faculty, students and, in some cases, members of surrounding communities.

Admission to the events is \$6 and UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard, unless otherwise noted. The Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755 has more information, as does the UMaine SPA website at www.umaine.edu/spa

All faculty recitals are held at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall.

Faculty Recitals

Saturday, Feb. 4, Silver Duo - Piano/Cello Recital

The internationally renowned Silver Duo, featuring Phillip and Noreen Silver of the School of Performing Arts Music Division, will perform four 19th Century masterpieces, including sonatas by Beethoven and Brahms, Schumann's ever popular "Fantasy Pieces" and the hauntingly beautiful, "Malinconia" by Sibelius.

Saturday, Feb. 11 - Violin Recital, featuring Anatole Wieck & Friends

Thursday, March 23, "Back to Bach"

An all-Bach program, featuring the "Coffee Contata" and two baritone solo contatas. Featuring Ludlow Hallman with fellow faculty members and friends

SPA Ensemble Series

Saturday, March 25, University Singers Concert

After their spring break tour throughout the northeast, the singers perform this concert for their friends back home. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 28, Three Bands Concert

A local middle school, a high school, and the UMaine Concert Band will join together on the Hutchins Concert Hall stage, under the baton of a guest conductor, in a benefit for Acadia Hospital. Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11, Chamber Concert

The concert is the culminating activity for our chamber music course. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 13, Opera Workshop

In Opera Workshop, students perform music from the standard opera, operetta and musical repertoire, as well as chamber operas and experimental works in a workshop setting. Minsky Recital Hall, 12 p.m.

Thursday, April 13, Symphonic Band and Concert Band

The two bands play separately, then together for this concert at Maine Center for the Arts; 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15, Collegiate Chorale

The 50-plus voice Collegiate Chorale's repertoire is drawn from all style periods from the Middle Ages to the present. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 21 & 22, "Broadway Nights"

Students perform a selection of songs straight from Broadway stages of yesterday and today. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 23, University Singers, Oratorio Society and BSO

University Singers and Oratorio Society will join Bangor Symphony Orchestra for "Inspiration and Consolation," a performance of "Ein Deutsches Requiem, op. 45" (German requiem) by Johannes Brahms. Maine Center for the Arts, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25, Percussion Ensemble

This ensemble draws its literature from a wide variety of styles from transcriptions to contemporary music for percussion. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27, Jazz Ensemble

Big band at its best. The ensemble is devoted to performing a wide variety of challenging, significant, diversified and contemporary literature within the genre. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29, Orchestra Concert

The orchestra will perform works from a standard repertoire. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 30, Athena Consort/Black Bear Men's Chorus
Sing into spring with the unique sounds of UMaine's women's and men's choruses.
Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

Theatre

"Jesus Christ Superstar"

This "rock opera" tells the story of Christ's final days, dramatized with emotional intensity, thought-provoking edge and explosive theatricality. Propelled by a stirring score by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the musical contains an effective mix of hard-driving rock tunes and wonderfully soulful ballads, all with a highly theatrical flavor. "Jesus Christ Superstar" illuminates the transcendent power of the human spirit with a passion that goes straight to the heart. "Superstar" opened on Broadway in 1971 and ran for 720 performances. Directed by Sandra Hardy. Hauck Auditorium. Feb.16-18, 23-25 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb 19 and 26 at 2 p.m. Admission \$12, UMaine students \$6 with MaineCard.

"American Buffalo & Boston Marriage"

UMaine's student-run theatre organization, Maine Masque, will present two David Mamet plays in succession.

"American Buffalo," David Mamet's breakthrough masterpiece, tells the story of three men on the fringe of society, whose friendships unravel during a botched robbery attempt. This tense, gritty, sometimes violent play features the coarse, rapid fire dialogue that has become Mamet's trademark.

"Boston Marriage," a newer play by Mamet, is set in a Victorian drawing room and channels the wit of Oscar Wilde. In this sexy comedy, two society women, who also happen to be in a lesbian relationship, must deal with the aftermath when their romantic liaisons, one with a man, one with a woman, go horribly awry.

Directed by Allen Adams; April 12-15 at 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium

(Show dates: American Buffalo - 4/12; Boston Marriage - 4/13; Boston Marriage, followed by American Buffalo on 4/14; American Buffalo, followed by Boston Marriage on 4/15. Please check website for prices: www.umaine.edu/spa
Admission \$6 for one show, \$8 for both.

Readers' Theatre Series

"A Wild & Wacky World"

Original comedy, written and performed by students, under the direction of Sandra Hardy, associate professor of theater.
Minsky Recital Hall, Tuesday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Dance

May 5-6, Dance Concert, Hauck Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Admission \$8; students with a MaineCard free

Pleasant Point Resident Recognized for Volunteer Work with Extension Youth Program

31 Jan 2006

Contact: Jennifer Lobley, 207-255-0929 or 800-287-1542 (jlobley@umext.maine.edu)

PLEASANT POINT--National 4-H Council, with generous support from the JCPenney Afterschool Fund, has recognized Frank Cleaves of Pleasant Point Indian Reservation with the 4-H Afterschool "Opens Doors" volunteer award. Cleaves is one of 25 4-H after-school volunteers across the county--and the only person from Maine--to receive the award.

Cleaves became involved with Pleasant Point's Sipayik Boys & Girls Club a year and a half ago, after returning from a one-year deployment in Iraq with the National Guard. The Boys & Girls Club had recently begun to work with University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H program to expand after-school activities, and Cleaves received training as part of this partnership. He became excited about the possibilities presented by the melding of the two programs and signed up as a 4-H volunteer, becoming the driving force behind a successful "Lights On" event by galvanizing the community and involving over 100 youth in educational and cultural activities.

Cleaves reports that the Boys and Girls Club kids enjoy the diversity of the 4-H program. Every day, more than 40 kids aged five through 12 participate in theme-based 4-H activities. Last summer the club's teenagers used railroad ties to build raised flower beds and planted flowers outside of the club. "They really lit up the place," enthused Cleaves, who is organizing an upcoming 4-H skating party outdoors. The skating party will include "not just skating but snow sleds, hot dogs, hot chocolate... parents and kids... it will be a real community event."

Cleaves is currently working with UMaine Extension Educator Jen Lobley and Harper Dean, the director of Special Services for Maine Indian Education, to explore opportunities to fund a position at the Sipayik Boys and Girls Club that would focus on the integration of 4-H club and project work.

Opens Doors awards recognize 4-H volunteers who are involved in 4-H after-school programming in their communities. These volunteers help train after-school program staff, increase the use of 4-H curricula in after-school programs, and organize 4-H clubs in after-school programs in which youth learn leadership, citizenship and life skills. Visit 4husa.org or 4hafterschool.org for more information about 4-H and 4-H Afterschool.

UMaine Professor Named Fellow of National Organization

25 Jan 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine Professor Robert M. Milardo was recently named a lifetime Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations. The NCFR is the leading membership organization for family researchers, educators, policy makers and practicing professionals. Milardo, professor of family relationships, was selected by his peers for the honor at the organization's recent national conference.

NCFR Fellows are selected for their history of outstanding contributions to the field of family studies in areas such as published scholarship, innovative and influential teaching, development and implementation of significant interventions to promote healthy family relations, and a consistent record of superior contributions to NCFR over time.

Milardo's research and writing have contributed important research designs and theoretical insights in the areas of relationship development, the role of social networks in the functioning of families, domestic violence, and the role of uncles in family life, according to the NCFR. The announcement notes that "Dr. Milardo has contributed greatly to the development of the field through his own research and as an editor or co-editor of volumes that have brought together the work of others in a specific area (Families and Social Networks, 1988) or that provide major reviews of literatures in a variety of areas (Handbook of Personal Relationships, 1997; and Families Relationships, 2000)."

A specialist in kinship and social networks, Milardo's current research on generativity examines how this adult concern for future generations is expressed in relationships between uncles and aunts and their young nieces and nephews. The uncle-nephew research -- the first of its kind -- suggests that uncles supplement the work of parents and are often sought out by parents to provide nephews with advice and sometimes criticism, and to act as intergenerational buffers interceding in conflicts and providing both parents and nephews with insight and a unique perspective. Milardo reports his findings in the article "Generative Uncle and Nephew Relationships" published in the December 2005 issue of the NCFR's Journal of Marriage and Family.

Milardo has been actively involved in NCFR work and leadership for more than 25 years, including serving as editor for the Journal of Marriage and Family from 1996-2001. This position also brought distinction to UMaine as the home of the national publication's editorship. In his capacity as editor, Milardo developed and carried out a plan to expand the issue in 2000 to include a special set of broad papers addressing the general progress of the field in the 20th century. The result was a set of papers, which are expected to become classics, and are published as *The Decade in Review: Understanding Families into the Next Millennium*. Milardo continues to serve on the Journal's editorial board.

In addition to other leadership roles, Milardo has chaired the NCFR Research and Theory section, helped establish the Feminism and Family Studies Section, served on the board of directors and been an active member of the Publication Committee.

Milardo, who lives in Newburgh, earned his Ph.D. in human development and family studies from Pennsylvania State University and has been a UMaine faculty member since 1982.

Socialist and Marxist Studies Spring Lecture Series Scheduled

02 Feb 2006

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Global controversies over peace, war, politics and human rights are topics to be covered in depth by the UMaine Marxist-Socialist Studies Lecture Series for spring, 2006.

Lectures featuring guest speakers, UMaine professors and student perspectives on critical issues of international importance are offered 12:30-1:45 p.m. Thursdays in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. They are free and open to the public. The series is co-sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, Maine Peace Action Committee and the Memorial Union and receives generous support from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Speakers' topics are intended to raise thought-provoking questions, but do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies, The Maples, University of Maine, Orono at (207) 581-3860 or e-mail: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu

Scheduled programs are:

Feb. 2

: "Human Rights Violations: Student Perspectives," a panel with UMaine students Sarah Bigney, Jeff Hake, Alex Lehning and Tiffany Warzecha. (Also part of Human Rights Awareness Week.)

Feb. 9

: "Combating War Propaganda: The American Socialist Party, Gender and World War I," with Professor Elizabeth McKillen, history.

Feb. 16

: "The U.S. Sixty Years after World War II: War Making and Peace Building, Some Historical and Philosophical Reflections," with Professor Doug Allen, philosophy.

Feb. 23

: "Russia: Transition to Democracy?" with Thomas F. Remington, professor and chair of political science at Emory University, and one of the leading scholars of Russian domestic and international affairs. Recipient of Emory Williams Distinguished Teaching Award, he is author of numerous books on Russian politics.

March 23

: "The Iraq War: Lessons Three Years after the U.S. Invasion and Occupation," with Ilze Petersons, coordinator, Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine; Michael Howard, philosophy; Alex Grab, history; and Doug Allen, philosophy.

March 30

: "'The Desire Called Utopia': Kim Stanley Robinson, Fredrick Jameson and Science Fiction as a Force for Progressive Change," with David Gross, former professor of English at Oklahoma University for 32 years, who has been active in peace and social justice groups and has published on literature and Marxist cultural theory.

April 6:

"Post-Election Israel," with Professor Alex Grab, history.

April 13

: "Resisting The New Conquistadors: Struggles Against U.S. Corporations' Control Of Resources In Latin America," with Sean Donahue, journalist and director of PICA, a Bangor-based group working for global economic justice, and who has been active in the peace, environmental and human rights movements for many years.

February 2006 UMaine Calendar

03 Feb 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

f="http://calendar.umaine.edu/details.asp?eventid=2084">Saving Title IX: A Call for Action, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, with Lynn Atherley, Janice Clark, Rena Lolar and Kristin Langellier, part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Feb. 16

Academic Dishonesty and the Student Conduct Code, 9:30-11:15 a.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, a workshop and discussion with David Fiacco and Charlie Slavin, offered by the Center for Teaching Excellence

Biological Assessment of Streams, Rivers and Wetlands in the Penobscot River Basin, 12-1 p.m., 105 Norman Smith Hall, with Tom Danielson, Biomonitoring Unit, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; offered by the Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research

Brownie Schrupf Life & Legacy,

12-1 p.m., Page Farm and Home Museum, with Karen Tolstrup, graduate student, history; bring bag lunch; free

The U.S. Sixty Years After World War II: War Making and Peace Building, Some Historical and Philosophical Reflections, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, with by Doug Allen, philosophy professor and peace activist; Socialist-Marxist Studies Series

Readings by Grady Award Winners, 4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall, part of the New Writing Series

"

Arlington West," 7 p.m., 110 Little Hall

Discussion follows film, part of the Peace and Justice Film Series; free

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy, part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission

Feb. 17

Beta Sleep Out, 6 p.m., Beta Theta Pi, Munson Road, Orono

13th annual event to benefit Rape Response Services of Bangor; a bonfire will burn all night; free refreshments; local speakers will kick off the event; raffle tickets (\$1 each or \$5 for six) for prizes now for sale, call 581-8323 or e-mail Andrew Knapp on FirstClass; monetary donations welcome

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy; part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission

Feb. 18

Maine Business School

faculty vs. student athletes exhibition broomball benefit for Children's Miracle Network, 6 p.m., Alford Ice Arena

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy; part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission

Feb. 22

Women in Black: Creating International Feminist Alliances for Peace, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, with Lee Sharkey, assistant professor of English and Women's Studies, University of Maine at Farmington; Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Atypical Bodies: an exploration of disability writing and culture, 2:30- 4 p.m., Special Collections, Fogler Library, with faculty members Tony Brinkley, Liz Depoy, Stephen Gilson, and Tina Passman; admission

Feb. 23

Russia: Transition to Democracy?, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room Memorial Union, with Thomas Remington, professor and chair of political science at Emory University; Socialist-Marxist Studies Series

Poetry Reading by Carla Harryman, 4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall; New Writing Series

Black Hollywood: America Beyond the Color Line, 7 p.m., 110 Little Hall

Part of the Peace and Justice Film Series; free; discussion follows film

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy, part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission

Feb. 24

Finding Your Authority in the Classroom, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, a workshop facilitated by Virginia Nees-Hatlen, offered by the Center for Teaching Excellence

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy School of Performing Arts season

Student Leadership Conference, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Room 100, D.P. Corbett Business Building

No leadership experience required and open to all students who attend a college or university in the state; presenters will cover topics such as running effective meetings, setting healthy boundaries, adventure as a leadership tool, website design, conflict resolution, LGBT inclusivity and top 10 reasons to be a motivated leader; registration fee \$5, which includes lunch

Feb. 26

Jesus Christ Superstar, 2 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a rock opera directed by Sandra Hardy, School of Performing Arts season; admission

Canadian Brass in Concert, 3 p.m., MCA

Part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; admission

International Buffet, 5-7 p.m., University Club, Fogler Library

Food prepared by members of the Student Heritage Alliance Association; registration required: 581-1696; fee

Feb. 27

Basic Record Keeping for the Home Based Business Owner - Part 1, 6-9 p.m.,

the first of a two-part Extension workshop to help business owners learn the basics of single-entry record keeping and how to apply these principles to the day-to-day operations; 307 Maine Ave., Bangor; fee

Feb. 28

Oral History: Students Appreciating the Art of Nursing, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, featuring Catherine Berardelli, Elizabeth Clark and Ann Sossong; Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

GIS for Businesspeople, 3-6 p.m., Computer Classroom, Fogler Library

Computer mapping workshop; fee

Ongoing Programs & Events

Five Landscape Paintings

A University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit featuring summer landscapes by artists Lois Dodd, Rackstraw Downes, April Gornik, Vaino Kola and Neil Welliver; Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006

Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit, Norumbega Hall, Bangor, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006

Art by

Lauren Fensterstock, 9:10 a.m.

A University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit, Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor

1/20/06-4/8/06

In the Road, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

An art exhibition by the UMaine senior capstone art class; Carnegie Hall Galleries, 12/9/2005 - 2/3/2006

"

Hubble Vision 2"

7 p.m., Feb. 3, 17

a Jordan Planetarium show for ages 9-adult

"

Follow the Drinking Gourd"

2 p.m., Feb. 5, 19

a Jordan Planetarium show for ages 7-12

Feb. 23 UMaine Speaker to Address Change and Continuity in Russia

06 Feb 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Thomas Remington, professor and chair of the Political Science Department at Emory University in Atlanta, will visit the University of Maine later this month for a series of presentations to share his perspectives on contemporary Russia and the post-Soviet region.

"Understanding the nature and direction of political change in this part of the world has become even more critical with the intensive involvement in the post-Soviet region by the United States and other western countries and organizations," says Prof. James Warhola of the UMaine political science faculty. "Dr. Thomas Remington is an esteemed scholar whose insights into this subject are informed, interesting and timely."

Remington will make two public presentations at UMaine on Thursday, Feb. 23. He will present a lecture, "Russia: Transition to Democracy?" from 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of Memorial Union. This talk, during which Remington will assess the nature of the Russian regime, is part of UMaine's Marxist and Socialist Studies Lecture Series. At 7 p.m., as part of UMaine's Distinguished Lecture Series, Remington will give a talk, "Putin, the US, and the New Age of Empire." The evening lecture is scheduled for Room 100 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Among his many honors, Remington is the recipient of the Emory Williams Distinguished Teaching Award at Emory University. He travels frequently to Russia and the post-Soviet region, and he is in high demand as an academic expert on that region. He is the author or co-author of eight books related to his area of expertise, along with over 60 journal articles and book chapters.

Note: a photo of Prof. Remington is available upon request.

Back for Second Season, UMaine Business Faculty Fit to Face Young Athletes

06 Feb 2006

Contact: Contacts: Nory Jones, 581-1995; George Manlove, 581-3756/ cell phone: 458-9296

ORONO - Back for a second season, members of the UMaine Business School faculty are prepping for a return to the ice at Alford Arena for the second annual Broomball game to benefit the Bangor offices of the Maine Children's Miracle Network.

This year's challenge takes place from 6-6:20 p.m. Feb. 18, before the start of and during the first period break of the men's UMaine-Boston College hockey game.

Last year, the business school faculty and members of the UMaine women's hockey team raised several thousand dollars for CMN. This year, with planning and organizational assistance from all of the business school student organizations in addition to student volunteers from honor societies, fraternities and sororities, they hope to top last year's goal.

Student volunteers already have begun fundraising by contacting area businesses about pledging cash donations or gifts for the raffle. Tickets will be sold during the UMaine-BC game at Alford arena.

The game Feb. 18 will see another rivalry between the generations, as professors and student athletes struggle to stay on their feet, as well as score points for this second annual fundraising effort.

Student athletes this year come from the UMaine football team, which will field players to face the women faculty members, and the UMaine women's volleyball team, which will square off against male business faculty players.

The broomball game comprises players with broomball sticks and sneakers instead of ice skates, squaring off at center ice for the beginning of three short game periods. A referee will drop a rubber ball between the two teams to start the action. Players try to put an orange ball into the opposing team's net, using only plastic "brooms" instead of hockey sticks.

CMN is a national non-profit organization that helps children suffering from serious injuries and diseases like cancer, heart disease, asthma, cystic fibrosis, pediatric AIDS and muscular dystrophy. CMN hospitals in Maine count more than 110,000 patient visits annually. The Children's Miracle Network uses 100 percent of locally raised money to fund local hospital treatment equipment and services.

The annual broomball fundraiser is an excellent project for several reasons, says Nory Jones, assistant professor of management information systems in the business school. It raises money for a worthwhile charity; it allows the business school to partner with area businesses in a common cause; and it helps college students learn that corporate citizenship includes volunteering for community and charitable causes.

Coaching the faculty team this year are UMaine President Bob Kennedy and his wife Professor Mary Rumpho Kennedy, back for a second year. UMaine football coach Jack Cosgrove will coach the student athletes. Referees include Blake James, interim athletic director, and Ted Woodward, head coach of the UMaine men's basketball team.

The student lineup includes volleyball members Justine Chabot, Jody Connacher, Shelly Seipp, Ashlee Wright, Jessica Wolfenden, Amy Lawson, Lindsay Allman, Brittany Kiehl, Margaret Page, Laura Goetsch and Katrina Fruehauf.

Coach Cosgrove is still selecting his lineup for the game. During a recent practice session, the strapping football players towered comically over the women faculty members.

The business school will field includes Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, associate college Dean Gloria Vollmers and professors Pank Agrawal, Dave Barrett, Steve Colburn, Wendy Coons, Bret Golann, Omar Khan, Nory Jones, Sheila Pechinski, David Steiger, Natalie Steiger, Robert Strong and Rich Grant, director of

graduate programs in the business school.

Student organizations and their representatives helping with the project include UMaine chapter of the American Marketing Association, Institute of Management Accountants, Maine Student Portfolio Investment Fund of the University of Maine Foundation (Spiffy), Management Information Systems Association, Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity and graduate and undergraduate students.

Raffle prizes include a hockey jersey from the UMaine Bookstore signed by the team, hockey stick signed by the team, gift certificate from the Black Bear Inn, \$100 from Dick's Sporting Goods, \$25 from Sam's Club, gift certificate from the Sea Dog, an iPod Shuffle from the UMaine Computer Connection and more. Information is available by calling Professor Nory Jones at 581-1995 or Wendy Haehnel at 581-1976.

Art Professor Michael Lewis Exhibit Opens at Carnegie Galleries

08 Feb 2006

Contact: MaJo Keleshian, 581-3267; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- An exhibit of 30 recent landscape paintings by UMaine art professor Michael Lewis currently is on exhibit at the University of Maine Department of Art's Carnegie Gallery 1 at Carnegie Hall on the Orono campus.

"Michael Lewis, Recent Paintings," will be on display from Feb. 10 through March 16, with an opening reception Friday, Feb. 10 from 5-7 p.m. The public is welcome to the exhibit and reception. Both are free. Carnegie Hall hours are weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Known for unusually luminous landscapes created through a technique that employs oil paints applied to a paper surface washed in turpentine, Lewis says he continues to be drawn, after 31 years working with the turpentine wash technique, to the "distinct quality of sensuality and a subtle expressive energy" that results.

"I would like to create paintings in which the viewer recognizes the reality of a landscape, but does not get locked into the 'present moment' by overly detailed physical descriptions," Lewis says. "My hope is to invite movement from the particulars of the external world to a timeless inner space that is at once more personal, emotional and spiritual."

He adds that the spontaneous and improvisational nature of the turpentine wash process fosters his excitement with on-going technical innovation and the continuing evolution of the conceptual framework that landscape provides.

"I begin the painting process with repeated visits to specific landscape sites," he says. "Later, in the isolation of my studio, I work from memory and invention rather than from studies or photographs. There is no pre-planning

Black History Month Events Planned at UMaine

09 Feb 2006

Contact: Jose Cordero, 581-1425, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Black History Month is being observed throughout the month of February at UMaine with speakers, films and, on Feb. 24, a free Black History Month dinner with a national speaker.

The month is designed to provide students and the public with a better insight into the African American culture and history, and also give thought to issues of racism, according to Jose Cordero, interim director of multicultural programs at UMaine and the ALANA (African, Latino, Asian and Native American) Center.

Events began earlier this month and conclude Feb. 24 with a keynote address at the annual Black History Month Dinner by James Wallace, professor of higher education leadership at Eastern Illinois University. Wallace also is coordinator of a unique two-week program that takes participants on an annual national tour of educational institutions listed as Historically Black Colleges and Universities, a White House initiative from 1980 designed to strengthen the educational capacity of black colleges and universities.

Wallace will speak on the history of African American higher education in the United States. The dinner and program is from 6-8 p.m. at Stodder Commons on the Orono campus, and is free.

The Feb. 24 program also includes poetry and a menu of "popular soul food," Cordero says. This year will feature a tried and true southern staple of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn biscuits and apple pie.

Fried chicken and mashed potatoes may seem like a common staple for many Americans today, but Cordero explains that while everyone probably has enjoyed fried chicken and potatoes over time, many Americans had other options, whereas slaves didn't.

"It's the one thing slaves had to eat," he says. Because of a dearth of other menu options, slaves "were almost forced to eat this."

Cordero intends to observe Latin Heritage Month in March and Asian Heritage Month in April.

"I think it's important to highlight history awareness," he says. "It's always a topic in need of increased awareness

UMaine Presenting "Jesus Christ Superstar" Feb. 16-26

09 Feb 2006

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine School of Performing Arts will present eight performances of "Jesus Christ Superstar" beginning Feb. 16 in the newly renovated Hauck Auditorium.

The rock opera written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice combines hard-driving rock tunes and soulful ballads to create a work of great passion. "Jesus Christ Superstar" first appeared on Broadway in 1971, but the UMaine production promises to give a contemporary edge to the biblical narrative.

The themes, says director Sandra Hardy, associate professor of theater, are still relevant today.

"Christ is viewed in the theatrical piece as a troubled man whose leadership is questioned and whose disciples turn against him justifiably," she says. "What can Jesus, the savior, do to prove his purity of motive, his dedication to the poor, the helpless, the sick and the wayward? Is there any room left in this technocratic world for idealists? Can we still believe in love? Those are no small, outdated dilemmas."

Nearly 50 cast members, 20 musicians and two dozen backstage crew members have been assembled to tell the story of Christ's final days.

"When you have such an enormous cast, it's not about you ever. There is no one character; there's the ensemble," says Hans-Stefan Ducharme, a third-year theatre major playing Pontius Pilate. "With that in mind, you constantly give to many different people. Ultimately, the amount of work is indescribable. Working on this project is immense, but I wouldn't have it any other way."

Several guest designers are involved in this production. New York-based Joseph Ritsch, a UMaine graduate, choreographs once again for the Hauck stage; he last choreographed 2002's "Rocky Horror Show." Scenic designer Art Rotch most recently conceptualized a postmodern interpretation of "The Crucible" in Juno, Alaska. Lighting designer

Matt Guminski, who designed Hardy's production of "Bent" last season, most recently won the New Hampshire Critic's Award for his lighting design. Breaking away from his resident designer responsibilities for Penobscot Theatre Company, Lex Liang has designed more than 150 costumes for "Superstar."

Danny Williams of the UMaine Alumni Association, who also conducts the Black Bear Men's Chorus, is joining Hardy as musical director for their fifth collaboration.

The show runs Feb. 16-18 and Feb. 23-25, starting at 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 19 and Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$12, but free first admission for UMaine students with a MaineCard and \$6 thereafter. Please call 581-1755 for more information.

UMaine to Host 2006 Marine Sciences 'Nor'Easter Bowl' Feb. 11

09 Feb 2006

Contact: Brenda Zollitsch, 866-4323; Catherine Schmitt, 581-1434

Editors' note: Maine communities sending teams include Ashland, Corinth, Bath, Poland, Sanford, Waterville and York. Names of local high school team coaches and best interview opportunities for reporters can be obtained by calling the contact people listed in this release.

ORONO - So you think you know marine sciences? Try this short-answer quiz:

"The boundary between the less dense surface water and more dense deep water is called (what?)"

How about multiple choice? "One of the top commercial fish taken but not consumed directly by humans as food is the: grouper, flounder, rockfish or menhaden?"

If it's getting easy, try a third question: "A barotropic fluid is one in which surfaces of constant density do not cross which of the following type of surface? (isopycnals, isobars, isotopes or isobaths.)"

These are examples of the kinds of questions that will be asked of about 100 high school students coming to the University of Maine on Saturday, Feb. 11, for an all-day marine sciences tournament, the 2006 Nor'Easter Bowl.

The Nor'Easter Bowl is one of 24 regional competitions throughout the country leading to the final National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB) in May. The bowls are designed to introduce high school students to marine sciences and the many career opportunities in the field.

Teams of high school students from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont will compete from 9 a.m. to about 4:45 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Building behind the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus. Prizes include more than \$13,000 in scholarships of \$1,000 and \$3,000 apiece to three colleges or universities offering marine sciences education, in addition to books on ecology, gift certificates and, for the winning team, an expense-paid trip to the National Ocean Science Bowl in California.

On Feb. 11, the day begins early with registration, and opening remarks from Susan Haynes, director of NOSB and the Consortium of Oceanographic Research and Education, and professor David Townsend, director of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, scheduled at 8 a.m. State Sen. Elizabeth Schneider and state Rep. Emily Cain will be special guests and will present awards.

Since many high schools do not have specific ocean science components in their curricula, most student competitors have been spending extracurricular time studying marine sciences for months, prepping for the competition, says Brenda Zollitsch, coordinator for the Northern New England Regional NOSB event.

"These kids have been studying for the last five months," she says. "They're really excited about this program. I think it's the format that gets people excited. It's really fast."

The format for the competition sets up teams of high school students from northern New England to answer questions about the physics, chemistry, biology, geology and geography of the oceans, the social sciences, ocean-related technologies and current events. Maine communities sending teams include Ashland, Corinth, Bath, Poland, Sanford, Waterville and York.

Team members work together to solve difficult word problems posed as team challenge questions and then "buzz-in" to answer multiple-choice and short-answer questions in each round. All teams begin in a round-robin format and move on to the double-elimination part of the competition. Teams consist of four students plus one alternate and a coach.

In addition to competing, the students will learn about marine science programs and career opportunities from a variety of people, including a current UMaine student in the program, plus get a tour of the campus and the Maine Aquaculture Research Center here, according to Zollitsch and Katie Clegg, assistant coordinator for the Orono event.

"We really want to show them that the University of Maine really has a lot to offer in marine sciences," Zollitsch adds. "We also want people to know that there are young people who are interested in becoming stewards of the marine environment."

The University of Maine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to all 15 members of the top three teams if the students enroll in the college, Zollitsch says. The School of Marine Sciences is in the NSFA.

In addition to UMaine and its School of Marine Sciences and the Maine Sea Grant College Program, other institutions cosponsoring the annual Nor'Easter Bowl, include the University of New Hampshire, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, the University of New England and Maine Maritime Academy. The New England bowl is held each year at either UMaine, UNH or through Bigelow Labs at UNE.

Answers to the sample quiz questions, by the way, are as follows: Question 1, pycnocline (or thermocline); 2, menhaden; and 3 isobars.

For additional information, please call Brenda Zollitsch at 866-4323 or Catherine Schmitt of the Maine Sea Grant program 581-1434. A website,

<http://www.seagrants.umaine.edu/education/nosb06/index.htm>

, also has information.

UMaine Holding International Dance Festival Feb. 18

13 Feb 2006

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Student dancers from North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia are pulling out the stops for the second annual International Dance Festival planned Saturday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Maine Center for the Arts on the UMaine campus.

Dancers from India, Sri Lanka, Africa, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Mexico, Spain, Brazil, Nepal and the United States have been rehearsing for nearly six weeks for the annual festival, according to the UMaine Office of International Programs. It promises to be an engaging, artistic and musical program showcasing traditional international dances ranging from the serenity of a Vietnamese dance to jubilant African dance to hip-hop and the musical athleticism of Brazilian Capoeira, a blend of martial arts and dance designed by African slaves in the 19th Century to camouflage preparation

for an uprising against Brazilian slave owners.

"The festival will feature over 30 different performers, dancing in both solo and group pieces," says Sarah Joughin, international student advisor and immigration specialist with the Office of International Programs. Performers will dress in colorful cultural costumes from the countries being represented. The idea for the festival originated with Pemba Lama, a UMaine student from Nepal, who wanted to bring international and American students together through the arts. Lama, Senthil Sockalingam, a Malaysian student, and Jessica Bishop, an intern with the Office of International Programs, are the producers of this year's show.

"One of the strengths of the International Dance Festival is that it allows people to not only see the richness of international arts and culture, but also engage and be part of it through participation," Joughin says. "We celebrate the differences as well as similarities of student communities within the university."

This free festival lets people of Maine have an access to the cultural vitality within the University of Maine community, she says.

Moving the festival from Minsky Recital Hall to the Maine Center for Arts provides an ability to incorporate new techniques of stage design with new media such as 3D graphics, in addition to professional lighting and sound systems.

Many of the student performers have had significant professional dance training, with the quality of their work rivaling that of groups seen at the American Folk Festival in Bangor, Joughin notes.

Other dances on the program for the International Dance Festival include swing, tango, Irish step dancing, belly dancing, a Latin American mix, Nepalese dance, group African dance, two styles of hip-hop and a South Asian performance by a popular campus ensemble known as "The Basements."

Capoeira, a new dance form coming to the festival, is believed to have evolved among African slaves preparing for an uprising when martial arts training was forbidden by slave owners. By putting fighting arts to music and adding dance steps, it appeared to be harmless entertainment. Eventually, capoeira itself was banned for a period by the Brazilian government.

Capoeira performers are known as "players" and dance in pairs. They employ a variety of martial arts kicks, strikes and feign techniques combined with handstands, headstands, spins and twirls all set to the percussive rhythm of South American instruments like the berimbau and the atabaque. The art has grown from a dance form once frowned upon by authorities to one of the most popular sports in Brazil today, second only to soccer. Schools also are blossoming in the United States and beyond because of its increasing popularity.

"These guys are pretty good," Joughin says of the UMaine capoeira players.

With increasing interdependence among countries for economic and social growth, Joughin says it is vital to understand and appreciate the differences of culture, ideas and nationality. Arts can provide a common ground where people can share and exchange cultural values to better educate themselves about the world. The International Dance Festival is an innovative and inspiring step toward that goal, she says.

The festival is sponsored by the Office of International Programs, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, the International Student Association, the Asian Student Association, Multicultural Programs, Student Heritage Alliance Center, the Latin American Student Association and the African Student Association.

The event last year attracted a surprisingly large audience of UMaine students and people from surrounding communities, according to Joughin. The festival brought, for the first time, all the international organizations together and created a base to share and work with each other collaboratively, she says.

"We really packed Minsky," Joughin says, "so from there, people wanted to take it up a notch and expand on the quality and depth of participation. It's been pretty exciting."

More information can be obtained by calling the Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905.

UMaine Benefactor Larry Mahaney Dies at 76

13 Feb 2006

Contact: Clinton Colmenares at 581-3742

Bangor businessman, philanthropist and long-time University of Maine benefactor Larry Mahaney died Sunday, Feb. 12, in West Palm Beach, Fla. after suffering a massive stroke five days earlier.

The former chairman of the board and CEO of Webber Energy Fuels was born in the small Aroostook County town of Easton on Feb. 8, 1930, and worked as a potato farmer in his youth. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in education at the University of Maine in the 1950s.

A former standout athlete at Fort Fairfield High School, Mahaney later taught and coached baseball there and coached football and basketball at Brewer High School before becoming manager of Webber's heating oil division and director of the company's advertising and public relations in 1962.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy expressed condolences to Mahaney's family.

"Larry was a good friend to Mary and me, and a great friend of the University of Maine. I will miss his infectious enthusiasm for life, and his profound belief in the value of his beloved alma mater. UMaine is a much better place because of all Larry did for us. My sympathy goes to his family and other friends at this difficult time."

Mahaney, who also was once an assistant baseball coach at UMaine, had been inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame in 1997, and had been awarded honorary doctorates from the University of Maine in 1988 and Thomas College in 1989. He also was the recipient of the Harold Alford Award for Athletic Philanthropy in 1995.

His generosity included helping with the creation of the Buchanan Alumni House, the building of the UMaine baseball stadium and clubhouse, which bear Mahaney's name and, more recently, a \$1 million donation for the new 38,000-square-foot dome practice facility at UMaine, which also bears his name.

"The University of Maine lost a wonderful friend in Larry Mahaney," said interim Athletic Director Blake James. "He was a leader of our program and truly made a difference in the lives of our student athletes. Larry's vision, generosity and passion for Black Bear athletics are what helped make our program successful. While his vision and generosity touched all of our sports, his passion was baseball. Larry helped keep Maine baseball as one of the truly special programs in the country.

"I am confident that Coach Trimper, Coach Kostacopoulos and Coach Winkin would all testify to the tremendous impact that Larry had on our baseball program. We will all miss Larry; however, his commitment to our program will be with us forever," said James. "Our thoughts go out to his family and friends."

Where Have All the Sturgeons Gone?

14 Feb 2006

Contact: Michael T. Kinnison (207) 581-2575; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - Researchers from UMaine will soon be on the trail of one of the East Coast's longest-lived and most endangered fish, thanks to an \$86,298 grant from the United States Department of Commerce (NOAA/NMFS).

UMaine Biological Sciences Professor Michael T. Kinnison, School of Marine Sciences Professor Gayle Zydlewski, and Ecology and Environmental Sciences Graduate Student Stephen Fernandes seek to determine whether the Atlantic Sturgeon is actually present in the Penobscot River Estuary and the lower river, where the species has long been rumored to exist. If sturgeon are indeed found, Kinnison and Zydlewski will compile information concerning the animal's ecology and abundance in an effort to help establish the current status of the species locally, regionally, and nationally.

In addition to the Atlantic sturgeon, which is currently listed as a species of special concern along the East Coast, the project will gather population information regarding the short nosed sturgeon, a related species already listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The study will utilize a new hydroacoustic telemetry array that is jointly deployed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of Maine to monitor the movement patterns of marked fish, and collaborate with the US Geological Survey Cooperative Fisheries Unit on the project as well.

Food Science and Human Nutrition Faculty Gets New Weapon in the Fight Against the Big O's

14 Feb 2006

Contact: Mary Ellen Camire (207) 581-1627; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - A state-of-the-art densitometer will soon contribute to an array of research programs being carried out by the UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) faculty. The programs focus on the growing problems of obesity and osteoporosis around the world.

Utilizing a grant of \$38,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture and matching monies from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund administered by UMaine's Vice President for Research Michael Eckardt, the department has acquired a Hologic Discovery W bone densitometer. FSHN researchers will use the device in a variety of research projects that investigate the nature and prevention of obesity and osteoporosis.

Professor Mary Ellen Camire will investigate the affect of flavenoid-rich foods such as blueberries and cranberries on digestion and metabolism, as well as the use of satiety-increasing foods to reduce food intake.

Other faculty may use the equipment to obtain funding for a variety of research projects including the effect of blueberry consumption on bone density in seniors, the benefits of vitamin D supplements for increasing bone density in young women, and the body composition implications of a Mediterranean diet.

The new equipment, which can be used to measure both bone density and body composition, will also be used in human nutrition classes and to further other research conducted by the Department of Psychology and the Center for Aging.

In Search of a Better French Fry; Collaborative project sets sights on achieving the perfect potato

14 Feb 2006

Contact: Gregory Porter (207) 581-2943; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Me. - UMaine Agronomy researcher Gregory Porter was recently awarded more than \$250,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for an ongoing eight-state potato breeding project aimed at creating improved potato varieties for cultivation in the Eastern United States. Maine's potato industry generated nearly \$300 million in direct sales in 2003.

Together with fellow UMaine researchers Alfred Bushway, David Lambert, Gary Sewell, and Zenaida Ganga, Porter will collaborate with a number of other potato development researchers to produce insect- and disease-resistant potato varieties that maintain high yields in the diverse growing conditions present in the eastern U.S. Through selective breeding and artificial enhancement of its genetic material, researchers from UMaine will share their results with other project participants in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida.

In addition to high yields and pest resistance, desired characteristics for the project's new line of special spuds include excellent adaptability, attractive appearance, high dry matter content, excellent fry color, freedom from internal defects, and excellent nutritional qualities. The project's comprehensive approach will take the new varieties from seed to store by not only developing new stock, but by following through with commercial trials and industry support as well.

Researchers hope that the multidisciplinary project will result in new potato varieties that will enhance both farm sustainability and grower profits.

DeSisto Receives NSF Award for Nanotech Research

14 Feb 2006

Contact: William DeSisto (207) 581-2291; Clinton Colmenares (207) 581-3742

ORONO, Me. - William (Bill) DeSisto, assistant professor of Chemical Engineering, has received the most prestigious honor the National Science Foundation awards to young researchers, the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award.

CAREER awards go to junior faculty who "most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization," according to the NSF. DeSisto is the fifth UMaine faculty member to receive a CAREER award since 2001; they have totaled more than \$1.1 million.

DeSisto will receive \$400,000 over five years for his project, "A new class of modified mesoporous silica membranes.

Silica membranes provide an alternative to traditional energy-intensive separation processes, like condensation, and could have applications ranging from refining petrochemicals to building better batteries for everyday consumer items.

But, DeSisto says, "In order for silica membranes to be used on a large scale, fundamental research into controlling their performance must be achieved."

He plans to control the size of the pores in silica membranes and to control their surface chemistry through new approaches involving controlled chemical reactions within these tiny pores.

One goal is to prepare a class of membranes with a well-defined pore size on a nano-scale -- millionths of a millimeter - that has, as yet, eluded researchers. Another goal is to fill these inorganic pores with organic material, thereby creating a hybrid "composite" membrane that can be molecularly tailored to specific separations. These membranes have potential in separating mixtures containing light gases and vapors, and larger molecules, such as proteins.

DeSisto has been working on issues in and around these "nanocomposite" materials for many years. The CAREER award helps give him a slight advantage over other researchers, who might just be entering the field.

"There is a lot of development underway," he says, especially in research laboratories around the world, and among large global chemical companies. "They're focusing on different applications. It's still new, and there's still a lot of promise. We haven't realized it yet."

One potential application for DeSisto's membranes would be in the petrochemical industry, where there is a need to separate molecules of the same size, but with different physical properties. Current technology, condensation, does not do this well because the boiling points of different types of molecules can be very similar. A filter that could sort by size and physical property would make the separation more efficient.

DeSisto is also working with makers of lithium ion batteries. The batteries currently are made with a thin plastic film separating the electrodes. These batteries commonly overheat, which breaks the plastic film and creates significant safety concerns.

"With a hybrid porous silica layer, we could fill the pores with a plastic to allow the lithium ions to move through, while increasing the thermal stability due to the presence of the silica," DeSisto says.

Upcoming Science-related Events

15 Feb 2006

Contact: David Munson at (207) 581-3777

MITCHELL CENTER SPRING 2006 SEMINAR SERIES

PENOBSCOT RIVER RESEARCH -- LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Seminars are sponsored by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research and the UMaine Program in Ecology and Environmental Science.

This goal of this seminar series is to provide information on current research projects taking place on the Penobscot River ahead of the proposed dam removals. This seminar series coordinates with the Penobscot River Synthesis project.

Unless otherwise noted, all seminars take place at 12 noon in Norman Smith Hall at the University of Maine campus in Orono. If you are coming from off-campus, and need parking permits and/or directions, please contact Ruth Hallsworth at 207/581-3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Topic: Biological Assessment of Rivers and Streams in the Penobscot River Basin

Speaker: Tom Danielson, Biomonitoring Unit, Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2006

Topic: Long term biological monitoring of the Penobscot River as illustrated with a field-based stressor-response model, the Biological Condition Gradient

Speaker: Susan Davies, Biomonitoring Unit, Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection

GUEST LECTURE

SPEAKER: David Krabbenhoft, Research Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey

TOPIC: Mercury Contamination of the Environment: A Wide Spread Problem with an Uncertain Future

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006

12noon - 1:30pm

Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono

If you are coming from off-campus and need parking permits or directions, please contact Ruth Hallsworth at hallsworth@maine.edu or 207/581-3196.

This lecture is co-sponsored by the UMaine Program in Ecology and Environmental Studies, the Mitchell Center and UMaine Department of Biological Sciences.

The Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Molecular Biology Spring 2006 Hitchner Seminar Series. Seminars are on FRIDAY at 2:10 PM in 203 Hitchner Hall (unless noted otherwise).

Thursday March 2 at 2:10 PM in 100 Nutting Hall

Jessica Miller, UM Department of Philosophy

"Some ethical implications of the Human Genome project"

March 24

Dana Davis (UM alum-BMMB) University of Minnesota

"Adaptation to the host environment, fungal pathogenesis, and the role of Rim101"

Research Discussion Topics Announced

The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium begins Friday, Feb. 10. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research

Horse Business and Safety Clinic at UMaine

16 Feb 2006

Contact: Donna Lamb, 800-287-1491 (in Maine) or 207-564-3301

ORONO-- University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the UMaine Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences and the Risk Management Agency will conduct a clinic on horse industry business and safety. The Horse Business and Safety Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Stodder Commons on the UMaine Campus in Orono.

Breeders, trainers, boarding stable owners, and volunteer instructors will learn about insurance needs for those involved with horse businesses, current relevant tax laws, how to track business expenses and how to implement a safety program to minimize accidents. Participants will learn when and if a venture can be considered a "farm enterprise" for tax purposes, and get help determining the appropriate types of insurance for various types of operations. The Risk Management Agency will present information on their crop insurance and whole farm insurance policies, and a session on financial recordkeeping.

The afternoon program will focus on safety training for the horse operation, with a focus on fixing potential barn hazards and guidelines to help prevent accidents during riding lessons. The safety training will include a lecture as well

as a demonstration at the Witter Teaching and Research Farm.

Registration is \$15 for adults and \$8 for students and this covers lunch, refreshments and printed materials. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the day.. A limited number of scholarships are available for those who can not afford the registration fee. Pre-registration is recommended. More information is available from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Piscataquis County Office, 165 East Main St, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Those interested may also call 800-287-1491 (in Maine) or 207-564-3301, or e-mail tallen@umext.maine.edu.

Beta Sleep Out at UMaine Friday and Saturday

17 Feb 2006

Contact: Andrew Knapp, Public Relations-Philanthropy Chairman, Beta Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi, 581-8323

ORONO - Beta Theta Pi, the University of Maine's oldest fraternity, is undertaking an effort to decrease rape crimes in the area and increase awareness of the issue. But to do this, the brothers need the community's help.

Starting at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, and ending at 6 a.m. Saturday, 45 brothers of the Beta Eta chapter of Beta Theta Pi, along with fellow students and faculty representing other UMaine organizations, will participate in the 13th annual Beta Sleep Out to benefit Rape Response Services of Bangor. The event will raise money for rape-prevention education and spur awareness of the issue throughout the community.

Rape Response Services provides crisis intervention, support groups and community education in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. The organization's efforts are essential in preventing rape and counseling those affected by the crime. Last year's Beta Sleep Out, held in January, raised about \$1,000 for the cause and attracted more than 300 individuals.

On Feb. 17, participants will camp on the front lawn of the Beta house, a large red building located next to Hancock Hall on College Avenue in Orono. Those involved construct their own shelter from cardboard boxes and various pieces of wood. A bonfire burns all night as the attendees attempt to stay warm in the freezing temperatures. By morning, despite frozen fingers and runny noses, the brothers are proud of the small sacrifice they made to fight a large community problem. Also on Saturday morning, tickets will be drawn for raffle prizes -- the avenue through which most funds are raised.

Beta is seeking to surpass the money raised by last year's event by a substantial amount. However, it is only through the community's help that it can accomplish this. Beta hopes individuals, companies and other groups, who are a part of this community just like the victims affected by rape, may find it worthwhile to help the cause through monetary donations or contributions of items to be used as raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will be sold throughout the 12-hour period. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six.

All members of the community are invited to attend. Refreshments are available free of charge and speakers will address the rape issue and its impact on the community.

Beta will welcome well-known performer Ben Atherton-Zeman to speak at the event. Atherton-Zeman's one-man play "Voices of Men" uses humor and male voice impressions to approach issues of sexual assault, consent, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual harassment and objectification. According to his website, Atherton-Zeman has 13 years of experience working at domestic violence programs and rape crisis centers. He has performed and talked at conferences and workshops throughout the nation. He is also a spokesman for the National Organization of Men Against Sexism and has presented in 29 states, China and the Czech Republic. Atherton-Zeman, of the Boston area, met his wife Lucinda, a 1989 graduate of UMaine, while performing an improvisational comedy in Maine.

For more information, to make a donation of money or prize material, or to purchase raffle tickets, please call Andrew

Knapp at (207) 581-8323. If there is no answer, leave a message with your phone number. You can also write to 12 Munson Road, Orono, Maine 04469, or e-mail andrew.knapp@umit.maine.edu.

Nature Sketching Forum Set Feb. 26 at UMaine Farm and Home Museum

21 Feb 2006

Contact: Mary Bird, 581-2434; Tiffany Wilson, 581-3288

ORONO -- The Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, the Environment and Education and the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum are offering a free public educational forum on sketching nature on Sunday, Feb. 26.

"Field Sketching: A hands-on opportunity to reproduce the art of nature" is scheduled from 2-4 p.m. at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus.

People of all ages are welcome to come learn the art of field sketching from Carrie Graham, a student of entomology and talented nature artist. Graham will make a brief presentation about her art and inspiration, followed by an opportunity for everyone to sketch a variety of subjects -- living creatures, stationary objects and things that may be found in nature.

The public is invited and participants are encouraged to bring a sketchbook and drawing supplies. Some materials will be available to ensure that everyone will have the opportunity to participate.

Organizers will offer a sampler of snacks from the Friends of Edith Patch Cookbook during the forum.

The event is the sixteenth in a series of gatherings sponsored by the Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, the Environment and Education, and held at the Page Farm and Home Museum. The forum series focuses on science and the environment, in celebration of the life and work of Edith Marion Patch (1876-1954), the first woman scientist employed by the University of Maine. Patch was a world-renowned entomologist, a pioneer environmentalist and a beloved author of nature stories for children.

For information about the Patch Center Forums or the Friends of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, please contact Mary Bird at 581-2434 or Tiffany Wilson, 581-3288.

Katrina Relief Vessel Captain to Speak at Page Farm and Home Museum

21 Feb 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Captain Laurence Wade, master of the Castine-berthed training ship State of Maine, which responded to disaster relief efforts on the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, will speak about his experiences at a Brown Bag Lunch Lecture March 1 at noon at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

The public is invited to bring a bag lunch to this free event. Parking permits are available at the museum the day of the lecture or through the Visitors' Center at Buchanan Alumni House.

T.S. State of Maine was deployed on Sept. 3 from Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) to New Orleans where she served nearly 35,000 meals and provided 7,800 berth nights for relief workers in the 60 days she was in the Gulf. The ship returned to Castine Nov. 22.

In addition to serving as master of training on the State of Maine, Wade is an assistant professor in the Marine Transportation Operations Department at MMA, where he teaches navigation and advanced tanker operations. He manages and coordinates upgrades and inspections and is the liaison between MMA and the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration.

He has an extensive background in Coast Guard, government and commercial shipyard modifications and repairs. Wade received a bachelor's degree from MMA and holds an Oceans Unlimited tonnage masters license with endorsement as First Class Pilot from the Coast Guard. He also is a captain in the United States Maritime Service and a member of the Boston Marine Society, Portland Marine Society, Council of American Master Mariners and the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers.

When Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast last fall, there were several maritime related tasks identified as being crucial to the infrastructure of the affected areas, and to the economic recovery of the region. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and port officials identified a need for help in refinery reconstruction, pollution mitigation, spill cleanup, supplies and housing. The State of Maine was one of the ships activated for such support service.

Arriving at the Mississippi River Southwest Pass entrance, Wade and his crew saw the destruction. In the lower reaches of the Mississippi River Delta, the usual herds of grazing cattle were missing, oil tanks were literally floated, crushed and toppled and houses and docks were trampled, he says.

In the lower Mississippi cities of Empire, Venice and Pilot Town, most of the governing infrastructure and city support suffered enormously, according to Wade. Football fields were underwater and boats were in the bleachers. He recalls looking literally through schools with their walls gone. Upriver were masses of barges, boats, ferries and debris deposited in the trees and on top of the levees, and each other. Even drydocks with tugs still on board were displaced and deposited up on the levees, he says.

At Seventh Street Wharf, the ship's crew prepared housing for workers helping to get the port back to an operational status. Without the State of Maine, workers faced living in tents in a parking lot.

"Hot showers, air conditioning, pleasant surroundings, and above all our reputation for outstanding food meant that our ship and accommodations was a focal point for many folks," he says.

Having worked with homeless persons and with many government and private agencies providing disaster relief, there is one very real perception that Wade says he came away from the Gulf with: "Seamen are trained and practiced

Most Maine Principals Positive, but Working under Increased Pressure

21 Feb 2006

Target Technology Incubator Helps Student Launch Consulting Business

21 Feb 2006

Contact: Rory Eckardt, 949-4401; Debbie Neuman, 866-6500

ORONO - A recent UMaine graduate has become one of the newest tenants at the Target Technology Innovation Center's business incubator in Orono, launching a forest consulting business he hopes will help loggers, foresters and landowners in Maine make the most efficient use of their property and equipment.

Within the hub of start-up enterprises in the center is R.E. Consulting, created by Rory Eckardt of Orono, a recent UMaine graduate with a degree in Forestry Operations Science. Eckardt is currently in his second semester of the

UMaine MBA program, and is already signing on clients throughout Maine. With a background in the industry, Eckardt has identified a need for improvement in the business aspect of forestry and forest product manufacturing companies.

"Forestry companies are lean," Eckardt explains. "Many of these companies lack the resources to identify and predict changing trends, which can affect their viability in an uncertain marketplace"

Eckardt's plan is to provide access to the tools and information that forest industry businesses can use to make knowledgeable decisions to improve their companies' bottom lines. Eckardt focuses on market research, business plan consulting, operations and cost analyses and strategic development services, "to provide consistent and accurate information cost effectively," Eckardt says.

While Eckardt is confident about the demand for a company like his, he says the idea of starting a business from the ground up can be overwhelming. The Target Technology Innovation Center provided the solution for his concerns.

The Innovation Center is located at the Target Technology Incubator in Orono. It provides a space where students and university faculty can find the tools they need to start a business. There are many on-site resources at the incubator, including the Maine Patent Program, one-on-one counseling and access to advanced technology equipment, business modeling software and data, as well as the ability to connect with other new entrepreneurs. The incubator also offers an extensive network that can connect students and other tenants at the facility with external industry experts or businesses that can help them launch their business. All of these tools are made available to serious students and faculty at no cost, says Debbie Neuman, director of the incubator.

The Innovation Center is a great tool for students who wish to start their business while still in college, she says. Not only does the center provide information and resources to help a business grow, but students also can receive guidance on how to find start-up capital. Additionally, a partnership with the Maine Technology Institute may provide a seed grant, for as much as \$10,000 to a promising start-up company.

Incubators like Target Technology help young businesses navigate the many start-up challenges facing inventors and entrepreneurs. They also help keep business in Maine, Neuman says. "If we introduce them to what Maine has to offer," she says, "they'll be much less likely to leave. Eighty-four percent of businesses which started in incubators stay in the area."

Not only does the incubator provide an opportunity for inventors and entrepreneurs to become educated in the world of business, it also provides the benefit of hands-on learning and knowledgeable support. What makes Target Technology different from some of the other business development programs around the state is that it is dedicated to supporting technology-based businesses, Neuman says.

In this case, Eckardt had an idea, and the Innovation Center helped him create the company. After taking part in several of the center's "Lunch and Learn" seminars, Eckardt was inspired to look into starting a business. "The Innovation Center is awesome," he says. Without it "I couldn't imagine going into this kind of thing. It really helps to have that kind of support."

The center was developed by the Bangor Target Development Corporation in partnership with the University of Maine, the state of Maine, and the city of Orono. Target Technology was one of the first four designated Applied Technology Development Centers to be established in Maine.

The center was completed in 2002. The business incubator comprises a third of the 20,000 square-foot facility and also houses established technology companies, University of Maine researchers, including the National Center for Geographic Information Analysis and a super computer cluster developed in partnership with the Department of Defense and Applied Thermal Sciences.

The mission of the incubator program is to stimulate the growth of early stage information technology companies, within an environment that is fostering information technology activity. UMaine sponsors the innovation program as a way to assist in the commercialization of university-based research, in addition to supporting the development of new technologies in the private sector.

National Association Names Hwalek Music Teacher of the Year

22 Feb 2006

Contact: Ginger Hwalek, 581-1246; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Ginger Yang Hwalek, a music instructor in the UMaine School of Performing Arts' Music Division and long time piano teacher and accompanist in the Bangor area, recently was named the 2006 Teacher of the Year by one of the largest music teachers organizations in the nation.

The award from the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) is granted to a person who has gone beyond the call of duty to exemplify excellence in music teaching. Criteria includes maintaining a successful music studio, upholding high professional standards by being an MTNA Nationally Certified Teacher of Music and being involved in the MTNA at state, division and national levels.

The association is a professional organization with 24,000 members who teach in homes, professional studios, conservatories, colleges and universities. Although the membership is primarily piano teachers, the MTNA also attracts strings, brass, woodwinds and voice teachers.

Hwalek says she was unaware she'd been nominated for the MTNA award.

"I was in shock," she says. "Never in a million years would I have imagined it. To me, this is like the Oscar for piano teaching. This is very special because it's my peers" who made the selection.

The Bangor resident will receive the award at the association's national conference in Austin, Texas on March 29. UMaine faculty and friends plan to celebrate with Hwalek at a public reception Feb. 24 from 4-6 p.m. in University Club at Fogler Library.

Hwalek currently serves as the MTNA National Senior Competition Coordinator. She has held a number of offices within the association since 1982, including association president and board member. She also was the association's Eastern Division president from 1998 to 2000 and previously the president-elect.

More locally, Hwalek has been site coordinator and adjudicator for student evaluations for many years in Orono, elsewhere in Maine, and in New Hampshire and Rochester, N.Y. She has organized and conducted at several piano "monster concerts" in New Hampshire and Vermont, has taught in Michigan and has been music director for the MacPherson (Kansas) Symphony Orchestra and the Central Maine String Orchestra.

Hwalek, who was raised in South Bend, Ind., has taught private piano lessons and held studio recitals in the Bangor area since moving to Maine in 1982. Her students have been selected to participate in prestigious chamber music programs in Blue Hill, Rockport and Portland and have won the Arcady Music Society's Student Competition 11 times. Hwalek was the Arcady Music Society's Teacher of the Year Award winner in 1993.

At UMaine, Hwalek has taught piano classes, music history, tonal counterpoint and analytical orchestration. She took over the chamber music program here in 1999 and currently directs UMaine's Maine Summer Youth Music program.

Hwalek has been a professional accompanist in the Bangor area and routinely accompanies at student and faculty recitals on and off campus. She regularly collaborates with professor and soprano Nancy Ellen Ogle of the music division faculty, with whom she has performed and recorded three CDs of contemporary American art songs under the Capstone Records label.

In spite of a busy professional schedule, Hwalek has supported her 16-year-old son's soccer team as a team parent and she currently helps coordinate their snack shack. She and her husband John Hwalek, an associate professor of chemical engineering, have hosted American Field Service foreign exchange students from Greenland, Hong Kong, Thailand and Italy. The Hwaleks also have an 18-year-old daughter.

Hwalek says she immerses herself in teaching in so many venues because she is enthusiastic about seeing people improve their piano skills and music appreciation.

"I love students at any level," she says. "I guess I love people. I think that altruism is what drives me."

Stuart Marrs, chair of the music division of the School of Performing Arts, congratulates Hwalek. "We feel proud and honored to have within our ranks a faculty member who has received this prestigious national award," he says.

UMaine Business Students Offering Tax Assistance through April 17

22 Feb 2006

Contact: Steven Colburn, 581-1982; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- UMaine accounting students will be available on Monday through April 17 to provide free help with filing state and federal income tax returns. The Monday sessions from 12-2:30 p.m. in Room 113 in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building began Feb. 6. Students in the UMaine Business School work with taxpayers on a first-come, first-served basis, and are overseen by associate professor Steven Colburn, who directs the UMaine Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). Though designed for low- to moderate-income taxpayers, people with disabilities, the elderly or students who need help, the service is available to anyone on campus or in surrounding communities with basic tax assistance needs. Filers should bring W-2 forms from all employers, Forms 1099 (for dividends and interest), if applicable, and any other forms or information regarding income, deductions or credits. Volunteers can download tax forms from the IRS website, if needed. All of the volunteers have taken tax preparation courses and are up to date on the latest tax law changes. Plus, Colburn double-checks each return before it leaves the building. The program is a benefit for taxpayers in the community and is good training for students, who enjoy the interaction with walk-in clients, Colburn says. Between 100 and 150 people from the Old Town-Orono communities, including students, usually come for assistance each year, Colburn says. "Mostly we have helped students on campus, but we do help people from the community," he says. "Some people have small businesses on the side, and I mean really small businesses." The practice of accounting students helping the public with income tax forms is longstanding at UMaine, and goes back as many as three decades. This year's tax return deadline is midnight April 18, as opposed to midnight April 15, because the traditional deadline falls on a Saturday and Monday, April 17, is Patriot's Day, a state holiday in Massachusetts, where the IRS has a processing facility for taxpayers living in Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and the District of Columbia. More information is available by calling Colburn at 581-1982 or emailing steve.colburn@umit.maine.edu

Local NAACP Leader is Black History Month Dinner Speaker

24 Feb 2006

Contact: Jose Cordero, 581-1425, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - James Varner, president of the Greater Bangor NAACP, will be the Black History Month dinner speaker on Friday, Feb. 24 from 6-8 at Stodder Commons.

The previously scheduled speaker, James Wallace, professor of higher education leadership at Eastern Illinois University, was unable to make the engagement, according to Jose Cordero, interim director of multicultural programs at UMaine and the ALANA (African, Latino, Asian and Native American) Center.

Black History Month has been observed throughout February at UMaine, with speakers, films and the annual Black History Month dinner on Feb. 24

Varner will speak on the legacy of Black History Month in the United States. The dinner and program are free and open to the public. The evening also includes poetry and a menu of "popular soul food," Cordero says. This year will feature a tried and true southern staple of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn biscuits and apple pie.

Fried chicken and mashed potatoes may seem like a common staple for many Americans today, but Cordero explains that these food items and combinations were not always rooted in African American culture.

"Slaves were forced to eat scraps mostly, and soul food became popular at the turn of the last century," he says. "This is the menu that will be served on Friday."

Black History Month at UMaine is intended to provide students and the public with a better insight into the African American culture and history, and also give thought to issues of racism, according to Cordero. If people were exposed to a more equal representation of different cultures' histories, there might be less misunderstanding of racial differences and more appreciation of cultural traditions, he says.

The University of Maine is temporarily home for students from 70 countries, each bringing unique cultural characteristics to the campus community.

Cordero can be reached at (207) 581-1425 for more information.

UMaine Alum Wins SBA Award for Innovative "iPointer"

24 Feb 2006

Contact: Chris Frank, 866-6521; Debbie Neuman, 866-6500

ORONO -- UMaine graduate and president of Intelligent Spatial Technologies (iST) Chris Frank recently received the Small Business Administration's prestigious Maine Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for his innovative "iPointer," a digital tour guide product his company is developing.

The device gives visiting users information about landmarks by simply pointing at them.

To be eligible for consideration, an entrepreneur must be under the age of 30, and the business must be at least three years old. Frank learned of his recognition in late January. Frank was nominated for the SBA award by Debbie Neuman, director of UMaine's Target Technology incubator located in the Target Technology Center in Orono, which houses iST.

Frank founded the small technology company in April of 2003, hoping to realize the commercial potential of providing location-based information for people on the go, he says. He based the company on research conducted at UMaine's Spatial Information Science and Engineering department.

Since the company launched in the Target Technology Center, it has grown to five employees. Funding for continued development of the iPointer has included several seed grants and a development award from the Maine Technology Institute in Gardiner.

The iPointer is in its final stages of commercialization, and will be the first product to come out of iST. Its target clients are historical sites and museums, where visitors on site would use the iPointer. The company has two potential customers in Maine and Virginia, Frank says, and he expects the product to be available to the public by the end of the year.

The iPointer system consists of a hand-held, multimedia computing device, a wireless network and a powerful geospatial database. iPointer's hand-held device consists of a Microsoft MobileOS-based computer integrating a digital magnetic compass (that records the device's pointing direction), a GPS receiver (that records the user's current location), and a wireless connection to iST's database via the Internet. iST's database, built on an Oracle 10g platform, contains geospatial data, descriptive and multimedia data, and runs iST's advanced pointing landmark selection algorithms to accurately identify landmarks selected by users.

iST's iPointer system empowers users to explore a defined area, pointing and learning at will. Users select landmarks or items of interest and the iPointer delivers multimedia information based on the user's geographic location and orientation. Unlike current proximity-dependent self-guided tour technology, the iPointer system is composed of global positioning system (GPS) and digital compass technology integrated into a pocket PC, a wireless network, and iST's geospatial database. This combination of technologies gives iPointer users unprecedented freedom to selectively explore an area.

Target Technology Center provides a nurturing environment for information technology development and commercialization activities for start-up businesses. In addition to the incubator, the facility houses University of Maine researchers and private sector technology firms.

The incubator provides developing firms with space, support services and resources necessary to get started. The facility was developed by the Bangor Target Area Development Corporation in partnership with the University of Maine. It is one of seven centers in Maine designed to assist firms engaged in technology related activities.

Special Camden Conference Course on China Sold Out

24 Feb 2006

Contact: Cindy Thomas, (207) 581-3072, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The intensified special topics class the University of Maine traditionally designs around the three-day Camden Conference has grown so popular after nine years that it now is filling up almost as fast as word gets out about registration.

This year's course, structured around the Feb. 24-26 conference, focuses on China. It reached its 40-person cutoff within just weeks of its announcement and had 17 frustrated students sitting on a waiting list, according to Cindy Thomas, student academic services coordinator in the Division of Continuing & Distance Education, who coordinates the classes with Marlene Charron, assistant director of the Division of Conference Services.

UMaine graduate student Jayne Lello of Sebec was on the waiting list, but got lucky when a slot became available for her to join the class.

"I took the class last year on Iraq and I learned more about the Middle East and the history of the conflict and our nation

Percussionist Stuart Marrs Taps Technology for Unique Timpani DVD

24 Feb 2006

Contact: George Manlove at (207) 581-3756 Music professor Stuart Marrs, in conjunction with the UMaine Office of Research and Economic Development, recently completed a unique recording project that could become a novel new business venture -- interactive DVD tutorials for classical instruments. Marrs, chair of the music division in the School of Performing Arts, collaborated with staff in the university's departments of new media and industrial cooperation last summer to record the complete collection of "Eight Pieces for Four Timpani" by celebrated American composer Elliott Carter. It is only the second recording of the complete set of Carter's eight timpani pieces on the market, and the first

interactive timpani DVD. The project was filmed and recorded on the Maine Center for the Arts stage with four digital cameras capturing multiple viewing angles that controlled by a remote control. Designed for music instructors and students of timpani, or kettledrums, viewers can also listen to an optional voice-over narrative in English, French or Spanish, in which Marris discusses his playing technique, the music and how he achieves the complex rhythmic patterns and pitch changes in Carter's music. "This is being created as a teaching device for students who can't come here to take a seminar," says Marris, a Yamaha Performing Artist. "With the DVD, students have access to many camera angles, and when used in a computer with Internet access, they can also connect with a user forum and take advantage of links to Yamaha, Vic Firth (drumstick manufacturer) and the Percussive Arts Society," Marris says. "The DVD-ROM section of the disc contains scholarly articles written about this collection of pieces, which can be accessed with Adobe Acrobat." The interactive DVD concept has been used for instructional purposes in popular music, Marris says, but nobody has done this in classical music, so far as he knows. Traditionally, timpani provide the deep rumbling percussion for an orchestra. In "Eight Pieces for Four Timpani," Carter takes the instrument farther into a solo performance mode through extended techniques, including playing on different places on the drum head to produce different kinds of sounds and through rapid pitch changes by means of the tuning pedals. Marris recorded the Elliott Carter pieces from memory, an accomplishment made particularly difficult due to the rhythmic and metric complexity of the music. Typically, musicians play or record one, two or three individual timpani pieces from Carter's collection, but not all eight. "Nobody has the time to prepare them all at once, even professional musicians," says Marris. He took a semester sabbatical in September of 2003 to learn the music. Development of interactive DVD tutorials for classical instruments, Marris adds, "could be a great boon to music education. If the business model works, I intend to expand it to other instruments. What I'm doing is taking advantage of all of the interactive technology that a DVD offers and applying it to pedagogy instead of students passively watching an instructional movie at home." The DVD is commercially available at the UMaine Bookstore. Borders also is expected to carry it. With the first DVD complete, Marris, Jake Ward, executive director for Research and Economic Development at UMaine, and student technicians from the Department of Industrial Cooperation are exploring a collaboration that could become a new business venture. A market study is being done by student business interns Kerriane Falco and in the Office of Research and Economic Development's Target Technology Center in Orono. Renee Kelly, ORED's director of economic development initiatives, coordinated student involvement in the filming and business planning as a pilot project for the soon to open Innovation Center at UMaine. "Assisting with the commercial development of this project is part of UMaine's mission to help bring research and creative achievements to the public," Ward says. Students are using the new media equipment, funded by the Maine Technology Institute, to create the "TimeLab" for just this kind of project, he says. Others involved in the timpani DVD project were Bill Kuykendall, professor of new media, Mark Wellman, assistant professor of music who teaches recording arts, Evan Richards, a graduate assistant and new media producer at ORED, and Olney Atwell, an ORED student intern. David Adkins, facility production manager for the School of Performing Arts and Jeff Richards, technical director for Maine Center for the Arts and his staff assisted with the lighting. This article originally was published July 14, 2005.

New Access Van Improves the Ride for Students with Disabilities

27 Feb 2006

Contact: Ann Smith, 581-2319; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The snow is beginning to fall as cold January air swirls inside the University of Maine's new "Access Van" when driver Matt Jackins lowers the hydraulic wheelchair ramp for student Svetlana Miljkovic outside Gannett Hall.

Once "Lana" Miljkovic wheels into the van and the doors close, hot air with the clean smell of a new car blows hard from front and rear heaters.

It will be a comfortable ride to her first class of the day for the molecular biology and German major from Belgrade, Yugoslavia, who lost the use of her legs after being shot in the back 13 years ago in her war-torn homeland.

"This campus is huge for someone on crutches," Ann Smith, director of UMaine's Disability Support Services, says later, explaining how the journey across campus in the rain or snowy, slushy or icy conditions can be health-threatening to people on crutches, in wheelchairs or trying to walk with painful afflictions.

That's why Smith is excited about the recent purchase of a new van used to ferry students with mobility challenges from dorms to classes, the library or meetings. The new white 350 Ford Econoline van, the third since Disability Support Services began transporting students with disabilities in the 1980s, has more safety features, a reliable wheelchair ramp - and powerful heaters - among other things.

It replaces the old green Econoline the university has used for 12 years, which was beginning to fail, Smith says.

The new van also bears a new name, which has changed from the "Helping Hands Van" to the "Access Van." The name change is meant to shift from a name that suggests its riders need help to one more reflective of independence through accessibility, she says.

Miljkovic also likes the new van. "It's more reliable than the old one," she adds, recalling the time the lift stuck and Jackins, an elementary education major from Dover-Foxcroft, had to carry her off the van.

Adam Stone of Bangor, an economics major who also uses the van to carry him and his wheelchair from class to class, says he no longer needs to worry about failing ramp lifts.

"I need to get from A to B and I can get the job done" efficiently, thanks to the reliability of the new vehicle, he says. Stone remembers a winter evening last year when the lift on the Bangor area bus system failed and he was told he would have to wait for a second bus to see if its lift system would work. Such unknowns add uncertainty to lives already complicated by special needs.

"It's not just wheelchairs," adds Smith. "We have people who have lung disorders, back injuries, people who slip on the ice or athletes who have had surgery."

The office, which operates within the Division of Lifelong Learning, schedules between 15 and 20 runs a day with a staff of about five student work-study drivers for students with special transportation needs. The office made 661 trips last spring semester and 750 in the fall. "It's a very heavily used service," Smith says.

Smith says her staff and the UMaine President's Council on Disabilities is looking to improve campus accessibility in many other ways, also. The van is "an example of an issue that was brought to our attention, the need was identified and action was taken," she says.

The President's Council has just posted an online survey for students and employees to list any accessibility issues they are concerned about.

The mission of Disability Support Services includes providing or coordinating services for students with disabilities, from personal, educational and vocational counseling to providing readers, tape recorders, note takers and ordering taped texts or classroom alternatives. It also sees that facilities are acoustically and visually accessible for people with disabilities.

Help Protect our Lakes, Become a Watershed Steward

27 Feb 2006

Contact: Laura Wilson, 800-870-7270 (in Maine) or 207-581-2971

LINCOLNVILLE--UMaine Cooperative Extension

AEWC Center Works with Telestick LLC; Developing Composite Winter Sports Equipment

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Roberta Laverty (207) 581-2110; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Telestick LLC, located in Pownal, Maine, is working with UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center to develop and test a composite pole, called a "lurk," to be used in telemark skiing.

Several years ago, Telestick founder Matt Welch took up telemark, an increasingly popular technique for backcountry skiing. Welch used a traditional bamboo pole, called a lurk. Although it enhanced Welch's technique, the bamboo pole would often break and was awkward to carry in lift lines.

Welch developed the 8-foot Telestick, a composite pole that splits in half for chair lift rides and other situations where two poles are an advantage. The ends are protected with a cap that is locked in place with stainless steel screws. This allows the skier to use the Telestick as an outrigger or rudder.

AEWC Center researchers Olivia Sanchez and Robert Lindyberg found the Telestick to have superior properties when compared to the bamboo pole. The new design proved to be durable, ski-lift friendly and adaptable to versatile situations. According to Welch, "The strong and durable quality of the Telestick combined with the technology of skis today makes the Telestick trick factor limitless!"

National Fellowships Awarded to University of Maine Graduates

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Catherine Schmitt (207) 581-2434; Dave Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine --The National Sea Grant College Program has just announced that three graduates of the University of Maine System have received prestigious Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowships. More than 100 graduate students from throughout the country competed for the 10 positions available in the U.S. Congress and 32 in the Executive Branch in Washington, DC. The fellowships provide an opportunity for recent graduates to apply their scientific background to policy making at the national level.

Sheril Kirshenbaum will be working on the legislative staff of Florida Senator Bill Nelson. Kirshenbaum graduated with a dual master's degree in marine science and policy from UMaine's School of Marine Sciences, where she managed a collaborative research project with Dr. Yong Chen that assessed the status and management of the Maine sea cucumber fishery. Her ability to work with commercial fishermen, scientists, and government agency staff on a relatively new fishery in Maine makes her well-prepared to enter the legislative arena.

"Sheril has an uncanny way of bringing out the constructive aspects of people," said her advisor and UMaine professor Dr. Jim McCleave.

Kirshenbaum has a broad but solid background in science and the arts; she has degrees in both biology and classical studies from Tufts University. She has also worked in commercial radio.

"My experience in radio broadcasting has taught me a great deal about the power of communication in achieving a tangible, measurable and constructive outcome," said Kirshenbaum.

She hopes to apply these communication skills to advance protection for marine ecosystems.

Also chosen for a coveted legislative branch position, Emily Knight has a master's degree in oceanography from the University of Maine. Knight has a bachelor's degree in biology from Salve Regina University in Newport, RI. She has worked as a marine science educator aboard the Pioneer, the schooner of the South Street Seaport Museum in Manhattan. As a research assistant under Dr. Les Watling at the Darling Marine Center in Walpole, Maine, Knight

worked closely with Maine's fishing industry to research the impacts of bottom trawling on marine habitat in the Gulf of Maine.

"Emily is unafraid to confront any situation and take initiative," said Captain Cameron McClellan, a fifth-generation groundfisherman who worked with Knight on the research project.

"My academic career has shown me that flexibility and willingness to build alliances between scientists and other stakeholders is invaluable," said Knight of her experience working at the intersection of science and natural resource management. She hopes to learn more about the legislative process and the government of marine resource use during her year working in the office of Maine Representative Tom Allen.

Meredith Mendelson, a native of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, will be working in the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. Mendelson is a graduate of Williams-Mystic Maritime Studies Program, Bates College, and the University of Maine School of Law. Mendelson recently completed an evaluation of emerging ecosystem-based fishery management strategies for the herring industry.

Previously, Mendelson worked with planners from the Maine State Planning Office and the Fishing Heritage Trust to develop a program to protect working waterfronts and traditional marine access for maritime industries.

"In Maine, working waterfront property is subject to tension involving fishermen, the ever-rising real estate market and land use management," said Mendelson, who intends to apply her law degree to a career in marine policy by creating a nonprofit organization that would facilitate the protection of water access in Maine communities.

The Knauss fellowship was established in 1979 for students who are interested in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources and the national policy decisions that affect those resources. Qualified graduate students spend a year with "hosts" in the legislative and executive branch of government in Washington, DC. The program is named in honor of one of the founders of the National Sea Grant College Program, former NOAA Administrator John A. Knauss.

UMaine Scientist Shows How Clays May Have Made Life on Earth Possible

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Larry Mayer (207) 581-3321; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - While working on problems facing the clamming industry in mud flats, UMaine oceanographer Larry Mayer began to more fully appreciate the important connection between the preservation of organic matter and the presence of clays. He pursued this connection into the Gulf of Maine, and then into sediments all around the world. Through a recent collaboration with geologists from the University of California Riverside, his discoveries have been put into the context of geological time, and may help to explain how multicellular life on Earth began.

"Ask your average economist what came first -- kitty litter or kitties? Likely they'll reply kitties. In the environment, clays act as a kind of kitty litter. They cover over and seal in organic matter," said Mayer, pointing out the microscopic interaction between clays and larger organic particles on an electron micrograph in his office. "In the mudflats just beyond the woods here, our data showed that the accumulation of clays enabled the accumulation of organic matter in marine sediments. By burying organic matter, clays made it possible to increase the levels of oxygen in the atmosphere."

In other words, if you are breathing, you may have clays to thank. From his woodsy office-laboratory tucked away in a corner of UMaine's Darling Marine Center in Walpole, Mayer explained that the increase in clay deposition that began more than 500 million years ago may have tipped the balance between the production of oxygen by plants through photosynthesis and the consumption of oxygen by single-celled microbes, transforming the earth from a relatively harsh and uninviting place for animals to a fully-oxygenated Eden where multicellular life could flourish.

As part of a research team led by geologist Martin Kennedy of UCR, Mayer helped to collect and analyze samples from critical sites in locales as diverse as Australia, China and Norway. The team's goal was to test its idea that the earth started making clays in abundance prior to the evolution of animals.

"The layers of sediment act as a tape recorder of Earth's history," said Mayer. "The trick was to find the most complete version of that tape. The UCR geologists were able to locate thick successions of rock that could integrate whole continents across big space and time scales. With those data, we were able to show that clays came into the geological record on a world-wide scale between one and one-half billion years ago, during a time period referred to as the late Proterozoic."

Thus, clays arose just before the earliest proliferation of multicellular animal life - a strange assemblage of Precambrian creatures known as the Ediacarian fauna. As with any scientific enigma, the hows and whys of the Ediacarian explosion depend heavily on the wheres and whens. Mayer and Kennedy believe that the amazing proliferation of multicellular marine life during the Ediacarian was made possible by the holding power of clays.

In other words, you couldn't get to kitties without first making the kitty litter.

"This research speaks to one of the big questions, if not the biggest question, in geobiology: Why did animal life arise on Earth and what geological conditions make life possible?" said Kennedy. "The natural extension of that question is to ask what needs to happen on other planets for life to exist. It really shows how amazing our planet is and how dependent we are on the incredibly complex series of linkages between geological and biological processes."

Indeed, much of the research was funded by the National Air and Space Administration. NASA hopes to use the information to better understand the types of conditions that can lead to an environment capable of supporting life on other planets. The information may help NASA researchers as they look at new directions for the nation's space program.

UMaine to Host Engineering Expo and Steel Bridge Competition

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Lauren Swett (207) 581-2185; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- More than 50 of Maine's top engineering firms, engineering schools, government agencies and industries will be on hand on Saturday, March 4, at the UMaine Field House in Orono for the 2006 Engineering Expo. The event will feature a variety of engineering-related demonstrations and exhibits.

The expo will also offer a variety of hands-on activities, where children and adults can explore the exciting world of science and engineering. This year's expo will be bigger than ever with 800 to 900 children and adults expected to experience first hand the many contributions that Maine engineers make to our communities and way of life. The first 500 kids through the door receive a free T-shirt celebrating Maine Engineers Week.

The 2006 Northeast Regional Steel Bridge Competition will also be held at the UMaine Field House as one of the many exciting demonstrations that make up the 2006 Engineering Expo. Hosted by UMaine's Steel Bridge Team, the competition pits top college engineering teams from across New England against one another as they apply their skills and ingenuity to build the strongest, most reliable and best-looking bridge in the shortest amount of time.

Each team's bridge is judged based on a number of specific criteria, and the top two teams will move on to the National Steel Bridge Competition later in the spring.

Spectators can take in all the bridge-building action, and learn about a variety of other types of engineering, at Saturday's expo, which opens at 9 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m. at the UMaine Field House in Orono.

Researchers Probe Link Between High Blood Pressure and Thinking Skills

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Michael Robbins (207) 581-2051; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Psychology professors Merrill Elias, Michael Robbins, and Penelope Elias are continuing their study of the relationship between high blood pressure and cognitive skills thanks to a \$680,619 grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The project's latest manifestation will utilize groundbreaking new technologies to achieve a more accurate measure of blood pressure.

The new technique, recently developed by researchers in Australia, uses ultrasound to measure blood pressure closer to the brain. UMaine psychologists will be working with Australian scientists to reassess their previous findings regarding the adverse affects of high blood pressure on cognitive performance.

The project will also focus on the relationship between arterial stiffness and cognitive ability in long-term high blood pressure sufferers.

Previous collaborative work with investigators in England will continue in the project's latest phase, examining the relationship between high blood pressure and other cardiovascular risk factors ranging from diabetes to obesity. The interaction between blood pressure levels and factors that promote improved cognition will also be examined.

Ultimately, researchers hope that the study will lead to more accurate methods for measuring blood pressure and improvements in the treatment of high blood pressure.

More Students Using Spring Break for Volunteer Work, Service-Learning

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Kathleen March, 581-2088; Lyn Dexter, 581-1349; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- More than 90 UMaine students, faculty and employees are dedicating their spring break vacations to doing charitable volunteer work up and down the East Coast and in Central America this year.

It is the largest representation from UMaine since the Alternative Spring Break program began nine years ago under the auspices of the Office of Student Employment and Volunteer Programs.

Volunteers are working with AIDS patients in New York, building Habitat for Humanity homes in New York and Pennsylvania, helping with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in the South, cleaning up parts of an Everglades state park in Florida and building adobe community buildings and churches in Nicaragua.

UMaine Spanish professor Kathleen March also is going with 26 students and a VISTA volunteer on a two-week trip to Santa Rosa de Cop

Sea Grant Program Announces Move

28 Feb 2006

Contact: Susan White (207) 581-1442; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - After more than 25 years in Coburn Hall, the Maine Sea Grant College Program has moved to building 6 in York Complex (formerly York Village).

The new address is: 5784 York Complex. All phone numbers and e-mail addresses of staff will remain the same. An open house is being planned for the spring.

Maine Aquaculture Grant Opportunity

03 Mar 2006

Contact: Christopher V. Davis, 207-581-2263

The Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center is offering \$5,000-\$25,000 grants to parties that wish to pursue research that will improve Maine's economy through the advancement of the commercial and public aquaculture.

Potential applicants include production farms, individual water farmers, vendors to the Maine aquaculture industry, non-profit organizations, municipalities (including shellfish committees), university-based researchers, and private consultants. The total amount of funds available is \$80,000. Application deadline is March 31, 2006. Awards will be ready for disbursement by July 1, 2006.

For a complete "Request for Proposals," including a list of priority research topics and application instructions, link to www.maineaquaculture.org or contact Christopher V. Davis, Executive Director, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, 5717 Corbett Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5717 or call 207-581-2263. Email address is maic@maineaquaculture.org.

Maine Garden Day Offers More than 30 Workshops

03 Mar 2006

Contact: Frank S. Wertheim, Extension Educator, 1-800-287-1535 AUBURN--The 13th Annual Maine Garden Day will take place on Saturday, April 8 at Central Maine Community College in Auburn. Maine Garden Day, sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is the largest one-day educational home gardening workshop event in Maine. Over thirty workshops will be offered on topics including rain gardens, starting a gardening business, butterfly gardens and backyard irrigation. Also, participants can learn about pruning ornamental shrubs, cut flowers, extending the growing season, grapes and more. The day includes a trade show featuring garden products and educational displays. Pre-registration is required so that workshops/classes can be assigned to participants prior to their arrival. Continuing education credits and pesticide re-certification credits are also available for those who qualify. There is a \$40 registration fee, which includes a catered lunch, refreshments and all workshops. There are no walk-ins on the day of the event. For more information, and to register for Maine Garden Day, visit the UMaine Extension website at <http://www.umext.maine.edu/> and follow the Maine Garden Day link, or request a brochure from University of Maine Cooperative Extension by calling 1-800-287-1482.

Art, Engineering Come Together For Student, Faculty Exhibit

03 Mar 2006

Contact: Edwin Nagy, 581-2981; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- UMaine engineering students and faculty displayed their art masterpieces in the annual "Art by Engineers" exhibit, held in the Engineering and Science Research Building through the month of February, to celebrate the relationship between science and art. The second annual show

was put on by the UMaine Engineering Art Club and featured works by students from all disciplines of engineering. Prizes from various categories were given at an awards ceremony held March 1. First place winners from various categories included "Silhouetted Sigma Reducer" by Dan Carson of Bangor, an elaborate wood carving titled "Mother Bear with Cub" by Pasco Grove of Frankfort, "Transparent Power" by Travis Hamel of Milford, "Cardboard Chair" by Julie Faloon of Medway, "Swattable 'State Fly'" by Elisabeth Thibodeau of Monmouth and "Summer Tools" and "Untitled #1 & 3" by Jason Ustaris of Gorham. Entries were judged by several exhibit sponsors and art professor Sam Van Aken. The ceremony also included a silent auction for selected pieces and refreshments. Winners were awarded cash prizes, and the remaining proceeds went to the Engineering Art Club. The art show was created by Will Manion, instructor of civil environmental engineering, and Edwin Nagy, an engineering graduate student, last year to encourage students in the engineering field to explore their creative sides. Engineering is not only very scientific, but there are also elements of art involved as well, they say. Jess Paul, a chemical engineering student from Old Town, has submitted her art to the show both years. She was given a runner up award for her sketch "Boston Shadows." "Most people think engineers are all about calculators and exact answers, so it is a great opportunity when we can show that we have creative abilities and that our brains are not lop-sided," she says. "Since we are at engineering school, it is always a welcome break to sit down and use a pencil for something a little more artistic than solving equations." The Engineering Art Club was formed to recognize and encourage the creativity required for engineering. The works presented in the show includes pencil sketches, photography, paintings, jewelry and sculpture, and will be displayed through March 5. Runner up award winners included: Nick Carter of South Portland, "In the Tall Grass" and "Audubon"; Robert Fisher of Orono, "Altrusion"; Anna Faloon of Medway, "Williamsburg Church"; Joe Gross of Lisbon Falls, "\$875 Toy"; Justin DiFrederico of Hampden, "Garden Show"; Jonathan Dvorak, of Old Town, "Lamp"; Meigan Dean of Rockland, "Eve"; and Courtney Johnston of Bloomington, Minn., "North Shore of Lake Superior." Sponsors included: UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation; Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering; Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers; Alexander's Welding & Machine; Judy Hakola, an English department lecturer; Sam Van Aken, assistant professor of art; the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering; and the College of Engineering.

March 2006 UMaine Calendar

06 Mar 2006

Contact: George Manlove at 207-581-3756

(Calendar excludes some events, including athletics)

Mar. 4

Florida Sea Kayaking

8 a.m., from Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center; this trip is designed to provide participants with an unforgettable way to explore the waterways and wildlife of the Everglades National Park in southern Florida from the deck of a sea kayak. This trip includes seven days of camping and paddling in the park and will take time to explore the gulf coast as well as the extensive maze of mangroves and campsites that dominate the interior waterways of the park; registration required (581-1794), fee

Mar. 5

Worlds of Wonder

2 p.m., Wingate Hall; a Jordan Planetarium show; fee

Performance by Mezzo Soprano Elizabeth Erskine Patches and Pianist Cheryl Tschanz, 3 p.m., MCA; Part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; fee

Mar. 7

Willy Wonka 10 a.m. -- 11 a.m.; 12 p.m. -- 1 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall; Performed by the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration, for ages 6 and up, part of the Maine Center for the Arts Class Acts season; fee

Mar. 8

Diet and Cardiovascular Disease 12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union. with Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, part of the Nutrition Lunch 'n' Learn Series;

Basic Record Keeping for the Home Based Business Owner -- Part 2, 6 p.m. -- 9 p.m., second of a two-part series to help business owners learn the basics of single-entry record keeping and how to apply the principles to the day-to-day operation; 307 Maine Avenue, Bangor; fee

The Prisoner of Second Avenue, 7 p.m., MCA; by LA Theatre Works, part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; fee

Mar. 9

Strategic Innovation Workshop, 12 p.m. -- 2 p.m., ~20 Godfrey Drive Orono; with Steven Walk, an introduction to the strategy of using universal life cycle stages of business and product technology to identify and target successful innovation; student discount, public fee

When Happy Hour Is Not Happy: Alcohol and Drugs Through the Life Span, 12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union; with Barbara Royal, director of Open Door in Ellsworth; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

Mar. 11

Southeastern Whitewater Tour,

8 a.m., Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center; Welcome to the world of Southeastern whitewater paddling. This exciting trip will take us from our frozen home rivers to the whitewater playground of Southern Appalachia; fee

Taste of the Symphony, 7 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall, MCA; Bangor Symphony Orchestra concert followed by chocolate and champagne reception; intermission moderated by Alicia Anstead; fee

Mar. 12

A Fantastic Journey, 3 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall, MCA; A Bangor Symphony Orchestra concert with guest soloist Christel Lee; students free, public fee

Mar. 15

PEAC Spring Development Day, 9 p.m., DPC; featuring a keynote address by Tom Crum, author of "Magic of Conflict"

Mar. 16

From "Hired" to "Wired" to "Tired" to "Fired?": How to Maintain and Retain That First-Day Enthusiasm, Presenter: Peter Chavonelle, 12 p.m. -- 2 p.m., 20 Godfrey Drive Orono; learn both the pitfalls and the promises inherent to the employment environment, and be introduced to some proven methods in maintaining and retaining that "wired" enthusiasm in order to avoid that "tired" or burnt-out phase which is a precursor to those unpleasant words, "You're fired." Student discount, public fee

It's Not All in Your Head: Natural Headache Relief, 12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union; with chiropractor Michael Noonan; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

Mar. 17

Xtra Terrestrial Files,

7 p.m., Jordan Planetarium, Wingate Hall; a Planetarium show; Students free, public fee

Mar. 18

Bangor Symphony Orchestra Maine High School Concerto Competition, 1 p.m., Class of 1944 Hall; fee

Mar. 19

Worlds of Wonder,

2 p.m., Jordan Planetarium, Wingate Hall; a Planetarium show; Students free, public fee

Mar. 20

Classes Resume

March Madness B-ball Tourney (M,W),

6 p.m. -- 10 p.m., Memorial Gym

Performance by the United States Navy Band, 7 p.m., MCA; Part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; fee

Stress Buster,

4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., Lengyel Gym; An all in one class designed to relieve stress, burn fat, firm you up, stretch you out; registration required (581-1081), through~4/23, fee

Mar. 21

Opening the Club: Overcoming Gender-Related Barriers in School Administration, 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union; by Dianne Hoff, part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Java Jive - The Project,

8 p.m. -- 10 p.m., Main Dining Room, Memorial Union; Come and enjoy easy listening and cheer on new talent from around campus as they compete for an end of semester prize

Mar. 22

Belay Seminar,

6 p.m. -- 8 p.m., Climbing Wall, Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center; This free seminar is for beginners who would like to learn how to belay at the Maine Bound Adventure Center and for experienced climbers who simply need an orientation to our facility; registration required (581-1081)

Mar. 23

Credit Reports: Do You Know Your Score and Should You Care,

12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union; with Martha Broderick; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

The Iraq War: Lessons Three Years After the U.S. Invasion and Occupation, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union; by Ilze Petersons of the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine; and Michael Howard, Alex Grab and Doug Allen; part of the Socialist-Marxist Studies Series

Campus Planning Public Forum,

2 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Lounge; an informational public forum on plans for Cloke Plaza and replacing the UMaine mall trees, hosted by members of the Campus Planning Committee

Maureen Elgersman Lee, author of "Black Bangor" 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Special Collections Room, Fogler Library; Lee will talk about her book, "Black Bangor." Co-sponsored by WIC and Multicultural Programs

Poetry Reading by Fred Wah,

4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall; part of the New Writing Series

Back to Bach, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; an all-Bach program performed by Ludlow Hallman and friends, part of the School of Performing Arts season; Students Free, Public Fee

Mar. 24

Go Blue Friday

The Nature and Prevalence of Student Hazing, 2 p.m. -- 3 p.m., 159 Shibles Hall; with Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden, a College of Education and Human Development Research Colloquium

The Maine Attraction - Eric O'Shea,

9 p.m. -- 10 p.m., Main Dining Room, Memorial Union; Come and enjoy an evening of comedy. Bring your friends!

Mar. 25

3rd UMaine Martial Arts Competition, 8 a.m. -- 5 p.m., Lengyel Gym; Competitors can pre-register or register the day of the tournament; fee

Wilderness First Aid,

8 a.m. -- 6 p.m., Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center; Accidents can and do happen on ropes courses, along country roads, or in the backcountry, and all too often members of a group are not capable of dealing with the emergency. Not only does this lead to improper care of the patient, but it also endangers the entire group. Designed specifically for groups and their leaders, this 16-hour program covers topics ranging from preparation and prevention to assessment and treatment; Fee

University Singers in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season; Students free, public fee

Silent Surrealism, 8 p.m., MCA; A performance by the Hot Club of San Francisco in cooperation with the San Francisco Silent Film Festival; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; fee

Mar. 26

Performance by the Vogler Quartet of Berlin, 3 p.m., MCA; Part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; fee

Mar. 27

SCUBA Certification,

5 p.m. -- 9 p.m., Wallace Pool; This course is designed for the best hands-on experience in the classroom, pool, and open water training. In class, you will be trained using the most up to date educational system in diving today. Your instructor is a P.A.D.I. trained and certified professional. Register at MaineBound (581-1081), fee

Mar.28

Activism in the Women's Studies Classroom,

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union; by Susan Iverson, Kati McCarthy and Aimee Poulin, part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Emma's Revolution Concert, 7 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; with folk performers Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow, part of the Women's History Celebration

Three Bands Concert, 7:30 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall; a benefit for Acadia Hospital, part of the School of Performing Arts season; fee

Java Jive - Mr. Fraternity,

8 p.m. -- 10 p.m., Main Dining Room, Memorial Union; Come to cheer on your favorite Greek as they compete for this prestigious title

Mar. 29

Belay Seminar,

6 p.m. -- 8 p.m., Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center; This free seminar is for beginners who would like to learn how to belay at the Maine Bound Adventure Center and for experienced climbers who simply need an orientation to our facility; Registration required (581-1081)

Mar. 30

New Faculty Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. -- 10 a.m., Walker Room, Memorial Union; register by March 24, offered by the Center for Teaching Excellence

Civility in the Classroom, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Walker Room, Memorial Union; discussion facilitated by Barbara Blazej and Virginia Nees-Hatlen; part of Teacher Talk, offered by the Center for Teaching Excellence

Keeping Your Relationship Vital: Couples with Children, 12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union; with psychotherapist Joan Marks and sociologist Stephen Marks; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

'The Desire Called Utopia': Kim Stanley Robinson, Fredrick Jameson and Science Fiction as a Force for Progressive Change, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union; with David Gross, professor of English at Oklahoma University; part of the Socialist-Marxist Studies Series

Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks, 7 p.m., 110 Little Hall; discussion follows film, part of the Peace and Justice Film Series

Mar. 31

School of Marine Sciences Seminar,

11 a.m., 354 Aubert Hall; with Heidi Dierssen, University of Connecticut; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series

The Maine Attraction - Jay Black,

9 p.m. -- 10 p.m., Main Dining Room, Memorial Union; Come and enjoy an evening of comedy. Bring your friends!

Ongoing Programs & Events

Michael Lewis: Recent Paintings,

Carnegie Hall Galleries, 2/10/2006 - 3/16/2006

Five Landscape Paintings,

A University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit featuring summer landscapes by artists Lois Dodd, Rackstraw Downes, April Gornik, Vaino Kola and Neil Welliver. Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006

Art by

Lauren Fensterstock, University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit, Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St Bangor, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006

Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs,

A University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit, Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006

Stress Buster,

4:45pm - 5:45pm. An all in one class designed to relieve stress, burn fat, firm you up and stretch you out. Lengyel Gym; registration required (581-1081), through 4/23/2006

Federal Funding Cuts End UMaine Youth Sports Program

06 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The National Youth Sports Program (NYSP), which has offered free summer camp experiences to area youth for 13 years at the University of Maine, is among programs eliminated in recent federal budget cuts. While the University will work with the Maine Congressional delegation to restore funding for fiscal year 2007, the program will not be held this summer, according to NYSP administrator Stephen Butterfield.

Butterfield, UMaine professor of education and special education, established Northern New England's first NYSP site under a federal grant in 1993 and built it into an award-winning program that has served thousands of youth from approximately 60 communities ranging from Lincoln to Newport and from Ellsworth to Dover-Foxcroft.

The day camp, which included free transportation and medical examinations, breakfast and lunch, offered six weeks of instruction in a variety of sports and educational activities to children and adolescents ages 10-16. The camp's quality aquatic program, featuring daily instruction and practice, had a high success rate, with the vast majority of youngsters swimming effectively by the end of the summer and all overcoming most of their fear of the water.

A partnership between the U.S. government and participating universities and communities, with oversight by the National Youth Sports Corporation, the UMaine NYSP represented a \$1,000 value at no cost to participants. In addition, the program generated approximately \$3.50 in goods, services, additional grant monies, and in-kind contributions for every federally funded NYSP dollar. The federal grant in 2005 was \$67,500. In addition, the program received a \$5,170 grant from the Maine Nutrition Network, and \$15,000 from the Maine Department of Education/School Nutrition Program.

"With a limited budget and the generosity of area businesses, civic organizations, service agencies, the University and individuals representing many professions, NYSP was able to positively affect the lives of hundreds of families in

Central Maine," said Butterfield.

Throughout the program's run at UMaine, Butterfield has consistently recognized the commitment and support of his staff -- area coaches, teachers, UMaine and high school students -- for making such a quality program possible.

"We have always selected and evaluated staff members based on the goals of the program and on their commitment to working successfully with campers in a highly structured, non-competitive learning environment," said Butterfield. "As a result, we have had a staff devoted to helping campers achieve the goals of believing in themselves, getting along with others and experiencing personal skill development."

NYSP has been a wonderful fixture at UMaine, says Robert Cobb, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "A dedicated professional staff from the University and K-12 schools, along with a number of high school students working to meet their school's service learning requirements, have supported this outstanding opportunity for the region's youngsters," he says. "Everyone involved with NYSP has worked under the direction and supervision of Dr. Steve Butterfield, whose vision and initiative created the UMaine NYSP program. His unflagging commitment to the program has made it one of the most celebrated within the national NYSP network."

The UMaine NYSP was recognized by the National Collegiate Athletic Association in 1993 with a first-year program commendation award. It earned meritorious program awards for outstanding leadership, service to children and community involvement in 1994 and 1999.

Former Maine State Sen. Mary R. Cathcart Becomes Chair of New England Board of Higher Education

06 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BOSTON--Former Maine state Sen. Mary R. Cathcart of Orono became chair of the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) on Feb. 25.

Cathcart served three terms in the Maine House of Representatives and four terms in the Maine Senate representing communities in Penobscot County before she was term-limited in 2004. She is now a senior policy fellow at the University of Maine

Survey Finds Students Eager but Needing Motivation; Ninth Grade Pivotal Year

07 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761 ORONO, Maine -- Overall, Maine students are optimistic about their future, expect to go to college and are confident they will achieve their goals, according to preliminary survey results from the National Center for Student Aspirations (NCSA) at the University of Maine. However, many of these same grade 6-12 students seemingly lack the motivation and persistence to take on new and complex learning and to work toward stated goals. Eighty-eight percent of girls and 76 percent of boys expect to go to college, and 77 percent say they need to go to college to get a good job, but over 20 percent change their goal if they find that achieving it is difficult. The early statewide findings also reveal the ninth grade as a crucial transition year -- a last chance to reach and motivate young teenagers at risk of losing interest or dropping out academically and socially. And the state data reflect the continuing vulnerability of boys, with girls out-performing them academically, working harder and feeling more supported in school. In results from the Students Speak II survey, representing the perspectives of nearly 17,000 6th-12th grade students from 97 Maine schools, ninth graders have the lowest grade point averages and the least amount of self-confidence. Ninth graders, usually in their first year of high school coming from a K-8 or middle school environment, feel less supported by teachers, make less effort and are less optimistic about their future than their younger and older student colleagues. Ninth graders also have lower participation in school co-curricular activities. Overall, sports

constitute the biggest co-curricular activity for males and females in grades 6-12, but 20 percent of the students don't participate in any school activities. The first and most significant decline in most of the internal and external factors contributing to higher student aspirations occurs in ninth grade, according to the report. Perceptions become more positive in the 10th grade and peak in the junior and senior years. Sixth graders are the most energetic and optimistic about school and the future. "The voices of ninth graders, particularly the boys, send a strong message about the need for greater instructional and emotional support as these young students make the huge shift to high school," says Carla Ritchie, co-director of the NCSA. "As educators, we need to teach kids how to reach out and encourage all school personnel to be proactive in responding to students' emotional, as well as instructional needs," she says. Targeted for students in grades 6-12, the Students Speak II survey is available free of charge to Maine schools through June 2006. The current preliminary data is from surveys conducted during the spring of 2005. The complete report, along with helpful information for interpreting and using the data, are on the NCSA website at www.studentaspirations.org. The survey and corresponding reports to schools are part of the Maine Aspirations Benchmarking Initiative, a multi-phase project funded by Webber Energy Fuels, and conducted through the NCSA and the Center for Research and Evaluation at UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. Based on the latest research in conditions and concepts that support high aspirations and achievement, the Students Speak II survey is designed to help schools measure the effectiveness of their efforts to raise student aspirations in three areas: social supports -- emotional support and recognition provided to students by school personnel; intrinsic motivation -- students' internal desire and effort to attain academic goals; and self-efficacy -- students' confidence in their ability to accomplish tasks, make decisions and achieve goals. Maine students' perceptions of themselves are highest and the gender gap and ninth grade dip are lower in the self-efficacy category. They tend to be confident in their own ability. Ninety percent of girls and 84 percent of boys believe they will finish high school and be ready to do well in life. Seventy-four percent -- of girls and 73 percent of boys express confidence in their academic ability, and 85 percent of girls and 78 percent of boys believe they can do whatever they set their mind to accomplish. Student perceptions are not as strong when it comes to feeling supported in school. Overall, students agree that teachers recognize individual strengths and successes and believe in their potential. For example, 73 percent of girls and 63 percent of boys say their teachers tell them when they do a good job and try their best. A similar percentage says their teachers believe students can succeed. But teachers aren't as proactive when it comes to emotional support, according to student perceptions. Only 53 percent -- 63 percent girls and 44 percent boys -- say there is at least one teachers who makes them feel better when they are sad or upset. The intrinsic motivation category has the most practical effect for schools in targeting specific areas of need and helping students improve their academic practices and skills. While the survey reflects that students are interested in learning, the willingness to do the required work seems to be lacking, according to Ritchie. For instance, 84 percent of girls and 70 percent of boys say they come to class prepared, and 80 percent of girls and 65 percent of boys percent do their homework. "Girls feel more supported, put in more effort and seem more invested in doing what it takes to do well in school," Ritchie says. However, she points out that only 63 percent, with little difference between boys and girls, seek solutions to complex problems, and just 48 percent double check their work before handing it in. Ritchie also sees a message for schools to think about how instruction builds on prior knowledge. While 73 percent of students are eager to learn new things, 34 percent would prefer to do projects on something they already know rather than having to learn something new, and 34 percent would rather do a boring easy project than an interesting difficult one. "None of the federal and state laws currently influencing teaching and learning in schools can effect the most important factors -- the dispositions, beliefs and motivation that our students have about learning, their own capabilities and their futures," says Walter Harris, director of the Center for Research and Evaluation (CRE), which analyzes the surveys and prepares reports for participating schools. "This survey helps us understand the student experience in Maine schools, and as more and more schools participate in this opportunity, we will be able to provide better data to schools and policymakers about practices that promote student success and those that could be improved." The free survey for Maine schools is available by contacting the CRE at (207) 581-2493. The CRE can also work with participating schools to provide further and more specific analysis of the data. The survey is available to schools in other states for a fee. The Students Speak II report and related items are available on the NCSA website -- www.studentaspirations.org/.

U.S. Senate Designates Extension Living Well Week

08 Mar 2006

Contact: Louise Kirkland, 207-942-7396, 1-800-287-1485

ORONO--In 2005, the United States Senate passed a resolution designating the second full week of March as Extension Living Well Week. During the week of March 12-18, Extension family and consumer sciences professionals will make special efforts to teach individuals and families how to improve their quality of life. The emphasis will be on healthy lifestyles, nutrition and food safety, financial management, safety in the home and work environment, relationship and parenting skills, and many more aspects of Living Well.

The goal of the Living Well campaign is to make people aware of the many Extension educational programs and resources that are available to help them achieve a positive, healthy lifestyle. University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers a variety of educational experiences, from parenting, budgeting, child development and youth workshops to home visits with first-time parents and homebound seniors.

During Extension Living Well Week, UMaine Extension educators will offer a variety of workshops statewide, from Healthy Records in Piscataquis County to Parenting Through Separation and Divorce in Franklin and Oxford Counties, and Trans Fat Coming to a Label Near You at the Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension office. UMaine Extension educators encourage you to connect with your county UMaine Extension office, as each county has a particular focus on healthy lifestyles.

UMaine Extension educators can provide newsletters, short courses and fact sheets on many health- and family-related topics. To connect with your local UMaine Extension office, please visit www.umext.maine.edu or call 1-800-287-0274. The Living Well campaign is sponsored by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Host Families Sought for One-Month 4-H International Exchange Program

08 Mar 2006

Contact: Jill Coffren at (207) 645-3248

ORONO -- Maine families are needed to host Japanese exchange students, ages 12 to 18, for four weeks this summer as part of a two-way exchange program sponsored by the Maine 4-H program. The Japanese youth will stay with their American host families from mid July to mid August.

The exchange is open to families living in Maine with children close in age to the Japanese participants. Families without children in this age range will be

considered as hosts for adult chaperones from Japan. You don't need to be involved in 4-H to host; you just need a willingness to share your home and your world.

There is no need to know Japanese. The students have all studied English and are anxious to use it.

"The program gives host families a chance to share their culture, friendship, and family life with an exchange student and at the same time learn about Japanese life," said Jill Coffren, state coordinator. "The homestays only last a month during summer vacation, but the effects a lifetime." Host family applications are available by contacting the Franklin County Extension Office at 1-800-287-1478 or your local Cooperative Extension Office. If you have any questions you can email Jill directly at coffren@megalink.net. The application process includes a background check and home visit by a program representative. Besides the summer exchange there are high school students that need host families for the school year.

The 4-H International Exchange Program is one of the largest exchange programs involving North American and Japanese youth in the world. Since it began in 1972, some 39,000 students have stayed with families in 39 states, including Maine, and more than 6,300 American students have made reciprocal visits to Japan.

Sen. Susan Collins Set for UMaine Lecture March 23

09 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- U.S. Senator Susan Collins will visit the University of Maine on Thursday, March 23 to deliver the annual Senator Margaret Chase Smith Lecture on Public Affairs. The talk, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled for 3:30-4:45 p.m. in UMaine's newly renovated Hauck Auditorium.

She will discuss "The Ethics of Conscience: Continuing the Legacy of Margaret Chase Smith."

"We are very pleased that Sen. Collins will present this year's lecture," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "She is an outstanding public servant, in the great Maine tradition. Our students and others will benefit from the opportunity to interact with Sen. Collins and to hear her perspectives on Margaret Chase Smith's legacy."

The talk is presented by UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

"We are proud that our center is named for a person whose name is synonymous with ethics in government," says Jonathan Rubin, interim director of the policy center. "It is truly fitting that this lecture be delivered by Sen. Collins, whose career exemplifies the high ideals of Sen. Smith."

Those who wish to attend the lecture may acquire tickets by calling 581-1648.

Athletic Training Students Plan April 8 Benefit Race

13 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt - (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The third annual Wes Jordan 5K race and Fun Run takes off Saturday, April 8 at the University of Maine. Sponsored by UMaine's Athletic Training Student Organization, the race and one-mile run/walk are open to all ages.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at Lengyel Hall, next to the Buchanan Alumni House. The race gets underway at 9. The course goes down College Avenue to Alford Sports Arena, up Long Road to Rangeley Road, down Park Street to College Ave and back to the starting point at Lengyel.

In addition to awards, participants will have the opportunity to win a variety of gift certificates and an Old Town Canoe kayak, according to Darci Dickison, a junior athletic training major from Debec, New Brunswick, and secretary of the Athletic Training Student Organization.

Fees are \$10 for pre-registration; \$12 for race day registration; and \$20 for a family of three or more. Pre-registration is available until Thursday, April 6 by e-mailing Dickison at darci.dickison@umit.maine.edu. The first 40 people to register will receive a race T-shirt.

Proceeds from the race benefit the Wes Jordan Athletic Training Education Complex project -- renovations that will result in state-of-the-art teaching and lab space in Lengyel Hall. Named after long-time UMaine athletic director Wes Jordan, the facility is expected to open this fall.

"Having a better equipped facility will greatly improve the skills of aspiring athletic trainers and be a great asset to the University," says Dickison.

The Athletic Training Student Organization enables students to continue and direct their education outside the traditional classroom setting and to do peer mentoring. Meetings are designed to reinforce athletic training knowledge and principles through guest lectures and a variety of activities and demonstrations. The organization also works to provide public information about the athletic training profession and its role in the community.

Mitchell Recognized for Lifetime of Achievement

13 Mar 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - People, Places and Plants magazine and the Maine Landscape Nursery Association has selected UMaine Plant, Soil and Environmental Science professor Bill Mitchell as this year's recipient of the Al Black Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award recognizes an individual whose dedication to the promotion and improvement of the Maine horticultural scene has been felt for 20 years or more.

"Bill is incredibly dedicated to his horticulture students at UMaine, and he invests every ounce of his energy and enthusiasm into seeing his students succeed," said Paul Tukey, Editor of People, Places and Plants. "He is always looking for ways to improve, and for new opportunities that can help his students achieve their aspirations."

People, Places and Plants created the award nearly ten years ago in memory of Maine State Horticulturist Al Black, whose hard work and dedication left a lasting impression on the Maine horticultural community. Recipients for the Al Black Lifetime Achievement Award are selected by a seven-person board from the Maine Landscape and Nursery Association. The award was presented to Mitchell in January and recently announced in People, Places and Plants magazine.

"I'm very proud to see Bill get this award. He's a charismatic guy, he speaks well, and he's also approachable," said Tukey. "To study plants and get true answers takes a lifetime, and Bill's dedication means a lot to those of us in the profession."

Taiwan Mountain Project Looks at the Geological Powers of Change

13 Mar 2006

Contact: Phaedra Upton (207) 581-2221

David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine earth sciences researcher Phaedra Upton will be collaborating with colleagues from the University of Colorado, Boulder in an effort to better understand the forces that have shaped the topography of Taiwan's mountains.

Utilizing \$45,272 in funding from the National Science Foundation, Upton and her team will examine the ways in

which the forces of erosion and plate tectonics interact. Exceptionally high erosion rates, combined with tectonic convergence rates that are among the fastest in the world, create a unique and dynamic environment for studying topographic development.

The project will utilize both field studies and three-dimensional mechanical models. Researchers hope that the data will provide new insights into the region's unusual geological activity that may help to better understand the interaction between surface processes and tectonics in a world context.

Graduate Student's Research May Help Consumers Wake Up to a Healthier Day

13 Mar 2006

Contact: Mary Camire

UMaine Researcher Puts New Date on Early Agriculture

13 Mar 2006

Contact: Dan Sandweiss (207) 581-1889

David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -Some surprising new findings made by UMaine researcher Dan Sandweiss place cornmeal on the menu for native Americans much earlier than previously believed.

Working with colleagues from Ithaca College and the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, Sandweiss discovered evidence of two types of cultivated corn in the Cotahuasi Valley of southern Peru that date back to nearly 4,000 years before the present, suggesting that corn was an important crop in that region more than 1,000 years earlier than previously thought.

"Smithsonian researcher Linda Perry's analysis of starch grains extracted from sediment samples and stone tools discovered at the site revealed two kinds of corn that had been ground into flour. No one has found a record of either from anywhere near this time for this part of Peru," said Sandweiss. "At this early time period, agricultural hadn't been demonstrated in the highlands of Peru, Bolivia or Chile."

The tools and sediments were discovered when a small test pit revealed the outline of a 3,600- to 4,000-year old circular house near Cerro Aycano, a 14,600-foot mountain that was an important source of obsidian for people of the region. Obsidian is a black volcanic glass that was used for making tools and other items.

Evidence of potato starch was also found at the site.

In addition to changing some long-held beliefs about South American agriculture, the discovery also points to the potential of microfossil analysis as an important new tool for archeologists. The technique is used to identify tiny plant particles found on tools, container fragments and other artifacts removed from dig sites.

The latest in a number of important discoveries Sandweiss has made in Peru, the microfossil remains are an excellent example of Sandweiss's multidisciplinary approach to archeology.

"By bringing in as many different kinds of people as possible who can bring their expertise to bear in what we are doing, we are able to find unexpected but significant results that might otherwise have been missed," said Sandweiss. "It is truly a process of unexpected discovery, and what you get out of it depends on how well you keep open to new ideas."

The research was published in the journal Nature on March 2.

Study Finds Maine Principals Positive, but Working under Increased Pressure

13 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

David Munson (207) 593-9295

ORONO, Maine -- Most Maine principals continue to find their work energizing and rewarding, but the reality of a never-ending job and constantly growing responsibilities are beginning to chip away at the altruistic motive of making a difference for children and their education, according to the latest survey of the profession conducted by the University of Maine.

The majority of school leaders responding to the 2005 Maine Principal Study are over age 50, portending the retirement of many experienced principals within the next decade. At the other end of the scale, a greater number of younger educators, including more women at the high school level, are moving into the principalship. However, a high turnover rate continues, with over half of Maine principals staying in their jobs for five years and one-third leaving within two years.

"This is a warning signal about finding stable leadership to help our schools improve," says Gordon Donaldson, professor of educational leadership in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. "It appears that wisdom and experience are being lost from leadership positions just when they might be most needed." Report authors also include faculty member George Marnik, and Donald Buckingham, principal at Sedgwick Elementary School and UMaine adjunct faculty.

The third survey in a longitudinal study of Maine principals examines a range of issues influencing their ability as school leaders. The first two were done in 1997 and 2001.

The 2005 response rate of 43 percent (414), compared to 63 percent for the first study and 53 percent for the second, likely indicate the overload and time crunch principals are experiencing, according to Donaldson. While the latest findings reflect some patterns of change, they cannot determine how generalized these changes are for all principals. However, the number of female principals responding to the survey continues to increase.

The Maine Principal Study report, "Change and Stability in School Leadership: 1997-2005," is on the Web at <http://portfolio.umaine.edu/~edl>.

"Being a principal is stimulating and rewarding work, but it is also fraught with impossible challenges," the authors write. "Principals are expected to meet high standards for all children; placate every upset child, parent or teacher; keep abreast of changing requirements from the central office and state; and supervise an extraordinary number of staff, on average, as well as a broad span of educational, management and public relations activities."

The study is providing needed data and insight into the workloads and high turnover among K-12 principals in Maine and nationwide, and the difficulty in filling these positions with qualified people. The Maine principalship, in general, is a transient position and is becoming more so, according to the report. Based on the 2005 data, the average length of time in a principal's present position dropped from 8 years in 1997 to 6.9 years in 2005.

Maine educational leaders and policymakers must seriously consider how to improve the workload and pressure of the job in order to entice younger talented teachers to move into administration, but supports must also be in place to sustain and energize them in the position, the authors concur. The majority of principals reported their former experiences as a teacher contribute significantly to their success as a building administrator.

The Maine Principals' Association (MPA) formed an Ad Hoc Committee to Promote the Principalship in 2004/2005. The results of that study revealed similar concerns. According to MPA Executive Director Dick Durost, "Time, stress, unreasonable expectations, and financial considerations consistently topped everyone's list as to why many quality teachers are not interested in becoming principals. If time and expectations were appropriately addressed, stress and finances might become less of a concern. Inadequacies in state retirement and health insurance benefits cause many to avoid or leave the field of education." The full MPA report can be found on the association's website, www.mpa.cc, under late breaking news.

In the UMaine study, responding principals work nearly 60 hours a week, which includes attending school-related activities most nights and weekends, are expected to supervise an average of 40 professional and support staff and have overall responsibility for the learning and well-being of hundreds of children. Principals report spending the greatest amount of time on personnel matters, followed by student management and interacting with the education hierarchy or central office. They are increasingly engaged in public relations -- dealing with parents and other stakeholders, including the media, to build, continue and promote mutual understanding of the school's values and goals.

Principals' strongest sources of support continue to be their secretaries and spouses or significant others. Teachers, other principals and, for 2005 principals, the district administrative team are also perceived as helpful resources. Seventy-six percent agree that central administration assists them in improving the school, but a quarter of the principals report no assistance from the district office.

The stress of being constantly on-call makes it even more difficult for a principal to strike a balance between job and home. This choice is a continuing concern, with half of the respondents finding it a difficult challenge and reporting that the long hours and intrusion on personal time reflect on their ability to function effectively at all times and in all of their varied tasks. Family responsibilities also reflect the aging of the principals, with fewer caring for children but more caring for elderly parents.

Given the workload, stress and unrealistic expectations, it is remarkable that 74 percent of principals, compared with 70 percent in 2001, said they would choose a career in public education if they had it to do over, according to Donaldson. While this speaks highly of their commitment, it also raises concerns about the one-quarter who do not feel positively about their careers. Between 25 and 30 percent of respondents consistently express dissatisfaction with or uncertainty about their choice of careers over the eight-year period.

Many feel that conflict and criticism characterize the job and that changing priorities and disagreement within the community make the work environment unpredictable and demanding.

The more principals experience overload and stress, the less rewarding their work. Their sense of reward and effectiveness is positively associated with school and community consensus. When principals perceive community pride in their schools and agree on goals and vision with faculty and staff, they report that they are making a positive difference and progress. The opposite is true for principals who experience shifting priorities, constraining rules and unworkable expectations. These principals report greater workload, fewer rewards and less consensus with their schools and communities.

"While the principalship is a wonderful fit for some, too many are feeling 'worn down' by an overwhelming workload and lack of balance in professional and personal life," says Donaldson. "Someone has to help a really conscientious principal say 'it's time to go home.'"

So many mandates and changing priorities have been put on the backs of school in the last 10 years that change is needed in ways principals are prepared and supported, and certainly in the structure of the job, Donaldson says. "The job description is "open ended, and requirements are always being added on."

The comparative data also reflect that the average Maine principal:

Hudson Museum Hosting Maine Women "Living on the Land" Exhibit

14 Mar 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A Boston photographer who spent nine years interviewing and photographing Maine women who have created a sense of place, community and commitment living off the land is bringing her exhibit to the University of Maine's Hudson Museum March 29-May 6.

"Maine Women: living on the land" will open with a reception and film presentation by Lauren Shaw, an Emerson College associate professor in visual and media arts, at 4 p.m. in the Maine Center for the Arts' Bodwell Lounge on Wednesday, March 29. The exhibit opening also will include a book signing. The exhibit is free and features women who harvest blueberries, lobsters, potatoes, medicinal herbs, maple syrup and raise sheep, goats and beef.

Shaw, who has taught photography at Emerson since 1972 and heads the department, says she undertook her latest photographic project to present the stories, images and voices of 10 Maine women as a way to "celebrate the relationship between land and home." Shaw has spent decades telling people's stories by "mapping" personal territories, backyards, gardens and augmenting her photography with recorded oral histories and now an interactive DVD.

The photographer chose to use Maine women who have worked on the land as subjects for the exhibit because of her affinity for the state and desire to illuminate "the tenacity and integrity, not only of these 10 women, but also those individuals who have lived their lives in a similar fashion," she says.

Shaw has summered in the Belgrade Lakes region for more than 26 years. She developed a network of contacts simply by driving around the state, visiting public places, explaining her project and asking for ideas. The suggestions and subsequent introductions and interviews were many, she says, and she selected 10 for her final presentation.

"I have tried to capture their varied territories with a cartographer's sensibility," she says in a biographical presentation about the exhibit. The exhibit includes black and white portraits of the women, topographic maps of the areas in which they live, along with a DVD that allows viewers to meet her subjects through video-taped interviews and supplemental photographic images.

"By looking at other people's landscapes, we can begin to ask questions about where we live and how our space affects us and consequently those around us," she says. "It is my hope that the participating venues will coordinate relevant educational programming to underscore these important issues that are so important to the quality of our life."

The women featured in Shaw's exhibit range in age and have spent most of their lives extracting a living from their land.

"The stories these remarkable women share through this exhibition and the accompanying DVD have a common thread in their sense of community and legacy of family traditions of work," Shaw says. "It is my objective to bring to a broader audience these women's joy and satisfaction that has come from a life lived on and from the land."

Shaw's multimedia portraits include:

Raquel Boehmer of Monhegan Island, who, with her husband, built a home and lived without electricity for many years, grows and prepares her own whole foods and is the author of "A Foraging Vacation, Edibles from Maine's Sea and Shore;"

Sylvia Holbrook of New Vineyard, who has been producing 8,000 pounds of butter each year for more than 60 years, and tends strawberry, potato and vegetable plots behind her house;

Leitha Kelly of Allagash, a hunting and fishing guide who owns Two Rivers Lunch in Allagash, hosts dog sled races and whose family has harvested timber for six generations;

Deb Soule of Rockport, who founded Avena Botanicals, an herbal apothecary, in 1985 and has been an herbalist, gardener and crafter for more than 20 years;

Mary Philbrook of Presque Isle, the first female Micmac chief who now is responsible for the return of tribal land taken by the United States government;

State Rep. Jackie Lundeen of Mars Hill, whose family has been harvesting potatoes for three generations and is one of the biggest producers in Maine;

Gail Edwards of Athens, founder of Blessed Maine Herb Farms, where she grows more than an acre of medicinal herbs, offers apprenticeships and classes, as well as making her garden available to the public;

Jenny Cirone of South Addison, the daughter of a lighthouse keeper and a lobster fisher for more than 75 years, who also breeds sheep for wool on Nash and Little Nash islands;

Betty Weir of Cumberland, a diversified organic farmer who owns Pleasant Valley Acres, raises goats, beef and produces maple syrup;

And Carol Varin of Beddington, a blueberry farmer who designs and sells Christmas and decorative wreaths, in addition to growing perennial and cut flower bouquets for a farmers market.

Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner says she is pleased to host Shaw's traveling exhibit as part of UMaine's celebration of Women's History Month.

For more information about the exhibit and programming, please call the Museum Office at 581-1901 or visit us on the web at www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum

Thursday UMaine Event to Help Middle School Girls Explore Math/Science Careers

15 Mar 2006

Contact: Anne Schmidt, (207) 581-1259, Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Hundreds of Maine middle school girls will spend a day at the University of Maine on Thursday March 16, learning about math- and science-oriented careers historically pursued by males.

Coming from all corners of the state, more than 400 girls will attend UMaine's 20th annual "Expanding Your Horizons" program to get a look at more than a dozen math-science career fields. With fun, hands-on experiments, students will learn about the attributes of apple varieties, state-of-the art wood composites research, the explosive powers of carbon dioxide, how submarines dive and submerge, non-point source pollution, and many other interesting things related to science and engineering.

"Expanding Your Horizons" has been coordinated for the past eight years by the University of Maine Women's Resource Center with support from the Office of Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. It is a one-day event designed to increase the interest of girls in mathematics and science through hands-on experiences, foster awareness of opportunities in math and science careers, provide young women opportunities to interact with positive female role models active in math and science careers, and provide opportunities for young women to explore gender socialization and equity issues in a supportive environment.

Visiting students can choose among a variety of 45-minute workshops and will have a chance to tour many of UMaine's high-tech research facilities, including the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Laboratory, the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Electron Microscopy Laboratory in the Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology.

The girls will be mentored by almost 200 teachers from their schools, professional women from UMaine and the community, as well as university students.

A 45-minute welcoming event begins the day at 9 a.m. in Hauck Auditorium. Registration starts at 8 a.m.

Workshop sessions are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., with lunch available in the Memorial Union from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Ceremonies reviewing the day's activities are scheduled from 2:30-3 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium. Workshops will be held in classrooms and laboratories throughout the campus, but clustered around Jenness, Murray, Neville, Barrows and Sawyer buildings.

Expanding Your Horizons Workshop Schedule

March 16, 2006

Fun Activities with Geometer's Sketchpad

Aime Gellen, Center Research Associate Lecturer in Math Education at UMaine

Will use the dynamic Geometers Sketchpad software program to explore geometric concepts and create some unique and interesting geometric drawings

(207 Corbett Business Building)

10-10:45 a.m.

11-11:45 a.m.

Sensory Evaluation of Apple Varieties

Rena Moran - Assistant Professor/Tree Fruit Specialist in UMaine Cooperative Extension

Christina Howard - Graduate Student, Dept. of Plant, Soil and Environmental Science

Apple varieties vary considerably in flavor, aroma, texture and appearance. Take the opportunity to sample several varieties and learn why some apples are better than others. Participants will taste several varieties that are either tart or sweet, and firm or soft. Other traits to experience will be crispness, aroma and skin toughness. Two instruments used in measuring fruit quality, the refractometer and pressure tester, will be available for testing sugar content and flesh firmness.

(119 Barrows Hall)

10-10:45 a.m.

11-11:45 a.m.

12:30-1:15 p.m.

1:30-2:15 p.m.

Nursing as a Career

Ursula A. Pritham

Overview of the history of nursing, education required to become a nurse, UMaine nursing program description of different nursing roles, and a discussion of the job market.

(Resource Lab, 1st Floor, Dunn Hall)

10-11 a.m.

Bird Superheroes: From Here to South America in a Single Bound!

Jennifer Long, Doctoral Candidate, UMaine Dept. of Biological Science

An introduction to bird migration and how scientists study birds. topics include how birds know when and where to migrate and how they navigate using the sun and stars. Includes discussion of techniques that scientists use to study migratory birds and the factors influencing migratory bird survival. The workshop will include a hands-on activity where students practice bird identification skills and use field guides to find the breeding and wintering grounds of common Maine migrant birds.

(109 Murray Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Women in Engineering

Proserfina Bennett, Managing Director of UMaine's Pulp and Paper Process Development Center

Students will learn about the papermaking process, potentially observe a pilot-scale paper machine in action, and have some hands-on experience in the laboratory testing paper samples. Participants will also learn information about women and their roles in the papermaking industry.

(Jenness Hall Plant Lab)

10-10:45 a.m.

11-11:45 a.m.

1:30-2:15 p.m.

You Be the Vet!

Peggy Danneman, DVM and MS and Joan Cadillac, DVM and MS, the Jackson Lab

This workshop will give participants an opportunity to review real cases involving sick or injured animals and discuss how to best evaluate and treat the animal. Cases will include "exotic" animals such as wolves and monkeys and will be presented to the students using photographs of the animals taken by the veterinarian as she diagnosed and treated them.

(113 Corbett Business Building)

10-11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Space Time-Telescopes

Robin Kennedy, Lead Flight Director, Challenger Learning Center

New technology has provided new evidence for some of Albert Einstein's most astonishing predictions. This presentation will describe some of the revolutionary spacecraft that are helping NASA to explore the limits of space and time. Participants will use hands-on demonstrations to better understand how the spacecraft work.

(180 Hitchner Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

1:15-2:15 p.m.

Let's Talk! Telecommunication Technology

Donna Kitchen, Cable Fiber Repair Technician with Verizon Telephone Company

Participants will discuss different jobs available at Verizon with the focus on voice traveling over copper versus fiber. Will involve splicing copper wires together and splicing fiber optic material using the newest equipment available.

(184 Hitchner Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

1:15-2:15 p.m.

1:30 -- 2:15

Non-Point Source Pollution: A Little Goes a Long Way!

Jean MacRae, Professor of Environmental Engineering

Participants will "pollute" a model of the Penobscot watershed and have a rainstorm, then see what happens to the pollution. Will also discuss where it comes from, what it does in the environment, and what we can do to prevent problems.

(17 Boardman)

11:00 -- 11:45

1:30 -- 2:15

"Girls Going Global": An Introduction to Geospatial Technologies

Lisa Phelps, Assistant Professor, UMaine Cooperative Extension

This workshop will offer girls the chance to learn more about geospatial technologies. It will include an introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). The workshop will include hands-on activities that involve using a computer to explore interactive maps on the state office of GIS website, as well as Google Earth.

(111 Corbett Business Building)

10-11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

12:30 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

Tour of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center

Olivia Sanchez, Research Engineer

(Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center)

10-10:45 a.m.

1:30-2:15 p.m.

Wicked Cold Chemistry, Pop rockets and What's For Breakfast?

Alice Bruce, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Will offer several different hands-on activities, exploring the temperature of liquid nitrogen, having fun with the explosive powers of carbon dioxide and finding iron in cereal.

(Aubert Hall lobby)

10-11 a.m.

A Great Mouse Detective Story: Gene Hunting with Mice

Ann Dorward, Ph.D. , UMaine Research Scientist

Students will see a short slide presentation of interesting mouse models. they will receive hand-puts to participate in the gene hunting process, isolate mouse DNA from test tubes and have a discussion about DNA mutation and therapy.

(215 Hitchner Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11;15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Using Chemistry to Make Ice Cream

Nancy Kravit, Adjunct Professor of Chemical Engineering

Ice cream was made long before refrigeration was invented by taking advantage of some simple principles of chemistry. Workshop will look at the science behind ice cream making, and will test those principles.

(222 Jenness Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

1:15-2:15 p.m.

Brain Science and Learning Math

Linda Rottman, Assistant Professor of Developmental Math

Findings from recent brain science research will be used to illustrate ways in which people can improve their learning of math.

(123 Barrows Hall)

12 noon-1 p.m.

1:15-2:15 p.m.

No...I Don't Drive a Train!

Rosemary Smith, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering

This workshop will explain what engineers do, and why it is great to be one. It will include talk about engineering in general, the different types of engineering like bioengineering and electrical engineering, women engineers of the past and present, how math and science are used in engineering, and Prof. Smith's experiences in engineering research and as a professor.

(Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall)

10-11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Fungi...Friends or Foes?

Andrea Ostrofsky and Seanna Annis, UMaine biology professors

Introduction to the fungi - how cool they are and how important they are in our lives. Lots of show and tell. Students will be able to grow their own fungus from blue cheese. Will also visit two research labs where fungi that cause wood decay and fungi that cause blueberry diseases are studied.

(203 Hitchner Hall)

10-11 a.m.

Sisters in Submarines!

Denise Nemeth-Greenleaf, Tori Smith, and Deborah Jennings, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Participants will have the opportunity to become familiar with work practices that occur at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. After hearing a brief description of the presenters' work and backgrounds, each girl will have an opportunity to use a noise meter and learn how excessive noise can be damaging. They will see an experiment that explains how a submarine dives, and they will manipulate the hand of a dee-submergence suit (to see the dexterity of Navy SEALs under water).

(102 Jenness Hall)

10-10:45 a.m.

11-11:45 a.m.

Getting Caught in the 'Net

Vinitha Nair and Kaley Noonan, Platform Shoes Forum, Zoey's Room

Workshop will explore the potential dangers of online communication. The presenters will show participants how important it is to stay safe online, how to avoid cyber-bullying and how to protect oneself in Myspace.com and other public chat rooms.

(111 Corbett Business Building)

1:30-2:15 p.m.

Ladies in the Lab, Bugs in the System

Mary Bird, Instructor in Education

The history of science is rich with women who have contributed to our understanding of, and interaction with, the world. It was women who invented refrigerated food, developed the technique for classifying stars, discovered the significance of the x and y chromosomes. The workshop invites participants to explore some of the fundamental, but neglected contributions of women in science.

(216 Shibles Hall)

1:30-2:15 p.m.

Research Provides Direction for Multicultural Curriculum

15 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A University of Maine graduate student is being recognized nationally for her research and resulting model for incorporating multiculturalism into the academic preparation of physical therapists. Suzanne Gordon, director of the Physical Therapy program at Husson College in Bangor and a doctoral student in UMaine's Higher Education Leadership program, was honored for her innovative work at the recent meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections meeting in San Diego.

Gordon was selected by the *Journal of Physical Therapy Education* Editorial Advisory Board as recipient of the 2005 Feitelberg Journal Founder's Award recognizing excellence in the preparation of a manuscript by a first-time author. Her position paper, "Making meaning of whiteness: a pedagogical approach for multicultural education," was published in the Spring 2005 edition of the Journal. The paper is based on Gordon's dissertation, which explores faculty perceptions and practices related to including and teaching multicultural education in entry-level physical therapist programs in New England.

"To be effective, a physical therapist must have a trusting, open relationship with patients. If we don't understand cultural values -- or wrongly assume patients share our own values -- we won't have the relationship needed to treat and rehabilitate effectively," Gordon explains. "Language, touch, even eye contact are all cultural traditions and practices. We need to be aware of how such differences can influence or impair relationships."

Physical therapy students and faculty in Maine and other areas of New England are mostly white and middle class, yet many of these students will do internships and eventually practice in much more diverse settings, according to Gordon, which makes teaching for multiculturalism a concern and challenge for faculty.

Gordon's curriculum model is founded on her qualitative study examining the goals, understandings and characteristics of educators experienced in teaching multicultural education at eight different physical therapist programs. The model's

philosophical foundation -- treating people equitably while recognizing and allowing them to hold on to cultural differences -- supports a multicultural framework for instruction directed toward cultural competency and social justice activism

Instruction supporting the model's cultural competency goals focuses on human relations, cultural group differences, and cross-cultural skills that enhance therapeutic relationships, while the social justice responsibility component examines sociological analyses of privilege, power and oppression, and the process of social activism to help ensure everyone gets the services they need.

"Understanding multiculturalism and how inequities came about in health care is essential to changing the system, and that means rethinking the way we educate our students," Gordon says.

Physical therapy as a profession has framed strong national standards to assure that graduates are able to serve and advocate for clients representing the full range of diversity in the country, according to Suzanne Estler, UMaine associate professor of Higher Education Leadership and Gordon's advisor.

"Suzanne's study has broken new ground in understanding how pioneers in the field both understand and enact multicultural education, often in isolating circumstances and against institutional and cultural barriers," Estler says. "As a result of her research, physical therapy programs will be able to build on the experiences of the educators she studied rather than starting anew."

Gordon, an Orono resident, also received a dissertation fellowship from the American Physical Therapy Association to support her research during a sabbatical this fall. Gordon received her physical therapy education at the University of Missouri and earned a master's in college teaching at the University of North Carolina. She is scheduled to receive her doctorate from UMaine in May.

UMaine Cooperative Extension and MOFGA Partner on Organic Potato Publication

17 Mar 2006

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185 or 800-287-0274

PRESQUE ISLE--Organic farming is the fastest growing segment of U.S. agriculture, and there is no reason potatoes shouldn't follow suit. In recognition and support of this trend, crops specialists Steven Johnson of UMaine Cooperative Extension and Eric Sideman of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) have teamed up to author an Extension bulletin on growing potatoes organically in Maine.

In 1986 the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) certified fewer than 10 farms selling potatoes. In 2005 MOFGA certified nearly 100 small- and moderate-sized farms marketing organic potatoes. Organic potatoes have a higher market value, usually two to three times that of conventional potatoes. Consumers seek out organic produce not only to avoid chemical residues and obtain better nutrition and flavor, but also because they recognize that organic production practices are good for Maine. Organic potatoes can command a premium price because many Maine consumers recognize the immediate benefits of healthful food, as well as the longer term benefits of soil and environmental stewardship.

Organic farming practices build up soil nutrients, raise the level of organic matter in soil and improve soil structure. These practices including rotating crops--planting cover crops that can be plowed under as "green manure"--as well as adding compost and livestock manures to the soil. Organic growers avoid pesticides, which can disrupt the soil's beneficial biological activity.

The new Extension bulletin, "Producing Potatoes Organically in Maine," includes an analysis of common organic soil amendments as well as a table of seed tuber requirements. The bulletin discusses soil management, cutting and storing

seed, fertilizing, planting, pest control, harvesting and storing. The bulletin is available through the UMaine Extension publications distribution center for \$1.00 at 207-581-3792. It will soon be available for free download from the online catalog at <http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/>.

Spring Forage Conference Features Farmer Panel

17 Mar 2006

Contact: Rick Kersbergen/Sonia Antunes 1-800-287-1426

ORONO -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a forage conference designed to help dairy and livestock producers improve profitability on their farms. This conference will be held on Thursday, April 6 in central Maine at the Besse Building (Town Office) in Albion and will feature Jack Lazor from Butterworks Farm in Vermont. Lazor and his wife manage an integrated dairy farm, growing quality forages and grains for their organic herd. He will be part of a farmer panel that will discuss grain and forage rotations.

Also on the agenda are presentations by Extension Educator Rick Kersbergen and Extension Dairy Specialist Gary Anderson. Kersbergen will discuss new ideas related to harvesting haylage that will certainly stimulate discussion about how and when to cut your grass and legume forages this summer. Anderson will lead a discussion on feeding small grain silages and how best to manage your rations with these types of feed.

The conference is cosponsored by the Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP) and the Unity Barn Raisers through an NRCS Conservation Partnership Initiative grant. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. with presentations starting at 10:30 and ending at 2:30. Preregistration is requested and lunch is included in the \$8 per person registration fee. Call Sonia at 1-800-287-1426 to request registration materials and an agenda before April 3.

State Sen. John Martin at UMaine Wednesday

17 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- State Sen. John Martin (D-Eagle Lake) will visit the University of Maine on Wednesday, March 22 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Martin will spend the afternoon at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows program, which is new this year, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Martin, who was first elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 1964, served ten terms as Speaker of the House. He is a UMaine graduate and a member of the University of Maine at Fort Kent faculty.

News coverage possibilities include a lunch meeting with UMaine students from 12 noon-1 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bumps Room and a 1:15-1:55 p.m. tour of UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center. A full schedule is available upon request.

Page Farm and Home Museum Offers Children's Program for Maine Maple Sunday March 26

20 Mar 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum will sponsor a children's program on maple sugaring Sunday, March 26, from 1-3 p.m. on the Orono campus.

Events start at 1 p.m. with a video, "The Maple Sugaring Story."

At 1:30 three groups of children (grouped by grade levels, kindergarten through 6) will carry out a learning activity, play games and hear stories about one of Maine's oldest springtime traditions. At 2:30 p.m., participants will drive to the nearby University of Maine maple sugaring operation, where they'll have a guided, walking tour of the sugar bush, where the maple sugaring story begins, then will tour the sugarhouse.

Children can sample fresh sweet syrup straight from the evaporator. Poured over ice cream, it is a maple sugar sundae on Maine Maple Sunday, says Museum Director Patricia Henner.

Maine is said to be the nation's second largest maple syrup producing state.

A \$4 per child reimbursement is requested to cover materials used in the exercises. Space is limited and advance registration is requested by calling her Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-4100.

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Dual D.O./PH.D Program Student Receives Competitive AMA Grant for Arthritis Pain Research

20 Mar 2006

Contact: Steve Price, Director of Communications, (207) 602.2269

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND NEWS RELEASE

BIDDEFORD - University of New England medical student John Lowery recently received a highly competitive grant from the American Medical Association to help fund his research into safer and more efficient pain treatments for arthritis sufferers.

Lowery, who has completed his second year at UNE's College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM), is now working on his Ph.D. research as the first candidate in the Combined D.O./Ph.D. Program with the University of Maine-Orono. The dual degree program emphasizes biomedical research.

Lowery received \$2,500 from the AMA Foundation's Seed Grant Research Program to study "Regulation of Delta Opioid Receptors in Osteoarthritis." Other researchers who received these AMA seed grants came from such prestigious institutions as Harvard University, Yale University School of Medicine and the Mayo Clinic.

Arthritis is the leading cause of disability in the U.S., limiting the activities of more than 16 million adults. Unfortunately, according to Lowery, the most widely used analgesic therapies provide incomplete relief and may produce significant side effects that limit treatment effectiveness. As part of Loewry's Ph.D. dissertation research, he is

investigating a series of new compounds in the hope of developing a safer and more effective treatment option for chronic inflammatory pain, such as that experienced by osteoarthritis sufferers.

Lowery's research advisor is Edward Bilsky, Ph.D., a UNECOM associate professor in pharmacology and one of the school's leading biomedical research scientists. The pioneering student will spend two to three years working on his Ph.D. research, then return for his final two years of clinic medical rotations. Lowery is interested in becoming an orthopedic surgeon.

Social Workers Conference to Explore Legal Issues and Elders

21 Mar 2006

Contact: Nancy Kelly, 581-2378; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine's School of Social Work and Center on Aging are bringing geriatric social workers together with several Bangor area attorneys this week for a colloquium about issues both groups encounter in their work with older adults.

The colloquium is Friday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House on the Orono campus.

Response to the colloquium has been overwhelming, says Nancy Kelly, a UMaine lecturer and field coordinator of social work.

"We were hoping for 25-30 people," Kelly says. "After 100 registrations, we had to start turning people away. There has been an excellent response. Obviously this is a huge topic."

In addition to social workers, others who have signed up for the free colloquium include lawyers, paralegals, nursing home directors and recreational directors, health care professionals, state employees, UMaine students and others who do or will work with older adults.

Topics on the agenda include the attorney-client relationship and how it may affect the resolution of such issues as mental capacity and elderly clients, access to legal services for persons of low income, transfers of assets and Medicaid, and elder abuse and exploitation.

Five lawyers whose practices include elder law or estate planning are scheduled to form the attorney panel. They are Ray M. Bradford, Jr., Robert S. Lingley, Julie Mallett, Leigh McCarthy and Jane Skelton. The panel also will include Martha E. Higgins, a licensed master's social worker and a supervisor in the Office of Elder Services within the state Department of Health and Human Services. Bangor attorney Mary F. Kellogg, who is in her second year of the UMaine Master's of Social Work program, will moderate the panel.

The mental capacity of a client is an example of an issue that a social worker and an attorney may need to address for many different reasons and vantage points. One of the goals of the colloquium is for both groups to better understand the other's perspectives, ethical constraints and needs, according to Marjie Harris, coordinator of the Geriatric Practicum Partnership Program at UMaine, who is assisting with the colloquium planning.

As various stakeholders understand the different points of view, social workers, lawyers and others can better meet the needs of a growing aging population more harmoniously, Kelly says.

The colloquium is made possible with funding from the Center on Aging, the New York Academy of Medicine, the John A. Harford Foundation and the Social Work Leadership Institute. It is part of the University's Maine Geriatric Practicum Partnership Program Colloquium Series. The mission of the program is to increase the number of future social workers in the field of gerontology.

More information is available by contacting Harris by email at marjie.harris@umit.maine.edu

UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum Offers Annual Spring Field Trip

21 Mar 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum in Orono is celebrating maple syrup season with a public field trip to a sugaring operation on Friday, March 31. This year's annual spring field trip will travel to Breakneck Ridge Farm near Monson to see the family-run sugaring operation and its buffalo and deer herds. Please call (207) 581-4100 for reservations before March 29 or for further details. Participants should plan to dress warmly and wear appropriate shoes, as some walking will be required. The motor coach from Cyr Bus Tours leaves at 8 a.m. from the museum and will return to the Orono campus by 4 p.m., says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director. The coach is fully equipped with comfortable seating and restroom facilities. The cost is \$35 per person and includes transportation and a light lunch in a Guilford eatery. Participants also will visit Griff's Blacksmith Shop near Guilford for a blacksmithing demonstration. Breakneck Ridge Farm will offer demonstrations of its maple syrup operations and a tour of the farm's sugarbush. A sugarbush is where sugar maple trees feed sweet sap, often through plastic tubing, to the sugar house, where it is simmered into maple syrup, sugar or caramelized for candy. Both Breakneck Ridge Farm and Griff's will open their gift shops for visitors during the day. Maine is one of the biggest producers of pure maple syrup in the world. "Sugaring" is one of New England's oldest agricultural enterprises and is traditionally the first harvest of the year following winter, Henner says. Maple syrup season also is one of the first harbingers of spring. Sugaring in Maine was first practiced by Native American Indians, and learned by colonists and settlers in New England. Settlers referred to maple syrup as Indian sugar or Indian molasses. Information about Page Farm and Home Museum can be found on the website: <http://www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/>.

Promotion and Tenure Approved for 35 UMaine Professors

21 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Thirty-five UMaine faculty members, representing each of UMaine's academic colleges and Cooperative Extension, have been promoted and/or granted tenure. The University of Maine System Board of Trustees approved these actions at its Sunday/Monday meeting at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

"Promotion and tenure are significant milestones in a professor's career, achieved by demonstrating extraordinary accomplishments in teaching, scholarship and service," UMaine President Robert Kennedy wrote in a letter announcing the board's action.

Kennedy went on to congratulate the professors "on their dedication to the University of Maine, their service to the State of Maine, and their dedication to higher education."

The following is the list of the faculty members whose promotion and/or tenure were formalized by the board:

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

College of Business, Public Policy, and Health

Sandra S. Butler, Social Work

College of Engineering

Darrell W. Donahue, Chemical and Biological Engineering

Eric N. Landis, Civil Engineering

Michael L. Peterson, Mechanical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Curvin G. Farnham, Music

Laurie E. Hicks, Art

Stephen J. Hornsby, Anthropology and Canadian Studies

Shannon E. Martin, Communication and Journalism

Douglas W. Nangle, Psychology

Owen F. Smith, Art

Kristin D. Sobolik, Anthropology and Climate Change Institute

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Eleanor Groden, Entomology

Scott E. Johnson, Structural Geology and Tectonics

Kirk A. Maasch, Earth Sciences and Climate Change Institute

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Scott Collins, Chemistry and Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology

PROMOTED TO RESEARCH ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Gordon S. Hamilton, Climate Change Institute

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

College of Business, Public Policy, and Health

Natalie M. Steiger, Management

College of Education and Human Development

Elizabeth J. Allan, Higher Education Leadership

Abigail C. Garthwait, Instructional Technology

College of Engineering

William DeSisto, Chemical Engineering

Jean D. MacRae, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Mauricio Pereira da Cunha, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Anthony Stefanidis, Information Sciences and Engineering

Senthil S. Vel, Mechanical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Gisela R. Hoecherl-Alden, German

Jessica P. Miller, Philosophy

Susan A. Pinette, Modern Languages

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Robert C. Causey, Animal and Veterinary Sciences

Karl J. Kreutz, Earth Sciences and Climate Change Institute

Rena E. Moran, Pomology

Jeremy S. Wilson, Forest Resources

GRANTED TENURE AT THE RANK OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

College of Education and Human Development

Richard H. Ackerman, Educational Leadership

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE EXTENSION PROFESSOR WITH CONTINUING CONTRACT

Mark L. Hutchinson

Jennifer F. Loble

Lisa A. Phelps

UMaine "Paper Days" Symposium to Assemble Forest Products Industry Leaders

24 Mar 2006

Contact: Faye Woodcock, 581-2297; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Some of the world's foremost authorities on the paper and forest products industry will be at the University of Maine for "Paper Days 2006," a two-day forest products symposium hosted by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation.

The theme of this year's April 5-6 Paper Days is "Meeting the Economic Challenges in the Global Community," and will feature as conference keynote speaker Geoffrey Colvin, senior editor-at-large for FORTUNE magazine.

Through two days of panel discussions and several speakers, participants are expected to come away with new ideas to strengthen Maine's challenged forest products industry and explore new industry initiatives, including the development of bio-refinery products from papermaking waste.

The Pulp & Paper Foundation's annual Paper Days summit is the largest such conference in the state, with national significance, according to Peter Duncan, executive director of the Pulp & Paper Foundation.

"This kind of conference has the potential to revitalize the paper industry," Duncan says. "We'll get into tax issues, environmental issues, forestry practices, wood recycling and new ownership and how they're all working together within the forest products industry. The bio-refinery research that is ongoing on this campus has the potential to go forward with some very positive initiatives with long-term effects."

Panelists representing state and private policy-makers, regulators and stakeholders in the forest products industry, including construction companies, paper mills, consultants and labor management will share their views. Panelists and speakers include representatives from several of the nation and world's largest paper manufacturers, with timberlands ranging from North America to South America and the Far East.

The symposium will consider how the forests and forest products industry in Maine can realize new efficiencies and lower energy costs, according to Duncan. Already, the UMaine Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering is researching ways to convert a byproduct of the paper-making process, hemicellulose, into ethanol fuel and even hemicellulose-based polymers for manufacturing.

"Stakeholders in the industry have priorities, but they don't often come together to think about commonalities," he says. "We want to try to bring them all together to see if we can work on issues that are important to the forest products industry and to the state of Maine. We are one of the most important industries in terms of jobs and the economy."

Duncan says the symposium will seek out ways for the industry to overcome new challenges of global proportion.

"The challenges are really in terms of the cost of raw materials and of the equipment you use to make paper and the cost of energy, and what programs may or may not come into force to reduce the costs," he says.

The Pulp and Paper Foundation was created 56 years ago to assist and prepare well-educated engineering students for careers in papermaking and the forest products industry. Its mission is to assure a steady stream of well-trained engineering graduates for the job market. With a privately funded endowment of more than \$21 million, the foundation awarded 90 scholarships in 2005-2006. It is the largest such endowment in the nation, according to Duncan, and has financially helped more than 2,500 engineering students get engineering degrees and jobs.

Paper Days is scheduled around the Pulp & Paper Foundation's annual meeting and brings in a slate of state and national speakers, presenters and panelists - all respected leaders and policymakers - to offer expert assessment and ideas about improving Maine's forest products and paper industry.

Sponsors of "Paper Days 2006" include Northeast PIMA (Paper Industry Management Association), Maine Pulp & Paper Association, Maine Forest Products Council, the UMaine School of Forest Resources and Maine/New Hampshire TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp & Paper Industry), in addition to the Pulp & Paper Foundation.

For program information or to register, call the Foundation office at (207) 581-2297.

FORTUNE" Senior Editor is UMaine "Paper Days" Speaker

24 Mar 2006

Contact: Faye Woodcock, 581-2296; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- FORTUNE magazine senior editor-at-large Geoffrey Colvin, a leading thinker and commentator on today's business trends and issues, will speak at the University of Maine during "Paper Days 2006," a two-day forest products industry symposium hosted by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation.

Colvin's address, "We're Not Ready: How America Must Meet Globalization's Challenge," is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 5, in Hauck Auditorium. Attendance is by invitation.

Colvin will outline some of the reasons why many American businesses are losing ground in a global competition for jobs, and will lay out his ideas for reversing the trend. Colvin warns that Asian firms are bidding, not just for United States companies, but also for the nation's top university graduates, at a time when the nation's worldwide lead in science and technology is shrinking.

Globalization, he says, is eroding America's preeminence and even its standard of living. The U.S. economy is growing, but average wages are not, he observes. Whether the nation can rise up again to meet the challenge will mark a turning point in its history, according to Colvin.

Colvin's business feature articles and column, "Value Driven," in FORTUNE have an estimated audience of five million readers. His business commentary additionally is heard by seven million people on the CBS Radio Network. A regular presenter at the magazine's prestigious Global Forums and the Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum in London, Colvin has interviewed such leaders as Jack Welch, Rudy Giuliani, Steve Case, Meg Whitman and Donald Trump.

"He walks with the most powerful people in the world, with business-related people like Warren Buffet, Bill Gates, Steven Jobs, and he goes to China and does the same thing there, and he goes to India and he does the same thing," says Peter Duncan, executive director of the Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation at UMaine. "He'll really bring that whole global perspective to us. It can help Maine understand how we can compete in the long-term."

Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and the Maine Business School, which is cosponsoring Colvin's appearance with the Maine Pulp and Paper Association, says that the university is fortunate to host a speaker of Colvin's caliber.

"Geoffrey Colvin's insights will change the way we think about globalization," Innis says. "I am absolutely looking forward to hearing his perspectives on the big picture. We're also pleased that the Maine Business School was able to contribute to this critically important symposium."

Paper Days is set around the Pulp & Paper Foundation's annual meeting and brings in a slate of state and national speakers, presenters and panelists - all respected leaders and policymakers - to offer expert assessment and ideas about improving Maine's forest products and paper industry.

"This year Paper Days will focus on ways that Maine can meet the global economic challenges we face in the forest products industry," says John Williams, executive director of the Maine Pulp and Paper Association. "Maine's mills must adapt if we are to stem the tide of plant closures and machine shutdowns. This symposium will offer meaningful ideas on ways to meet our challenges."

Sponsors of Paper Days 2006 include Northeast PIMA (Paper Industry Management Association), Maine Forest Products Council, the UMaine School of Forest Resources, and Maine/New Hampshire TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp & Paper Industry), in addition to the Pulp & Paper Foundation and Maine Pulp and Paper Association.

National Study to Examine Prevalence of Hazing on College Campuses

24 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A pilot study on hazing conducted at four Northeast postsecondary institutions illustrates the need for national data to monitor trends and help colleges and universities address this highly consequential behavior, according to University of Maine researchers leading the multi-year initiative. One in 20 students responding to the survey reported being hazed at their current college or university, and one in 10 say they experienced hazing in high school.

"Hazing is a complex social problem that can have damaging effects on students and campus communities," says principal investigator Elizabeth Allan, assistant professor of higher education at UMaine. Data of national scope will fill a major gap in current research and inform policy, programming and accountability to help colleges, as well as secondary schools, prevent hazing, according to Allan, who has researched and written about the issue for the past decade.

The regional study represents the first phase of a national investigation into the prevalence and nature of hazing among undergraduate college students. Initially sponsored by the North American Interfraternal Foundation and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), more than 20 other national associations and organizations have signed on as co-sponsors.

Project director Mary Madden, assistant research professor at UMaine, presented highlights from the regional study at NASPA's annual conference held March 11-15 in Washington. A total of 1,789 students at the four pilot campuses responded to a 70-item web-based survey, which included questions about both college and high school experiences related to hazing. In addition, 90 in-depth interviews were conducted with students and staff from the participating institutions.

"Hazing behaviors were reported across student organizations including athletics, fraternities and sororities, bands, recreation and sports clubs," says Madden. "This suggests that hazing is embedded within the culture of an institution, not just a specific organization or team. Changing that culture will require institutional attention and strategies."

The survey defined hazing as "any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers them regardless of a person's willingness to participate."

When asked directly if they had been hazed at the postsecondary institution they currently attend, one in 20 -- across various types of teams and student organizations -- responded yes. However, one in five reported being involved in a specific behavior that met the definitions of hazing but did not consider themselves to have been hazed because "nothing happened to me that I did not agree to" or "it was all in fun."

The discrepancy points to students' perception that as long as they felt in control, it wasn't hazing, Madden explains. "They tended to identify hazing and its levels of seriousness more with physical components, such as being tied up or paddled, rather than with coercion or peer pressure." she says

Among other key findings in the regional study completed in Spring 2005:

Acclaimed Author Augusten Burroughs Coming to MCA

24 Mar 2006

Contact: Adele Adkins, 581-1803; George Manlove, 581-3756

The Maine Center for the Arts will depart from its usual performance lineup to welcome celebrated author Augusten Burroughs to Hutchins Concert Hall to speak April 19 at 7 p.m.

Burroughs is the author of the highly acclaimed memoir "Running with Scissors," which spent more than 70 weeks on the "New York Times" best seller list. His other works include: "Magical Thinking: True Stories," "Dry: A Memoir," and the novel "Sellelevision." He also is a regular contributor to National Public Radio's "Morning Addition," and has been hailed by "Entertainment Weekly" magazine as one of the "15 Funniest People in the Country."

According to Adele Adkins, associate director of the MCA, Burroughs was considered for the series after a staff member read his two memoirs and loved them. After browsing his website and finding out that Burroughs gives lectures, the MCA decided his intelligence and humor would be a great fit for the lecture series. Burroughs frequently visits universities across the country giving lectures and speeches.

Tickets for the show are free for UMaine students and faculty who present their MaineCard. Tickets are \$10 for the public and are available through the MCA box office or at the door. Seating is general admission. There also will be a reception and book signing with the author after the show. Tickets for the reception are \$30, which also upgrades seating to the orchestra section for the lecture.

For ticket and reception information, contact the MCA box office at (207) 581-1755.

More information about the author can be found at his website, www.augusten.com

Women's Symposium at UMaine April 1

27 Mar 2006

Contact: Angel M. Loreda, Associate Dean of Students, at (207) 581-1406; Caitlin Sanborn; Media contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will host its first-ever Women's Symposium this Saturday, April 1 from 12 noon-4 p.m. The symposium, "A Celebration of Mind and Body," aims to create an awareness of body image issues women face daily and examine the impact society has on their self-esteem.

Meredith Burgess, a UMaine graduate and CEO of Burgess Advertising in Portland, will be the keynote speaker. Following the keynote, Dr. Laura Lindenfeld will speak on women and the media, Prof. Kristin Langellier and graduate student Rena Lolar will speak on Title IX and women in sports, and dietician Laura Honeycutt will speak on women and nutrition.

"We've gathered some strong women of character for our kick-off year that will not only serve as amazing presenters but positive role models for our students, too," says Caitlin Sanborn, a UMaine student and chief organizer of the symposium. "Bringing a women's symposium to the University of Maine has been a long time coming and will hopefully continue as an annual event."

Sponsored by the Deans of Students Office, the symposium is open to both men and women inside and outside the university community. To register, go to http://www.umaine.edu/sold/wsyp/wsyp_signup.asp. For more information, contact Caitlin Sanborn at caitlin.sanborn@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Page Farm & Home Museum Offering Annual Spring Field Trip

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum in Orono is celebrating maple syrup season with a public field trip to a sugaring operation on Friday, March 31.

This year's annual spring field trip will travel to Breakneck Ridge Farm near Monson to see the family-run sugaring operation and its buffalo and deer herds.

Please call (207) 581-4100 for reservations before March 29 or for further details. Participants should plan to dress warmly and wear appropriate shoes, as some walking will be required.

The motor coach from Cyr Bus Tours leaves at 8 a.m. from the museum and will return to the Orono campus by 4 p.m., says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director. The coach is fully equipped with comfortable seating and restroom facilities.

The cost is \$35 per person and includes transportation and a light lunch in a Guilford eatery. Participants also will visit Griff's Blacksmith Shop near Guilford for a blacksmithing demonstration.

Breakneck Ridge Farm will offer demonstrations of its maple syrup operations and a tour of the farm's sugarbush. A sugarbush is where sugar maple trees feed sweet sap, often through plastic tubing, to the sugar house, where it is simmered into maple syrup, sugar or caramelized for candy.

Both Breakneck Ridge Farm and Griff's will open their gift shops for visitors during the day.

Maine is one of the biggest producers of pure maple syrup in the world. "Sugaring" is one of New England's oldest agricultural enterprises and is traditionally the first harvest of the year following winter, Henner says. Maple syrup season also is one of the first harbingers of spring.

Sugaring was first practiced by Native American Indians, and learned by colonists and settlers in New England. Settlers referred to maple syrup as Indian sugar or Indian molasses.

Information about Page Farm and Home Museum can be found on the website: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/~pfhm>.

Food Science Team takes New Product to National Competition

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Kristi Crowe; David Munson (207) 593-9295

Rich, chocolaty, decadent, and...healthy?

If you thought luscious fruit bonbons couldn't be part of a health-friendly diet, think again.

A group of UMaine students from the UMaine Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition have come up with a snack that takes health food to a whole new level. Loaded with anti-oxidants and bone-building calcium, YoBon Berry Bites are delicious and good for you -- a one-two punch that was powerful enough to place the student-developed product among five other finalists in the Institute of Food Technologists Student Association's 2006 Product Development Competition.

Working with faculty advisor Denise Skonberg, a team of five undergraduate and graduate students including Jennifer Jordan, James Perry, Jason Bolton, Shari Baxter, and Kristi Crowe formed the first UMaine team ever to compete in the prestigious contest, going toe-to-toe with some of the largest food science university programs in the country. The team's dark chocolate covered frozen blueberry yogurt-filled bonbons were chosen from over 20 new food products to go on to the second round of competition at the IFT's annual conference in June.

The new product is aimed at a niche market of 30- to 50-year-old women, offering them both the healthful effects of anthocyanins from blueberries and antioxidants from dark chocolate. The treat is also fortified with calcium and vitamin D to counter the effects of bone loss. In preparation for the next round of the competition, the team is preparing for a large-scale taste-test that they hope will bolster their proposal for full-scale production of the product.

From processing to packaging, the team must be versed in every aspect of the product's development, marketing and testing, facing industry experts who will judge their tasty creation against a broad range of criteria. The competition is tough, but the UMaine team is excited to move their product forward.

"We knew we had a really good, solid product, but we were shocked to be chosen as a finalist in our first year in the competition," said graduate student Kristi Crowe. "This is a big accomplishment for the UMaine food science department."

The upcoming sensory evaluation of YoBon Berry Bites is open to the public. The testing will be conducted at the Consumer Testing Facility in Hitchner Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono on Thursday, April 20th from 11-4pm. Women ages 30-50 are especially encouraged to sample the product and give feedback, as they are the target market for YoBon Berry Bites. If interested in receiving email about testing this product, please contact Kristi Crowe at kristi.crowe@umit.maine.edu.

Report Examines Threat of "Roving Bandits" to Local Fisheries

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Bob Steneck (207) 563-3146 ext 233; Jim Wilson (207) 581-4368; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - A recent study published in the journal *Science* by UMaine researchers and others has identified a growing threat to the health of local fisheries across Maine and around the world: the so-called "roving bandits" of the seas.

The designation "roving bandits," first used by economist Mancur Olson, is used to describe long-distance harvesters and market forces that take advantage of resources in open fisheries that they have no local connection with and therefore no incentive to conserve. UMaine co-authors Bob Steneck and Jim Wilson have described the negative affect roving bandits continue to have on local fisheries resources and the health of marine environments in the paper, which they co-wrote with 13 other authors from Canada, Australia, Sweden, the Netherlands, and the U.S.

The report examines how open-access fisheries are affected by a phenomenon known as the "tragedy of the commons," in which freely accessible resources are depleted by unbridled competition. Steneck, Wilson, and their colleagues argue that roving bandits not only lack the incentive to conserve marine resources due to a lack of investment in the long-term health of local marine systems, but also that the detrimental effects of their activities continue to increase as harvest and transportation technologies improve.

Steneck sees Maine's urchin fishery as an excellent example of the economic and ecological damage that can be caused by a lack of local controls in the face of distant market demands.

"Sea urchins, sea cucumber, and elvers have all been boom and bust marine fisheries in Maine over the past decade - responding to strong Asian markets. The sea urchin fishery became a socio-economic and ecological tsunami that

extirpated the world's sea urchin stocks. Maine was just a small island in the way," Steneck said. "The sea urchin fishery in Maine resulted in one of the largest ecosystem-scale changes in a coastal zone attributable to a single fishery. The ripple effects are seen throughout Maine's 3,000-mile coastline. Those changes were evident a decade ago and will be with us long after the stock has collapsed. Maine's 1,500 sea urchin harvesters are almost all out of business now."

In addition to examining the economic effects roving banditry can have on a broad range of fisheries, the report points out ecological effects that can devastate the long-term health of entire marine ecosystems.

The report also suggests a number of changes in fisheries management practices that could help to alleviate the negative effects roving bandits have on local economies and ecosystems, and points out some critical changes that need to be made to local, national and international policy in order to help ensure the future health of the world's fisheries.

"Sustainability is job security for fishing communities. We need to take a longer view in how we manage our marine resources lest we again become seduced by short-term profits driven by global markets offering top dollar to overfish our resource and degrade our ecosystem," Steneck said. "On the bright side, our home-grown Maine lobster fishery is an excellent example of how local harvesters can develop a conservation ethic to preserve their resource for future harvests and for future generations of lobstermen."

UMaine Pier Design Wins National Timber Bridge Award

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Roberta Laverty (207) 581-2110; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The Milbridge Pier, an innovative timber pier designed at UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, has recently been named one of America's best timber bridges.

The annual award, sponsored by the American Institute of Timber Construction, APA -- The Engineered Wood Association, the U.S. Forest Service and *Roads and Bridges Magazine*, highlights the elegance, strength, economy and historical role of timber bridges and piers.

The Milbridge Pier, located at the mouth of the Narraguagas River, serves the town of Milbridge in its commercial fishing and recreational boating and fishing activities. The L-shaped, 167-foot long pier was constructed using an innovative fiber-reinforced polymer technology developed in the AEWG laboratories and is the world's longest engineered wood pier.

Opened for use in June of 2001, the pier features a system of panels which were designed and fabricated in the AEWG labs on the UMaine campus. The panel system delivers strength equal to concrete but weighs 66% less, thus allowing for more efficient and economical construction.

AEWG Center Director Habib Dagher and Civil and Environmental Engineering graduate student Melanie Bragdon were the principal designers and engineers on the award-winning project. The project was funded by the Federal Highway Administration, the Maine Department of Transportation, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development and the Town of Milbridge.

MaineSci Vol. 7 Calendar

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Dave Munson at (207) 581-3777

UPCOMING EVENTS:

A. 2006 Forests of Maine Teachers' Tours B. Mitchell Center Spring Seminar Series C. College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium D. Spring Forage Conference set for April 6

A. 2006 Forests of Maine Teachers' Tours

The Maine TREE Foundation and Maine Project Learning Tree announce the Summer 2006 Forests of Maine Teachers' Tours.

The four-day tours of Maine's forests and mills will take place at:

Tour #1: Little Lyford Pond Camps near Moosehead Lake July 11-14

Tour #2: Twin Pine Camps on Millinocket Lake near Mt. Katahdin July 18-21

Tour #3: Leen's Lodge on West Grand Lake in Downeast Maine August 1-4

Learn about sustainable forestry, forest ecology, recreation, wildlife, wood products and more. Foresters, biologists, land and mill owners, loggers and conservationists will accompany each tour. Trained facilitators will present a Project Learning Tree workshop on each tour.

Formal and informal educators are welcome; Courses for credit will be offered on Tours #1 and #2 by University of Maine professors. Contact hours and CEU's are also available.

Registration Fee is \$100; Space is limited.

Call (207) 621-9872 or email mtf@gwi.net for a brochure.

See details at www.mainetreefoundation.org.

B. Mitchell Center Spring Seminar Series

Seminars are sponsored by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research and the UMaine Program in Ecology and Environmental Science.

This goal of this seminar series is to provide information on current research projects taking place on the Penobscot River ahead of the proposed dam removals. This seminar series coordinates with the Penobscot River Synthesis project.

Unless otherwise noted, all seminars take place at 12 noon in Norman Smith Hall at the University of Maine campus in Orono. If you are coming from off-campus, and need parking permits and/or directions, please contact Ruth Hallsworth at 207/581-3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

Topic: Continued Development of a Fish Assemblage Assessment Method for Non-Wadeable Large Rivers in Maine and New England: 2002-2005

Speaker: Chris O. Yoder, Research Director, Center for Applied Bioassessment and Biocriteria, Midwest Biodiversity Institute

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2006

Does Descaling Impair Osmoregulation in Seawater-Challenged Atlantic Salmon Smolts with Gayle Zydlewski, School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine, and Sturgeon Habitat in the Lower Penobscot River with Stephen Fernandes, University of Maine.

C. College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium

The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium begins Friday, Feb. 10. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or recently completed -- and to learn from each other.

The seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

April 7 -- "Instructional practices in Reading First classrooms in Maine," Janet Fairman.

D. Spring Forage Conference set for April 6

Contact: Rick Kersbergen/Sonia Antunes 1-800-287-1426

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is pleased to offer another forage conference designed to help dairy and livestock producers with valuable information to improve profitability on their farms. This conference will be held in Central Maine at the Albion Besse Building (Town Office) and will feature Jack Lazor from

Butterworks Farm in Vermont. Jack and his wife manage an integrated dairy farm, growing quality forages and grains for their organic herd. Jack will be part of a farmer panel that will discuss grain and forage rotations.

Also on the agenda are presentations by Extension Educator Rick Kersbergen who will discuss new ideas related to harvesting haylage that will certainly stimulate your thoughts about how and when you cut your grass and legume forages this summer. Gary Anderson, Dairy Specialist will lead a discussion on feeding small grain silages and how best to manage your rations with these types of feed.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP) and Unity Barn Raisers through a Conservation Partnership Initiative. Registration will begin at 10:00 with presentations starting at 10:30.

Pre-registration is requested and lunch is included in the \$8.00 per person registration fee. Call Sonia at 1-800-287-1426 to request registration materials and an agenda before April 3rd.

Blueberry Project Signals Start of International Collaborations

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas (207) 581-3124; David Munson (207) 581-3777

A cooperative project between UMaine and University of Milan researchers to examine the bioavailability of anthocyanins from blueberries may signal the start of an ongoing relationship between the two universities.

The project, led by UMaine Professor of Clinical Nutrition Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, sprang from a visit to the University of Milan's Department of Food and Microbiological Sciences and Technology (DiSTAM) last September. With funding provided by UMaine's Office of the Vice President for Research, Klimis-Zacas and assistant professor of food microbiology Vivian Wu toured DiSTAM's facilities and presented the research interests and current projects of UMaine's Nutrition and Food Science faculty, with the intention of establishing academic relationships and encouraging research collaborations between the two universities.

Klimis-Zacas hopes to expand the current collaboration in the coming months to include research into the role blueberries can play in protecting DNA molecules from damage, and plans to return to the University of Milan during her upcoming sabbatical to develop a microcirculation model for studying the effects of diabetes on the eye.

The September visit came at the request of Maine First Lady Karen Baldacci, who is working with Governor John Baldacci to encourage trade between the state of Maine and Italy. The faculty of both institutions were enthusiastic about the possibility of additional collaborations in the future.

Call for Research Volunteers

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Dave Munson at (207) 581-3777

Volunteers Needed for New Study of a Potential Natural Treatment for Bacteria Associated with Stomach Ulcers.

If you are a non-smoker between the ages of 18 and 80 who is experiencing stomach discomfort and related symptoms, you may be eligible to participate in a new study conducted by the University of Maine Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition. If you are currently being treated for a *Helicobacter pylori* infection, you are not eligible to participate in this study. If you are pregnant, or have phenylketonuria (a disorder present at birth), you are not eligible due to the use of aspartame (an artificial sweetener used in Equal

Ancient Gourd Offers New View of Early Americans

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Dan Sandweiss (207) 581-1889; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Decades of B movies and sensationalized TV specials have helped paint a picture of North America's first explorers that is decidedly less than flattering. Often depicted as knuckle-dragging, club-toting brutes, they fit well with the notion that that the first humans to set foot in the Americas got there by chance, wandering along behind a herd of eastbound mammoths or displaced musk oxen.

New research may finally be giving the continent's earliest immigrants some credit, however. While Hollywood would have us believe that early man simply took a wrong turn in ancient Siberia, a unique combination of archeology and genetics has shown that the first Americans not only knew they were coming, they planned for the trip.

Working with colleagues from the Smithsonian Institution, Massey University, and Harvard University, UMaine researcher Dan Sandweiss has helped to uncover new evidence that suggests that the first groups of humans to make their way across the vast expanse of ice and snow connecting Asia to North America were not just hunter-gathers but farmers as well, who had enough forethought to bring along seeds of at least one cultivated crop.

"We discovered three pieces of bottle gourd in a 9,000-year-old fishing site in southern Peru, which is the earliest known sample of the plant in South America," said Sandweiss. "Results of genetic testing of the seeds from our sample and others suggests that the plant was carried across from Asia by Paleo-Indians more than 10,000 years ago."

Used by early peoples for everything from canteens to fishing floats, cultivated bottle gourds have a tough, waterproof rind that makes them very useful as a container crop. The remains of domesticated bottle gourds have been found in archeological sites around the world, but until recently the wild ancestor of the plant had not been found. Discovered in central Africa in the late 1990s, the wild plant provided researchers with much-needed genetic information that was used to test some of the earlier theories concerning how the plant became so widespread.

One of the most widely held theories for the global range of the gourd was that the buoyant fruit simply floated across the Atlantic, arriving on the eastern shores of the Americas after a long trip from Africa. Unlike that of the tougher

domestic bottle gourd, the rind of the wild version proved too weak for such a trip, however, further complicating the mystery of the American gourds' origins. Genetic testing of the oldest samples of bottle gourd seeds showed that the New World samples all descended from an Asian variety rather than African stock, making the "immigrant farmer" theory the most plausible thus far.

"The evidence suggests that bottle gourds were the earliest plant to be cultivated in the Americas - that they were brought here from Asia by people who knew how to grow them and carried the seeds with them until they got far enough south of the ice to plant them," said Sandweiss. "It's speculation, but it seems to be the best fit."

The research was published in December 2005 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in an article by David L. Erickson of the National Museum of Natural History, Noreen Tuross of Harvard University, Bruce Smith of the Smithsonian Institution, Andrew C. Clarke of Massey University and Sandweiss.

International Health, Disabilities Authority to Speak at UMaine March 30

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Liz DePoy, 581-1469; Alan Parks, 581-1236; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - International health and disabilities expert Gary Albrecht, a Ph.D. professor emeritus of health policy administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago, will speak at UMaine Thursday, March 30.

Albrecht's talk, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Woolley Room of the Doris Twitchell Allen Village on Rangeley Road, is titled "Cross National Disability Policy: Economics, Culture and Citizenship as Components of Social Welfare."

The lecture is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served and audience members are invited to bring a bag lunch.

Albrecht's appearance is sponsored by the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies, Maine's Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service located in Corbett Hall and supported by the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

Albrecht specializes in international health and disability issues and social welfare policy. Educated at Fordham, Columbia and Emory universities, he has served on the faculties of Emory and Northwestern universities. He has led international scientific delegations to several countries, including the former Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

His research covers disability, social welfare and health issues in France, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Poland, Iran, Yugoslavia, Kenya and the United States.

Albrecht also will teach a class in the Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Curriculum on Wednesday evening, March 29, and will speak at a breakfast meeting for policy faculty on Thursday.

Additional information about Albrecht's appearance on campus can be obtained by calling (207) 581-1084 or 800-203-6957 (v/tty). Information also is available on the Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies website at www.ccids.umaine.edu.

Spring Art Camp April 18 - 20, 2006

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352

BANGOR -- Brighten up your child's April Vacation at the 2nd annual UMMA Spring Art Camp, an in-depth art experience held at the University of Maine Museum of Art. This spring, art campers will take an artistic journey around the world as they explore sacred places through the photography of Japanese-born artist Kenro Izu. From Angkor Wat to Easter Island to Stonehenge, Izu's art will be the inspiration for the children's artistic investigations.

The camp will run from Tuesday, April 18 through Thursday, April 20 for students in grades 2 -- 4. Sessions will be held from 8:30 -- 12:00 in the Museum's classroom offering direct access to the exhibitions in the galleries. The cost is \$70 for the week and includes all supplies. Please call the Museum to learn more about this exciting program and to register your child.

CAMP INFORMATION:

Time: 8:30 -- 12:00

Dates: April 18 - 20

Grades: 2nd - 4th Grade

Tuition: \$70 (includes all materials)

Instructor: Gina Platt, Education Coordinator

Please call 561.3350 for more information and to register your child.

\$6.9 Million Federal Grant Will Build Bioproducts Research at UMaine, Will Help Industry Create Forest Biorefinery

28 Mar 2006

Contact: Hemant Pendse, professor and chair of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, managing director of UMaine's NSF EPSCoR forest bioproducts project, (207) 581-2290; Steve Shaler, professor of Wood Science Technology, associate director of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center,

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine announced today that it has been awarded a \$6.9 million research infrastructure improvement grant from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF EPSCoR).

UMaine is investing a 50 percent match (\$3.45 million) for this project through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, the state's appropriation for university R&D, bringing the total investment to \$10.35 million.

With the grant, for years 2006-2009, UMaine will conduct forest bioproduct research and development in fields including engineering, chemistry, biology, forest ecology and economics. This university-based science will enable Maine's private sector to build an integrated forest biorefinery -- one that allows mills to create new, high-margin revenue streams while maintaining their traditional production. This could be the first integrated forest biorefinery in the country.

"The University of Maine is the economic catalyst for the state," Gov. John Baldacci said, addressing a crowd in UMaine's Jenness Hall. "With this federal grant and the University match, Maine will again propel forward in the critical research and development that will enable us to better compete in the 21st Century Economy."

UMaine's method of biorefining entails extracting chemicals from wood chips or shavings before the wood is further processed into pulp or oriented strand board (OSB), preserving the quality of the wood for further processing. The

chemicals extracted could be sold as new feedstocks or used on-site to manufacture materials such as fuel ethanol, plastics and specialty chemicals such as coatings -- virtually everything currently made with oil.

The grant will create immediate openings for about 45 people, including three new faculty members to be recruited to UMaine. Post-doctoral positions will also be created, as will jobs for graduate and undergraduate students, administrative and technical staff. UMaine will also purchase the most advanced equipment necessary to conduct the research quickly and efficiently.

UMaine's laboratory research will help make this process viable on a commercial scale, and it will help determine what kinds of products could be made from the material and how to make them. It will also explore new products never before considered from wood, including nanotechnology components.

The grant will enable UMaine to work with faculty and students from the University of Southern Maine and other public and private universities and colleges in the state to combine research efforts and to provide educational opportunities throughout the state. In all, the research of more than 25 faculty positions at UMaine and at other schools will be supported by this grant.

UMaine will also partner with leaders from the private sector, including land owners, pulp and paper, building materials and chemical industries. Other regional, national and international partners will also participate.

"By taking this 'holistic' approach, Maine has the opportunity to build on our current knowledge and history in forest-based industries to build a vibrant, globally competitive, brand new industry that's more efficient, high-valued and also environmentally cleaner," says Hemant Pendse, managing director of the NSF EPSCoR grant and chair of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at UMaine.

A key aspect of this research is understanding how to sustain forest lands.

"Healthier forests will have higher value; higher-valued forests will receive closer, better ecological attention," says Stephen Shaler, scientific director of the EPSCoR grant and a professor of Wood Sciences Technology at UMaine.

By incorporating specialists in forest-specific research, as well as researchers in resource economics and policy, and by working with land owners, UMaine can help find ways to make forests healthier. This, in turn, will help Maine, Northeast and U.S. foresters compete in the marketplace with cheaper wood supplied by other countries.

"The work we do with the NSF EPSCoR grant will establish Maine as the most advanced and knowledgeable place in the world for forest bioproduct work. It will also teach us how to be better stewards of our forests, and it will lessen our dependence on petroleum," Shaler says.

"This is truly a significant day for the University of Maine, for the state of Maine, and for the people of Maine," says UMaine president Robert Kennedy.

"UMaine has a responsibility to be the harbinger of scientific discovery and, in many ways, the bellwether of economic prosperity. This project enables UMaine to ensure our role in the state's economy with the creation of new jobs, with the ability to perform research and develop ideas that create and enhance industry and with unique, highly relevant educational opportunities."

Using the infrastructure created by the grant, "discussions are underway to determine the feasibility of establishing a Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI) at UMaine, which would involve basic and applied research and industry interests," says UMaine vice president for research Michael Eckardt.

The FBRI would be a permanent program that will advance this research long after the grant expires.

This is the largest NSF EPSCoR grant awarded to UMaine. Other UMaine programs that began with NSF EPSCoR grants include the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC) and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST). Since opening in June 2000, the AEWC has attracted more than \$36 million in grants and

contracts. In 2004, LASST opened its "Class 1,000 Clean Room" and an expansion of other laboratories that have attracted millions of dollars in federal grants.

UMaine to Host Friday Drug Prevention Conference

29 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571; Lauri Sidelko at 581-1432

ORONO -- Students, professional staff members and faculty members from Maine colleges and universities, along with their community partners, will visit the University of Maine on Friday March 31 for the 2006 Higher Education Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Conference. The conference, which begins with registration at 9 a.m., will be held in UMaine's Memorial Union.

Programming begins at 9:45 a.m. with "Time to Save Lives!," a keynote address by Paul Chabot, a former municipal and federal drug enforcement law officer who himself went through a drug rehab program as a young man. He will talk about trends in substance abuse and the need for social change and leadership to help solve the related problems.

Morning breakout sessions will focus on the increasing issues related to methamphetamine use and the ways in which student affairs professionals can work with law enforcement officers to reduce substance abuse and its effects on students and university communities. After lunch, breakout sessions will feature discussion of "Technology's Impact on Student Substance Abuse and Related Risk Behaviors" and on trends in drug use, distribution and manufacturing.

The conference will end at 2:30 p.m. A full schedule is online at <http://www.maineheapp.org/Library/whatsnew/upcoming1.html>.

Beers Named UMaine Development Vice President

30 Mar 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO - Barbara Beers, a 1974 University of Maine graduate with more than 20 years of experience in fundraising and related activities, has been named vice-president for development at her alma mater. In this role, Beers will oversee UMaine's development activities, which include private fundraising, donor relations, corporate support and stewardship.

In January, UMaine began a six-year, \$150 million private fundraising campaign. It is the largest such initiative in UMaine history.

"Barbara is exceptionally qualified to assume this important role," says UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy. "Her experience and leadership skills will enable us to meet the considerable challenges that come with a campaign of this magnitude and importance for UMaine's future."

Beers was chosen following a national search.

Since 1992, Beers has been president of Beers Associates, Consultants in Philanthropy, a Bangor-based fundraising firm that provided development services to Maine non-profit organizations. She was a Maine Public Broadcasting Network executive for 15 years, serving first as director of public information and for ten years as director of development.

Her consulting work has included guiding campaigns for several colleges, including the University of Maine's campaign to raise funds to build the Buchanan Alumni House -- the largest single fundraising effort in UMaine's history. Her firm was also responsible for the fundraising that brought the National Folk Festival to Bangor and provided an endowment for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

"We have been very impressed with Barbara's organizational skills and her deep knowledge of all that goes into managing a successful fundraising operation," Kennedy says. "We are off to a very good start, due in no small part to Barbara's ability to help develop the foundation that will continue to serve us well as the campaign continues."

As of the end of February, year-to-year giving managed by UMaine's development office was up by 60 percent, and has already exceeded the Fiscal Year 2005 total.

Kennedy also credits Beers for her work in helping to recruit and organize the campaign's volunteer committee, which is helping to guide the university's management of the campaign.

Beers lives in Dixmont and is married to Dennis Beers. They have two sons, Nicholas and Thomas.

Aspiring Teachers to Hear Maine Learning Results Update

30 Mar 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The Maine Learning Results will be highlighted at the sixth annual Math and Science Future Teachers conference, taking place Saturday, April 1 at the University of Maine. The free event is open to Maine college and university students and to people considering changing careers to enter the math and science teaching profession.

The conference kicks off at 9 a.m. with a keynote address, "Departing from the 1997 Maine Learning Results? What the review of the state's Learning Standards means for teachers and students," by Anita Bernhardt, Maine Department of Education distinguished educator for the review of the Maine Learning Results. Bernhardt will also conduct a focus group session where conference participants can consider and provide feedback for revising the math and science section of the state's learning standards.

Throughout the day, experienced educators will present workshops ranging from Dollar Store Science -- How to Meet the Maine Science Learning Results on a Budget to Math Emerges as Big Hurdle for Teenagers! -- How to Make Math and Science Exciting and Meaningful.

Other sessions will examine timely issues such as changing state and federal policies and regulations, and strategies for developing and managing classroom expectations, responsibilities and rules. Presenters represent public and private schools, UMaine, the University of Maine at Machias, the state Department of Education and the Challenger Learning Center of Maine.

The conference is sponsored by the Maine Mathematics-Science Teaching Excellence Collaborative, the National Science Foundation, and the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, and Student Government.

Media are welcome to attend the April 1 conference and interview participants. Events run from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Administration Building. Media contacts at the conference are: Laura Bolstridge, president of the UMaine Math and Science Future Teachers Club; Amie Gellen, UMaine math educator and club advisor; and Robert Franzosa, UMaine professor of mathematics.

UMMA Art Exhibition April 14 - July 1, 2006

30 Mar 2006

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352

The University of Maine Museum of Art presents the work of renowned contemporary photographer Kenro Izu and a portrait exhibition drawn from the museum's permanent collection.

Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art presents the first comprehensive museum exhibition of the work of internationally acclaimed photographer Kenro Izu in America. This exhibition was organized and is circulated by the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.

Kenro Izu: Sacred Places

Kenro Izu: Sacred Places showcases a magnificent ensemble of more than 50 of Izu's photographs of spiritual landmarks in Asia, the Pacific islands, Egypt, and Europe, many of which have never before been exhibited. Clark Worswick, curator of photography for the Peabody Essex Museum, has long been a supporter and advocate of Izu's art. He says the Japanese-born photographer works in the tradition of both the great 19th century landscape photographers and early 20th century pictorialists. As such, his work is right at home at the Peabody Essex, which holds the largest collection of 19th century photographs of Asia.

"With Izu you have a photographer who is working against the grain in contemporary photography in a classical form. I think he is one of the greatest photographers working in the world today," says Worswick.

Among Izu's most renowned images are those of the ancient Angkor temples in Cambodia. The photographs capture the stunningly beautiful Khmer architectural monuments and the natural landscape surrounding--and in some case destroying-- them. These select photographs were first shown to the public in 1998 in a special exhibition at the Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts, Kenro Izu: Light over Ancient Angkor. Izu's photography of Angkor also brought him close to the suffering of Cambodian children whose limbs had been shattered by land mines. He helped establish a free-care hospital for those children, and has supported it with proceeds from the sale of his photographs through an organization he set up called Friends without a Border.

Kenro Izu was born in Osaka in 1949 and attended the Nihon University College of Art before moving to New York City in the early 1970s. After discovering Francis Frith's mammoth plate photographs of Egypt, he traveled there in 1979 to photograph the pyramids and other ancient monuments, and the Egyptian landscape. He later photographed holy sites in Syria, Jordan, England, Scotland, Mexico, and Easter Island. A practicing Buddhist, Izu has most recently focused his energies on Buddhist and Hindu sites in India, Cambodia, Burma, Vietnam, and Indonesia. Besides those of Angkor, Kenro Izu: Sacred Places will include sumptuous photographs of hallowed monuments in Borobodur, Indonesia; Agra and Varanasi in India; and Mandalay, Burma.

Many of these sites face destruction, either through neglect or overexposure to human contact. The importance of documenting the beauty of such sites was reinforced recently with the destruction of ancient Buddhist sculptures in Afghanistan. But Izu's photography is not a staid documentation of endangered architecture. "The important thing is the spirituality of these monuments," he once told an interviewer. "It's not just a photograph of a building. The building has to be there to photograph but the atmosphere is what I'm interested in. The building is a representation of that spiritual

side."

Izu succeeds in capturing that spiritual essence of the places he photographs through his exacting approach to his craft, says Worswick. The camera he uses is enormous, producing 14 x 20 inch negatives. Izu meticulously pores over every image and takes out visual elements he believes are unnecessary. During a three-day period Izu prints his negatives into positive images on fine watercolor paper hand-coated with a platinum emulsion. The resulting platinum/palladium prints "are among the most finely crafted prints ever made in the history of the photographic medium," adds Worswick.

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Former Vice Presidential Candidate Edwards to Address UMaine Graduates in May

04 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- John Edwards, the former North Carolina senator who was the vice presidential candidate on the 2004 Democratic ticket, will be the featured speaker at the University of Maine's 204th Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 13.

UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy will preside over the event, at which approximately 1,750 people will receive UMaine degrees.

Edwards made a campaign appearance at UMaine in September 2004. He currently serves as director of the Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At that university, Edwards is designated as a University Professor and he holds an Alumni Distinguished Professorship.

"We look forward to welcoming Sen. Edwards back to the University of Maine," says Kennedy. "His experience in national politics, combined with his current work at UNC's Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity give Sen. Edwards unique perspectives on issues that are important to members of our community. Commencement is always a memorable event, and having such an accomplished speaker will make this year's all the more noteworthy."

UMaine has adopted a new commencement schedule, which calls for two separate ceremonies to be held inside Harold Alfond Sports Arena. During the 10:30 a.m. ceremony, degrees will be awarded to graduates from the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning. An afternoon ceremony, to begin at 2:30, will be for graduates from the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering (including the School of Engineering Technology); and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. Graduate students will attend the same ceremony as undergraduates from the same college.

Edwards will speak at both ceremonies.

For the past ten years, the Harold Alfond Sports Stadium has been the primary commencement venue, allowing for a single outdoor ceremony. Inclement weather has forced five of those ceremonies inside to Alfond Arena, causing officials to review procedures during this academic year. To simplify the planning process, ensure graduate and spectator comfort, and to save money, a proposal to schedule two indoor ceremonies from the outset has been adopted.

As has been the custom at UMaine for several years, the names of students participating in commencement will be announced as they take the stage to receive their diplomas. Kennedy and UMaine Provost John Mahon will continue the tradition of shaking hands with the graduating students receiving degrees.

Maine Masque to Present Two Mamet Plays April 12-15

04 Apr 2006

Contact: Jason Poisson, (207) 432-1111; Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704

ORONO -- The Maine Masque, the University of Maine's student-run theatre group, will present a pair of David Mamet plays from April 12-15 in Hauck Auditorium.

The plays -- Mamet's rough-edged breakthrough "American Buffalo" and his newer, classically coarse "Boston Marriage" -- will be presented in succession, trading off the stage during the four-night run. The productions are entirely student-produced, featuring student direction, design and performance.

"American Buffalo" tells the story of three men on the fringe of society whose friendships unravel during a botched robbery attempt. The play features the rapid-fire, crude dialogue that Mamet has made his trademark. "Boston Marriage," on the other hand, is set in a Victorian drawing room, with a wit reminiscent of Oscar Wilde's works. In this play, two high society women find their own relationship threatened when each woman's affair -- one with a woman, the other with a man -- is revealed.

For director Allen Adams of Levant, the shows, despite dissimilar settings and styles, are about the dark side of the American dream.

"These plays illustrate the drastic lengths that people will go to in order to achieve material success," Adams says. "It's easy to forget how large a part selfishness plays in any 'rags-to-riches' story. Doing them in repertory allows us to see two very different sets of people striving for essentially the same dream from very different directions."

The "American Buffalo" cast consists of Dustin Sleight of Orono, Joshua Snowden of Brewer and Matthew Bessette of Readfield. "Boston Marriage" features Rebecca Bailey of Orono, Starsha Schiller of Calais and Nadiya Dragan, a graduate student from Ukraine.

Brianna Geary of Henniker, N.H., is assistant director. Scenic designer Justin Elie of Auburn has created a rotating set to support the two shows, and lighting designer Kurt Krohne of Buckfield has a different atmosphere for each setting. Annette Sohns of Bucksport costumed both shows. Victoria Comer of Sorrento is sound designer, and Michael Thayer of Winslow is coordinating props. Joanne Pineau of Jay serves as technical director. Jason Poisson of North Berwick leads a stage management team of five people.

The show runs April 12-15, starting at 7:30 p.m. each night. "American Buffalo" will be presented April 12 and April 15, and will also follow April 14's performance of "Boston Marriage." "Boston Marriage" will be performed April 13 and 14, as well as a performance after "Buffalo" on April 15. Admission is \$6 for one show, \$8 for both. Free for UMaine students with MaineCard.

UMaine Marketing Association Wins National Awards

06 Apr 2006

Contact: Prof. Omar Khan, 581-1949; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The American Marketing Association (AMA) student chapter at the Maine Business School won two intercollegiate awards at the AMA's Annual International Collegiate Conference in Orlando, Fla. on March 23-25.

As important as the national recognition, however, is what it reflects -- the remarkable turnaround of a student

marketing organization threatened with extinction until three years ago.

The chapter received one of five Outstanding Community Service awards and one of three Best Revitalized Chapter awards, recognizing the resurgence of the group as a whole and the services it provides to the surrounding communities.

"These awards become even more noteworthy when you consider that there were over 140 chapters competing at the conference this year," says Omar Khan, assistant professor of marketing, who accompanied the chapter's representatives to this year's conference.

"These are, indeed, exciting times for the AMA chapter at the Maine Business School," Khan says, "and these laurels will only encourage our membership and executive board to further enhance our position in the AMA chapter standings internationally, as well as to be even more effective and productive on campus and the surrounding community."

Advised by Khan and associate marketing professors Harold Daniel and Kim McKeage, the association's goals include advancing professional development, fundraising, communication, community service, recruitment and operations skills for students interested in marketing. In its early years, the association has had a larger membership, but dwindled during the 1990s.

In three years, the organization successfully "rebranded" itself, clarified its goals and became better organized, says Elizabeth Duran of Saco, a senior business administration major. She has been the association president for the last two years and vice president the previous year.

Association members now hold regular weekly meetings, work on charitable fundraisers and projects, hold professional development programs and actively recruit new members. The organization has grown from four members three years ago to more than 30 now, Duran says.

Among the community service activities the group has engaged in recently were volunteering for two Children's Miracle Network fundraisers, the Enchanted Forest last Halloween and the Maine Business School broomball game at Alford Arena in February, and a campus blood drive. On April 10, the association will hold its annual business etiquette dinner, and later in the month will host a group of area high school students for "shadow day," to introduce visiting high school students to the college environment and the business school.

Duran and several other UMaine students attended annual student AMA conference last year and this year, but this was the first year Duran submitted the group's annual plan and report for competition.

The conference awards, Khan says, provide increased leverage for the chapter in its membership and sponsorship drives, and "are a direct result of the hard work of the entire AMA chapter's executive board under the leadership of student Elizabeth Duran and the savvy and longstanding efforts of co-advisors Kim McKeage and Harold Daniel," he says.

Other officers of the UMaine student AMA chapter include: Shuja Masood, a business administration major from Lewiston, vice president; Michele Hutchins, a senior marketing major from Orrington, treasurer; Meaghan Cashman, a business administration major from Marblehead, Mass., communications director; Carolyn Paige Madeira, a business major from Rangeley, community service executive; and Angela Clark, a senior business major from Canandaigua, N.Y., recruitment director and social chair.

Duran credits the resurgence of the association to leadership from the business school and dedication of the student members. "We have an amazing dean who is always willing to support our projects and the faculty is exceptional," she says.

06 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Educational technology and the University of Maine's desire to provide college courses to outstanding Maine high school students are combined in Acadam-e, Maine's first early college distance education program. Beginning in the fall semester of 2006, UMaine will offer 14 courses, for credit, to Maine high school seniors. The courses will be delivered through a combination of on-line, videoconferencing and in-person teaching techniques.

"Year in and year out, we are impressed by the Maine high school graduates who enroll at UMaine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "They demonstrate strong academic capabilities, reflective of Maine's outstanding public and private education programs. We are pleased to offer this new program, which will give those students an opportunity to access UMaine courses -- taught by some of our outstanding faculty members -- while they are still in high school."

Courses come from five broad areas: mathematics, sciences, arts, humanities and social sciences. Among the 14 scheduled courses are Calculus, Introduction to Geology, General Psychology, Survey of Dramatic Literature and Fundamentals of Music.

"Maine's public schools, particularly since the beginning of the Laptop Initiative four years ago, have evolved to the point where the use of technology in teaching and learning is both commonplace and highly effective," says Robert White, associate provost and dean of UMaine's Division of Lifelong Learning. "Those students will be entirely comfortable with the distance learning techniques involved in Acadam-e, and they will contribute to the educational process for all involved."

While most of the Acadam-e students will be enrolled at public high schools, White also notes that home-schooled students, as well as those in adult education diploma programs, GED programs or independent high schools will be eligible for the program.

"Acadam-e is particularly exciting because it will create access to educational opportunities for students all around Maine, particularly those in rural areas," says Colleen Quint, executive director of the Mitchell Institute. "These courses will be particularly interesting and effective because they will be delivered in a format that's engaging and of high educational value." The Mitchell Institute, based in Portland, administers scholarship programs and works on initiatives that create access to higher education for Maine students.

There are 560 student slots in the Acadam-e program. High school principals, guidance counselors and teachers will nominate qualified students, according to a formula based on school enrollment (five slots for the largest schools, gradually declining to three slots for small schools). UMaine Acadam-e scholarships will cover one-half the tuition for each course. Total tuition for an in-state student, based on current tuition levels, is \$552 for a three-credit course, \$736 for a four-credit course. In addition, UMaine will waive associated student fees. A National Governor's Association grant will cover the remaining tuition costs for 160 Acadam-e students, and the tuition balance for an additional 25 students will be covered by an Excellence in Education grant from Bank of America.

Students will take the courses at a time and location of their choice, where the online technology is available. Some courses will also feature in-person instruction, in settings like laboratories. Those course elements will be offered either on campus in Orono or at regional locations

"We have designed these courses so that there will be real and significant interaction between the students and the instructors," White says. "We want to do all we can to assure student success, culminating in a strong start to the participants' college studies."

State officials, noting Maine's rural nature and its changing demographics, are paying close attention to the uses of technology in the delivery of education around Maine. Education Commissioner Susan Gendron says that technology helps to assure that "equal opportunities (are provided for every student."

In a videotaped interview for the Maine Distance Learning Project, Gendron spoke in detail about the educational benefits that derive from the use of technology to teach and learn.

"In order to be competitive in an international market, our students must have these resources available to them," Gendron said.

It is anticipated that students will receive dual credit for Acadam-e courses, earning both high school and UMaine credit. Each semester will begin with a day-long orientation for all students at UMaine.

UMaine sent a letter about this program to all Maine high school principals late last week.

April 2006 UMaine Events Calendar

06 Apr 2006

Contact: George Manlove at (207) 581-3756

ws film; part of the Peace and Justice Film Series

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Boston Marriage," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium: A Maine Masque production, directed by Allen Adams; part of the School of Performing Arts season

Symphonic and Concert Bands in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season; students free, public fee

April 14

School of Marine Sciences Seminar, 11 a.m., 354 Aubert Hall, with Collin Roesler, senior research scientist, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series

Boston Marriage and American Buffalo, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium: A Maine Masque production, directed by Allen Adams; part of the School of Performing Arts season

April 15

13th Annual UMaine Cooperative Extension Spring Garden Celebration, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Unity College: Choose from 12 workshops offered by UMaine Extension and MOFGA specialists, local growers and more; topics range from conserving home energy and backyard birding to flower arranging; donations collected benefit the Waldo County student scholarship fund; registration required (1-800-287-1426)~

Collegiate Chorale in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season; students free, public fee

American Buffalo and Boston Marriage, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium: A Maine Masque production, directed by Allen Adams; part of the School of Performing Arts season

April 16

Whitewater Kayaking - Level 2, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., MaineBound Adventure Center: A Level 2 clinic for those that have logged some personal time on the river and feel comfortable with basic skills -- catching eddies, making ferries, rolling in current and reading and running class III whitewater; fee

April 19

Ozzie and Harriet, Same-Sex Marriage and the Culture Wars: LGBT Families in Maine, 1960-Present, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m., ~Coe Room, Memorial Union, with Howard Solomon, scholar in residence in the in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Collection, Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, University at Southern Maine; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

The John M. Rezendes Visiting Scholar in Ethics Lecture, 4 p.m.- 6 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, with Lily Yeh, professor of art and art history at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, and cofounder and emeritus executive director of the Village of Arts and Humanities

An Evening with Augusten Burroughs: Stories from a Remarkable Life

, 7 p.m., MCA; fee

April 20

Wes McNair, 3 p.m.-4 p.m., Fogler Library Special Collections Room: Award-winning poet Wes McNair reads and discusses his work

Elements of Chinese Gardens, 4 p.m., MCA: An illustrated lecture by photographer Marta Morse, whose images are on display in a Hudson Museum exhibit

The Penobscot River and Her People: Wading through the Politics of Power, Pollution and Protection, 4 p.m., Fogler Library University Club: A film and panel presentation with John Banks, James Francis and Angela Reed

Poetry Reading by Mary Caponegro, 4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, part of the New Writing Series

April 21

Introduction to Whitewater Kayaking, 8 a.m., MaineBound Adventure Center: Whitewater paddling is one of the fastest growing sports around, and for good reason. It's fun. The beauty of the river, the thrill of the rapids, the feeling of accomplishment at the end of the day -- this is your chance to get started with an amazing experience; fee

School Size and the "Power Rating" of Poverty: Substantive Finding or Statistical Artifact?, 2 p.m.-3 p.m., 159 Shibles Hall, with Ted Coladarci, professor of education, a College of Education and Human Development Research Colloquium

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Broadway Nights," 7:30 p.m., April 21-22, Minsky Recital Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season; students free, public free

April 22

Acadia Rock Climbing -- Intro / Level 1: Leaving MaineBound Adventure Center at 7 a.m. for two days of climbing and one night camping on spectacular Mt. Dessert Island; participants will enjoy the quality granite that the Island has to offer as they cover and review the basics of a challenging and rewarding sport. On Saturday, participants spend the day top-roping at Otter Cliffs or South Bubble. Climbs rated from 5.6 - 5.10; registration required (581-1794); fee

Whitewater Creek Clinic, 8 a.m., MaineBound Adventure Center: So you've run the Souadabscook, you've done the Kenduskeag, maybe you've even aced the Dead, the Deerfield or the Kennebec rivers. Some of the best whitewater that

Maine has to offer runs only in the spring; fee

April 23

Zubengelgenubi's Magic Sky, 2 p.m., UMaine Jordan Planetarium: A planetarium show for grades K-1; students free, public fee

Inspiration and Consolation, 3 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall: A performance of "Ein Deutsches Requiem, op. 45" by Brahms, performed by the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, with guest soloists soprano Kelley Nassief and baritone Zheng Zhou, and the University of Maine Singers and Oratorio Society; students free, public fee

April 24

TIAA-CREF Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture, 4 p.m.-6 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, with Daniel Christensen, class of 1977, chief executive officer of the Hancock Natural Resource Group, and president of Hancock Timber Resource Group

April 25

Percussion Ensemble in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season; students free, public fee

April 26

Spring into a Healthy Weight, 12:10 p.m.-1:30 p.m., ~Coe Room, Memorial Union, with Joanna Fichthorn; part of the Nutrition Lunch 'n' Learn Series

Creating Community Through Diversity: Bangor Area Clergy Talk about Shared Leadership, Collaboration and Consensus, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m., ~Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Grace Bartlett, United Methodist Church; Elaine Hewes, Lutheran Church; Elaine Peresluha, Unitarian Universalist Church; Constance Wells, United Church of Christ; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Belay Seminar, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., MaineBound Adventure Center; a free seminar for beginners who would like to learn how to belay at the Maine Bound Adventure Center and for experienced climbers who simply need an orientation to our facility; registration required (581-1794)~

April 27

A Pilot Study to Evaluate the Potential for River Water Toxicity to Increase Following Dam Removal, 12 p.m.-1 p.m., 105 Norman Smith Hall, with Adria Elskus, USGS/Department of Biological Sciences; offered by the Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research

Writing a Winning Proposal for a Maine Technology Institute (MTI) Development Award, 12 p.m.-2 p.m., Target Technology Center, 20 Godfrey Drive Orono: Gain an understanding of the proposal review process; read the Development Award Request for Proposals (RFP) posted on the MTI website (www.mainetechnology.org) and come with questions

Queer Forgetting, 7 p.m., 110 Little Hall, with Judith Halberstam, English professor and director of the Center for Feminist Research, University of Southern California, and author of "In a Queer Time and Place"

Jazz Ensemble in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season; students free, public fee

April 28

Introduction to Sea Kayaking, 8 a.m., Maine Bound Center/Wallace Pool: A course that provides the framework for

beginning paddlers wanting to explore protected coastal waters. An enthusiastic and qualified staff will start with you in the pool covering basic strokes and rescues, wet exits and appropriate equipment use and fit; registration required (581-1794); fee~

School of Marine Sciences Seminar, 11 a.m., 345 Aubert Hall, with Matthew Litvak, director of the Centre for Coastal Studies and Aquaculture, University of New Brunswick; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series

April 29

Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, a School of Performing Arts performance; students free, public fee

April 30

Athena Consort and Black Bear Men's Chorus in Concert, 2 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; students free, public fee

Ongoing Activities/Events

Kenro Izu: Sacred Places, 4/14/2006 - 7/1/2006; Norumbega Hall, Bangor, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit

Arts of Asia: The Sacred and the Secular, 3/1/2006 - 6/23/2006, a Hudson Museum exhibit

Embedded Quilts from the Iraq War, 2/1/2006 - 5/30/2006, a Hudson Museum exhibit

Five Landscape Paintings, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006; Norumbega Hall, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit featuring summer landscapes by artists Lois Dodd, Rackstraw Downes, April Gornik, Vaino Kola and Neil Welliver

Lauren Fensterstock, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006; Norumbega Hall, Bangor, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit

Maine Women: Living on the Land, 3/29/2006 - 5/30/2006, a Hudson Museum exhibit

Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs, 1/20/2006 - 4/8/2006, Norumbega Hall, Bangor; A University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit

Yin and Yang: Elements of Chinese Gardens, 1/2/2006 - 6/23/2006, a Hudson Museum exhibit

UMaine Alum to Give Talk on Ultra-High Speed Communications

07 Apr 2006

Contact: Steve Adam (207) 581-2262; David Munson (207) 581-3777

Since receiving his master's degree from UMaine's Electrical Engineering program in 1975, Dr. Dev Vrat Gupta has practically written the book on high-speed communications. By combining his groundbreaking with his knack for business development, Gupta has become one of the most respected and successful electrical engineers in the field of wireless communications.

Scheduled for April 11 at 10 a.m., Gupta's lecture will explore the use of millimeter wave bands for use in the rapidly growing and increasingly competitive high-speed communications market.

Having developed numerous new product lines for communication and networking technology firms, Gupta has been a pioneer in the development of reliable communication systems for business and home applications, and is currently breaking new ground as the Founder, Chair, and CEO of Newlans, a corporation focused on the development of reliable

tools for implementing millimeter wave based networks.

As more and more users link more and more appliances to existing communications networks, the need for more bandwidth has become critical. The use of millimeter wave bands offers a promising new direction that could revolutionize high-speed communications technology.

Gupta's talk will provide an overview of his current research aimed at developing first generation millimeter wave communications technologies. Part of the UMaine Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series, the lecture will be held in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall on the UMaine Orono campus. Seating is limited, and should be reserved by calling (207) 581-2224.

UMaine's Tanglewood Camp Announces New Programs

10 Apr 2006

Contact: Lawrence Hollins, Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center at (207) 789-5862 LINCOLNVILLE -- Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, a program of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is marking twenty-five years of service to Maine youth and adults this summer with two new programs. Eco-Venture offers teens a focus on community action through environmental awareness, and includes a daylong hiking adventure through Camden Hills State Park from Camden to Lincolnville. Counselor Apprentice offers teens 16 and older an opportunity to support the camp's counselors, take on leadership roles, and participate in the residential camp activities. Tanglewood has provided a camp experience to an estimated 80,000 Maine residents since 1982. "Keys to the success of the camp have been its breadth of offerings, affordability and accessibility," says Les Hyde, Extension professor of forestry and environmental education. "This 25th summer for Tanglewood is going to be a celebration for all of our supporters, campers, and staff members that have helped make the camp what it is today." Tanglewood's Day Camp program offers one- or two-week sessions for 6- to 8-year-olds. Residential Camp provides one or two weeks of outdoor-based recreation and education for 8- to 14-year-olds. Older teens enjoy off-site Discovery Expeditions and Leadership Programs. Tanglewood has two campuses to house its environmentally focused program facilities. The Lincolnville campus, on the Ducktrap River in a beautiful, forested 940-acre section of Camden Hills State Park, was built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps as a National Recreation Area. The Blueberry Cove campus, with two beaches and 1,400 feet of Tenants Harbor shore frontage, has its own history as the first interracial, co-educational summer camp in Maine. For more information, or to receive a catalogue of this year's programs, call (207) 789-5868.

iPod Professor Delivers Lectures to Go

10 Apr 2006

Contact: Wayne Ingalls, 581- 1990; Justin Hafford, 581-3173; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - When you see Wayne Ingalls' accounting students around the University of Maine campus with iPods and earphones, it's entirely possible they'll be doing their homework, not just listening to the latest music from John Mayer or Sheryl Crow.

Ingalls, a lecturer in the Maine Business School, has crossed the divide between entertainment technology and education. He has become one of the first college teachers to take his lectures to students, by creating a way for students to download audio-visual lectures to their computers and iPods.

In an informal recording studio in the basement of Chadbourne Hall, Ingalls scripted and video-taped lectures for Principles of Management Accounting and Principles of Financial Accounting, condensing 60-70 minute classes to succinct 35-minute "movies," complete with real time sound, video and Power Point charts and graphs that automatically advance as his lectures progress.

"What I like about this is the lectures are concise," Ingalls says. "I cover the same amount of material as in the classroom, there are no errors, and the students can get to it 24/7 from anywhere in the world, anywhere they can get access to the Internet, and they don't even need the Internet."

Students watching the lectures on the iPod Video's 2

Business Etiquette Dinner Hones Good Manners, Professionalism

10 Apr 2006

Contact: Omar Khan, 581-1949; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO - Usually, it is parents who badger the kids about good table manners, but at UMaine, a student group in the Maine Business School is asking for a little help with etiquette. They know they'll soon be swapping cut-offs, flip flops and Frisbees for more formal attire and job interviews that most likely will include a meal. Members of the UMaine chapter of the American Marketing Association are holding their annual business etiquette dinner Monday, April 10, at 5 p.m. at Stodder Commons, a four-course event that starts with a before-dinner reception and covers business etiquette, table manners and a range of discussions about the dos and don'ts of a business lunch or dinner. Begun a year or two ago, business etiquette dinner experiences on campus are gaining in popularity and attendance. The UMaine Career Center in conjunction with the Alumni Association and Crisanne Blackie, who advises students in pre-law and health professions programs, organized formal dinners for future lawyers and healthcare professionals. The business school students decided to hold their own business etiquette dinner last year. Shuja Masood, vice president of the campus AMA organization, and Courtney Hagenaars, vice-president-elect, say they would like to offer their annual etiquette dinner to the entire campus in the future. "It's a really valuable experience for the students," Hagenaars says. "So many times we focus on other aspects of business, but so many times we also find ourselves doing business or in some other situation in a restaurant or dining setting. Obviously, even in an interview situation or at a business meeting, people are not just listening to what you're saying; they're going to be looking at how you present yourself." Good or bad table manners can reveal a lot about a prospective employee, employer or business associate, says Anastasia Harper, cafeteria supervisor for catering in Dining Services at UMaine. "Employers want someone who can present themselves well with clients," she says. When facing a dinner setting with six to eight different knives, forks, spoons and plates, multiple courses, students should be able to concentrate on conversation rather than worrying about which fork to use, Harper says. The dinners are good practice. Students may be aware of formal rules of etiquette, but they don't necessarily follow them in their casual daily lives, adds Cathy Marquez, assistant director of employer relations at the UMaine Career. Harper and Marquez will make etiquette presentations to the 35 or so students who will attend Monday's dinner. "We'll talk about how to leave the table gracefully and topics of conversation that are appropriate and what to order to make your dinner less eventful," Marquez says. "You probably wouldn't want to order shellfish while someone is evaluating you for potential employment. It's best to order something that's simple and easy to eat." Elizabeth Duran, president of the campus AMA chapter, recalls last year's etiquette dinner as being "awesome." Many students know their manners, but some, she notes, still "ask where do I put my knife, where do I put my fork? Last year we learned that you're not supposed to season your steak until you've tried it, because it shows that you're not a big risk-taker," she says. The AMA etiquette dinner "became an instant hit with students and faculty, providing a fun lesson in first impressions, attire, dining, table manners and socializing in a formal setting," says Omar Khan, assistant professor of marketing and co-advisor of the UMaine AMA chapter. "With so much of business activity today being conducted outside of the office in such social settings, I think this type of lesson is invaluable. "It's amazing how far just presentation of your person and personality can take you up the corporate ladder, and skills in etiquette are not something we intend on forgetting while we instill substance in our graduates through rigorous academics," he says. "It is both substance and presentation that make an employee or manager stand out in the competitive business world." For students and others who want to learn more about dining etiquette, the Career Center has provided this [PowerPoint presentation](#).

UMaine Athletic Director Finalists Selected

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Three seasoned administrators, each of whom is currently in charge of a Division I athletics program, are finalists for the University of Maine's Director of Athletics position. The three finalists were chosen from a national search that began in late 2005.

"The candidate pool was exceptionally strong, which says good things about the way people around the country perceive the University of Maine and its athletic department," says Prof. David Townsend, director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences and chair of the search committee. "The three finalists each have an impressive record of achievement in managing athletic programs within institutions of higher education. They are experienced, accomplished and eminently capable of leading the Black Bear program."

Each finalist will visit UMaine for an extensive series of interviews and meetings. Listed alphabetically, they are:

Robert Fournier

, currently director of athletics at Wayne State University, a position he has held since 2000. Fournier was at the Mid-American Conference from 1995-2000, serving at various times as associate commissioner, senior associate commissioner and acting commissioner. He also served as assistant to the athletic director and athletic director at the University of Akron, where he was also an assistant professor of communication. Fournier, who is an attorney, has a bachelor's degree from Defiance College, a master's from the University of Akron and a law degree from the University of Akron.

Fournier's UMaine visit will include an open meeting with members of UMaine's Athletic Advisory Board and interested members of the community on Wednesday April 19 at 10 a.m. in Dexter Lounge. He will be available for media interviews from 11 a.m.-11:45 on the same day, also in Dexter Lounge.

Blake James

, interim athletic director at the University of Maine, a role he assumed in July of 2005. James arrived at UMaine in Oct. 2003, in the role of senior associate athletic director. He spent the prior year as director of athletic development at Providence College. He also worked from 1985 through October of 1997 and from October of 1998 through early 2001 at the University of Miami, serving as director of ticket sales, director of major gifts/corporate sale and director of athletic development. Between stints at Miami, James was athletic development officer at the University of Nebraska. He has a bachelor's degree from Mankato State University and a master's from St. Thomas University.

James' media availability is scheduled for 11-11:45 a.m. on Thursday April 27 at Dexter Lounge. He will meet with the Athletic Advisory Board and interested community members from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on April 27, also in Dexter Lounge.

Frank Pergolizzi

, the director of athletics at Southeastern Louisiana University, where he has been since 2000. Pergolizzi's prior experience includes two years as director of athletics at East Tennessee State University and nine years at Saint Francis College in Loretto, Penn. At Saint Francis, Pergolizzi was assistant athletic director for eight months before taking over as A.D. He was also the head football coach at Saint Francis for six seasons.

Pergolizzi will be available for news interviews on Friday, April 28 from 11-11:45 a.m. in Dexter Lounge. He will also meet with the UMaine Athletic Advisory Board and interested community members from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on that day, also in Dexter Lounge.

After the campus visits are completed, the search committee will develop a recommendation for UMaine President Robert Kennedy, who will make the final hiring decision.

Child Welfare Conference Explores Dangers of Substance Abuse in the Home on Social Workers, Others Who Visit

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Nancy Kelly, (207) 581-2398; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO - When parents and others who care for children use illegal substances, abuse alcohol, misuse medications or manufacture illegal drugs in their homes, they put at risk more people than just children.

Substance abuse in the home also can endanger social workers, family support workers, nurses, psychologists, police and many others who enter such homes.

The 12th Annual Child Welfare Conference, being co-sponsored by the University of Maine's School of Social Work on April 27, will address some of those dangers and related issues. This year's conference, "Children, Families and Substance Abuse: From Recognition to Intervention," is being held at the Bangor Civic Center. Other co-sponsors are Eastern Maine Medical Center and the KidsPeace National Centers for Kids in Crisis. The public is welcome to attend.

The conference will offer tips on how professionals and first responders who assist at-risk families, or others who work with children, can determine if a member of a family is affected by illegal drugs, alcohol or prescription medications, and how that can affect the family. A special workshop also will take up the hazards of entering a home-based methamphetamine lab in a residence, and signs that a home may have one.

In addition, participants will learn about the impact of substance addiction on children and parents, how to recognize drugs and drug-use paraphernalia and signs of drug impairment or intoxication. A simulated drug-impairment dramatization will help illustrate some of these issues.

Of particular interest for social workers are the community implications of the emergence of methadone clinics, latest research on drug-affected babies and new legislation governing hospital policies when staff members find evidence of legal and illegal drugs in new mothers or infants, says Nancy Kelly, a UMaine lecturer and field coordinator of social work.

Though public, the conference is geared toward social workers and other professionals who work with children and families. It is expected to attract as many as 250 people, Kelly says.

"One thing that makes this conference unique is the community collaboration," Kelly says.

The conference planning committee is composed of health care providers from the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect committee of EMMC, a member of the Bangor Police Department, social workers from various community agencies, including the Penobscot Community Health Center, the state Department of Health and Human Services, KidsPeace and faculty from the UMaine.

Conference presenters include Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe and Bangor Police Sgt. Tom Reagan, a drug recognition education trainer.

Workshop panelists include: Pat Kimball, executive director of Wellspring Inc.; Brent Scobie, Acadia Hospital Substance Abuse Services; Marie Hayes, associate UMaine psychology professor; Dr. Kumar Akilesh, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at EMMC; Dr. Paul Tisher from Acadia Hospital; Special Agent Ralph Bridges from the Maine Drug Enforcement Task Force; and Renee Bunker, assistant U.S. Attorney and coordinator of the Maine Meth Watch program.

Registration deadline is April 23. For cost and other conference details, call the UMaine School of Social Work at (207) 581-2398.

UMaine Professor Unlocks the Secrets of Water in Confined Spaces

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Jayendran Rasaiah (207) 581-1179; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Life itself depends on the simple combination of two hydrogen atoms with one oxygen, yet there is still so much that we do not understand about the amazing compound known as water. By examining the behavior of water molecules as they move through tiny openings, a team of UMaine researchers hopes to gain insights that may help us better understand everything from cloud formation to the behavior of proteins.

UMaine professor Jayendran C. Rasaiah will continue his groundbreaking research of the complex and often surprising behavior of water molecules as they move through the tiniest of spaces thanks to a \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. Using advanced computer simulations made possible by the UMaine Supercomputer Center, Rasaiah and his students will pursue multiple projects that they hope will not only explain the physical properties of water in tiny spaces, but provide insight into how the movement of water in such spaces is controlled by chemical modification or electric fields.

UMaine graduate students Hao Yin and Aparna Waghe and a postdoctoral fellow will utilize a portion of the NSF grant to continue their work with Rasaiah that examines the structure and effects of temperature on water in carbon nanotubes and cavities.

UMaine Engineer Takes Aim at Cancer

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Michael Mason (207) 581-2344; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Often extremely small and notoriously difficult to detect, small tumors, rogue groups of cancerous cells and tiny pieces of larger excised tumors are a serious and potentially lethal threat to cancer patients even after surgery has been performed. Using an amazingly tiny new technology being perfected by researchers at UMaine, however, doctors may soon be able to pinpoint the location of even the most miniscule masses of cancerous tissue while the patient is still on the operating table.

UMaine Chemical and Biological Engineering professor Michael Mason is developing an improved screening technique in which nanometer-sized metal particles are used to "tag" cancer cells, allowing surgeons to identify cancerous tissue more quickly and efficiently. Guided by attached biomolecules that are attracted to specific molecules found on the surface of cancer cells, the metallic nanoparticles are optically active, capable of pointing out miniscule particles of cancer using microscopes readily available in nearly every hospital. The technique is sensitive enough to reveal even a single cancer cell.

The metallic nanoparticles being used in the research have several advantages over traditional probes and cancer screening techniques, allowing more precise and potentially more rapid screenings using a variety of methods, and could dramatically reduce surgery times. The technique could prove particularly useful in treating abdominal tumors such as those found in the pancreas and liver, which often look very similar to nearby healthy tissue.

Mason and his team will provide the foundation for cellular and tissue trials that will be conducted later this year at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center by Dr. Peter Allen. The cancer center provided Mason with the initial funding for the research.

Upcoming Science-related Events

12 Apr 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

1. Klemperer to Discuss Intermolecular Forces
2. College of Education and Human Development Research Discussion Topics Announced
3. The Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Molecular Biology Spring 2006 Hitchner Seminar Series
4. Mitchell Center Spring 2006 Seminar Series

Klemperer to Discuss Intermolecular Forces

Contact: Leisa Preble (207) 581-1016; David Munson (207) 581-3777

The UMaine Department of Physics and Astronomy and the UMaine Department of Chemistry will present William Klemperer, Erving Research Professor of Chemistry at Harvard University.

Klemperer's talk, "Making and Breaking of Weak Bonds: Intermolecular Forces" is scheduled for Friday, April 14, 2006 at 3:10 p.m. in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium at the Engineering and Science Research Building on the UMaine campus in Orono, Maine.

William Klemperer is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and recipient of numerous awards from the American Chemical Society and the American Physical Society, as well as of the Faraday Medal, Royal Society of Chemistry. His research interests lie in the area of molecular structure, energy transfer, and intermolecular forces, and he helped to found the field of interstellar chemistry.

2. College of Education and Human Development Research Discussion Topics Announced

ORONO, Maine -- The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium begins Friday, Feb. 10. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or recently completed -- and to learn from each other.

The seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

The colloquium series includes:

April 21 -- "School size and the 'power rating' of poverty: Substantive finding or statistical artifact?"

May 5 -- "Growth rates in aerobic performance by children in grades 4-8," Steve Butterfield, Bob Lehnhard, Craig Mason.

May 19 -- "Comparing instructional modes: One element of physics education research," Michael Wittmann.

3. The Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Molecular Biology Spring 2006 Hitchner Seminar Series.

Seminars are on FRIDAY at 2:10 PM in 203 Hitchner Hall (unless noted otherwise).

April 14

Rolf Karlstrom University of Massachusetts Amherst

"Hedgehog signaling, neural patterning, and axon guidance in the zebrafish forebrain."

April 28

Craig Malbon School of Medicine SUNY/Stony Brook

"G proteins in Development: not getting "frazzled" about Frizzleds".

May 5

Craig Montel The Johns Hopkins University Medical School

"TRP channels: roles in sensory signaling and in health and disease"

4. Mitchell Center Spring 2006 Seminar Series

Seminars are sponsored by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research and the UMaine Program in Ecology and Environmental Science. Seminars are free and open to all.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

Continued Development of a Fish Assemblage Assessment Method for Non-Wadeable Large Rivers in Maine and New England: 2002-2005

Speaker: Chris O. Yoder, Research Director, Center for Applied Bioassessment and Biocriteria, Midwest Biodiversity Institute.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2006

Does Descaling Impair Osmoregulation in Seawater-Challenged Atlantic Salmon Smolts with Gayle Zydlewski, School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine,

and

Sturgeon Habitat in the Lower Penobscot River with Stephen Fernandes, University of Maine.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006

Water Quality of the Penobscot River

Barry Mower, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

All seminars take place at 12 noon in Norman Smith Hall at the UMaine campus in Orono. If you need parking permits and/or directions, please contact Ruth Hallsworth at 207/581-3196. Additional information is available at

http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/outreach/lecture_series.htm.

UMaine Engineering Hosts Robot Competition and Conference

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Ali Abedi (207) 581-2231; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - A high-tech collection of robotic super-mice will come together on the UMaine campus April 29, ready to pit the engineering and programming skills of some of the country's brightest young minds against one another in the 2006 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Student Conference and Micro-mouse Competition.

More than 150 participants from across the Northeast have already registered for this year's event, which boasts the largest attendance ever for the competition. This is the first time in more than 50 years of IEEE membership that UMaine has hosted the event, which is typically held on larger campuses in New York and Massachusetts.

"We worked very hard to get the conference here this year. We have a great school, but people don't really know about the excellent facilities that we have here," said UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering professor and IEEE Maine Communications/Computer Society Chair Ali Abedi. "Having the conference here will provide some good publicity for IEEE and for UMaine as well. Its a win-win situation."

Utilizing widespread support for the event both on and off campus, Abedi was able to raise enough money to pay for travel, lodging, and meals for every participant, as well as boost the prize money for the top three competitors in each category.

Open to undergraduates in engineering programs across the Northeast, the competition is divided into a more theoretical written competition and a hands-on challenge where students must build an intelligent robotic mouse. Utilizing environmental sensors and artificial intelligence programming, the mouse must find the shortest way to the center of an elaborate maze and back without any outside assistance from its creators.

Abedi hopes that the conference and its associated facility tours and campus activities will convey the strengths of UMaine's engineering facilities and faculty to the undergraduate competitors and reinforce the college's reputation as a top choice for graduate study in engineering. IEEE is the largest professional organization in the world, boasting more than 400,000 members worldwide. More than 20 UMaine students belong to the UMaine chapter.

Engineering Technology Professor Receives National Award

12 Apr 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine School of Engineering Technology Professor Raymond Hintz has been awarded the 2006 Earl J. Fennel Award from the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. The award is presented each year to recognize outstanding contributions to ACSM and the surveying and mapping profession.

Hintz, a longtime UMaine professor and program coordinator for the Surveying Engineering Technology Program, will be presented with the award on April 22 at the 2006 ACSM conference in Orlando. Nominated by his colleagues and students, Hintz was an excellent choice for the award, according to ACSM Executive Director Curt Sumner.

"The nomination packages are reviewed by a selection committee who selects one recipient each year," said Sumner. "[Hintz's] many endorsements and history of achievement made him an excellent candidate."

UMaine's Kate Beard and Knud Hermansen are past recipients of the Earle J. Fennel Award.

UMaine Nutrition Research Featured at Biology Conference

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Mary Ellen Camire (207) 581-1627; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Nine faculty, staff and students from the University of Maine's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition presented their research at the Experimental Biology Annual Meeting in San Francisco, April 1-5. Their research addressed major health issues such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity and osteoporosis.

Graduate student Jennifer Roy, along with professor Adrienne White, presented her master's thesis about factors influencing healthy weight maintenance in college males. Her findings can be used when developing obesity prevention programs to assuage the rising rates of obesity. Roy is among the first to report the use of online focus groups as a research methodology.

Graduate student Monica Nelson presented her work at the conference as well. Working with UMaine's Susan Sullivan, Eastern Maine Medical Center dietitian Lynn Bolduc and surgeon Michelle Toder of Northeast Surgery in Bangor, Nelson evaluated the vitamin D status of persons who underwent gastric bypass surgery for obesity. The researchers found that 89% of the patients had deficient vitamin D levels prior to surgery and that supplementation with doses greater than the Dietary Reference Intake was needed to improve vitamin D status after surgery.

Graduate student Amy Henderson of Ellsworth and Professor Mary Ellen Camire presented the findings of Henderson's thesis project, in which persons at-risk for developing Type 2 diabetes were asked to eat two servings of red or purple fruit daily. The anthocyanin pigments in the fruit are antioxidants that may influence several risk factors for diabetes. Another graduate student, Ann Barker, has worked with Camire to study the impact of two servings of wild blueberries daily on the health of persons with high LDL, or bad, cholesterol.

UMaine Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition Dorothy Klimis-Zacas and her post-doctoral fellow Anastasia Z. Kalea presented their research regarding the effect of the trace element manganese on the function of arteries, with collaborators Dale Schuschke and Patrick D. Harris of the University of Louisville. Their work establishes for the first time that manganese is critical for preventing constriction of the blood vessels when they are exposed to stress and has implications with regard to cardiovascular disease. Also from Klimis-Zacas' research laboratory, graduate student Kateryna Clark presented her thesis project on the effect of dietary blueberries on regulation of vasomotor tone in spontaneously hypertensive animals with colleagues Kalea, Schuschke and Harris. The researchers used spontaneously hypertensive animals and were the first to observe that wild blueberry diets fed for eight weeks resulted in greater arterial vasorelaxation than spontaneously hypertensive animals fed control diets. These findings suggest that wild blueberries affect cell-signaling pathways in hypertension and their consumption may result in blood pressure regulation.

Study Shows Wild Blueberries May Reduce Risk of Cardiovascular Disease

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas (207) 581-3124; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Maine's wild blueberries continue to prove that they are more than just a splash of tasty color in muffins and pancakes. New research conducted at UMaine suggests that a serving of wild blueberries can go a long way toward a healthier heart.

Research conducted by UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition professor Dorothy Klimis-Zacas and her team, postdoctoral fellow Anastasia Z. Kalea, and graduate student Kate Clark shows that compounds found in wild blueberries may reduce the chances of cardiovascular disease by altering the composition and structure of arterial components, which may prevent LDL cholesterol from binding to the blood vessels. By decreasing the vulnerability of the arterial wall to stress and inflammation, antioxidants found in wild blueberries may help to create a less favorable environment for fatty buildup that can cause reduced blood flow and heart attacks.

The study, published in a recent issue of the Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry, is the latest of several research projects by Klimis-Zacas that examine the effects of colorful, antioxidant-rich foods like wild blueberries on human health. Her previous work has shown that Maine's favorite berry may also play a role in helping the arteries relax and may have an effect in reducing hypertension when eaten regularly.

Klimis-Zacas sees a healthy diet as the key to overall good health.

"Our investigation of the potential of natural antioxidants like those found in wild blueberries to combat the precursors to cardiovascular disease is part of a broader research movement to gain better understanding of the role of diet in disease prevention," said Klimis-Zacas.

UMaine Phi Beta Kappa Ceremony Thursday April 13

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- William A. Klemperer, Erving Research Professor of Chemistry at Harvard University, will be the guest speaker at the 2006 University of Maine Phi Beta Kappa initiation. The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, at 3 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House.

Klemperer, a National Academy of Sciences member who has received numerous awards from the American Chemical Society and the American Physical Society, as well as the Faraday Medal from the Royal Society of Chemistry, will talk about "The Chemistry of the Universe" during his Thursday lecture.

On Friday April 14, at a Dept. of Physics and Astronomy/Dept. of Chemistry Colloquium, Klemperer will give a talk, "Making and Breaking of Weak Bonds: Intermolecular Forces." The Friday lecture is set for 3:10 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, in the Engineering and Science Research Building.

UMaine is home to one of only four Phi Beta Kappa chapters in Maine. The others are at Bowdoin, Bates, and Colby. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and best known academic honor society in the country.

Klemperer's talks, which are part of UMaine's Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Program, are free and is open to the public.

Authority in Counseling Increasingly Diverse Populations to Speak at UMaine

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Jeff Hecker, 581-2033; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Gayle Iwamasa, Ph.D., a Visiting Libra Diversity Professor at UMaine and an internationally recognized expert on ethnic approaches to researching psychological difficulties among Asian Americans, and a full range of other diversity issues, will be on campus for her second Libra visit April 24-26 to speak with several university groups and present at a colloquium.

The public is invited to the colloquium from 3-4 p.m. on Monday, April 24 in the D.P. Corbett Business Building. The talk will feature Iwamasa's National Institutes of Mental Health funded study examining successful aging among Japanese Americans. Most research on the impact of aging has centered on physical health and Iwamasa's research is

part of a growing trend in examining psychological well-being.

Iwamasa was invited to UMaine to consult with faculty and students in the clinical psychology Ph.D. program on diversity issues. While visiting, she has also been working with the UMaine psychology department this semester to share her insights with faculty members about acculturation, ethnic identity, women's issues and professional clinical training. The goal is to make faculty, clinicians, psychology students and others more aware of issues arising in working with or teaching diverse populations, according to Douglas Nangle, professor of psychology and director of the clinical training program.

Hosted by the psychology department, Iwamasa will meet with several groups of faculty, the UMaine Counseling Center staff, student members of the Psi Chi honor society, and a Women in the Sciences Luncheon audience hosted by the Women's Resource Center.

An associate professor in the community-clinical psychology Ph.D. program in DePaul University's Department of Psychology, Iwamasa also serves as a consultant for the National Minority AIDS Council, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Council of Healthcare Advisors, among others. She developed DePaul's first undergraduate Asian American psychology course and, at the undergraduate level, she teaches multicultural psychology and abnormal psychology.

Iwamasa's research and clinical interests are in ethnic minority mental health, with a specific expertise in Asian American mental health. Her research on the mental health of Japanese American older adults has been funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health.

She also is a fellow in the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minorities and the American Psychological Association, and winner of that association's Emerging Professional Award for Distinguished Contribution. Among her many publications are two recent books, "Culturally Diverse Mental Health: The Challenges of Research and Resistance" and "Culturally Responsive Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy: Assessment, Practice and Supervision."

"Culturally Diverse Mental Health" addresses the challenge of counseling diverse populations including multiracial, homosexual, geriatric and disabled individuals. Because many clients of diverse backgrounds have entered therapy in the last two decades, old models of treatment based on the mainstream majority no longer apply. The book compiled the latest research on a widely diverse number of populations and addresses the issue of resistance to the need to modify old practices to apply to newer populations.

UMaine Center on Aging Announces Spring 2006 Education Series

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3716; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's Spring 2006 Professional Excellence in Geriatrics Series (PEGS), sponsored by the University of Maine Center on Aging, runs April 25-May 22 in Augusta, Bangor, Belfast, Orono, Presque Isle and Portland.

The series, in combination with the Geriatric Organizational Leadership Development Seminar (GOLD), is a series geared to anyone with an interest in geriatric care who wants to learn about a multitude of new theories and clinical approaches to improve quality of life and care for the aging. The program will appeal to the public, in addition to professionals who work with aging populations.

Topics for this year's series form a diverse group of issues that face agencies, organizations and individuals who work with aging populations, according to Len Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging.

"This year's series addresses some of the most perplexing and challenging issues confronting older adults," Kaye says,

"from alcohol and substance abuse to fraud and identity theft to navigating through the complexities of Medicare prescription drug coverage. We believe that all of these issues can best be dealt with when older adults have well trained health care professionals to turn to for guidance and support."

Other session topics include marketing to Boomers, an introduction to handheld personal digital assistants and avoiding staff burnout.

The series is being presented throughout Maine to offer the sessions to a broad audience. Co-sponsors include: the University of Maine at Augusta; the Maine Geriatric Education Center and College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of New England; University of Maine at Presque Isle; Dirigo Pines in Orono; and Arden Training & Consulting in Bernard, Maine.

Participants receive a certificate of attendance for each individual session and they may register by email, fax or regular mail. More information, including driving directions, is available on the Internet at www.mainecenteronaging.org.

The \$40 registration fee for the workshop covers materials, certificate of attendance, and refreshments. Registration is \$35 for Maine Gerontological Society members and \$20 for students. Discounts are available for all day registrations and walk-in registrations are welcome. For more information or to register, call UMaine's Center on Aging at (207) 581-3617.

The Center on Aging is an interdisciplinary research center affiliated with the University of Maine's School of Social Work and College of Business, Public Policy and Health. The Center's mission is to promote and facilitate activities on aging in the areas of education, research and evaluation, and community service, in order to maximize the quality of life of older citizens and their families in Maine and beyond.

The schedule of program sessions is as follows:

Session 1

"Targeting the Boomer Consumer" - Tuesday, April 25, 9-11:30 a.m., Room 180, Jewett Hall, University of Maine at Augusta (UMA), with Susan Kaye, principal at Packard Judd Kay Strategic Marketing Group in Bangor and an instructor with the Maine Business School.

Session 2

"ABCD: A Community Development Model" - April 25, 1-3:30 p.m., UMA Student Technology Center, Room 138, with: Anne Schink, program/training/disability officer, Maine Commission for Community Service; Larry Ullian, director of program development, Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine; and Jane Brissette, coordinator, patient navigator program, American Cancer Society.

Session 3

"Introduction to Handhelds and Epocrates" - April 27, 1-3:30 p.m., Room 233, Blewett Hall, University of New England's Westbrook College Campus, with Rorie Lee.

Session 4

"Fraud and Identify Theft" - Tuesday, May 2, 2-4:30 p.m., Room 132, College Center, University College Bangor, with Michael Desrosiers, a U.S. Postal inspector, and James McCarthy, assistant U.S. Attorney.

Session 5

"End of Life Issues - Let's Talk About Them" - May 3, 1-3:30 p.m., Campus Center, University of Maine at Presque Isle, with Kim-Anne Perkins, a licensed clinical social worker and director of the UMPI School of Social Work.

Session 6

"Music Therapy and the Elderly" - Monday, May 15, 9-11:30 a.m., Penobscot Room, The Inn, Dirigo Pines, Orono, with Alan Wittenberg, a certified music therapist.

Session 7

"Thematic Programming for Dementia" - May 15, 1-3:30 p.m., Penobscot Room, The Inn, Dirigo Pines, with Barbara Fisher, registered nurse and director of My Friend's Place, an adult day program in Bangor.

Session 8

"Substance Abuse in Elders" - Friday, May 19, 1-3:30 p.m., College Center Ballroom, University College Bangor, with Brent Scobie, a licensed clinical social worker and clinical supervisor, Acadia Hospital Substance Abuse Services.

Session 9

"Avoiding Staff Burnout" - Monday, May 22, 9-11:30 a.m., Hutchinson Center, Belfast, with Lesa Andreasen, president, BLF Inc.

Session 10

"Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D)" - May 22, 1-3:30 p.m., Hutchinson Center, with: Mary Walsh, manager of community programs, Office of Elder Services; Anne Smith, Medicare rights advocate, Legal Services for the Elderly; and Susan Lutton, director of litigation and training, Legal Services for the Elderly.

Bird Flu Basics from UMaine Cooperative Extension

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Extension Veterinarian Scott Haskell, 207-581-2789

ORONO--Two new fact sheets published by University of Maine Cooperative Extension affirm that avian influenza (AI) currently represents little risk to humans, and that eating properly handled and cooked poultry is safe.

"What Maine People Need to Know About Avian Influenza" provides information for the general public about the nature of avian influenza, the safety of poultry products and considerations when traveling internationally. "What Small Flock Owners in Maine Need to Know About Avian Influenza" explains how people with backyard poultry flocks can keep their birds healthy, lists the symptoms of AI in infected birds, and provides instructions for having mortalities tested by the UMaine Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Avian influenza (AI) viruses are classified as either "low-path" (low pathogenicity) or "high-path" (high pathogenicity). Low-path AI causes only mild illness, if any, while high-path AI causes severe illness and often death among infected birds. The H5N1 strain that has caused outbreaks among birds overseas is a high-path strain. There is currently no H5N1 in North America.

An important point clarified by the Extension information is that avian flu is a disease of birds. It occurs naturally among birds and only some strains, such as H5N1, cause birds to become severely ill and die. While small numbers of people in Asia have contracted H5N1 from birds, human infection is rare. Those who have become infected have had prolonged contact with heavily contaminated environments. Extension Food Science Specialist Beth Calder helped put AI in context with this statistic: "Each year in the U.S. there are 76 million cases of food poisoning leading to 5000 deaths. There have been fewer than 200 confirmed human cases of avian influenza worldwide since 2003."

Both Extension fact sheets explain that properly prepared poultry is safe to eat. The U.S. government has taken steps to prevent infected birds or their products from entering the U.S. food supply. Poultry products that are cooked to safe temperatures--165 degrees F or 74 degrees C--are safe to eat regardless, as these temperatures destroy flu virus. Furthermore, infected hens usually stop laying eggs, so infected eggs are rare.

We are reminded by these publications that all citizens share the responsibility to be prepared for emergencies. Simple common sense dictates that everyone practice basic hygiene strategies such as frequent hand washing and staying home when ill, and each family maintain a home emergency kit with supplies for at least three to five days.

UMaine Extension

UMaine Volunteer Week Activities April 23-29

12 Apr 2006

Contact: Lynette Dexter at (207)581-1349

ORONO, Me. -- The local celebration of National Volunteer Week, scheduled this year for April 23-29, will focus attention on the extraordinary efforts that members of the University of Maine community put into making the world around them a better place.

A series of volunteer activities is scheduled for that week, including Volunteer Appreciation Night on Sunday April 30, beginning at 5 p.m. in the Bodwell Lounge at the Maine Center for the Arts. UMaine's Barbara Higgins Bodwell '45 Center for Service and Volunteerism oversees all the events, including Volunteer Appreciation Night, at which students, faculty members, staff members and volunteers will be recognized. The annual highlight is the presentation of the center's five awards; The Active Citizen Award, The Dean Lucy Award, The Community Partner Award, The Barbara Bodwell Award, and The Black Bear Volunteer Award.

"Service beyond self, a giving and caring attitude, will strengthen our bonds as human beings and help create the caring, kind, and compassionate communities we all want," says Robert Dana, UMaine's dean of students. "For me, a volunteer spirit sweeping across this campus and the country as a whole is the first and most important step to actually engaging others and beginning a process where we all treat each other with dignity, equity, and respect."

National Volunteer Week began in 1974, when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing an annual celebration of volunteering. Every president since has signed a proclamation promoting the week. This year's theme, "Volunteers Work Wonders" sets the stage for local and national organizations not only to applaud the efforts of volunteers but also to encourage others to get involved in helping strengthen their communities.

UMaine students and staff members will volunteer at the following area activities and events during National Volunteer Week:

Monday, April 24 - Ronald McDonald House Dinner 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 26 - BEANO at Orono Commons 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 27 - Showing of "Invisible Children," a documentary film, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 100, Corbett Business Building

Friday, April 28 - Powerhouse Teen Center, a teen support program in Bangor, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 29 - Orono Land Trust Clean Up 9 a.m.-12 noon

Recent studies on volunteers have shown that over 64 million Americans have volunteered their time -- nearly 29 percent of the population.

National Volunteer Week seeks to inspire by example, honoring the service of our country's most committed volunteers and sharing their achievements to encourage more Americans to volunteer.

Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace Offers Small Businesses New Avenues to Success

18 Apr 2006

Contact: Louis Bassano, Extension Educator, (207) 255-3345 or (800) 287-1542, David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Small business people and entrepreneurs will find answers and inspiration related to everything from downtown revitalization to inventory control at the 2006 Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace, to be held at Washington County Community College in Calais April 21 and 22.

Launched four years ago by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the event continues to grow.

Governor John Baldacci is scheduled to deliver the keynote address at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 22. This year, the WCBCM will kick off the Governor's Regional Conferences on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (RCSBE) series. Thanks to its longtime success and overwhelming support in the local business community, the WCBCM is being used as a model for RCSBE conferences throughout the state.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and are critical to future growth. We have many tools to help business owners succeed, and we

need even more effort. It's great that this conference is located on the community college campus. Successful businesses need a strong connection

with our education system -- for business skills and a skilled workforce," explained Governor Baldacci.

This year's event will feature a variety of presentations and workshops aimed at strengthening the success and sustainability of small businesses in the Washington County area, offering attendees a broad range of workshops and networking opportunities. Organized and executed by a diverse group of public and private organizations, nonprofit groups and small business owners, the WCBCM has become the flagship for regional business conferences in the state under the guidance of University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

"One of the greatest strengths of the conference is the partnerships that have been built in putting the conference together," said Washington County Extension Educator Louis Bassano. While Bassano handed over the chair position on the WCBCM planning committee to a local small business owner for the first time this year, he and Business & Economics Specialist James McConnon continue to serve on the committee. "Cooperative Extension has provided guidance for the conference since it began in 2003, but the business community has taken a more and more active role in organizing and planning the event each year. It's great to see small businesses, financial institutions, business assistance agencies and Washington County Community College all working together to create something that really benefits Washington County."

While the WCBCM's list of more than two dozen workshops offer plenty of learning opportunities to entrepreneurs and small business owners, the conference's popular marketplace offers local residents a smorgasbord of products and services, all provided by their friends and neighbors in the larger Washington County community.

"The marketplace is a great way for Washington County small business people to get some exposure, and people look forward to buying products there," said Bassano.

Fostering the success of Maine's small businesses and so-called microbusinesses -- those that employ five people or less -- is of critical importance to the health of the state. According to a recent study conducted by UMaine Extension's McConnon, Maine ranks second only to Vermont in the percentage of its citizens employed in microbusinesses. More

than 20 percent of Maine's work force comes from microbusiness, providing employment for more than 160,000 Maine people.

In addition to the recognition the conference has received from the governor's office, the WCBCM has also received national recognition in the form of the 2005 Home-Based Business Champion award for Maine, presented by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

"Not only does this conference serve as a small business catalyst throughout the region," said McConnon. "It also helps to create a climate of entrepreneurship that signals that Washington County supports small businesses, both in getting them started and helping them to grow."

Additional information on the Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace may be found by contacting Louis Bassano, UMaine Cooperative Extension Educator in Washington County at (207) 255-3345 or 1-800-287-1542.

Mary D. Bird Receives Geddes Simpson Award

18 Apr 2006

Contact: Judy Round 581-5104

ORONO, Maine -- Mary Bird, instructor in science and environmental education in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, has received the Geddes Simpson Award for making a major contribution at the intersection of science and history. Bird will deliver the Geddes Simpson lecture at 3:15 p.m. April 26 in the Treat Room of the Buchanan Alumni House. This will be the fifth Simpson lecture to be presented at UMaine.

The award is supported by the Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Series Fund, which was established at the University of Maine Foundation by the family of Geddes Wilson Simpson. Simpson was a well-respected UMaine faculty member for 55 years, chair of the Entomology Department and editor at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. He retired from UMaine in 1974.

Bird's presentation is titled Living Lessons from a Dead Entomologist: The Educational Legacy of Edith Marion Patch. The public is welcome to attend.

Throughout her career, Bird has consistently sought to explore the complex social contexts within which humans use scientific strategies to make sense of the natural world. This career-long effort has prompted Bird to focus her current research on the work of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, an internationally renowned UMaine entomologist who successfully engaged nonscientists in exploring and understanding complex ecological concepts. Bird's doctoral dissertation on Edith Patch will be completed this year through the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

"I'm deeply honored to be named Simpson lecturer and I am excited to be given this opportunity to celebrate the ways in which University of Maine scientists have built bridges between science and culture," Bird says. "Americans have a fear-hate-love relationship with science, seeing it as the mysterious and threatening source of many of our problems, as well as the cure for these problems. Both Geddes Simpson and his predecessor, Edith Marion Patch, realized that by observing and investigating the natural world, we could come to understand better our place in it, our roles and responsibilities toward it. Patch and Simpson were respected and revered teachers because they engaged learners in the stories that nature has to tell us, and in the scientific processes required to understand those stories more fully. Educators today, working to increase scientific literacy, have much to learn from the practices of these outstanding individuals."

Past recipients include David C. Smith, Bird & Bird Professor Emeritus of American History; Kim Sebold, UMaine graduate and faculty member at the University of Maine at Presque Isle; Howard Segal, Adelaide C. & Alan L. Bird Professor of History and Susan Brawley, professor of Plant Biology.

National Award Honors Former Psychology Professor Michele Alexander

18 Apr 2006

Contact: Jeff Hecker, 581-2033; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- A national society of social scientists has created a special award in the name of former UMaine psychology professor Michele Alexander for educators who contribute to the psychological study of social issues. Alexander was a popular and dynamic teacher who died at age 37 in an automobile accident in December of 2003. The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), an organization of about 3,000 social scientists, students and others who share a common interest in research on the psychological aspects of significant social issues, recently created the Michele Alexander Early Career Award for Scholarship and Service. Alexander, a professor of social psychology, also maintained a rigorous research program in the field of social justice, prejudice, discrimination and the criminal justice system. She additionally was active in psychology department activities, on university committees and in various capacities with SPSSI and its affiliated Junior Scholars Professional Development task force, of which Alexander was head at the time of her death. "This is quite something," Jeffrey Hecker, psychology department chair, says of the award. "It's a national organization. For psychologists, it's the premier organization" to offer a psychological approach to matters of social justice. "This award is inspired in memory of Michele Alexander, a talented scholar and dedicated teacher who brought exceptional insight, passion and commitment to social issues research," a news release from the SPSSI says. "Michele also gave generously to students, colleagues and communities through voluntary service." The Alexander award will recognize early career scholars, considered junior scholars, who combine excellence in both scholarship and service. Nominees for the award should have received their Ph.D. within five years of the time of application. The award includes a complimentary one-year SPSSI membership, an honorary plaque and the opportunity to attend an SPSSI-sponsored event with the president of the organization, which provides the recipient with opportunities for networking and mentoring -- a special skill and commitment of Alexander's, according to SPSSI. Hecker recalls Alexander, who was a Glenburn resident, as being an inspirational teacher and energetic colleague who was immeasurably popular with students. UMaine created a scholarship program in Alexander's honor. Her colleagues at SPSSI also had great respect and admiration for Alexander. In proposing the establishment of the Alexander award, colleagues wrote that "Michele was a stellar example of a junior scholar who combined scholarship with service, much of which was devoted to and in behalf of SPSSI." Alexander served as program chair of the SPSSI convention in Ann Arbor, and co-edited a special issue of the "Journal of Social Issues" that stemmed from the conference. After serving as chair of the Theme Conference Committee, she was elected to the SPSSI Council, and took on the role of chair of the Junior Scholars Task Force. "In this position," the award proposal continues, "Michele focused her characteristic energy and ideas on providing support to the professional development of young scholars within SPSSI. The JSPD task force feels establishing a scholarship and service award is a fitting way to honor and preserve her memory." The 2006 deadline for the Michele Alexander award is May 1. Information about the award criteria can be found on the SPSSI website at <http://www.spssi.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewpage&pageid=716>

UMaine's Senior Skull Honor Society to Celebrate 100th Anniversary on May 6

19 Apr 2006

Contact: Bob Potts, Advisor, Senior Skull Honor (207) 581-1149 or 1-800-934-2586

ORONO -- Since 1906, the Senior Skull Honor Society has represented the best of the University of Maine. More than 1,250 UMaine graduates have been elected as Senior Skulls, based upon their leadership, character, campus and community involvement, and outstanding academic achievement. Over ten decades, these alumni have distinguished themselves as role models at Maine's flagship university.

Senior Skulls in the Class of 2006 will host the Senior Skull Centennial Celebration on Saturday, May 6, 2006. The short program will feature remarks by UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy and alumni leaders beginning at approximately 1 p.m.

In addition to the current class of Senior Skulls, alumni, campus administrators and others, the Centennial Celebration will be the first official function of the Senior Skull class of 2007, who will be inducted on Saturday, April 29 at Buchanan Alumni House.

The Senior Skulls have also announced the establishment an endowment through the University of Maine Foundation to mark their 100-year milestone. Several alumni have already stepped forward in support of the project, ensuring the group's continued presence on campus for many years to come.

Anyone Senior Skull alumni interested in attending the Centennial Celebration on May 6 is invited to call the group's advisor, Bob Potts, at (207) 581-1149. RSVP deadline is Friday, April 28, 2006. Questions pertaining to the Senior Skull Centennial Fund endowment may call the University of Maine Foundation at (207) 581-5100.

UMaine Performing Arts Students Presenting End of Semester Finale

20 Apr 2006

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; Ann Schmidt, 669-2523; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine School of Performing Arts is winding up the spring semester with a flare -- virtually back-to-back student performances over the next few weeks, capping a semester's work in various performing arts.

Between now and May 6, audiences can see chorus, jazz, orchestra, percussion, dance and comedy performed at Hauck Auditorium, Minsky Recital Hall or at the Maine Center for the Arts. Students are admitted free with a MaineCard; admission is \$6 for others.

"The productions represent artistic output from the two divisions of the School of Performing Arts, the Division of Music and the Division of Theater/Dance," says Stuart Marrs, music department chair. "Most of these productions are the culmination of student work for a course. The public performance is like a final exam for a course, though it is not graded, per se."

Several student musical ensembles or theatrical performances, like the Maine Steiners vocal group or the annual Maine Masque theater production, are separate from class work, but groups like the jazz ensemble, orchestra or other theater presentations often are associated with a for-credit class.

Those students performing as part of a class have worked over the semester with a performance group and a faculty director. The experience teaches students how to play with a group, how to perform publicly and, through observation, how to lead an ensemble. Marrs says many of the music students will become music teachers and will direct their own ensembles some day.

On April 21-22 at 7:30 p.m., the Music Division of the School of Performing Arts will present the seventh annual "Broadway Nights" production, featuring an evening of comedic favorites and standards from Broadway hits including "Rent," "Avenue Q," "Wicked," "My Fair Lady," "A Chorus Line," "Guys and Dolls," "Gypsy," "The Last Five Years" and more.

"It's a cabaret of great pieces," says Ann Schmidt, assistant director and performer. "We're also trying something new this year and throwing in some monologues and various pieces of straight acting as well. And for the first time ever, we are going to attempt to add some lighting into the performance."

This year's performance features Rebecca Bailey, Matt Bessette, Whitney Blethen, Abby Coulter, Janice Duy, Simon Ferland, Nestor Gonzalez, Kat Johnson, Crystal McArthur, Phaelon Odonnell, Toby Paradis, Jason Poisson, Dominic Sarcia, Anne Schmidt, Tom Sagona, Dominick Varney and Greg Young.

Following Broadway Nights are eight more productions from the music or theater divisions:

April 23, University Singers, Oratorio Society and BSO

University Singers and Oratorio Society will join Bangor Symphony Orchestra for "Inspiration and Consolation," a performance of "Ein Deutsches Requiem, op. 45" (German requiem) by Johannes Brahms. MCA, 3 p.m.

April 25, Percussion Ensemble

This ensemble draws its literature from a wide variety of styles from transcriptions to contemporary music for percussion. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 27, Jazz Ensemble

Big band at its best! The ensemble is devoted to performing a wide variety of challenging, significant, diversified, and contemporary literature within the genre. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 29, Orchestra Concert

The Orchestra will perform works from a standard repertoire. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 30, Athena Consort/Black Bear Men's Chorus

Sing into spring with the unique sounds of UMaine's women's and men's choruses. Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

May 4, Comedy Night - A Wild & Wacky World

Original comedy, written and performed by students, under the direction of Sandra Hardy, associate professor of theater. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

May 5&6, Dance Concert

A little bit of everything adds up to a lot of excitement on the Hauck stage, 7:30 p.m.

Ticket information for all performances is available by calling the MCA box office at 581-1755.

Page Farm & Home Museum Offers Rug Hooking Lecture April 25

20 Apr 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The Page Farm and Home Museum will host a free brown bag lunch lecture on rug hooking Tuesday, April 25, from 12-1 p.m.

Stacey Van Dyne of Orrington, a rug hooker for 32 years, will speak.

Van Dyne uses rug-hooking techniques to create works including floor coverings, chair seats, pictures, pins, magnets and ornaments. In addition to doing commission work, she exhibits at craft fairs and teaches classes at her Orrington home from September to May.

Van Dyne learned to hook rugs as a teen-ager, and hopes to encourage others, young and old, to learn more about and try their hand at the traditional art of rug hooking.

Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director, says she recently has noticed an increase in the number of hand-made hooked rugs for sale, and she suspects people value higher-quality, hand-crafted items more than disposable, inexpensive goods that don't last.

"We have hooked rugs in our collection that are over 100 years old," Henner says. "Try getting that kind of life out of products made for big box store sales. You can buy 30 bargain rugs during the course of your life, or one durable, hand-crafted work of art to last a lifetime."

Participants are invited to bring brown bag lunches. More information is available by calling Henner at 581-4100.

UMaine Students Lead the Charge in Research

21 Apr 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- From analyzing the molecular structure of new composite materials to developing new strategies for managing fish populations throughout the Gulf of Maine, UMaine student research is making a difference, contributing to a broad range of disciplines while adding depth and momentum to the students' professional training. UMaine will celebrate the achievements of its student researchers during the 2006 Student Research and Creative Achievement Week April 22 through April 30.

More than 3,000 graduate and undergraduate students participated in research projects at UMaine during this academic year. Nearly 300 of them will participate in Research and Creative Achievement Week. Offering overviews of their research through multimedia displays, posters, and lectures, the student presenters will help to promote UMaine research programs both on and off campus by strengthening the connections between researchers, sharing information, and reaching out to the public.

Student Research and Creative Achievement Week will include nearly 20 separate events, listed below.

Saturday, April 22

- College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Student Research Conference, Stodder Commons, *9am (Contact the College for details, 581-1954)*
- Broadway Nights, Minsky Recital Hall, *7:30pm (also April 21 at 7:30pm)**
Students perform a selection of songs straight from Broadway stages of yesterday and today.

Sunday, April 23

- University Singers, Oratorio Society and the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, Maine Center for the Arts, *3pm (Tickets are \$7-\$38 and are available by calling the BSO office at 942-5555.)*
University Singers and Oratorio Society will join Bangor Symphony Orchestra for "Inspiration and Consolation," a performance of Ein deutsches Requiem, op. 45 (German requiem) by Johannes Brahms.

Monday, April 24

- Graduate Student Research Exposition (poster, multimedia, and oral presentations), Stodder Commons, *10am-5pm*
- College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture Undergraduate Student Poster Presentation, Stodder Commons, *8am-5pm*
- Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Senior Capstone Poster Presentation, Dunn

Hall, 4-6pm

- TIAA-CREF Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture and SRCAW Keynote Speaker, Daniel P. Christensen, '77, CEO Hancock Natural Resource Group, President Hancock Timber Resource Group
 - Reception: Bodwell Lounge, MCA, 3:30pm
 - Speaker: 100 D.P. Corbett, 4:00pm

Tuesday, April 25

- Graduate Student Research Exposition (poster, multimedia, and oral presentations), Stodder Commons, 8am-4pm
- Graduate Student Research Exposition Reception (sponsored by Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society) and Awards Ceremony
Stodder Commons, 2-4pm
- College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture Undergraduate Student Poster Presentation, Stodder Commons, 2-4pm
- Percussion Ensemble, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30pm*
This ensemble draws its literature from a wide variety of styles from transcriptions to contemporary music for percussion.

Wednesday, April 26

- Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center Tour Showcasing Student Research Projects, AEWB Building, 1-2pm
- College of Business, Public Policy, and Health Student Research and Project Exposition, D.P. Corbett Atrium, 3-5pm
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Initiation Ceremony, Speaker: Dr. Wayne Lacy, former Southeast Regional Vice President, Phi Kappa Phi, McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House, 7pm

Thursday, April 27

- Jazz Ensemble, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30pm*
Big band at its best! The ensemble is devoted to performing a wide variety of challenging, significant, diversified, and contemporary literature within the genre.

Friday, April 28

- Honors College Thesis Symposium, Thomson Honors Center, 9am-4pm
- Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Student Seminar, 310 Boardman Hall, 2:30-6 pm

Saturday, April 29

- Orchestra Concert, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30pm*
The Orchestra will perform works from a standard repertoire.

Sunday, April 30

- Athena Consort/Black Bear Men's Chorus, Minsky Recital Hall, 2pm*
Sing into spring with the unique sounds of UMaine's women's and men's choruses.

Other student events occurring just before or after Student Research and Creative Achievement Week:

Thursday, April 13

- Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society Initiation Ceremony, Speaker: Dr. William A. Klemperer, Research

Professor of Chemistry, Harvard University, *The Chemistry of the Universe*, McIntire Room,
Buchanan Alumni House, 3pm

* *Tickets are \$6 general admission; free for UMaine students unless otherwise noted*

New Book Outlines Steps for Establishing Student-Staffed Writing Center in Schools

24 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- In *Shadowlands*, playwright and screenwriter William Nicholson notes, "we read to know we are not alone."

We do the same with writing, according to author and University of Maine Assistant Professor of Education Rich Kent.

"Writing is not only a powerful way to learn and to become a more effective reader, it's a vital skill in today's society," says Kent, author of the new book, *A Guide to Creating Student-Staffed Writing Centers, Grades 6-12*. "We write to make meaning of our lives. When we do that, we feel a part of something greater. Even with an audience of one, the writer walks away feeling he or she has something to say in the world."

Kent's research is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of writing using such tools as writing centers and portfolios in middle and high schools. He directs the Maine Writing Project in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, a network of nearly 200 teachers in the state established in 1998 as an affiliate of the National Writing Project, which champions a model of teachers teaching teachers.

Like his higher education colleagues around the country, Kent knows the difference writing centers can make, which is why the facilities are now widely found on college and university campuses. In 6th

Hearing Expo 2006 at UMaine May 4

24 Apr 2006

Contact: For technical information contact: Amy Engler Booth, M.A., CCC-AClinical Audiologist/lecturer; 581-2009
For coverage information contact: Jen Jackson, Student/Media Liaison; 232-5961

ORONO -- It is estimated nearly 100,000 Mainers have a hearing loss. Nationally that number is 22 to 28 million Americans, 37 percent of whom are over the age of 65. The most shocking statistic may be that only 20 percent of those with a hearing loss use a hearing aid.

University of Maine students are trying to fight the national trend by providing free hearing screenings and education for adults. On the evening of May 4, graduate students and faculty members from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders will hold the 8th annual Hearing Expo. It will be an evening of education, prizes and fun. Not only are adults welcome to have their hearing screened for free, but they can also learn about what's new in hearing aid technology, have their hearing aids checked and cleaned, learn better ways to communicate, and much more.

Amy Engler Booth, the program's audiologist and the event's organizer says Hearing Expo is not just for those with a hearing loss, but for people who have family members or friends with a hearing loss. Booth says, "it is for anyone who wishes to communicate better with others."

Booth says while her students are all studying to become speech language pathologists (a field closely associated with

audiology) they do a wonderful job fulfilling the role of audiologic rehabilitation specialists. The students begin planning weeks in advance, putting together poster presentations and researching topics such as tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and how much noise is too much. Some students, including Jody Lewia and Kate Hill, have spent their time learning the ins and outs of complicated computer programs like the APHAB, or Abbreviated Profile of Hearing Aid Benefit. On the night of the Expo, Lewia and Hill will use the program to help current hearing aid users determine whether their aids are helping them hear, and by how much.

One of the most exciting booths for students is "assistive listening devices." These students have persuaded manufacturers to loan the latest gadgets with all the bells and whistles

Green Summer Camps Teach that "Everything Goes Somewhere

25 Apr 2006

Contact: Lawrence Hollins, 207-789-5862

LINCOLNVILLE -- Summer camps are going green, if the recent presentation by University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tanglewood Camp to the American Camping Association (ACA) is any indication. Several hundred camp staff attended the ACA's March 23--25 Northeast Regional Conference in Manchester, New Hampshire. Tanglewood's "Greening Your Camp" session focused on the growing interest in sustainable living.

Jessica Decke, summer camp coordinator at Tanglewood, and Leslie Hyde, UMaine Extension professor of forestry and environmental education, discussed the Tanglewood model for incorporating ecological lessons and sustainable living concepts into a camp.

Decke explained that "we attach ecological laws like 'everything goes somewhere' to seemingly trivial acts like eating, so people understand that their choice in food matters in terms of the waste generated or the energy it took to get the food to their plate. We hope people will begin to understand that they will leave a footprint on the environment and that they can determine how big or small that footprint will be."

Hyde and Decke focused on Tanglewood's *Earth Connections* program, which, while rooted in an understanding of biology, ecology and the social sciences, is more of a process than a set of well-defined answers. The program leads participants through a journey of discovery and investigation toward a new appreciation of the natural world and how to respect nature in order to protect it for future generations. Instead of teaching youth and adults about nature, Tanglewood's 4-H Earth Connections program teaches that humans are part of the interconnected web of all life.

Earth connections is based on six core concepts: Everything is connected; Everything goes somewhere; Everything changes; Every action has costs; The earth has limits; Diversity tends towards stability.

Hyde elaborated, "With these laws as guidelines for program development, Tanglewood tries to mitigate any adverse effect on the surrounding environment by reducing waste, increasing recycling efforts, reusing materials, and helping campers adopt more earth-friendly practices at camp and at home."

Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center offers summer programs for youth between the ages of six and seventeen, including residential camp sessions, discovery trips, and youth leadership programs. For more information on Tanglewood, its programs call 207-789-5868.

UMaine Cooperative Extension to Host Symposium for Maine Nutrition, Health and Wellness Professionals

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Kathy Savoie, Extension Educator, 1-207-780-4205

ORONO--The Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium, sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will be held Wednesday, May 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Stewart Commons at the University of Maine. The symposium represents an important staff development opportunity for professionals within the public health sector.

The agenda provides targeted learning opportunities for those who work in fields concerned with nutrition, health and wellness, and includes sessions from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the UMaine Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the Maine Center for Disease Control, the University of Southern Maine and others. Presentation topics include school physical activity policy and programs, vitamin D supplementation in premenopausal women, and a number of aspects of nutrition education. Poster sessions will include programs such as Cooking for Crowds, Healthy Maine Walks and the New Look of School Milk, as well as research projects on the effect of anthocyanin in the diet on type 2 diabetes, some issues surrounding the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass procedure, the safety of salad ingredients, and healthy weights in young adult college males.

The symposium aims to examine research and programs in all areas of community nutrition, physical activity and food safety with the goal of improving the health and well-being of Maine people and reducing the incidence of obesity. Attendees will learn about innovative work that can help Maine people adopt lifestyles that improve wellness and reduce the risk of chronic disease.

The conference registration fee is \$25, and includes continental breakfast, lunch and conference materials. Space is limited. Send registration and payment by April 26 to Nannette Marcinkowski, 5717 Corbett Hall, Room 310, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Orono, ME 04469-5717. Please make checks payable to University of Maine Cooperative Extension. No refunds after April 26.

A limited number of partial student scholarships are available. For scholarship information contact Kathy Savoie at 1-207-780-4205 or ksavoie@umext.maine.edu.

UMaine Students Lead the Charge in Research

27 Apr 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- From analyzing the molecular structure of new composite materials to developing new strategies for managing fish populations throughout the Gulf of Maine, UMaine student research is making a difference, contributing to a broad range of disciplines while adding depth and momentum to the students' professional training. UMaine will celebrate the achievements of its student researchers during the 2006 Student Research and Creative Achievement Week April 22 through April 30.

More than 3,000 graduate and undergraduate students participated in research projects at UMaine during this academic year. Nearly 300 of them will participate in Research and Creative Achievement Week. Offering overviews of their research through multimedia displays, posters, and lectures, the student presenters will help to promote UMaine research programs both on and off campus by strengthening the connections between researchers, sharing information, and reaching out to the public.

Student Research and Creative Achievement Week will include nearly 20 separate events, listed below.

Wednesday, April 26

Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center Tour Showcasing Student Research Projects, AEWC Building, *1-2pm*

College of Business, Public Policy, and Health Student Research and Project Exposition, D.P. Corbett Atrium, *3-5pm*

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Initiation Ceremony, Speaker: Dr. Wayne Lacy, former Southeast Regional Vice President, Phi Kappa Phi, McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House, 7pm

Thursday, April 27Jazz Ensemble, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30pm*

Big band at its best! The ensemble is devoted to performing a wide variety of challenging, significant, diversified, and contemporary literature within the genre.

Friday, April 28

Honors College Thesis Symposium, Thomson Honors Center, 9am-4pm

Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Student Seminar, 310 Boardman Hall, 2:30-6 pm

Saturday, April 29

Orchestra Concert, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30pm*

The Orchestra will perform works from a standard repertoire.

Sunday, April 30Athena Consort/Black Bear Men's Chorus, Minsky Recital Hall, 2pm*

Sing into spring with the unique sounds of UMaine's women's and men's choruses.

Other student events occurring just before or after Student Research and Creative Achievement Week:

Thursday, April 13

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society Initiation Ceremony, Speaker: Dr. William A. Klemperer, Research Professor of Chemistry, Harvard University, *The Chemistry of the Universe*, McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House, 3pm

** Tickets are \$6 general admission; free for UMaine students unless otherwise noted*

Mayewski Selected for Antarctic Research Award

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Paul Mayewski (207) 581-3019; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Professor Paul Mayewski, Director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, has been selected to receive the Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

Founder and Chair of the Executive Committee for the International Trans-Antarctic Scientific Expedition, Mayewski has led more than 30 Antarctic expeditions, pursuing research into climate change and atmospheric chemistry.

Mayewski will be presented with the award at the SCAR Open Science Conference in Tasmania in July.

UMaine Researcher Recognized for Forestry Efforts

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Laura Kenefic (207) 581-2794; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine Faculty Associate Laura Kenefic of the Department of Forest Ecosystem Science was recently presented with the 2006 Mollie H. Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award by the New England Society of American Foresters.

This award is presented to a member of NESAF who is less than 40 years old and has shown leadership in a program or project that benefits the practice of forestry.

Kenefic was nominated by New England SAF Chair Ken Laustsen, with letters of support from university faculty, industrial foresters, government researchers and forestry consultants. The award was presented at the 2006 NESAF Winter Meeting in Nashua, NH. Over 300 NESAF members were present.

With a dual appointment as a U.S. Forest Service researcher and a faculty associate at UMaine, Kenefic was recognized for her important research into the practice of diameter-limit cutting, her efforts to increase the number of women participating in forestry and scientific research, and her service as associate editor for the Northern Journal of Applied Forestry and forest science coordinator for NESAF.

Kenefic also received an Early Career Scientist Award in 2005 and a Multicultural Achievement Award for the Northeastern Region in 2004 from the U.S. Forest Service.

Tiny Shrimp Help to Fine-Tune National Defense

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Peter Jumars (207) 581-3321; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Research being conducted by UMaine researcher Peter Jumars of the Darling Marine Center and UMaine School of Marine Sciences has created an unlikely pairing between the U.S. Department of Defense and a tiny ocean-going creature known as the opossum shrimp.

The military's Defense University Research Instrumentation Program has supplied Jumars with a grant of more than \$103,000 to continue his groundbreaking work in the utilization of sonar technology, which seeks to establish reliable techniques for monitoring the movements of opossum shrimp as they carry out their daily migrations from the shelter of the ocean floor to the waters above and back.

So far, Jumars' research has revealed some exciting data about the biology and ecological importance of the fast-moving shrimp, which are a major source of food for small cod and other fishes. The research is proving important for national defense purposes as well, since the movements of large numbers of opossum shrimp and other small organisms can interfere with the military's use of sonar for detecting and identifying underwater mines.

"I basically study what the people who identify undersea mines call noise. Their noise has become my signal," said Jumars. "My Office of Naval Research Program Officers have been impressed by how dense the swarms of migrating shrimp can be. This is definitely not a small problem when it comes to using acoustics for local area search, and the shrimp are certainly something cod care about. I just didn't expect this research to be connected to so many things."

UMaine Report Examines Economic Impact of Cruise Ships in Maine

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Todd Gabe (207) 581-3307; Amy Powers (Cruise Maine) (207) 310-0998; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- A study conducted by researchers from the UMaine Department of Resource Economics and Policy and Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) shows that cruise ships visiting just two key ports along the coast injected more than \$20 million in sales to the Maine economy.

The report, which is posted on the CenTRO website (www.umaine.edu/centro), revealed a total economic impact in 2005 of \$13.7 million in Bar Harbor and \$6.7 million in Portland with regard to overall sales, and supported a total of 270 full- and part-time jobs in the two ports. The economic activity generated by visiting cruise ships provided an estimated \$5.5 million in labor income.

According to the report, both Portland and Bar Harbor have seen substantial increases in the number of cruise ships visits in recent years, extending the tourism season for local retailers and contributing to the overall economy.

The study, which began in January of this year, is an update to a cruise industry impact study conducted by UMaine researchers in 2002. "Upon the request of Cruise Maine, we were able to update previous work done regarding the cruise ship industry in Maine," said Todd Gabe, an Associate Professor in the Department of Resource Economics and Policy. "In the past few years, we have also studied the cruise industry as a way to encourage passengers to return to the state as part of a longer land-based vacation."

"We are happy that the newly-formed center can provide useful economic information to the people of Maine," said Thomas Allen, a research associate for CenTRO. "We hope to work with port communities in Maine to support the development of the cruise ship industry, and provide benefits to local business and workers."

UMaine Alum to Speak on Nanotechnology Applications

27 Apr 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

The Dept. of Biological Sciences Spring 2006 Seminar Series will be hosting Jim Rittenburg as guest speaker on April 28 from 3-4 PM in room 102 Murray Hall. The title of his seminar is: "[Nanotechnology-based solutions to product authentication: Using the small to protect the big](#)". Rittenburg is one of the top executives of Authentix Corp., a biotech firm based in Dallas, Texas that specializes in product authentication.

Rittenburg is an alumnus of the University of Maine, having earned a Ph.D. in Microbiology and an M.S. in Marine Sciences.

Upcoming Science-related Events

27 Apr 2006

Contact: Dave Munson at (207) 581-3777

Spring Fling Horse Show

The Maine Animal Club will be hosting the annual Spring Fling Horse Show on Sunday, May 7 at 9:00 A.M. at Witter Farm. The event will showcase the talents of both youth and adult competitors in a variety of categories, including

showmanship, English and western pleasure, English and hunter equitation, reinmanship and pleasure driving.

UMaine Mechanical Engineering Technology Senior Design Exposition

The UMaine Mechanical Engineering Technology Program will hold its 2006 Senior Design Exposition on Wednesday, May 3, at 10:00 A.M. in the Machine Tool Lab.

Six student teams will show their capstone project designs built this past year. All designs involve new solutions to real problems. The projects include an improved student wheelchair with rear suspension, a computer workstation for person with dysautonomia, two magic growing Christmas trees for the Nutcracker ballet performance, a new modular engine dynamometer for laboratory use and a new computerized engine air flow bench for laboratory use.

Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium

The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium continues with two additional events. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or recently completed -- and to learn from each other.

The seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

The colloquium series includes:

May 5 -- "Growth rates in aerobic performance by children in grades 4-8," Steve Butterfield, Bob Lehnhard, Craig Mason.

May 19 -- "Comparing instructional modes: One element of physics education research," Michael Wittmann.

Biochemistry, Microbiology & Molecular Biology Spring 2006 Hitchner Seminar Series

The Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Molecular Biology Spring 2006 Hitchner Seminar Series includes two remaining events. The seminars are on Fridays at 2:10 P.M. in 203 Hitchner Hall unless noted otherwise.

April 28

Craig Malbon School of Medicine SUNY/Stony Brook

"G proteins in Development: not getting "frazzled" about Frizzleds".

May 5

Craig Montel The Johns Hopkins University Medical School

"TRP channels: roles in sensory signaling and in health and disease"

Knott, Musgrave to Receive UMaine Honorary Degrees; University to Recognize Herbert Sargent

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The man who invented the wire lobster trap and a nutrition educator who continues to teach and inspire well into her 80s will receive honorary University of Maine doctorates at UMaine's May 13 commencement ceremony.

James Knott, Sr., of Northbridge, Mass., will receive a Doctor of Science degree. An innovative business leader and inventor, Knott revolutionized the lobstering industry through the development of the wire lobster trap. More manageable and less susceptible to damage than the old wooden traps, wire traps are now commonplace in that industry. His Massachusetts business, Riverdale Industries, has been recognized many times for its effective environmental practices and innovative approach to manufacturing. Knott is also a long-time supporter of UMaine's Lobster Institute, which conducts research and outreach programming related to the lobster fishery and its future.

A Doctor of Science degree will also be awarded to Katherine Musgrave of Orono, a UMaine professor emeritus who is well-known for her long and distinguished teaching and research career in human nutrition. Musgrave, who retired from the UMaine faculty in 1985 but continues to teach through UMaine's Division of Lifelong Learning while also working with local physicians to advise patients on healthy eating habits, employs state-of-the-art distance learning techniques in the presentation of her classes and in communicating with the public about nutrition. Her commitment to teaching through technology was noted in 2002 when Musgrave received the New England University Continuing Education Association Faculty Member of the Year Award.

"Through their distinguished achievements in their chosen fields, Jim Knott and Katherine Musgrave have accomplished a great deal and have touched the lives of many in a most positive way," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "They are each richly deserving of this honor. It is our extreme good fortune that they are associated with the University of Maine."

The late Herbert E. Sargent of Stillwater will also be recognized during the May 13 ceremony. Sargent, who died on April 9, had been nominated and approved for an honorary Doctor of Engineering degree, a fact which his family members and friends pleased him greatly. A special recognition of this honor will be part of the May 13 commencement event.

"Mr. Sargent was a wonderful choice to receive a UMaine honorary degree," Kennedy says. "We were saddened to learn of his passing before we could honor him at commencement, but we are looking forward to the opportunity to publicly recognize his great contributions."

Sargent, who was 100 years old when he died, founded H.E. Sargent, Inc., a construction business that continues to thrive nearly 80 years after its formation. He was also a well-known community leader and philanthropist.

Note: Photos of James Knott and Katherine Musgrave are available upon request.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers Apple Pruning Demonstration

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Donna R. Coffin, Extension Educator, Phone (207) 564-3301

CHARLESTON -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Penobscot and Piscataquis County offices will co-sponsor an apple pruning demonstration on Saturday, April 29 from 10 a.m.-noon. The demonstration will be held at Olmsted Orchard on Route 15 in Charleston.

According to Renae Moran, Extension Tree Fruit Specialist, a correctly pruned tree has more apples of larger fruit size and better color. However, insect and disease problems can impair tree health when they are not managed. Moran will present a session on apple pests and their control at the demonstration. Dave Olmsted, owner of Olmsted Orchard, will lead a hands-on pruning demonstration in which participants will learn how to prune apple trees of various ages.

This is a free demonstration and no pre-registration is required. For information or directions to the orchard, please call UMaine Extension's Penobscot County office at 942-7396 or 1-800-287-1485, or UMaine Extension's Piscataquis

County office at 564-3301 or 1-800-287-1491.

UMaine to Celebrate Wellness Award with May 4 Event

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will mark its ongoing efforts to create and sustain a healthy work environment with a May 4 celebration at the Maine Marketplace dining facility in Memorial Union.

The Wellness Councils of America (WELCOA) designated UMaine as a Silver Well Workplace in late February. UMaine's comprehensive and successful wellness programs helped the Bangor region achieve designation as the first and only "Well Region" in the U.S. The May 4 event will recognize the efforts of the large number of UMaine employees who are working hard to improve and maintain their health, while also noting the outstanding efforts of the community leaders who have organized and promoted wellness activities at UMaine.

"We are extremely proud of the Silver Well Workplace designation, and what it says about the UMaine community," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "It is important that we all work to model healthy behaviors for our students, and we recognize that those behaviors also have a real and positive impact in areas like morale, productivity and the management of healthcare costs."

The May 4 event is scheduled for 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.. It will feature "dine smart" menu specials, interactive entertainment and body fat analysis. Other fun activities will include a "beat the clock" game, with alarm clocks at each cash register. When the alarm goes off, the customer at the cash register will get a free lunch.

Teacher Formation Retreat Scheduled

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A professional development workshop to help educators at all levels explore the connection of life and work takes place Friday, May 19 in Waldoboro. Led by Richard Ackerman, University of Maine associate professor of Educational Leadership, the daylong retreat helps educators, kindergarten through college, focus on the personal characteristics that influence their teaching.

Based on the work of renowned educator Parker J. Palmer and the teacher formation principles outlined in his book, "The Courage to Teach," the program is rooted in the belief that good teaching -- and ultimately the revitalization of education -- flows from the identity and integrity of the teacher. Formation gatherings focus on renewing the inner lives of teachers and leaders, not on techniques or strategies they might use in the classroom.

A national Courage to Teach facilitator with the Center for Courage and Renewal in Washington State, Ackerman has built collaboration for this process since coming to UMaine in 2003. Among collaborators are educators from the UMaine Cooperative Extension and the University of Maine at Farmington.

"We Teach Who We Are: A Spring Gathering for all Who Educate" will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the UMaine Cooperative Extension Knox-Lincoln Counties Office. Participant fee, including materials, refreshments and lunch is

\$30. Scholarships are available upon request. More information and registration are available from: Ackerman, (207) 581-3170; richard.ackerman@umit.maine.edu. Registration by May 5 is encouraged.

University of Maine's Army ROTC Planning Commissioning Ceremony

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Capt. James C. Moreno, enrollment officer, University of Maine Army ROTC
Room 112, Armory, 581-1125

ORONO - The Black Bear Battalion of the University of Maine Army ROTC will hold its cadet commissioning ceremony Saturday, May 13, to commission nine cadets into the United States Army as second lieutenants.

The ceremony will take place in the D.P. Corbett Building, Room 100, at 7:30 a.m.

Lt. Col. Kevin Harris, professor of military science, will present the oath of office to the commissioning cadets.

Following the ceremony, the new second lieutenants will take part in the time-honored tradition of presenting a silver dollar to the first non-commissioned officer who renders them a salute. Master Sgt. John Kadaraitis and Sgt. First Class Ron McIntyre of the Army ROTC staff will be the non-commissioned officers receiving the silver dollars.

Information is available by calling Capt. James C. Moreno, Maine Army ROTC enrollment officer, at 581-1125.

Student Investment Club Shines at National Symposium

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Robert Strong, 581-1986; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Members of the Maine Business School investment club SPIFFY drew compliments recently as one of 12 student groups invited to make formal presentations at a national two-day investment symposium in Dayton, Ohio, attended by 1,500 students from 191 universities from 21 countries.

A team of eight students presented their investment strategies and philosophies to a panel of judges, investment management experts from around the country.

"We pitched to them what we buy and when we buy and how we sell when we sell," says William Sulinski, a senior economics major from Green Lake and co-president of SPIFFY with Scott Reynolds, a senior financial economics and international affairs major from Sanford. "They were supposed to grill us with questions, but they really had no hard questions because we really defined things well."

SPIFFY stands for the Student Portfolio Investment Fund, begun with \$200,000 of endowment funds from the UMaine Foundation in 1993, which now is worth \$1.1 million, after several additional infusions of capital from the Foundation coupled with a 10.5 percent return on the student-managed funds over the last decade.

The RISE Forum VI - Redefining Investment Strategy Education symposium was March 30-31.

"After the presentations, at dinner, one of the judges actually sought me out to tell me what a good job our students had done," says Robert Strong, professor of finance and advisor to the group, who accompanied the students.

"It was amazing, to say the least," Sulinski says of the experience. "We heard a number of great speakers, including billionaire investor Jim Rogers, Senator Oxley of Sarbanes-Oxley fame, a former Secretary of Commerce, and many other heavyweights in the investment world."

Judges observing the 12 presentations were particularly impressed with the comprehensive analysis of social, political and economical variables that the UMaine students consider before deciding whether and when to invest in company stock. The 30-35 members of SPIFFY generally meet Monday evenings and discuss possible stock sales or purchases, depending upon information individual members turn up about various companies. The club works the same way an investment firm does and follows the same rules as professional fund management companies that manage all UMaine Foundation funds.

Part of the student presentation included explaining the strategy for investing \$16,324 in GMH Communities Trust of Newtown Square, Pa., the company that is building the Orchard Trails student housing complex just off campus in Orono, and \$8,787 in a Russian telecommunications firm, Mobile TeleSystems, currently prepping to spend \$7 billion-\$10 billion expanding its network outside Russia.

After examining the traditional profits, loss and market projection data, students discussed the economic stability of Russia under President Vladimir Putin's government, the growth potential for cellular telephones in Eastern Europe and whether the Russian government would interfere with Mobile TeleSystems operations. On a more local note, the SPIFFY members explained their confidence in GMH, based in part on the efficiency with which the company has undertaken its mammoth student housing development. They also surveyed students to gauge the likelihood that students would seek to live there once the apartments are built.

Reynolds and Sulinski say that in talking with other student investors, they realized that SPIFFY has more authority, autonomy and cash when it comes to investing university money in the stock market.

"We met a few groups that were set up similar to us, but with the other groups, there was a lot more advisor involvement," Reynolds says.

"A lot of them have \$30,000, \$60,000 or \$100,000," Sulinski adds. "When we say \$1 million, people say 'Wow!'"

Strong, who attends the SPIFFY meetings as much an observer as advisor, says many student investment clubs around the nation are designed as special classes with a half dozen or more faculty advisors overseeing the trading decisions. SPIFFY is an extracurricular club open to any undergraduate student on campus.

Though available to assist if asked, Strong says, "I don't pass judgment on what they decide and they don't have to get approval from me. I've purchased many a security myself that they've recommended. It's interesting that they take it upon themselves to do the research. It almost becomes a hobby."

Most of the students in SPIFFY have taken Strong's classes in derivatives and investments, and have read Strong's popular textbook "Derivatives: An Introduction."

Reynolds and Sulinski credit Strong for the success of SPIFFY's performance at the hands of students.

"I don't think there are a lot of universities that have an expert like that on staff," Sulinski says. "We really have some heavyweights in the finance department."

Baldacci to Participate in Healthcare Discussion at UMaine Wednesday

28 Apr 2006

Contact: Sarah Bigney, Progressive Student Alliance at 356-7322

ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci will be at the University of Maine at 1 p.m. on Wednesday May 3 to participate in a rally followed by a forum and panel discussion aimed at raising awareness of healthcare issues in Maine. More than 100,000 Maine residents are without health insurance; two in five college graduates nationally are without healthcare within a year of graduating.

UMaine's Progressive Student Alliance will host the Wednesday events. The rally, which will include a student presentation to Baldacci, begins at 1 p.m. in UMaine's Steam Plant Parking Lot. The rally will move to Memorial Union for the forum and panel discussion featuring a keynote talk by the governor. The forum will highlight the role of Dirigo Health Care today and in the future, with regard to creating a healthier Maine. The forum is scheduled for Memorial Union's Bangor Room, from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies to Present Student Research May 2

02 May 2006

Contact: Liz Deploy, 581-1469; Alan Parks, 581-1236

ORONO - The UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies will hold its annual Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Celebration of Achievement from 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, to recognize the students who have completed the concentration in interdisciplinary disability studies.

The event is a showcase for projects completed by concentration students in DIS 450, DIS 470 DIS 480 and DIS 580. Students will present their projects, which focus on various aspects of disability studies theory and universal access.

A highlight this year will be a project by two graduating senior students, Marguerite (Peg) Woitko, a social work major, and Kelly Snider, a sociology major. Their work, part of a larger funded project at the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability studies, details their research and recommendations for improving access to the University of Maine's education for students who have previously experienced barriers to higher education, according to Liz Deploy, coordinator of interdisciplinary disability studies and the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies in Corbett Hall.

The women's project examines issues of universal access and equity for learning in higher education, and applies related theories to the development of a higher education model that includes all qualified students, she says. "This project could have significant impact on how university faculty members teach," Deploy says.

Deploy and Alan Parks, coordinator for dissemination and technology at the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability studies, say achieving universal accessibility need not be complicated or expensive, even though there are many new technological aids available that can assist people who experience barriers to full participation in educational activity.

Ideally, Deploy adds, the goal of inclusion is to avoid situations that exclude qualified people from the student population, and thus require special adaptations to overcome barriers. Further, universal access is not just for disabled students but expands inclusion to all students. For example, universal access would guide faculty to expand their teaching strategies to meet barriers such as those that might be experienced by a single mother with three children who lives three hours from campus and who is ineligible for population-specific or disability services.

Anticipating planning and exchanging knowledge through multiple approaches addresses a full range of student learning styles and creates a more universally accessible class environment, according to Deploy.

Parks says the pedagogical model "is based on the theory of universal access and pedagogical theorems. It's based on a set of principles that speak to diversity and inclusion and a set of skills as well as a set of (technological) gizmos that are useful."

Following the project presentations, the center will hold a short recognition ceremony to honor students who have completed the interdisciplinary disability studies concentration.

-30-

Mystery Solved, Wingate Bell Removal Planned May 3

02 May 2006

Contact: Chet Rock, 581-2218; Ron Brown, 581-2674; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - After 55 years in the cupola atop Fogler Library, the century-old bronze bell from Wingate Hall and the subject of a six-year search, has been removed and will be lowered by crane to the ground on Maine Day, May 3.

Facilities Management hired a professional rigging crew to construct an elaborate winch and trolley system on the library roof last week to get the 700-800-pound bronze bell out of the cupola. Crews moved the bell on a special heavy-equipment cart across and down two levels of roofing to the edge of the library parapet. Roof Systems of Maine in Bangor is scheduled to lower the bell to the ground on the west side of the library Wednesday morning at 10 a.m., with a cadre of administrators from the College of Engineering, UMaine President Robert Kennedy and others observing the event.

Once on the ground, the bell will be wheeled to the Advanced Manufacturing Center, where students are set to continue cleaning the bell, according to Chet Rock, associate dean of the College of Engineering, who has spent the better part of six years trying to discover where the forgotten bell was. Though moved to the library cupola in 1951, today's university employees had no knowledge of the final location of the bell. Employees who did know have since retired or passed on.

"We're excited to get it down and finally get it displayed for people to see," Rock says. "We plan to have it on display for reunion weekend (June 3-4) this summer."

Removing the bell has been one of the more unusual projects that Ron Brown, project manager with Facilities Management, has seen in the 33 years he has worked at UMaine. He arranged for the cleaning of the bell and sanitizing of the cupola by an asbestos abatement company before work crews could enter it.

The multitude of safety considerations necessary called for unusual planning and preparation, Brown says. They began with the university hiring a company experienced in handling hazardous waste, in this case, a 12-inch layer of pigeon guano that had accumulated under and around the bell in the last 55 years.

Three sets of staging capable of supporting the bell had to be erected on the library roof. On Wednesday, the removal will near completion with the dramatic lowering of the bell from the roof.

"It's quite a project," Brown says. "It's a lot more than people think."

The bell hung from the time Wingate Hall opened in 1894 until a fire in 1943 at Wingate, the former the home of the College of Technology, now the College of Engineering. The bell had been a signature icon at the University of Maine, the subject of a campus song and object of an unknown number of student pranks.

After fire destroyed the Wingate bell tower, the bell was displayed in front of Oak Hall for a time, but was moved at some point - a point no one remembered until Rock took his detective work the Fogler Library's Special Collections looking for evidence. He found in the 1953 edition of "The Prism" yearbook a photo of the bell being hoisted atop the library in June of 1951.

Rock and others are now discussing the future of the bell, given its history and significance to the university.

The Spring Running Celebrates Kennebec River Revival

03 May 2006

Contact: Dana Morse, Extension Associate, Maine Sea Grant College Program and UMaine Cooperative Extension, 207.563.3146 x205

AUGUSTA-- "The Spring Running: A Festival to Celebrate the Kennebec River's Herring Revival " will be held on May 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Edwards Mill Park in downtown Augusta and Old Fort Western, a National Historic Landmark. Edwards Mill Park is the site of the dam that blocked the passage of migrating fish for more than 150 years.

"The Spring Running" will not only celebrate a new season of fishing and farming, it will honor the historical, cultural, ecological and economic rejuvenation represented by the return of the Kennebec River

Renovated Lord hall Dedication Friday

03 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A ceremony celebrating the renovation of Lord Hall as the new University of Maine Art Department home is scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday May 5. Tours of the beautiful new space will follow the dedication ceremony, which should take about 30 minutes.

The \$5.375 million renovation was funded in part by a \$4 million higher education bond voters approved in 2001.

Lord Hall opened in 1904 as an engineering building. It has also been home to music, journalism and other UMaine academic departments over the years. The art department will move from cramped spaces in Carnegie Hall to 27,000 square feet of new space in Lord Hall. The new facility, which still includes many historical features, includes a gallery with 210 feet of exhibit space.

Prominent Alumns, Friends of UMaine to be Recognized with Stillwater Society Presidentail Awards

04 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Four prestigious Stillwater Society Presidential Awards for Achievement will be presented Friday, May 5 to six preeminent University of Maine alumni and friends who are leaders in the fields of telecommunications, marketing, publishing and community stewardship.

The six -- Allen and Sally Fernald of Rockport, Maine; Douglas Hall of Newtown, Ohio; Rajendra and Neera Singh of Alexandria, Va.; Elsie Viles of Augusta, Maine -- will be honored at the annual meeting of the Stillwater Society, formed in 2000 to recognize people who have made significant contributions to UMaine.

The 2006 awards are four of 23 that have been presented since the group

UMaine May 2006 Calendar

04 May 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

Please see the UMaine Athletics website at <http://goblackbears.cstv.com> for athletics schedules.

5/4

HealthyU Wellness Award celebration, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Maine Marketplace, Memorial Union, celebrating the Wellness Councils of America's awarding UMaine a silver wellness award for employee fitness initiatives; features "dine smart" menu specials, interactive entertainment and body fat analysis plus other fun activities including a "beat the clock" game in which some people will get a free lunch

Employee Development Planning, 12 p.m.-2 p.m., Target Technology Center, with David Green and Ginger Ward-Green: a discussion of training, job rotation, new assignments, coaching, education, networking, mentoring, 360-degree feedback, personal development and goal setting; fee (student discount)

"Mercury (Hg) Cycling in Sulfide-rich Sediments: Contaminant Storage in the Penobscot River Estuary, Maine," 12 p.m.-1 p.m., Room 105, Norman Smith Hall Room, with Karen Merritt; offered by the Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research

Tapas Bar, Fogler Library - CANCELLED

8th Annual Hearing Expo, 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Conley Speech and Hearing Clinic, Dunn Hall, a free adult hearing screening; learn what's new in hearing aid technology, have hearing aids checked and cleaned, learn better ways to communicate

Maine Steiners in Concert, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Room 100, D.P. Corbett Business Building,

the group's spring show; admission

A Wild & Wacky World, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall: a comedy written and performed by students, part of the School of Performing Arts season

5/5

Renovated Lord Hall Dedication, 11 a.m., a ceremony celebrating the renovation of Lord Hall as the new University of Maine Art Department home; tour of the building to follow

Marine Program Manager for the Nature Conservancy in Maine, 11 a.m., with Geoff Smith, marine director, the Nature Conservancy; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series; Room 354, Aubert Hall

Growth Rates in Aerobic Performance by Children in Grades 4-8, 2 p.m.-3 p.m., with professors Steve Butterfield, Bob Lehnhard and Craig Mason; a College of Education and Human Development research colloquium; Room 159, Shibles Hall

Classes end 5 p.m.

Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission (students free)

5/6

Rock Climbing -- Level 1 / 2, 8 a.m., Maine Bound-UM Outdoor Education Center:

Do you have the gear but want to learn how to use it? Or are you the top roping master and now you want to take that next step? This may be the course for you. Course will be customized to participant desires. Top rope anchor constructions, rescue techniques, or sport leading are all options. Equipment is provided; some previous experience is required including belay experience and ability to climb 5.7; registration required (581.1794); fee

Senior Skull Centennial Celebration, 12 p.m.-3 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Senior Skull Honor Society, UMaine's highest all-inclusive honor society founded in 1906;

Maine Steiners in Concert, 7-9 p.m., Room 100, D.P. Corbett Business Building, the group's spring show; admission

Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; part of the School of Performing Arts season; admission (students free)

Zukerman Chamber Players in Concert, 8 p.m., MCA; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; admission

5/7

Annual Spring Fling Horse Show, 9 a.m., Witter Teaching and Research Farm,

coordinated by the Maine Animal Club

5/8

Final exams begin

5/9

"Environmental Conflict and Collaboration: A Qualitative Analysis of Large-Scale Conservation Planning in Maine's Northern Forest," 11 a.m., Nutting Hall, with Elizabeth Baldwin, Ph.D. candidate in forest resources

"Geoarchaeological Investigations of the Waynuna Site and the Alca Obsidian Source, Peru," 2 p.m., Room 100, Edward Bryand Global Sciences Center, with Kurt Rademaker, master's degree candidate, quaternary and climate studies

5/11

"Partnership Licensing: Capitalization, Valuation, Mergers and Acquisitions," 12-2 p.m., Target Technology Center, Orono, with Meriby Sweet, with discussion of licensing, cross-licensing, merger and acquisition models; admission (student discount)

Will Rogers Follies, 7 p.m., MCA, part of the Maine Center for the Arts season; admission

5/12

Go Blue Friday, 8 a.m.

Academic Honors Convocation, 2 p.m., Hutchins Concert Hall, MCA; reception follows in Bodwell Lounge

Graduate Recognition Ceremony, 4 p.m., Alford Arena; reception follows in the Field House

Final Exams End, 6 p.m.

5/13

Commencement, 10:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m., Alford Arena; address by Sen. John Edwards

5/14

St. John's Canoe Trip, leaves at 8 a.m. from MaineBound Adventure Center

End the school year and start your summer on the largest of Maine's rivers. The St. John is like the great rivers of the Canadian North. From Baker Lake, the river begins as a small stream, gradually growing in size and power to our take-out in Allagash Village. A classic Maine canoe trip; registration required (581-1794); fee

5/17

Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Conference Center, Stodder Hall and Commons, for all interested community food and nutrition colleagues and students; an Extension symposium focusing on research and programs that relate to improving the health and well-being of Maine people

5/18

"Writing a Successful Maine Technology Institute (MTI) Seed Grant Proposal," 12-2 p.m., Target Technology Center, Orono, with Elizabeth Crabtree; learn what it takes to successfully assemble a competitive seed grant proposal; admission (student discount)

5/21

Bangor Symphony Orchestra's 110th Season Finale, 3 p.m., MCA, with guest soloists Henry Kramer and Pallavi Mahidhara; admission (students free)

5/22

Bangor Symphony Orchestra Youth Concert, 9:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m. & 1:15 p.m., MCA; admission

5/23

Retiree Recognition Banquet, 5:30 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House; Contact Mike Yonce or Liz Kenney at 581-2374 for tickets

5/24

Fad Diets: The Good and the Bad, 12:10-1:30 p.m. Coe Room, Memorial Union, with Katherine Musgrave; part of the Nutrition Lunch 'n' Learn Series

25-Year Recognition and Awards Banquet, 5:30 p.m. Stodder Hall and Commons; Contact Mike Yonce or Liz Kenney at 581-2374 for tickets

Continuing Events

81 Heads, 9:10 a.m., 4/14-7/1, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit; admission (students free)

Arts of Asia: The Sacred and the Secular, 9 a.m., 3/1-6/23, a Hudson Museum exhibit

Embedded Quilts from the Iraq War, 9 a.m., 2/1-5/30, a Hudson Museum exhibit

Kenro Izu: Sacred Places, 9 a.m., 4/14-7/1, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit; admission (students free)

Maine Women: Living on the Land, 9 a.m., 3/29-5/30, a Hudson Museum exhibit, part of the 2006 Women's History Celebration

UMaine Honors Students Continue to Win Awards

05 May 2006

Contact: Emily Ann Cain, Coordinator of Advancement, Honors College, Phone: 207-581-3308

ORONO -- Students in the University of Maine Honors College have successfully competed in prestigious undergraduate scholarship competitions at the national level every year since 2003. In 2003, 2004, and 2006 Honors students were honored with Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships, and in 2005, another Honors student was awarded a Morris K. Udall Scholarship.

Erik Perkins, UMaine Class of 2007, is a 2006 recipient of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Award. The Barry M. Goldwater Excellence in Education Foundation gives up to 300 awards each year to eligible sophomores and juniors throughout the United States. Awards are made on the basis of merit and each award covers expenses, including tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of \$7,500. Eligible students are full-time sophomores and juniors who intend to pursue careers in mathematics, engineering, or the natural sciences.

Perkins, a junior from Albion, a double major in physics and mathematics, is the third Honors College student in four years to win the Goldwater Award. He was preceded by Bill Olver in 2004 and Adam Burgoyne in 2003. Oliver, from Winterport, Maine, graduated in 2005 with a degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology with a minor in chemistry and microbiology, and a second degree in biochemistry. He is now in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, where he is working toward a Ph.D. in biochemistry. Burgoyne, from Enfield, graduated in 2004 with degrees in Molecular Biology, biochemistry, and French, and a minor in Microbiology. He now lives in Cleveland, Ohio attending Case Western Reserve University, where he is in the M.D./Ph.D. Medical Science Training Program, studying Molecular Biology and Microbiology in addition to medicine.

Another Honors student, Julia McGuire, was a 2005 recipient of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship Award. The Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation awards up to 80 scholarships to qualified undergraduate students who have an interest in, and potential for, careers in fields related to the environment, Native American Health care, and tribal public policy. The award is up to \$5,000 and covers tuition, fees, books, and room and board. McGuire is a senior from Augusta, and will graduate this May with a degree in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, with a concentration in Resource and Environmental Policy.

The Honors College started in 2002, transitioning from the University's highly successful Honors Program, which dated back to the early 1930s. With a total enrollment of 500 in 2002, the Honors College has grown to almost 700 students enrolled in its rigorous comprehensive four-year curriculum, with over 80 students graduating this May having completed their undergraduate research theses. More information on the Honors College can be found at: www.honors.umaine.edu.

Partnership Celebrates Literacy

05 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

(Note:

Media contacts at the event include: Dean Robert Cobb; Mary Rosser, University Reading Recovery Trainer; and Gary Cole of the Cole Family Foundation.)

ORONO, Maine -- Young readers will be in the spotlight Thursday, May 11 at the 2006 celebration of the Reading Recovery partnership between the Cole Family Foundation of Bangor and Maine schools.

Representatives from the schools that received 2005-06 grants to support the early intervention literacy program, the Cole Family Foundation and the University of Maine Reading Recovery Training Center will be on hand to give brief presentations, highlighted by three first graders demonstrating their new reading skills. The event runs from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Cole Land Transportation Museum in Bangor and gets underway with a welcome from Robert Cobb, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development.

The Cole family and its foundation are long-time supporters and advocates of Reading Recovery, which provides short-term, one-on-one instruction to accelerate the skills of first graders at risk of failing to learn to read.

UMaine, in partnership with the Maine Department of Education, is the state's recognized Reading Recovery University Training Center, responsible for program training, delivery and evaluation.

This school year, the Foundation issued grants of nearly \$55,000 to help support Reading Recovery programs in selected schools. Those schools and districts are: SAD 6 (Buxton); SAD 40 (Friendship); SAD 41 (Milo); SAD 63 (Holden); Dr. Lewis Libby School, Milford; Katahdin Elementary School, Stacyville; Mildred Fox School, S. Paris; Otisfield Community School; Vinalhaven School; Washington Street School, Brewer; and Wiscasset Primary School.

The Cole Family's commitment is an outstanding example of the difference business can make in helping schools afford proven interventions for students, according to Cobb. "Such partnering is crucial as schools, particularly rural systems, struggle with declining enrollments and diminished funding while being held to higher levels of accountability," he says.

Partnership Marks 20 Years of Training PE Teachers

09 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A 20-year partnership between the University of Maine and Old Town Elementary School has given hundreds of aspiring physical education teachers the skills and insight needed to motivate, instruct and evaluate the progress of young students in a busy school environment. Through the initial and continued leadership of three key players, the venture is a model of strategically planned teaching and learning that is highly anticipated by everyone involved.

The partnership was formed in 1986 by Glenn Reif, UMaine associate professor of Kinesiology and Physical Education; Michael Thurston, now in his 32nd year of teaching physical education at Old Town Elementary; and Chris Avila, who is completing a 35-year career in education, including 30 as building principal. They continue to be avid supporters of the school-based program now serving a third generation of students. Over the years, the UMaine students have taught - and learned from -- children in grades K-3 of varying skill and behavioral levels in classes taking place in old and new facilities.

The program centers on Reif's course, Physical Education in the Elementary School, one of the classes required of KPE majors prior to student teaching. Twice a week during both spring and fall semesters, UMaine students head for Old Town's new elementary school to work with small groups of students. They come prepared with developmentally

appropriate, standards-based lesson plans aligned with the Maine Learning Results, and a variety of activities and assessments. But it's the reality of working directly with young children under the experienced direction of Thurston and Reif that makes the difference, students continually point out in their evaluation of the course.

"While classroom observation and peer teaching are important, there's no substitute for being responsible for managing and teaching seven to eight kindergarten kids in a real school setting," says Thurston.

The elementary students just can't wait to get to gym class on the days their "college teachers" are scheduled, according to Thurston, and that's not always the case at a middle school or high school. Likewise, the UMaine students eagerly anticipate "game day" with the Old Town students. It's that two-way enthusiasm, Thurston says, that causes a number of UMaine students who begin the semester intent on teaching at the secondary level to change their minds and become elementary school PE teachers.

It was enthusiasm for the research behind Reif's doctoral degree, earned at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, that spurred the Old Town partnership.

Basically, teachers learn how to teach effectively by trial and error in real schools, Reif explains. The partnership provides the environment, common goals and support structure for trying and analyzing different strategies and giving and receiving feedback.

"Our students learn so much," says Reif who estimates that over 500 KPE majors have participated in the Old Town program over the past two decades. For example, the future teachers get to see the developmental sequence as a child progresses from simply dropping and catching a ball with both hands while standing still to dribbling with either hand while moving in different directions.

But what happens to a carefully planned lesson when a first grader needs a drink in the middle of class, falls down and begins to cry, or just balks? Only a real-school setting can provide the opportunity to see the broad range of skill and behavioral levels in young children, quickly make adjustments to what does and doesn't work, and to control the group dynamics while keeping everyone individually engaged.

"That's when students really see how important planning is," Reif says.

Avila, Thurston and Reif all agree that the partnership has been a win-win situation for UMaine and Old Town students since the beginning.

"The contact with University students and extra activities in a group setting have been extremely beneficial to our students," says Avila. "It also provides a lab experience, new challenges and professional development opportunities for the UMaine students."

Avila is especially pleased that a number of the UMaine students seek to do their student teaching with Thurston. "Then we get to see them continue to grow professionally," the principal says. Both Avila and Thurston are UMaine alumni.

Watching students' growth and change of roles from kindergartners to college students, to parents and grandparents and to other positions of responsibility is a major reward of spending their careers in the same community, Avila and Thurston say.

All three educators credit one another with the program's success and an environment where everyone feels welcome. Unanimously, they agree that the essential connection is the continued desire to improve the educational experiences of both elementary school students and their future teachers.

"It's definitely been a highlight of my teaching career," says Reif.

UMaine Graduation Parking and Traffic

09 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- More than 2,000 people will graduate from the University of Maine on Saturday May 13, making the Class of 2006 the largest in UMaine's history. Two separate commencement ceremonies are scheduled for Harold Alfond Sports Arena, one at 10:30 a.m. and one at 2:30 p.m. It is expected that a total of more than 11,000 family members and friends will attend the ceremonies.

Significant traffic delays may be expected as motorists approach the university on Saturday, particularly at Interstate 95 exits 191 and 193 northbound. Drivers are encouraged to allow ample time, and to plan to arrive early. UMaine officials suggest that motorists approach campus from Old Town, if possible.

Shuttle buses will run continuously from the Steam Plant Parking lot, the MCA Parking Lot, the Belgrade Parking Lot and the Orchard Parking lot to Alfond Arena, both before and after the ceremony.

Backpacks, large tote bags and strollers are not permitted in Alfond Arena.

In the event that Alfond Arena becomes full to capacity, overflow seating will be available in UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building, where the event will be broadcast. Both ceremonies will be on the Web at www.umaine.edu, via videostreaming technology.

Former North Carolina senator and vice presidential candidate John Edwards will be UMaine's commencement speaker.

Policy Analysis Study Merits National Award

09 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Despite targeted efforts to promote and improve diversity, many segments of the national population remain underrepresented at public research universities across the country. An award-winning study from the University of Maine examines how well-intentioned groups charged with addressing the problem can undermine their own goals in discussions and resulting policy shaped by commonly held assumptions rather than the current reality of a particular campus.

Susan V. Iverson of Old Town, who recently earned her doctorate degree in Higher Educational Leadership, was one of two recipients of the 2005 Outstanding Dissertation Award presented in April by the American Educational Research Association (AERA) at its annual meeting in San Francisco. The other scholar recognized in the Postsecondary category was from Teachers College, Columbia University.

AERA is an international professional organization with the primary goal of advancing educational research and its practical application. Iverson's presentation to the national audience highlighted her award-winning dissertation, "A Policy Discourse Analysis of U.S. Land-Grant University Diversity Action Plans."

Diversity Action Plans are the primary vehicles postsecondary institutions use to advance their commitment to and

strategies for achieving an inclusive and equitable climate for all members of the campus community. In her research, Iverson collected and examined 21 plans generated by 20 land-grant universities across the country during a five-year period (1999-2004). She analyzed the plans for problems and solutions related to diversity and then identified the broader discourses -- language, images and messages -- in the policy documents.

"Discourse circulates socially, and these dominant messages contribute to shaping our reality," says Iverson. "The goal was to understand how these policy documents describe diversity and contribute to constructing a particular reality for members of the institution."

Iverson's analysis revealed calls for improved recruitment, retention and advancement practices to build and support a more diverse campus and climate. However, the dominant discourses evident in this study produced images of diverse persons as "outsiders" to the institution, as "victims" of discrimination, and of being "at-risk" before and after entering the university. By constructing these students and employees as "already" and "always" victims dependent on the institution for success and protection instead of highlighting the problems to be solved, resulting policy can further marginalize the people it aimed to empower, according to Iverson.

The documents drew upon wide-ranging definitions of diversity -- age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, physical ability and socio-economic status -- but focused primarily on race and gender and secondarily on sexual orientation and disability. Problems and solutions in the plans related to access and success of under-represented groups, campus climate and inter-group relations, and to the utilization of diversity as a resource for an enriched academic environment and improved institutional reputation.

"Dr. Iverson's analysis compels readers to look anew at commonly held beliefs and approaches to enhancing diversity," says Elizabeth Allan, UMaine assistant professor of Higher Education who served as Iverson's advisor. "Her analysis demonstrates how well-intended efforts to promote more equitable campus climates may actually undermine the goals of the planning group. This research is certain to generate new thinking and practice among those working to promote diversity and equity in higher education."

Iverson is associate director of the UMaine Safe Campus Project and this fall will join Kent State University as assistant professor of Higher Education Administration and Student Personnel.

Army ROTC Cadet Receives the George C. Marshall Award

09 May 2006

Contact: Capt. James C. Moreno, enrollment officer, University of Maine Army ROTC, Room 112, Armory, 581-1125

ORONO - The Black Bear Battalion's Cadet Anders C. Hamlin of Milo has been named the George C. Marshall Award winner from the University of Maine.

Given annually, the award is presented to the most outstanding cadet in the Army ROTC program at the University of Maine. The award is named in honor of Army Gen. George C. Marshall, who served as the Chief of Staff of the Army and secretary of both state and defense. He was the author of the restorative Marshall Plan and was the only career soldier to be awarded a Nobel Peace Prize.

Cadet Hamlin was selected for his professional excellence, leadership, personal integrity and selfless service to the nation.

He is a great example of the scholar-athlete-leader that Army ROTC looks for and instills in America's young men and women, according to the UMaine ROTC, and will make an outstanding Army officer to be remembered by the Black Bear Battalion for years to come.

Hamlin, a 2002 graduate of Milo High School, is the son of Neil and Barbara Hamlin of Milo. He will be commissioned on May 13 as an infantry officer and initially will be assigned to Fort Benning, Ga., for training.

Todd Saucier Named UMaine Alumni Association President

09 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Todd Saucier, an Ashland native and 1993 University of Maine graduate, has been named president and executive director of the University of Maine Alumni Association after a national search that association officials say yielded many excellent candidates. An alumni association staff member since 1999, Saucier has been acting president and executive director since January.

"Todd is certainly the right choice as president of the University of Maine Alumni Association," says Bion Foster, chair of the alumni association board of directors. "He has excelled in his capacity as director of finance for the UMAA, and has captured the support and admiration of the UMAA staff, as well as our many campus partners and constituencies. Todd is a dedicated director and alum of the association, and has always been our 'go to guy.' On behalf of the UMAA Board, and an appreciative UMaine alumni community, we welcome Todd as our new president and pledge our support."

Saucier, who also earned a Master's in Business Administration from UMaine in 1997, worked as an accountant in the Bangor area before joining the alumni association staff as business manager. He became director of finance in 2002.

"I am delighted that the alumni association has chosen Todd for this important position, and I am certain that he will continue in the great tradition of the alumni leaders who have preceded him," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "UMaine's alumni are one of its greatest assets, and our alumni association does a wonderful job in providing that critical link between the university and those alums who care so much about it."

The UMaine Alumni Association is an independent corporation, which works to raise funds and provide programming and advocacy to support the university through its 95,000 alumni. The president and executive director oversees a staff of 19, which includes professionals who work in fundraising, record-keeping, communications and the management of events such as Homecoming and Reunion activities.

"As a native son of Maine and alumnus of this flagship institution, I am truly pleased for this opportunity to provide my leadership to the UMaine Alumni Association," Saucier says. "I am fortunate my peers chose me for this position and look forward to our future of supporting UMaine and its alumni."

The board of directors approved Saucier's appointment on May 4. It was effective Monday May 8.

Note: a photo of Todd Saucier is available upon request.

Call for Nominations for Second Annual President Abram W. Harris Award

10 May 2006

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, 207-581-5100

ORONO -- A \$5,000 prize will be awarded to an individual whose impact on the University of Maine reflects the level

of advancements made by former President Abram Winegardner Harris, who served the university from 1893

Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies Announces "Daring to Dream" Awards

10 May 2006

Contact: Alan Parks, 581-1236; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies has announced winners of its 2006 "Daring to Dream" awards, recognizing vision and leadership toward making the dream of inclusive communities a reality for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Initiated in 2002, the three award categories recognize people or organizations that have made a difference in social change, public policy change and scholarship. Honorees receive individual stained glass awards handcrafted by local artisan Lisa Raven.

The 2006 Daring to Dream Award honorees:

Laura Antranigian, a self-advocate from Portland, past president and active member of Speaking Up for Us, Maine's self-advocacy network, is being honored for vision and leadership that promotes social change to advance the rights of people with disabilities.

Anne B. Schink, program officer of the Maine Commission for Community Service in Augusta, is being honored for vision and leadership that promotes public policy change to advance the civil rights of people with disabilities.

Carol J. Gill, Ph.D., an associate professor of the Department of Disabilities and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago is being honored for vision and leadership in scholarship that influences disability studies policy and practice.

They will be recognized at the Center's annual awards ceremony from 1:30-3 p.m. on May 18 at Buchanan Alumni House on the Orono campus.

Information about the awards ceremony can be obtained by calling the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies at 581-1207.

Writing Rules at Young Authors' Camps

10 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Young writers can sharpen skills and express their creativity during the University of Maine's annual Young Authors' Camps taking place at five sites this summer. Sponsored by the Maine Writing Project, the day camps will be held in Orono, Benton, Newport, Brunswick and Bar Harbor.

Camps will be offered July 10-14 at UMaine, Orono, for students in grades 3-12, and at Benton Elementary School for grades 1-12; July 17-21 at Sebecook Valley Middle School, Newport, for grades 3-12; July 24-28 at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, for grades 3-12; and August 7-11 at the College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, for grades 3-12. Daily sessions at all camps run from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

In addition to working on skills, camp participants explore different genres of writing, compose for creativity and to inform, experiment with electronic texts, and publish and share their writing.

Young Authors' camps are led by teacher-consultants from the Maine Writing Project, part of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and a site of the National Writing Project. The Writing Project is a federally funded professional development program dedicated to improvement of the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum at all grade levels.

The \$100 camp fee includes workshops, materials, a t-shirt and snacks. For more information and registration, contact the UMaine College of Education and Human Development at (207) 581-2438; e-mail bonny.harris@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Business Student, Alum Moving Invention toward Production

10 May 2006

Contact: William Sulinski, 866-6562; Matthew Rodrigue, 774-487-8396; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- A University of Maine business student and a recent engineering graduate have won a second major business plan competition, which provides a \$25,000 prize to help launch a new company they co-founded.

William Sulinski, a senior from Dedham, Maine majoring in economics, and Matthew Rodrigue, a 2004 engineering graduate from Wilton, Maine, also received word on Monday that they have been approved for a \$5,000 seed grant from the Portland-based Libra Future Fund.

The pair conceptually devised a new device to improve the efficiency of home heating oil delivery and have used at least two business plan competitions to hone their presentation and marketing skills.

In late March, they captured first place at the business plan competition held by the Center for Entrepreneurship at the School of Business at the University of Southern Maine. The prize was \$10,000 cash and \$15,000 in legal consulting and other services to help them develop and market their new product.

They recently opened an office in the university's Target Technology Center on Bennoch Road in Orono to formally move their device toward production and begin talking with potential angels and investors. They have applied for a patent on the device and are discussing a prototype design plan with Enercon Technologies engineering firm in Gray, Maine, says Sulinski, whose family owns a local heating oil distribution business.

In December, the concept won first prize and a \$5,000 cash award at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Business Plan Competition (CIBC) in Fredericton, N.B., Canada.

In the South Portland business plan competition, more than 20 teams competed and five were chosen to present before three judges - a technical consultant, an angel investor and the manager of a major accounting firm. The competition was open to students from USM, Southern Maine Community College, University of Maine at Farmington and UMaine.

The Libra Future Fund is a new program of the Libra Foundation created to "combat youth out-migration by supporting initiatives that increase the number of Maine-based professional opportunities," according to the Libra Fund website. Sulinski and Rodrigue also hope to leverage the grant and prize money against a \$10,000 seed grant from the Maine Technology Institute, which requires a 100-percent match.

As they move forward with the new company, Consumer Energy Research Corporation, Sulinski says, "my 'to-do list' is just astronomical, but I think that's what makes a successful entrepreneur."

He intends to devote the summer to marketing and production planning. Rodrigue, currently an engineering consultant

for Woodard & Curran engineers' Dedham, Mass. office and a member of the UMaine Board of Visitors, will begin an MBA program at Harvard Business School this fall, but will continue with Sulinski as an advisor.

"We're very excited about it," says Rodrigue.

The partners' "Heat-Safe 1000" is a wireless device that lets heating oil companies know when customers' oil tanks get low. With a built in radio-signal warning device installed in a tank, consumers and businesses will run out of oil less often, if at all. That will reduce emergency deliveries and inconvenience for people who normally would wait without heat while oil companies make the emergency deliveries.

Sulinski is optimistic about getting his product into mass production.

"CIBC, USM and the Libra grant are big steps," he says. "The resources and visibility from these competitions, and the assistance of Debbie (Neuman, Target Technology Incubator director) have been incredibly helpful in the start-up procedure."

The idea for the Heat Safe 1000 was Sulinski's original concept, which he further developed with Rodrigue, along with advice from the university's Target Technology Incubator and the UMaine Office of Research and Economic Development.

Blake James Named UMaine Athletic Director

10 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Brent Williamson (207) 581-4158

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy announced today that he has chosen Blake James to be Director of Athletics at UMaine. James, who has been at UMaine since 2003 and has served as interim athletic director since July 2005, was chosen following a national search.

"Several seasoned and accomplished athletics administrators expressed interest in this position," Kennedy says. "It is clear to me that Blake presents all of the attributes that we are looking for in a UMaine athletic director."

James was one of three finalists announced last month. Wayne State University Athletic Director Robert Fournier and Frank Pergolizzi, the athletic director at Southeastern Louisiana University, also visited campus for a series of interviews and meetings. Kennedy decided on James over the weekend and offered him the job on Monday. University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal granted his approval, as required by System policy, on Tuesday. The appointment will become final when approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

"I had never met Blake before the search committee first interviewed him earlier this spring," says Prof. David Townsend, director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences and chair of the 11-member search committee. "But I was instantly impressed with his maturity, his intelligence and his clear ideas about how the UMaine athletic department should operate. As a professor, I was struck by his sincere commitment to academics and to making the student-athlete experience a positive one; and of course, as a Black Bear fan, I am excited about the future of the athletic program under Blake's leadership."

Black Bear coaches Ann McInerney (women's basketball) and Tim Whitehead (men's hockey) were on the search committee.

"The University of Maine is a wonderful institution and I am elated to have the opportunity to continue in the role of athletic director," James says. "Our future success will depend on our ability to provide our student-athletes with the resources they need to achieve academic and athletic excellence. President Kennedy has a tremendous vision for our

University and I am excited to be a part of that vision."

James came to UMaine in 2003 to serve as senior associate athletic director. Kennedy appointed him interim A.D. when Patrick Nero left UMaine last summer to become commissioner of the America East Conference.

"Blake faced several tests during his tenure as interim athletic director," Kennedy says. "In each case, he passed with flying colors. I am particularly impressed with his personal integrity, his commitment to student-athletes, and his firm understanding of the appropriate role of an athletics department in a first-class academic institution. I have no doubt that Black Bear student-athletes will continue to excel, both in the classroom and in competition, as we move forward with Blake as UMaine's athletic director."

Before coming to UMaine, James worked in athletic administration, mostly in fundraising roles, at the University of Nebraska, the University of Miami and Providence College. He earned a bachelor's degree from Mankato State University and a master's degree from St. Thomas University in Miami.

"Fundraising is a critical skill for any Division I athletic director in this day and age," says Kennedy. "This is particularly true at an institution like UMaine, where we are involved in a fundraising campaign. Blake's proven track record in fundraising, and the relationships he has already developed within the UMaine donor community, will serve us well. He really understands and appreciates what UMaine is all about, and he will be an outstanding leader in our campus community."

UMaine is in the first year of a six-year \$150 million comprehensive fundraising campaign.

The UMaine athletic department has been operating without a senior associate athletic director since James' promotion last summer. He says he plans to start a search to fill that role right away.

UMaine Names Valedictorian and Salutatorian

11 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

ORONO -- The top two students in the University of Maine Class of 2006 will be recognized for their outstanding academic achievement at Saturday's commencement activities. Susan Nelligan Scott, a Holden native who now lives in Ellsworth, is the class valedictorian. The salutatorian is Alison Pease of Saco.

Scott, who will receive a bachelor's degree in psychology, has been accepted into a UMaine graduate program in counselor education. She aspires to eventually earn a doctorate. She joined the UMaine staff as an administrative assistant in 1998, and began taking classes shortly thereafter. She has worked on the staff at UMaine's Center for Community Inclusion and its Office of Equal Opportunity. Scott worked full-time through the course of her undergraduate program, taking some courses online or in the evening. She is in several honor societies, including Phi Kappa Phi.

"In gaining an education, I have also come to understand how much more there is out there to learn, and I am excited about continuing my education," Scott says.

Scott and her husband Ron Scott have been married for 29 years. They have a son, a daughter-in-law and a granddaughter.

An aspiring small animal veterinarian, Pease is headed to the University of Minnesota and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. She has wanted to be a vet since fourth grade, when she became inspired by reading James Herriot's "All Creatures Great and Small." Pease has been an active member of the UMaine community. She is a member of the

prestigious Phi Beta Kappa honor society, along with the National Society for Collegiate Scholars and other student honor organizations. She has also enjoyed participation in coed and women's intramural soccer.

"My time at UMaine has been amazing," Pease says. "I've met some great people and had some fantastic experiences. My time here has been everything I could have hoped for and more."

Pease's bachelor's degree is in Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

Scott and Pease will each receive the designation summa cum laude with their degrees, and they will sit on the stage during their graduation so that they may be specifically recognized during the event by UMaine President Robert Kennedy.

UMaine Study of 1,200 Consumers Shows Higher Gas Prices Alter Car Buying Decisions

11 May 2006

Contact: Jack Cohen, study author, c. 207-949-1129 (Jack is a UMaine undergraduate; his project was overseen by UMaine faculty.)

Todd Gabe, associate professor of Resource Economics and Policy, 207 581-3307; Clinton Colmenares, UMaine University Relations, 207-581-3742; David Munson, UMaine University Rel

ORONO, Maine -- As the price of gasoline continues to climb, consumers are beginning to reevaluate their criteria for purchasing new vehicles, according to a survey of 1,200 people conducted by the University of Maine.

A key question on the survey asked consumers, if they were going to replace their current vehicles, what class of vehicle would they choose. The choices were cars, station wagons and mini-vans, SUVs and personal pickup trucks.

"The most significant thing that we found is that people were less likely to select a truck when gas prices went up," said Jack Cohen, author of a recent report on the survey. Cohen is a fourth-year honors student at UMaine who graduates May 13 with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Management and Policy.

People's preferences for an SUV, however, were not diminished by higher gas prices, or, presumably, by low gas mileage. "The demand for SUVs is very inelastic, it doesn't move. People's buying decisions around SUVs involve a cultural popularity. People are willing to put up with more to drive them," Cohen says.

Another interesting statistic showed that 60% of people surveyed think that all vehicles pollute about the same. But, when people believed that trucks or SUVs were more polluting, they were less likely to select them.

Cohen analyzed the results of the Maine Car and Truck Survey, conducted in Maine in 2004 and 2005, when the weekly average price of gasoline in the state ranged from \$1.88 to \$2.57. It was funded in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The survey controlled for demographic factors that can affect truck buying, such as age and income.

"What this survey shows is that all things being equal, when gas prices rise people would prefer not to buy a truck," says Todd Gabe, associate professor in UMaine's department of Resource Economics and Policy and Cohen's faculty advisor.

This finding runs counter to market data that show truck sales remaining stable. But, Cohen and Gabe say, people might answer a survey one way, considering environmental factors, gas prices and other issues, but when it comes to making a purchase maybe they choose a vehicle based on other preferences, such as popularity or utility of a vehicle.

"The analysis also showed that consumers who drive farther in their daily commute and other activities were more likely

to buy a car, while consumers who drive less and used their vehicle for hauling were more likely to purchase a truck," Cohen says.

"People who need to buy a truck for their job, they're going to buy a truck. Although people's views of gas prices and concerns for the environment may be considered, the use of the vehicle is still the determinant of choice," Gabe says.

Cohen's study is part of a larger project conducted by the UMaine Department of Resource Economics and Policy, and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources Council of Maine and the Maine Automobile Dealers Association are also involved in the broader effort.

Student Collecting "Dress for Success" Clothing for Community Job-Seekers

12 May 2006

Contact: George Manlove at 581-3756

ORONO - A University of Maine student has undertaken a "Dress for Success" clothing drive this month as a community service project and an effort to help students from the Penobscot Job Corps Center in Bangor get proper attire for jobs and job interviews.

"The basic idea for this is there are students who are trying very hard to enter the job market and they may not have the resources," says Jessica Richards, a fourth-year journalism major from Orrington and the incoming community service chair of the UMaine student chapter of the American Marketing Association.

Richards has a cardboard collection box in the atrium of the D.P. Corbett Business Building, but adds she will arrange to pick up clothing, if people contact her by email (jessica.richards@umit.maine.edu).

She is looking for clothing, clean and in good condition, which would be suitable for people to wear for job interviews or in the workplace. Collared shirts, blazers, trousers, skirts, neckties, belts or suits are among the items she hopes to collect and donate.

"It's for all different students," she says, "usually young people, age 17-23."

Spring is a good time for the collection, she says, because many people, both on campus or in the surrounding communities, are updating their wardrobes about now.

Renae Muscatell, business and community liaison for Penobscot Job Corps Center, says job corps students appreciate the donated clothing for several reasons. One, the clothing serves as a model for what they should be considering for workplace attire as they enter the job market. Also, dressing well for a job interview improves the students' demeanor and sense of professionalism.

"Their confidence just goes through the roof," Muscatell says.

Over the last 40 years, Penobscot Job Corps has provided economically disadvantaged young people the opportunity to gain essential educational, vocational and life skills needed to enter the workforce. Combining classroom, practical, and work-based learning experiences, the job corps program prepares youths for stable, long-term careers. The agency is funded through the Maine Department of Labor.

Richards says among the many components of the student chapter of the AMA is to provide service to the community or businesses within the community.

She will collect clothing until May 30.

Harness the Wealth! Workshop to Focus on Rural Revitalization; Mainers Hope to Learn From Midwest Success, Keep Wealth Local

12 May 2006

Contact: Nate Michaud (207) 581-4523

UNITY, Maine -- Sometimes great ideas about how to keep things local come from away. That's why Maine Rural Partners is bringing together representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, citizen groups and non-profit organizations throughout the state to hear about an approach that's helping to revitalize rural Nebraska.

Maine Rural Partners, a UMaine Orono-based non-profit devoted to providing networking and resource sharing services for rural community development volunteers and professionals throughout Maine, will host *Harness the Wealth!*, a two-day workshop on the Common Ground Fairgrounds in Unity May 18-19.

In addition to providing an opportunity to find ways to better share in-state ideas and resources relevant to community building, the workshop will showcase Hometown Competitiveness (HTC), a program developed to revitalize Nebraska's rural communities, which is gaining popularity in other parts of rural America. Developed by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, the Nebraska Community Foundation, and the Heartland Center for Leadership Development, HTC is built on the integration of four community building "pillars": youth engagement, entrepreneurship, leadership development, and building local endowments.

"This is a unique opportunity to learn from the accomplishments of others, and to bring a new perspective to community capacity building in Maine," USDA Rural Development State Director Michael W. Aube says.

The fourth "pillar," called "Wealth Capture" by HTC, is particularly interesting to Mary Ann Hayes, Executive Director of Maine Rural Partners.

"We realize that we are facing similar demographic trends with our aging population here in rural Maine and believe that the HTC wealth capture model presents a powerful approach for sustaining rural communities," says Hayes. "I think a lot of people in rural Maine want to do what they can to help the communities they love, but really don't know what they can do. This approach, which has been really successful in other parts of the country, provides an opportunity for folks to feel good about giving back to their home town without necessarily hurting their pocket books. It's built on core values we share of generating widespread community engagement and building on local assets to secure a sustainable high quality of life."

Hayes adds that there is still room available for interested community members who'd like to attend.

"We strongly encourage rural community representatives to come and hear this presentation for themselves next week," she says.

The workshop's first day, Thursday, will be devoted to an exploration of how rural communities can work towards a healthy future by engaging their young people, developing leaders, and creating environments which nurture entrepreneurship.

Thursday's featured speaker will be Chris Frank, 2006 Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Small Business Association (SBA). President and founder of Orono-based Intelligent Spatial Technologies, Frank is one of the founders of FUSION Bangor, an organization formed to engage young people in community leadership. Frank also will participate in a discussion panel on entrepreneurship in rural Maine with Tracy Stutzman of the Maine Highlands Guild and Harold Clossey of the Downeast Business Alliance.

Friday's sessions will focus on the Hometown Competitiveness approach to building local endowments to fund

community building work in the future, and will include a panel of Mainers discussing the viability of this adopting approach in their communities.

Those who attend *Harness the Wealth!* will be treated to Maine-made meals -- including Thursday evening's lobster bake and Friday's 100 percent Maine pizza. Those staying overnight will be able to stay at nearby Unity College, one of the event's sponsors, or at the Copper Heron B&B. On Friday evening attendees will be treated to a reception and Michael Gulezian concert at the Unity Centre for the Performing Arts, a model of heritage-based revitalization. Anyone interested in attending *Harness the Wealth!* should call 581-4520 or go to Maine Rural Partner's website, www.mainerural.org.

Georgia Taps Maine Model for Coaching Education Text

12 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt @ (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- More than 40 states are looking to Maine as a model for steering local sports reform, but Georgia is the first to make *Sports Done Right* part of its official process for training community coaches. The Georgia High School Association (GHSAs) recently adopted the University of Maine guide for defining and shaping healthy interscholastic and youth sports as a textbook for its coaching eligibility program.

Beginning this summer, the GHSAs, which oversees high school athletics in the Peach state, will use *Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine Student-Athletes* as a textbook to supplement Coaching Principles, one of two required courses for individuals seeking community coaching -- or non-faculty -- certification.

"We wanted the best possible information on a practical level to benefit our coaches," says Ralph Swearngin, GHSAs executive director. "There's absolutely no fat in *Sports Done Right*," he says. "Every paragraph is solid data."

The GHSAs has conducted a training program for non-faculty coaches since the early 1990's and was in the process of creating a new curriculum last fall when members of the revision panel learned about the UMaine report, which was issued in January 2005. "We evaluated it and felt it was the best for us," Swearngin says.

Other publications considered as supplementary texts were more like graduate-level, theory-heavy materials, according to Swearngin. However, *Sports Done Right* was different. "We didn't have to wade through a lot of theory," he says. "The blending of theory and practice was very succinct."

Swearngin also notes that the report's core principles and practices best reflect the association's own values and beliefs about the qualities coaches need to take into the field and work effectively with adolescents.

Crafted by a statewide Select Panel, the Maine report defines healthy interscholastic sports, promotes competition without conflict, and makes recommendations for shaping the best possible learning environment for student-athletes. The document is unprecedented in its reliance on the voices of student-athletes to examine problems and solutions.

Implementation of *Sports Done Right* by Maine schools and communities is spearheaded by the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching (MCSC) at the University of Maine. The MCSC, in cooperation with the Maine Principals' Association, also runs an on-line course for Maine coaching eligibility.

In Georgia, an average of 1,000 participants take the community coaching eligibility course each year, and the GHSAs has entered an agreement with the MCSC to purchase 2,000 copies of the report. Instructors will use the Maine report at training sites throughout Georgia and include questions from *Sports Done Right* in the eligibility exam.

The use of the Maine report as a textbook in a statewide coaching education program has tremendous implications,

according to MCSC director Karen Brown. "Georgia's view of *Sports Done Right* as a practical approach to improving coaching education and the sports experience will continue to increase our momentum," she says.

The Select Panel's hope was to develop a tool that could be used as a model in Maine as well as nationally, Brown notes. The relationship with the Georgia High School Association, she says, speaks to the quality and scope of the panel's work and expands the voice of Maine student-athletes who were key in shaping the report.

In addition to 12 school pilot sites working to implement the initiative, more than 250 Maine communities have participated in training and/or started community conversations around *Sports Done Right*. Sport and school leaders in more than 40 states as well as Canada and the United Kingdom have requested the report and various tools developed to help schools assess and reform their sports programs.

(Media note: Ralph Swearngin, executive director of the Georgia High School Association in Thomaston, GA, can be reached at 706-647-7473; res@ghsa.net.

Upcoming Science-related Events

12 May 2006

Contact: Dave Munson @ 207-581-3777

1. Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium

2. Workshop: Avian Influenza Issues and Disposal Options

1. Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium

The College of Education and Human Development's Spring Research Colloquium continues with two additional events. The intent is to provide a forum for College faculty to share and discuss their research -- planned, in process or recently completed --and to learn from each other.

The seminars are held from 2-3 p.m. on various Fridays in 159 Shibles Hall. Members of the campus community and general public are welcome to attend.

The final installment in the colloquium series will be:

May 19 -- "Comparing instructional modes: One element of physics education research," Michael Wittmann.

2. Workshop: Avian Influenza Issues and Disposal Options

Contact: Mark Hutchinson (207) 832-0343; Jen O'Leary (207) 581-3106

UMaine Cooperative Extension and Maine Compost Team experts will provide information about proper disposal methods for routine and catastrophic bird mortalities on June 2, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Jewett Hall at University of Maine in Augusta. The workshop is intended to inform and prepare poultry producers, owners of small poultry flocks, and others who may be asked or need to dispose of bird mortalities. Proper disposal of carcasses minimizes risks to people, remaining flocks, and the environment.

UMaine Engineering a Triple Threat in National Contests

12 May 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- What do chemical cars, steel bridges and concrete canoes have in common?

UMaine student engineers are making some of the best in the nation.

As the 2005-2006 academic year winds down, a variety of contests are held around the region and across the country that test the ability of college students to apply the skills that they have learned in the classroom. Three of the most prestigious national engineering contests, the American Society of Civil Engineers Concrete Canoe Contest, the National Student Steel Bridge Competition and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Chem-E-Car Competition, will be welcoming teams from the UMaine College of Engineering to their national events as the top regional teams come together to vie for best-in-the-nation titles.

While the final products created for each contest are very different, the competitions themselves are similar. Each requires a written report and oral presentation that outlines the technical aspects and design specifications of the entry, each requires that the student teams apply their knowledge to create an entry that can complete a specific task, and each demands thousands of hours from each team in preparation for the final contest. The competition is tough, the work demanding.

UMaine students are up for the challenge, however.

After winning the regional competition at the UMaine Engineering Expo in March, the UMaine Student Steel Bridge Team is working to further refine their techniques in preparation for the national contest, to be held on May 31 in Salt Lake City. In addition to preparing and presenting a comprehensive report on the specifications for their design, the team must also build the 3-foot-wide, 20-foot-long bridge from precut pieces of their own design. Their goal? To build it in 13 minutes or less.

Nearly 20 student members of the UMaine chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers took on the challenges presented in the institute's ChemE-Car Competition, forming two teams and placing first and second in the regional competition in April. The cars, one powered by a hydrogen fuel cell and the other by an aluminum-air battery, had to travel a prescribed distance and stop, carrying a payload revealed to the students at the time of the contest. The group is currently raising money to send a UMaine team to the 2006 national competition, to be held at the AIChE Annual Meeting in San Francisco November 12.

Young engineers from UMaine's Civil and Environmental Engineering program designed, built and paddled their way to victory at the Northeast Regional Concrete Canoe Competition on April 29 and 30, placing first overall and guaranteeing their spot at the national competition, to be held at the University of Oklahoma in June. Their 260-pound vessel, *Arrrgregate*, dominated the racing categories in regional competition. The team brought home top honors in aesthetics, design, and presentation as well. The June event will be UMaine's third trip to the nationals, with previous teams placing in the top 15 in 1991 and 1992. The UMaine team took fourth place in the 2005 regional competition.

UMaine's Forest Resources Programs Celebrate 100 Years of Graduations

12 May 2006

Contact: William H. Livingston (207) 581-2990; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The University of Maine's Forest Resources Programs are celebrating 100 years of professional

forester graduations at a reception in the lobby and courtyard of Nutting Hall in Orono, on May 13th. UMaine's undergraduate forestry program -- the oldest, continuously accredited undergraduate forestry program in the US -- graduated its first students in 1906. Since then, the program has expanded and diversified into multiple majors in forest resources, and the total diplomas given-out exceed 5600, including over 100 doctorates.

Dave Field, Chair and Professor, Department of Forest Management, UMaine, said: "This is a pretty momentous occasion for the Forest Resource Programs. It's incredibly rewarding and inspiring to see these young people graduating year after year and to know that we have been educating forest resource professionals for 100 years."

Since 1906, men and women from UMaine's Forest Resource Programs have filled positions at the state, national, and international level, and the need for future graduates is likely to increase. Bill Livingston, Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Forest Ecosystem Science, concludes: "We are entering a period where the stewardship of our forest resources will shift significantly to a younger generation. There is a huge commitment to forest resource studies in Maine, and the state and nation will need our graduates to help ensure that our forests continue to provide the wood, wildlife, and recreation that our society expects."

The ceremony will feature a special unveiling of a painting by Mark McCullough in commemoration of the 100th anniversary. Mark received a Ph.D. degree in Wildlife from UMaine in 1986, and he said his gift was the, "thanks for the education that Cathy Elliott and I received from the Department of Wildlife Ecology."

UMaine's Climate Change Institute Hosts Upcoming Symposium

12 May 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777; Gordon Hamilton (207) 581-3446

ORONO, Maine - The 14th J. Louis Agassiz Symposium of the Climate Change Institute will take place on May 11 and 12, 2006. The event will be held in the conference room facility in the Sawyer Environmental Center.

Dozens of UMaine's top researchers and their collaborators will present their research findings regarding a broad range of topics related to climate change during the two-day event, which will feature more than 40 presentations. The keynote speaker for this year's symposium is Dr. Paul Epstein, Associate Director of the Health and Global Environment; Harvard Medical School. Epstein will discuss the health, economic, and ecological implications of climate instability at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 12.

The complete program for the event can be found at <http://climatechange.umaine.edu/grad/Seminar/agassiz06program.html>.

UMaine Faculty Members Honored

12 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's four top annual faculty awards were presented at the Academic Honors Convocation earlier this afternoon.

This year's Distinguished Maine Professor is David Townsend, professor of oceanography and director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. The annual award by the Alumni Association recognizes outstanding achievements in

teaching, research and public service.

The Presidential Teaching Award was presented to Mary S. Tyler, from the UMaine Dept. of Biological Sciences. The recipient of the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award was Kyriacos Markides, professor of sociology. Receiving the Presidential Public Service Achievement Award was Carol Gilmore, a management professor in the Maine Business School.

"These four professors represent the very strongest attributes of the University of Maine's wonderful faculty," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "They are scholars of international repute who are absolutely dedicated to their students and to UMaine's land-grant mission. Professors like Dave, Mary, Kyriacos and Carol are the reason that UMaine can provide high-quality education to its students and equally important service to the people of Maine."

David Townsend earned a bachelor's degree from UMaine in 1974, followed by a Ph.D. in 1981. He joined the UMaine faculty in 1993. Known internationally for his research on the Gulf of Maine, specifically on red tide, Townsend is one of the most respected and prolific scholars in his field of study. He is also a dedicated teacher, who holds weekend and evening review sessions for his students to assure that every student has an opportunity to attend. Townsend is well-known throughout Maine for his tireless efforts to share with Maine people the results of his research and his passion for quality higher education in Maine.

"Professor Townsend is a singular asset to the University of Maine and embodies all of the attributes we would hope that our faculty might possess," wrote Prof. Irv Kornfield of the UMaine zoology faculty and the 1997 Distinguished Maine Professor in nominating Townsend for the award.

Mary S. Tyler, a professor of zoology at UMaine, came to UMaine as a faculty member in 1976. Noted as a teaching innovator, Tyler has long been a leader in using technology as part of the teaching and learning process. She developed a CD-ROM, now in its third revision, to augment the textbook she wrote on developmental biology. Tyler has also created DVDs and a website (www.developmentalbiology.net) for teaching purposes, along with a two-volume DVD set of eight movies about famous scientists and their work. She is also credited with developing the Biology New Media Center, where UMaine professors and others work in projects related to developing multimedia teaching materials. A key result has been the development of a Web-based biology learning platform, so effective in upper-level courses that it is under modification for use in introductory biology courses. "She has revolutionized the way that developmental biologists across the world teach their courses," wrote Scott F. Gilbert, Howard A. Schneiderman Professor of Biology at Swathmore College, in support of Tyler's nomination. Tyler was UMaine's Distinguished Maine Professor in 1981.

Carol Gilmore has been on the UMaine faculty for 39 years. During that time, she has given willingly of her time and talents to serve the university and its faculty and staff as an advocate, a mediator and as a tireless contributor to important efforts. A labor relations specialist, Gilmore has served on the State Labor Relations Board since 1996, and she is a member of the State Board of Pharmacists. She is also well-known for her work in support of important community organizations such as Wellspring, Inc., which provides rehabilitation facilities for people recovering from alcoholism. "She is an exemplary individual who has a deep concern for the welfare of others," wrote Dean Daniel Innis from the UMaine College of Education and Human Development in supporting the colleagues who nominated Gilmore for the award.

A prolific scholar, Kyriacos Markides joined the UMaine faculty in 1972 and saw publication of the first of his eight books five years later. He is recognized as one of the world's leading scholars studying the nature of spiritual experiences and structure and culture of spiritual communities. Markides' six books in that field of study have been translated into 12 languages, and he has received worldwide recognition for his work. UMaine sociology professor Steven Cohn nominated Markides for this award. "(Markides') research goes far to illuminate the complex nature of spiritual experience and how this experience is both affected by, and can transcend, the cultural influences in which it is embedded," Cohn wrote.

University of Maine Awards More than 2,000 Degrees at Spring Commencement

15 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Calling graduation a bridge from one point in life to another, University of Maine President Robert Kennedy urged the 2,050 members of UMaine's Class of 2006 to use their college experience as the basis for meaningful community citizenship.

"Take full advantage of your learning experiences here and apply those lessons in ways that give something back to others," Kennedy said in addressing graduates at two ceremonies, held inside at Harold Alfond Sports Arena.

Kennedy presided over the ceremonies, which were attended by an estimated total of approximately 11,000 family members and friends of the graduates. The Class of 2006 is the largest class in UMaine history.

Former North Carolina senator and Democratic vice-presidential candidate John Edwards spoke at both events, addressing issues related to poverty, particularly in the U.S.

"I'm asking you to make this the cause of your generation," said Edwards, who is director of the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity at the University of North Carolina. "The world wants to know, 'do we actually care about the huge moral issues that face us here and around the world?' And this is where you come in. I've seen young people make changes. ... I know how much difference you can make because I've seen it. And I'm asking you to do it again."

In calling for a moment of silence in memory of those members of the UMaine community who have died within the past year, Kennedy paid tribute to David Veverka, a UMaine senior who was killed on May 6 while serving in the Maine Army National Guard in Iraq.

"David was all we hope for in a UMaine student, and all any of us would want as a son, a brother or a friend," he said, noting that the UMaine community has lost several students, faculty members and retirees during the past year. "UMaine is a collegial and friendly community, and we care about each other," Kennedy said. "Each loss affects us profoundly."

The ceremony featured the conferral of honorary doctor of science degrees upon two distinguished citizens. Katherine Musgrave, a UMaine professor emeritus and well-known scholar in the field of human nutrition, was recognized during the morning ceremony for her career in teaching, research and public service. "She has demonstrated uncommon commitment to her chosen field of study and to those who wish to better understand how to live a better, healthier life through good eating habits," Kennedy said. James Knott, a business and manufacturing innovator whose work has had a significant positive effect on Maine's lobster industry, received an honorary degree at the afternoon ceremony. "Mr. Knott has made a vital contribution to the scientific understanding of the lobster fishery and what is needed to sustain it as a viable part of the state and regional economy," Kennedy said.

Also recognized was the late Herbert Sargent, who died in April at the age of 100. He had been approved for an honorary degree before his death, and several members of his family were in attendance to be recognized at the afternoon commencement event.

Susan Nelligan Scott, a longtime Holden resident who now lives in Ellsworth, was recognized during the graduation ceremony as the Class of 2006 valedictorian. A psychology major, Scott intends to pursue graduate education at UMaine. The class salutatorian, Alison Pease of Saco, earned a degree in Animal and Veterinary Sciences. She will enroll in a doctor of veterinary medicine program at the University of Maine.

David Townsend, an oceanography professor and director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences who was announced on Friday as UMaine's 2006 Distinguished Maine Professor, addressed the graduates. He talked about the ways in which a college education provides more than just information learned in a classroom or laboratory.

"You are ready to be taught new and complex details by your employer because you have a different mind now, one that

processes information differently," said Townsend, himself a 1974 UMaine graduate. "Even if you are unaware of that difference, it's real. An because of it you will continue to learn and understand in ways you were unable to do a few years ago."

William D. Johnson, a member of the UMaine 50th anniversary Class of 1956, brought greetings from the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, of which he is a member. The new graduates were welcomed to the ranks of the 95,000 UMaine alumni by Bion A. Foster, chair of the University of Maine Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Early Childhood Professionals Advance Skills, Services

16 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Fifteen early childhood professionals received master's of education degrees from the University of Maine this month as part of a federally funded program designed to increase the number and quality of personnel serving children birth to age 5 with disabilities. The graduates also completed research and projects designed to build capacity and better serve their clients at agencies and organizations around the state.

The Training Options for Early Intervention Personnel (TOP) project is supported by a U.S. Department of Education grant and directed by Assistant Research Professor Sandy Doctoroff of the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies. The College of Education and Human Development awards the degree.

The TOP project offers graduate study in early intervention/early childhood special education for practicing professionals in early intervention, early care, education and related fields. Participants can pursue programs leading to an endorsement as a Maine Teacher of Young Children with Disabilities -- Birth to School-Age Five and/or to a graduate degree. The program is designed to help students gain competencies in leadership and administration, as well as skills to provide effective direct services to young children and their families. Courses are offered at locations throughout Maine.

During a recent recognition ceremony at UMaine, TOP graduates presented an overview of projects completed to expand the capacity of the service delivery system for young children with disabilities and their families or to meet needs and interests of their workplaces and clients. They include:

Heidi Finson of Charleston is a teacher for Penquis CAP Head Start. The focus of her project was to revise the Penquis Child Development Operations Manual. She sought to make the procedures used by the agency to implement mandates of the federal Head Start program more family focused, user friendly and efficient in using staff time. Theresa Giglio of South Portland is a teacher in a program for preschoolers who are deaf. She worked with the Kids' Project of the Pine Tree Society of Maine whose mission is to provide high-quality, affordable adaptive equipment for children with special needs. She completed research on parents' and professionals' perceptions about a new line of toys produced by the Pine Tree Society and also provided information from her observations of young children playing with the toys. Karen Thomes of Bangor is the inclusive preschool program teacher at Indian Island School. She developed an informational booklet about the services, procedures and parental rights within the Child Development Services system for Indian Island parents.

Michelle Taylor of Dedham is a behavioral consultant for early intervention programs and public schools that serve children with autism and related disorders. She developed an early intervention to special education transition guide for the three main stakeholders in the process: families, early interventionists and public school educators.

Karen Hopkins of Scarborough is the coordinator of Early Childhood Family and Community Services at the Baxter School for the Deaf. The goals were to further develop and refine the role of her agency in serving infants and toddlers with hearing loss and to foster stronger collaboration with the other primary agencies and professionals serving these

children and their families. This project grew out of recommendations of the Maine Newborn Hearing Program mandated by the State of Maine to assure families, caregivers and their children have information and access to newborn hearing screenings.

Kate Kline of Thomaston is a developmental therapist who serves children birth to age 5 with disabilities in homes and preschool settings in Knox County. Her project helped the Toy Library Center in Rockland weather a fiscal crisis and find funds to continue a program that provides social, play and learning opportunities for children and parents. Kline has written a grant proposal and assisted with finding other opportunities to secure funds for the program's continuation.

Karen Kohlmeyer of Holden is a physical therapist who has worked for United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Maine and other programs serving children with disabilities. She is starting a community fitness center for children, which will provide an inclusive and developmentally appropriate motor development program to benefit children with special needs and their typically developing peers. The launch of this enterprise in Bangor was the focus of her graduate project.

Diane Nicholson of Cape Elizabeth is director and owner of Ledgemere Country Day School, an inclusive early childhood program in Cape Elizabeth. For her graduate project she arranged and coordinated a workshop on therapeutic yoga for parents and professionals who serve young children with disabilities. She also obtained corporate sponsorship to purchase and distribute to workshop participants a book and video on yoga for children with special needs.

Debra Crump of Vassalboro is a developmental therapist with Southern Kennebec Child Development Services, working with children birth to age five with disabilities in their homes and in community preschool and child care settings. She field-tested an expanded professional role that merged some service coordination and developmental therapy responsibilities. She also developed a job and procedures description to guide her agency and other CDS sites in implementing this model, which allowed her to better meet immediate the information and referral needs of families.

Janice LeBlanc of North Waterboro is a developmental therapist with Easter Seals of Maine who provides home-based services to children birth to five with disabilities in York County. LeBlanc developed and evaluated a pilot peer mentoring group within her agency for professionals who wanted to gain competence in implementing developmental approaches to intervention with children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Donna Casavant of Hampden is a developmental therapist who provides home-based services to children birth to age five in Penobscot County. Casavant carried out case study research on the use of a model transition portfolio she developed to facilitate the transition of a deaf child from early intervention and preschool services to public kindergarten.

Tera Kennedy of Morrill provides consultation and supervision of developmental therapy services for Knox County Child Development Services. She developed a customized "Welcome to our School" book for incoming kindergarten children at Searsport Elementary. The book is intended to reduce children's anxiety about the transition by supplying specific answers about what to expect in the new school.

Three graduates from Windham worked together to co-coordinate the second Annual Maine Division for Early Childhood One-Day Conference: Parents as Partners. These conferences have filled a gap in professional development opportunities for personnel who work with young children with disabilities and for families who seek additional information to support their children's development. The graduates are Tina Cannon, a teacher at Children's Odyssey, an inclusive early childhood program in Portland; Susan McCormick, co-director of Children's Odyssey; and Sarah Hill, formerly a service coordinator with Cumberland County Child Development Services.

Former Agriculture Commissioner Joins 4-H foundation

16 May 2006

Contact: Fred Schlutt, Executive Director 4-H Foundation, (207) 581- 1162

ORONO -- Robert Spear, former Maine Commissioner of Agriculture, has recently been named a trustee of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation.

Spear is a third generation dairy and vegetable farmer who lives in Nobleboro with his wife, Janet. He was a state representative for eight years (1990-1998) and held assignments on both the Taxation and Agriculture committees, serving as chair of the latter. Spear is a 4-H leader and State Farm Bureau member, as well as an officer of the Maine Association of Conservation Districts. A 1965 graduate of the University of Maine, Spear has been a long-time supporter of agriculture and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

As a trustee of the 4-H Foundation, Spear will work with 4-H Foundation staff to provide the resources for Maine 4-H youth to participate in educational activities in Maine, New England and the U.S. These activities include sending the Maine 4-H delegation to Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass., sending a Maine 4-H horse judging team to the Eastern Region 4-H Horse Classic in Louisville, Ky., and Maine 4-H Days, being held in 2007 at the Windsor Fairgrounds.

4-H, organized for agricultural education, grew out of boys and girls clubs of the early 20th century. Today's 4-H is part of the national Cooperative Extension System, which is operated through each state's land-grant university. In Maine, UMaine Cooperative Extension offers 4-H programs focusing on leadership, citizenship and life skills for young people aged 5 to 18.

"We are excited to have Bob as a Trustee of the 4-H Foundation. Bob brings a great deal of credibility and respect throughout Maine. His knowledge of and contacts within the agricultural community in Maine will help us in our efforts to provide the funds for Maine 4-H members to have a quality experience in 4-H," said Harold Brown, president of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation.

Workshop Offered For Poultry Producers And Small Flock Owners

16 May 2006

Contact: Mark Hutchinson, Extension Educator, 207-832-0343

AUGUSTA --- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Compost Team will offer a workshop, "Avian Influenza Issues and Disposal Options," on Friday, June 2 at the University of Maine in Augusta. The session is scheduled for from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Jewett Hall. This workshop is specifically to inform and prepare flock owners, producers and others regarding proper disposal methods for routine and catastrophic bird mortalities. The information is relevant for both domestic and wild flocks and mortalities caused by avian influenza.

This workshop will feature speakers from the Maine Department of Agriculture, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and UMaine Cooperative Extension. Topics will include backyard flocks, disposal issues and options, and biosecurity, and there will be a panel discussion.

There is no cost for the workshop and lunch will be provided.~Please register with UMaine Extension Educator Mark Hutchinson at 207-832-0343 or 800-244-2104 (in Maine), by no later than May 26 to allow an accurate headcount for lunch.

UMaine Public Safety Director to Speak in Russia about Campus Safety

16 May 2006

Contact: Noel March, 581-4053; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine Public Safety Director Noel March has been invited to speak at an international conference in Russia on May 19 about campus policing and security matters.

He is one of two North Americans scheduled to present, along with four other speakers, all experts in university security and safety. The other North American is Canadian Dan Hutt, public safety director at the University of Toronto.

They will address the Sixth International Conference on Campus Security at the University of St. Petersburg, a gathering of hundreds of public safety officers from European and Eastern European colleges and universities.

March, public safety director at UMaine since 2002 and recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice as an expert in community and campus policing, has spoken and delivered presentations at national conferences and at other universities.

His May 19 presentation is titled "Community Policing and Protective Measures for Campus Security," and stems from recent work March has done with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, in the area of protective measures for college campuses.

Following the St. Petersburg conference, March is scheduled to spend four days meeting with local police, campus security officers and residence life staff at The American University in Bulgaria in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, with which UMaine has a sister relationship. Meetings will include discussions with community police on handling potential conflicts between university residents and those in surrounding communities.

Elaine Clark Named UMaine Associate Vice President

17 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Elaine L. Clark, Esq., of Cumberland, has joined the University of Maine as Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance.

Since 1998, Clark has served as director of the State of Maine Bureau of General Services, where she oversaw construction of facilities for the executive and judicial branches of government as well as public schools. Her scope of responsibility also included state purchases, risk management, leased space, capital asset planning and management, property management, the state's central fleet and other services, including printing, postal, warehouse and surplus property.

"Elaine comes to us with tremendous experience, and she has earned the great respect of everyone she has worked with," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance.

During her tenure, the bureau rebuilt the state's correctional facilities, major office buildings, police barracks, its criminal justice academy and the Riverview Psychiatric Center. It also modernized many of the state's fish hatcheries. Numerous historic preservation projects were undertaken under Clark's direction, particularly the renovation of the historic Harlow Building at the state's East Campus in Augusta, for which the bureau received a 2005 award from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Clark also led several of the state's efforts to promote energy conservation and use of alternative fuels. One example is Brewster Hall at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, constructed under the Bureau of General Service's oversight, which received the first U.S. Green Building Council Silver Certification in Maine.

Upon her departure from state government on February 28, the Maine Legislature recognized Clark with an expression of sentiment honoring her for her accomplishments during her 12 years working in Augusta.

Prior to her appointment to General Services, Clark served as principal attorney for property law at the Maine Department of Transportation, and before that was engaged in private law practice, focusing on real estate and land use law.

Clark continues to participate on the Fort Popham planning committee, continues as a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of the Blaine House, continues to advocate for investment in the state's parks and historic sites, and was recently appointed by Gov. John Baldacci to the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority Board.

She is a Mount Holyoke College graduate, with a law degree from Western New England College School of Law.

University of Maine Museum of Art Summer Art Camp

17 May 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

SUMMER ART CAMP June 19 -- August 11, 2005

Get out of the heat and into the museum for some cool summer fun as 2006 marks the 8th Annual Summer Art Camp! Taught by professional art instructors in small groups, the tradition of an intensive but exciting art experience will continue as the campers delve into the exhibitions shown in the museum galleries. As always, the week will end with an opening reception where the children's masterpieces will be on display.

CAMP INFORMATION:

Time:

8:30 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Dates:

6/19 -- 23 1 & 2 Grade Instructor: Gina Platt

6/26 -- 30 3 & 4 Grade Instructor: Wendy Libby

7/17 -- 21 5 -- 8 Grade Instructor: Eric Hutchins

7/24 -- 28 5 -- 8 Grade Instructor: Eric Hutchins

7/31 -- 8/4 1 & 2 Grade Instructor: Julie Cameron

8/7 -- 11 3 & 4 Grade Instructor: Wendy Libby

Tuition

: \$115 (includes all materials); Members of the Museum of Art at the Family level and above will receive a discount.

Please call 561.3350 or visit www.umma.umaine.edu for more information. *Sessions are limited to 10 children and fill up quickly, so register early!*

University of Maine Museum of Art

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Admission: \$3.00 per person

No charge: Museum Members, UM students w/ ID

Directions:

From the North

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 4th light (1.2 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Youth and Journalism"; Maine Center for Student Journalism 13th Annual Newspaper Contest and Conference

18 May 2006

Contact: Shannon E. Martin at (207) 581-1281 or Sundari Pai at (207) 581-1939

ORONO--On Wednesday May 17 more than 100 students and advisors met at the University of Maine for the 13th Annual Maine Center for Student Journalism Newspaper Contest and Conference. Entrees from a dozen high schools representing all areas of the state competed for nine categories of newspaper writing, layout, design, photography and general excellence awards.

This year's keynote speaker was the 2004 Bob Drake Young Writer of the year award winner Justin Ellis. The conference was sponsored by the Maine Daily Newspaper Publishers Association and hosted by the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism. The awards ceremony and workshop sessions were held at Nutting Hall on the UMaine campus.

Winners in this year's Maine Center for Student Journalism High School Newspaper Contest included:

1. Feature Writing Category - Judge: Robert Wallack

First Place: Lucy Marshall of Ramblings, Deering High School; Second Place: Katie Poirier of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Third Place: Katie Peabody of Word, Times Record; Honorable Mention: Melanie Prescott of Eagle Times of Bonny Eagle High School;

2. Writing for the Arts (Reviews) Category - Judge: Christopher Smith, Bangor Daily News

First Place: Jeanette Merrill of Ramblings, Deering High School; Second Place: Rachel Denger of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Third Place: Jennifer Vincent of Eagle Times, Bonny Eagle High School; Honorable Mention: Krysta Konkinsky of RamPage, Bangor High School, Katie Peabody of Word, Times Record, Ali Donahue of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High School;

3. Photography Category -- Judge: EJ Hersom, Sanford News

First Place: Nate Foster of The Inside, Orono High School; Second Place: Derek Guimond of Ramblings, Deering High School; Third Place: Jolene Belanger of RamPage, Bangor High School; Honorable Mention: Dustin Turin of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High;

4. Sports Writing Category -- Judge: Kevin Sjoberg, Star Herald

First Place: Ryan Rudman of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Zak Boisvert of Ramblings, Deering High School; Third Place: Joan Tsang of RamPage, Bangor High School; Honorable Mention: Chelsea Allen of Word, Times Record, Ben Rautenberg of Cape Insight of Cape Elizabeth High School;

5. Editorial/Opinion Category- Judge: Robert and Mary Rossi

First Place: Kristin Higgins of Eagle Times, Bonny Eagle High School; Second Place: Samantha Danis of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Third Place: Dan Stearns of RamPage, Bangor High School; Honorable Mention: Dustin Turin of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High School;

6. Editorial Cartoon Category- Judge: George Danby, Bangor Daily News

First Place: Jolene Belanger of RamPage, Bangor High School; Second Place: Patrick Harpin of The Inside, Orono High School, Third Place: Ansell Hague of Eagle Times, Bonny Eagle High School; Honorable Mention: Kyle Toot of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High School;

7. News Writing Category- Judge: Jeff Ham, Portland Press Herald

First Place: Dan Stearns of RamPage, Bangor High School; Second Place: Patrick Harpin of The Inside, Orono High School; Honorable Mention: Conor Hankinson of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High School & Moriah Duval of Ramblings, Deering High School;

8. Layout & Design Category- Judge: Brian Hewitt, York County Coast Star

First Place: Patrick Harpin of The Inside, Orono High School; Second Place: Ali Donahue and Lindsay Duffy of Cape Insight, Cape Elizabeth High School; Third Place: Entire staff of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Honorable Mention: Chelsea Johnson, Sonya Kakuca and Kara Masse of Ramblings, Deering High School;

9. General Excellence Category- Judge: Dieter Bradbury, Andrew Russell & Grace Murphy, Portland Press Herald

First Place: Tara Hackett, Dan Stearns, Joanne Tsang and Matt Donahue of RamPage, Bangor High School, Second Place: Staff editors Samantha Danis and Brittany Brown of The Roar, Biddeford High School; Third Place: Entire Staff of Ramblings, Deering High School; Honorable Mention: Whitney King of Eagle Times, Bonny Eagle High School.

Neuroscientist to discuss teen brain development

22 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- How many frustrated parents have asked their teen-agers, "What in the world were you thinking?" Well, the kids probably weren't thinking, at least not in the way adults reason. They might not have the capacity, according to cognitive neuroscientist Herbert J. Weingartner, Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine.

Weingartner, a clinical psychologist, will shed some light on the dilemma in a lecture, "Planning and Evaluation: Frontal & Prefrontal Lobe Functions," scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, 11 a.m. in Room 202 Shibles Hall. These brain regions, still developing in adolescents, affect the ability to plan and evaluate behavior -- to think things through and make judgments instead of being impulse driven. Because this developmental process is not complete, adolescents can be at a disadvantage in planning and controlling their lives, according to Weingartner.

An acclaimed researcher who has held top leadership positions at the National Institutes of Health, Weingartner also will ponder how adults, particularly educators, might be helpful in providing more direction.

Business Professor Promotes Retail Management Careers

23 May 2006

Contact: Kim McKeage, 581-1989; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine marketing Professor Kim McKeage knows there's a lot more going on in retailing than stocking shelves and making change.

A former chain store manager, McKeage is trying to impart that notion to Maine Business School students through a special retail management class, possibly the only such class in Maine, according to one retail industry specialist.

McKeage is concerned that retailing as a career choice for college graduates with business degrees suffers from an image problem and may be overlooked by many students looking for business careers.

McKeage devised BUA 375 Retail Management six years ago to help students understand retailing and learn about the lucrative career opportunities in a billion-dollar industry in Maine.

"I designed this class because retailing is such a huge part of our economy," she says, "and such a large percentage of our graduates go into retail management."

Calling it a hybrid class, she says BUA 375 is a combination of marketing, management and strategy with a dose of accounting. McKeage's class covers everything from product merchandising, budget management and in-store displays to human resources, loss management and supervising dozens or hundreds of employees.

Classes like McKeage's are becoming increasingly popular at some of the nation's larger business schools like the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, according to a recent Associated Press report. Today's retail management graduates need marketing, merchandising and people management abilities, in addition to technology and finance skills. McKeage's class covers that ground.

"On the marketing side," McKeage says, "you've got a product you've got to keep track of, you've got a store that's got

to look right and you've got customers you have to understand. In managing a store, you have all these employees you have to deal with. It's a nice blend of different skills."

Retailing is one of the fastest growing career fields in Maine and across the country, McKeage says, noting that in Bangor, alone, the city's retail growth has outpaced population growth. According to the latest data available from the federal economic census, retail trade in Maine in 2002 generated \$16 billion in sales, had a payroll of \$1.6 billion for more than 80,000 employees working at just more than 7,000 businesses. Retail trade makes up nearly 10 percent of the state's gross state product.

Retailers in Maine and elsewhere face a shortage of good retail management candidates, says Cathy Nugent, a strategic staffing specialist with the human resources department at Hannaford Brothers corporate offices in Scarborough. She oversees the supermarket chain's college recruitment efforts and is so enthusiastic about McKeage's class that she visited it this spring to speak with students about retailing opportunities at Hannaford, and plans to do so again.

"When we hear that somebody is offering a class specifically about retailing, we get pretty excited about it," says Nugent, who believes the McKeage's class is unique in Maine. "I think this is very forward-thinking for Kim to offer something like this."

Nugent and McKeage say retailing is an underappreciated, even misunderstood career field. A common perception about retailing, they say, is that it's a field of low wages, poor benefits and working weekends and holidays. Previously, most business students have opted for the perceptually more glamorous fields of finance or investment.

In retailing, McKeage says, "the prospects for moving up are really good. Managers in the large stores make well over six figures. I don't think people understand the management paths."

McKeage's class introduced Jason Allen, a business management major from Bradford, to the realities of the field. The class was influential in his decision to pursue a management internship for the summer at Kohl's Bangor store, he says.

"Through increased technology and the use of information systems, I found that we can learn more about the consumer segment than I could have ever imagined," Allen says.

Using technology to analyze consumer demographics and lifestyle decisions makes it easier for today's managers to build store loyalty, better increase market position and attain a competitive advantage, he says.

Part of McKeage's class involves a required "build-a-store project," in which students design a hypothetical store and plan out details including site location, product, staffing, health benefits, employee incentives, marketing and customer base.

While many career positions in the retail industry require an in-house retail training program for new college graduates, McKeage says her retail management students leave with a grasp of the basics, so they can spend on-the-job training time concentrating on the finer points of product knowledge and operating policies within their new companies.

Auction to Benefit 4-H Youth

23 May 2006

Contact: Johanna Clift (207) 474-9622, 1-800-287-1495 (in Maine)

SKOWHEGAN

UMaine Students Win Libra Grants to Boost Business Launches

24 May 2006

Contact: Rory Eckardt, (207) 949-4401; William Sulinski, 866-6562; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Two UMaine business students who have started their own businesses through the university's Target Technology Innovation Center received \$5,000 seed grants from the Portland-based Libra Future Fund earlier this month.

Rory Eckardt of Orono, beginning his third semester in the Maine Business School MBA program, received a grant to assist with the development of his year-old forestry consulting business. William Sulinski of Dedham, with business partner Matthew Rodrigue, a 2004 engineering graduate from Wilton, devised conceptual plans for producing and marketing a new device to improve the efficiency of home heating oil delivery. Sulinski will graduate in December with an undergraduate degree in financial economics.

"Our board determined that both Rory and William are pursuing ideas that have great potential for economic development in Maine," says Erik Hayward, president and treasurer of the Libra Future Fund. "Libra Future Fund's mission is to keep talented, young people in Maine by awarding grants that enable them to pursue projects or businesses of their own design. Rory and William are exactly the type of young talent we want to keep in Maine. They are academically accomplished and they have put a lot of thought and effort into their businesses."

Eckardt, who holds an undergraduate degree from UMaine in Forestry Operations Science, launched his forest consulting business about a year ago and says he can help loggers, foresters and landowners in Maine make the most efficient use of their property and equipment.

"Forestry companies are lean," Eckardt says. "Many of these companies lack the resources to identify and predict changing trends, which can affect their viability in an uncertain marketplace"

Eckardt already is signing on clients throughout Maine, he says. With a background in the industry and help with market research, Eckardt identified a need for improvement in the business aspect of forestry and forest product manufacturing companies.

Sulinski, whose family is in the heating oil distribution business, currently is meeting with engineering design firms and investors to patent his wireless oil tank monitoring system and get it to market. Rodrigue, who plans to begin a Harvard Business School MBA program in the fall, will assist Sulinski as an advisor.

The Target Technology Innovation Center on Godfrey Road in Orono has provided both Eckardt and Sulinski with office space, business counseling, access to advanced technology equipment, business modeling software and data, as well as the ability to connect with other new entrepreneurs and potential investor connections.

"We are thrilled that these two individuals were recognized by Libra and received these awards," says Debbie Neuman, director of the Target Technology incubator. "They are exceptional individuals who possess the intelligence, commitment, energy, enthusiasm and business ideas that hold great promise for the state of Maine. We are proud to have them located at the Target Technology Incubator."

The Libra Future Fund is a "wonderful program that can help 'kick-start' and support young entrepreneurs in Maine," she adds.

Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and director of the Maine Business School, is pleased with the accomplishments of Eckardt, Sulinski and Rodrigue.

"Their businesses are exactly the type of entrepreneurship that the Maine Business School wants to promote -- businesses that will grow Maine's economy while providing attractive careers for young people in Maine," he says.

Target Technology Center was developed by the Bangor Target Development Corporation in partnership with the

University of Maine, the state of Maine and the city of Orono and was one of the first four designated Applied Technology Development Centers established in Maine.

Page Farm and Home Museum to Unveil Haying in Maine Exhibit

24 May 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum will open a new gallery and an exhibit on haying in Maine on Saturday, June 3 at 2 p.m.

"It's Haying Time - Haying in Maine, 1865-1940" focuses on the daily details and tools of the small farm hay industry that was a way of life for the patchwork of homestead farms that surrounded traditional town or village centers, says museum Director Patricia Henner.

The public and UMaine alumni are invited to the opening reception celebrating the first exhibit in the Helena M. Jensen Gallery of the Winston E. Pullen Carriage House, adjacent to the farm and home museum's main building. Refreshments, including "Switchel" -- a beverage of molasses, water, vinegar and seasoned with ginger -- that farmers often drank with lunch during the hay season, will be served during the reception.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, Maine farmers operated under the concept of competency, not complete self-sufficiency, says Henner. Bartering among neighbors played an important role in sustaining daily life. This interdependency of nearby farms facilitated cooperation between farmers and their families during the hectic haying time, as well as at barn raisings and harvests.

As farm animals' main source of feed, hay was an extremely important crop, and whole families and neighbors helped with the harvest.

During the summer haying season, farmers took their "nooning" -- or midday dinner -- with them to the fields. Lunch often included a jug of refreshing Switchel to wash the meal down. Although switchel was usually straight, some people were known to spike it with hard cider or even brandy, which farmers used to say "got the hay in the barn in half the time," Henner says.

The exhibit is the first to be held in the new Pullen carriage house. The first-floor gallery is named for Helena Jensen, a UMaine alum living in Portland and a long time benefactor of the Page Farm and Home Museum. She provided the donation in 2003 that allowed the museum to complete the interior of the Pullen carriage house in 2004.

Jensen also was a classmate of Winston Pullen, a former associate dean of what is now the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture at UMaine. Pullen was an original proponent in the 1970s of creating a museum dedicated to rural Maine agricultural life and was responsible for having the museum's current home, a 1833 university barn, moved to its present location. In addition to securing the barn, Pullen helped raise funds and collect artifacts for the museum's displays

Today, the Page Farm and Home Museum hosts a large collection of farm implements and household items from rural Maine for the period 1865 to 1940.

There is no cost for the haying exhibit opening or other farm and home museum exhibits. The museum (207-581-4100) is located just south of the Maine Center for the Arts and behind Hitchner and Nutting halls.

Yard Sale Begins the Recycling of End-of-Semester Cast-Offs

26 May 2006

Contact: Timothy Sylvia, 299-6250; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Stuck with tons of furniture, electronic equipment, appliances, clothing and food left in dormitories when nearly 4,000 students vacated campus housing in mid-May, UMaine Property Management is hoping a two-day yard sale May 26-27 will help reduce the refuse to be donated to charity or trashed.

Departing students loaded cars, trucks and vans with personal possessions, but they left behind more than 82 tons of refuse ranging from reusable, recyclable items to outright trash, says Gordon Nelson, director of Property Management for Auxiliary Services.

Property Management, which oversees the UMaine Green Campus Initiative, this year partnered with the Student Employment and the Bodwell Volunteer Center, formerly the Student Employment and Volunteer Services, to dispose of left-behind computers, microwave ovens, vacuum cleaners, rugs, carpets, shelves, furniture and other items in as efficient a manner as possible, Nelson says.

"The goal is to try and recycle as many of the resources as possible," adds Lyn Dexter, assistant director of Student Employment and the Bodwell Volunteer Center.

As much as 1,000 pounds of non-perishable food items are being donated to Crossroads Resource Center in Old Town, which maintains a soup kitchen and food bank. What the university can use - the equivalent of nearly 100 gallons of laundry detergent, for instance - is separated out and used by university staff for institutional purposes. Hundreds of articles of clothing, some still new, previously have been donated to thrift stores from one end of the state to the other, says Dexter.

This year, she and Nelson hope to lighten the load with an indoor yard sale at the Wilson Center campus ministry. Yard sale proceeds will go to a fund for members of the Wilson Center Christian Student organization to help with travel expenses for student missions to foreign countries during spring break, according to Timothy Sylvia, minister at the Wilson Center.

"It's a wonderful opportunity that Green Campus is letting the students do this," Sylvia says.

After the yard sale, what's left will be donated to thrift shops around the state, since there typically has been too much to donate to a single thrift shop, Dexter says.

Nelson says that while Green Campus tries to reuse or recycle as much as possible, the university still faces almost 50 tons of refuse that can be incinerated and more than 32 tons that cannot be incinerated and must be hauled to a landfill.

Incineration, he says, "is a more environmentally responsible way to deal with it."

Property Management and custodial staff members who go through dormitories to clean after students depart often find what's left behind varies, as do conditions of the rooms, Nelson says.

"Some rooms you open up and they look brand spanking new and others you open up and they look like a tornado hit," he says. Among the salvageable, he says, "I saw lamps, computers and an air conditioner."

Nelson says he expects the volume of refuse that has to be burned in trash-to-energy plants or land-filled will diminish as the university continues to streamline its recycling efforts.

The yard sale at the Wilson Center at 67 College Ave. in Orono, is from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

This spring, seven members of the Christian student organization went to Nicaragua, where they helped build a church, accompanied a medical mission to remote villages and worked to strengthen relationships with members of the communities in which they stayed or worked. Students raise their own money for travel expenses and the yard sale will help in that effort, Sylvia says.

Summer Literacy Program Scheduled

30 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Children in grades kindergarten-12 can boost their reading and writing skills during a University of Maine summer program taking place June 26-July 27 at Old Town Elementary School. Designed for area students who would benefit from additional literacy instruction, the program is a long-standing tradition of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development.

Students work with experienced teachers who also are completing graduate studies in literacy at UMaine. Daily sessions run from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Over the five-week period, teachers develop a profile of each student's strengths and needs in reading and writing, as well as recommendations, for parents to share with teachers in the fall.

Students in grades K-5 receive two and a half hours of literacy instruction daily, work in small classroom settings, participate in a variety of reading and writing activities, and have individual tutoring. Students in grades 6-12 meet by appointment for one-on-one individualized literacy tutoring twice a week. These one and a half-hour sessions are held between 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Research indicates that students having difficulty with literacy learning often are able to maintain and even gain skills if they have opportunities to continue reading and writing over the summer break, according to program director Jane Wellman-Little, a veteran public school teacher and UMaine instructor.

A basic tenet of the program is that literacy skills develop most rapidly when children are surrounded by books and by people who love to read and write, says Wellman-Little, and that's how the summer program is conducted.

The program is operated on a first-come, first-served basis, and the number of participants is limited to ensure small groups and optimum teacher-student ratio. The fee is \$200. Scholarships are available. For more information, contact Jane Wellman-Little at 581-3687.

UMaine Offers On-farm Weed Management "Twilight Tours

01 Jun 2006

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, 800-287-1426, richardk@umext.maine.edu
Eric Gallandt, 207-581-2933, gallandt@maine.edu

ORONO

UMaine, Gulf of Maine Research Institute Partnership Lures Top Scientist to UMaine

01 Jun 2006

Contact: Ben Slayton, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, (207) 228-1638, Ben@gmri.org
Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu

Andrew Pershing, Ph.D., Brings Ecosystem Modeling Expertise to the Gulf of Maine

PORTLAND AND ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute today announced the hiring of marine ecosystem modeler Andrew Pershing, Ph.D. This appointment was made possible by a unique partnership between the university and GMRI, bringing much needed expertise in marine ecosystem modeling to support fishery management in the Gulf of Maine region. Currently a Cornell University faculty member, Pershing will begin work in Maine this summer.

Pershing will join the faculty at UMaine, as an Assistant Research Professor of Oceanography in the university's School of Marine Sciences, which is based in Orono and has a statewide teaching, research and outreach presence. He will be stationed at GMRI's research lab on Portland's working waterfront, as part of a unique partnership between the two institutions. Pershing, who will teach UMaine courses and advise graduate students, will join with GMRI scientists to research the dynamics of marine ecosystems, with an emphasis on Gulf of Maine fisheries issues.

Prof. David Townsend, director of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences, envisions this partnership as a critical first step in extending UMaine's marine graduate programs statewide.

"The UMaine/GMRI partnership will further expand the expertise that our graduate students can draw upon, as they study various aspects of the Gulf of Maine with scientists at the Portland lab," Townsend says. "Dr. Pershing brings significant expertise and experience to the University of Maine and the state."

"It is a major coup for the entire Gulf of Maine region that Dr. Pershing has chosen to bring his expertise in ecosystem modeling to bear on managing our marine resources," says Don Perkins, GMRI president. "The University of Maine's support and partnership made it feasible to aspire to attract an accomplished marine scientist with enormous potential to Maine."

Pershing, who received his Ph.D. in ecology from Cornell in 2001, is a leader in the use of computing technology to model and visualize how the ocean environment influences fish and mammal populations over time and to predict potential future population changes.

"Large changes in the abundance of fish, sudden shifts in the migration of whales, and changes in weather are some of the major changes scientists, fishermen, and New Englanders in general have experienced over the last few years", notes Pershing. "I look forward to using my expertise to work with GMRI, UMaine and others to address problems that are important to the broader Gulf of Maine community."

With funding from NOAA and NASA, Pershing is currently leading a project to use plankton abundance models to forecast possible feeding areas of the endangered right whale. He is working with the Cornell Theory Center to develop the computational tools to synthesize multiple data sources and deliver information in a timely manner to right whale researchers and managers.

Pershing will complement expertise that exists on UMaine's faculty and within GMRI's expanding team of marine scientists, who have expertise in fishery ecology, oceanography, fish behavior/gear design, and resource economics.

Pershing becomes the sixth member of the GMRI research team, eventually expected to consist of ten scientists by the end of this year. He is the first of two UMaine appointments who will be stationed in Portland.

About Gulf of Maine Research Institute

The Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) was established in 1968 to develop pragmatic solutions to complex problems to support the evolution of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the human community that depends on it. GMRI accomplishes this by convening the public to discuss, debate and resolve aquatic resource conflicts, conducting unbiased

scientific research to improve public understanding of the Gulf of Maine and its watershed, and educating Maine residents and visitors about fresh and saltwater ecosystems.

GMRI's new facility, located on the Portland, Maine waterfront, provides a neutral, collaborative platform for research partnerships among leading research organizations, the fishing community, and private industry with a focus on fishery ecosystem research. A hybrid marine research and education facility, the Institute is closely linked to the community, strategically focused on the Gulf of Maine bioregion, and complemented by a unique research interface that will engage primary school students and the general public with marine science.

About the UMaine School of Marine Sciences

Formed 10 years ago, the School of Marine Sciences offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the marine sciences, conducts research worldwide on all aspects of the oceans, with particular emphasis placed on interdisciplinary problems. The School aims to develop specific scientific understanding of the marine environment that is Maine's heritage, to integrate and communicate that knowledge through educational programs and to apply it toward stewardship of sustainable marine resources. The school is comprised of some 55 faculty members from various academic disciplines, and has facilities in Orono, Walpole and Franklin, Me.

Institute to Highlight New Dropout Prevention Resource

31 May 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761 ORONO, Maine -- A new resource to help schools keep students enrolled and on track toward graduation and encourage those who have dropped out to return to school will be available for participants at the 2006 Dropout Prevention Summer Institute taking place July 24-25 at the University of Maine. The "Maine Dropout Prevention Guide," developed by the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk at UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, reflects the latest research involving student dropouts nationally and in Maine. The Guide is designed to provide school dropout prevention committees and personnel with research-based information about effective programs and strategies. The resource, which identifies factors and conditions that commonly place Maine students at risk for dropping out, will be given to all participants during the summer institute, and much of the content will serve as a basic resource for various workshops and presentations, according to Professor William Davis, lead author and director of the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk. "The issue of dropout prevention is very complex and does not lend itself to quick fixes or simple solutions," Davis notes in the Guide. "Effective dropout prevention," he says, "must be viewed as an ongoing process that involves broad-based collaboration among schools, parents, agencies, community members and students." Maine Department of Education data over the past decade show fluctuating numbers of students dropping out of the state's secondary schools. In 2004-05, 1,739 students or 2.78 percent of students dropped out of the state's public secondary schools. That figure is up from 2.67 percent or 1,678 students who dropped out in 2003-04. The July institute is sponsored by the Maine Department of Education, the Institute for the Study of Students at Risk and the Alternative Education Association of Maine. Last year's institute focused on steps to help schools develop comprehensive K-12 dropout prevention plans as required by state and federal law. The 2006 institute, which will focus on developing effective dropout prevention programs and strategies at the local level, is a strong follow-up, according to Shelly Reed of the Maine Department of Education. Institute participants now have the opportunity to examine and implement research-based strategies to meet the needs identified in their school plans, she explains. Keynote speaker will be career educator, author and consultant Franklin P. Schargel of Albuquerque, N.M. A specialist in working with student at risk of failure, he is the author of books such as Best Practices to Help At-Risk Learners, Helping Students Graduate and Dropout Prevention Tools. More information about the summer institute is available from the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk, (207) 581-2440.

Maryland Dean Named UMaine Provost

02 Jun 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207)581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert A. Kennedy announced today that he has selected Edna Mora Szymanski, dean of the College of Education at the University of Maryland, College Park, to be UMaine's new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. Szymanski began her academic career in 1989 as a faculty member in the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Dept. of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education. She also served as an associate dean and department chair at Wisconsin before assuming the dean's role at Maryland in 1999. She was chosen for the UMaine post following a national search.

"Dean Szymanski is an outstanding scholar and a proven leader in higher education," Kennedy says. "She brings an impressive record of accomplishment, as a faculty member, as a researcher and as an administrator at two of the country's top land-grant universities. She is eminently qualified and well-prepared to become a provost, and I am certain that she will be a great addition to the UMaine community."

Szymanski's appointment is subject to final approval by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees. Chancellor Joseph Westphal signed off on Kennedy's selection late Thursday.

"The University of Maine is an excellent institution with great possibilities," Szymanski says. "I look forward to working with President Kennedy, the faculty, staff, students and alumni to implement the exciting directions that the university has planned."

Szymanski earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1972, followed by a master's in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Scranton in 1974. She worked as a senior vocational rehabilitation counselor in the New York State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation until 1986, before earning a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, in special education, in 1988. Szymanski is a prolific scholar, with over 100 publications to her credit. She has also won several awards for her research and her research supervision.

She is expected to begin work at UMaine on Aug. 15.

Szymanski will succeed John Mahon, who has served as UMaine's interim provost since August of 2004, when Kennedy was elevated from that job to the interim presidency. Mahon remained provost when Kennedy became UMaine's 18th president in April 2005. He will return to the UMaine College of Business, Public Policy and Health faculty, as the John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy.

"John has done outstanding work as interim provost, applying his enormous intellect and trademark energy to a number of important initiatives, while managing the vast responsibilities of that role," Kennedy says. "I thank John sincerely, and look forward to continuing to work closely with him."

In the UMaine administrative structure, the provost is the university's chief academic affairs officer, with broad responsibilities related to graduate education, undergraduate education, research and student affairs.

Note: a photo of Edna Mora Szymanski is available upon request.

UMaine Study of Endangered Salmon Enters Second Phase

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Joseph Zydlewski (207) 581-2853; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine researchers Joseph Zydlewski, Michael Kinnison and Christopher Holbrook will continue to develop effective methods for assessing the migratory success of Maine's endangered Atlantic salmon populations with the help of a \$95,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Their project, which involves tagging young salmon with acoustic transmitters and tracking their migration seaward in the Penobscot River, is the second phase of a large-scale salmon migration study begun in 2005. By monitoring wild and hatchery-raised salmon smolts using an array of acoustic receivers, Zydlewski and Kinnison will work with Holbrook, a graduate student in biology from Norway, Maine, to determine the fishes' routes of passage, speed and mortality.

The data gathered during the project will help scientists to better understand the success of release programs, the impact of hydroelectric facilities and the overall condition of the smolts as they make their way back to the open ocean.

Information from both phases of research will be used to more accurately assess the Penobscot River Restoration Project, one of the largest river restoration projects in the country.

UMaine Researcher Works to Bring More Organic Milk to the Table

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Rick Kersbergen (207) 342-5971; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - When it comes to producing organic milk in Maine, UMaine Cooperative Extension researcher Rick Kersbergen is definitely the farmer's friend. Assisting the state's organic milk producers with everything from forage crops to farmyard pests, Kersbergen has made it his mission to provide agricultural entrepreneurs viable production options aimed at fostering a strong organic milk industry in New England.

Kersbergen's latest project makes use of a \$143,000 grant from the USDA to expand grain production and use on organic dairies in Maine and Vermont. Kersbergen is collaborating on this project with Tim Griffin from the USDA Agricultural Research Service New England Plant Soil and Water Lab and Heather Darby from the University of Vermont Cooperative Extension. Information gathered from experimental plots and collaborations between farmers and researchers will be used to help shift current farming methods toward a more integrated model that increases profits by reducing dependence on grain brought in from the Midwest and Canada. Organic grain concentrates currently cost New England's organic dairies nearly three times as much as non-organic grains.

Organic milk production is one of the fastest growing agricultural sectors in the Northeast, with more than 160 organic dairies operating in the region.

Maine Technology Institute Supports Effort To Boost Maine's Organic Dairy Farm Industry

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Tucker Kimball (207) 582-4790; Rick Kersbergen (207) 342-5971; David Munson (207) 581-3777

GARDINER, Maine -- The Maine Technology Institute board of directors recently approved a cluster enhancement award aimed at stimulating Maine's organic dairy farm industry. The \$78,000 award, matched by a co-investment of \$827,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, went to UMaine Cooperative Extension in collaboration with Maine Organic Milk Producers.

"The organic dairy sector is the fastest growing agricultural market in the Northeast," said Betsy Biemann MTI president. "This project will help Maine dairy producers to have greater success and stronger financial footing in the market."

The UMaine Cooperative Extension will use MTI funds to purchase equipment for testing different combinations of feed for organic dairy cattle. The tests will enable farmers to identify the best combination that yields the greatest value in milk while reducing the amount of high-cost imported organic grains. Testing will be conducted at the University of Maine's Witter Center and on organic dairy farms around Maine. The MTI award falls under the state's Advanced Technologies for Forestry and Agriculture sector.

MTI cluster enhancement awards range up to \$200,000 per project and are offered on a competitive basis for comprehensive projects that will stimulate and support the formation and growth of technology businesses and their infrastructure, and lead to clusters of industrial activity in the state's technology-intensive sectors.

UMaine Researcher Probes Both Development and Disease Using Proteins

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Dorothy Croall (207) 581-2829; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- For more than two decades, UMaine Biochemistry professor Dorothy Croall has studied a critically important family of enzymes known as calpains. The enzymes are thought to be important contributors to basic cellular functions, as well as to the pathology of cancer and several neurodegenerative and muscle diseases. Calpains also play a critical role in the embryonic development of vertebrates, a discovery that Croall and her coauthors have further explored in a study recently published in "BioMedCentral Developmental Biology." 6:3 (24 Jan 2006)

This new project aims to develop a specialized biosensor to detect when and where calpains are active in cells or embryos. It was funded with more than \$200,000 from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in September of 2005. By exploiting what they already know about calpains and their interactions with other proteins within the cell, Croall and her team have been able to generate a fluorescent probe that only recognizes active enzymes. UMaine graduate student Lisa Vanhooser is conducting studies with the purified proteins to optimize the sensor's design, utilizing an extremely sensitive technique known as fluorescent resonance energy transfer to indicate when the probe interacts with active calpains. Researchers will eventually be able to watch the process inside neurons and within developing zebrafish embryos using microscopes.

Initial results of the study are promising, but the challenge of applying the method to a living cell remains to be done. If successful, these results will significantly enhance our understanding of the role of calpains in embryogenesis and disease. The research may also offer insights into how these enzymes are able to precisely target specific proteins, which may prove critical to the development of new drug therapies.

UMaine Alum Makes the Most of Energy

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Steven Adam (207) 581-2262; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- When it comes to making the most of energy resources, UMaine alumnus George Sakellaris is a man with a plan. Known across the country as one of the foremost leaders in the development of comprehensive energy plans for business and industry, Sakellaris was inducted into the UMaine College of Engineering's Francis Crowe Society in May.

Currently the founder, president and CEO of Ameresco, the largest independent energy solutions provider in North America, Sakellaris founded two other highly-successful energy conservation companies since graduating from UMaine

with a degree in electrical engineering in 1969. He is an active member and former president of the National Association of Energy Service Companies, and was invited to speak at the Clinton Global Initiative Conference in 2005 by former President Bill Clinton.

"George is a great example of the quality of engineer we train at UMaine. His technical accomplishments have been outstanding, but, more importantly, he has become a national leader in the field of energy conservation. We were honored to be able to induct him as a member of the Crowe Society," said UMaine College of Engineering Dean Larry Matthews.

Upcoming Science-related Events

07 Jun 2006

Contact: Dave Munson at (207) 581-3777

Neuroscientist to discuss teen brain development

Contacts: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761, David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- How many frustrated parents have asked their teen-agers, "What in the world were you thinking?" Well, the kids probably weren't thinking, at least not in the way adults reason. They might not have the capacity, according to cognitive neuroscientist Herbert J. Weingartner, Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine.

Weingartner, a clinical psychologist, will shed some light on the dilemma in a lecture, "Planning and Evaluation: Frontal & Prefrontal Lobe Functions," scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, 11 a.m. in Room 202 Shibles Hall. These brain regions, still developing in adolescents, affect the ability to plan and evaluate behavior -- to think things through and make judgments instead of being impulse driven. Because this developmental process is not complete, adolescents can be at a disadvantage in planning and controlling their lives, according to Weingartner.

An acclaimed researcher who has held top leadership positions at the National Institutes of Health, Weingartner also will ponder how adults, particularly educators, might be helpful in providing more direction.

Women and the Woods Announces 2006 Training Series

Contacts: Vivianne Holmes, (800) 287-1458 or (207) 353-5550, Jennifer O'Leary (207) 581-3106

ORONO, Maine --The Woman and the Woods program is holding a "kitchen table" meeting with training on marketing, marking your boundary lines, deeds, and soils in your woodlot. This event will be held at Midsummer Night's Meadow Farm in Garland on Thursday, June 15 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. This workshop is sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Women's Agricultural Network (WAgN) and the Maine Forest Service. Peter Lammert, Project Forester with the Maine Forest Service, will provide the training.

The Women and the Woods Program is designed to teach women woodland owners about options for caring for their woodland, in a way that is supportive of women's preferred learning styles. The program provides opportunities for discussion and networking with other women woodland owners, and offers participatory, hands-on and/or outdoor learning activities. Women and the Woods was created in direct response to requests from women landowners for a forestry program for women.

Everyone is welcome; participants should be prepared to walk in the woods. For more information and to pre-register, call 800-287-1458 (in Maine) or 207-353-5550.

Locally organized kitchen table meetings are scheduled around the state. The dates for 2006 Women and the Woods Kitchen Table Meetings are as follows:

Upward Bound to Mark 40th Year at UMaine

08 Jun 2006

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Upward Bound will mark its 40th year at the University of Maine this month as 175 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors arrive Saturday, June 24 for the annual six-week academic and career exploration experience on campus.

A federally funded educational opportunity program, Upward Bound provides opportunities for high school students from low-income, first-generation college families to change the course of their lives by overcoming economic, social, academic and class barriers to higher education. Participation is year-round with service to students in their schools, as well as the six-week summer residential program at UMaine. Usually, over 90 percent of students who complete the program enter postsecondary education.

The majority of the students coming to UMaine this summer (129) are in the Classic Upward Bound general academic support and enrichment program. They attend schools served throughout the academic year by UMaine Upward Bound counselors in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo and Hancock counties. The other students (approximately 49) are in the Upward Bound Regional Math-Science Center program, which serves motivated math, science and technology students from targeted high schools around New England. This is the first year that students from Rhode Island will participate in the UMaine summer experience.

During the summer, the students take classes in math, science, English, foreign language, career exploration, SAT preparation and a variety of electives. In addition, students have a research agenda, working on projects with UMaine faculty, as well as jobs in the community. They also complete hundreds of hours of community service each summer, including an annual blood drive.

This year, all students and staff will read the award-winning book, "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd, and weave its messages into experiences and activities throughout the summer, according to Upward Bound Director Linda Ives. Set in the southern United States in the early 1960s, "The Secret Life of Bees" is the story of a young girl's coming of age amid racial violence and unrest and haunting memories of her mother who died in a tragic accident.

Classic Upward Bound is one of the TRIO programs, established by Congress in 1965 to help encourage and support the higher education aspirations and efforts of individuals from low-income, first-generation college families. The series of programs also include Talent Search, designed to help students in grades 6-12 aspire to, prepare for and enter college, and the Maine Educational Opportunity Center, which assists adults in preparing for and accessing higher education. UMaine received its first Upward Bound grant in 1966, according to Ives. The College of Education and Human Development administers these federal programs at UMaine.

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Media Note

: A large tent will be set up in the quad area between Stodder and Chadbourne halls from noon to 4 p.m. on Upward Bound Summer Program registration day, June 24. Media contacts at registration will be: Linda Ives, director; Kelly Ilseman, Math-Science program coordinator; and Rusty Brown, Math-Science academic coordinator.

UMaine Center on Aging to Host National Healthcare Advisory Committee on Fact-Finding Mission

08 Jun 2006

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3483; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - It's a long way between the people in rural Maine communities and national healthcare policy-makers in Washington, D.C., but a blue ribbon committee serving as eyes and ears for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be in Camden, Maine on June 11-13, looking for advice.

The UMaine Center on Aging is hosting the fifty-third community meeting of the committee that advises the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on issues affecting people and health care practitioners in rural communities. The field meetings of the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services (NACRHHS) are an important part of the committee's efforts to advise federal policy-makers on how to tailor Medicare and Medicaid, among other programs, to meet rural healthcare needs throughout the country.

The meetings provide an opportunity for the 21-member committee to gather information for its annual report from rural providers and citizens. The 2007 report will focus on three key issues: Medicare Advantage in rural communities, Head Start in rural areas and substance abuse in rural areas.

Previous committee recommendations have included increasing federal funding to provide more and better obstetric and dental care in rural communities, and also to combat obesity-related illnesses by convincing states to classify obesity as an illness and allow treatment procedures to be covered by state and federal healthcare programs.

Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging and the only member of the committee from New England, says it is rare for the committee to hold one of its three annual information-gathering meetings in Maine. He welcomes the visit.

"Maine is perfectly positioned because of this visit of the committee to contribute in significant ways to the major policy discussions of the day being held on the delivery of health and human services in rural America," he says. "Opportunities like this don't come along all that frequently. We intend to take full advantage of this visit by the committee to share both the challenges we face and the innovative solutions we have discovered in delivering health and human services to the citizens of Maine."

The meeting is scheduled to begin Sunday, June 11 at 1:30 p.m. and conclude Tuesday, June 13 at 11 a.m. Most of the meeting sessions will take place at the Camden Opera House and are open to the general public. After two days of presentations and expert testimony from researchers and service providers, the meeting will be open for public comment at 5 p.m. June 12 and at 10:30 a.m. on June 13.

Scheduled speakers presenting testimony include: Richard Barringer, research professor in planning, development and environment at the University of Southern Maine; Kimberly Johnson, director of the Maine Office of Substance Abuse; David Hartley, director of the Maine Rural Health Research Center within the Muskie School of Public Service at USM; Stephen Gilson, professor, Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies at the University of Maine; Deborah Totten, assistant director of Action for Older Persons, Inc.; Carolyn Drugge, director of the Maine Office of Child Care and Head Start; and George Siriotis and Laura Schuntermann of Anthem/Blue Cross.

Two field site visits are scheduled for committee members and guests, one at the Bucksport Community Health Advisory Committee and at the Head Start and Children and Family Opportunities of Washington & Hancock Counties, in Ellsworth.

Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems is sponsoring a special reception for NACRHHS members, federal staff and guests in Waldoboro on June 12. EMHS is the regional healthcare system serving all of central, eastern and northern Maine, with many of its services directed at meeting the needs of citizens residing in the most rural regions of the state.

The National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services is a citizens' panel of nationally recognized experts, chartered in 1987 to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services on ways to address health care

problems in rural America. Chaired by former South Carolina Gov. David Beasley, the committee's private and public-sector members reflect wide-ranging, first-hand experience with rural issues in medicine, nursing, administration, finance, law, research, business and public health.

More information about the NACRHHS, including previous meeting minutes and recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services, is available on the organization's website.

The agenda for the NACRHHS meeting in Camden, in a PDF format, can be found on the Center on Aging website at <http://www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging/>.

Women and the Woods Announced 2006 Training Series

08 Jun 2006

Contact: Vivianne Holmes, 800-287-1458 or 207-353-5550

ORONO --The Women and the Woods program will hold a "kitchen table" meetings for woman woodland owners all around Maine between now and December. The first session, on marketing, marking boundary lines, deeds, and soils in a woodlot, is scheduled for Thursday June 15. This event will be held at Midsummer Night's Meadow Farm in Garland on Thursday, June 15 from 4 - 7 p.m. This workshop is sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Women's Agricultural Network (WAgN) and the Maine Forest Service. Peter Lammert, Project Forester with the Maine Forest Service, will provide the training.

The Women and the Woods Program is designed to teach women woodland owners about options for caring for their woodland, in a way that is supportive of women's preferred learning styles. The program provides opportunities for discussion and networking with other women woodland owners, and offers participatory, hands-on and/or outdoor learning activities. Women and the Woods was created in direct response to requests from women landowners for a forestry program for women.

Everyone is welcome; participants should be prepared to walk in the woods. For more information and to pre-register, call 800-287-1458 (in Maine) or 207-353-5550.

Locally organized meetings are scheduled for various locations around Maine during the next several months:

Dealing with Mortalities in Backyard Poultry Flocks

08 Jun 2006

Contact: Associate Extension Professor Mark Hutchinson, 207-832-0343

ORONO--University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in partnership with the Maine Department of Agriculture, has published "Safe Disposal of Backyard Poultry Mortalities," a bulletin with step-by-step instructions for composting poultry mortalities safely. Many Mainers keep poultry, and mortalities can occur even in well-cared-for flocks. Proper disposal of carcasses minimizes risks to humans, the remaining flock, and the environment.

The bulletin was developed specifically to inform and prepare flock owners, producers and others regarding proper disposal methods for routine and catastrophic bird mortalities. Proper on-site composting can provide a biosecure, effective method of carcass disposal. A properly constructed pile will contain the right mix of materials, be big enough to maintain heat, and yet be small enough to aerate. The information is relevant for both domestic and wild flocks and

mortalities caused by avian influenza.

UMaine Extension

Rachael Wardwell '08, of East Orland, Wins UMaine Alumni Association Tuition Raffle

09 Jun 2006

Contact: Todd Saucier, President/Executive Director, UMaine Alumni Association, todd.saucier@umit.maine.edu
Bob Potts, Marketing & Creative Services Manager, UMaine Alumni Association, bob.potts@umit.maine.edu, (207) 581-2586

ORONO, ME -- The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced that Rachael Wardwell, Class of 2008, is the winner of the Alumni Association tuition raffle.

The UMaine Alumni Association sponsors the raffle in support of the many programs and services the organization provides to the university as well as its 95,000 alumni.

Wardwell just completed her second year studying biology at UMaine. She is the daughter of Peter and Vicky Wardwell and a 2004 graduate of George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill, Maine.

As winner of the Alumni Association Tuition Raffle, Rachael will receive 24 in-state paid credit hours to the University of Maine, valued at approximately \$4,775. This is the 12th year the Alumni Association has sponsored the tuition raffle.

Wardwell will return to her studies at the University of Maine this fall, and plans to continue her education after UMaine and enjoy a career as a physician's assistant.

New Faculty, Staff Get Taste of Maine with Tour of State, Private and University Facilities

14 Jun 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - More than two dozen faculty and staff members at UMaine recently took a two-day guided tour of several businesses and institutions in central and coastal Maine that are important to the state's economy, as well as the University of Maine as it serves to protect and create jobs.

Organized by Interim UMaine Provost John Mahon and Wanda Legere, senior assistant to the provost, the trip also was planned as a camaraderie tour to give newer members of the university community a chance to meet one another and see first-hand some of the research or manufacturing being done by or in conjunction with UMaine.

Participants say they found the trip enlightening and informative, offering an insider's view of several key places they might not have had access to under normal circumstances.

"This trip was to allow people to meet one another and get to know one another beyond just being a name in the phone directory," Mahon said as the 30-passenger van returned to campus after the last site visit, an aquaculture farm and UMaine business incubator in Franklin, where sandworms and halibut are being raised.

"It's also to give people an opportunity to see some of the facilities of the University of Maine around the state and to see some of the private companies with which we have relationships," he said.

The tour included visits to the Hutchinson Center, a satellite UMaine campus in Belfast operated through the Division of Lifelong Learning, the UMaine Darling Marine Center in Walpole, where shellfish and various nutrient soups to nourish them are grown, Fisher Engineering Company in Rockland, where several UMaine alumni work designing and manufacturing one of the world's biggest supplies of snow plows, and International Paper Company in Bucksport, with which the university often works to improve paper-making technologies.

The trip also included a tour of the Maine State Museum and one of the Statehouse in Augusta, led by former state Sen. Mary Cathcart, a senior policy associate at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, who explained how the Maine legislature operates.

Legere says she has heard enthusiastic feedback from several of the 28 people who signed up for the trip.

Says Pankaj Agrawal, a newly hired assistant professor of finance in the Maine Business School: "The tour was absolutely fantastic. The opportunity to visit places of economic activity and cutting-edge research, in the company of accomplished and talented faculty and professionals, was simply priceless. Going forward, every new faculty should make it a priority to be on this bus - it is part of the journey."

Suzanne Paonessa, associate director of Budget & Business Services, says she enjoyed getting to know some of the nine professors from an array of academic disciplines.

"Although I had been to some of the towns we visited, I did not have an opportunity before the bus tour to learn about and see the various facilities that are affiliated with UMaine, such as the Hutchinson Center and the Darling Marine Center," she says. "It also gave me a better understanding of some of the research that UMaine faculty and staff are involved in, and will be much more meaningful when I see related financial transactions cross my desk."

The trip included a history component, as well. Michael Hastings, director of research and sponsored programs and a student of Maine history, provided colorful perspectives on many of the towns, rivers, lakes and populations the tour bus passed on the journey. His observations included details about early settlements, regional folklore, notable events of the last century and details about several of Maine's historically significant industries, such as early shipping and ice harvesting, and forestry and papermaking.

Jake Ward, executive director for Research and Economic Development at UMaine, provided industry-specific background on various facilities and industries with which the university has working relationships.

Legere says faculty tours of parts of Maine have been offered periodically in the past, but none has taken place for about four years. Mahon says he hopes the Provost's Office will continue the introductory tours for new faculty and professional employees, particularly those whose work involves some form of outreach to businesses and organizations.

Bangor Kiwanis Pledges \$20,000 to Support Maine 4-H Program

15 Jun 2006

Contact: Mary Dinsmore, Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation, P (207) 581-3327, F (207) 581-1387

BANGOR, Me. -- The Bangor Noon Kiwanis recently pledged \$20,000 to support the activities of 4_H clubs in Penobscot County, establishing the Henry Page / Bangor Kiwanis Penobscot 4-H Fund. The fund honors Bangor dairyman Henry Page, who was very supportive of UMaine Cooperative Extension's 4-H program and the Kiwanis throughout his 40 years of farming. "Henry was very dedicated to his community" says Chris Patten, president of the Bangor Noon Kiwanis, "He would be very happy to see youth 4-H projects carried out in his name."

The Henry Page / Bangor Kiwanis Penobscot 4-H Fund will help Penobscot County 4-H clubs complete various projects throughout the year as well as participate in educational trips and national 4-H events. "The generosity of the Kiwanis is

very much appreciated by the 4-H members and volunteers in Penobscot County," says Fred Schlutt, executive director of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation. "The funds will help support community service projects, trips to Washington, and the many other great initiatives of the clubs."

The Maine 4-H program grew out of early 20th-century boys and girls clubs, which were folded into the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's work in 1914. Since that date, 4-H has continued to set the standard in youth development, helping Maine's young people acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities, and attitudes necessary for lifetime success. Young people can become involved in 4-H through school enrichment programs, 4-H camps, and county UMaine Cooperative Extension offices.

4-H is University of Maine Cooperative Extension's youth development program. The Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization that provides financial and organizational support to 4-H clubs throughout Maine.

Oxford County 4-H Receives \$25,000 from King Foundation

16 Jun 2006

Contact: Susan Jennings, Extension Educator, P (207) 743-6329, F (207) 743-0373, susanj@umext.maine.edu

SOUTH PARIS, ME -- The Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation recently pledged \$25,000 to support the wide array of 4-H activities in Oxford County. At the beginning of the year, area leaders embarked on a campaign to endow UMaine Cooperative Extension's 4-H program in Oxford County. To date they have raised over one hundred thousand dollars of their quarter-million-dollar goal.

"This is a fantastic development for our campaign," said Extension Educator Susan Jennings. "The Kings' generosity brings us that much closer to ensuring that the 4-H program will always be here for the children of Oxford County."

UMaine Extension's 4-H program in Oxford County provides after-school programs and local club involvement as well as connections to national 4-H events and trips. Thanks to the concerted efforts of staff and volunteers, Oxford County youth have the opportunity to explore interests, gain valuable life skills, and even travel the world through the 4-H Exchange Program. The Oxford County 4-H Endowment will guarantee that future generations of area youth will continue to benefit from a 4-H education.

"This donation is exciting on so many levels," remarked Fred Schlutt, Executive Director of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation. "It is a handsome gift that is greatly appreciated by everyone in 4-H, but the fact that it came from the Kings helps legitimize our cause and gives the campaign a great momentum boost."

UMaine Extension's 4-H program grew out of early 20th-century boys and girls clubs, which were folded into the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's work in 1914. Since that date, 4-H has continued to set the standard in youth development, helping Maine's young people acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities, and attitudes necessary for lifetime success. Young people can become involved in 4-H through school enrichment programs, 4-H camps, and county UMaine Cooperative Extension offices.

4-H is University of Maine Cooperative Extension's youth development program. The Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization that provides financial and organizational support to 4-H clubs throughout Maine.

4-H International Host Opportunities

16 Jun 2006

Contact: Jill Coffren, state coordinator, phone 207-645-3248

ORONO -- Bring the world home by hosting an exchange student through Maine 4-H Youth Development. International students arrive in July 2006. Month-long delegates depart in August and year-long high school students depart in June 2007.

"All kinds of families host exchange students successfully," says Jill Coffren, state coordinator. "All you need to be successful is an interest in other cultures, a love for working with youth, and an extra bed." Coffren said that the extra bed does not have to be in an extra private room. Month-long delegates are matched with host siblings of same gender and similar age. Matching host siblings are not required for the high school delegates.

Coffren gave a partial list of students currently waiting for homes:

Month-long delegates:

- Boy, age 12, has a dog, goldfish, beetles, turtle and crawfish for pets, likes insects and wants to be a scientist, likes computer games, camping, handcrafts, and plays piano
- Girl, age 12, plays piano, likes drawing, skiing, tennis, likes taking care of young children and animals
- Boy, age 13 likes kendo, drawing, reading, making many friends and a strong swimmer

Year-long high school delegate:

- Male, age 16, He most enjoys ice skating, going to movies, badminton, reading and table tennis. He wants to enter school in Maine as a junior. He participates in Kyudo (archery) at school where his favorite subjects are math, science, Japanese, art and history.

For more information and a hosting application, contact your local UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Educator or State 4-H International Programs Coordinator by phone at 1-207-645-3248 or e-mail to jcoffren@umext.maine.edu.

UMaine Peace Studies Program Presents Day Conference, Retreat July 15

16 Jun 2006

Contact: Hugh Curran, 581-2609 or 667-7170 (or hugh.curran@umit.maine.edu)
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The UMaine Peace Studies Program has scheduled a nationally recognized environmentalist, naturalist and author and an international authority on Eastern Orthodox Christianity as main speakers for its 2006 Spirituality, Ecology and Peace conference and retreat July 15.

Keynote speakers are Terry Tempest Williams of Utah, a nationally known environmentalist, naturalist and author of "The Open Space of Democracy," and UMaine sociology professor Kyriacos Markides, author and international authority on Eastern Orthodox Christianity, spirituality and mysticism.

The conference will explore methods of experiencing nature from a spiritual perspective and engender "a sense of love and respect for the environment, which goes beyond what would normally be expected in a scientific study or objectification of nature," says Hugh Curran, adjunct professor of peace studies. Curran is a conference co-organizer with Phyllis Brazee, director of the peace studies program. Speakers and interactive panel discussions and workshops will help participants attune themselves more perceptively to their environment, Curran says.

The public is invited to this biennial event. A conference fee of \$65 covers breakfast, coffee and tea breaks and lunch. Registration and additional information, including scholarship assistance, is available by contacting the Peace Studies

Program at UMaine at 581-2609.

Participants are expected to come from throughout the state and beyond. "For the last conference, we had people from all over the country," Curran says. "There's no other peace studies program in the state of Maine and nobody that I know of is offering anything like this in Maine."

The conference will begin at 6 a.m. with a sunrise ceremony at the ornamental gardens, next to University Credit Union on Rangeley Road, with Arnie and Jane Neptune and the Rev. James Gower. Arnie Neptune is an elder within the Penobscot Nation, and Gower, of Bar Harbor, is a member and former head of Maine Pax Christi, who will give a ceremonial talk from the Christian perspective.

Registration and breakfast from 7:30-8:45 a.m. at D.P. Corbett Business Building, behind the Maine Center for the Arts, follow the morning ceremony. Keynote speakers Williams and Markides speak at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., respectively.

Following the morning keynote address will be panel presentations whose themes include poetry and writing, permaculture, artists speaking out, nature preserves and land trusts, ecology and Native American perspectives, creative myth and ecology, environmental "bioneers" and a presentation on MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association.) Afternoon workshops exploring topics including personal transformation, Qi (Chi) Gong, mindfulness meditation, the healing powers of music and igniting personal creativity will follow the afternoon address.

The day wraps up with an evening performance at 7 o'clock in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1994 Hall by Masanobu Ikemiya, founder of the Arcady Music Festival in Maine, winner of the United Nations Peace Award and a classical jazz pianist.

Williams, a Utah native descended from five or six generations of Mormon pioneers may be best known for her book "Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place" (1991), in which she examines the rise of Great Salt Lake and the flooding of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in 1983. "The Open Space of Democracy," published in 2005, evaluates breaking down partisanship and polarization in society to help solve political and environmental problems.

Markides, who studies and teaches sociologies of religion, theory, mental illness and violence, and international terrorism, has written two trilogies about Eastern Orthodox Christianity and associated spirituality and mysticism. His latest book, "Gifts of the Desert," was published in 2005. The talk is titled "The Wisdom of Eastern Christian Elders and Mystics: What They Can Teach Us about Inner and Outer Peace.

Pushaw Lake Residents Invited to Cruise Lake For Different Perspective

20 Jun 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --- Pushaw Partners, a collaboration of UMaine Cooperative Extension, the Greater Pushaw Lake Association, and the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District invites Pushaw Lake residents to take a cruise on the Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute's pontoon boat, *Melinda Ann* on July 4 and 5.

The *Melinda Ann* is a 30-foot customized pontoon boat that sports a variety of equipment that will enable those who take the cruise to explore under the surface of the lake and gain a greater appreciation for Pushaw Lake. While on the cruise, guests will learn about the tools that can be used to measure lake water clarity, look at samples through the Ken-a-Vision projector, take a look around with the under water camera and more.

Cruise times will be July 4 at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4p.m. departing from Lake Side Landing in Glenburn. Times on July 5 will be 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. departing from Cook's Point in Old Town.

Registration is required and space is limited. To register please call Michael Dennett at University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 207-581-3213.

Fogler Library Receives More Records, History of Maine Labor Movement

22 Jun 2006

Contact: Charles Scontras, 799-3469; William Murphy, 581-4124; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO - Documents now available in the University of Maine's Fogler Library detail the struggle and sacrifice of 19th and 20th century worker advocates who protested 14-hour workdays and children as young as age 12 quitting school to work in factories.

In those times, employees could be punished physically for poor job performance and blacklisted if they quit or were fired. Those were the days before workers compensation, paid holidays, benefits, minimum wage, and laws to protect workers from sharp blades and grinders or toxins often used in manufacturing.

Many of the documents and records chronicling the contentious history of the labor movement and the evolution of unions in Maine are being archived at Fogler Library's Special Collections Department thanks to the efforts of the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education and Richard Hollinger, head of Special Collections. The bureau recently acquired another in a series of donations of boxes loaded with files, letters and newspaper clippings from the state's early labor movement activities. The additional material increases the breadth and volume of Maine's largest collection of labor movement archives, according to Bill Murphy, director of the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education. The records, which also include newsletters, memos and labor contracts, among other documents, chronicle the unvarnished history of labor contracts, pickets, strikes -- and progress -- in the effort to improve working conditions in Maine's textile and paper mills, the construction and transportation industries and even newspaper guilds. The new material "helps to light up the shadows of area labor history by expanding the coverage and value of the existing collection," says Charles Scontras, a research associate with the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education and author of six books or booklets on labor history in Maine. The records being preserved on the Orono campus are reminders of how working conditions have improved over time. "Everything has a history," Scontras explains. "The world we know didn't just fall out of the sky ready made. Once you start seeing the past in terms of those earlier working conditions, you inevitably have a new appreciation for the present. If people had an understanding about what went on in the past, they would have a different view of labor unions." The records provide researchers with an opportunity to view the history of communities "through the prism of labor organizations and labor struggles," he adds. They also offer fragments of information that shed light on the legal and ideological climate in which labor struggles occurred. The archives "will serve all those who have forgotten, and those who never knew," says Scontras, who worries that history not recorded is history forgotten. Scontras believes the donated material also can help explain ethnicity as a component of local history, offer glimpses of workers and political activity, and reveal links between workers, their organizations and religious and charitable organizations. He maintains that the records will provide the basis for exploring the effects of changing technology and markets on workers and their communities, and help to explain the "de-industrialization" of the communities and the state. Labor union officers responsible for making available more than 10 boxes of records pertaining to the textile industry included Perley Hodgkin, president of Local 406 at General Dynamics in Saco, George Lamontagne, president of Local 305 at Westpoint Holmes in Biddeford, and Ernie Loring, director of the New England Joint Board office of the United Needle and Industrial Textile Employees (UNITE) in Biddeford. The Bureau of Labor Education, created by the state legislature and trustees of the University of Maine System in 1966, provides educational programs and conducts research on labor and labor-related issues of interest to workers, students, educators, members and officers of union organizations, and public policy makers. The bureau's collection includes records of the Maine AFL-CIO from the early years of the 20th Century to the present, which provide a rich archival legacy of the story of Maine's working men, women and children, Scontras says. They reveal labor's struggle in the workplace, in the legislative halls, in the courts and in the streets, providing a glimpse of the advance of industrialism from the age of unbridled economic activity to calls for reform and regulation of the marketplace. Additional information about the donated documents can be obtained by calling the Bureau of Labor Education at (207) 581-4124 or Richard Hollinger, head of the Fogler Library Special Collections Department at (207) 581-1688.

UMaine 2006 Science and Mathematics Conference Focuses on Teachers

22 Jun 2006

Contact: Leisa Preble, 581-1016

ORONO - The four-day National Conference and Summer Academy sponsored by UMaine's Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research begins Sunday, June 25, with the arrival of more than 175 teachers, professors and researchers, all looking to explore ways to make science and math more appealing to middle and secondary school students.

The 2006 conference theme is "Integrating Science and Mathematics Research into Teaching." Traditionally, conference participants discuss, present and share ways methods to improve science and math teaching skills, and ultimately to attract more boys and girls to science and math fields.

An estimated 175 teachers or education researchers from Maine and across the nation have registered to attend. Nearly 30 of them have been invited to deliver talks about their expertise and experience in the field.

This year's conference and academy, June 25-30, is again sponsored by the UMaine Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research, a joint effort of the colleges of Education and Human Development, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, in conjunction with The National Science Foundation through the Teacher Professional Continuum Program, The Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Fleet National Bank, a Bank of America Company, and Trustee of the Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation.

The four-day conference offers speakers, panel discussions and opportunities for participants to meet informally to discuss ideas brought up during the formal sessions.

In addition to the nearly 30 invited speakers, others will make poster presentations and give talks on how to make science and math teaching more exciting and effective. Participants will consider new ways to use technology in the classroom and new theories on science and math teaching. Areas also being covered include exploring equity concerns, gender and Native Americans in the field of science and math, in addition to obstacles faced by teachers and programs that are designed to address such issues.

Conference speakers include several UMaine faculty members.

The conference agenda, list of speakers and other information are on the web at http://www.umaine.edu/center/2006_Summer_Conference/

Art Exhibition July 14 - October 7, 2006

26 Jun 2006

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3352, kj@umit.maine.edu, www.umma.umaine.edu

(Digital images available)

BANGOR, Me. - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present two new exhibitions: Sam Cady: Reality and Reverie, and Jocelyn Lee: Youth.

Sam Cady: Reality and Reverie

Sam Cady's large scale, shaped canvas paintings often blur the boundary between painted illusion and the three-

dimensional world that we inhabit. Remarkably, often it is not until you walk up close to the large, cut-out compositions that you can be sure that you are looking at a two-dimensional flat surface and not a three-dimensional sculpture, or a painting with pieces of the real thing fastened to it, or even the object itself.

This trompe l'oeil (literally, fool the eye) is key to Cady's realism, although in his hands this venerable technique serves as a playful means to an end rather than as a deliberate final product. In his shaped painting, "Ice Fishing Shanty, Moose Pond," Cady has enhanced the effects of his trompe l'oeil painting by cutting it out in the shape of the fishing shack, thereby eliminating its context. Through careful jigsaw work, he fabricates the wooden framework of such a painting to mimic the outline of the object or scene. He frequently adopts this compositional device to depict such structures and landscapes as an aluminum utility shed, a pitched tent, a mobile home, a peapod dinghy, a tree or a rocky coastal island; or to dramatically crop excerpts of buildings, highway underpasses, bridges, or a backyard woodpile.

Many of his paintings of familiar Maine subjects encourage us to imaginatively climb right in. "Snow Covered Dock," for example, invites our visual entry at the floor of the gallery and leads us up the long walkway, blanketed by snow. This tall canvas seems to transcend the two-dimensional universe to deliver us to another time and place; we can imagine the freezing air entering our noses and our anticipation of the unknown at the end of the dock.

In Sam Cady's art it is we, the viewers, who occupy the artist's places and structures. We are engaged; we study the paintings, ponder the subjects as though seeing them for the first time, and provide our own context. Cady's work beckons us to become the contemplative observers. Sam Cady was born in Boothbay Harbor Maine in 1943. He received his BA from the University of New Hampshire in 1965 and his MFA from Indiana University in 1967. He is currently an instructor in the Master of Fine Arts Program at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

His numerous solo exhibitions include: Caldbeck Gallery, Rockland, ME; Fujii Gallery, Tokyo and Osaka; Hampshire College, Amherst, MA; Holly Solomon Gallery, New York; Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston; Barbara Gilman Gallery, Miami Beach; Gwenda Jay Gallery, Chicago; Mary Ryan Gallery, New York; Capricorn Gallery, Bethesda, MD; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; and Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA. His work can be found in the collections of Addison Gallery of American Art; Peabody-Essex Museum; DeCordova Museum & Dana Sculpture Park; and Orlando Museum of Art.

Jocelyn Lee: Youth

In Jocelyn Lee's large, color photographs of young people, time has stopped in a manner that seems most apparent, the subjects locked forever in the transition to maturity. In one, a girl pauses at the edge of a diving board to look back suspiciously at the viewer. In another, two girls kneeling in a clearing appear to create an impromptu science experiment involving a dead beaver.

These are images that may inspire each of us to reflect upon our own youth; but while the captured moments may feel familiar, their essence is hard to describe. The viewer might be left wondering how a simple subject and process are capable of rendering objects that transcend a mere cataloging of person and place. The portraits conjure questions whose answers remain elusive. The figures never appear other-worldly, in fact they give the impression of being very rooted to their surroundings. Perhaps part of the mystery is the degree to which the figure and its context depend on each other. The photographs seem imbued with a meaning that we sense is significant, even though it's troubling not to be able to quickly define what it is about these children that holds our interest.

The fascination of these portraits also resides in the simple pleasures of the visual experience: the immeasurable beauty of skin, of fabric, of differences, of uniqueness. We have the luxury of gazing upon an occasion that is without self-consciousness among the three parties: the subject, the photographer and the viewer.

Jocelyn Lee was born in Naples, Italy. She received her BA in philosophy and visual arts from Yale University, and her MFA in photography from Hunter College. In 2001 she received a Guggenheim Fellowship. In 1996 her work, *The Youngest Parents*, was published by DoubleTake Books and The Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University in collaboration with Robert Coles and John Moses. In 2003, in conjunction with her exhibition at the Bernard Toale Gallery, she received an award for The Best Emerging Artist Exhibition in New England, from the International

Association of Art Critics/USA. She has exhibited nationally, most recently at Pace MacGill Gallery, New York, NY, Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston, MA; Bates College Museum of Art, Augusta, ME; Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME; Jackson Fine, Atlanta, GA; LFL Gallery in New York; Portland Museum of Art in Portland, ME; and the Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University.

Her work is in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University; and in Maine, the collections of Colby College Museum of Art; Bates College Museum of Art; and the Farnsworth Art Museum. Her work has appeared in many national publications including The New York Times Magazine, DoubleTake and Harpers. Lee is currently a faculty member at Princeton University.

Museum of Art

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person.

No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions:

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer.)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow Street (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow Street (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Join the Maine Tree Club Outing to Deering Oaks Park

15 Jun 2006

Contact: Amy Witt, Extension horticulturist, 207-780-4205 or 1-800-287-1471

PORTLAND -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host Jeff Tarling, Portland Parks Manager and City Arborist, as he leads a tour of historic Deering Oaks Park in Portland. The walk will take place on Friday, June 30, 2006 from 2-4 p.m. The group will meet at the "castle" in the park at 2 p.m.

Deering Oaks, a beautiful 51-acre park, is home to several stands of tall hardwood trees, many of them more than 200 years old, and over 600 species of roses.

This outing is organized by the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to equip people, over a two-year period, to identify 50 trees of Maine. The tour of Deering Oaks Park is free and open to the public. Please call UMaine Cooperative Extension's Cumberland County office at 1-800-287-1471 to register for this outing.

Re-inventing the Implant; UMaine Researchers Explore New Materials for Bone Repair

27 Jun 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

Thanks to the pioneering efforts of surgeon and UMaine researcher Ian Dickey and Chemical and Biological Engineering Professor Darrell Donahue, UMaine is at the leading edge of research aimed at improving medical implants using a group of new materials collectively referred to as foam metals.

Composed of a variety of metal and metal-based hybrid materials, foam metals are recognized by their complex, pored structure, which is surprisingly compatible with living tissues.

Because of the body's natural resistance to foreign materials, implants used for bone repair have been fraught with difficulties. Slow recovery times, costly and painful second surgeries, and imperfect results often leave patients less mobile and more prone to future complications. In most cases, the problems associated with medical implants like replacement hips and bone-strengthening pins have to do with compatibility -- the body's tissues recognize the implant as foreign and treat it like any other invader, walling the implant off from the living cells in an effort to protect themselves. Because no biological connection is established between the living and nonliving material, traditional implants are often weak and prone to infection.

Tests conducted by Dickey and Donahue during their initial research showed that foam metal washers used for repairs at the rotator cuff were stronger than other surgical repairs at four weeks, as strong as a normal joint by six weeks, and at 30 months the attachments not only stayed strong, they were 20 percent stronger than a healthy, uninjured joint.

The added strength of the foam metal implants comes from the new tissue that forms within the tiny spaces throughout the material. Living bone and soft tissue gradually merges with the porous structure of the foam metal, fed by tiny blood vessels that also form inside the implant. Where traditional implants caused the formation of scar tissue that weakened the repair, foam metal implants provide a kind of biological scaffolding for the growth of new tissue.

Dickey, a reconstructive surgeon, and Donahue, an expert in bone biomechanics, came together in 2004 while Dickey was still conducting research at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. As their research into foam metals continued, they began tapping into additional resources at UMaine, recruiting Scott Collins of UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology, Anja Nohe and Michael Mason of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Andre Khalil of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for various projects. Their ultimate goal is not only to prove that foam metal implants work, but to find out why.

Together, Collins, Nohe, Mason and Khalil are developing a high-tech tool kit for the study of foam metals, allowing UMaine researchers to better understand what makes the material so effective as a medical implant. Their discoveries will help foam metal manufacturers to develop a new line of products that will improve the lives of patients around the world.

Thanks to the pioneering efforts of Dickey and his growing team of UMaine researchers, the university is already at the leading edge of foam metals research, and is poised to take the project even further. By drawing on the energy, experience, and equipment available through UMaine's LASST lab, the Institute for Molecular Biophysics, and other resources, UMaine's research team is pursuing funding from both public and private sources that could expand their research efforts considerably. Foam metal projects are also being considered for UMaine internal research and development funding as an area of new and emerging research.

Each year in the United States, more than 600,000 surgeries are performed to repair knee and hip injuries alone. Approximately one percent of those surgeries fail, leaving 6,000 patients with few options for recovery. Foam metal

implants could change all that.

UMaine Graduate Student One of Popular Science's "Brilliant 10"

27 Jun 2006

Contact: Kelly Dorgan (207) 563-3146 x319; David Munson (207) 581-3777

Kelly Dorgan, a UMaine Ph. D. student in oceanography, has been selected by Popular Science magazine to be included in the fifth annual "PopSci's Brilliant 10" feature for 2006. The article features young researchers who are emerging as leaders in their prospective fields.

Citing both the creativity and reach of her research, Popular Science selected Dorgan from hundreds of potential candidates nominated by university department heads, editors of scientific journals and others. The magazine's staff contacted more than 1000 individuals over the course of this year's search.

Working with Professor of Marine Sciences and Oceanography Peter Jumars at UMaine's Darling Marine Center, Dorgan's current research examines marine worms and the biomechanics of their movement through bottom sediments. Conducting experiments in which gelatin was used to simulate mud, she and her fellow researchers discovered that the sandworm uses its mouth like a wedge to expand cracks in the mud, rather than pushing through the sediment to create a burrow.

Featured in the February 2005 issue of Nature, Dorgan's research not only sheds new light on the ecology and behavior of marine worms, but also offers insights into the role of burrowers in the carbon cycle and the movement of pollutants and other substances through muddy sediments.

The 2006 PopSci's Brilliant 10 article is scheduled for the October issue of Popular Science.

A Different Kind of Global Warming; UMaine Researcher Looks at how the World Emerged from the Last Ice Age

27 Jun 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

A new study of glacial retreat shows that much of the world emerged from the last ice age simultaneously, according to two leading climate change scientists at Columbia University and at the University of Maine. The exceptions were areas of the North Atlantic, which remained in a deep freeze 2,500 years longer.

The end of the recurring, 100,000-year glacial cycles is one of the most prominent and readily identifiable features in records of the Earth's recent climate history. Yet one of the most puzzling questions in climate science has been why different parts of the world, most notably Greenland, appear to have warmed at different times and at different rates after the end of the last Ice Age.

The new study, reported recently in the journal Science, suggests that most of the Earth did, in fact, begin warming at the same time roughly 17,500 years ago. In addition, scientists suggest that ice core records from Greenland, which show that average temperatures there did not warm appreciably until about 15,000 years ago, may have remained in a hyper-cold state largely as a result of events triggered by warming elsewhere.

The research, led by Joerg Schaefer from the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, a member of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, and George Denton at the University of Maine, relied on a method known as cosmogenic or surface-exposure dating, which enabled the scientists to determine how long rock surfaces have been exposed since the glaciers retreated.

As cosmic rays penetrating the Earth's atmosphere strike the scoured rock, they form an isotope of the element beryllium at a known rate. By measuring the minute amounts of beryllium in rock samples from glacial moraines in California and New Zealand and comparing these data to previously published results from Wyoming, Oregon, Montana, Argentina, Australia and Switzerland, the scientists were able to narrow down when glaciers around the world began to retreat. Additional studies from tropical South America and southern Tibet also produced similar results.

Found! UMaine Researchers Re-discover Endangered Sturgeon in the Penobscot

27 Jun 2006

Contact: Michael Kinnison (207) 581-2575; Gayle Zydlewski (207) 581-4365; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Over the past week, UMaine scientists conducting research in the Penobscot River have captured and released nearly a dozen shortnose sturgeon, a bottom-dwelling fish that has been listed as endangered since 1967. Discovered in the waters off Winterport, these sturgeon represent the first confirmed encounters of the unusual fish in the Penobscot since 1978.

Five of the 11 fish captured were implanted with special transmitters to allow researchers to follow the fishes' movements in the river.

The re-discovery of the species is an important milestone in an ongoing project being conducted by UMaine scientists and the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The discovery of a surviving population in the river, despite the loss of much of the sturgeon's habitat and serious problems with water quality during the last century, suggests that the Penobscot may be on the mend. The capture also points to the potential of the Penobscot River Restoration Project, which may open the door to lost habitat for struggling species like the shortnose sturgeon.

"Our research is actually designed to find Atlantic sturgeon, but what a bonus," said UMaine graduate student Stephen Fernandes. "When I saw it, I was ecstatic."

"This species tends to stay within its home river, unlike the Atlantic sturgeon that wanders along the coast," said UMaine Biological Sciences Professor Michael Kinnison. "One or two fish could represent strays from another river system, but the numbers we are now encountering bode well for a remnant shortnose population that spawns somewhere in the Penobscot. It's great!"

The fish captured this past week measured 30 to 42 inches in length, consistent with breeding age individuals.

UMaine School of Marine Sciences Professor Gayle Zydlewski and Dr. Joseph Zydlewski of the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit are key players in the project as well, working with Kinnison and Fernandes to gather critical information about the abundance and habitat use of sturgeon populations in the Penobscot system. A close cousin of the shortnose sturgeon, the Atlantic sturgeon is not currently listed as endangered, but is a species of special federal concern and hence under review.

The first sturgeon captured during the project were implanted with an acoustic transmitter and quickly released back into the river near Winterport. Utilizing an \$86,000 grant from NOAA's Fisheries Service, the UMaine team will track the individuals carrying implants using portable receivers and a new river-wide hydroacoustic telemetry array deployed by the University of Maine, USGS Coop Unit and the NOAA/NMFS Downeast Field Station. By following the

movements of these individuals the research team hopes to determine where sturgeon go and what they do in the river, and, hopefully, discover where the rest of the lost shortnose sturgeon population is hiding.

"They are an amazing fish," said Kinnison of the sturgeon. "It's really exciting that we were able to find them again in the Penobscot."

Often referred to as "living fossils," sturgeons have remained relatively unchanged for millions of years. Both the Atlantic and the shortnose sturgeons are covered with bony plates and are equipped with a highly specialized mouth on the underside of the head for bottom feeding. Surviving on a diet of shellfish and other small, bottom-dwelling creatures, shortnose sturgeon can live for more than 30 years and grow to 25 pounds or more. The larger Atlantic sturgeon can reach lengths of eight feet and weigh in excess of 300 pounds.

The coast-wide plight of these sturgeon species is owed to a number of factors. In addition to problems with water quality and dams, these fish are slow to mature, taking up to 20-30 years before first reproducing. This slow maturation made their populations particularly vulnerable to over-harvesting in the 19th and 20th centuries when their eggs, or "caviar", became a fashionable delicacy.

4-H Gains 11 Community Mapping Grants

29 Jun 2006

Contact: Lisa Phelps, Extension Educator, (207) 780-4205, 800-287-1471

ORONO, Me. -- The Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) has awarded 70 4-H clubs across the United States with a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software grant--and University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H Youth Development program won 11 of them.

ESRI is a geographic information system (GIS) technology development company.

The 4-H Community Mapping Program Grants for 2006 were awarded to 4-H programs in 39 states. Maine outpaced all other states, and 11 Maine communities will benefit from the efforts of their UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H clubs. Each grant provides a club license for the ArcView software package and GIS training materials.

The 11 communities are Bath, Belfast, Bethel, Bridgton, Brunswick, Manchester, Poland, Portland, Salem, Standish and Waldo.

4-H club teams of youth and adult volunteers proposed community service projects that involve mapping of economic, social, and environmental conditions that need attention in their community.

"These grants allow for community engagement in solving local problems," says Tom Tate, national program leader with USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, which helped facilitate the grant program. "Local 4-H GIS/global positioning systems (GPS) teams gain the capacity to design and build comprehensive maps pinpointing critical issues in their own hometowns." These issues can range from broken sidewalks and incorrect street signs to mapping evacuation routes for hurricane threats.

"This is a very significant accomplishment for a small, rural state," says Fred Schlutt, Executive Director of the Maine 4-H Foundation. "Maine is being recognized as a Cooperative Extension and 4-H leader in technology."

The 4-H GIS/GPS technology teams will work with local town and county officials to help identify key issues facing their communities. Once the maps are designed, they will be presented to town and county officials and the public to help these citizens make informed decisions about the key issues facing their communities.

In addition to the community mapping project, grant winners are also required to make at least one presentation to other 4-H clubs, youth and leaders and share project and community information in an online community atlas. They are also required to participate in GIS Day 2006 by hosting an informational event for local youth, community leaders and the public.

Since 1913, 4-H has set the standard in youth development, helping Maine's young people acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities, and attitudes necessary for lifetime success. Young people can become involved in 4-H through school enrichment programs, 4-H camps, and county UMaine Cooperative Extension offices.

Growth in creative economies not dependent on high population of creative people

29 Jun 2006

Contact: Todd Gabe, associate professor of Resource Economic and Policy, 207-581-3307, todd.gabe@umit.maine.edu
Clinton Colmenares, UMaine University Relations, 207-581-3742, clinton.colmenares@umit.maine.edu

Regions with fastest growth in people had slowest growth in jobs

ORONO, Maine -- New economic data from the University of Maine give hope to cities across the country trying to gain a foothold in the creative economy.

Growth in creative economy jobs expanded rapidly in some parts of the country between 1999 and 2003 despite modest regional growth in the population of creative individuals during the 1990s. On the other hand, some cities that experienced a large growth of creative people over that decade saw some of the slowest rates of growth in actual jobs in the creative economy between 1999 and 2003.

This contradicts conventional wisdom that suggests companies employing creative workers follow the migration of creative talent, says Todd Gabe, associate professor of Resource Economics and Policy at UMaine. "These data show that cities don't need a strong initial presence in the creative economy to have job growth in later periods," says Gabe.

Creative economy growth in Maine's three largest cities also fits that pattern. Portland ranked 59th nationally in terms of the growth of creative talent during the 1990s, but fell to 136th in job growth between 1999 and 2003. Bangor and Lewiston-Auburn fared very well in job growth (30th and 26th nationally) over these four years following a decade when they ranked near the bottom (174th and 118th nationally) in terms of the attraction of creative talent.

The "creative economy" has received much attention recently as U.S. workers see jobs in traditional industries dry up and other jobs move overseas. The concept, popularized by economist Richard Florida, suggests that America's workforce advantage lies in our ability to solve problems, forge new frontiers, and quickly adjust to changing economic forces. Creative occupations include engineers, educators and scientists as well as those involved in the creative arts, entertainment and professions such as architecture.

Florida's data show that people who work in creative occupations earn an average of \$20,000 a year more than those in non-creative jobs. Other studies have remarked on the connection among the creative economy, entrepreneurship, tourism and high technology growth.

In his analysis of census data on 200 U.S. metropolitan areas, Gabe found that the Rocky Mountain, Southeast and Southwest regions had the largest growth of creative talent between 1990 and 2000. However, U.S. employment statistics between 1999 and 2003 show that many cities in those regions saw the slowest growth of jobs in creative sectors.

The New England region did not top the list in terms of growth in the number of people with creative skills during the

1990s, yet it experienced the highest rate of creative-economy job growth between 1999 and 2003.

Gabe's study, to be published in an upcoming issue of the academic journal *Growth and Change*, offers a look into trends of dispersion in the creative economy.

"Across regions of the U.S., some types of industries and sectors become more and more concentrated over time when areas that start with an initial stronghold grow faster than those starting from scratch," Gabe says.

However, his findings suggest that the creative economy became more dispersed over the time periods analyzed. "This begins to challenge the commonly held belief that clustering enhances growth of the creative economy," Gabe added.

Of the 200 U.S. metropolitan areas considered, the hottest spot for the creative economy was Midland-Odessa, Texas, which had the highest growth rate of creative talent during the 1990s and ranked at the top of employment gains. However, the Sarasota-Bradenton, Fl., area had the second-fastest growth in creative people over the decade, but ranked near the bottom in terms of job growth in creative occupations between 1999 and 2003.

"Sarasota -- along with several other Southern cities -- provides a good example of places that had strong growth in the number of creative individuals that did not translate into high job growth in a later period," Gabe says.

In his future research, Gabe hopes to gain a better understanding of the local factors that foster creative economy growth. "Policymakers around the world have embraced Richard Florida's ideas, and are searching for ways to attract and maintain creative talent," Gabe says. "This is especially true in America, where cities have been competing over economic development for decades. This study and others are necessary to inform local initiatives and help policymakers track their success."

Malmberg Named New Hutchinson Center Director

06 Jul 2006

Contact: Meg Malmberg, (207) 388-8000
George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

BELFAST -- Margaret "Meg" Malmberg, associate director of the University of Maine Fred Hutchinson Center in Belfast, has been named director of the UMaine education and outreach center, succeeding founding director Jim Patterson, who is retiring.

Malmberg has been associate director since September of 2005, when she came to the university from a previous post as provost and dean of faculty at the University of Charleston in West Virginia, a position she held from 2000 to August 2005. Trained as a psychologist who migrated into administration in the mid-1980s, Malmberg holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Muskingum College, and master's and doctorate degrees in experimental psychology from Texas Christian University.

She did graduate work in clinical psychology at Bowling Green State University in Ohio 1964-1966, and later did post-doctoral studies in higher education administration at the Harvard University Institute for Educational Management in 1994.

Malmberg says she is thrilled to succeed Patterson, and noted that Patterson leaves an impressive legacy.

"The future of the Hutchinson Center is beautifully bright and the community support has been fantastic up to this point. I anticipate that support will continue to grow," she says.

The Hutchinson Center was built by MBNA for UMaine, and named for former UMaine president Fred Hutchinson. It opened in 2000 on a 12-acre site on the grounds of the Bank of America complex on Route 3 in Belfast with Patterson at the helm. Bank of America, which merged with MBNA earlier this year, officially donated the center to the University of Maine System June 27.

The center offers people in the region access to high quality undergraduate, graduate and professional development education and cultural opportunities in a supportive and flexible environment.

Operating under through the UMaine College of Lifelong Learning in Orono, the center offers 200 courses per semester though on-site live classes, video conferencing, the Internet and ITV. More than 1,000 people enroll annually for classes and an estimated 14,000 people utilize the center's conference services each year. Additionally, more than 500 senior citizens from more than 50 communities participate in what is the state's second largest Senior College program.

Malmberg says the Hutchinson Center offers flexible educational opportunities for non-traditional students of all ages who are looking to earn college degrees or seek retraining as they pursue career changes. Since the center opened, it has served more than 5,000 students, 95 percent of whom are over 21 years of age and take classes at night or on the weekends.

Students at the Hutchinson Center have access to courses offered at several University of Maine System institutions, including the flagship Orono campus.

"The university's image and strategic plan are very much what a great university can be," she adds. "I'm thrilled to have this new role."

Malmberg is no stranger to Maine. She served as provost and vice president of Unity College in Unity from 1998 to 2000. She also has served as vice president for academic affairs and dean at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio, and was assistant to the president for administrative services and chaired the psychology department at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. in the early 1990s.

A Belfast resident, Malmberg says she is particularly enthusiastic about the collaboration between the Hutchinson Center and both other institutions and the mid-coast communities.

"We have much more of a community presence and the opportunity to reach out and touch many members of the community and student body," she says.

She assumed her new role July 1.

UMaine's Lenard Kaye New Maine Gerontological Society President

06 Jul 2006

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3481
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Lenard Kaye, director of the Center on Aging at the University of Maine, recently was elected president of the Maine Gerontological Society, a statewide non-profit organization that exists to address issues effecting older adults.

It serves as the primary interdisciplinary association of individuals and organizations in the state focusing on aspects of

aging education, community service and research that have state and federal policy consequences.

Kaye, a professor of social work and Libra Professor in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, has worked at UMaine since 2001. He was elected at the June 20 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Maine Gerontological Society. The society's annual conference was held in conjunction with the sixteenth annual Rural Geriatric Conference in Bar Harbor June 1-2.

Kaye holds a bachelor of arts degree from State University of New York at Binghamton, a master's in social work from New York University and a doctorate in social welfare from Columbia University. He is a resident of Orono, Maine.

Other officers of the Maine Gerontological Society elected at the June board meeting were: Marilyn Gugliucci of Biddeford, director of Geriatric Education and Research in the College of Osteopathic Medicine within the University of New England, vice president; Roberta Downey of Bangor, director of Program Outreach for NeedyMeds, treasurer; and Sharon Berz of Presque Isle, long-term care director for the Aroostook Agency on Aging, secretary.

Newly installed board members were: Amy Cotton of Bangor; Peggy Haynes of Portland; Durward Huffman of Augusta; Jackie Kelly of Poland; Graham Newson of Augusta; Don Sharland of Saco; Mary Walsh of Augusta; Elizabeth White of Lewiston; in addition to Berz, Downey, Gugliucci and Kaye.

The UMaine Center on Aging is a university-wide, interdisciplinary center specializing in aging education, research and community service. The mission of the center is to serve the state by maximizing the quality of life of Maine's older citizens and their families.

Three Leading Antarctic Scientists Honored

12 Jul 2006

Contact: Dr. Colin Summerhayes, Executive Director of SCAR, at 0011 4478 3426 9997.

Three prominent international Antarctic scientists have been honoured for their outstanding achievements by the world's peak Antarctic science organization -- the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR).

The President of SCAR -- Professor Jorn Thiede -- presented the awards during the Committee's 2006 meeting, which is currently underway in Hobart, Tasmania.

The President's Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Antarctic Science was awarded to New Zealand scientist Professor Peter Barrett, who is the Director of the Victoria University's Antarctic Research Centre in Wellington, New Zealand.

Professor Barrett is universally recognised as a leader of the geological drilling community in the Antarctic and has been Chief Scientist for several projects investigating the history of the East Antarctic ice sheet. He has done much to communicate Antarctic science to a wider public audience, including through a BBC programme on the history of the Antarctic ice sheet and emphasising its importance in the global context.

The SCAR Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research was awarded to Professor Paul Mayewski, who is the Director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine in the United States.

Professor Mayewski's primary research interests are climate change and change in the chemistry of the atmosphere. He is the founder of a project to reconstruct Antarctic climate and atmospheric chemistry over the last 200 years and the Chair, since 1990, of the Executive Committee, which coordinates this programme.

The SCAR Medal for International Scientific Coordination was awarded to Professor David Walton from the British Antarctic Survey, United Kingdom.

Dr Walton has been Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System since 2002; a member of the Steering Committees for the 6th and 7th SCAR Antarctica Biology Symposia and has represented SCAR at 14 Antarctic Treaty Consultative meetings since 1992. He is Editor in Chief of the scientific journal *Antarctic Science* and has contributed to, compiled and edited six books on research in Antarctica.

UMaine's Mayewski Honored in Tasmania for Antarctic Research

12 Jul 2006

Contact: Paul Mayewski (207) 581-3091; David Munson (207) 581-3777

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research has announced that UMaine professor Paul Andrew Mayewski, of Castine, will receive the first ever SCAR Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research. The award will be presented at a ceremony in Hobart, Tasmania on July 12 at the 2006 SCAR Open Science Congress.

SCAR is comprised of 41 nations and is the sole international body representing the sciences working in Antarctica. These sciences include such areas as earth, ocean, atmosphere, biology, medicine, and human behavior. Mayewski's award represents competition from all of the disciplines.

Mayewski is the Director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, holding a dual appointment with the CCI and the Department of Earth Sciences. He is also a cooperating professor in the School of Marine Sciences. As an explorer, professor and scientist, he has lead more than 45 expeditions to remote regions such as Antarctica, the Arctic, Himalayas, Tibetan Plateau and Tierra del Fuego.

His work in Antarctica has included the International Trans Antarctic Expedition in which Mayewski organized 20 countries and leads the US expeditions. He has served on numerous national and international scientific committees such as the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, the International Geosphere Biosphere Project, and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

Mayewski's research focuses on reconstructing the climates of the past, utilizing ice cores and other methods to determine how the Earth's climate has changed over time. With the help of his colleagues, he has collected ice cores that establish a year-by-year history of the planet's climate for the past 110,000 years.

Mayewski's research has helped to verify the existence of rapid climate change events in which global temperatures are believed to have changed as much as 20 to 30 degrees Celsius over the course of a single decade.

Prior to coming to UMaine, Mayewski spent more than 25 years at the University of New Hampshire, where he helped create and build the Institute of Earth Oceans and Space and oversaw the Climate Change Research Center.

Mayewski began his research in Antarctica as a graduate student in 1968, and calculates that he has spent at least three years of his life living in a tent in some of the coldest and most remote locations on the planet.

Other honors have included the naming of a peak in Antarctica, Mayewski Peak, a Citation by the Explorers Club, a Fellow by the American Geophysical Union, and an Honorary Doctorate by Stockholm University. Mayewski has been featured in more than 300 prominent media venues including a recent interview on CBS 60 Minutes. He co-wrote a popular climate change book entitled "The Ice Chronicles" (P.A. Mayewski and F. White).

LINKS:

UMaine Climate Change Institute

Traveling Exhibit Highlights Cohen in Congress

20 Jul 2006

Contact: Paige Lilly, (207) 581-2665 / paige.lilly@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- With the mid-term elections only months away, critics of Congress seem to be everywhere. But how well do they (or we) understand how Congress really works?

A new exhibit from the William S. Cohen Papers at the Raymond H. Fogler Library seeks to shed light on how Congress is designed to work and what politicians actually do on a day to day basis in Washington.

Titled "Cohen, Congress and Controversy: Rediscovering civics in the archives," the six-panel exhibit uses facsimiles of photographs, handwritten notes, speeches and campaign memorabilia from the former congressman's political papers to bring the legislative branch into focus. Topics include Bill Cohen's successful 1972 bid for Maine's second congressional district seat; the powers of Congress granted by the Constitution; the busy life of a senator, using Cohen's book about his first year there; and the oversight role of Congress, illustrated with documents from the Watergate and Iran-Contra investigations.

The freestanding exhibit includes interactive panels designed to appeal to young children.

"The Cohen Papers are open for research," says Fogler Library Dean Joyce Rumery. "This traveling exhibit invites people all across Maine to glimpse the richness of the collection."

Secretary Cohen donated his political papers, 1,500 boxes of documents and photographs, to Fogler Library at the University of Maine in 1996. He added a selection of Department of Defense material on 16 compact disks in 2001. The University of Maine is also home to the William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce.

The exhibit will travel to venues along the route of Cohen's 1972 campaign walk from the New Hampshire border to Fort Kent. The first venue is the Bethel Historical Society, beginning July 25. The exhibit moves to the Wilton Free Public Library in early September and the Lewiston Public Library in late October.

More information about the exhibit and its schedule can be obtained by calling Paige Lilly at (207) 581-2665, or emailing to paige.lilly@umit.maine.edu.

Hutchinson Center to Host "Conversations

19 Jul 2006

Contact: Ellen Freeman, 338-8034
Kathryn Olmstead, 581-3844

Discussion topics for the second annual "Great Conversations on the Coast" range from poetry to the presidential election, from the women's movement to the environmental movement and from archaeology to spirituality and our

place in the universe.

Scheduled for August 16 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Frederick Hutchinson Center in Belfast, Great Conversations brings together members of the community and faculty from the diverse departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Maine.

"We are delighted to bring this event back to Belfast and are grateful for the hospitality of the Hutchinson Center," said Dean Ann Leffler. "We had such trouble persuading people to end their conversations last year that we have added a half hour to the discussion time."

The 2006 topics are The 2008 Presidential Election, Is the Women's Movement Dead? Poetry and Healing, Leadership in Turbulent Times, Unearthing History in Gouldsboro, Are we Alone in the Universe? The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality, Before and Beyond Rachel Carson's Silent Spring, Traveling through Ancient Peru and Mahatma Gandhi's View of Religion.

Erica Hughes at the Hutchinson Center is taking reservations (338-3084) and voluntary donations will support the college scholarship fund. Detailed information is posted on www.hutchinsoncenter.umaine.edu and www.umaine.edu/las/

ATTACHED AND BELOW: Topics list, Topic descriptions

GREAT CONVERSATIONS ON THE COAST

Frederick Hutchinson Center, Route 3 Belfast

August 16, 4-6 p.m.

The 2008 Presidential Election

Richard Powell, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Is the Women's Movement Dead?

Ann Schonberger, Director of Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies

Poetry and Healing

Tony Brinkley, Associate Professor of English, Interim Director, Franco American Studies

Leadership in Turbulent Times

John Mahon, Professor of Management

Unearthing History in Gouldsboro

Brian Robinson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Climate Change

Are We Alone in the Universe?

David Batuski, Professor and Chair of Physics and Astronomy

The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality: My Research with Healers, Monks, Mystics and Hermits of Eastern Christianity

Kyriacos C. Markides, Professor of Sociology

Before and Beyond Rachel Carson's Silent Spring

Laura Cowan, Associate Professor of English

Traveling through Ancient Peru

Louis Fortin, Climate Change Institute graduate student

Mahatma Gandhi's View of Religion
Douglas Allen, Professor of Philosophy

GREAT CONVERSATIONS ON THE COAST

August 16, 2006, The Frederick Hutchinson Center, Route 3, Belfast 4-6 p.m.

The 2008 Presidential Election

Richard Powell, Assistant Professor of Political Science

The 2008 presidential election will (most likely) be the first one in decades in which neither the incumbent president nor vice-president will be on the ballot. In other words, the election is wide-open at this point. Please join us for a wide-ranging discussion of the candidates and issues that will most likely dominate the upcoming campaign.

Is the Women's Movement Dead?

Ann Schonberger, Director of Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies

In the past few years the mainstream media have often commented on the "death" of the women's movement. As evidence they point out the lack of mass demonstrations, marches on Washington, sit-ins, and other highly publicized events of the late 1960s and early 1970s. The rise of anti-feminist efforts to limit or end the full range of reproductive choice is also cited as an example. On the other hand, the growth and success of women's organizations, as well as women's participation in life outside the home, has exceeded the dreams of many of those women who campaigned and marched 35 years ago. Where does the truth lie? Has feminism been co-opted, gone underground, or branched in a number of ways like a mature and healthy tree?

Poetry and Healing

Tony Brinkley, Associate Professor of English and Interim Director of Franco American Studies

Poetry, like illness and dying, often charts the borderline between different moments of existence. Like meditation it offers practice for those transitional states when life turns out to be at stake. My own experiences of cancer and of poetry are connected and perhaps can offer a point of departure for a conversation.

Leadership in Turbulent Times

John Mahon, Professor of Management

Leadership is always a challenge--especially in turbulent times. What are, if any, key elements of leadership? How can we learn about leadership in unusual ways? Can leadership be fun?

Unearthing History in Gouldsboro

Brian Robinson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

The University of Maine is reviving its coastal archaeology program with a grant to fund undergraduate field schools and Native American participation. This year we began with the excavation of the Jones Cove site in West Gouldsboro, first excavated by Warren K. Moorehead in 1928 in association with the Abbe Museum. Our discussion will describe how we disentangled the 1,000-year-old occupation layers from those produced by the 1928 archaeologists, finding valuable evidence that was left behind from both time periods.

Are We Alone in the Universe?

David Batuski, Professor and Chair of Physics and Astronomy

Astronomical instruments like the Hubble Space Telescope have advanced us from "fuzzy cosmology" to "precision cosmology." For example, we now know that 95 percent of the universe is invisible "dark matter" and "dark energy." What else do we know about the universe that we didn't 40 years ago, and what are the implications of this new knowledge for intelligent life -- both earthlings and all those others who may be out there?

The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality: My Research with Healers, Monks, Mystics and Hermits of Eastern Christianity

Kyriacos C. Markides, Professor of Sociology

Is there a Christian spirituality that is mystical, experiential and focused on the fundamental and existential healing of the self? Does this forgotten spiritual tradition that has survived in ancient monasteries of the Christian East share

similarities in method and worldview with the spiritual traditions of India and Tibet? What is the relevance of this spiritual tradition for contemporary living? Why has the West ignored this cultural and spiritual tradition?

Before and Beyond Rachel Carson's Silent Spring

Laura Cowan, Associate Professor of English

Widely hailed as the "beginning of the environmental movement, Silent Spring changed the course of history" (Al Gore). Why is Silent Spring such a powerful and influential work? We will look at passages from Silent Spring and other works by Rachel Carson and discuss its message and its impact. Possible topics of interest: Carson's dismissal by many as an "hysterical woman," scientific vs. literary writing, Carson's worldview, other writings by Carson, including The Sea Around Us, her uncollected works, and her letters.

Traveling through Ancient Peru

Louis Fortin, Climate Change Institute graduate student

Learn about traveling to Peru to visit archaeological sites, traveling through Peru's ancient past, and traveling (or troweling) in Peru's ancient sites.

Mahatma Gandhi's View of Religion

Douglas Allen, Professor of Philosophy

Mahatma Gandhi, often considered the most admired person of the twentieth century, posed a radical challenge to what most religious people believe and to all dominant forms of religion. A deeply religious or spiritual person, Gandhi challenged our dominant forms of religion as arrogant, narrow minded, violent, and intolerant. He also proposed different views of religion grounded in truth, nonviolence, love and unity with a respect for differences, and the mutuality and interconnectedness of all of life. What can we learn from Gandhi's approach to religion that can be of value in developing new creative religious and philosophical approaches for the twenty-first century?

Young Musicians Flock To Campus For Youth Music Camp 2006

20 Jul 2006

Contact: Ginger Hwalek, 991-2785

George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - More than 350 middle and high school students from Maine and throughout New England have been on campus in the last two weeks for 2006 Maine Summer Youth Music Camp.

Ensemble and practice rooms in the Class of 1944 Hall are abuzz with young people spending a week immersed in the practice and performance of music.

Last week, more than 200 middle school students attended junior camp. This week, nearly 160 high school student musicians are attending senior camp. Most of the young musicians stay in dorms during their weeks on campus.

The resumption this year of a string component in the junior camp after a six-year hiatus increased attendance by about 18 students, "and it was really well received," says camp Director Ginger Hwalek of the School of Performing Arts faculty.

Concerts of note, which are open to the public at no charge, include a Mid-Camp Concert Sunday, July 23 at 2 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium, Jazz Night on Wed., July 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Hauck, Musical Theatre ("Les Miserables") on Friday, July 28, 2 p.m. in Hauck, and a final concert, Friday, July 28, 7 p.m. at the Maine Center for the Arts.

Camp instructors come from the University of Maine School of Performing Arts faculty and music students in collaboration with music teachers from around Maine.

Student progress and performance quality, she says, have been "awesome."

"It will blow you away, what these kids can do," she says. "If you'd seen what the junior high kids did in five-and-a-half days, you wouldn't have believed it."

This year's music theater, "Les Miserables," is an ambitious musical based on the novel by Victor Hugo. Adapted to the stage by the composer Claude-Michel Sch

Page Farm and Home Museum Plans Pot Luck Picnic July 30

20 Jul 2006

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum is planning its annual pot luck picnic for all ages July 30 - a time for socializing, fun and games of old, including croquette, horseshoes, jump rope, relays and potato-sack races.

The free family event is part of the museum's community outreach activities and programming designed to educate the public, and young people in particular, about lifestyles and customs of rural Maine for the period of 1865 through 1940.

The annual picnic, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., usually attracts dozens of families, friends of the museum and others, says Page Farm and Home Museum Director Patricia Henner. The event, being held rain or shine, is free. People are asked to bring a blanket or lawn chair, along with a dish, dessert or salad to contribute.

"This is a community picnic," Henner says. "It's pot luck. People can bring a traditional dish or something from a family recipe. It's all about community."

Activities fit for children include a demonstration by the Maine Antique Power Association, ice cream making, games and relays for children and adults, a soap-making demonstration, golden oldies music, a spinning and weaving demonstration and historic films in the one-room schoolhouse. The museum's Farnsworth General Store also will be open for business.

The museum is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends, for group tours, special hands-on programs and other educational and interactive events. More information is available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-4100 or visiting its Website at <http://www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/>.

Page Farm and Home Museum Plans Open Farm Day July 23

20 Jul 2006

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Blacksmithing, spinning and worm compost demonstrations, plus vintage video showing Maine's ice, potato and hay harvesting operations in full swing are just part of the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum's celebration of Open Farm Day on July 23.

The free family event is part of the statewide Open Farm Day coordinated by the Maine Department of Agriculture, when 95 working farms across the state will open their doors to visitors.

Page Farm and Home Museum Director Patricia Henner says the annual event is a great opportunity for older people to reminisce about bygone days and customs, and a chance for children to see how life was in earlier times. The museum on the Orono campus features exhibits, resources and special events focusing on rural and agrarian life in Maine between 1865 and 1940.

"It's a good family time," Henner says. It's fun, educational, and a way to connect children with their parents or grandparents. We'll host exciting exhibits of antique machinery and folk arts. We'll also have a blacksmith operating an historic forge, historic videos, as well as a spinning demonstration and games for children, and crafts."

The open house and related activities will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Games for children include ring toss, a clothes pin game and marbles. Refreshments include root beer floats.

As more and more people are building their own backyard compost piles as a way to fortify their garden soils and reduce the volume of table scraps, coffee grounds or fruit and vegetable refuse that otherwise would go to landfills, Henner says the worm composting demonstration should be of special interest.

"It's an extremely easy project and it's good for the environment," she says. Adding red worms to compost accelerates the composting process.

The museum is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends. More information is available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-4100 or visiting its Website at www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/.

Pushaw Cleanup Grant Funds Lakeside Landing Improvements

24 Jul 2006

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu

Digital Images Available

ORONO, ME--The eroding shore of Glenburn

UMaine Senior Skull Honor Society Names Class of 2007

24 Jul 2006

Contact: Bob Potts, Advisor, Senior Skull Honor Society (207) 581-1149 or 1-800-934-2586

ORONO, Me. -- The Senior Skull Honor Society at the University of Maine in Orono has announced its newest inductees, the Class of 2007.

The Senior Skull Honor Society was founded in 1906 to publicly recognize, formally reward, and continually promote outstanding leadership and scholarship, and exemplary citizenship within the University of Maine community.

Today, the society consists of a group of seniors who have shown outstanding leadership abilities, academic achievement, community and campus involvement, responsibility, and integrity while an undergraduate at the University of Maine. Membership in the society is the highest all-inclusive honor to which a male student at the University of Maine can aspire.

The University of Maine Senior Skull Class of 2007 consists of the following students:

Bryan S. Adams
Veazie, Maine
Majors: Psychology & History
Parents: Scott & Melissa Adams &
Kevin and Melinda Carr

Benjamin J. Briggs
Mount Desert Island, Maine
Major: Chemistry
Parents: Daniel Briggs & Suzanne Burns

Priyanth Chandrasekar
Bangalore, India
Majors: Electrical Engineering & Economics
Parents: Chandrasekar Raju & Sashikala Chandrasekar

Seth Enos
Plymouth, Massachusetts
Major: Botany
Parents: Martin & Cynthia Enos

Christopher Gerardi
Brooklyn, Connecticut
Majors: Kinesiology & Physical Education
Parents: Peter & Kathy Gerardi

Andrew Girouard
Lewiston, Maine
Majors: Secondary Education & Mathematics
Parents: Ronald & Joline Girouard

Matthew T. Hunter
Unity, Maine
Majors: Political Science & History
Parents: Thomas & Linda Hunter

Benjamin Lakin
Falmouth, Maine
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Parents: Jeffery & Pamela Lakin

Joseph David ("JD") Lloyd
Cumberland Foreside, Maine
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Parents: Ken Lloyd & Jane McGraves

Eric M. Martin
Presque Isle, Maine
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Parents: Stephen & Cheryl Martin

Kyle B. VanZandt
New Gloucester, Maine
Major: Chemical Engineering
Parents: Zark & Kathryn VanZandt

Bachelor of Arts in Social Work Program to be Offered at Hutchinson Center in Belfast

25 Jul 2006

Contact: Nancy Boyington, 338-8002 Joe Carr at 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Social Work and the university's Hutchinson Center in Belfast are developing the capacity to offer undergraduate courses, beginning this fall, to complete a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) in the evenings at the Belfast location. Building on the success of the weekend Master's in Social Work (MSW) program, UMaine will expand its offerings for working adults seeking professional social work training. This new program will provide the only social work training available between Portland and Orono. For the first time students will have the opportunity to take all the required courses at the Hutchinson Center, completing the undergraduate degree in as few as five years. Professional social workers are employed in a range of social service positions, including health and mental health agencies, schools, working with children and families, and with older adults. In keeping with the Hutchinson Center's mission to provide new educational opportunities for adults, there will be a limited number of scholarships available for new students. Designed so that traditional and non-traditional students can access social work education in the mid-coast area, the BASW degree meets all the UMaine undergraduate program requirements. A BASW also makes students who wish to pursue graduate training eligible for advanced standing in MSW programs, reducing the number of required courses in a graduate program. The course to be offered this September is Human Behavior in the Social Environment. This course examines human development, behavior, values and attitudes as influenced by environmental factors such as age, gender, culture, social class, and oppression. The course uses multiple theories, and considers implications for social work practice and social welfare policy. This course is open to both majors and non-majors. Individual advising is available at the Hutchinson Center to help students map out their undergraduate courses. Information will also be available at the Hutchinson Center's Educational Fair on Aug.22 from 4-6 p.m. To register, contact The Hutchinson Center at 338-8000. For more information about the School of Social Work, visit www.umaine.edu/socialwork/. The School of Social Work at the University of Maine is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

UMaine Professor Amar to Study, Lecture in Sri Lanka

26 Jul 2006

Contact: Francois Amar, 581-1168
George Manlove, 581-3756

Digital photo available upon request.

ORONO - University of Maine chemistry professor Fran

4-H Foundation Announces 2006 Scholarship Recipients

26 Jul 2006

Contact: Mary Dinsmore, Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation
phone 207 581-3327, fax 207 581-1387, e-mail mdinsmore@umext.maine.edu

Editors' note: Students mentioned in this release are from the following communities: Windham, Alfred, Gilead,

Cornish, Glenburn, Norway and Albion.

ORONO, ME -- Several local students were awarded \$1,000 scholarships at the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation's recent annual meeting. They were among seven 4-H members receiving the scholarships to help support their educational goals.

According to Dr. Fred Schlutt, executive director of the foundation, "post-secondary education scholarships are an important offering of the 4-H Foundation. They reward the hard work of our graduating 4-H members and also display the dedication of 4-H to higher levels of learning."

The Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation partners with University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H youth development program to enrich youth experiences.

Brian J. Pierce of Windham was awarded the Gladys Conant/Farm Credit of Maine Scholarship. Pierce was a 4-H member for nine years; he was president of the Bulls Eyes and Young Farmers Beef Clubs, completed many community service projects, and was very active at Windham High School. He plans to study animal science and agribusiness at the University of Maine at Orono in the fall.

The recipient of the Parker Lovejoy Scholarship was Elizabeth Hilton of Alfred. For 13 years, Hilton participated at the local, state and national levels as a 4-H club member. She remarked that her many years in 4-H taught her that success comes from self-discipline and motivation. Hilton plans to study animal and veterinary Sciences at UMaine.

Colleen Slattery of Gilead received the Claude Clement Scholarship. A 4-H member for 12 years, Slattery credits her sense of respect, responsibility and determination to her 4-H education. She served as secretary to the Tally-Ho 4-H Horse Club and volunteered at a 4-H after-school program. She plans to attend the University of Maine at Farmington in the fall.

Katherine Pike of Cornish won the Azure Dillon Memorial Scholarship. Pike was a 4-H member for 11 years, and during that time she served as vice president of the Cumberland County All-Star Dairy Club, and participated in National 4-H Congress and the Maine 4-H Dairy Fitting and Judging Teams at Eastern States. Pike plans to pursue a degree in veterinary science.

Peter Guerin of Glenburn was awarded the Verna Witter Scholarship. Guerin was president of the Penobscot Sheep Club, as well as the founder and president of the 4-H Community Service Club during his 11-year tenure with 4-H. He participated in National 4-H Congress and Citizenship Washington Focus, and also completed a 4-H exchange trip to France. Guerin will study studio art at UMaine.

Matt Moseley of Norway garnered the Evelyn Trotsky Scholarship. Moseley was a 4-H member for nine years, participating in Eastern States and Maine 4-H Days, and he also frequented the Tanglewood 4-H Camp. He dedicated a great amount of time to community service, volunteering at Camp Susan Curtis and for the March of Dimes, in addition to fundraising for cystic fibrosis research. Moseley plans to study secondary education and Nordic ski coaching.

The recipient of the Doris Roberts, H. Lawrence, and George Lawrence Humphrey 4-H Scholarship was Erica Heinrich of Albion. Heinrich was a member of 4-H for eight years. During this time she served as club president, participated in Eastern States Exposition and completed various community service projects. She plans to study elementary education.

The Maine 4-H program grew out of early 20th-century boys and girls clubs, which were folded into the University of Maine's Extension work in 1914. Since that date, 4-H has continued to set the standard in youth development, helping Maine's young people acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities and attitudes necessary for lifelong success. Young people can become involved in 4-H through school enrichment programs, 4-H camps, and county UMaine Extension offices.

4-H is the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's youth development program. The Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization that provides financial and organizational support to 4-H clubs

throughout Maine.

Honors College Graduate Awarded Major Scholarship

02 Aug 2006

Contact: Emily Ann Cain, Coordinator of Advancement, Honors College, 207-581-3263

ORONO -- Nicklaus Laverty, a 2006 Honors College graduate from the University of Maine is one of 77 students nationwide to earn a Graduate Scholarship in the nationally competitive Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Program. Laverty competed with 1,100 nominees to earn this distinction. The Graduate Scholarships cover tuition, room, board, fees and books - up to \$50,000 annually - for up to six years. The scholarships are among the most generous academic awards offered in the United States.

Laverty, a native of Lewiston, received Highest Honors from the Honors College this past May, completing his degree in Political Science, with minor in English, from the University of Maine. Laverty's Honors thesis, totaling 308 pages, was entitled "Postponing Democracy: Vladimir Putin and the Emergence of Authoritarianism in Post-Soviet Russia," and was advised by Prof. James Warhola of the UMaine Political Science Department. This fall Laverty will attend the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, to begin working on his Ph.D. in Comparative Politics and International Affairs.

Laverty is very sure there is a connection between his involvement in the Honors College at UMaine and this award.

"I never would have known about this opportunity if Charlie Slavin, dean of the Honors College, had not encouraged me to apply. I know that completing my Honors thesis this year made me especially competitive in the selection process for this scholarship, and has me prepared to start doctoral work this fall with confidence," he says.

This is the fifth year the Graduate Scholarship program has existed. The new scholars bring the total of recipients in the program to 286. The exact amount and duration of the scholarships vary by student, based on the cost of attendance and length of the graduate program as well as other scholarships or grants the student has received. Students attending any accredited college or university in the United States were eligible to apply. Each institution could nominate up to two students. Candidates then underwent a rigorous assessment at two stages by independent panels of academic experts, including graduate school deans, admissions counselors, and faculty members. The selection criteria included academic achievement and financial need as well as a will to succeed, leadership and community involvement.

The scholarship recipients come from 33 states and nine foreign nations. New York led all states with six scholars followed by Texas with five. Illinois and Indiana both had four scholars. The foreign scholars come from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Paraguay, Romania, Trinidad, and Togo.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is a private, independent foundation established in 2000 by the estate of Jack Kent Cooke to help young people of exceptional promise reach their full potential through education. It focuses in particular on students with financial need. The Foundation's programs include scholarships to undergraduate, graduate and high school students, and grants to organizations that serve high-achieving students with financial need.

Hudson Museum Exhibit "Maman Disait" Celebrates a Mother's Proverbs

03 Aug 2006

Contact: Rhea Cote, (207) 989-7059; Gretchen Faulkner, 581- 1904; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- "Comme on fait son lit, on se couche." (As you make your bed, so you must lie in it.) "Plus

UMaine Grant to Aid Relative Parents in Northern Maine

03 Aug 2006

Contact: Lenard Kaye, 581-3483; Marcia Sibley, (207) 794-6700; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Center on Aging is using technology -- the Internet -- to help provide several new services for grandparents and other relatives who serve as foster parents in remote parts of northern Penobscot and southern Aroostook counties.

The Center on Aging recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Brookdale Foundation in New York to fund a two-year project to bolster support services for kinship or "grandfamilies." It allows the center, in conjunction with two partner agencies, to continue groundbreaking work it started in 2002 with a survey of the difficulties facing grandparents and others who serve as parents for relative children.

The center received the grant in April and is currently expanding several existing services and launching new ones under the Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP). The purpose of RAPP is to enable grandparents and other relatives who serve as parents -- when children's biological parents are unable to care for them -- the same services, privileges and financial assistance that is available for unrelated foster parents. More than a dozen agencies or organizations in Maine that oversee or provide services for foster children make up a RAPP Task Force, which guides project priorities.

"We are delighted that this is now the third consecutive RAPP award that the center has received, allowing us to extend the reach of our efforts to serving 'grandfamilies' in extremely rural communities that have been traditionally underserved," says Lenard Kaye, professor of social work and director of the Center on Aging.

New services being offered in the Lincoln and Millinocket areas and in southern Aroostook County will provide free support, information and aid to grandfamilies in remote regions where there are few resources or opportunities for relative parents to get assistance. The Internet will be used for live chats and seminars.

"This is what we consider the third sequence of activities that has received combined funding for a problem we think is very important, and that is grandparents serving as parents," Kaye says. "We're doing some very unique and original activities in this project."

Only four states in addition to Maine received Brookdale Foundation grants under this initiative.

The funding will enable the Center on Aging, working with Families And Children Together (FACT) of Bangor and Health Access Network (HAN) in Lincoln to: identify rural relative caregivers not being served by existing programs and establish support groups for them; offer a series of Internet-based discussions for caregivers who cannot conveniently travel to places where services are available; and establish a pilot voucher system to keep children safely occupied in community recreation programs while grandparents attend as many as nine support group meetings in year one and 12 in year two.

Four Internet seminars with on-line discussions also are being planned over the two-year grant period to reach people in remote areas and often miles from existing support programs. The first of the seminars is set for Oct. 4-5.

Additionally, the grant will allow the Center on Aging and its partners to generate four caregiver tip sheets over the next two years, and plan a day-long conference on legal issues facing relative parents and the specialists who work with children and families.

Kaye says a lack of communication and information about services is a problem among kinship families in northern communities, often compounded by transportation, health and financial issues in rural communities. "That's one of the major challenges facing these folks; they don't know what's out there for support services," he says.

Marcia Sibley, clinical director in HAN's Lincoln office, says the expanded services are expected to help many grandfamilies in the agency's service area.

"At Health Access Network, we recognize the need to expand our communities' existing services and offer our dedicated grandparents and relative caregivers additional resources that will be made available through the generosity of this grant, and also the services that are currently available," she says. "We

UMaine Announces Dean Changes in Two Colleges

07 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two University of Maine colleges will be under new leadership when classes begin for the fall semester, as two veteran UMaine deans have announced their plans to step down.

G. Bruce Wiersma, a UMaine graduate who has served as dean of the college now known as the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture since 1991, has left that position. He will be the founding director of UMaine's Center for Sustainable Forestry Research. An independent research center with close ties to the UMaine School of Forest Resources, the center will be the new home for UMaine's forestry-related research programs, improving upon a long tradition of forestry and forest ecosystems research at the university.

Edward Ashworth, a professor who heads up the Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., has been chosen from a national search to replace Wiersma. Ashworth, who has a Ph.D. in Botany and Plant Physiology from the University of Maryland, has been at Purdue since 1987. He has also worked for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and has held academic posts in the United Kingdom.

"In 15 years as dean, Bruce has guided the college and its programs through a period of significant change. It has emerged stronger than ever, thanks to Bruce's outstanding leadership," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "I look forward to working closely with Bruce in his new and very important role through which he will exercise those same leadership skills to managing and coordinating UMaine research in an area that is absolutely critical to our state's future."

Associate Dean Alan Kezis will serve as interim dean until Ashworth arrives at UMaine later this summer.

"In Prof. Ashworth, we have found a worthy successor to Bruce," Kennedy continues. "He has an outstanding track record as a scholar and as an academic leader, and we look forward to his contributions in this important role." University of Maine System Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart has given his approval to Ashworth's appointment, which is subject to final approval by the System Board of Trustees.

Larryl Matthews, dean of UMaine's College of Engineering since 1999, has resigned to accept the founding dean's position in a new engineering college at Purdue North Central University in Indiana. Prof. Dana Humphrey, chair of UMaine's Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will serve as interim dean during a national search for a new college dean.

"Larryl's tenure has been remarkably successful, as he has led the college during a time of significant facilities expansion, greater connections with industry and with alumni, and a generally higher profile for the college," Kennedy says. "I wish Larryl the best in this exciting new venture."

Humphrey, who has been on the UMaine faculty since 1986, has served the university in a variety of leadership roles during that time.

"It is comforting to know that we can turn to Dana at this time, and that he will be a positive guiding force as we search for a new dean," Kennedy says.

Lost Elephant Seal Colony Offers Clues to Ancient Climate Conditions

07 Aug 2006

Contact: Brenda Hall (207) 581-2191; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine glacial geologist Brenda Hall's accidental discovery more than ten years ago is proving to be an important key to understanding the ways in which the climate near the Antarctic coast has changed over time.

Searching for particles of organic matter while studying ancient shorelines along the Ross Sea, Hall and her team discovered tiny fragments of skin and fur from elephant seals, large marine mammals that are extremely rare in the Ross Sea area today. The find led to many more elephant seal remains in the years that followed, some of which are as much as seven thousand years old.

Because the modern climate is too cold to support an elephant seal colony, the discovery suggests that the climate conditions of the Ross Sea area have changed significantly over the last several thousand years.

Hall and her colleagues published a paper in The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in June that points to the seal remains as evidence for a warming period in the region, which they believe occurred between 2,300 and 1,100 years ago.

Important to more than just elephant seal researchers, Hall's findings shed new light on the stability of Antarctic ice shelves, according to UMaine researcher George Denton.

"If a big ice shelf were to give way, the results could be catastrophic. Through her discovery of elephant seal remains over a widespread area where they do not exist today, she shows evidence not only that a warming occurred, but that the Ross Ice Shelf survived that event. It's important because it speaks to the staying capacity of the ice shelf in the face of global warming," Denton said.

Goodell Honored by Forest Products Society

07 Aug 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

UMaine Prof. Barry Goodell, of the Wood Science and Technology Program and the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, has received the prestigious Gottshalk Award from the Forest Products Society, a worldwide technical organization in forest products and wood science. The award, named for the society's first president, is the "society's highest level of recognition on an individual that has served the (s)ociety with great distinction and dedication." The recognition was presented recently at the society's international convention in California.

Chestnut Orchard Established at UMaine's Penobscot Experimental Forest

07 Aug 2006

Contact: Laura Kenefic (207) 581-2794; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The American Chestnut Foundation, working together with UMaine and the U.S. Forest Service, has established a new chestnut orchard at the Penobscot Experimental Forest in Bradley, Maine. The goal of the orchard is to develop a new strain of chestnut trees that are resistant to chestnut blight.

Prized for its valuable wood and plentiful nuts, the American chestnut tree was devastated by the fungal blight during the first half of last century. TACF will be applying specialized breeding techniques to develop a blight-resistant tree that still retains the traits of an American chestnut.

University Forests Office staff, under the direction of Forest Manager Alan Kimball, prepared the site for the new orchard, which is currently being planted by TACF staff with assistance from UMaine School of Forest Resources graduate student Jamie Weaver.

The trees at the PEF are the fourth generation of a six-generation program, and exhibit more than 90 percent of the characteristics of the American chestnut. The trees are the offspring of two mother trees that have survived in Maine. The pollen source was from TACF research farm in Virginia.

In approximately six years the trees will start producing chestnuts and will be evaluated for blight resistance once again. Those trees which show the best qualities will be used to establish the next generation by inter-breeding with other fourth generation hybrid chestnut trees now growing in other experimental orchards in Maine.

If all goes according to plan, the mighty chestnut tree will once again become a common sight in the forests of New England.

Composites and Canoes Come Together

07 Aug 2006

Contact: Roberta Laverty (207) 581-2110; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO--UMaine's AEWCCenter has recently partnered with Old Town Canoe and the Maine Technology Institute to develop and test a new line of Old Town composite canoes and kayaks.

With Maine Technology Institute seed grant funding and AEWCCenter expertise, Old Town Canoe will develop, refine and test new composite materials designs for a line of high-performance composite canoes and kayaks. Through this partnership with UMaine, Old Town Canoe will be better able to sustain and increase its workforce by adding several composite manufacturing jobs.

The collaborative effort between AEWCCenter and Old Town Canoe is aimed at developing new manufacturing processes for composite canoes and kayaks that are often favored by enthusiasts for their structural stiffness and light weight.

UMaine Announces Creation of Center for Research on Sustainable Forests

07 Aug 2006

Contact: Charlene Herrick (207) 581-3204; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The UMaine System Board of Trustees recently approved the establishment of the new Center for

Research on Sustainable Forests.

The new center will offer forestry and environmental researchers both on and off campus with new opportunities for research and collaboration, complimenting the efforts of the recently created School of Forest Resources.

"The center is intended to help encourage interdisciplinary research on the Maine forest, providing researchers with a means to work together," said UMaine College of Natural Science, Forestry and Agriculture Dean Bruce Wiersma, who will be taking the reins as the center's founding director. "The center is made up of two major components: the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit, a longtime provider of applied forestry research, and the congressionally authorized Northern States Research

Cooperative, which includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. The center's efforts will be dedicated to the biology and productivity of the Maine forest itself."

The virtual center will bring together dozens of UMaine researchers toward the common goal of forest health and productivity, and will award \$350,000 in research funding per year for projects that investigate a broad range of forest-related issues. The Center for Research on Sustainable Forests will be located in Nutting Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono.

Hudson Museum Exhibit Features Maine Archaeology

08 Aug 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904, Brian Robinson, 581-2174

ORONO -- Artifacts from Maine archaeology digs over the last 30 years, representing life from between 300 and 11,000 years ago, are currently on display through Sept. 10 at the University of Maine's Hudson Museum in the Maine Center for the Arts.

The exhibit -- "From the Ground Up: Artifacts from the University of Maine Department of Archaeology" -- features two components, prehistoric and historic artifacts.

The prehistoric display includes stone tools, bone tools and pottery from the Ceramic Period, from 500 to 3,000 years ago, representing the ancestors of the modern Wabanaki people of Maine. Some of the tools on display were discovered by UMaine archaeologists in the late 1980s and early 1990s near Gilman Falls dam in Old Town, Maine. Even older artifacts are attributed to long-lived traditions dating back 11,000 years.

The second, the historic display, includes 17th Century collections from Fort Pentagoet and St. Castin's Habitation in Castine, Maine, and are augmented by historic documentation. The collected materials date between 1635 and 1707 and include clay pipes, axe blades, splitting wedges, weaponry and reconstructed pieces of pottery, all from a period that represents French ventures into Acadian Maine in the 17th Century and the disputes over colonial boundaries. It also was a time when Maine's native populations struggled to retain parts of their homeland that were under siege.

Many of the items in both displays were discovered by UMaine archaeology professor emeritus David Sanger and anthropology professor Alaric Faulkner. The exhibit was assembled by Faulkner and Brian Robinson, assistant professor of anthropology and climate change, and includes photographs by Stephen Bicknell, a research assistant in the anthropology department who worked with Sanger for many years.

Some of the stone gouges and ground stone rods in the prehistoric exhibit are from a site near Gilman Falls dam in Old Town. They were excavated in the late 1980s and early 1990s after the federal government began mandating archaeological research in areas destined for major redevelopment or the relicensing of hydroelectric dams. Many of the tools are unfinished artifacts, accompanied by the pecking stones used to make them.

The tools in the exhibit are particularly significant, Robinson says, because, they help establish "the context for understanding a newly discovered cultural tradition, one of the most ancient here in the Gulf of Maine. They represent 5,000 years of continuous technological and ritual activities from a period 4,000-9,000 years ago, double the age of the pyramids of Egypt."

The Gilman Fall site is believed to have been a "manufacturing" site for tools. Also, the discovery of long, round sharpening stones -- created larger than was practically necessary -- leads archaeologists to wonder if some tools became elaborated symbols in ritual contexts, beyond utilitarian needs, according to Robinson.

Contrasts between artifacts discovered in different parts of the state and from different time periods make Maine is a great place to work and to do archaeology, Robinson says.

"The coast and the long rivers have connected Maine's Native inhabitants for thousands of years, reflected in the four tribes of the Wabanaki Confederation that are so much a part of Maine's self-image," he says. "The more you know about these interconnections the more interesting they become."

The Hudson Museum is free to visit and open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-1901. Its website is at www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum.

AUG. 22 Open House at UMaine's Hutchinson Center

09 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571; Meg Malmberg at 338-8000

BELFAST -- As the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center prepares to begin its seventh academic year in Belfast, students, faculty members and staff members will host an open house at the Belmont Ave. facility from 4-6 p.m. on Wednesday Aug. 22.

UMaine offers courses and entire degree programs at the Belfast location. The Aug. 22 event will offer opportunities for visitors to learn more about the Hutchinson Center and what it offers through the eyes of those who know it best, including current and former students. The open house will include information about how to register for Hutchison Center courses, and how to access information about financial aid.

The Hutchinson Center enters a new era with the beginning of the 2006-2007 academic year. UMaine has operated the facility since 2000 under a lease agreement with MBNA, the building's former owner. Earlier this summer, Bank of American, which took ownership of the property in early 2006, made a gift of the building to the university, assuring its long-term presence in mid-coast Maine.

From Perennials to Peppers: Horticultural Workshops at UMaine's Rogers Farm

09 Aug 2006

Contact: Gleason Gray at (207) 942-7396

STILLWATER, Me.--This year's Garden Gathering, a day of horticultural workshops, activities and educational

displays, will take place on Saturday, Aug. 19 at Rogers Farm, the University of Maine

UMaine Cooperative Extension Faculty Members Earn National Recognition

10 Aug 2006

Contact: Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, (207) 780-4205

Cincinnati, OH -- Two University of Maine Cooperative Extension faculty members were recently recognized for their exemplary work by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA). They were honored at the 2006 NACAA annual meeting and professional improvement conference in Cincinnati in late July. Extension Prof. Rick Kersbergen of Burnham received NACAA's Distinguished Service Award, and Associate Extension Prof. Mark Hutchinson of South China received NACAA's Achievement Award.

"Both of these awards are really big deals. This national recognition is quite an accomplishment for these two Extension educators," says UMaine Extension Prof. Richard Brzozowski, a colleague of Kersbergen and Hutchinson.

The Distinguished Service Award is given for at least ten years of exceptional service to Cooperative Extension. Winners must have implemented an effective Extension program which includes carrying to completion constructive and outstanding work. With 19 years of service, Kersbergen has had a huge impact on agriculture in Maine. His research has been instrumental in developing the organic dairy industry, with 20 percent of Maine dairies now certified organic. He developed the training manual for the Maine nutrient management program and served as professional development coordinator for the USDA-funded Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education program (SARE). With a background in ruminant nutrition and agronomy, Kersbergen conducts applied research in forage crops that is essential to the success of Maine's livestock and dairy farmers.

The Achievement Award recognizes excellence in the field of professional Extension work for nominees with less than ten years of service to Cooperative Extension. Hutchinson has responsibilities in agriculture and consumer horticulture. He coordinates the Maine Vegetable School and has led programming in nutrient management for area dairy/livestock operations. As one of the directors of the Maine Compost School, Hutchinson's work is critical to this internationally acclaimed medium- and large-scale composting training for farmers and municipalities. He also developed Seeds of Change, an educational gardening program at the state prison. The Knox-Lincoln Counties Master Gardener Program has also flourished under Hutchinson's leadership.

Cooperative Extension is the largest outreach unit of the University of Maine, and helps fulfill UMaine's land-grant mission by conducting Extension programs in every Maine county.

Photos of Kersbergen and Hutchinson are available upon request. Contact Joe Carr via return email or by calling 581-3571.

Research Adds to Understanding of Snowfall/Warming Connection in Antarctica

11 Aug 2006

Contact: [Joe Carr](#) at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Three University of Maine climate change researchers are among the authors of a new report, developed in collaboration with researchers from Ohio State University, that expands the scientific record of Antarctic snowfall and demonstrates that there has been no statistically significant change over 50 years (Monaghan et. al.). Scientists believe that an accurate understanding of snowfall totals is important to getting a clear picture of changes that may be occurring in Antarctica's dynamic climate.

"The extent to which warming is affecting the Southern Hemisphere is an important question in climate science," says Prof. Paul Andrew Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute and one of the report's authors. "This finding adds to our collective knowledge on this subject, and it provides information that is consistent with other observations on the Antarctic climate in studies that date back to 1979. Most importantly, it gives us a baseline to aid in the future measurement of snowfall and climate change in general over Antarctica."

The study is published in today's edition of the journal Science (www.sciencemag.org). UMaine doctoral students Daniel Dixon and Susan Kaspari are also among the 16 scientists who collaborated on the project.

Previous research in this area had suffered from the unreliability of snowfall and climate records before the late 1970s, when satellite imagery became more readily available. Scientists now have better data at their disposal because of the International Transantarctic Scientific Expedition (ITASE), an extensive multinational research program headed up by Mayewski. The ITASE work has provided new records, in the form of ice cores, long tubes of ice removed from various parts of the Antarctic ice sheet. Ice cores provide a year-to-year climate record, somewhat like the rings on a tree, literally frozen in time.

"A major portion of the data in this study come from ITASE records," Mayewski says. "Antarctica's climate is the most pristine in the world, and it offers unique opportunities for establishing an historical record of climate change."

The new findings have significant implications for scientists studying Antarctica's environment and its role in the worldwide climate. Today's report provides clues about the important environmental equilibrium that scientists watch carefully.

"These results fit well within a model that predicts future changes in Antarctica," Mayewski says. "Beginning in 1979, we began to record evidence of ice retreat in coastal Antarctic glaciers. More recently, notable warming and the collapse of floating ice areas have been noted in the Antarctic Peninsula in the north. Additional research also shows that marine air masses are traveling farther inland from the north, and that the high-level atmosphere is warming. At the same time, interior Antarctica, where we measured the snowfall for this study, remains largely unchanged. This all suggests that Antarctica may be setting up for significant climate change, and models suggest it could experience the greatest changes on the planet."

Mayewski has been studying Antarctica's climate extensively since his first visit there as a graduate student in 1968. His long and distinguished record recently earned him the first-ever Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR). He is currently making preparations to return to Antarctica to conduct further research, beginning in November. This article adds to an impressive academic publication record, which includes several articles in Science and Nature, considered the most prestigious of scientific journals.

Mayewski and his colleagues plan to continue their research by comparing more ice core records and circulation models, which scientists use to predict the climate in the future, with the new 50-year snowfall record to see if they can improve those predictive models.

Harmony Native and AIDS Educator Returns Home to Work With Local Youth

17 Aug 2006

Contact: Debra Kantor, 207-474-0374, dkantor@umext.maine.edu

SKOWHEGAN, Me.--Dr. Debra Kantor (formerly Debra Chadbourne), a medical anthropologist who has worked to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission in Botswana, is returning to Somerset County to do youth development work for University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

In her former position of project manager for Botswana at the Fran

Maine 4-H Delegation Attends Citizenship Washington Focus

21 Aug 2006

Contact: Mary Dinsmore, Pine Tree State 4_H Foundation, Phone 207-581-3327, Fax 207-581-1387, mdinsmore@umext.maine.edu ORONO, Me. --During the week of July 9-15, 20 Maine youth delegates attended the National 4-H Program Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), in Washington D.C. The motto of the program, "Better Citizens Today, Better Leaders Tomorrow" was reflected in the CWF itinerary, which included visits to memorials, educational tours, leadership workshops, and motivational speakers. CWF provides many young people with their first trip to the nation's capitol, so National 4-H provides each group with a guide to lead them through the city. The guides are college students and most are former 4-H'ers; they undertake extensive training to become licensed tour guides so they can educate the visiting groups. The 20 Maine delegates, their guide and three chaperones participated in a busy week of activities. Most days featured activities from 8 a.m. until 11 p.m. The Maine delegation visited places such as Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, Ford's Theatre, the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Vietnam War Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial and the Washington Monument. They also took a night tour of the city, viewing the Roosevelt Memorial, the World War II Memorial, and the Jefferson Memorial. On Wednesday, young people from every attending state flooded Capitol Hill to meet their senators and representatives. The Maine delegation was able to speak with each of their Sen. Olympia Snowe, Sen. Susan Collins and with U.S. Rep. Tom Allen "It was an honor to meet with a group of young people who take such an active interest in government, citizenship, and public service," Allen said. "Students like these are the leaders of tomorrow" Two interns in Allen's office gave the Maine delegation a tour of Capitol Hill, including an opportunity to watch Congress in session. The delegates say that thoroughly enjoyed meeting and speaking with the political leaders, and sentiments were mutual. "I was pleased to meet with such a wonderful group of young people and to hear them tell me about their experiences in 4-H," Collins said. "It is clear that 4-H is helping these students develop into our leaders of tomorrow by teaching them priceless life-long skills centered around teamwork, citizenship, and the benefits of community service." In addition to touring Capitol Hill and meeting with elected officials, the delegation also participated in a mock government activity. At the start of the week, every delegate signed up to participate on a committee in subject areas including communications, government, citizenship, and youth in governance. Delegates participated in mock senate sessions, created and debated bills, and even planned a presidential election. Individual candidates determined their stance on a variety of issues and then defended their opinions before all CWF participants. At the end of the week, delegates voted for their favorite candidate. All this activity was reported on by the communications committee. Behn Brooks, a delegate from Standish, said, "It [CWF] was a great experience both educationally and socially, enriching me in more ways than one." CWF teaches young people to appreciate their role as U.S. citizens, better understand their government, and learn to be leaders in their communities, Brooks says. A full list of the participants and their hometowns: Emily Ambrose - Morrill Krista Bailey - Wiscasset Abigail Baker - Union Erica Barrows - Union Seth Bell - Waterford Chlorissa Blood - East Dixfield Behn Brooks - Standish Tyler Brooks - Standish Michaela Davis - Gray Morgan Gavett - Bridgton Holli Googins - Gray Hattie Gushee-Kimball - Fryeburg Marjorie Hardy - Farmington Alyssa Kenney - Gray Patrick Lindsey - Winthrop Norman Miller - Richmond Vincent Nelson - Thorndike Samantha Paradis - Frenchville Morgan Turner - Jay Arlene McCrary - Linneus The Maine 4-H program grew out of early 20th-century boys and girls clubs, which were folded into University of Maine Cooperative Extension's work in 1914. Since that date, 4-H has continued to set the standard in youth development, helping Maine's young people acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities, and attitudes necessary for lifetime success. Young people can become involved in 4-H through school enrichment programs, 4-H camps, and county UMaine Extension offices. Visit [the Cooperative Extension website](#) for more information. 4-H is University of Maine Cooperative Extension's youth development program. The Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization that provides financial and organizational support to 4-H clubs throughout Maine.

UMaine CenTRO Developing Tourism Survey

21 Aug 2006

Contact: Harold Daniel, 581-1933; Thomas Allan, 581-3164; [George Manlove](#), 581-3756 ORONO -- The newly formed

University of Maine-based Center for Tourism, Research and Outreach (CentTRO) is developing a customer satisfaction survey for Maine campground visitors, which will help the state's tourism industry get a comprehensive look at how well it is doing to attract and retain visitor traffic. CentTRO began a pilot test in July, an email and Web-based questionnaire to be sent to visitors who have recently been at one of several campgrounds participating in the pilot study. Once the survey questions and research methods are refined, plans are to broaden the field to include as many of the state's campgrounds as possible, according to UMaine business professor Harold Daniel, director of CentTRO, and Thomas Allen of the Department of Resource, Economics and Policy and senior research scientist for CentTRO. With success in the state's campgrounds, the resulting approach to data collection will become a model for similar research among customers of the entire lodging industry in Maine. Daniel, Allen and CentTRO staff members are in the process of refining survey questions and methods, and developing a process that assures a consistent and objective measure of the quality of experiences of Maine's tourists. State economists, tourism authorities and owners and managers of campgrounds and lodging establishments are keenly interested in the research. The results will indicate how well visitors' needs are being met and whether they are enjoying their visits enough to return. The electronic campground survey will be the first in Maine to use email to reach visitors at home in a timely fashion, Daniel and Allen say. Currently, some large hotels and campgrounds use expensive market research firms to gauge customer satisfaction, and some smaller, family-owned campgrounds rely on an unscientific post-card questionnaire to get a sense of customer satisfaction. Any costs that may be associated with the CentTRO surveys, to cover data processing expenses, will be much less than commercial customer surveys, according to Daniel and Allen. The research, Daniel says of the camper survey, "is intended to give a lot of people insight, from the individual campground operator to the state's policy makers, and those in Maine's tourist regions. Customer satisfaction surveys help measure product quality. The survey helps address the most basic of questions: How are we doing?" The surveys can become "an ongoing monitoring system to track the quality of visitors' experiences over time," he says. Richard Abare, executive director of the Maine Campground Owners Association in Lewiston, says the fact that the camper survey is being conducted by the university gives it both credibility and relevance in the eyes of campground owners and the visitors who respond to the surveys. "The ability to be able to bring this to the individual Maine family-owned and operated business is what gets me excited," says Abare. "I know a couple of my campgrounds, my constituents that are in the process of distributing the survey, are very excited about it." CentTRO also is beginning a second survey that focuses on the experiences, spending habits and other information about overnight visitors that can give campground owners and innkeepers a better idea of who is visiting their establishments, as well as what visitors expect for services and activities during their vacations. Unlike the pilot test campground survey, the broader, year-long visitor survey is based on a well-established pencil and paper questionnaire. It should yield findings about the impact of tourism in Maine across its eight tourism regions. Allen is working with 55 participating establishments to disseminate questionnaires to overnight visitors. "A goal of the overnight visitors survey is to provide the data for regional as well as seasonal economic analyses," Allen says. CentTRO is a University of Maine System project housed within the Maine School of Business in the UMaine College of Business, Public Policy and Health. The center is the focal point for coordinating university system and state government research, outreach and educational programs related to recreation and tourism within the state of Maine. CentTRO includes tourism experts from other university campuses. Charles Colgan, professor of public policy and management in the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine, is the center's associate director.

Princeton Review Ranks UMaine Among the Best

21 Aug 2006

Contact: [Joe Carr](#) at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- For the third consecutive year, the University of Maine is listed by the Princeton Review as one of the best choices for undergraduate education. The New York-based publisher announced the details of its annual book, "The Best 361 Colleges," earlier today. Princeton Review rankings are based on several criteria, including the opinions of each institution's students.

"We are particularly gratified by this ranking because it reflects the fact that our students recognize the quality and value of the undergraduate experience at UMaine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. An average of 300 students per

institution respond to the Princeton Review's 80-question survey.

"We chose schools for this book primarily for their outstanding academics," says Robert Franek, Princeton Review's vice president, publishing. "We evaluated them on institutional data we collect about the schools, feedback from students attending them, and our visits to schools over the years. We also consider the opinions of independent college counselors, students and parents we hear from and survey year-long. Finally, we work to have a wide representation of colleges in the book by region, size, selectivity and character."

An editorial team from Princeton Review visited UMaine during the 2004-2005 academic year.

"As we move toward the beginning of a new academic year, this independent affirmation of UMaine's quality is most welcome," Kennedy says. "Enrollment continues to rise, particularly among students from states other than Maine, and we are excited about the high academic quality and other attributes of our new and returning students."

Fall semester classes begin at UMaine on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

UMaine Academ-e Students on Campus Thursday

23 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The 176 Maine high school students who will take UMaine courses in the fall semester, through an innovative program known as Academ-e, will spend Thursday Aug. 24 on the UMaine campus in Orono. After an opening session during which they will learn more about UMaine and the Academ-e program, the students will go through a series of orientation sessions, covering issues such as how to use the UMaine email system and how to access Fogler Library remotely. From 1-4 p.m., the students will attend the first meeting of the fall semester class for which they are registered.

The talented and motivated students in the program were nominated by their high schools. After Thursday, the remainder of each course will be delivered through online and videoconferencing technologies.

Thursday's schedule

8:45-9:15 a.m. at Hauck Auditorium--Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:30-10 a.m. in 100 Corbett Business Bldg.--FirstClass Email Orientation

10:15-10:45 a.m. in 100 Corbett Business Bldg.--Electronic Library Orientation

11 a.m.-12 p.m.--Library Tours and Textbook Purchases

Noon-1 p.m.--Memorial Union--Lunch

1-4 p.m. in various locations--Classes

For reference, the following is an April news release describing the program in more detail:

Academ-e Offers UMaine Courses To High School Seniors

23 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

UMaine Business School Ranked by U.S. News & World Report

23 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- A national college rankings publication rates the Maine Business School at the University of Maine at 150th on its list of the best undergraduate business programs in the U.S. The U.S. News & World Report rankings, which became public earlier this week, are based on assessments by business deans from all around the country. More than 400 schools are considered for the rankings.

"The credit goes to our faculty, staff, and our students," says Daniel Innis, dean of the UMaine College of Business, Public Policy and Health. "Our faculty members are leaders in their fields, with many receiving national notice for their scholarship. They are also heavily involved in public service activities around Maine and beyond, and they teach and inspire our outstanding students. In addition, Maine Business School staff members are dedicated to providing a positive environment for student learning."

Business is one of UMaine's most popular undergraduate majors, with nearly 1000 students studying in one or more of six undergraduate concentrations: accounting, finance, marketing, management, management information systems and international business. The Maine Business School is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

"This is important and well-deserved recognition of the quality of the Maine Business School," says Clinton Davies, a principal with Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker, the largest accounting and management consulting firm in Maine. "It shows that the curriculum is both challenging and relevant, and it is a testament to the school's faculty and leadership."

Davies, who is based in Portland, earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's in business administration from UMaine. He serves on the College of Business, Public Policy and Health Dean's Advisory Board. He leads Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker's Management and Information Technology Consulting Group.

The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania heads the US News list. UMaine is tied with several schools for 150th place, including those at Xavier University, Bradley University, Bowling Green State University, Wichita State University, Gonzaga University, the University of New Hampshire and the University of Dayton.

"This is important recognition for the Maine Business School and the University of Maine," Innis says. We are ranked at the same level as other outstanding business schools and it verifies what our graduates have been telling us: Maine Business School graduates are competitive nationally and globally and are well prepared to become leaders in the increasingly competitive global business community."

UMaine also received word this week that it has been ranked by the Princeton Review as one of the "Best 361 Colleges" in the U.S.

UMaine Research on Mercury Pollution Featured at International Meeting

25 Aug 2006

Contact: Sarah Nelson at (207) 581-3454

Madison, WI -- Eleven different UMaine scientists, students and alumni who study various aspects of mercury pollution presented their work at the Eighth International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant earlier this month.

Approximately 1,200 people attended the conference, the largest meeting dedicated to mercury pollution ever in the world. The 11 UMaine presenters helped show the international scientific community that the University of Maine is at the forefront of research into the extent and effects of environmental mercury pollution.

Sarah J. Nelson of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at UMaine gave an oral presentation about her research into winter mercury deposition and cycling at Acadia National Park. Nelson's dissertation work is evaluating the chemistry of snow in long-term research watersheds at the park. Her co-authors were Kenneth B. Johnson of the Mitchell Center, David Krabbenhoft from the U.S. Geological Survey in Middleton, Wis., Cynthia Loftin from the Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, and Kathleen Weathers from the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, NY.

Dianne Kopec, graduate student in the Department of Biological Sciences, presented her findings on mercury contamination of harbor seals in the Gulf of Maine. Kopec has looked at whether harbor seals preferentially prey on fish that are higher in mercury, which would contribute to the sharp rise in mercury biomagnification in seals and other top predators. Kopec collaborated with Adria Elskus of the USGS Maine Field Office and Department of Biological Sciences, Luke Whitman, a recent graduate of the Department of Biological Sciences, and Rebecca Van Beneden of the School of Marine Sciences and Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology.

Ph.D candidate Karen Merritt and Aria Amirbahman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering displayed a poster summarizing their work on mercury cycling in the Penobscot River estuary. Merritt's work is focusing on the part of the river that is contaminated downstream from the former Holtrachem plant in Orrington, Me. Amirbahman also led a platform presentation about mercury pollution across the United States with UMaine Ph.D. alumnus Michael Bank, who is currently at the Harvard School of Public Health. Their talk was co-authored by UMaine alumnus Jeffrey Crocker, David Senn and James Shine from the Harvard School of Public Health, Edward Chesney and Nancy Rabalais from the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, and Jennifer Jay of University of California-Los Angeles.

New Students Move in at UMaine Friday

28 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Members of the University of Maine's Class of 2010 will arrive on campus on Friday, Sept. 1 when they will move into residence halls and participate in UMaine's unique and successful "Maine Hello" student greeting and orientation program.

"Maine Hello" is highlighted by a Friday welcoming effort involving more than 700 UMaine students, staff members and faculty members. Each new student and his or her family is greeted by a "Maine Hello" volunteer who provides a warm welcome and helps to move belongings into residence hall rooms. UMaine President Robert Kennedy will lead this effort by lending a hand at various residence halls around campus.

The overwhelming majority of the more than 2,000 members of UMaine's new first-year class will live in a residence hall. They will have an outstanding opportunity to learn more about UMaine and make new friends through participation in a variety of activities from the time of their arrival through the end of the day next Monday. Fall semester classes begin on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Returning students move into their rooms on Monday, Sept. 4.

The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) recognized the "Maine Hello" with its regional Program of the Year Award for 2002-2003.

Note: Reporters who are interested in speaking with President Kennedy during Friday's move-in activities should call Joe Carr at 949-4149 to determine Kennedy's location.

National 4-H Leadership Conference Allows Youth to Explore Science, Technology

28 Aug 2006

Contact: Mary Dinsmore, Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation, 207-581-3327 or Ray Corey, Extension Educator, Phone 207-778-4650, rcorey@umext.maine.edu

LINCOLN, Neb. ---More than 200 young from across the nation, including five from Maine, attended the 2006 National 4-H Leadership Conference held July 24-27 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "Science, Engineering and Technology for the 21st Century" was the conference theme, giving students, ages 14-18, from across the nation the opportunity to learn about cutting-edge technology and take it back to use in their communities.

Maine 4-H sent a group of eight to attend the event. University of Maine Cooperative Extension educators Lisa Phelps, Ray Corey, and Christy Fitzpatrick acted as chaperones and 4-H youth participants were Sky Critchfield from South Casco, Zach Porter from Scarborough, Ashley Dwinal from Carthage, Daniel Reinemann from Union and Gordon Sloat from Hodgdon.

"We know the importance of science and technology is growing," says Kathleen Lodl, 4-H youth development specialist. "So we are going to equip these students with the skills they need to enter the 21st-century workplace."

Participants chose one of eight focus areas to pursue during the conference. These hands-on learning workshops covered technology incorporated with remote sensors, emergency readiness, movie-making, food engineering, sports science, Flash animation, robotics and engineering. Porter, a 4-H member from Scarborough, chose to participate in sports science.

"I have always enjoyed playing sports like soccer, baseball and tennis, but had never really thought about the work that goes into designing sports equipment to be safe and comfortable," he says. "People in the field of sports science technology are always collecting information about injuries so they can make equipment even better and prevent more injuries."

Mentors worked with delegates to learn life skills related to technology and science, discuss ethical issues, identify career opportunities and explore applications in daily life.

"My focus was Lego

UMaine Graduate Paul Conway to Address First-Year Class; Belfast Native Serves as Chief of Staff to U.S. Labor Secretary

29 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Belfast native Paul T. Conway, a 1987 University of Maine graduate who currently serves as chief of staff to U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao, will return to his alma mater on Friday Sept. 1 to address UMaine's first-year student class.

Conway will be the featured speaker at the Class of 2010 Convocation, set for 4 p.m. at the Maine Center for the Arts. Fall Convocation marks the beginning of the academic year at UMaine. It is the first official gathering of the new class, which will begin studies with returning UMaine students on Tuesday Sept. 5.

"Paul Conway joins a distinguished list of accomplished UMaine alums who have have spoken at Fall Convocation since this tradition was revived in 1999," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This event is a most appropriate beginning for our new students, as it shows each of them what can be accomplished with a UMaine education."

Other convocation speakers have included best-selling author Stephen King, high-tech entrepreneur Heather Blease, network sportscaster Gary Thorne, renowned inventor Doug Hall, state healthcare official Trish Riley and NASA official Bridget Ziegelaar-Johnson.

Prior to his current role in the Dept. of Labor, Conway has held appointments in the U.S. Dept. of Education, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and the federal Office of Personnel Management (OPM). A chief of staff at OPM, Conway was closely involved with the standup of the Department of Homeland Security. Conway has also worked as Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In addition to his government service, Conway has been an associate dean of government at Regent University, has been deputy director of The Citizenship Project at The Heritage Foundation and has worked as an Executive Vice President for a Republican campaign consulting company.

Selected during his student days as member of UMaine's prestigious Senior Skulls Honor Society, Conway was also president of UMaine Student Government. Additionally, he served as chair of the Maine State College Republican Federation.

A kidney transplant recipient in 1997, Conway is well-known as a public advocate for causes related to organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

School of Performing Arts Announces 2006 Fall Semester Events

30 Aug 2006

Contact: Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Performing Arts has announced its fall semester calendar of events, featuring the artistic talent, creativity and expertise of university faculty members, students and special guest performers.

MUSIC

Minsky Hall Recital Series
Faculty Recitals:

Saturday, Sept. 23
Trumpet/Piano/Violin Recital

Music by Ewazen, Sir Arthur Sullivan and others will be performed by Jack Burt, trumpet; Laura Artesani, piano; Anatole Wieck, violin; and other guests. 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 29
"A Recital of Birds"

Performers will include UMaine's Trimorphic Protennoia: Nancy Ellen Ogle, soprano; Ginger Yang Hwalek, piano; and Kathleen Ellis, narrator. Other guest artists also will perform. 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 14
Violin Recital
Featuring Anatole Wieck & friends. 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 22
"Thwarted Voices"
Music devoted to the music of composers who were victims of National Socialist racial policies. Organized and performed by Phillip Silver, with guest artist Deborah Cook, an internationally acclaimed soprano. 2 p.m.

Ensemble Series
Wednesday, Oct. 18
Women Composers Concert
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 28
University Orchestra
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 7
Chamber Jazz
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 12
University Singers Concert
Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 14
Percussion Ensemble
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 16
Oratorio Society
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20
Symphonic Band Concert
Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 28
Chamber Music Concert
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30
Jazz Concert
Hauck Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2
Opera Workshop
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3
Collegiate Chorale
Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3

Athena Consort & Black Bear Men's Chorus
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5
Brass Night
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 10
Yuletide Concert
Maine Center for the Arts, 2 p.m. Admission \$8.

THEATRE

"Wintertime"

Playwright Charles Mee pulls together disparate elements from past theatrical works and meshes contemporary aspects, creating a play that is contemporary but never strays from its historical roots. As such, "Wintertime" is, by Mee's own description, "a sweet, dreamy, romantic comedy from the world of *The Winter's Tale* and *The Cherry Orchard* and Moli

UMaine Announces Annual Fundraising Total

31 Aug 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Alumni and other friends donated \$18,358,852.95 to the University of Maine in the year that ended June 30, 2006. With the exception of 2002, when UMaine received a valuable donated patent, this represents the largest one-year private fundraising total in UMaine's history. The gifts supported everything from scholarships and research to 4-H programs and the renovation of historic buildings, including Lord Hall, the new home of the university's Department of Art.

"The response to our fundraising efforts has been overwhelmingly positive," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Our friends and supporters, particularly those who are alums, really appreciate UMaine and its critical importance statewide and beyond. They recognize that we have set ambitious goals for this university, and that we are making real progress. They want to help, and to be a part of charting the course for UMaine's future. We are tremendously grateful for the support of each and every person who has made the decision to contribute. The university, as well as the entire state, depends on their generosity."

The largest gifts during 2005/06 included:

- Three estate gifts totaling nearly \$4 million
- A gift of the Mahaney Dome donated by the late philanthropist and community leader Larry Mahaney
- A \$500,000 gift from the Libra Foundation to support the renovation of the Maine Center for the Arts

"President Kennedy's leadership and our extraordinary alumni and friends are the keys to our success," says Barbara Beers, who became UMaine's vice president for development in March. "These returns are particularly gratifying as we continue progress on the largest fundraising initiative in UMaine's history, a six year campaign to raise at least \$150 million."

In fact, Beers notes, the first two months of the campaign's second year have seen several large gifts to the university, including the donation by Bank of America of the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. "We are deeply grateful to Betsey Greenstein, president of Bank of America/Maine, and everyone at the bank, for this extraordinary gift," says Beers.

"Our greatest asset continues to be the generosity of our wonderful donors," says Amos Orcutt, president and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation. "They appreciate what UMaine has meant to them, and they are anxious to join us in finding ways to create those same opportunities for others."

The University of Maine Development Office, Foundation, Alumni Association, Pulp & Paper Foundation and 4-H Foundation are all actively engaged in seeking support for Maine's land-grant university. UMaine classes will begin for the fall semester on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Students Choose UMaine in Record Numbers

01 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A record number of new first-year students will begin studies at the University of Maine when fall semester classes get underway on Tuesday, Sept. 5. The Class of 2010 is made up of 1,950 students, which represents a seven percent increase over last year's incoming class. The group also includes the largest number of in-state students to enroll at UMaine in any year, and the largest number of out-of-state students in a single class. The latter category continues to grow very quickly, having increased 55 percent over the past two years.

"The numbers themselves are impressive and gratifying," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "But there is much more to celebrate in this group. They bring strong records of academic achievement, along with the characteristics and achievements that suggest that they will be outstanding leaders and community citizens. This is an impressive class, and we look forward to having them as part of the UMaine community."

The first-year students who will live on campus will move into their residence halls today, participating in an award-winning UMaine program called the Maine Hello. Some 750 UMaine faculty and staff volunteers will greet the students and their families, and help move their belongings into the residence buildings. A series of activities are scheduled through the weekend, known at UMaine as Fall Welcome Weekend, to help get the students acclimated to college life and ready to begin classes next week.

"Word is out that UMaine is an excellent choice for a comprehensive, challenging and rewarding college experience," Kennedy says. "This continued strong enrollment confirms that people see UMaine for its quality and its value."

UMaine's total fall student population is estimated to be 11,528, an approximately one percent increase over last year's fall enrollment. Seventy-seven percent of UMaine's students will be full-time; 20 percent will be graduate students.

Forty-five states and 47 countries are represented in UMaine's student population.

UMaine's 19 residence halls are at capacity, with 3,800 students choosing to live on campus.

Note: UMaine historical enrollment data are adjusted to discount former affiliations with University College and the University of Maine School of Law.

Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program: Fall 2006 Lunch Series

01 Sep 2006

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Women in the Curriculum (WIC) and Women's Studies Program has planned a fall brown bag lunch speakers series that addresses politics, education, careers and culture from a wide variety of women's perspectives.

All programs are offered at no cost, starting at 12:15 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted, and all are physically accessible.

The WIC Lunch Series is one of the oldest and most visible aspects of the Women in Curriculum and Women's Studies Program. Scheduled weekly, the series features lectures, panels, and performances that reflect current scholarship on women's issues. The series provides visiting scholars, university faculty, staff, students, and other community members the opportunity to present their work to a diverse audience.

This semester's offerings range from cutting-edge science to politics and art.

The schedule of discussions is as follows:

Thursday, Sept. 14

What's at Stake for Women in the November Election?

Beth Edmonds, Maine State Senate President, Cumberland County

Comments by Amy Fried, associate professor of political science

And 4-6 p.m., "Maman Disait Opening," Hudson Museum

Rhea Cote Robbins, adjunct assistant professor of women's studies and Franco-American studies

Tuesday, Sept. 19

What is Stem Cell Research and Why Does It Matter?

Clarissa Henry, assistant professor of biological sciences, with comments by Sandra Haggard, associate professor of biological sciences, University of Maine at Augusta, and Cooperating Associate professor of Women's Studies

26, Tuesday (Coe Room)

The Challenge of Independence in Women's Health Care: A Matter of Choice

Ruth Lockhart, executive director, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center

(A National Women's Health and Fitness Day Event)

Wednesday, Oct. 4

Women Who Eat Too Much: Current Research on Women, Food and Film

Laura Lindenfeld, assistant professor of mass communications/new media studies and applied public policy, Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy

Wednesday, Oct. 11

What's the University Got to Do With It? Retaining Women Faculty at UMaine

Sharon Barker, director of the Women's Resource Center and other members of UMaine Task Force on Retention of Women Faculty Members

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Language and Culture in Violence Prevention

Renate Klein, associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies

(An Event for Domestic Violence Awareness Month)

Wednesday, Oct. 25

Three Sisters Reclaim the Commons: Indigenous Culture, Perma Culture and Digital Culture

Joline Blais, assistant professor of New Media

Tuesday, Oct. 31

Personal Economies: A Longitudinal Report on the Economic Status of COLT Staff in the University of Maine System
Janine Bonk, administrative assistant of admissions, University of Maine at Farmington; Jane Crouch, secretary, Bureau of Labor Education; Loraine Lowell, librarian assistant II, University of Southern Maine and vice-president, ACSUM; and Phyllis VonHerrlich, administrative assistant, Muskie School, University of Southern Maine

Tuesday, Nov. 7

Around the Kitchen Table: The Women's Movement and the ERA in Maine, 1970-1982

Stephanie Philbrick, producer and reference assistant, Maine Historical Society Library and freelance researcher

Wednesday, Nov. 15

Reflections on a Career as Church Musician, Concert Organist and Teacher in Haarlem, The Netherlands, One of Europe's Great Organ Cities,

Gemma Coebergh, president of the Andreissen/deKlerk Foundation

Tuesday, Nov. 28

"Just Call Me a Lobsterman": Women in the Lobster Industry

Cathy Billings, assistant director for communications and development, College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Grace Norton (1834-1926): Cambridge Woman of Letters

Cathleen Bauschatz, professor of French

Wednesday, Dec. 13

The Politics of the 'Boy Crisis': A Case Study of the Maine Task Force on Gender Equity in Education

Lyn Mikel Brown, professor of education and human development, Colby College; and Mary Madden, assistant research professor of education and human development, UMaine

For more information or to request accommodation, please call (207) 581-1228. The program schedule and the women's studies program at UMaine are available on the Women in the Curriculum website at: www.umaine.edu/wic.

Baldacci, Kennedy to Greet First Grad Biomed School Class on Thursday

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci and University of Maine President Robert Kennedy will greet the inaugural UMaine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) class at a Thursday event in Orono. Scheduled for 1:30 p.m. at Buchanan Alumni House, the reception will include comments from both Baldacci and Kennedy. Several of the students will also provide displays which describe their research work.

The school's first class is made up of 12 Ph.D. students. Nine of them have Maine roots, including some who have moved back to Maine to participate in the program. The students are each working toward a UMaine doctorate through a unique arrangement that includes six other statewide partners: The Jackson Laboratory, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Mt. Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems, the University of Southern Maine and the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The students and faculty researchers are working on projects related to human health in concentrations including molecular and cellular biology, neuroscience, biomedical engineering and functional genomics.

Phone Service to Help Campus Motorists

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Drivers looking park on the University of Maine campus can access current information on vacant spaces through a new telephone service. Starting today, a recorded message at 581-INFO will provide information on where motorists should look for available spaces.

"We have enough spaces to accommodate commuter student, faculty and staff and resident student parking needs," says UMaine police major Alan Stormann, director of parking and transportation services. "The situation during peak weekday hours is fluid, and our staff members are able to assess current availability. They report that information to our central office, and we will use this new mechanism to let drivers know where they should look for space."

The frequency of updates will depend on various factors, including traffic volume. Stormann says he's confident that the information will be timely enough to be valuable to motorists.

"I hope that drivers, especially commuter students, find this service useful as a time-saver and as a convenience," he says. "It also fits with our energy conservation efforts, as it should reduce the amount of time people are driving around looking for available parking."

More information on UMaine parking policies and practices is on the Web at <http://www.umaine.edu/parking/default.htm>. Visitor parking permits are available at UMaine's Public Safety Building, Bear Necessities in Alford Arena, and Buchanan Alumni House's visitors center.

Lobster Institute Christens "New" Research Vessel

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Cathy Billings, Lobster Institute

UMaine Researcher Aims to Speed UP Supercomputers

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Yifeng Zhu (207) 581-2499; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering professor Yifeng Zhu's latest research project promises to increase the speed and efficiency of supercomputers by improving the access speed of hard disks.

Disks are the slowest components of supercomputers, and can be a major obstacle to improving system speed. Utilizing a \$236,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, Zhu plans to develop an adaptive disk data management scheme that allows computers to more efficiently handle large-volume access traffic, which can reach as high as 10,000 operations per second in some supercomputers.

UMaine Researchers Launch Underwater Glider

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Mary Jane Perry (207) 581-3321; David Munson (207) 581-3777

Mary Jane Perry, a professor of marine sciences and oceanography at UMaine's Darling Marine Center and a pioneer in the use of autonomous underwater gliders for remote research, deployed the university's first such glider into the chilly waters of the Gulf of Maine with the help of colleagues Neal Pettigrew and David Townsend in June. Affectionately dubbed Nemo, the six-foot, florescent yellow device promises to change the way we look at the ocean.

Autonomous gliders like Nemo represent a whole new way of carrying out ocean research. Looking like a cross between a torpedo and a manta ray, gliders are built for long-distance, low-energy travel. On its maiden voyage along the Maine Coastal Current, Nemo cruised along at just under one mile per hour, its multiple environmental sensors whirring away, twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. The glider's data gathering marathon continued for two weeks -- less than half of its one-month trip length potential.

"One of the main advantages of gliders is their persistent presence in the ocean," said Perry in a presentation to her fellow researchers in July. "They give us the ability to gather data and observe features over time that might never be observed using satellites or other platforms. If you have to wait for a ship, you might entirely miss an important event."

Nemo's ability to operate for an entire month at a time is due in part to its unique method of movement. Using an internal piston that alternately draws in and expels sea water from a chamber in the rear section of its tubular housing, Nemo changes its buoyancy by changing the ratio of internal seawater to oil, which is stored in a bladder in the nose of the device. The buoyancy changes are translated into forward motion with the help of its wings.

Nemo's rhythmic rise and fall propels it, albeit slowly, through the water column. At set intervals it rises to the surface, transmitting data back to the lab on everything from phytoplankton concentration to salinity. It maintains a predetermined course by checking its position via GPS or it can accept new instructions from researchers working from a ship's cabin or mainland lab.

Perry's ultimate goal is to have two or more gliders operating in Maine waters, allowing researchers to maintain a constant stream of data by replacing active gliders on a monthly basis.

Utilizing funding from the Office of Naval Research and the UMaine Office of the Vice President for Research, Perry worked closely with UMaine School of Marine Sciences researchers Neal Pettigrew, David Townsend and Carol Janzen to acquire Nemo and initiate what they hope will become a long-term program of research utilizing multiple gliders.

UMaine Receives Food Science Education Grant

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Al Bushway (207) 581-1629; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition was recently named the recipient of the Mettler Toledo Food Science and Education Grant. The award consists of more than \$60,000 in research equipment and software.

Mettler Toledo, a leading supplier of laboratory instruments, chose UMaine over numerous other institutions in the United States and Canada that provide doctoral programs in the food sciences.

Both students and faculty will benefit from the new equipment, which will be used for teaching and research.

Installation of the new equipment, including balances, analytical equipment, software and a personal computer, is scheduled to begin at the end of August. Established to honor Erhard Mettler, the highly-competitive award provides

equipment to a single institution each year to establish or enhance the education in current and future collegiate food science programs.

"This grant will allow for curriculum updates that further the development of our Food Science and Human Nutrition students by ensuring their professional capabilities with modern analytical tools routinely used in both public and private industry," said UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition professor Al Bushway.

The University of Maine Food Science and Human Nutrition department offers Bachelor of Science degrees in Food Science and Human Nutrition, with a concentration in Food Science, Human Nutrition or Food Management. The graduate program offers a Master of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition, a combined Master of Science and Dietetic Internship and a Ph.D. in Food and Nutrition Sciences. The baccalaureate degree program has been accredited by the Institute for Food Technologists. The department is additionally involved in numerous food science research projects in Food Chemistry, Food Microbiology, Food Safety, Product Development and Sensory Science.

UMaine Researchers Create Maps to Help Preserve Maine's Coastline

05 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Kelley (207) 581-2162; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - University of Maine Earth science students Elizabet Metcalfe and Laura Brothers spent the summer kayaking along miles of quiet coves and windswept peninsulas in an effort to map the fragile bluffs along the Maine coast. But this was no leisurely sightseeing trek. Working with UMaine marine geologist Joe Kelley, the students -- Metcalfe, Brothers and Peter Leach -- are creating the compiling data and creating maps in an effort to help preserve Maine's famous coastline.

While many associate the state's seascape with scattered boulders and craggy outcroppings, Maine's soft coast of sand, gravel and other loose substrates is eroding rapidly. In fact, development pressures threaten the very existence of the state's picturesque and ecologically important bluffs.

The students' geological findings are being compiled in the Maine Geological Survey's online database as part of the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act. By the end of the research project next year, students will have mapped more than 3,000 miles of tidal shoreline. The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

New Mitchell Center Director Links Knowledge to Action

05 Sep 2006

Contact: David Hart (207) 581-3257; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - When it comes to securing a healthy environment for future generations, David Hart knows that actions speak louder than words.

Hart, a long-time environmental scientist with a keen interest in environmental policy, recently took the helm as Director of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at UMaine. Bringing with him a wealth of leadership experience in interdisciplinary research and environmental partnerships, Hart's primary goal at the center is to establish lasting connections between UMaine researchers and the diverse community of stakeholders who are concerned with environmental issues.

"One of the greatest challenges we face today is developing solutions to environmental problems in ways that also maintain strong communities and a healthy economy. At the Mitchell Center, we'll be looking for new ways to solve those problems by pulling together and focusing UMaine's remarkable diversity of environmental expertise," said Hart. "I'm really excited about working at the University of Maine, because there are already so many strong collaborations."

From water contamination to fisheries restoration, urban sprawl and climate change, the issues facing Maine are much the same as those in other regions, and Hart sees great potential for UMaine and the Mitchell Center to become models for research, collaboration and environmental problem-solving. "Maine has often been a leader in solving difficult environmental problems," said Hart. "By expanding this commitment to developing solutions, we can learn valuable lessons about effective environmental management that are transferable to other regions of the nation and the world."

Hart will be seeking new funding sources to support the Center's research, education, and outreach programs, and hopes to make the Center a catalyst for the development of multifaceted collaborations with government agencies, the private sector, non-government organizations, and community groups.

Hart is the former Director of the Patrick Center for Environmental Research and Vice President of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA, and a professor at the University of Pennsylvania. His accomplishments at the Patrick Center were enhanced by his unique ability to build and sustain research partnerships. Hart's research achievements, leadership skills, and fund-raising abilities also promise to strengthen the Mitchell Center's outstanding reputation as a leader in environmental research.

"I see great opportunities here. Mainers have already demonstrated a strong commitment to protecting their environment" said Hart. "Our job is to make sure that the Mitchell Center helps in achieving that goal."

Learn how Choices Matter Through UMaine's Sustainability for ME Program

08 Sep 2006

Contact: John Jemison, Jr., Extension Professor, Water Quality and Soil Science, jjemison@umext.maine.edu, 207-581-3241

OAKLAND, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer "Sustainability for ME.," a six-week program beginning on Wednesday Sept. 13 at Messalonskee High School in Oakland. Sessions are scheduled for 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesdays through Oct. 18.

The "Sustainability for ME" course will demonstrate to participants how lifestyle choices affect the environment.

"Most of us believe that one person doesn't

UMaine Socialist, Marxist Studies Fall Lecture Series Announced

08 Sep 2006

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860; [George Manlove](#), 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Socialist-Marxist Studies Lecture Series for fall 2006 offers a schedule of controversial and thought-provoking lectures on topics ranging from the events and crises in Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Bosnia and Latin and South America to the degradation of civil liberties in a post-911 America.

Lectures featuring guest speakers, UMaine professors and student perspectives on potentially life-changing issues of

international importance are offered 12:30-1:45 p.m. Thursdays in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted. They are free and open to the public. The series is co-sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, Maine Peace Action Committee, Campus Activities and Events, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Speakers' topics are intended to raise thought-provoking questions, but do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. For additional information, contact professor Doug Allen, coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies, The Maples, University of Maine, Orono, at (207) 581-3860 or e-mail: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

The schedule is as follows:

Sept. 21

Religion and Violence Today, with professor Doug Allen, philosophy

Sept. 28

Update on Iraq: Future U.S. Plans for the Middle East, with Dahr Jamail, an extraordinary independent journalist who has been reporting from Iraq since 2003. Writing for Inter Press Service and The Asia Times, published in The Nation and The Guardian, and appearing on the "Democracy Now!" and the BBC, his influential website is dahrjamailiraq.com. He also will deliver the Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture, titled "The Ground Truth Today in Iraq," at 7:30 p.m., 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Oct. 5

The Crisis in Lebanon, with Imad Durra and Wassim Mazraany, Lebanese physicians, born and raised in Lebanon, and now living in the Bangor area

Oct. 12

Military Force and Empire: Latin America and the School of the Americas, with Lisa Sullivan, peace and justice activist who works with the School of the America's Watch and for Venezuela Information Center in Washington. With the Maryknoll sisters, she lived and worked for 25 years in Venezuela, and has been active in Mexico, Bolivia and other parts of Latin America.

Oct. 19

A Conversation with Iranian Graphic Novelist Marjane Satrapi
(Room 130, Little Hall)

Marjane Satrapi, influential Iranian graphic novelist and author of the widely acclaimed novel Persepolis, will talk about the realities of her home country Iran and the Muslim world today. She will be interviewed by Alicia Anstead of the Bangor Daily News before participating in a general question-and-answer and discussion period.

Oct. 26

Disappearing Civil Liberties: Abuse of Power Post 9/11, with Shenna Bellows, executive director of the Maine Civil Liberties Union

Nov. 2

From the Fourth to the Fifth Republic: Hugo Ch

Senate President Edmonds at UMaine Thursday

08 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- State Senate President Beth Edmonds (D-Freeport) will visit the University of Maine on Thursday, Sept. 14 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Edmonds will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows program, which began last spring, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Edmonds, who was first elected to the Maine Senate in 2000, represents Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell and Pownal.

News coverage possibilities include a lunch meeting with UMaine faculty members from 11 a.m.-noon in Memorial Union's Bumps Room and a 12:15-1:30 p.m. public talk in Memorial Union's Bangor Lounge. She will also tour UMaine's renovated Lord Hall beginning at 1:35 p.m. and she will visit a series of research facilities between 2:10 and 4 p.m. A full schedule is available upon request.

Maine Folklife Center in Orono Receives Save Our History Grant from The History Channel

11 Sep 2006

Contact: David Lee, Edelman Entertainment for the History Channel, 212-642-7718

Lowe's Home Improvement, American Express and Local Cable Affiliates Team with The History Channel Save Our History Program to Support Third Year of Innovative Educational Projects

Center Leads Students in the History of the Pulp and Paper Industry

NEW YORK -- The History Channel today awarded the The Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine in Orono, Maine with a \$10,000 Save Our History grant to study how the loss of the town's paper mill affected the workers and community. Maine Folklife Center is one of 27 history organizations that will receive Save Our History community preservation grants. These will fund innovative, educational projects designed to bring communities together, actively engage children in the preservation of their local history and communicate the importance of saving local history for future generations.

The History Channel, with the counsel of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA), created the Save Our History Grant Program as an extension of the Save Our History philanthropic initiative and is committed to inspiring and motivating local communities to learn about and take an active role in the preservation of their past through projects involving artifacts, oral histories, sites, museums or landmarks that exist in their own neighborhoods.

Since founding the National Grant Program, The History Channel has received funding requests exceeding \$13.4 million from history organizations representing 50 states and the District of Columbia. To date, The History Channel, together with its sponsors, has contributed nearly \$750,000 in grant funding toward this cause.

Students from Brewer Middle School, led by the Maine Folklife Center, will study the history of the pulp and paper industry in Maine, and how the ultimate loss of this industry profoundly affected the workers and the community as a whole. With a focus on the Eastern Fine Paper mill in Brewer, students will conduct oral histories with former workers and community members about the mill's impact on their lives both during its operation and after its closing. Students will develop a website, create a timeline of the mill, and write a storyline of the papermaking process. Finally, students will help create history boxes filled with objects, documents and photos relating to the mill with lesson plans that will travel to schools around the state.

The 2006-2007 grant recipients represent the many diverse and historically significant events, sites and people that make up more than four centuries of American history in 27 communities. Projects range from tracing local immigration

and contributions to the civil rights movement to protests at the White House and preservation of a Revolutionary War forge used by officers and soldiers under George Washington.

The History Channel is also awarding Save Our History grants to historic organizations in Allentown, Pa.; Atlanta, Ga; Austin, Texas; Baltimore, Md.; Birmingham, Ala.; Deadwood, S.D.; Glasco, Kan.; Holyoke, Mass.; Hunt Valley, Md.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Jefferson, Ga.; Kampsville, Ill.; Lake Orion, Mich.; Laramie, Wyo.; Madison, N.J.; Pensacola, Fla.; Princeton, Ky.; San Diego, Calif.; Sharpsburg, Md.; Washington, D.C.; Woodstock, Vt.; two separate organizations in St. Paul, Minn.; and two separate organizations in Seattle, Wash.

Educational Forum on Autumn Flowers

11 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, the Environment and Education at the University of Maine will host a Sunday, Sept. 17 educational forum on the compositae family of plants. Julie Beckford of Sweet Pea Perennials will lead the discussion and hands-on activities related to compositae, which include asters, sunflowers, daisies and goldenrod.

The Sunday event, scheduled for 2 p.m. at UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum is part of the Edith Marion Patch Center's educational forum series, which focuses on science and the environment, in celebration of Prof. Patch (1876-1954), the first woman scientist employed by UMaine.

After the compositae activity, a sample of snacks from the "Friends of Edith Patch Cookbook" will be served. The forum is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Mary Bird (mary_bird@umit.maine.edu) at 581-2434) or Tiffany Wilson (tiffany_wilson@umit.maine.edu) at 581-3288.

AG Rowe at UMaine Tuesday for Relationship Abuse Policy Event

11 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe will provide a keynote talk on Tuesday, Sept. 12 when the University of Maine formally adopts its Relationship Abuse and the Workplace Policy. UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy will speak and sign the policy at 10:15 a.m. at Buchanan Alumni House. Rowe's address will follow Kennedy's remarks.

The new policy, which provides the framework for programming that will provide a supportive environment for UMaine employees to deal effectively with relationship abuse issues, was inspired by a 2004 executive order by Gov. John Baldacci. UMaine's Safe Campus Project staff will oversee the related training and program management.

A key feature of the UMaine program is a team of community volunteers, trained to provide opportunities for confidential discussion, along with assistance in helping a victim of relationship abuse determine what to do next. Policy education sessions for UMaine managers and supervisors have also been scheduled for later in September.

Kennedy's remarks will be preceded, at 9:50 a.m., by responder/volunteers portraying a mock response situation. The

volunteer responders will also be recognized.

The Safe Campus Project works to promote the reduction of sexual assault, dating violence and stalking by encouraging healthy and consensual relationships. UMaine launched the Safe Campus Project in 2001 with federal funds from the U.S. Department of Justice and made the project a permanent part of the institution in 2005. The project provides and coordinates services, outreach programs, and violence prevention training for all members of the UMaine community.

Learn How to Raise Sheep for Profit at Maine Shepherd School

11 Sep 2006

Contact: Richard Brzozowski , 207- 780-4205

BRUNSWICK, Me. --University of Maine Cooperative Extension will sponsor the Maine Shepherd School, a two-day course with a theme of "Raising Sheep for Profit." The course is set for Friday and Saturday, Oct. 13 and 14 in Brunswick. Mike Caskey of Minnesota

Psychology, Art Professor Wins Artistic Illusion Award in International Contest

12 Sep 2006

Contact: Alan Stubbs, (207) 581-3210; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO - Artwork by UMaine psychology and art professor Alan Stubbs recently was selected as one of the 10 best illusions submitted at the international second annual Best Visual Illusion of the Year Contest, sponsored by the Neural Correlate Society and held during Vision Sciences Society meeting in Florida.

Stubbs, a member of both art and psychology departments faculty and long time student of photography and new media, uses digital art to help illustrate principles of perception in his psychology classes. Using digital software, Stubbs studies and creates "Mach Bands," which can create the illusion of both lightness and motion by varying the gradients of light and dark lines, bars or circles through a concept he calls dynamic luminance.

Shaded areas among the bars and lines in his artwork appear to move, grow or shrink, depending upon the distance between a viewer's eye and the illustration. Striking examples can be seen on Stubbs's Website at <http://www.hutchinsoncenter.umaine.edu/perceive/>.

"This is almost like a contrast enhancer that's going on," he explains. "You're seeing something that's not really there."

The illusions teach lessons about perception, says Stubbs. "Some textbooks have whole chapters on illusions. We're talking about the neural coding of the eye. The point with color is we don't just judge one thing. We have to judge context."

Illusions might seem to be examples of misperception, but understanding illusions helps us figure how the perceptual process works, he says, noting that perception is a strong influencer of human behavior.

Though educationally useful for illustration, Stubbs says working with software as common as Adobe Photoshop to create illusionary art is just plain fun, and students find it far more entertaining and informative than trying to understand concepts about psychological perception from blackboard drawings.

Stubb's interest in art, photography and illusions predate the emergence of computers. When software like Photoshop began to develop in the early 1990s, Stubbs put the new technology to work for personal and artistic exploration, and for

the classroom. But he never thought of entering contests, he says. When browsing websites and organizations that deal with illusions last spring, Stubbs saw a notice about an illusions contest being held in May by the scholarly Neural Correlate Society. He decided to submit some of his work.

"I sent it off and said, 'I'll never get in,' " he says. "I was shocked when I made it."

Not only did he make it, but of hundreds of submissions from universities in placecountry-regionSwitzerland, placecountry-regionJapan, placecountry-regionItaly and elsewhere around the world, Stubb's work was deemed one of the top 10.

Examples of other entries and winners in the Neural Correlate Society contest are available at the website <http://illusioncontest.neuralcorrelate.com/>.

Three-Campus Collaboration Presenting "A Recital of Birds," an Ancient Iranian Parable

13 Sep 2006

Contact: Nancy Ogle, (207) 941-8580; [George Manlove](#), (207) 581-3756

AUGUSTA -- An 11th Century Persian parable about a fantastical journey through valleys and over mountains to find a mystical king with answers about spiritual enlightenment has been set to music for three unique performances, at UMaine and the universities of Maine at Augusta and Southern Maine later this month.

"A Recital of Birds" will be performed Sept. 27 at Jewett Hall, UMA, Sept. 28 at Corthell Hall at USM and Sept. 29 in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall at UMaine. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and include music faculty from UMA, UMaine and USM.

"A Recital of Birds" is an original nine-movement composition for narrator, voice and instrumental jazz ensemble composed by UMA music professor Don Stratton, a nationally recognized composer.

The performances will feature UMaine's "Trimorphic Protennoia," a trio composed of music faculty members Nancy Ogle, a soprano, and Ginger Yang Hwalek, a pianist, with poet Kathleen Ellis, an Honors College lecturer, narrating. Others participating in the performance include, Stratton, on trumpet, and UMA musicians Steve Grover, drums, Greg Laughman, string bass, and Richard Nelson, guitar, and USM musicians Chris Oberholtzer, trombone, Craig Skeffington, trumpet, and Bill Street, reeds.

At UMaine, the performance will comprise the second half of a two-part program. The first half opens with Ogle, Hwalek and UMaine music instructor and organist Kevin Birch performing arrangements by American composer Brian Banks and Canadian composer Jacques Het

UMaine Art Exhibit, Without Borders 3, Melds Traditional Art, New Media

13 Sep 2006

Contact: Owen Smith, 581-4389; [George Manlove](#), 581-3756

ORONO -- W/O3 without borders re: build / re: work / re: place, the third in a series of annual exhibits by UMaine art and New Media students, currently at the Lord Hall art gallery on the Orono campus, is an example of where art is going these days through the melding of art theory and technology.

An opening reception for artists and the public, and a performance by Ascona, is scheduled Thursday, Sept. 14, from 5-

7 p.m. at the new Lord Hall gallery. The show went up Aug. 18 and runs through Sept. 22.

Six UMaine graduate and two undergraduate art and new media students have assembled a collage of "intermedial" art pieces, some of which are audience-interactive both physically and virtually, and others convey meanings that differ with the perspectives of viewers.

This year's show is a collaborative effort curated by the university, Le ecole Nationale Superieure d'Arts de Cergy-Pontoise in Paris and the UMaine-connected MARCEL Network, an international network of artists and scientists exploring the possibilities of ultrahigh bandwidth cultural exchanges. One exhibitor is a former student at the French art school and several of the UMaine artists recently have been exchange students in France.

The work, says Owen Smith, director of new media and professor of art, reflects new directions in art based on a solid grounding in traditional art approaches and concepts. It explores the boundaries between the arts, as well as art and technology, he says.

"It is cutting-edge. It is pushing the envelope," says Smith, "but all the work is grounded in a historical knowledge of art and culture. And all of the artwork is grounded in basic art and design skills, which are fundamental to the art department."

Intermedial art, he explains, is "everything between sculpture, dance, theater and all of the arts. We're interested in the space between them."

Take, for instance, an installation piece by Yeshe Parks of Winthrop and Paul Arnaud of Fort Collins, Co., "Mobile Distinctions," an interactive performance piece based upon a projected video of individuals posing mime-like in everyday situations. A camera positioned on the ceiling senses a viewer's movement and motion, which triggers a second video that plays within the silhouette of the on-screen person.

Or consider the whimsical installation, "Things Boys Say," by Master of Arts in Liberal Studies graduate student Sheridan Kelley of Cherryfield. Kelley has filmed and recorded comments, compliments and criticisms she recalls from her past.

Not all exhibits involve movement. Several of the work includes a cluttered desk chemistry lab, a series of laser print transfer photographs that become clearer as the viewer steps back, an array of lights and wiring on a wall, a vending machine that dispenses trinkets, miscellaneous objects and text encapsulated in small plastic containers, and a table with dozens of demitasse cups of espresso, each of which is refilled daily.

The artwork and the collaboration by UMaine, Le ecole Nationale and the MARCEL Network is additionally significant because it will form the basis for a new master of fine arts degree based on this type of work, according to Smith.

"By drawing together the diverse skills and emphases of the partners, we will create a stronger whole, not by aiming to create a uniform system, but by creating a shared structure that recognizes, even makes use of, our programmatic differences," Smith says. "It is our aim to create an educational experience in which the work stands as a marker and as a suggestion of things to come - an expansive reconsideration of art and creativity."

Smith says the new program will establish "a hands-on interdisciplinary system, one that highlights an interweaving of cognitive and practical matters as a means to push the creative ways that artists engage with the profession and the world around them. Additionally, the program will aim to focus not on a singular media or material, but a multiplicity of media, even inter-media, and an experimentalist approach that is based in the production of both ideas and projects."

The International Masters in Intermedial Arts degree could be ready in two to three years, Smith says.

UMaine History Lecture Series Begins with Look at 1704 Raid on a Colonial Community

13 Sep 2006

Contact: Liam Riordan, 581-1913; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- On Feb. 29, 1704, more than 200 French soldiers and Native American Indians from five tribes descended upon English colonists in Deerfield, Mass., killing 50 and capturing more than 100 men, women and children who would be taken to Canada for resettlement among Native and French families.

The raid involved many parties, multiple motives and had varying results. The incident and its aftermath now stand out as the symbolic manifestation of the struggle between the French, English and Native Americans in colonial North America.

The event and its many intriguing complexities are the subject of the first in the UMaine Department of History's fall symposium series, scheduled Friday, Sept. 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the Bodwell Lounge at the Maine Center for the Arts. Co-sponsored by the Canadian American Center, the lecture and slide presentation by two historians is open to the public at no cost.

Authors and historians Evan Haefeli, assistant professor of history at Columbia University, and Kevin Sweeney, professor of history and American studies at Amherst College, are co-authors of the award-winning *Captors and Captives: The 1704 French and Indian Raid on Deerfield* (2003) and *Captive Histories: English, French, and Native Narratives of the 1704 Deerfield Raid* (2006). They have collaborated since the early 1990s in studying the intertwined English, French and Native American understandings of the colonial world, and their work has informed the rich website of the Memorial Hall Museum (<http://1704.deerfield.history.museum/>).

UMaine history professor Liam Riordan, who coordinates the symposium, says the work of Haefeli and Sweeney on the Deerfield raid represents a groundbreaking effort to understand the widely varied perspectives of the many different groups involved in the raid.

"They are the first ones to look deeply at both English and French documents and to integrate that material with insights about diverse Indian actors by drawing on ethnohistorical techniques and oral traditions," he says. Haefeli and Sweeney present a rich intersection of political, cultural, religious, economic and military forces that influenced the actions of the various parties involved in the raid.

For instance, for some tribal raiders, the attack was considered a "mourning war," in which it was customary for tribes to seize hostages to replace tribal loved ones who had been killed or died. And for the French, the disruption of settlers in the Northeast was a way to slow colonization by the English and also to control the fur trade. There were also intense religious rivalries and mixtures among French Catholics, English Protestants, and both traditional and Christian Indians.

The 1704 raid, Riordan says, "has long symbolized the conflict between the English settlements in the Northeast and the Native Americans and colonists in New France (Canada), yet Haefeli and Sweeney also enable us to understand how Deerfield occupied an amazing crossroads of diverse cultures in colonial North America."

Other history symposium lectures scheduled include "Concerning the Extra-Legal Persecutions of the Nazi Era," on Wednesday, Nov. 8, with Henry Friedlander, emeritus professor of history in the Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. It will be held in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union at 3:30 p.m., and is co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Endowment Associates, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, Hillel, and the UMaine Department of English.

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, John Laband, professor of history at Wilfred Laurier University, will present "Towards an Understanding of the Nature of Zulu Warfare During the Nineteenth Century" at 3:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Riordan 581-1913 or email: riordan@umit.maine.edu.

Wes Jordan Center Dedication Friday

14 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A new athletic training education facility, dedicated to the memory of legendary University of Maine trainer Wes Jordan, will be dedicated on Friday, Sept. 15 at UMaine.

The Wes Jordan Athletic Training Education Complex, located in Lengyel Gym, will be home to UMaine's curriculum-based athletic training academic program. It features completely renovated space and state-of-the-art equipment for use by faculty members and students in the program. Friday's event begins at 3 p.m., with remarks expected to start shortly after 3:30.

Mark Letendre, the director of umpire medical services for Major League Baseball and former San Francisco Giants trainer who learned his profession as a UMaine student under Jordan's tutelage, will serve as the emcee. UMaine President Robert Kennedy and College of Education and Human Development Dean Robert Cobb will offer remarks, as will Jordan's daughter, Tracy Landeryou, and athletic training student Ashley Stambolis.

Jordan, who died in February 2002, served as UMaine's head athletic trainer for more than three decades, beginning in 1965.

The event will conclude with a ribbon cutting and tours of the facility.

UMaine Special Events Calendar: September 14-30, 2006

14 Sep 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine campus lectures, art exhibits, concerts, theater performances, exciting recreational opportunities and presentations on topical UMaine student research are offered to the public and University of Maine community throughout September. Here is a partial list of events and activities.

Additional details are available on the UMaine online calendar.

Sept. 14

"What's at Stake for Women in the November Election?"

12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, with Beth Edmonds, Maine State Senate president, and comments by UMaine political scientist Amy Fried; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Artist's Reception for "Maman Disait

," 4-6 p.m., Maine Center for the Arts and Hudson Museum, with artist and adjunct professor of women's studies and Franco-American studies Rhea Cote Robbins; exhibit runs through Nov. 27

"W/O3 without borders re: build / re: work / re: place,"_public reception, 5-7 p.m., Lord Hall gallery; third in a series of

annual exhibitions exploring the boundaries between the arts as well as art and technology. Curated through a collaboration by the University of Maine Department of Art and New Media Program, the école Nationale Supérieure d'Arts, Paris/Cergy, and the MARCEL Network; exhibit includes work by students from UMaine and France. Exhibit runs through Sept. 22, 2006

Sept. 15

Opening Reception for "A Matter of Perception 2006

," 4-6 p.m., Hauck Auditorium lobby; a biennial exhibit of works by adult artists with disabilities, organized by VSA Arts of Maine, hosted on campus by the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies

Sept. 16

First-Year Family Day, 8 a.m., campus-wide

Enjoy a day specifically to learn more about the campus, the community and what is offered to students every day. Enjoy brunch with the dean of students and staff, many informational sessions, a silent auction with great prizes, the MCA's Opening Gala, Nate the Magician and much more. Visit the First Year Family Day website for more information.

MCA

Opening Gala: Liza Minnelli, 7 p.m., part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (fee)

Sept. 18

Last day to drop classes for refund

SCUBA Certification course, 5-9 p.m., Wallace Pool

This course is designed for the best hands-on experience in the classroom, pool and open water training. In class, you will be trained using the most up to date educational system in diving today. Your instructor is a P.A.D.I. trained and certified professional. Register at MaineBound (fee and registration)

Sept. 19

"

What Is Stem Cell Research and Why Does It Matter?," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Clarissa Henry and comments by Bangor College associate professor of biological sciences Sandra Haggard; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Sept. 20 & 21

American Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Memorial Union; donors and volunteers needed

Sept. 21

"Religion and Violence Today,"

12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine, with professor Doug Allen, philosophy; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series

Sept. 22

Black Bear Triathlon (M, W & Coed), 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Swimming leg heats will run every 20 minutes, team competition; Once completing his or her leg, the swimmer will tag a teammate, (most likely the runner). This individual will then exit the pool using the side door and touch the hand of the biker. The biker is then ready to start his/her leg. Biking Leg: All bikers are required to wear ANSI approved helmets (hard shell); Running Leg: Make sure you read the map concerning the course. Memorial Gym complex

"

Development and Applications of Chlorophyll Variable Fluorescence to Study Aquatic Photosynthesis: From the Antarctic to Tropics," 11 a.m., by Max Gorbunov, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series; Room 354, Aubert Hall.

"

Captivity on the New England Frontier," 3:30 p.m., Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts, with Evan Haefeli, assistant professor of history, Columbia University, and Kevin Sweeney, professor of history and American studies, Amherst College; Department of History Symposium lecture, co-sponsored by the Canadian American Center

Sept. 23

Trumpet/Piano/Violin Recital, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, performed by faculty members Jack Burt, Laura Artesani, Anatole Wieck and guests; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission; students free)

Sept. 26

"

The Challenge of Independence in Women's Healthcare: A Matter of Choice," 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union, with Ruth Lockhart, executive director of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center; a National Women's Health and Fitness Day event; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Sept. 28

Innovation Center Open House, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring a welcome by President Robert Kennedy and a panel of entrepreneurs; Innovation Center

"Update on Iraq: Future U.S. Plans for the Middle East

," 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, with Dahr Jamail, an extraordinary independent journalist who has been reporting from Iraq since 2003; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. Jamail also will deliver the Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture, titled "The Ground Truth Today in Iraq" at 7:30 p.m., 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Tug-O-War, 4 p.m.-7 p.m., Memorial Gym complex; have fun, meet new people

Sept. 29

"

Turning Algae On: Induced Responses and Ecological Consequences," 11 a.m., Room 354, Aubert Hall, with Jeremy Long, NPS/ESA postdoctoral fellow, Marine Science Center, Northeastern University; part of the School of Marine Sciences Seminar Series

"A Recital of Birds," 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; 11th Century Persian parable set to modern

music; performers will include UMaine's Trimorphic Protennoia: Nancy Ellen Ogle, soprano; Ginger Yang Hwalek, piano; and Kathleen Ellis, narrator. Other guest artists from University of Maine at Augusta and University of Southern Maine, and Kevin Birch, UMaine music lecturer, also will perform (admission; students free)

Ongoing events

"Jocelyn Lee: Youth"

a [University of Maine Museum of Art](#) exhibition, Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor; through Oct. 7

"Sam Cady: Reality and Reverie"

a [University of Maine Museum of Art](#) exhibition, Norumbega Hall; through Oct. 7

"W/O3 without borders re: build / re: work / re: place"

Lord Hall gallery; the third in a series of annual exhibitions exploring the boundaries between the arts as well as art and technology. Curated through a collaboration by the University of Maine Department of Art and New Media Program, ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts, Paris/Cergy, and the MARCEL Network, exhibit includes work by students from UMaine and France; through Sept. 22

"A Matter of Perception 2006: Exhibit by Artists with Disabilities," Hauck Auditorium lobby, a biennial exhibit providing one of the few opportunities in the state for adult artists with disabilities to submit their work to a non-juried show; the exhibition, organized by VSA arts of Maine, is hosted on campus by the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies; Sept.15 -- Nov. 16

"Maman Disait," Maine Center for the Arts and Hudson Museum, by artist and adjunct professor of women's studies and Franco-American studies Rhea Cote Robbins; Cote explores her artistic side in a celebration of her Franco-American heritage and her mother's French language proverbs; through Nov. 27

"Celebrating Richard G. Emerick: The Man and his Legacy," Hudson Museum,

Sept. 8 to May 2007

"Of Dwarf Wizards and Ravens: Robert Shetterley and the Hudson Museum"

September 2006 to December 2006

A Matter of Perception 2006: Exhibition by Artists with Disabilities" Opens at UMaine

14 Sep 2006

Contact: Kim Sawtelle, 581-1092; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies once again is hosting the annual traveling art exhibit by artists with disabilities, titled "A Matter of Perception 2006: Exhibition by Artists with Disabilities."

An opening reception is scheduled Friday, Sept. 15, from 4-6 p.m. in the lobby of Hauck Auditorium, where the work is being exhibited Sept. 15 through Nov. 16.

The artwork includes paintings, drawings, photographs and mixed-media pieces created by artists from across Maine. Throughout the year, selections from "A Matter of Perception 2006" have been on view at venues from Kennebunk to Belfast.

For the first time in its 10-year history, the exhibition, curated and sponsored by VSA arts of Maine with support from the Maine Arts Commission and other sponsors, will be on view simultaneously at the following five Bangor-area locations from September through December: UMaine, Bangor Public Library, Eastern Maine Medical Center cafeteria, Boyd Place retirement community in Bangor and the Robert E. White Gallery at Husson College. This allows VSA arts of Maine to exhibit work by almost all 180 artists from across the state of Maine participating in this year's exhibition. The exhibit has been at UMaine for the last three years.

"This work tests our perceptions about what it means to have a disability and our artistic expectations associated with that," said VSA arts of Maine Executive Director Kippy Rudy. "The power of this exhibition is that it reminds us that we share the same hopes and fears, regardless of our perceived differences. Every year, this exhibition reveals the strength and diversity of art-making that is happening across the state. It is a reflection of the whole spectrum of art-making in our communities."

A Matter of Perception began with a call for art sent to more than 1,100 artists, galleries, museums, agencies and disability service providers, seeking works for the 2006 exhibition. All of the works submitted are included in a part of "A Matter of Perception 2006."

"We received a wonderful range of work this year, and each piece is a window into each artist's work and life. There is truly something for everyone at each exhibit location," says Margo Dittmer, exhibition and outreach coordinator at VSA arts of Maine, and curator of the show.

Kim Sawtelle, publications specialist with the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, says the center looks forward to hosting the exhibit again.

"It's a way for the center to engage the community on a different level than we do typically," she says. "This is a nice way to highlight the arts and humanities element at the University of Maine and provide a convenient venue for people to see this artwork."

The exhibit additionally provides an opportunity for talented artists with disabilities to introduce their work to the art world, says Sawtelle, who serves on an ad-hoc disabilities committee of the Maine Arts Commission. It can open new doors for amateur artists who may not know how to submit their work to a juried exhibit, she adds.

Following is the list of venues and exhibition dates in the Bangor area: Sept. 15-Nov. 16, University of Maine; Oct. 3-30, Bangor Public Library lecture hall, artists' panel discussion and reception Thursday, Oct. 5, 6:30-8 p.m.; Oct. 3-30, Eastern Maine Medical Center Cafeteria; Oct. 3- January 2007, Boyd Place, Bangor; Oct. 25-Dec. 4, Robert E. White Gallery, Husson College.

VSA arts of Maine is a non-profit organization providing arts, educational and cultural opportunities for children and adults with disabilities in Maine. It is a member of the international network of *VSA arts*, an affiliate of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. Funding for "A Matter of Perception 2006" is provided by The Davis Family Foundation, the Edward H. Daveis Benevolent Fund and the Maine Arts Commission. Additional support has been provided by Time Warner Cable of New England.

The UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service, is a partnership of people that brings together the resources of the community and the university to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.

For more information about the center, please contact Alan Parks, coordinator of dissemination and technology, at (207) 581-1236 or (207) 581-1084 v/tty or visit the CCIDS website at www.ccids.umaine.edu. For more information about the exhibitions or VSA arts of Maine, please contact VSA arts of Maine at (207) 761-3861 v/tty.

UMaine Class on Camden Film Festival Documentaries Begins

15 Sep 2006

Contact: [George Manlove](#), 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Department of Continuing and Distance Education (DCDE) through the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning this weekend begins its second annual three-credit-hour class designed around the 2006 Camden International Film Festival, a class that analyzes the making and meaning of documentary films. The course will teach students to critically assess documentary films, so they can attend and participate in the 2006 Camden Film Festival Sept. 28-Oct. 1. The UMaine classes begin Saturday, Sept. 16, and consist of three all-day Saturday sessions continuing Sept. 23 and Oct. 14. Prospective students who have not registered for the class and would like to are welcome to attend the first Saturday session on Sept. 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall, and register Monday at DCDE in Chadbourne Hall. The film festival companion classes typically engage students in the critical language, history and potentials of documentary filmmaking, a rapidly growing method of shedding light on situations or events not covered by more mainstream media. Besides attending documentary screenings at the festival, students will have opportunities to discuss the films in public forums, and meet some of the filmmakers in seminar conferences, according to art professor Michael Grillo, who will co-teach the class. Grillo will be joined by English professor Tony Brinkley and Mike Scott, lecturer in new media at UMaine. Grillo and Brinkley have taught courses based on documentaries; Scott studies them to see how evolving new media technologies can redefine and reshape documentaries. "In many ways, the program, again, looks at how documentary films can work to reveal parts of the world that people just don't know about," Grillo says. The class will explore what makes a documentary work and what it takes to be a documentarian, and "just what do we mean by documentary?" Grillo says. Students may choose from six different academic disciplines in which to earn credit. Disciplines are art, art history, new media, peace studies and university studies, a program developed for non-traditional and part-time students. Documentaries are no longer confined to the Discovery or Disney channels. They are being used for humanitarian, environmental, scientific and political purposes, and some documentaries are being viewed in major theaters along with giant commercial pictures. The two-year-old Camden International Film Festival is dedicated to examining the world, the global family and people through the lenses and minds of the finest non-fiction visual storytellers. In its first season, the festival highlighted the world's "lesser-known evils," focusing on some of the most unjust social situations. This year, it is open to, and will screen all forms of the documentary, striving to highlight the cinematic form's artistic value. The Camden International Film Festival's program will consist of selected films that exemplify today's finest documentary filmmaking examining the artistic and cultural relevance of the cinematic form. The film festival also will explore independent documentary film through question and answer sessions with directors and filmmakers, panels, lectures and special events.

Tanglewood Hosts Inaugural UMaine Forest Resources Camp

15 Sep 2006

Contact: Corey Pickett, Tanglewood, cpickett@umext.maine.edu, (207) 789-5803 Lincolnville, ME - Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, a statewide program of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, recently continued the momentum of Tanglewood's 25th year anniversary programming with a new program designed to give the future forestry workers of Maine a head start on their education. Tanglewood, which is devoted to teaching sustainable living to more than 4,000 Maine young people and adults each year, opened its doors Aug. 27-31 to UMaine's incoming Forest Resources majors. The students participated in a hands-on immersion experience that consisted of woodlot surveys, hiking trail maintenance, wildlife habitat identification and a sawmill tour, all while living together for five days on the Lincolnville campus. "This program is very beneficial for incoming students," says Bill Livingston, UMaine associate professor of forest resources. "It's a great way for these students to get to know each other before the hectic first week of classes." Livingston, with the help of two current forestry students, helped the newcomers explore and conduct experiments in the Tanglewood Yankee Woodlot in hopes of giving them an initial understanding of their upcoming classes. "I feel like now that I have a grasp on the basics in many areas so that it will be easier to choose classes of interest in the future," says Daniel Perkins, one of the first-year students who participated in the program. "I realized that this is the type of degree that would lead to a career I could enjoy." Overall attendance in the natural science fields, including forestry and agriculture, has dropped in recent years all across the country, Livingston says. He worries that this trend could drastically affect Maine's future economy. "My goal is that this program will create interest in Forest Resources and give these students a better chance to complete their education and finish their degree," he says. Through a service learning activity, the students teamed up with Tanglewood's facilities coordinator Rich Bouchard to clear three dilapidated wooden foot bridges along the Ducktrap River trail. Bouchard and his crew can now begin working on restoring the bridges and improving the overall condition of the trail, which is filled with young campers during the summer and fall seasons. Livingston hopes to build on the program's success in the coming years by inviting high school students to attend Tanglewood's unique experience. For more information on Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center call (207) 789-5802.

Pink Tulip Project at UMaine

15 Sep 2006

Contact: [Joe Carr](mailto:Joe.Carr@umit.maine.edu) at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- As Breast Cancer Awareness Month approaches, a group of University of Maine students is at work raising funds to benefit support organizations by selling pink tulip bulbs. Members of the UMaine Women's Symposium Committee are spreading the word about a statewide initiative, which benefits the Maine Cancer Foundation's Women's Cancer Fund.

Plans call for planting 15,000 tulip bulbs in public gardens throughout Maine this fall, including some on the UMaine campus in Orono. Organizers are asking donors to buy the bulbs for a dollar apiece. For each dollar raised at UMaine a tulip will be planted on campus. The UMaine organizers' goal is to raise \$1,000.

Those who are interested should visit www.mainecancer.org, or contact one of the organizers by email: Caitlin Sanborn (caitlin_sanborn@umit.maine.edu) or Michelle Morneault (michelle_morneault@umit.maine.edu). The website's sponsorship page features a check-off box where UMaine donors can indicate that they would like the bulbs planted on campus.

UMaine Faculty Trumpet Recital Sept. 23 Offers Variety of Classics

20 Sep 2006

Contact: Jack Burt, 581-1773; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A UMaine faculty recital scheduled Saturday, Sept. 23, featuring trumpet professor Jack Burt and friends, promises an evening of musical classics, including a Haydn concerto and a suite from Gilbert and Sullivan.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. Admission is \$6 for the public. Students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

Burt will be joined on stage by UMaine music professors Laura Artesani, a pianist, and Anatole Wieck, a violinist and violist, and Bangor cellist Marisa Solomon and four UMaine music students.

The program for the evening is varied and includes music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's father Leopold Mozart, Haydn, Eric Ewazen and Sir Arthur Sullivan of Gilbert and Sullivan fame.

Burt describes the Mozart concerto as being "tuneful, expressive and quite a physical challenge for the player, due to the sustained, extreme high register."

The Haydn "Concerto" is standard fare, according to Burt, and is "the most played piece by one of the most prolific of the great composers."

"The Trio for Trumpet, Violin and Piano" by Eric Ewazen was written in 1992 and "is American music, with a big 'A,'" Burt says, "in the tradition of Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber - warm, energetic and optimistic."

The "Suite" from *The Pirates of Penzance*, "is all fun," says Burt, "a medley taken from the Gilbert and Sullivan Operetta - tuneful and comical. It is arranged for brass quintet."

UMaine students and horn players Andrew P. Young, Jeffery Hake, James Hebert and Nicholas York will join Burt for the "Suite."

About the musicians:

Jack Burt joined UMaine's School of Performing Arts in the fall of 2004. In addition to his responsibilities within the trumpet studio, Burt conducts the UMaine Jazz Ensemble, directs the Brass Ensemble and coaches student chamber brass groups. He earned degrees from the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music, the University of South Carolina, and the University of Texas at Austin, with additional private studies in Berlin, Germany. He has worked with members of major orchestras in the United States and Europe, among them the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic.

He has performed with the Corpus Christi Symphony and the Victoria Symphony Orchestras in Texas and in Mexico City as principal trumpet of the Orquesta Filarmonica de la UNAM, and he was a member of the Orquesta Filarmonica de la Ciudad de Mexico.

Laura Artesani is assistant chair of the Music Division for the School of Performing Arts at UMaine. She teaches in the areas of music education, music history, keyboard musicianship and women's studies. She currently serves as the piano accompanist for three choral ensembles at the School of Performing Arts: the University Singers, Athena Consort and Collegiate Chorale, performs frequently at faculty and student recitals and is music director at the Old Town United Methodist Church, where she directs the Adult, Youth and Handbell Choirs.

Bangor native Marisa Solomon is a member of the Bangor Symphony and a graduate of the Oberlin and San Francisco Conservatories. She also is a member of the Cormier Trio, a professional string trio based in Blue Hill. She performs in the Breckenridge Music Festival Orchestra, and has performed at Kneisel Hall, the Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy, and Charleston, S.C., and the Festival-Institute at Round Top, Texas.

Anatole Wieck teaches violin and viola and conducts the University of Maine Chamber Orchestra. Born in Latvia, Wieck received his early musical training in Riga and Moscow. In 1973 he came to the United States to study at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City where he earned his bachelor, master and doctorate degrees.

An accomplished violinist, violist and conductor, Wieck has performed and taught throughout North America, South America and Europe. He also is on the roster of the Maine Touring Artists Program.

Ticket information is available by calling the Maine Center for the Arts box office at (207) 581-1755.

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Sept. 28 Open House at Student Innovation Center

21 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- An open house is scheduled for the University of Maine's newest building, the Student Innovation Center, on Thursday Sept. 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Student Innovation Center will soon be online as home to academic programming and other activities related to entrepreneurship and innovation. It will provide a place for UMaine students who wish to take courses and participate in programs that will help them learn to develop their ideas and create successful business enterprises.

Exhibits related to Maine small business resources will be on display throughout the open house. The program agenda:

11 a.m.--Welcome by UMaine President Robert Kennedy;

11:20 a.m.--"What's the IC All About?" with Deb Neuman and Renee Kelly;

noon--Tours of the Innovation Center;

1 p.m.--"Been There, Doing It," a panel of UMaine entrepreneurs.

Independent Journalist Jamail at UMaine Thursday Sept. 28; Will Provide First-person Perspectives on War in Iraq

21 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Dahr Jamail, an independent journalist who has spent eight months covering the war in Iraq, will make two presentations at the University of Maine on Thursday, Sept. 28. Jamail will provide, from his unique perspective, his thoughts on the current political and cultural situation in Iraq, along with first-person accounts of what he has seen in covering this war and other conflicts in the Middle East.

His UMaine presentations are scheduled as follows:

"Update on Iraq and the Future Plans for the Middle East"

12:30-1:45 p.m.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Part of the Marxist and Socialist Studies Lecture Series

"The Ground Truth Today in Iraq: Report from an Independent Journalist"

7:30 p.m. (reception to follow)

Room 100, Donald P. Corbett Business Building

Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecture

Jamail's visit to UMaine is funded by the Schonberger Memorial Lecture Fund and the Distinguished Lecture Series Cultural Affairs Fund at UMaine.

He has reported for various international news organizations, including BBC, InterPress Service, the Asia Times, The Nation, The Guardian, Pacifica Radio, Democracy Now!, Air America and Radio Hong Kong.

State Research Conference at UMaine Tuesday Sept. 26

22 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- Statewide leaders from business, government and education will be at the University of Maine on Tuesday, Sept. 26 for the 2006 Maine EPSCoR State Conference.

EPSCoR, the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, supports research in states that have historically been on the low end of federal research funding. Seven federal agencies participate in offering EPSCoR funding opportunities, and Maine has active public and private research programs in several areas covered by EPSCoR programming. A recent example is UMaine's new \$10.35 million forest bioproducts research program, announced earlier this year.

The Tuesday conference is built around three goals:

UMaine "Save Our History Project" to Include Brewer Students

22 Sep 2006

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Staff members from the Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine are taking their "Save Our History" paper mills research project into the schools on Tuesday, Sept. 26, as they introduce Brewer Middle School students to the historic preservation of a defunct Brewer paper mill.

Students in Brewer Middle School teacher Richard Kimball's seventh-grade class will soon begin their own research, touring the recently closed Eastern Fine paper mill, making video recordings and photographing the inside and outside of the mill, drawing floor plans and drafting news releases to recruit former mill workers willing to share their stories about life in the mill for the project.

"It's basically a seventh-grade version of what we do here at the Folklife Center," says Amy Stevens, a UMaine graduate student in history and Brewer native who works with the Folklife Center.

Stevens and Folklife Center associate director Pauleena MacDougall, along with some of the former workers from the Eastern Fine paper mill, will meet with students at the school on Somerset Street at 8 a.m.

In January, MacDougall and Stevens began collecting paper mill workers' memories about life in the mills, some of which have closed in the last decade. They have documented the stories from mill workers, and articles from mill publications dating back as far as 1880, on DVD and on the Folklife Center website (<http://www.umaine.edu/folklife/>). The Center has recorded stories from both men and women from Eastern Fine in Brewer and Georgia Pacific in Old Town, and is looking to find more current or former paper mill workers from the Lincoln, Millinocket and Bucksport areas.

Since its inception, the project has received grants from the Maine Humanities Council, the UMaine Women in the Curriculum program, and more recently - for the state of Maine, according to MacDougall - an unprecedented \$10,000 grant from the History Channel's Save Our History grant initiative.

"Papermaking was maybe the main industry besides fishing in Maine throughout the 20th century," MacDougall says. "It's important for us to do this work now, while the workers are still around and before they go into other industries or pass on."

MacDougall says the purpose of taking the paper mill research into the schools is to help students understand the importance and methods of historic preservation. "That's why it is called 'Save Our History,'" she adds.

MacDougall and Stevens recently met with a dozen or more Brewer-area women who worked at the Eastern Fine mill and participated in the oral history collection. The women had a chance to see the website presentation, which remains under development as more information is collected.

MacDougall says she hopes to learn the names of other men and women who would be willing to be interviewed about their mill experiences.

"This is part of a larger project studying the history of papermaking in Maine," she says. "We've interviewed 39 people so far."

The Brewer school students will contribute their research to a website of their own -- a project that can be continued as the students move into the eighth grade, Stevens says.

The experiential nature of the research will make the project more memorable for the students, and also will introduce them to the important work being done at the Folklife Center.

UMaine history Graduate student Tonalea Chapman also is assisting with the project. More information about the oral history and research into former paper mill employees' experiences can be obtained by visiting the website or call the center at (207) 581-1891.

Special Lectures on Penobscot Author Scheduled for Sept. 25

22 Sep 2006

Contact: Margo Lukens, 581-3823; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Three speakers, all scholars of Wabanaki culture, will present a variety of perspectives on 19th century Penobscot author Joseph Nicolzar during a special program Monday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall.

Nicolar wrote "Life and Traditions of the Red Man" in 1893 and collected traditional stories and oral records of late 19th century Penobscot culture. Speakers will discuss Nicolar's work, his family of origin and his descendants, and the education that led to his career as a writer, tribal leader and tribal state representative.

Margo Lukens, chair of the UMaine English Department, says the program is the result of a collaboration among the Penobscot Nation Cultural & Historic Preservation Department, the English Department and the speakers themselves.

The three presenters are James Francis, Penobscot Nation tribal historian, Charles N. Shay, a Penobscot elder and grandson of Nicolar, and Professor Annette Kolodny of the University of Arizona. Kolodny has edited a new edition of "Life and Traditions of the Red Man," which is forthcoming in spring 2007 from Duke University Press.

Shay has republished works by and about his mother and aunt, and will have books for sale and signing at the lecture. Some of James Francis's work on Native language and place names will appear in a special section of this weekend's Bangor Daily News Sept. 23.

The event is free and open to the public. Following the three 20-minute talks, the speakers will answer questions from the audience. A reception will follow immediately after the event in the lobby of Class of 1944 Hall.

The program is sponsored by the Penobscot Nation Cultural & Historic Preservation Department, UMaine departments of English and History, Native American Studies, Wabanaki Center, Women in the Curriculum/Women's Studies, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, Division of Lifelong Learning, and the UMaine Multicultural Programs/ALANA Center.

UMaine Accepting "ArtWorks" Registration for Children's Fall Classes

22 Sep 2006

Contact: Constant Albertson, 581-3251; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Art is accepting registration applications for the fall 2006 after school ArtWorks classes for area children.

A program designed to give UMaine art education students supervised classroom experience with children and to provide community youngsters with art lessons, ArtWorks begins Oct. 13 and continues through Nov. 10. Classes run from 3:30-5 p.m. and will be held for the first time in the university's newly renovated Lord Hall.

A \$25 course fee covers the cost of materials used during the five weeks of classes. A limited number of scholarships are available. Students in kindergarten through grade 7 are grouped by age for the classes. They'll have an opportunity to explore the world of art through hands-on experiences with a variety of visual media, according to art professor Constant Albertson, who oversees the program.

ArtWorks classes usually fill up, so Albertson recommends applying early. Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, and a waiting list of alternates will be kept in the event of cancellations.

ArtWorks classes previously taught in the Carnegie Hall art building and other facilities on the Orono campus are being held now in the newly renovated Lord Hall, which now houses the Art History and Art Education programs in the Department of Art. The building is fully accessible to everyone and has a visitor's parking lot directly beside it.

For more information, contact Constant Albertson at constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu or call 581-3251.

Maine's Ice Age Trail: Down East Map and Guide" Published; UMaine Event Oct. 2

22 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A new map and guide highlighting points in Hancock and Washington Counties that illustrate Maine's geologic history will soon be available, and the University of Maine will host a Monday Oct. 2 event to celebrate its publication. It will begin at 10:30 a.m. at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

"Maine's Ice Age Trail: Map and Guide" has been nearly six years in the making, and it will help users understand the evolution of Maine's landscape over centuries. An organizing committee has worked since January 2001 to design the project and to obtain the local, state and federal support necessary to bring it to fruition.

Harold Borns, UMaine professor emeritus of earth sciences and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, has developed the scientific aspects of the project, which features a trail that a visitor can follow through Hancock County and Washington County. By following the trail and stopping at various designated points, all accessible from main roads, along the way, one can learn about the Ice Age, climate change in general and the record of the Ice Age in central Maine.

Organizers envision enhanced learning opportunities for Maine school students, and increased eco-tourism in the two counties as by-products of this effort.

Gov. John Baldacci, UMaine President Robert Kennedy, UMaine Prof. Paul Mayewski and Borns will all speak at the event. Subsequent celebrations are planned for Washington County and Hancock County, where committee members say many people and organizations have supported the project.

Children's Northern Maine Water Festival Coming to UMaine

25 Sep 2006

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu

ORONO, Me. -- The seventh Northern Maine Children's Water Festival is set for Tuesday, Oct. 10, at the University of Maine. This event was created for 5th and 6th grade students and their teachers from Maine communities in the northern part of the state to demonstrate water's properties, values, and uses, along with education about threats to water quality. Organizers also hope the festival will help develop student interest in careers related to the environment and environmental protection. The festival also provides an opportunity for networking among teachers, students and presenters.

The planning committee consists of representatives from the state Department of Environmental Protection in Bangor, Presque Isle, and Augusta; UMaine's Conferences and Institutes Division, George Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research and Cooperative Extension; the state Department of Health and Human Services; Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District; Penobscot Nation and Union River Watershed Coalition.

The festival features presentations, exhibits, and quiz and stage shows, all with a water theme. Students engage in hands-on activities on topics such as wetland habitats, lakes, wildlife, groundwater, and aquatic life. Over 600 students

are already registered. The quiz show hosts will include local media personalities, Jason Czapiga from Atlantic Salmon Commission, Eric Johns from the Air National Guard and the Bangor Area Stormwater Group, and Joel Nadeau from Bangor Police Department.

Participants will receive free educational materials and there is no charge to send students to the festival.

For more information please contact Laura Wilson at 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu.

UMaine, Old Town/Orono YMCA Host Women's Fitness & Health Day Sept. 27

25 Sep 2006

Contact: Carey Nason, 581- 581-2515; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Several university department and community program leaders have organized to present National Women's Health & Fitness Day, on Wednesday, Sept. 27, a day to highlight holistic methods of pursuing better health and well-being.

Workshops, discussions and talks will take place throughout the campus, with related events and free introductory classes offered at the Old Town/Orono YMCA in Old Town.

Keynote speaker for the day is "Timber Tina" Scheer of The Great Lumberjack Show in Trenton and former "Survivor" reality show contestant. She'll speak Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

All events are free and open to the public. For each event attended, participants can enter a raffle for prizes such as massages and personal training sessions, according to Carey Nason of the Safe Campus Project.

"It's a great event to prioritize holistic well-being," Nason says. "It's a holistic approach. Women's health and fitness isn't just about going to the gym. It's about what can we do to be healthy and have fun."

Everyone -- men, women, students, staff and members of the surrounding communities -- are encouraged to "come to some of the workshops, learn about some new agencies and try a few things and learn about some new ways you can take good care of yourself and promote your overall well-being," says Nason.

In the spirit of the day, the Marketplace food court will offer special health-oriented food choices along with the regular fare.

With the main events happening Wednesday, a related talk is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Coe Room of the Memorial Union: "The Challenge of Independence in Women's Healthcare: A Matter of Choice," with Ruth Lockhart, executive director of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center. The lecture is part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program lunch series.

On Wednesday, events begin at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Union. The Women's Health & Fitness Organizational Fair is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, and Francine Stark of Spruce Run will lead a workshop titled "Is This Relationship Work for Me? Who Can I Call?" in the FFA Room in the Memorial Union from 10-10:45 a.m.

Other workshops include:

"Women's Self-Defense," with Public Safety Sgt. Deb Mitchell from 11-11:45 a.m. in the Bumps Room at the Union;

"Cross-cultural Perspectives on Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Care," with Sandy Caron, professor of family relationships, from 12-12:45 p.m. in the FFA Room;

"Women's Emotional Health," with Kathy Maietta, LCSW, from Acadia Hospital, from 1-1:45 p.m. in the Bumps Room;

And "Cravings: Your Need to Feed," with Laura Honeycutt, UMaine dietician and interim assistant director of resident dining at UMaine.

Activities include: free use of the climbing wall at the MaineBound Adventure Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-10 p.m.; a UMaine Woodsmen demonstration on the mall, 5:30 p.m.; and Lap swimming at Wallace Pool from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We're very excited to be able to offer this day of events and activities along with the Old Town/Orono YMCA. There is something for everyone," Nason says. "We're hoping to continue to promote programs and activities aimed at overall health and well-being."

For more information, visit www.umaine.edu/wellness. Nason can be reached at (207) 581-2515. The Safe Campus Project provides information and support related to safety in relationships and healthy relationships for anyone affiliated with the University of Maine.

Tanglewood Announces New Marketing Manager

26 Sep 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

LINCOLNVILLE, Me. -- Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, a program of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, recently hired Corey Pickett as its new marketing manager.

Pickett, who joined the staff on August 21, is a member of AmeriCorps' Communities for Children and Youth Program, a state-wide effort to fight poverty among youth. One of Pickett's tasks will be to continue the success of the camp's scholarship funds. This marks Tanglewood's 25th year of offering affordable environmental education to Maine's young people.

Pickett earned a bachelor's degree in journalism at West Virginia University and has a professional background in both news reporting and public relations. His duties include writing press releases, publishing in-house correspondence, implementing marketing plans, and establishing connections all across the state.

"I am really proud to be a part of a program that has so much tradition and impact throughout the state," Pickett said. "We want every family in Maine to have the opportunity to come and take advantage of what this great camp has to offer."

Pickett will work closely with Development Officer Sarah Shepherd and the new Executive Director Brian Robinson to promote the camp's diverse selection of programs.

"Corey's diverse skills and experience will directly benefit Maine's youth and families as we further expand opportunities at our Tanglewood and Blueberry Cove campuses," Robinson said.

Nicholas Smith, Distinguished Historian of Native American Life and Culture, to Speak at Fogler Library

28 Sep 2006

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller at 207-581-1696

Nicholas Smith, distinguished historian of Native American life and culture will visit the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine on Thursday, Oct. 12. His presentation will begin at 3 p.m. in the Special Collections department. Smith was a founding member of the Maine Archaeological Society and the Ethnomusicology Society. His field work among the Maliseet and other Wabanaki groups has continued for over 50 years.

Smith is a graduate of the University of Maine and worked in Fogler Library as an undergraduate before being encouraged to go on to Columbia University where he earned a degree in Library Science. Smith became particularly interested in documents and manuscripts pertaining to the Wabanaki, and when a bundle of more than 100 related manuscripts was found at the Museum of the American Indian Huntington Free Library, Smith was asked to assess their research value, organize them, and lead the effort to preserve them. Smith's field work has included opportunities to view and record the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Chief-Making Ceremonies and interview some of the last people who were married in the traditional fashion in Maliseet villages.

This event is co-sponsored by Fogler Library and the Native American Studies Program. Smith's lecture is free and open to the public.

2006 Commemorative Ornament Reception

02 Oct 2006

Contact: Amanda Morang at 581-1700

ORONO -- The University Bookstore will unveil the 2006 Commemorative Ornament at a reception on Wednesday, Oct. 4 at 1 p.m. The reception, which will celebrate the fourth annual installment in this program, which benefits deserving UMaine student organizations, is set for the bookstore in Memorial Union.

The University Bookstore Commemorative Ornament celebrates those UMaine organizations that best live up to the spirit of the holiday season. All proceeds from the sales of this ornament are donated to UMaine groups which best achieve the goal of helping others. This year's ornament design is called "Maine Bear Paw 2006," using the symbol of the highly successful Maine Hello Program, a nationally recognized event for welcoming first-year students.

Rotaract, a UMaine student organization that works in association with the Old Town Rotary Club, will receive the proceeds from this year's ornament sales.

Rotaract works to bring the student body closer to the Orono and Old Town communities. Projects that Rotaract has been and is involved in include working with Amnesty International to raise awareness about the Darfur region of Sudan, attending weekend Habitat for Humanity projects, and raising money for their Relay for Life team. Members also work with Crossroads Resources to help children from low income families.

For more information on the ornament or the reception, please contact Amanda Morang at 581-1700.

Music Professor Helps Guatemalan Children Through Music

02 Oct 2006

Contact: Anatole Wieck, 581-1260/990-9304; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Many young people pursue athletics to escape impoverished backgrounds, but a program called "M

UMaine Special Events Calendar: October 2006

03 Oct 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

/b>," 6-8:30 p.m., Bangor Extension Office, 307 Maine Ave., Bangor, a three-part Cooperative Extension series to address: What is a stepfamily? What's involved in building a strong couple relationship? What can stepfamilies do to be successful? (fee/942-7396)

Oct. 18

"Language and Culture in Violence Prevention," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Renate Klein; a Domestic Violence Awareness Month event and part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program

Mountain Bike Race (M, W), 4:30 p.m., Memorial Gym, 5- and 10-mile races on University trails; public invited, (fee/students free/581-1234)

Women Composers Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (fee/students free/581-4702)

Oct. 19

Engineering Job Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., MCA and Hudson Museum; an opportunity for engineering students to meet with more than 30 employers to learn about co-ops, internships and full-time jobs after graduation

"Adult Men and Depression," 12:10-1:30 p.m., Walker Room, Memorial Union, with psychologist James McDonald; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

Conversation with Iranian Graphic Novelist Marjane Satrapi, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Room 130, Little Hall; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Oct. 20

Homecoming Weekend (Oct. 20-22) campus-wide; athletic events, entertainment, receptions, banquets, recreation, sales, fairs, tours & open houses (581-1149)

Go Blue Friday

"Grand Opening +10," 4-6 p.m., Class of 1944 Hall, a works-in-progress showcase to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Class of 1944 Hall, featuring music, theatre and dance

Performance by the Roy Haynes Quartet, 8 p.m.; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (fee/581-1755)

Oct. 22

"Thwarted Voices," 2 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, performed by music Professor Phillip Silver with guest artist soprano Deborah Cook; part of the School of Performing Arts season (fee/students free/581-1755)

Black Bear 5K (M, W), 4:30 p.m., starts at Memorial Gym; all welcome (fee/581-1234)

Oct. 24

Basics of Using a GPS Receiver, 4-7 p.m., Computer Classroom, Fogler Library; computer mapping workshop (fee/581-1696)

Oct. 25

"Three Sisters Reclaim the Commons: Indigenous Culture, Perma-Culture and Digital Culture," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Joline Blais, professor, new media; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Adding your GPS Layer to a Digital Base Map, 4-7 p.m., Computer Classroom, Fogler Library; computer mapping workshop (fee/581-1696)

21st Annual Maryann Hartman Awards to Maine Women of Achievement, 5 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House, honoring Mary Cathcart, Lee Sharkey and Sarah Hudson; offered by the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program

Readers Theater: "Doubt," 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, John Patrick Shanley's 2005 Pulitzer Prize winning play explores a Catholic school principal's suspicions of sexual misconduct of her resident priest; part of the School of Performing Arts season (fee/581-1755)

2006 Maine Archaeology Lecture, 7 p.m., Hudson Museum, with Lou McNally, host of MPBN's Made in Maine, looking at three centuries of climate change in Maine, and a prediction for the future - how climate has affected and will continue to affect Mainer's lives.

Oct. 26

"Lighten Up 101: Winter Blues and Seasonal Depression," 12:10-1:30 p.m. Coe Room, Memorial Union, with psychologist and psychology Professor Sandra Sigmon; part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series

"Disappearing Civil Liberties: Abuse of Power Post 9/11," 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Shenna Bellows, executive director of the Maine Civil Liberties Union; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Oct. 28

Performance by the University Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (fee/students free/581-1755)

Oct. 29

Performance by the Vienna Piano Trio, 3 p.m., part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (fee/581-1755)

Oct. 31

Performance by Bo Diddley and Friends, 7 p.m.; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (fee/581-1755)

Ongoing events

"The Art of Printed Books and Artists' Multiples," Lord Hall, UMaine, featuring discussion by co-curators by Owen Smith and Walter Tisdale, part of "The Maine Print Project: 200 Years of Printmaking in Maine," a series of exhibitions occurring at 25 museums, galleries and colleges throughout Maine; at UMaine Oct. 6-Nov. 11, 2006

"Destination Pluto"

A Jordan Planetarium program, Sundays through October, 2 p.m., Wingate Hall, Oct.1-29, 2006 (fee/581-1341)

"Jocelyn Lee: Youth" a [University of Maine Museum of Art](#) exhibition, Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow St., Bangor; through Oct. 7

"Sam Cady: Reality and Reverie" a [University of Maine Museum of Art](#) exhibition, Norumbega Hall; through Oct. 7

"A Matter of Perception 2006: Exhibit by Artists with Disabilities," Hauck Auditorium lobby, a biennial exhibit providing one of the few opportunities in the state for adult artists with disabilities to submit their work to a non-juried show; the exhibition, organized by VSA arts of Maine, is hosted on campus by the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies; Sept.15 -- Nov. 16

"Maman Disait," Maine Center for the Arts and Hudson Museum, by artist and adjunct professor of women's studies and Franco-American studies Rhea Cote Robbins; Cote explores her artistic side in a celebration of her Franco-American heritage and her mother's French language proverbs; through Nov. 27

"Celebrating Richard G. Emerick: The Man and his Legacy," Hudson Museum, Sept. 8 to May 2007

"Muwin and the Magic Hare: Robert Shetterly and the Hudson Museum," featuring 12 images created by Maine Artist Robert Shetterly and published in "Muwin and the Magic Hare" (1993); Shetterly's work features Muwin, the black bear, and Mahtoqehs, the great magic hare of the north woods, and draws upon a traditional Passamaquoddy tale from Dream Time--a time after the earth, the water, and the sun, moon and stars were made; September 2006 to January 2007

Sustainability for ME, 6:30-9 p.m., Messalonskee High School, Oakland. UM Cooperative Extension offers a six-week program to demonstrate how lifestyle choices affect the environment. Teachers, town officials and people interested in personal and community health, as well as environmental issues, will find the program beneficial. Participants expected to devote 20 hours to project of choice (fee and registration/581-3241)

UMaine Office Staff Seeks Gift of Life on Behalf of Colleague

04 Oct 2006

Contact: Tammy Light, 581-1293; Joe Carr, 581-3571

ORONO -- When Nathan Cunningham's colleagues in the University of Maine Office of Student Records learned last May he had been diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), a precursor to leukemia, they asked how they could help.

Cunningham asked if they would help organize a bone marrow donor registration drive to add new names -- and new "matches" -- to the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) Registry.

His doctor was able to find a donor match for Cunningham on the NMDP registry, and in the search process, Cunningham learned how critical the need is for bone marrow donors, particularly from minority groups, and how improved the donation process has become over the years. He also learned what it feels like to face a terminal illness and to depend on strangers for a possible cure.

Now, what began as a modest proposal for the university's first donor registration drive on Oct. 17 has snowballed into what organizers hope will become a major regional event. Sponsored in conjunction with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, the NMDP, and several campus groups, the registration drive is gaining support from all corners of UMaine and beyond. Gov. John Baldacci plans to attend the opening of the registration drive.

The response has been overwhelming, says Tammy Light, interim manager of Student Records. Eastern Maine Medical Center has asked to become part of the daylong registration drive. The UMaine Greek Council has agreed to donate its Greek Week fundraising proceeds to offset swab test costs for those who cannot afford the fee, and individuals have contacted Light to offer donations.

"We've had tremendous support from students on this campus," Light says. The goal was to have 400 people take the swab test and volunteer for the marrow donor registration list. She now expects more than twice that number to participate.

Oct. 17, from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. in the Coe Room of the Memorial Union, students, faculty, staff and community members will take a quick cheek swab test to see if they are eligible to be a marrow or blood stem cell donor. The processing cost is \$52; however, college students with an ID - and members of minority groups - are tested free. A limited number of scholarships are available for others, thanks to donations. Light says that people who are ineligible to donate can still help by contributing financially.

The need for people of American Indian, Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic, Latino, Native Hawaiian and multiple-race heritage to join the donor registry is especially high, says Cunningham, since the match pool is extremely limited for people of those ethnicities.

Cunningham thinks many students of many ethnic backgrounds will volunteer to be swab-tested, if they realize that they might be able to make a life or death difference for someone with MDS or leukemia, a cancer of the blood.

"How many of these students on campus do you think have known someone with cancer?" Cunningham asks. "Probably 100 percent. How many of that 100 percent would help somebody if they could?"

Cunningham, 31, served in the U.S. Navy before enrolling in UMaine's electrical engineering program; he works part time in the UMaine Veteran's Affairs Office. He says he and his wife April are overwhelmed by the support he's received.

"It's unfathomable," says Cunningham, formerly of Wiscasset. "I've been a member of this campus community as a full-time student since January and now everyone's jumping through hoops to fulfill a little request, to start a bone marrow registration drive. It's unbelievable."

Cunningham will undergo chemotherapy and radiation treatments in the coming months to kill the defective marrow in his bones. With a small amount of new, donated marrow cells, he hopes to grow healthy new marrow. Bone marrow regenerates blood cells that help the body fight infection, carry oxygen to organs and allow wounds to heal. Without functioning blood cells, people die.

Information about who is eligible to be a marrow donor and other details are available on the websites of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (www.dana-farber.org/nmdp) and the NMDP (www.marrows.org).

The processes for blood cell and marrow donation processes today are much safer, less invasive and cause less discomfort than in earlier times, according to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. For more information about the registration drive and swab tests, Light can be reached at 581-1293.

UMaine's "Thwarted Voices" Features Lost Music of the Holocaust Era

04 Oct 2006

Contact: Phillip Silver, 581- 1783; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's "Thwarted Voiced" concert Oct. 22 at the University of Maine features the works of Holocaust-

era composers whose work can be publicly enjoyed after a half century of suppression.

UMaine music professor and pianist Phillip Silver, an internationally recognized scholar and authority on Holocaust-era composers, will be joined on stage by cellist Noreen Silver and internationally known soprano Deborah Cook.

The concert is at 2 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall on the Orono campus. Admission is \$6 and free for students with a UMaine identification card.

Now in its seventh season, "Thwarted Voices" is a deeply personal concert series for Silver, and an opportunity to perform the "forgotten music" composed by Jewish musicians victimized by the Holocaust in Europe. Some composers perished in Nazi concentration camps and others escaped by fleeing, in some cases to America or Israel. Much of their music has remained unperformed, even undiscovered, over the years.

In murdering or exiling many Jewish composers in Germany, or banning their works, Nazis denied the world an extraordinary range of music by "hundreds upon hundreds of composers" just now being recognized by scholars, Silver says.

This year's concert focuses on composers who found refuge from the Holocaust in Israel.

They include: Haim Alexander, born in Berlin 1915 and still active today ("Six Israeli Dances for Piano"); Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951), elected honorary president of the Israel Academy of Music shortly before his death in 1951 ("Four Songs op. 2," described as very warm Romantic pieces); Paul Ben-Haim (1897-1984), who, like Haim Alexander, fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s and found sanctuary in Israel ("Sonatina for Piano Solo"); Mark Kopytman, born in Poland in 1929 and part of the first wave of Soviet Jewish composers able to leave for the West after many years of anti-Semitic oppression ("Kaddish" for cello and piano, an immensely poignant work written upon the death of the composer's father); and Marc Lavry (1903-1967), who came to Israel in the 1930s and established himself as one of the most popular of Israeli composers ("Suite for Piano, Israeliana").

With the exception of the Schoenberg piece, "a work that basks in late-Romantic lushness," all the music is influenced by folklore and melody, Silver says.

Contrary to some perceptions, the music of the Holocaust era is varied -- much of it bright and spirited -- unlike the dark and melancholy images of the Holocaust, says Silver.

Silver has obtained some of his Thwarted Voices music exclusively from relatives of Holocaust-era composers. He is a member of the advisory board of The Inextinguishable Symphony Project, an educational project about the J

UMaine to Host Tabor Debate

04 Oct 2006

Contact: Gabrielle B

UMaine Student to Represent NASA at Space Conference

04 Oct 2006

Contact: David Munson, UMaine University Relations (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine doctoral student Leigh Stearns has been selected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as one of ten graduate students nationwide to participate in the 2006 International Astronautical Congress in Valencia, Spain in October.

Organized by the International Astronautical Federation, the four-day event brings administrators from NASA and other

space exploration organizations together with leading scientists from around the world to discuss space-related research and technology.

Stearns was selected for her groundbreaking techniques using satellite imagery to study the changing dynamics of Greenland's glaciers. She will present her research to congress participants on October 4.

"I expect to be one of the few earth scientists at the conference, and I am looking forward to presenting techniques for applying space research technology to earth systems," said Stearns. "I'm really looking forward to attending other informational sessions as well."

A fourth-year graduate student with research experience in both Antarctica and Greenland, Stearns uses multiple images taken from NASA satellites to create topographic maps of active glaciers. The maps act as fingerprints that allow individual glaciers to be identified. By comparing images of the same glacier over time, its movements can be accurately quantified.

According to Stearns' research, some glaciers in Greenland are moving as much as 300 percent faster than they were just three years ago. The movement and melt rate of Greenland's glaciers has important implications regarding such critical concerns as global warming, sea level rise, and changing ocean currents.

Museum of Art Exhibition October 20

06 Oct 2006

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at 207.561.3352

Bangor, Maine

-- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present two printmaking exhibitions as part of *Celebrating 200 Years of Printmaking in Maine* and in collaboration with The Maine Print Project. *Richard Estes: Prints* and *John Marin: A Print Survey* will draw from the museum's important and extensive print collection as well as from numerous loans. The exhibitions will feature prints made by Marin throughout his career and by Estes from the 1980s to the present. Both artists, known for their interest in urban landscapes from Paris to New York, were nevertheless influenced by their relationships to Maine. The Museum of Art will also present *Bernard Langlais: Abstract Wood Reliefs*, 14 works by Maine artist Bernard Langlais. These relief sculptures, from the late 1950's - early 1960s, employ simple forms and a limited palette and predate the carved, assembled figurative imagery he is known for.

John Marin

A Print Survey

In the cities of the early 20th century, John Marin (1870 -1953) observed "great forces at work"; it was that force Marin deftly captured in his etchings of Paris and New York. The University of Maine Museum of Art will present a selection of etchings, hand-printed by Marin, of these urban visions.

John Marin was born in Rutherford, New Jersey in 1870. A self-described failure at business, Marin initially considered becoming an architect, working from 1893 -1905 as a freelance architect. During this time Marin became increasingly interested in sketching and enrolled in art school. He studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia from 1899 -1901 and the Art Students League in New York during 1904. In 1905 Marin went to Paris, where his father helped finance his art career. Within a year of moving to Europe, Marin began etching. Drawing upon his earlier attempts at architecture he etched scenes from the city. Marin, wanting to capture the spontaneity of the scene, often etched directly on to copper plates, thereby leading to final prints that were the mirror images of the actual cityscape. From Paris, Marin also visited Amsterdam where he made numerous etchings and paintings, and later traveled to

London and Venice. During his Venice trip, Marin honed his technique of capturing his impressions of a place -- its life -- rather than just an accurate, but lifeless, copy of a group of buildings. As time went by, he began to shed the more architectural concerns of representation and focus on just the essentials of a building; after 1908 his etchings became more loose and freeform. Marin often worked through his ideas with preliminary versions. An accomplished printmaker, he often used a single plate to experiment with various methods of printing and would often mark the prints with his evaluation or notation (e.g. A1, Best print, a Beaut, etc.) Marin adopted the practice of etching his name and the date directly into the plate; those prints that did go out into the art world were usually signed in pencil. After Marin met Alfred Steiglitz in 1909, he returned to the United States where the photographer served as his patron. That same year Marin had his first solo exhibition at Steiglitz's Photo-Secession Gallery but returned briefly to Europe in 1910-1911 before settling permanently in the US. Steiglitz became an early collector of Marin's plates, proofs, and etchings and his extensive collection is now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. John Marin lived in Cliffside, New Jersey from 1916 until his death in 1953 while spending his summers in the Berkshires, the Adirondacks, the Delaware River country and Maine. Most of all he loved the coast of Maine, summering in Small Point or Deer Isle and from 1933-1953 at Cape Split.

Richard Estes Prints

Meticulous, grand, and authoritative, Richard Estes' (born 1932) prints of cityscapes at once recall the tradition of the Old Masters, reflect Pop Art's rendering of the everyday, evoke Cubist approaches to the "reality" of a subject, and yet remain completely modern. There is serenity in the scenes, a captured moment, frozen in time, when one imagines being the only person left to wander the city. Subversively appealing at first glance, Estes' visions might suddenly create a moment of panic when it becomes clear that you are alone in this vision. It is that starkness, that lack of human presence that belies his oft-applied designation as a Photo-realist. While his paintings and prints are certainly photo-realistic, the absence of the human element perhaps in some way aligns his work more closely to conceptualism or minimalism. Estes regularly uses his own photographic compositions to work from when creating a painting or print, sometimes combining multiple images to use as a model for the final work. Through this composite process, Estes creates a scene more "real" than what could be captured in a single photograph of a location. The prints featured in this exhibition are as subtly layered and vibrant as his well-known paintings, depicting urban landscapes from New York to Salzburg.

Richard Estes was born in Kewanee, Illinois in 1932. He received his first oil painting set as a child and later attended the Chicago Art Institute. In 1956, Estes moved to New York to work as a freelance illustrator for various magazine publishers and advertising agencies. Eventually he pursued a full-time career as a fine artist, creating mostly figurative studies. In the early 1960s he began painting urban landscapes, first with the inclusion of human activity and later without. Estes' first solo show was in 1968 at the Allan Stone Gallery in New York. Since then his work has been exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide. His work can be found in public and private collections including the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York; Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri; Neue Galerie der Stadt Aachen, Ludwig Collection, Aachen, Germany; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York; and the

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York.

Bernard Langlais Abstract Wood Reliefs

Bernard Langlais (1921 - 1977) was born in Old Town, Maine. Although he had no formal artistic training in high school, he decided on a career as an artist from a young age. After six years of naval service during World War II, he attended the Corcoran School of Art in Washington and received a scholarship to the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine, an event that changed his focus from commercial to fine art. Skowhegan gave him a scholarship to the Brooklyn Museum School, where he studied with the famed German Expressionist painter Max Beckmann. In the early 1950s Langlais traveled to Paris to study at the Academie de la Grand Chaumiere and received a Fulbright Fellowship to study the works of Edvard Munch in Norway.

Langlais' experiments with wood began in 1956, when he returned from Norway and bought a summer cottage in Cushing, Maine. During renovations to the cottage, he rebuilt an interior wall by piecing together scraps of wood. Langlais found the work invigorating and inspiring, and continued to create abstract wall reliefs that he showed to great

acclaim in New York throughout the late 1950s and early 1960s. These seminal works seem to unify a serial use of wood elements with discreet uses of color. The works celebrate their process of construction. Works from this series were included in the important assemblage exhibition *New Forms -- New Media* at the Martha Jackson Gallery in 1960, as well as a solo exhibition at the ground-breaking Leo Castelli Gallery in 1961. While he continued to develop his technique in what he called "painting in wood," figurative imagery began to dominate his work. By the time Langlais moved to Maine full-time in 1966, he was making room-sized wall reliefs, which soon grew into monumental statues that still populate the yard around his home in Cushing. He died in 1977, leaving a lasting legacy in the arts of his native state.

New Board Elected at University of Maine Foundation Annual Meeting

10 Oct 2006

Contact: Amos Orcutt, President/CEO, University of Maine Foundation, 800.982.8503

ORONO --

John I. Simpson of Bangor was elected 2006-2007 chair of the University of Maine Foundation Board of Directors at the foundation's Oct. 4 annual meeting. Simpson is a 1971 graduate of the University of Maine; he also received an MBA in 1983. He is president and owner of Innovative Solutions, management consultants and former President/CEO of H.E. Sargent.

In 1934, the University of Maine Foundation was started with \$1,000 from the Class of 1909 and now has total assets of nearly \$148 million. In the most recent fiscal year, which ended June 30, the foundation received more than \$10 million in new gifts and distributed \$5.5 million in support of the University of Maine.

The board of directors also elected the following officers:

Darryl Brown -- vice chair, Livermore Falls

Ellen Stinson -- treasurer, Standish

Anne Pooler -- secretary, Bangor

Amos Orcutt -- assistant treasurer/president, Bangor

Brent Slater -- clerk, Bangor

The annual luncheon was attended by over 200 people and was held at the Black Bear Inn and Conference Center in Stillwater. The second annual President Abram W. Harris Award was presented to Habib J. Dagher, director of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWC) Center, professor of Civil/Structural Engineering, and Bath Iron Works Professor of Structural Engineering at UMaine. Dagher was recognized for his transformational leadership as the driving force behind the creation and growth of the AEWC Center. Over the past five years, under Dagher's leadership, the AEWC Center has attracted more than \$30 million in state, private and federal funding. It has employed more than 300 undergraduate and 40 graduates students and has grown from 11 full-time staff in 2000 to 38 full-time staff in 2006.

The \$5,000 prize will be awarded annually and was established with an endowed gift to the University of Maine Foundation from A. W. "Pete" Harris, III '50 and family and friends in memory of Dr. Abram Winegardner Harris, who served the University of Maine from 1893-1901.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent 501 (c) (3) organization that exists to encourage gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

Maine Printmaking Project Exhibit Opens at UMaine

10 Oct 2006

Contact: Owen Smith, 299-2418; George Manlove, 581-3756; Walter Tisdale, 942-3119

ORONO -- The newest exhibit at the Department of Art's Lord Hall Gallery at UMaine focuses a good deal on books, in addition to the creativity that emerges when artists and writers collaborate, but to appreciate the show, visitors must suspend their ingrained concept of just what a book is, says co-curator Walter Tisdale, a Bangor book printer and publisher.

For instance, the Islamic Koran is read back to front, says Tisdale, who owns and operates Tatlin Books. Asian text reads vertically. Some books open in an accordion-like fashion and have no binding. Some books are very small and others very large. And some of the books in "The Art of Printed Books and Artists Multiples," on display through Nov. 22, have different sized pages, some with pockets and fold-outs, and a few with woodcut images, but no text.

Seemingly one-of-a-kind creations, the books on exhibit were printed, or mass produced, in multiples, as were some of the other items in the exhibit, including a pair of white socks and wine bottles. The works come from the personal collections of Tisdale and Owen Smith, professor of art and director of the New Media Program at UMaine.

"From socks to toilet paper, they were drawn into the art orbit," Smith explains, "as a way to question what art is."

An opening reception for "The Art of Printed Books and Artists' Multiples" is scheduled from 5-7 p.m., Oct. 13, at Lord Hall. The exhibit is part of the "Maine Print Project: 200 Years of Printmaking in Maine," a series of exhibitions taking place in 25 museums, galleries and college campuses throughout the state of Maine.

Smith and Tisdale are co-curators for the exhibit.

Another way to describe many of the pieces in the exhibit is "book art" or "artists' books," according to Smith and Tisdale.

"Taking the structure of the book beyond everyday expectations is often a goal of the artist's book," Smith and Tisdale explain in their curators' statement. "Other important aspects of artists' books are: the use of cross-disciplinary media; the production of the work through an accessible (usually inexpensive) means; and the reaction against the established art world/art market.

"Often the impetus behind the use of the book form is to cross boundaries and defy existing limitations and definitions. It is a medium of expression that allows for, in fact calls for, the combination of several modes of creation," they write. "In fact, this confluence of art forms had affected artists' books to such a degree that they have become characteristically and foremost multidisciplinary. This tendency towards cross-disciplines also allows an artist to belong to no explicit discipline while referring to many.

"Even artists, who are supposedly 'free spirits,' need a way to grant themselves permission to explore ideas outside of their normal modes of thought. Artists' books take on this role."

The Maine Print Project, being shown at two dozen other Maine galleries, involves a broad array of printed art, including books, and is the largest collaborative arts initiative in Maine history, according to Bruce Brown, a Maine book and art collector who chairs the Maine Print Project.

The show was created to celebrate printmaking by Maine artists, and each individual exhibit has an educational component to it.

For information on the project and each exhibition site, visit the Maine Print Project website. For information about the

Orono exhibit, the UMaine Department of Art can be reached at 581-3245.

Major funding for "The Maine Print Project: Celebrating 200 Years of Printmaking in Maine" is provided by the [Maine Arts Commission](#), an independent state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces Program, and by a major grant from the [Maine Community Foundation](#). Funding is also provided by the [Davis Family Foundation](#), with additional support from the [June Fitzpatrick Gallery](#).

Free Signs for Farm Vehicles Promote Safety

10 Oct 2006

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471 (in Maine)

ORONO--University of Maine Cooperative Extension and several farm equipment dealers have joined forces to offer free "Slow Moving Vehicle" (SMV) signs to Maine farmers this fall. Maine motorists should be on the lookout for these bright signs--- fluorescent orange triangles bordered with reflective red---which are mounted on the rear of farm tractors and vehicles traveling less than 25 miles per hour in order to warn other drivers of the slow moving vehicle as they approach.

In the fall, many Maine farmers and farm workers are on public roads moving equipment, livestock, hay and crops with tractors. This can be a dangerous situation. These signs provide unique identification for vehicles that by design move 25 mph or less on public roads. The reflective border defines the shape of the fluorescent color in daylight and creates a hollow red triangle in the path of motor vehicle headlights at night.

Those who would like to obtain a free "Slow Moving Vehicle" sign should contact University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 1-800-287-1471 (toll free in Maine). Farmers calling the number will receive a coupon and safety packet about the use of tractors on public roads and how to use the sign. Farmers can then redeem the coupon and pick up their sign(s) (up to two per farmer) at their nearest participating farm equipment dealer before November 30, 2006.

Participating farm equipment dealers include the following businesses:

Beauregard Equipment Inc.

Center on Aging Leads State Effort to Rein in Unused Medications

10 Oct 2006

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3483; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Mercury aside, Len Kaye wonders how much blood pressure medication, cholesterol regulators, birth control pills or prescription painkillers are winding up in the tuna fish in his sandwich.

Kaye, director of the Center on Aging at the University of Maine, serves on the leadership board of a special international study group that is working to create systems for better regulating the ways in which unused medications are discarded. A lot of expired or unneeded medications wind up in rivers and streams, even after passing through wastewater sewage plants and human digestive systems.

Kaye has read the literature, for instance, about male carp in a Las Vegas reservoir turning into females because of pharmaceuticals and personal care products infiltrating the drinking water. Fish are becoming feminized in the United Kingdom, in the Potomac River in Washington, D.C. and in the Pacific Ocean, near an effluent discharge site near Los Angeles, among other places, according to a September 2006 article in "Governing Magazine."

Kaye says that with the bombardment of advertising for pharmaceutical products and current debate about affordability of prescription drugs, few people stop to think about what happens to all those leftover prescription drugs.

The group, the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG), administered through the Center on Aging, has proposed the first statewide mail-back initiative in the country to dispose of unused pharmaceuticals.

Its fourth annual Study Group International Conference and third annual Unused Drug Return International Conference, Oct. 23-24 at the Eastland Park Hotel in Portland, will review common goals, progress and the groundwork being laid out to get a grip on disposal methods for prescription drugs and prescribing practices. Among the 23 organizations and entities assisting with this year's conference are several federal agencies and Maine's offices of Drug Enforcement, Substance Abuse, Environmental Protection, Attorney General and Elder Services.

"Prescription drugs have obviously been on the market for a very long time," says Kaye. "We lean heavily on the use of drugs in this country, it's made life a lot easier for a lot of people, but it's also created its own set of issues. This conference addresses these emergent issues, including current liberal prescribing practices and the huge quantities of unused and expired medications accumulating in the bathroom medicine cabinets of the average citizen. These are issues that should be of interest to many different types of professionals and consumers who are concerned about this increasing problem."

The most common method of disposing of unused prescription drugs has been the trash or the toilet, neither of which really eliminates them. Pharmaceuticals can make their way through landfills and wastewater treatment plants to discharge into rivers, according to research assembled by the MBSG, a group of policymakers, lawmakers, researchers, and leaders from healthcare, medical, pharmaceutical, government, environmental and law enforcement fields.

According to the National Drug Intelligence Center, Maine leads the nation among states where pharmaceuticals contributed to both violent crime and property crime, and Maine ranks second in the nation in terms of the availability of pharmaceuticals for abuse. MBSG research also shows that 90 percent of drug deaths in Maine in 2002 were caused by prescription drugs, and that Maine Drug Enforcement Agency arrests for prescription drug misuse has risen dramatically. The latest data, not yet released publicly, will be presented for the first time during the October meeting.

"As a gerontologist, I never would have thought this would have been an issue in the work I do," Kaye says. It is becoming increasingly apparent, Kaye says, that many injuries, including auto accidents and falls among elders, may be associated with benzodiazepines, a pharmaceutical family that includes drugs commonly prescribed for anxiety, stress and insomnia.

"We've gathered together leading authorities in law enforcement, government, healthcare, the pharmaceutical industry, environmentalists, and they're all coming together, not just from the U.S., but from Canada and Europe, to Maine to meet about this critical issue," Kaye says.

On behalf of the MBSG, Kaye recently submitted a grant application to the federal Environmental Protection Agency for \$150,000 to implement medication-control measures already begun in several regions in the state, and to implement measures outlined in legislation sponsored in 2004 by state Sen. Lynn Bromley, D-Cumberland, creating the Maine Unused Pharmaceutical Disposal Project. Bromley, a licensed clinical social worker and therapist, will join Kaye in opening the Oct. 23-24 conference.

More information about the conference can be found on the Center on Aging website at www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging.

Hudson Museum Announces Three New Exhibits

11 Oct 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Hudson Museum at the University of Maine has three new exhibits, featuring illustrations from a children's book by Maine artist Robert Shetterly, fabric collections from the Kuna Indians of the San Blas Islands of Panama and an exhibit celebrating the legacy of former UMaine anthropologist Richard Emerick, founding director of Hudson Museum.

"Celebrating Richard G. Emerick: The Man and his Legacy," will be up until May 2007, according to Gretchen Faulkner, museum director, and is part of the Museum's celebration of its 20th Anniversary.

Emerick, a professor of anthropology, came to UMaine in the late 1950s and taught more than 40,000 students during his 40-year teaching career.

With collections he had gathered through field work with native Havasuapai in the American Southwest, with the peoples of Ponape and Kapingamarangi in Micronesia, and the Iglulingmuit of Northern Foxe Basin in the Canadian Arctic, Emerick created an anthropology museum in the attic of South Stevens Hall. In 1986, he moved the museum to the newly completed Maine Center for the Arts, launching the Hudson Museum. When he retired as director of the Hudson Museum in 1990, a gallery on the Museum's third level was named in Emerick's honor.

The new exhibit honoring Emerick features objects that he collected in each of the areas of his field work. He focused on documenting traditional lifestyles in regions of the world that were undergoing rapid change and modernization, collecting everyday objects such as tools, containers, weapons, utensils and models of modes of transportation.

His collections from Micronesia include fishing gear, clubs, and axes, as well as necklaces, fans and dance paddles, household mats, and outrigger canoe models. During his work with the Havasupai, he acquired baskets, ladles and food-processing equipment. From the Iglulingmuit, he gathered clothing, tools, hunting and fishing gear, including fish hooks and harpoons, plus carvings from walrus tusk and other objects.

A second exhibit, "Molas: The Jane Gruver Collection," also will be on display until May 2007.

For more than 30 years, Jane Gruver of North Dakota and her husband Daniel Gruver lived and worked among the Kuna of the San Blas Islands of Panama. Jane Gruver acquired a deep appreciation and understanding of the making of Kuna mola-making, and collected the dozens of brightly colored fabric panels that comprise the exhibit. She has donated molas to the Hudson Museum since 1994 as a way of recording and preserving the art form and the lifestyles of the Kuna people.

The design motifs range from local flora, fauna and sea life to everyday scenes, including Kuna legends and myths. Through these images, the Kuna capture their world in vibrant color.

The third exhibit, "Muwin and the Magic Hare by Robert Shetterly," will be on display through Jan. 5, 2007, features 12 images created by Robert Shetterly of Brooksville, Maine and published in his 1993 children's book, "Muwin and the Magic Hare."

The book is a story of Muwin, the Black Bear, and Mahtoqehs, the Great Magic Hare of the North Woods, and draws upon a traditional Passamaquoddy tale from Dream Time -- a time after the earth, water, sun, moon and stars were made. People and animals could talk with each other and beings with magical powers were able to transform themselves from one form to another.

According to the Passamaquoddy tale, Muwin tracks the magical trickster hare from his den on the march, over the heath, to the bay, and back to his winter den. Mahtoqehs eludes him, transforming himself in Passamaquoddy men and women. They entertain Muwin with ancient tales and feed him snowshoe hare, and then disappear while Muwin is sleeping.

More information about the exhibits and the Hudson Museum can be found on the website <http://www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum>, or by calling the museum at 581-1901. Museum hours are Tuesday through

Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Exhibits are free.

Inventor Doug Hall to Highlight Friday UMaine Event

11 Oct 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Doug Hall, a 1981 University of Maine graduate whose success as an inventor and entrepreneur has gained widespread recognition and a role as one of the four judges on the ABC television program "American Inventor," will be the guest speaker at Friday's Student Innovation Center ribbon cutting at UMaine. The event is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. under a tent between the Jenness Hall parking lot and the new Student Innovation Center building.

The Student Innovation Center will soon be online as home to academic programming and other activities related to entrepreneurship and innovation. It will provide a place for UMaine students who wish to take courses and participate in programs that will help them learn to develop their ideas and create successful business enterprises.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy will host Friday's event, which will also include remarks from State Sen. Elizabeth Mitchell (D-Vassalboro). The program will feature a video presentation with successful UMaine students and former students describing their entrepreneurial activities.

Hall is founder and CEO of Eureka! Ranch, an international enterprise that works with corporate clients to inspire creativity and the development of new services and products. He was previously Master Marketing Inventor at Procter & Gamble, where he set new standards for innovation and invention. An author, radio host and public speaker, Hall spends much of his time working with people on turning ideas into successful businesses. He regularly visits his alma mater, working with UMaine students in the university's Innovation Engineering classes and other activities.

UMaine Homecoming Set for October 20 - 22

11 Oct 2006

Contact: Bob Potts, Marketing & Creative Services, (207) 581-1149 or (800) 934-2586

*"Paint The Town BLUE!" theme captures essence of Homecoming celebration
Appearance by "Motor Booty Affair" to highlight weekend*

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced the schedule of events for the 131st Homecoming Weekend at UMaine, October 20, 21 and 22, 2006.

Highlights of this year's Homecoming include the Black Bear football game vs. Hofstra, Saturday at 2 p.m. at Alford Stadium. In addition, the disco party band "Motor Booty Affair" will kick off the weekend's festivities on Friday, October 20th with a 7:30 p.m. performance at Buchanan Alumni House.

Tickets for the Motor Booty concert are \$20.00 each and available by calling 1-800-934-2586. They will also be available at the door at Buchanan Alumni House, 160 College Avenue.

Black Bear fans and alumni are invited to join the Alumni Association in the "GO BLUE" tailgating tent, located between Dunn and Corbett Halls, Saturday from 11 a.m. through halftime of the football game. Concessions and refreshments will be on sale, as well as face painting and music by the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band.

Admission to the "GO BLUE" tent is free and open to all.

A popular attraction each year is the annual Alumni Association Craft Fair & Food Cafe in the UMaine Fieldhouse. Hours are Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-4. Admission is \$1.00; free for those under 12. UMaine students may enter for free using their MaineCard ID. The Craft Fair, northern New England's largest, features more than 200 vendors offering only Maine-made crafts.

Friday, Oct. 21, the Alumni Association will present the 2006 Spirit of Maine Achievement Award to Melissa Reynolds O'Dea, class of 1992. O'Dea, an assistant attorney general for the State of Maine, will be honored for her groundbreaking work on Maine's tobacco settlement.

The Spirit of Maine Achievement Award is given annually to an alum who has graduated in the last fifteen years and whose "accomplishments, commitment, and initiative in a profession, business, or public service arena reflect the high standards and vitality of the University of Maine." This is the sixth year the Alumni Association has presented the award.

For additional information on UMaine's Homecoming weekend, visit www.mainealumni.com

State Sen. Raye at UMaine Thursday

12 Oct 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- State Sen. Kevin Raye (R-Perry) will visit the University of Maine on Thursday, Oct. 12 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Raye will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows program, which began last spring, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Raye, a former chief of staff in the Washington office of Sen. Olympia Snowe, represents all of Washington County, along with parts of Hancock and Penobscot counties.

News coverage possibilities include a lunch meeting with UMaine faculty members and student leaders from 12:10-1 p.m. in Memorial Union's Totman Room. He will also visit food science testing and research facilities (Hitchner Hall, 11 a.m.-12 noon), UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (3-3:30 p.m.) and UMaine's Student Innovation Center (3:30-3:45 p.m.).

Altitude Lou" McNally is Hudson Museum Archaeology Month Lecturer Oct. 25

12 Oct 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Meteorologist "Altitude Lou" McNally, the Hudson Museum's Archaeology Month Lecture speaker on Oct. 25, will discuss three decades of climate change in Maine and how it has and will continue to affect Mainer's lives.

The lecture is at 7 p.m. in the Bodwell Lounge in the Hudson Museum and Maine Center for the Arts. The public is invited to the free event.

McNally, who also has hosted the popular Maine Public Television news magazine show "Made in Maine" since 1988, has been forecasting the weather for radio, TV and international yachting clients for 25 years. McNally holds a Ph.D in global climate change from the UMaine Climate Change Institute and is a frequent speaker and contributor to weather publications and websites.

McNally also hosted another MPBN television series, "So You Think You Know Maine," prior to "Made in Maine." He was nominated for Small Business Journalist of the Year in 2000, and has received three New England Emmy Awards for Outstanding Host.

History Professors Plan Iraq War Teach-In Oct. 24

12 Oct 2006

Contact: Alexander Grab, 581-1928; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of University of Maine history professors opposed to the war in Iraq will hold a "teach-in" Oct. 24 on the Orono campus to offer background and historical perspective on the subject.

The public is invited to the free forum, starting at 7 p.m. in Room 101, Neville Hall. Speakers participating in "The Iraq War and The Elections: A Teach-In Sponsored by Historians against the War" include UMaine history professors Alex Grab, Ngo-Vinh Long, Nathan Godfried, Beth McKillen and Michael Lang. Also, Brian Clement, UMaine history student and an Iraq war veteran, and Scott Ruffner, a local political activist, will speak.

The event is part of a national educational initiative by historians who oppose the war. Similar forums are scheduled in the coming weeks across the country, and at the University of Southern Maine on Oct. 19, according to co-organizer Grab.

"A lot of people are very confused about this war," Grab says. "They may oppose the war but they don't have much in the way of a historical context."

Polls show the war is currently the biggest issue facing Americans, Grab says, and upcoming elections could influence the outcome of the United States' involvement in it. Area residents are invited to take advantage of the university's pool of experts who can provide background information and answer questions about the war.

"We also would like students to be more knowledgeable about the war and what Iraq is about," he says. "The idea is to provide information about the history of Iraq and the US policies in the Middle East as well as the current situation there. We would like people to understand how and why the US became involved in Iraq."

The forum will last about two hours, the first half devoted to speakers and the second half devoted to questions and answers.

While speakers will argue against the war, Grab says it's important for people who support the war to feel welcome to attend, listen, and challenge the speakers.

Ngo-Vinh Long is an expert on the Vietnam War and will draw comparisons between that war and the Iraq War. Professors Beth McKillen and Nathan Godfried are experts on the history of US foreign policy and will shed light on

US policy in the Middle East with a special focus on Iraq. Brian Clement can provide "not just a historical context, but first-hand information" about what it is like to be a part of the war, Grab says.

Gathering at Fogler Library Celebrates Maine Literary Magazine

12 Oct 2006

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library, 207-581-1696

ORONO -- Several individuals who were there at the beginnings of Maine's foremost literary journal, the *Puckerbrush Review*, will gather to tell its story and celebrate its achievements in publishing Maine authors and in bringing international authors to Maine readers over the better part of three decades. The event, *A Proliferation of Puckerbrush: Celebrating 28 Years of the Puckerbrush Review*, will take place in the Special Collections Department of Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine, Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 3 p.m.

Several presentations will tell the story of what *Puckerbrush Review* did for literature in Maine and how the *Review* connected Maine to the wider literary world, the world of such luminaries as Bloomsbury writer and painter Angelica Garnett, poet Phillip Booth, author Mary McCarthy, and the legendary May Sarton.

The story will be told by several of the journal's contributors, including writer Sandy Phippen and poet/critic Burt Hatlen, and by some of the authors who *Puckerbrush Review* launched and published: Tony Brinkley and Sandra Hutchison. Local poet Kathleen Ellis will present a word collage highlighting various aspects of the *Review*'s many-faceted achievement. Sam Hunting, son of the late Constance Hunting, will speak about the future of the *Review*. A memorial issue will be presented at the meeting that will be dedicated to Constance Hunting, who began the journal in 1978.

The full program includes:

The Achievement of Puckerbrush Review: Sandra Hutchison

Puckerbrush and Maine Literature: Sandy Phippen

Puckerbrush and Contemporary American Poetry: Burt Hatlen

Puckerbrush and the World: Tony Brinkley

Arts Presentation: Kathleen Ellis and students

The Future of Puckerbrush Review: Sam Hunting

Presentation of Memorial Issue of Puckerbrush Review by Sandy Phippen

The program is sponsored by the Fogler Library Friends. It is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Iranian Novelist and Illustrator to Speak at UMaine Oct. 19

13 Oct 2006

Contact: Mazie Hough, 581-1225; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Marjane Satrapi, a contemporary graphic novelist and illustrator born in Teheran, is the 2006 Anne Margaret Johnstone Memorial Lecturer and will speak at the University of Maine Oct. 19 about her life and work.

Satrapi will participate at 12:30 p.m., in 130 Little Hall, in "A Conversation with Marjane Satrapi," hosted by reporter Alicia Anstead of the Bangor Daily News. Satrapi also will speak later in the day, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100, DP Corbett Business Building. The evening talk is titled "Iran in the Revolution and After: Graphic Novelist Marjane Satrapi Reflects on Her Life and Work."

Born in 1969, Satrapi lived in Tehran until she was sent to Switzerland at the age of 14. Her most famous work is "Persepolis," an autobiographical account of a childhood and adolescence shaped by the Iranian Revolution. The work was published in four volumes in France, where it was compared to Art Spiegelman's "Maus" and won numerous prestigious comic book awards. Other books by Satrapi include "Embroideries" and "Chicken and Plums," as well as several children's books.

Satrapi now lives in Paris, where her illustrations appear regularly in magazines and newspapers. She also writes an occasional piece for the New York Times.

The public is invited to the free events, which are sponsored by the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, with generous support from the Distinguished Lecture Series/Cultural Affairs Fund, Student Government, Peace Studies Program, Division of Student Affairs, Multicultural Programs and the UMaine English and History departments.

Additional information can be obtained by calling the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program at (207) 581-1228.

Kimberly Johnston Voted President-Elect of the National Association for College Admission Counselors Board of Directors

13 Oct 2006

Contact: Shanda Ivory, sivory@nacac.com
Kristen Bourke, kbourke@nacac.com

Alexandria, VA-- Kimberly Johnston, senior associate director of admission at the University of Maine, was elected president-elect of the Board of Directors of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) at its 62nd National Conference of the last week in Pittsburgh, PA.

NACAC is the largest association of counselors dedicated to the college admission process, with more than 9,200 members worldwide. Johnston will assume the presidency next fall in Austin, TX, at NACAC

Ward Receives Prestigious Statewide Award

17 Oct 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

Note: The following appears in the Maine Development Foundation's newsletter:

The Kenneth M. Curtis Leadership Award
Recognizing Extraordinary Achievements by Leadership Maine Graduates

James(Jake) S. Ward IV, Executive Director of the Office of Research and Economic Development, University of Maine received the eleventh Kenneth M. Curtis Leadership Award at MDF's Annual Meeting on September 8. Only alumni of Leadership Maine are eligible to receive this prestigious award. Named in honor of former Governor Kenneth M. Curtis for his abilities to influence change in the face of conflict, the purpose of the award is to recognize exemplary leadership and in so doing provide inspiration for others to do the same.

Jake is known throughout that state as someone who builds coalitions and can make things happen. His ability to recognize opportunities and bring people together has led to many successful ventures. He is on many boards, including Maine Composites Alliance, MTL, Bangor Area Target Dev. Corp., and EMDC. Whether on the job or as a dedicated volunteer, Jake is making things happen in research and development in Maine. A member of the Zeta Class of Leadership Maine, he lives in Hampden with his wife Susan and sons Jacob, Sam, and Michael.

The following quotes from folks that nominated him say it best:

"Everyone who encounters Jake Ward is impressed by his passion for his work and his limitless energy. His enthusiasm for creating technological infrastructure in Maine and favorable conditions for new businesses to grow is infectious. He is just the kind of forward thinking, hardworking leaders that the Leadership Maine program should be putting forth as an example to its future graduates."

~ Mike Hastings, Director of Research and Sponsored Programs, University of Maine

"It is important to note is that Jake has an impressive ability to make people want to do things, he educates as well as leads. He does this in a way that allows for people to find the capacity to lead themselves -- which is a true skill."

~ Jennifer O'Leary, Marketing Leader, U Maine Cooperative Extension

"Jake builds coalitions to make things happen.~ Anyone who has ever met with Jake has seen him jump up to the whiteboard and draw overlapping circles, representing different entities coming together and identifying common ground to solve a problem or seize an opportunity.~ His ability to recognize opportunities and bring people together has led to many successful ventures, ranging from business-faculty research partnerships to the conversion of a former salmon farm into a world-class aquaculture research and business incubation facility."

~ Renee Kelly, Director of Economic Development Initiatives, Office of Research and Economic Development, University of Maine

"Jake's energy and enthusiasm to support my project and a number like it has been an inspiration when the going has been extremely rough! My company would not be supporting 8 current jobs in Franklin with the prospect of 25 more without his efforts and enthusiasm. I know that many more projects than mine have equally benefited from Jake's time and example."

~ Peter Cowin, Seabait, LLC

Jake provides~"exemplary leadership and in so doing provides inspiration for others to do the same." ~Jake has led the way~on numerous successful projects~willing to~face the many~challenges and hurdles~that have confronted them.~ He has been a true contributor to~moving~Maine forward, not only building a stronger State, but ensuring a brighter future."

~Senator Elizabeth M. Schneider, District 30

"Jake is a highly committed, thoughtful and strategic leader who has guided and supported Maine's R&D efforts in his role at the University of Maine.~ He is often behind the scenes, but his fingerprints are on the outcome with excellent results."~

~ Betsy Beimann, CEO and Director, Maine Technology Institute

"Jake is collaborative and selfless, and shown great leadership developing the University's R&D capacity.~ Licensing revenue and R&D activity have more than tripled during Jake's tenure.~ Because of his efforts Maine has received a ranking of #2 in the country for number of spin-outs from a University."~

~ Janet Yancey-Wrona, Ph.D., former Director, Office of Innovation, DECD

"Jake is exceptional in his commitment and knowledge of all that is going on throughout the state.~ He is respected and admired for his insight, his unselfish dedication to our state and ultimately to a sustainable economy."

~ Chris Rector, State Representative, House District 48

"He has a vision for where the state of Maine should go, and a broad and comprehensive view of the type of investment that will lead to a more prosperous future. Jake is noted for his fairness and honesty, along with his ability to explain complex technology to legislators and others."

~Mary Cathcart, Senior Policy Associate, Margaret Chase Smith Center

Past winners include former Governor Angus S. King, Jr., Kevin P. Gildart, VP, Bath Iron Works, Kent Wommack, former CEO, Nature Conservancy; Joyce Hedlund, President, Eastern Maine Community College; Charles A. Morrison, President, Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce; Dianne Tilton, past Executive Director Sunrise County Economic Council; Mike Roy, City Administrator, City of Waterville; Laurie Lachance, CEO, Maine Development Foundation (formerly state economist); Steve Rowe, State Attorney General, and Ed Cormier, President, Harriman Associates.

Lobster Institute Receives the \$100,000 Riverdale Challenge

17 Oct 2006

Contact: Cathy Billings, The Lobster Institute (207) 581-2751

ORONO -- The Lobster Institute at the University of Maine has received a leadership challenge gift from Riverdale Mills, Inc. of Northbridge, Massachusetts, as part of the institute's C.O.R.E. Campaign. The award challenges the Institute to raise \$100,000, which Riverdale Mills will then match with its contribution of \$100,000. Riverdale Mills is the leading supplier of coated wire used in making lobster traps, among other applications.

"I've been hauling lobster traps since the 1940s, and still hold a lobster license to this day," says James Knott, founder and CEO of Riverdale Mills. "I've been a supporter of the Lobster Institute from day one. Like Riverdale Mills, the Lobster Institute takes an innovative and pro-active approach to doing business. They have always been responsive to the needs of the lobster industry...providing technical assistance for day-to-day operations as well as the scientific research needed to help secure the resource for the future. That's why Riverdale Mills and the Knott family are supporting the Lobster Institute's C.O.R.E. Campaign with this challenge gift."

"To date, the institute has relied on grants and other catch-as-catch-can funding sources," says Bob Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute. "We have started this fundraising campaign to assure the Lobster Institute's future and to create a more solid foundation for our ongoing research activities." Jim is an active member of our campaign advisory committee, and he has truly taken a leadership role in every way. This gift from the Knotts, the Riverdale Challenge, is a great start to the 'pacesetter phase' of our campaign."

The \$4.8 million C.O.R.E. Campaign includes several goals: hiring a full-time director/lobster researcher; employing two additional scientists, in the areas of lobster health and value-added product development; and securing its operations for the future. These dedicated resources will address ongoing research needs and expand the depth and breadth of the Institute's research as well as its industry outreach and educational programs.

"We know that challenge gifts do work as a great tool to leverage additional gifts," Bayer adds. "Because of Riverdale Mills, Jim Knott, other campaign committee members and the Darden Restaurants Foundation, the campaign is off to a good start. We look forward to the momentum that will come from this new challenge."

The mission of the Lobster Institute is to conduct and provide research to protect, conserve, and enhance the vitality of the lobster resource and the lobster fishing, both as an industry and as a way of life. The Institute conducts applied research and develops products and processes to meet the needs and challenges of the lobster industry. Founded by industry members in 1987, the Institute is part of the University of Maine's research and public outreach program and is a collaborative effort between the University of Maine and the worldwide lobster industry.

Anyone interested learning more about the Lobster Institute and in making a contribution to help meet the Riverdale Challenge can contact Cathy Billings, assistant director of the Lobster Institute, at 207-581-2751 or log on to www.lobsterinstitute.org.

UMaine Public Safety Alert

17 Oct 2006

Contact: Christopher Gardner at 207-581-4048; Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

The following is an alert message from the UMaine Dept. of Public Safety

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The University of Maine Department of Public Safety is investigating an alleged assault that occurred on October 14, 2006 at approximately 9:45 p.m.

It is reported that the male suspect grabbed a female student and attempted to further assault her outside of Shibles Hall on the Beddington Road side of the building. The victim was able to flee and did not require medical attention. She reported the incident to UMaine Police on October 16th.

The description of the suspect is as follows:

White Male

5' 11" - 6' 00"

Slim to Medium Build

Short Brown Hair

Slight Facial Hair

22 - 29 years of age

He was last seen wearing a green Carhartt-type jacket and blue jeans.

A police sketch of the suspect is on the Web at <http://www.umaine.edu/news/suspect.htm>.

Anyone who may have information is asked to please contact UMaine Police at 581-4040, or Det. Sergeant Christopher Gardner directly at 581-4048 or cgardner@maine.edu.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers "FAMACHA" Training for Goat and Sheep Producers

17 Oct 2006

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471 (in Maine), rbrz@umext.maine.edu

BRUNSWICK, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension has scheduled a FAMACHA training for 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29 at Crystal Spring Farm, 277 Pleasant Hill Road in Brunswick. FAMACHA is a fairly new method of determining internal parasite pressure on individual sheep and goats by scoring eyelid blood color. Dr. Tom Settlemire, professor emeritus of Bowdoin College, will lead the workshop with UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski.

"Proper training is crucial before practicing this on-farm monitoring of parasite pressure," Brzozowski says. FAMACHA was developed in South Africa to help control *H. contortus* (barber pole worm) in sheep and goats, and is specific to this parasite.

The cost of this hands-on workshop is \$25 per farm; space limits this training to 25 farms. Participants will receive training, printed information, and a FAMACHA color score card. To register for the course, please send a check for \$25 (made payable to UMaine Cooperative Extension) to FAMACHA Training -- UMaine Cooperative Extension, PO Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104-9300. For more information, please call 800-287-1471 or e-mail rbrz@umext.maine.edu.

Maine Children's Trust Grant Expands Program for Young Parents

18 Oct 2006

Contact: Pam LaHaye, Extension Educator, 207-342-5971, plahaye@umext.maine.edu

WALDO, Me.--"Parents Are Teachers Too," (PATT) a home-visiting program for new parents offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Waldo County, recently received a grant from the Maine Children's Trust, the statewide child abuse and neglect prevention organization.

The grant specifically supports staffing of "My Time," an educational support group for teen and young parents which is a collaborative effort of several community agencies and the Waldo County YMCA. Young parents have taken part in designing the group as an answer to the social isolation so many of them experience. The parents will have time for interaction, learning activities, and physical activity while the YMCA provides child care; then they come together with their children for parent-child activity time. The grant also supports a new playgroup being formed in the Unity area. "Parents Are Teachers Too" has received additional grant support from the Maine Community Foundation's Waldo County Fund for the group's activity and transportation expenses.

"'Parents Are Teachers Too' has a long history of providing support and education to first-time parents in Waldo County," says Patrick Walsh, a board member of the Maine Children's Trust and Chair of the Maine Community Foundation's Waldo County Fund Committee. "Investments in these early supports for young children and their parents result in improved health and safety in our communities."

A network of home-visiting programs such as PATT in every Maine county ensures that professional staff are available to visit first-time parents across the state. Walsh pointed out that Waldo County's "My Time" group focuses attention on the distinct needs of very young parents. "This social connection for young parents, who could otherwise become isolated, enriches the lives of the parents and their children," he says.

To learn more about UMaine Cooperative Extension's "Parents Are Teachers Too" program, please call the UMaine

Cooperative Extension Office in Waldo County at 207-342-5971.

UMaine Student to Represent NASA at Space Conference

18 Oct 2006

Contact: David Munson, UMaine University Relations (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine doctoral student Leigh Stearns was recently selected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as one of ten graduate students nationwide to participate in the 2006 International Astronautical Congress in Valencia, Spain in October.

Organized by the International Astronautical Federation, the four-day event brought administrators from NASA and other space exploration organizations together with leading scientists from around the world to discuss space-related research and technology.

Stearns was selected for her groundbreaking techniques using satellite imagery to study the changing dynamics of Greenland's glaciers. She presented her research to congress participants on October 4.

A fourth-year graduate student with research experience in both Antarctica and Greenland, Stearns uses multiple images taken from NASA satellites to create topographic maps of active glaciers. The maps act as fingerprints that allow individual glaciers to be identified. By comparing images of the same glacier over time, its movements can be accurately quantified.

According to Stearns' research, some glaciers in Greenland are moving as much as 300 percent faster than they were just three years ago. The movement and melt rate of Greenland's glaciers has important implications regarding such critical concerns as global warming, sea level rise, and changing ocean currents.

UMaine's New School and Research Center Look to the Future of Maine's Forests

18 Oct 2006

Contact: Charlene Herrick (207) 581-3204; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- After more than a century of promoting responsible forest stewardship and research, UMaine's Department of Forest Ecosystem Science and Department of Forest Management have merged to form the new School of Forest Resources.

The new school creates a single point of contact for the hundreds of government agencies, nonprofit groups, businesses and Maine citizens who rely on UMaine's forest programs for information and support. The School of Forest Resources' Interim Director Stephen Reiling, the former Associate Director of the Maine Agriculture and Forest Experiment Station, sees the formation of the school as an opportunity for UMaine to apply its many diverse resources more efficiently and effectively to address the economic, ecological and social changes that continue to affect the state's vast forestlands.

"Change in Maine's forests is inevitable, and it is important that UMaine's education and research programs adjust to that changing landscape so that we can manage the state's forest resources in an economically sound and ecologically responsible way," said Reiling. "By creating the School of Forest Resources, we have positioned ourselves so that we can maintain our tradition of leadership in forest-related education and research, providing the most up-to-date programs

for our students while conducting research that can respond to the changing needs of the forest industry and the citizens of Maine."

In addition to the formation of the school, an independent research center with close ties to the School of Forest Resources has also been created. The Center for Research on Sustainable Forests will be the new home for UMaine's forestry-related research programs, improving upon a long tradition of forestry and forest ecosystems research at the university.

The virtual center brings together dozens of UMaine researchers toward the common goal of forest health and productivity, and will award \$350,000 in research funding per year for projects that investigate a broad range of forest-related issues.

UMaine Researchers Assess Link Between Homocysteine, Vitamins and Cognitive Ability

18 Oct 2006

Contact: Merrill Elias (207) 581-2097; Michael Robbins (207) 581-2051; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- In an ongoing, 30-year study that explores the connections between cognitive abilities and cardiovascular disease, UMaine psychology professors Merrill Elias, Michael Robbins, and Penelope K. Elias are defining the role of the amino acid homocysteine in cognitive function, discovering important connections between the neurotoxic product of metabolism and a wide range of cognitive abilities.

The latest paper to be produced by the study, published in a recent issue of Psychosomatic Medicine, shows that high homocysteine concentrations in the blood are related to a wide range of cognitive abilities, including working memory, abstract reasoning, visual-spatial organization and others. The study also makes an important connection between homocysteine levels and the concentration of certain vitamins.

"We have an extraordinarily comprehensive battery of cognitive tests, and were astounded to see that high homocysteine concentrations had a negative effect in almost all areas of cognitive ability," said Elias. "Part of the reason that this research is so exciting is that the effects of homocysteine can be reduced with vitamins that Americans can buy right off the shelf."

In this same study, folate and B6 were positively associated with cognitive performance. Ongoing clinical trials in other laboratories have shown that supplementing the three vitamins by appropriate amounts, lowers blood homocysteine levels and thus may result in an improvement in cognitive performance.

"The bottom line is that homocysteine is not good for the brain," said Elias. "But, with the intake of adequate amounts of B6, B12 and folate and the minimization of the risk factors for cardiovascular disease, its impact on cognitive ability may be reduced

UMaine Student Battles Beech Bark Disease

18 Oct 2006

Contact: Matt Kasson (207) 581-2897; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Matt Kasson, a master's degree candidate in UMaine's newly formed School of Forest Resources, is working to assess the future of Maine's beech trees, having made it his mission to understand the disease that is rapidly

turning one of the state's top trees into so much cordwood. Kasson, along with the help of a few dedicated undergrads, has bushwhacked his way to beech stands from more than twenty townships, drilling core sections and gathering bark samples that he hopes will lead to new information that could help explain the deadly blend of afflictions that cause beech bark disease.

"What we're seeing is not just a pathogen, it's a complex," said Kasson as he arranged a set of crimson-colored cultures in an incubator in the lab. "There are a number of factors that can lead to the same result. What we are trying to do is determine what factors contribute to high mortality in these stands so that we can better understand how this disease is affecting the trees and the forest."

Kasson has collected more than 2,200 tree cores -- pencil-sized cylinders of wood that provide a record of tree growth from its days as a sapling to its most recent annual ring -- that he hopes will provide important clues to how the disease kills. By comparing beech cores to cores taken from other tree species unaffected by the disease, Kasson may be able to determine what environmental conditions contribute to both the spread of beech bark disease and the likelihood that it will kill its host.

Pathogens causing beech bark disease were introduced to North America in the 1890's, arriving in Nova Scotia, Canada in a shipment of contaminated beech seedlings from England. From there, the pathogens spread west and south, reaching Maine's coastal region by the 1930's. The primary pathogen is an exotic scale insect, *Cryptococcus fagisuga*, which provides access channels into the host tree's tissues for the second pathogen, an invading fungus.

"The scale weakens the tree, but the fungus kills it," said Kasson. "The roots usually survive, sending up dense thickets of young shoots that have no resistance to the pathogens."

Strangely, while one of fungi known to help cause the disease was introduced from Europe: *Neonectria faginata*, the other, *Neonectria ditissima*, is a native of North America just like the beech.

Kasson is examining the unique relationship between the two fungi to see how their interaction may affect the occurrence and expression of the disease across the landscape. Initial observations suggest that the foreign species may be replacing the native fungus in the disease complex.

Kasson hopes that what he learns through his research can be used to save the surviving beech trees in Maine and across the country.

"The fact that beech bark disease came into Maine first means we are on the front lines," said Kasson. "We need to find out as much as we can now. It's moving into Pennsylvania, Virginia, Michigan and elsewhere, and what we have here may just be a preview of coming attractions."

In addition to being an important tree ecologically in Maine, it is economically important as well, providing high-density wood for use as flooring, furniture, plywood and fuel.

UMaine Grad and War Zone Correspondent at UMaine Oct. 24

19 Oct 2006

Contact: Derek Mitchell, UMaine Student Government, (207) 581-1701; Joe Carr, University Relations, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Janine DiGiovanni, a 1983 University of Maine graduate and senior correspondent for the *Times of London* and *Vanity Fair* will present a lecture at UMaine entitled "Other than Collateral Damage: The Effect of the War on Women and Children," on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Union's Bangor Room.

DiGiovanni has been working in war zones throughout the world for over a decade. Her focus is on human rights abuse

and the effect war has on civilians. She has reported from Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans, Africa, the Middle East and Chechnya since 1991.

She has authored several books, the most recent of which is "MADNESS VISIBLE: A Memoir of War" (Alfred A. Knopf, 2003). Her other books include "AGAINST THE STRANGER: Lives Under Occupation" and "THE QUICK AND THE DEAD: Under Siege in Sarajevo." The latter book has been optioned and will be made into a feature film about a female war correspondent.

DiGiovanni has won many awards, including two Amnesty International Awards, Britain's Foreign Correspondent of the Year, National Magazine Award and UMaine's prestigious Stillwater Society Presidential Award for Achievement, among others.

She is a frequent contributor to Larry King Live, ITN, Sky Channel 4 News, BBC World Service, MSNBC and National Public Radio.

A reception and book signing will follow the lecture, which is presented by the University of Maine Student Government.

Publication Cites UMaine Value

19 Oct 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Barron's Educational Series, Inc. has listed the University of Maine as one of the 247 "Best Buys in College Education" in its new reference book by that name. Barron's ratings are based on written input from colleges and universities and from those institutions' students.

"It is nice to be recognized for quality and value in the context of a national survey," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "UMaine is a growing and thriving academic community, made up of an extraordinary faculty, terrific students and a dedicated, hard-working staff. Important indicators, such as growing enrollment, increased private fundraising and the scholarly achievements that occur at UMaine every day all point to increasing academic quality and a growing ability to serve the needs of Maine's people in a unique and important way."

Earlier this year, UMaine was listed by the Princeton Review as one of the "Best 361 Colleges" in the U.S.

"Barron's and Princeton Review have one important thing in common," says UMaine Dean of Students Robert Dana. "Both are based, at least in part, on surveys of students. Our students are telling UMaine's story, and they are giving a positive report. That is most gratifying, and it indicates that UMaine's focus on students is both appropriate and effective."

Barron's "Best Buys in College Education" is currently in bookstores.

UMaine International Students To Showcase Homeland Tradition at Culturefest 2006

19 Oct 2006

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Travel the globe in a day without leaving campus Oct. 28, as the year's biggest international event in the region pulls together hundreds of University of Maine international students for Culturefest 2006 -- a showcase of talent, style and cuisine from cultures of the world.

From 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the Memorial Gym Field House, students from Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas will leave the blue jeans and sweats at home for the day and turn out in traditional clothing and costumes representative of their homelands for a day of singing, dancing, cooking and exhibits.

Culturefest is free. Adults and children from surrounding communities are invited to learn first-hand about the cultural themes and customs of the homelands of students from many of the 76 countries represented on campus. Members of the UMaine International Student Association will offer an international food court, talent show, fashion show, information tables with maps and flags, and children's activities throughout the day.

"This is the biggest international event on campus," says co-organizer Sarah Joughin of the UMaine Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange. "As we become a more global society, the public is realizing more and more the need to learn about cultural differences," she says. "This is a unique and rare opportunity to travel around the world in a single day."

It also is a chance, adds Manaz Mohideen, an electrical and computer engineering junior from Sri Lanka and president of the International Student Association, to see beyond the headline news coverage of violence and disaster in other parts of the world.

Culturefest, he says, allows people to see "what's unique about different parts of the world, what students bring from different places, their dances, clothing, styles."

Mohideen personally is looking forward to performing in a Sri Lankan musical ensemble, a fusion of Asian drums with guitar and other instruments he and his friends hope to assemble for the talent show. He also is hoping Sri Lanka can outdo the cuisine prepared last year by students from India, who won the food contest.

"This year, we're definitely going to beat them," he says.

Mohideen expects he and his fellow students will prepare a milk rice and curried chicken offering, and promises to tone down the intensity of the spicy curry this year.

Anh Do, a third-year business major from Vietnam, says she looks forward to her third Culturefest because it's a chance to share her culture with others, not just from the campus community, but from the entire region.

"I don't talk about my country that much, unless people ask," she says. "It's a great opportunity to learn about other countries. It's just really neat to have everything represented and you see stuff from all the other countries."

Do expects to help prepare native spring rolls, Vietnamese noodles, sticky rice and a special dessert for the food court.

Typically, more than 1,000 people attend Culturefest, according to Joughin. The students request a nominal contribution for food items from the food court to cover expenses.

For more information about the 18th annual Culturefest, contact the UMaine Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905 or visit www.umaine.edu/international.

UMaine Offers Open Houses for Prospective Central Maine MPA Students

19 Oct 2006

Contact: Cindy D'Angelo, 581-1872; George Manlove, 581-3756

AUGUSTA -- The University of Maine is offering three open houses this month to introduce prospective students to its popular master's in public administration degree program taught each year in Augusta.

The university offers at least two graduate-level public administration courses in Augusta each semester. The spring 2007 courses -- Information Technology & Policy and Public Financial Management -- are both being taught by faculty members from the University of Maine's Orono campus.

"This program is set up for working people in many different professions," says Carolyn Ball, director of graduate programs for the Department of Public Policy and Administration at UMaine.

Many people already working in or planning to enter business, government, non-profit, healthcare, public policy or administration fields will find the program an invaluable step up the career ladder and also toward broadening their understanding of public administration issues and practices.

Both the public administration courses and the MPA program, which the university has offered in the Augusta community since 1968, can help working professionals and recent college graduates add to their post-graduate education or work toward a master's degree in public administration (MPA).

"The advantage of this program is that students can continue working and attend classes without commuting to Orono," Ball says. "Students can earn an MPA degree right in Augusta and still have the advantage of a University of Maine degree."

The MPA course is "Augusta's best-kept secret, even though many alums have important positions in state government and other fields," she adds. "Students can earn a master's degree in as little as two calendar years or take up to six years to complete the degree."

People with degrees from accredited undergraduate colleges or universities may take a class as a non-degree student and credit can be applied toward an MPA degree, should the student decide to apply later. While registration deadlines are flexible, prospective MPA candidates should call the UMaine Department of Public Policy & Administration at 207-581-1872 or email: umpubadm@umit.maine.edu by Dec.1 for application, scheduling or other class information.

The open houses are:

Oct. 26, 3-3:45 p.m., Conference Room 4, MaineGeneral Medical Center, 6 East Chestnut St. in Augusta;

Oct. 27, 9-9:45 a.m., Maine Municipal Association, located behind the Augusta Civic Center on Civic Center Drive;

And Oct. 27, 10-11 a.m., Champlain A Room, Maine Department of Public Safety in the Central Maine Commerce Center at 45 Commerce Drive (off Exit 112B, 1.2 miles north on Route 27).

Those who cannot attend one of the three open houses can get more information by contacting Cindy D'Angelo in the University of Maine Department of Public Policy & Administration at the telephone number or email address listed above.

New Guide Sets Stage for Decision in Maine on Northeast Climate Change; Primer on 7-State Plan to Reduce Greenhouse Gases

20 Oct 2006

Contact: Meilissa Carey (Environmental Defense), (207) 780-4932; Joe Carr (University of Maine) (207) 581-3571

Note: UMaine Prof. Jonathan Rubin will be available on Friday to discuss this publication and its implications.

Portland, ME -- Environmental Defense today released a guide that will set the stage for the upcoming public discussion over how best to implement a plan to reduce greenhouse gases in the Northeast to ten percent below 2009 levels by 2019. "A Primer for Maine: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative," prepared by the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service and the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and funded by Environmental Defense, provides balanced, accessible information for citizens and decision makers.

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI, pronounced "Reggie") is a landmark agreement signed in 2005 by governors in seven northeastern states, including Maine, to reduce greenhouse gases in the region. Over the next several months, Maine's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will hold public meetings to discuss how this initiative will be implemented in Maine.

"With RGGI, the Northeast is leading the country in the search for solutions to global warming," said Melissa Carey, an Environmental Defense policy specialist in Falmouth. "Our state is one of the first to make decisions about how it will work in practice. That's why this work by the University of Maine is so important. This report will help ensure that decision makers in Augusta -- and the public -- have well-informed, balanced, and accurate information." Drafts of the primer were read and commented on by faculty at campuses across Maine, as well as representatives of the Maine utility companies, Maine DEP, and state environmental groups.

Maine DEP discussions will be held in Bangor on November 28, Portland on November 30, Augusta on December 19 and Presque Isle on a date to be announced. All meetings are scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, including locations, check the DEP website, www.maine.gov/dep.

A PDF of the primer is available at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/> and <http://www.umaine.edu/mcsc>, or by calling (207) 581-1648 in Orono or (207) 780-4960 in Portland to request additional copies.

DePoy Wins National Award for Contribution to Disabilities Field

25 Oct 2006

Contact: Elizabeth DePoy, 581-1469; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Elizabeth DePoy, co-coordinator and professor of Interdisciplinary Disability Studies at the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and professor of social work, has been selected to receive the 2006 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) for her contributions to the association and to the field of disabilities.

She is to receive the award at the Nov. 1 annual meeting of the association in Washington, D.C.

Association President Lu Zeph, who is director of the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion, acknowledged in a congratulatory letter that DePoy has been a key leader at the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies and that she has actively engaged many people in the disabilities studies research process and other scholarly activities.

Because of her scholarship, vision, leadership and redesign of the center's disability studies curriculum, DePoy has helped ensure that disability studies remains a vital and growing field of study, and is recognized nationally as a model program, Zeph wrote.

Robert Klose-Lecture & Book Signing

25 Oct 2006

Contact: Amanda Morang at 581-1700

ORONO, Me. -- The University Bookstore, located in the University of Maine's Memorial Union, will host author Robert Klose for a lecture and book signing on Thursday, Nov. 2. The event is set for 5 p.m. in Memorial Union's Totman Lounge.

Klose is associate professor of biological sciences at University College in Bangor. He has written essays for the Christian Science Monitor for 20 years and has won four Maine Press Association awards for opinion writing. His work has appeared in the Boston Globe, Newsweek, Reader's Digest and other magazines and literary journals. From 1998-2005, he wrote political and social commentary for the Times Record in Brunswick. Klose has two adopted sons from Russia and Ukraine, and one of his books, "Adopting Alyosha -- A Single Man Finds a Son in Russia," illustrates the adoption process.

Klose's Nov. 2 lecture will be about his newest book, "Small Worlds: Adopted Sons, Pet Piranhas, and Other Mortal Concerns." Klose will discuss his experiences from living in Maine to the international adoption process of his two sons.

For further information on the lecture and/or book signing, please contact Amanda Morang at 581-1700.

Campus Tours Go High-Tech

26 Oct 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Intelligent Spatial Technologies, Inc., a Maine-based business founded by University of Maine graduate Chris Frank, has announced that UMaine campus tours will soon feature the company's iPointer hand-held device. This innovative technology will allow users to take a robust self-guided tour with abundant information about UMaine buildings and other landmarks.

More information is in an Intelligent Spatial Technologies news release at http://www.i-spatialtech.com/press_releases/.

MPBN Gubernatorial Debate at UMaine Nov. 1

26 Oct 2006

Contact: Lou Morin, MPBN (lmorin@mpbn.org) 1-800-884-1717 Joe Carr, University of Maine (jocarr@maine.edu), 581-3571 ORONO -- Five Maine gubernatorial hopefuls will square off in a broadcast debate, scheduled for 8 p.m. Wednesday Nov. 1 at the University of Maine's Maine Center for the Arts. Maine Public Broadcasting will provide live statewide coverage on television and radio. Gov. John Baldacci and challengers Pat LaMarche, Barbara Merrill, Phillip Morris NaPier and Chandler Woodcock will participate in the 90-minute debate. It will be the final such forum before Maine's Nov. 7 election. MPBN's Fred Bever will host the debate, which will include three panelists: Bangor Daily News reporter A. J. Higgins, UMaine professor Michael Socolow and MPBN's Susan Sharon. The format also allows for audience members and selected UMaine students to pose questions to the candidates. Admission to the event is free, and tickets are not required. Reporters will have access to reserved seating in the last row of the lower section of the hall. A video and audio mult box will be available for those journalists who wish to record the debate.

Education, Economic Development, Politics Form Focus of Canada Week at UMaine

27 Oct 2006

Contact: Betsy Arntzen, 581-4225; George Manlove, 581-4756

ORONO -- Native studies education, Canadian politics and Canadian history are three topics speakers will address as the University of Maine Canadian-American Center presents Canada Week 2006.

The 27th annual Canada Week is designed to highlight Canadian studies at UMaine and showcase research being done by faculty and graduate students, as well as to offer a professional development opportunity to Maine teachers. An educator and Maliseet historian will lead a professional development workshop for Maine school teachers teaching Native studies and teaching Native students. The workshop will aid teachers in implementing LD 291, the recently enacted state law requiring schools to incorporate Native American history and cultural components into their curricula.

The public is invited to the three main events, which are free. Lectures and discussions on Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and Nov. 2 are sponsored primarily by the Canadian-American Center at UMaine and supported by Foreign Affairs Canada. Lunch will be provided for two noontime events. Reservations are requested and may be made by calling Nancy Strayer at the Center at 581-4220.

Canada Week starts with a lecture and discussion by Neil LeBlanc of Nova Scotia, Consul General of Canada at the Canadian Consulate in Boston, who will discuss the current political and economic environment in Canada.

Canadian Studies researchers Stephen Hornsby, professor of geography and Canadian Studies and director of the Canadian-American Center, Micah Pawling, a UMaine history graduate student, and Lise Pelletier, also a UMaine modern language and classics graduate student, are the Alice R. Stewart Graduate Lecture speakers, scheduled Nov. 1, from 12-1:30 p.m., in the Coe Room of the Memorial Union.

Hornsby will speak on "Canada in the *Historical Atlas of Maine*. The title of Pawling's talk is "The 1820 Joseph Treat Survey on the Saint John River: Maps, Maliseet Homeland and Petitions in the Disputed Territory." Pelletier will speak on the languages of Acadian novels.

Andrea Bear Nicholas, Maliseet historian and chair of Native studies at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, N.B., will address K-12 teachers about her perspectives on what teachers need to know to teach Native studies and Native students. The title of her discussion, scheduled Nov. 2 from 3-6 p.m. in the Bodwell Lounge of the MCA and Hudson Museum, is "Addressing Pitfalls, Fallacies and Roadblocks in the Education of and about First Nations."

On Oct. 31, from 12-2 p.m. in the Alford Family Lounge at the Harold Alford Arena, LeBlanc is expected to draw from his 14 years in politics and business experience as owner of a fish and lobster wholesale company in his home province of Nova Scotia, as he discusses Canada's current political and economic environments.

Eco-Peace, Permaculture Conference Nov. 10 in Belfast

27 Oct 2006

Contact: Hugh Curran, 581-2609; George Manlove, 581-3756

BELFAST -- The international eco-peace community ESTIA, a non-profit organization that includes Peace Studies Program faculty members at the University of Maine in Orono, will present its third annual conference, "Building Today's Eco-Peace Village," Nov. 10 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

The conference, from 12-5 p.m., is supported by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center and the UMaine Peace Studies Program.

The annual eco-peace conference should be of interest to anyone concerned with sustainability issues and eco-villages, according to Hugh Curran, vice president of ESTIA (Eco-peace, Sustainability, Training, International Affiliations) and a peace studies faculty member. Registration fees are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Reservations can be made by calling the Hutchinson Center at 1-800 --753-9044 by Nov. 3.

The conference will open at noon with a blessing by Penobscot Elder Arnie Neptune and his wife Jane.

Speakers for the afternoon conference include permaculturists Julia and Charles Yelton, former residents of Crystal Waters, a permaculture eco-village in Queensland, Australia, and designers of the Humustacia Permaculture Gardens in Whitefield, Maine, who will discuss sustainability, from 12:15-1 p.m. Permaculture is a design system for creating sustainable human environments. It offers solutions to the problems facing the world using ecology as the basis of designing integrated systems of food production, housing, technology and community development.

Emily Markides, president of ESTIA and a peace studies faculty member, will discuss the question "Why eco-peace villages?" from 1-1:45 p.m.

Panel discussions from 2-3 p.m. follow the talks. Panel topics and group leaders include:

"Taking Back the Commons" with Joline Blais, a UMaine New Media Department faculty member, who will explore the historical developments that have taken away individuals' ability to sustain themselves;

"Transformative Peace Education" with Phyllis Brazee, director of the Peace Studies Program, discussing the transformation of conflict into creativity through a new paradigm of holistic, interdisciplinary and experiential education;

"Spirituality and the Arts" with Hugh Curran and Nancy Earle, an artist and Franciscan nun, who will make the case for eco-villages' need for art and creativity; Curran will co-host the panel with Earle and will lead a discussion on the importance of creating a spiritual and ethical perspective in the development of eco-peace communities.

"Soil Health, Stabilizing and Localizing Our Food Supply," with Mark Fulford, farmer and agricultural educator and consultant from Monroe, Maine, who will discuss why people need to look beyond labels and paradigms to secure a safe and stable food supply;

"Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)" with Richard Graves, chair of LEED, and architect Ayola Greene, who will focus on green building design and high performance buildings, and the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system;

"Appropriate Technologies and Retrofitting," with Richard Komp, president of the Maine Solar Energy Foundation, and engineer Claudia Lowd, who will consider practical ways to make a home or business more "green" and environmentally friendly through the incorporation of conservation and renewable energy sources such as solar, air and water heaters;

And "Medicinal Herbs and Community Health" with herbalist Deb Soule, founder of Avena Botanicals in Rockport.

Further details are available by calling the Peace Studies Program at 581-2609.

School of Performing Arts Presenting Postmodern Comedy "Wintertime

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Tom Mikotowicz, 581-1965; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Performing Arts Theater Division's upcoming student production of "Wintertime," by Charles Mee, is described as an uproariously funny postmodern comedy ranging in style from slapstick to philosophical.

Performances, in Hauck Auditorium, are Nov. 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 5 and Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. General admission is \$8, but free for students with a MaineCard.

"Wintertime" is, by Mee's own description, "a sweet, dreamy, romantic comedy from the world of 'The Winter's Tale' and 'The Cherry Orchard,' and Moli

UMaine Researcher Gets Top Honors in Vienna

31 Oct 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine doctoral student Christy Finlayson recently placed first in the 4th European Conference on Biological Invasions poster competition in Vienna, Austria with her poster "Considering Biocontrol and Biological Invasions: An Experimental Unit for Primary and Secondary School Classrooms."

Selected from more than 200 other posters, Finlayson's entry was the only one that focused on education with regard to biological invasions. The poster, created by Finlayson and primary and secondary school teachers Charlotte Carrier, Storie Brown, and Arthur Libby, was based on her work with fourth, fifth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders as a National Science Foundation GK-12 Fellow. The GK-12 program connects graduate students with primary and secondary school students and their teachers.

"My research is focused mainly on lady beetles and the effects of non-native species on native populations in agricultural and natural systems," said Finlayson, who is pursuing her doctorate in biological sciences at UMaine. "But I think that the educational component of my work is just as important. The fellowship really helped me to learn how to speak to people outside of the scientific community about the impact of invasives and what can be done about them."

Finlayson's poster outlined her collaboration with teachers in the Brewer, Bucksport, and Hampden school systems, where she used hands-on activities to teach about biocontrol techniques and bioinvasions using lady beetles. The students raised potato plants infested with aphids, an insect that feeds on potato plants and can spread disease, and tested lady beetles against other methods for controlling the tiny pests. Lady beetles, in general, are very good predators of aphids, but can, themselves, become invasive species.

The conference and poster contest were sponsored by NEOBIOTA, the European working group on biological invasions.

Genome Sequence of Frog-killing Fungus Released

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Joyce Longcore (207) 581-4396; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Researchers around the world now have a valuable new tool for studying the deadly *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* fungus, thanks to the efforts of scientists at the Broad Institute, Timothy James of Duke

University and UMaine researcher Joyce Longcore.

The fungus' genome sequence was recently released to the public. Consisting of more than 20 million base pairs, the sequence offers scientists new insights into the genetic nature of the fungal pathogen.

One of only a handful of researchers with expertise in identifying and culturing the unusual group of fungi collectively known as chytrids, Longcore provided the diploid strain of *B. dendrobatidis* that was recently sequenced by the Broad Institute's Fungal Genome Initiative team. James extracted the DNA from Longcore's cultures.

Implicated in amphibian declines around the world, *B. dendrobatidis* is the first chytrid to be sequenced. Longcore was the first to isolate a pure culture of the pathogen nearly a decade ago. Her current research is focused on the relationships between chytrid species, and her lab on the UMaine campus continues to serve as the world's leading repository for numerous strains of chytrid fungi.

Guppies Offer Insights into Interface of Evolution and Ecology

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Michael Kinnison (207) 581-2575; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine researcher Michael Kinnison will be bringing his considerable expertise in population and evolutionary biology to a five-year, \$5 million project aimed at defining the real-time relationships between evolution and ecology in the wild streams of Trinidad's jungle.

One of just three projects funded by the National Science Foundation's Frontiers in Integrative Biological Research program this season, this project brings together a multidisciplinary team of researchers from across North America under the leadership of UC Riverside's David Reznick. Playing a key role in the overall project, Kinnison and his team will utilize UMaine's portion of the grant, approximately \$500,000, to study month-to-month trait evolution in populations of a small stream fish, the Trinidadian guppy, using DNA and pedigree assignment approaches. Dr. Kinnison's lab is known for research into evolution that occurs in our own lifetimes, particularly in fishes in Maine and around the world.

Experts in evolutionary biology, molecular biology, population ecology, community ecology, biogeochemistry, ecosystem science and applied math will work together on the project as they attempt to determine how ecology and evolution interact. By examining both how populations of Trinidadian guppies adapt to new environments and how other populations of fish and other organisms react to those adaptations, the team hopes to provide insights into how the evolution of a population can influence other processes in the stream environment, ranging from the co-evolution of other fish populations to nutrient cycling.

"In the past, evolution was perceived as being vanishingly slow, taking thousands to millions of years, whereas the ecological processes that regulate populations and communities were considered to occur over much shorter time scales" said Kinnison. "But when we focus on how populations evolve using modern statistical tools we see that evolution is often observable in just one or a few generations. This project attempts to explain not only how ecological factors can cause a population to evolve, but also how those changes in a population can reciprocally affect the other organisms in the environment and ecological processes."

The interface between ecology and contemporary evolution is a rapidly area expanding for researchers, one that Kinnison hopes will provide a new level of synthesis and understanding of natural systems.

"One of the most exciting parts of this project is that it allows us to work on something that is much larger than most labs would be able to tackle on their own. Our hope is that we will be able to better understand how evolution and ecology interact in nature, adding another level of predictability to how natural systems behave," said Kinnison. "It

could add an important new tool to the tool box of ecologists and conservation biologists."

Contingent from Mexican University Sees Life at UMaine

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Jose Cordero, 581-1428; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Twelve students and four advisors from La Universidad de las Americas - Puebla (UDLA), a prominent Mexican university, are visiting the University of Maine this week through Nov. 7.

The visit is the fourth time UMaine has hosted a group from the university as part of an ongoing cultural exchange program. As a result of relationships established through the visits, one student from UDLA has enrolled at UMaine. Gerardo Blanco, the resident director in York Hall, is now pursuing his master's in Higher Education Leadership here.

The visiting students will have a six-day schedule of events, ranging from experiencing life at UMaine to sightseeing in Bar Harbor. MaineBound outdoor adventure center also is opening its indoor climbing wall to the students.

The highlight for the week is the Latino Heritage Celebration, at 6 p.m. on Nov. 3, at Stodder Commons. Scheduled in collaboration with the Office of Multicultural Programs, The Division of Student Affairs and the Latin American Student Organization, the celebration will showcase students and community members from Latin America, ethnic food and dance. Information about the Latino Heritage Celebration, a public event, is available on the Office of Multicultural Programs website (www.umaine.edu/multicultural).

Southern Methodist University sociology professor and author Tony Cortese will be the guest speaker for the evening. Cortese's major areas of research and teaching are social problems, ethnic and race relations, social policy, social ethics, media and gender, and sociological theory. He has written three books and more than 30 scholarly articles and book chapters in those areas.

UMaine Dean of Students Robert Dana also will host a dinner during the week for the Mexican students, which will include a discussion about UMaine's student-centered philosophy.

As part of the exchange, UMaine students visiting Mexico in the spring will tour UDLA's campus, museums, archeological sites, and will experience university life in Mexico. The visit is offered as a spring travel course at UMaine.

Meredith McIntire, a master's candidate in higher education, who visited Mexico last year as part of the exchange, says the visit is an excellent way to see and experience college life and life off campus in Mexico.

"It's unlike anything you will experience in Maine," she says of the visit. "It's a very unique experience in the context of seeing the university, as well as to see the similarities and the differences."

A program that has not received widespread exposure, the exchange visits are drawing increased interest among UMaine students, McIntire says. Already students are asking about it, she says.

"UMaine Associate Dean of Students Angel Loredo has made it possible for these exchange programs to continue to be so successful," says Jose Cordero, interim director of Multicultural Programs and advisor to the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) at UMaine. "His continued relationship with UDLA and the students here at UMaine is critical to the program's success."

A full schedule of the week's events with the visitors from Mexico can be provided upon request. Please call 581-1425 for more information.

Philosophy Colloquium Series 2006 Fall Speakers Announced

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Philosophy Colloquium's fall speaker series is offering four lectures on the Orono campus during the month of November. Topics include an Aristotelian approach to terrorism, genocide in Bosnia and lessons about every-day-life from ancient Greece.

The schedule is as follows:

Nov. 1, at 5 p.m., Totman Room, Memorial Union

"Responding to Terror: An Aristotelian Approach," with Anna Lannstrom, assistant professor of philosophy at Stonehill College, and author of *Living the Fine: Goodness and Happiness in Aristotle's Ethics*; sponsored by Phi Sigma Tau and Student Government;

Nov. 2, at 4 p.m., Levinson Room, The Maples

"Myth and Education in *Republic 3*: Tradition and Subversion in the Purified City," with Patricia Fagan, assistant professor in the Department of Classics, Literature and Cultures, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, co-editor of *Socrates in the Apology* and finalist for Best Ontario Lecturer, 2006;

Nov. 9, at 4 p.m., Levinson Room, The Maples

"The Ethical Implications of Heidegger's Thought," with David Pettigrew, professor of philosophy, Southern Connecticut State University, and editor of *Heidegger and Practical Philosophy*; he also will speak on "The Task of Justice: Witnessing Genocide in Bosnia" on Nov. 9 at 12:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union;

Nov. 30, at 4 p.m., Levinson Room, The Maples

"The Element of Everyday Life: Three Lessons from Ancient Greece," with John Russon, associate professor of philosophy, University of Guelph, Ontario, author of two books on Hegel's philosophy and of *Human Experience: Philosophy, Neurosis and the Elements of Everyday Life*, which won 2005 Canadian Philosophical Association Award for Best New Book in Philosophy;

The 2006-2007 Philosophy Colloquium Series is funded in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee.

For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, Philosophy Colloquium coordinator, at douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu or at 581-3860.

UMaine Offers Online Workshop on Targeting the Boomer Consumer

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3444; George Manlove, 581-4756

ORONO -- When it comes to marketing to the Baby Boomer generation, a lot has changed in methods and sales

strategies for this fiercely independent population still in the throes of self-discovery, adventure and personal improvement as its members advance in age.

The University of Maine Center on Aging is offering a free, on-line marketing workshop Nov. 1-2 to address some of the issues and strategies useful in catching the attention and meeting the needs of one of the wealthiest generations in the country.

The workshop, from 9:30 a.m. to about 4 p.m. each day, is designed for business owners, managers, marketing personnel and providers in the field of aging services who seek the knowledge and skills for effective marketing to America's 78 million "boomers." Regardless of specialty -- professional services, healthcare, real estate, travel or consumer products, to name a few -- becoming familiar with some of the market research on baby boomers is likely to help merchants and marketers.

The on-line lecture is based on PowerPoint presentation, to be augmented by a live chat session and e-mail communication with instructor Susan Kaye, a principal at Packard Judd Kaye Strategic Marketing Group in Bangor and an instructor in the University of Maine Business School.

"This is a little bit different from most Center on Aging offerings," Kaye says. "It's a departure in that we're talking about boomers as consumers. This looks at promoting a product, service or contract to this cohort. It's actually quite fun. It will be an exciting workshop."

Typically, Center on Aging services involve assisting aging adults, and the professionals and family members who serve them, with information about policies, programs, services and education.

"This workshop focuses on the challenges of serving the more than 78 million Americans rapidly approaching their 65th birthdays, and it utilizes technologies that will enable this important issue be discussed by interested individuals virtually anywhere in the world as long as they have access to the Internet," says Center on Aging Director Lenard Kaye.

Susan Kaye will be online between~10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days, as frequently as possible,~for email and website delivery of the e-learning program.~Discussions continue via emails at any times convenient to participants.

"It spans two days, but it's not a constant commitment for participants," Susan Kaye says. "You can do it while you're at work. You can do it while your baby is sleeping beside you, for free."

So far, at least 60 students have signed up for the workshop. They will be "attending" from offices, homes and businesses throughout New England, across the country and in Canada and even Germany.

The workshop, Susan Kaye says, is a case of the university taking advantage of technology to offer its services and expertise to participants everywhere.

"It's the university reaching out to not just the local community, but to communities. It defies geographical boundaries," she says. "Almost everyone who has signed up is a working person. People might be engaged for an hour or two each day."

The world's baby boom generation, those in their 40's, 50s and 60s, are perpetual non-conformists shattering the mold that suited earlier generations. Marketing wisdom applied to yesterday's mid-life and older consumers no longer succeeds, according to Susan Kaye, who has more than 20 years' experience in the field.

Understanding and applying current information and proven strategies covered in the e-workshop not only improves return on marketing investment, it also allows the business community to meet the unique needs and wants of the baby boomers. It is possible to do well and to do good, Susan Kaye says.

People interested in learning more about the workshop or registering can find additional details and instructions for self-registration at the Center on Aging website (www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging).

"This workshop serves as an important reminder that attention to the challenges of aging extend beyond just studying the problems, diseases and frailty of old age," Lenard Kaye adds. "Unprecedented numbers of older adults will be active, healthy, and engaged members in their communities, and we had better be prepared to respond to their expectations."

The Center on Aging can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-3444.

New Journal Volume Promotes School-Based Mental Health Services

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Doug Nangle, (207) 581-2045; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO (Maine) -- Undetected and untreated mental health issues among the nation's school children is causing millions of students to under perform academically and personally, and is considered by the U.S. Surgeon General to be a major public health concern.

Some of those problems contribute to rising occurrences of bullying, substance abuse, suspensions and even student suicides, according to studies reprinted in a new volume of assembled research by some of the nation's top psychology and psychiatry researchers.

The volume, a 408-page special edition of the journal "Education and Treatment of Children," co-edited by Douglas Nangle, a University of Maine psychology professor and director of clinical training in the Psychology Department, suggests broader school-based strategies for early recognition of and addressing mental health issues among students.

Published by West Virginia University Press, the special volume is a collection of 11 scholarly reviews and empirical articles describing successful school-based programs for various mental health concerns and disorders, and addressing ways to advance mental health screening in the nation's schools. It includes both policy and practical approaches to the subject.

The volume supports evolving new attitudes about school mental health programs already endorsed by the Surgeon General, the National Institutes of Mental Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement on School-Based Mental Health Services, among other agencies or organizations.

In 1999, the Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health concluded that six million to nine million youngsters had emotional problems but were not getting help.

The situation "has caused us to challenge the typical, traditional treatment delivery models," Nangle says. "We are not reaching enough children."

Research assembled in the volume reports that 21 percent of children and adolescents between the ages of 9 and 17 have diagnosable psychiatric disorders. Additional youngsters have social and emotional difficulties that don't meet the criteria necessary to be classified as a disorder, but still causes distress and impaired functioning, according to the volume's introduction, written by Nangle and co-authors Carrie Masia-Warner of the New York University School of Medicine's NYU Child Study Center and David Hansen of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The volume's introduction reports that of the 16 percent of youths who are treated for a mental health issue or disorder -- such as ADHD (Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder), PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), depression, anxiety or emotional disorders -- 75 percent had received that treatment at school.

The cited researchers make the case that schools are logical places to identify, treat or counsel students experiencing

mental health issues, and that they do not carry the stigma often associated with traditional mental health facilities.

"Schools provide unparalleled contact with youth and therefore represent a single location through which the majority can be reached," the introduction says. "Such ease of accessibility creates the optimal environment to launch prevention, early identification, and intervention efforts that may prevent the development of serious secondary dysfunction, such as suicidal behavior or substance abuse."

The volume discusses some of the childhood disorders that can result in disruptive or harmful behavior, which can lead to underachievement or more serious dysfunctional behavior if undetected, and it highlights examples where school-based mental health services have been successful.

It also explores the adequacies and inadequacies of public school settings and staffing to address children's mental health issues. Research in the special volume assesses some of the barriers to providing more comprehensive mental health services in schools, including attitudes about staff training and competency, costs, parental and peer involvement, confidentiality and privacy issues, plus questions about the appropriateness of schools adding mental health services to the list of things they do.

Nangle expects the volume to serve as a resource for school administrators, policymakers, teachers, mental health professionals and researchers working in schools and other settings, in addition to school board members and parents. Beneficiaries of implementing the recommendations in the special issue would be children and families, and society as a whole, Nangle says.

Most school personnel are interested in mental health, Nangle says, but decisions about providing better services often come down to shifting resources, he says.

UMaine Student Studies Toxins in Maine's Rivers

31 Oct 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

The quiet backwaters of Pleasant River and Bog brook in Washington County are a popular destination for many, offering paddlers and hikers alike scenic views of scented woods and rolling pastures. UMaine doctoral student Lucner Charlestra has spent untold hours on the small rivers of coastal Maine, but he doesn't go there for the scenery.

He's looking for the rivers' dark side.

Charlestra is working with UMaine professor Howard Patterson to determine the concentrations of harmful pesticides in Maine's salmon rivers. Charlestra first came to Maine from Haiti in 2003, using his Fulbright Fellowship to pursue his master's degree in environmental science and ecology. After completing a successful pilot project that pioneered the use of the Polar Organic Chemicals Integrative Sampler in measuring the concentration of dioxin, Charlestra returned to UMaine to pursue his doctorate and continue his research, a decision that led to some considerable political wrangling.

New federal requirements for international students led to a nearly impenetrable tangle of bureaucratic red tape, but, with letters of support from UMaine and Senator Susan Collins, Charlestra's return to Maine was finally approved and the second phase of his research began.

"We were the first to use the POCIS device for these pesticides. Now that we have proved that it works, we need to develop techniques that increase the accuracy of the measurements and we need to gather more data," said Charlestra. "I will be determining sampling parameters in the lab through the spring, and then we will go back out in the field next summer."

Pesticides used on blueberry fields, farms and in residential applications often find their way into Maine's rivers and streams, but in most areas their concentrations are largely unknown. Under a federal mandate to protect populations of endangered Atlantic salmon in Maine's rivers, policy makers are looking for ways to better understand the relationship between the use of pesticides and the health of the rivers' fish populations.

According to Charlestra, the POCIS device has a distinct advantage over traditional water sampling techniques in measuring the concentration of pesticides and other compounds. Rather than measuring concentrations at a single moment in time, Charlestra is able to look at changes in concentrations over longer periods by suspending the specialized sampler in the water column for several days or weeks. With support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Atlantic Salmon Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Geological Survey, Charlestra hopes his research will provide new information for scientists and policy makers.

"In order to protect Maine's salmon populations, we need to better understand the extent to which they are exposed to contaminants," said Charlestra. "The information from my research can be used to inform the people who make policy concerning salmon."

Maine Channel Celebrates 'First Birthday'

31 Oct 2006

Contact: Maine Channel Promotion Department, (207) 581-1559

Birthday Bash -- featuring 'The Bay State' -- on Nov. 2

ORONO, Maine -- Imagine getting \$50,000 for your first birthday.

The Maine Channel, the University of Maine's closed-circuit campus television station, was granted an annual operating budget of \$50,000, effective this semester. This funding was the first time an annual budget had been allocated to the organization since its conception in 1999.

What began as a small operation with a volunteer staff and donated sub-standard equipment begins a new era of television production and campus communication with the newly allocated funding.

The Maine Channel will celebrate new opportunities and a new future with a "First Birthday Bash," Nov. 2 at the Bear's Den in the Memorial Union. Kicking off at 7 p.m., the party will feature Orono-based band The Bay State, and Boston-based Fly Upright Kite. Refreshments, including pizza provided by Pat's Pizza of Orono, will be available.

To demonstrate the station's new capabilities, the event will be broadcast live over the Maine Channel (Channel 42 in UMaine residence halls), and a new game-show concept will be demonstrated.

For information about The Maine Channel, call 581-1559.

Army, Navy ROTC Cadets to Honor Our Military's Service Members for Veterans Day

02 Nov 2006

Contact: Capt. James C. Moreno, Enrollment Officer, University of Maine Army ROTC Room 114, Armory, Orono, Maine 04469, 207-581-1125

ORONO -- Cadets from the Army and Navy ROTC programs at the University of Maine will participate in the annual Veterans Day Vigil on Friday, Nov. 10.

The solemn event will occur from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the steps of the Fogler Library in front of the University Mall. A joint color guard will stand at attention in dress uniforms in honor of the service members of all America's wars.

Through a meticulous changing of the guard ceremony similar to the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington, Va., cadets will relieve the former guards and stand their post in honor.

Veteran's Day, the Nov. 11, is being observed a day earlier due to it falling on Saturday this year.

Congress enacted Veterans Day into law on May 24, 1954. Prior to this law, Nov. 11 was celebrated as Armistice Day. That was the day in 1918 when the Germans signed the armistice to cease all hostilities and end the First World War.

UMaine Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert Nov. 7

02 Nov 2006

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256; George Manlove, 581-4756

ORONO -- The new University of Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will debut its first formal concert with a program of great jazz standards on Nov. 7 in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall on the Orono campus.

The program, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will include original tunes from Horace Silver ("Sister Sadie"), Herbie Hancock ("Maiden Voyage"), Sonny Rollins ("Sonnymoon for Two"), and Charlie Parker ("Now's the Time"), as well as works by Eddie Harris, McCoy Tyner, Jimmy Heath, Stanley Turrentine, Fats Waller, Red Garland, Kenny Barron, and Antonio Carlos Jobim.

Tickets are \$6; students with a MaineCard are admitted free. For more information, please call the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or visit the School of Performing Arts website (www.umaine.edu/spa).

Considered the keystone of UMaine's minor in jazz studies, which began officially this fall, the new Chamber Jazz Ensemble is a group of several soloists or small ensembles with piano accompaniment. The UMaine School of Performing Arts' new jazz studies minor is designed for undergraduate and graduate students, music majors and non-music majors. The curriculum consists of classes in jazz improvisation, chamber jazz arranging and piano, jazz history, and also participation in the Chamber Jazz Ensemble, and, optionally, in the Jazz Ensemble.

This semester's group includes students from three states and a Canadian province. Musicians include Ashley Drew, flute, Rebecca Bosworth-Clemens, clarinet, Gary Craig, alto saxophone, Zachary Duren, trombone, Charity Harmon, flute, Scott Horey, vibraphone, Anna-Marlies Hunter, clarinet, Steve Kane, alto saxophone, Zachary Keenan, trumpet, Chris Malm, trumpet, Michael Nokes, trumpet, and Danielle Sullivan, alto saxophone.

Piloted in the fall of 2005, the Chamber Jazz Ensemble was developed by music Professor Karel Lidral, director and pianist for the group. The ensemble is an extension of a project Lidral and his wife Terry have pursued since 1988 through their involvement in the The Lidral Duo, which features Karel Lidral on soprano saxophone and Terry Lidral on piano, with their son Arthur occasionally sitting in on drums to form a trio. It also has included other instrumentalists, increasing its size at times to a quartet or quintet, and performs frequent afternoon sessions in the Memorial Union.

Since great jazz musicians have emerged on instruments not always associated with the jazz big band, Lidral wanted the Chamber Jazz Ensemble to offer a new forum at UMaine in which all pitched instrument players are welcome.

"This is invaluable for those music majors who would otherwise likely have no direct experience with jazz, as well as for the non-music major who may not be able to participate in the UMaine jazz ensemble," Lidral says. "For those able to participate in both, it allows for much greater exposure to the art of jazz in general and improvisation in particular."

Audiences may notice that the piano in the ensemble replaces the standard jazz rhythm section -- usually piano, bass, and drums -- in the same spirit that orchestral reductions for the piano are used by recitalists in the "classical" realm, Lidral explains.

Everyone in the group learns the lead line and chord progressions of the standard jazz repertory, and students purchase their own music as a real "lifetime investment" in their musical futures for lifelong learning, he says.

An accomplished performer, teacher, conductor, adjudicator and clinician, Lidral has shared the concert stage professionally with many jazz greats and played as a member of the Jack McDuff Quintet in New York for two years. He also has played with the bands of Vicki Carr, Kate Smith, The Temptations, The Fifth Dimension, Manhattan Transfer, Wayne Newton and Englebert Humperdinck, and with comedians Sammy Kaye, Red Skelton, Milton Berle, and Henny Youngman and others. Lidral joined the UMaine music faculty in 1993.

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble also will perform from 1-2 p.m., Dec. 6 in the Bear's Den at the Memorial Union.

UMaine Cooperative Extension to Host Annual Maine Beef Conference Dec. 2

03 Nov 2006

Contact: Dee Potter, Livestock Specialist, 1-800-287-1421 (in Maine) or (207)834-3905

WATERVILLE -- Maine

Conference Aims to Expand Success of Women in Agriculture

03 Nov 2006

Contact: Vivianne Holmes, 207-353-5550, vholmes@umext.maine.edu

BANGOR, Me. -- On Dec. 8, 9 and 10, the Bangor Ramada Inn will be the site of Women Connecting 2006: Field, Forest and Self,

Speaker to Address Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Research, Intervention

03 Nov 2006

Contact: Marie Hayes, 973-4963
George Manlove, 581-3756

BANGOR -- A Seattle-based child psychologist and specialist in research and intervention in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) -- a condition that is common in Maine -- will be in Orono and in Bangor on Nov. 9 to speak on the topic.

Heather Carmichael Olson, Ph.D., a research professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington School of Medicine and psychologist and clinical supervisor at that university's Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic Clinic in the Washington State Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic and Prevention Network, will

deliver two public lectures.

Her appearance is part of a joint effort supported by the University of Maine's Psychology Department, the College of Education and Eastern Maine Medical Center. Both lectures are free and open to members of the public with an interest in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, according to Marie Hayes, UMaine professor of psychology and researcher at the Institute of Human Genetics and Health at Eastern Maine Healthcare in Brewer.

At the University of Maine, she will speak Thursday at 3:15 p.m. in Room 107 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building. The title of her talk is "Long Term Developmental Impairment in Cognitive and Adaptive Functioning in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders."

At Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, she will speak Thursday, from 9-10 a.m., in Mason Auditorium, on the second floor of the hospital. The lecture is offered as part of EMMC's Pediatric Grand Rounds. Her talk is titled "Meeting the Challenge of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: Highlights of New Research."

The lectures will be of interest to pediatricians, in addition to professors, researchers or students in the fields of psychology, developmental neuroscience, human development, early intervention, special education, behavioral toxicology, social work and education.

Hayes says that her research has shown that in some prenatal populations in the northeastern Maine area, as many as 25 percent of women have a history of alcohol abuse, which creates an increased risk for FASD in their newborns.

Olson is an acknowledged authority on the disorder from research and clinical perspectives, and she has had leadership positions in the societies associated with this disorder and has collaborated with other national leaders in this area. The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Diagnostic and Prevention Network in Seattle has provided longitudinal information on large cohorts of affected children and their families.

University of Maine November 2006 Special Events Calendar

03 Nov 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

The following is a list of special events offered through or at the University of Maine in Orono and scheduled for this month. Athletic events are not included, but can be accessed on the UMaine [Athletics Department website](http://goblackbears.cstv.com/) (<http://goblackbears.cstv.com/>).

Nov. 3

Latino Heritage Celebration 2006!, 7 p.m.-11 p.m., Stodder Hall and Commons, a cultural celebration dedicated to Latin America

"Wintertime," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 4

"Decadancetheatre vs. The Firebird," 8 p.m., MCA; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (admission)

Nov. 5

"Wintertime," 2 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz, part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

"An Afternoon of Two Pianos and Percussion: Jonathan Biss and Benjamin Hochman," 3 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (admission)

Nov. 6

Basics of Using a GPS Receiver, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Fogler Library; computer mapping workshop (admission & advance registration)

Nov. 7

"Around the Kitchen Table: The Women's Movement and the ERA in Maine, 1970-82," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, with Stephanie Phillbrick, Maine Historical Society Library and freelance producer/researcher; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Financial Aid Workshop, 6:30-8 p.m., University Credit Union, Rangeley Road; offered by University Credit Union (advance registration)

Chamber Jazz Performance, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season; (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Breast Cancer Research: New Insights into the Etiology of the Disease, 7:30 p.m., McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House, with Joan Brugge, professor and chair of the Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, and UMaine's 2006 Staples Lecturer in Biochemistry

Nov. 8

Financial Aid Workshop, 6:30-8 p.m., UCU Bangor, 977 Union Street; offered by University Credit Union

Nov. 9

"The Task of Justice: Witnessing Genocide in Bosnia," 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with David Pettigrew, professor of philosophy, Southern Connecticut State University; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Ethical Implications of Heidegger's Thought, 4 p.m., The Maples, with David Pettigrew, professor of philosophy, Southern Connecticut State University; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

"Wintertime," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/students free with MaineCard)

What is a Planet? And Why Not Pluto!?, 7-8 p.m., Room 100, D.P. Corbett Business Building, with visiting astronomer Darren Williams of Penn State Erie-The Behrend College

Nov. 10

"The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial," 8 p.m., MCA, an LA Theatre Works production starring Eric Stoltz and David Selby; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season

Signs of Water on Distant Earth-like Planets, 3:10-4 p.m., Room 140, Bennett Hall, with Darren Williams of Penn State - Erie, the Behrend College; a physics colloquium

"Wintertime," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz, part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/students free with MaineCard)

The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial, 8 p.m., MCA, an LA Theatre Works production starring Eric Stoltz and David Selby; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (admission)

Nov. 11

"Wintertime," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium, a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz, part of the School of

Performing Arts season (admission/students free with MaineCard)

Rock for Diversity, 8-10 p.m., a benefit concert for ALANA student organizations

Nov. 12

University Singers in Concert, 2 p.m., Minsky recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall;
part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

"Wintertime," 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; a play by Charles Mee, directed by Tom Mikotowicz; part of the School of Performing Arts season, (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 14

Performance by the Percussion Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 15

"Reflections on a Career as Church Musician, Concert Organist, and Teacher in One of Europe's Great Organ Cities," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Gemma Coebergh, president of the Andriessen/deKlerk Foundation, Haarlem, Netherlands; part of the Women in the Curriculum

Nov. 16

PEAC Fall Social, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bodwell Lounge, MCA

"A NAFTA Dividend: Fair Trade, Immigration and Ending Poverty in North America," 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Michael Howard, part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Guster in concert, 7 p.m., MCA, presented by Student Government (admission)

Performance by the Oratorio Society, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 17

Go Blue Friday, campus wide

Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., sales by craftspersons throughout the Union

Nov. 18

Maine Women's Studies Conference: "Globalization, Immigration and Borderlands," 8 a.m., DP Corbett Business Building

Nov. 19

Bangor Symphony Orchestra in Concert, 3 p.m., MCA, with Andrew Pelletier, French horn; part of the BSO Classical Concert Series (admission)

Nov. 20

Performance by the Symphonic Band, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 21

Evaluations and Exit Interviews, 12-1 p.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, with David Scheidt, Office of Human Resources, discussing evaluations and exit interviews as opportunities to review, understand and appreciate how the university's reputation as an employer can remain in step with its reputation as an institute of higher learning

Nov. 22

Thinking about Retirement, 12-1 p.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, with Kathleen Bell, Office of Human Resources, discussing the many considerations when selecting pension funds, insurance choices, life insurance options and disability options

Thanksgiving break through Nov. 26

Nov. 26

"A Chanticleer Christmas," 3 p.m., MCA; part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (admission)

Nov. 27

Alternatives to Punishment, 6-8:30 p.m., Bangor Extension Office, 307 Maine Avenue, Bangor, a two-part Cooperative Extension series for parents and childcare providers, addressing: How do children react to punishment? Is it necessary to rely on punishment as a means of discipline? Explore new techniques to discipline without hurting or alienating and to help your child develop positive and realistic self-image. (fee)

Nov. 28

"Just Call Me a Lobsterman: Women in the Lobster Industry," 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Cathy Billings; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Understanding Performance Management, 12-1 p.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, with Dennis Corson and John Kidder addressing the complexities of the performance management process - fact finding, counseling and, in some cases, discipline - and the value of appropriate follow-up and file maintenance

Chamber Music Concert, 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Nov. 30

"Everything is 'Rent': The Musical, the World It Came from and the World It Calls for," 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union, with Isaac Curtis, UMaine alum and Ph.D. student in history at the University of Pittsburgh; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

The Element of Everyday Life: Three Lessons from Ancient Greece, 4 p.m., Levinson Room, The Maples, with John Russon, associate professor of philosophy, University of Guelph, and author of "Human Experience: Philosophy, Neurosis and the Elements of Everyday Life"; part of the Philosophy Colloquium Series

Celebrations of Sylvester Pollet's Backwoods BroadSides, 4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall; part of the New Writing Series

Jazz Concert, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission/ students free with MaineCard)

Dec. 1

Annual holiday tree sale, Nutting Hall Courtyard; Xi Sigma Pi and the School of Forest Resources; (Hours: Dec. 1, noon to dark, Dec. 2, 8 a.m. to dark, Dec. 3, 9 a.m.-dark, Dec. 4, 3 p.m. to dark)

Dec. 2

"The Nutcracker," 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Maine Center for the Arts, featuring the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, the Robinson Ballet and Bangor Area Children's Choir (admission)

Ongoing

"The Art of Printed Books and Artists' Multiples," Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. & 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov.18, Lord Hall gallery, curated by Owen Smith and Walter Tisdale, part of the Maine Print Project: 200 Years of

Printmaking in Maine; through Nov. 22, 2006

"Bernard Langlais: Wood Reliefs," Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Norumbega Hall, Harlow Street, Bangor, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibition, part of the Maine Print Project, 10/20/2006 - 1/13/2007 (admission)

"Richard Estes: Prints," Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Norumbega Hall, Harlow Street, Bangor, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibition, part of the Maine Print Project; 10/20/2006 - 1/13/2007 (admission)

"John Marin: A Print Survey," Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Norumbega Hall, Harlow Street, Bangor, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibition; part of the Maine Print Project 10/20/2006 - 1/13/2007 (admission)

"A Matter of Perception 2006: Exhibit by Artists with Disabilities," 4 p.m., Hauck Auditorium lobby, a biennial exhibit providing one of the few opportunities in the state for adult artists with disabilities to submit their work to a non-juried show; exhibition organized by VSA arts of Maine and hosted on campus by the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies; through Nov. 11, 2006.

Registration for spring classes, 11/7/2006 - 11/17/2006

Nov. 10 Conference to Assess State's 2007 Tourism Outlook

09 Nov 2006

Contact: Charlie Colgan, 780-4008, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- To help determine if the outlook for tourism in the coming year will be fair or foul, a group of state and national experts are gathering in Hallowell on Nov. 10 for a day-long conference to assess and project tourism activity in 2007.

The conference, sponsored by CenTRO, the University of Maine System's Center for Tourism Research and Outreach, is open to the public and should be of interest to anyone working in the tourism or outdoor recreation industry, according to University of Southern Maine Professor Charlie Colgan, associate director of CenTRO, chair of the Maine Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission and a former state economist, who will present the outlook for Maine tourism.

The conference will include projections about national and regional economies, the outlook for oil prices, the weather, Maine Turnpike traffic and other factors that influence tourism.

"Tourism, particularly in a lot of areas of Maine, where some of the traditional natural resources are shifting away, has always been a critical industry for us," Colgan says. "The speakers who are coming are really knowledgeable about the different parts of tourism in Maine and at the national level."

The conference is from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Maple Hill Farm Bed and Breakfast inn conference center off the Outlet Road in Hallowell. For directions, visit the Maple Hill Farm Bed and Breakfast website (<http://www.maplebb.com/map.jpg>). For reservations and cost information, see "upcoming conferences" on the CenTRO website (<http://www.umaine.edu/centro/news/>) or call the USM Department of Conferences at 1-800-800-4876, extension 5960.

Colgan expects the conference to attract people working in tourism or related businesses "who want to know what next year is going to look like and what's going to determine what next year looks like," he says.

"We expect the insights generated at the conference will help businesses plan for the next year, including planning for staffing, as well as for promoting their businesses," adds UMaine marketing professor and CenTRO Director Harold

Daniel. "This should include helping the Maine Office of Tourism refine its media plans. It's a real opportunity to have a discussion about the future of tourism in Maine at the highest levels."

Ed McWilliams, a UMaine graduate and now senior vice president for client services at D.K. Shifflet and Associates, a leading national travel research firm in Falls Church, Va., will deliver the keynote address, "The National Outlook for Tourism in 2007."

An industry panel includes representatives from the hotels, banking and tourism research industries, including: William Siegel, founder and chairman of Longwoods International, which has done extensive market research for Maine tourism interests; Peter Daigle, chief operating officer of the Orono-based Lafayette Hotels, a hotel chain with 19 hotels from Bangor to Ogunquit and in New Hampshire and Michigan; Jack Williams, senior vice president of Camden National Bank; Bill Williamson of Bank of America; and Chris Keefe, vice president of Union Trust bank.

Organizers also will provide time during the conference for participants to offer their views on the outlook for tourism, which can help CentTRO improve its forecasting services for the tourism industry. CentTRO is an interdisciplinary initiative of the University of Maine System campuses, which draws upon the expertise of system-wide researchers and experts on the economic, social and environmental impacts of tourism in Maine, and the importance of recreation to the quality of life in the state. CentTRO is administered through the Maine Business School at the University of Maine, Orono, and the Center for Business and Economic Research at USM.

Kimberly Junkins at (207) 581-3102 can be reached for additional information.

Conference Nov. 11 Aims to Give Students Leg Up in Business Careers

09 Nov 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of Maine Business School students at UMaine says tomorrow's business leaders will need more than a good education in business. They hope a student conference planned Nov. 11 will give participants a look at how good networking, marketing, negotiating and other skills can better prepare them for the business world.

The UMaine student Chapter of the American Marketing Association is hosting the 2006 Maine State Business Conference Nov. 11 in D.P. Corbett Business Building on the Orono campus. Several hundred business students from Maine colleges and universities have been invited. Seven speakers will talk about the less obvious aspects of business that are important for professional success. Though geared toward college students, the public is invited.

"The intent is for some of these seminar topics to build on the academic education and expose students to practical aspects of real-world situations and real-world issues they'll soon be a part of," says Courtney Hagenars, vice president of the UMaine AMA. He expects the conference will be an annual event.

Additionally, through meeting some of the speakers from the private sector, students may develop relationships that could lead to jobs with Maine companies after graduation.

The conference is 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. A \$5 fee covers a continental breakfast and lunch. For information and self-registration, visit the Maine Business School website (www.mbs.maine.edu/survey/conference) or email Hagenars at Courtney.hagenars@umit.maine.edu.

Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, will open and close the day's activities.

Seminar leaders include:

John Coleman of ViA advertising agency in Portland, who will give the keynote address and discuss corporate employment, job hopping, entry-level positions and what to expect;

Deb Neuman, director of the Target Technology Incubator and host of "Back to Business" radio talk show on WVOM, who will discuss entrepreneurship, the Maine Innovation Center and growing business sectors in Maine;

Carol Colson of Bangor Savings Bank, who will discuss the importance and the art of networking;

Marc Leclerc, Patrick Smith and Cory Cunningham of Evest Lending, who will discuss debt and credit management for the college student and graduate;

Cathy Nugent, strategic staffing specialist for Hannaford Brothers supermarket chain, discussing offer creation, negotiation and introducing new proposals;

And Sherry Treworgy and Kathy Marquez of the UMaine Career Center, who will discuss internships, resume building and interview skills.

Omar Khan, assistant professor of marketing and an advisor to the UMaine AMA chapter, says it is invaluable for experienced business men and women to communicate the importance of job skills that can influence success and effectiveness of students preparing to launch careers with businesses and corporations.

State Rep. Nancy Smith, chair of the Maine House of representatives' Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development, has expressed an interest in the conference and plans to attend, according to Khan.

Page Farm & Home Museum Holding Traditional Holiday Party

09 Nov 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine is inviting all members of the university and surrounding communities to its annual, old-fashioned holiday party Dec. 1 at 6 p.m., a time to experience the spirit of trimming the tree, making ornaments, decorating gingerbread cookies and carolling.

Refreshments will be served and children are welcome, says museum Director Patty Henner. The event is free.

Additionally, this is the time of the year when the museum's Maine-made crafts and gift shop becomes a "holiday shoppe," with discounts on traditional toys and games, clothes, books, artwork and pottery. The holiday shoppe will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Nov. 28 through Dec. 2.

Pottery includes 17th -19th century reproduction pottery by Ken Henderson of Henderson Redware in Frankfort and a wide selection of table pottery in natural colors by former Orono potter Sandy Houtman. Houtman's pottery is being discounted 25-50% off regular prices.

For details and further information, the farm and home museum can be reached by telephone at 581-4100. The museum website (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm) has information about exhibits, events and hours.

Page Farm & Home Museum Offers Holiday Wreaths, Wreath-Making

09 Nov 2006

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum will hold its annual holiday wreath-making workshops from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 28, 29 and 30, on the Orono campus.

Deborah Smith of Smith Farm Greenhouses will lead the workshops. A \$15 charge covers materials, including a base ring, wire, pine cones, berries, ribbon, boughs and instruction.

Museum Director Patty Henner says participants are encouraged to use organic decorations, and participants are welcome to bring those, along with any other decorations they would like to add to their wreaths, to the workshops.

Henner recommends early registration (581-4100) because of the popularity of the workshops, which are a great source of creative fun for the whole family, she says.

For people who are looking to buy a decorative holiday wreath and cannot make one of the three workshops, the farm and home Museum also will make decorative wreaths to sell, with proceeds benefiting the non-profit Page Farm and Home Museum.

Beginning Nov. 17, the museum will sell large, fresh hand-wrapped and decorated wreaths with ribbon, cones and berries for \$15. From each sale, \$6 benefits the museum.

The wreaths include five pounds of tips purchased from local farms, Henner says, and are high-quality and long-lasting. People ordering wreaths can choose their own ribbon color from a choice of blueberry, white pepperberry, cranberry and hollyberry. Ribbons match berry color.

Wreaths can be ordered by calling the farm and home museum at 581-4100. Henner will deliver the wreaths at no cost on campus and locally.

UMaine Bureau of Labor Education Grant to Help with New On-Site Construction Safety Programs

10 Nov 2006

Contact: Bill Murphy, 581- 4124
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Bureau of Labor Education at the University of Maine has received a \$120,000 Susan Harwood Training Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to create a series of safety programs for Maine construction workers.

In construction work, both employers and employees on many different types of building sites face serious on-the-job hazards. Risks are multiplied still further when construction contractors and employees work in hazardous manufacturing sites.

Through this grant, which is funded jointly by OSHA and the University of Maine, the Bureau of Labor Education will utilize an innovative consortium approach to construction site safety. Working with the Maine Building and Construction Trades Council and a joint labor-management leadership committee known as LEAD of Maine, the bureau will deliver safety and health programs to at least 300 LEAD workers and employers at their job sites.

LEAD stands for Labor Education and Development and includes signatory small business contractors, construction

trade unions, and the university. Project programs will focus on recognizing and preventing construction safety and health hazards involving falls, caught-in, struck-by and electrocution situations.

Participants in the safety programs also will receive a construction safety handbook, currently under development by the Bureau of Labor Education. The plan for the one-year project calls for the research, development and production of the handbook to be accomplished during the first three months, and the implementation of the project programs during the following nine months.

The Bureau of Labor Education, created by the state legislature and trustees of the University of Maine System in 1966, provides educational programs and conducts research on labor and labor-related issues of interest, for workers, students, educators, members and officers of union organizations, and public policy makers.

The bureau can be reached by telephone at 207-581-4124.

Book Drive to Help Young Readers

06 Nov 2006

Contact: Russ Van Arsdale, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development is again joining the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis Club in an effort to collect books for needy youngsters. It's the 29th drive, which is held each year at this time. Members of public are invited to join in the tradition by donating new books suitable for toddlers to teens.

College Dean Robert Cobb established the collection effort. Since its early days, the community book drive has made thousands of books available to deserving area children. The College takes the lead in collecting the books, and Kiwanis Club members distribute them at the service organization's annual holiday party for area children.

The UMaine Bookstore in Memorial Union is again joining the College to boost the number of books collected and children served. The Bookstore will be collecting books for the drive starting Nov. 13. During Children's Book Week, Nov. 13-19, children's books will be 25 percent off, and the Bookstore will contribute a book of equal value for each book purchased there for the children's book drive.

Books, gift wrapped if possible and marked for a particular age level, may be brought to Cobb's office, 151 Shibles Hall at UMaine, through Friday noon, Dec. 1.

Hutchinson Center Reception Friday

13 Nov 2006

Contact: Nancy Boyington, (207) 338-8002

BELFAST -- The University of Maine Hutchinson Center will celebrate two important events on Friday, Nov. 17, with a 4-6 p.m. public reception.

UMaine Prof. Alan Stubbs will present his award-winning digital art work "Illusions" to the university as a gift. Stubbs, a member of both art and psychology faculty and long-time student of photography and new media, uses digital art to help illustrate principles of perception in his psychology classes. Using digital software, Stubbs studies and creates "Mach Bands," which can create the illusion of both lightness and motion by varying the gradients of light and dark

lines, bars and circles through a concept he calls dynamic luminance.

Stubbs' work was selected earlier this year as one of the ten best illusions submitted at the International Best Visual Illusion of the Year Contest, sponsored by the Neural Correlate Society.

In addition to Stubbs' exhibit, there will be a number of classes in Art, New Media, Website Design, and the Visual Arts represented by their instructors, students and their art.

The Nov. 17 reception will also feature the introduction of the first Midcoast Leadership Academy Class, which will be finishing its first day at the academy. Jim Patterson, the retired founding director of the Hutchinson Center, heads up the effort, which aims to develop future leadership opportunities for participants in their workplaces and communities.

The event is free and open to the public. For further information or to RSVP, call 338-8002. Examples of Stubbs' work are online at <http://www.hutchinsoncenter.umaine.edu/perceive/>.

Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Colloquium to Feature Film and Discussion

13 Nov 2006

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- What if new advances in technology could--for all intents and purposes--cure deafness? As society grapples with the medical procedures surrounding the cochlear implant, we begin to ask whether deafness is something to be cured, or rather an alternative way of being with its own language and culture. The PBS documentary video, Sound and Fury, portrays two families' struggles to decide about cochlear implants for their children. This film was a 2001 Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary Feature. The San Francisco Chronicle

Forestry Management Walks for Women

13 Nov 2006

Contact: Vivianne Holmes, 800-287-1458 or 207-353-5550, vholmes@umext.maine.edu

ORONO, ME--Working with forestry professionals, working a woodlot, and cost-share programs will be the topics at the upcoming Women and the Woods program

Donation Supports Extension Volunteer Project at Morris Farm Trust

13 Nov 2006

Contact: Liz Stanley, 1-800-244-2104 x 123 (in Maine), lstanley@umext.maine.edu

WISCASSET, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Master Gardener project at the Morris Farm Trust in Wiscasset has received a generous anonymous donation of \$5,000. The trust is a working organic farm that serves as an educational resource for surrounding communities. The Master Gardener project at Morris Farm, which has been active for four years, creates demonstration gardens for adult and youth education and provides produce for local food pantries.

Located on Route 27, Morris Farm comprises 60 acres, 50 of which are certified organic, supporting a commercial vegetable garden, an apple orchard, pastured poultry, pigs and laying hens. The other ten acres are wooded with an

interpretive trail system.

One of the likely uses for the donation money is a farm-wide soil improvement project.

"It's all clay, and we can't even begin planting until early July every year," explains Judy Hughes, a Master Gardener volunteer at the farm. The Master Gardeners will meet in January to discuss possible solutions, such as using compost or installing a drainage system.

Founded in 1994 to preserve one of the area's last farms, Morris Farm's mission is to preserve local traditions and history and cultivate a healthy relationship between community members and the land on which they labor. The farm's website describes how all of its programs "rely on participation from trained community volunteers and utilize the farm's land and animals to foster respect for the earth and to instill a sense of shared responsibility for the wise stewardship of natural resources."

UMaine Extension's Master Gardener program trains participants in the art and science of horticulture. In return, Master Gardeners volunteer their time and expertise to community activities. Hughes recalls that Master Gardener influence on Morris Farm began with only three members, "but the Master Gardener project has grown enough to feed the children that come to the farm, as well as contribute to the national Plant a Row for the Hungry program through its contributions to St. Philip's food pantry in Wiscasset."

The farm and its volunteers provide regular services to the community, including Maine Learning Results-based field trips for public- and home-schooled children, with hands-on activities for children of all ages and abilities. Other activities include an organic farm apprentice program, sales of plants and organic produce, and community dinners such as the annual potluck Thanksgiving Dinner.

Volunteer opportunities include chores in the gardens, orchards, and around the house, as well as office tasks such as working on the newsletter, sending mailings, and planning events, particularly the Contra Dance in April, the Peerless Perennial Plant Sale in June, and regular student field trips. To get involved with Morris Farm's volunteer program, call 207-882-4080 or e-mail morrisfarm@morrisfarm.org.

This year's Thanksgiving Dinner is open to the public and will be held a week before Thanksgiving; attendees should bring a dish of their choice as well as their own plates and silverware. Please contact the farm regarding potluck contributions.

University of Maine's Army ROTC Remembers Alum Lt. Matthew Coutu

14 Nov 2006

Contact: Maj. James C. Moreno, enrollment officer, University of Maine Army ROTC, Room 114, Armory, Orono, Maine 04469, 207-581-1125

ORONO -- Family, friends and members of the University of Maine's Army ROTC Department remembered one of their own in a quiet ceremony Nov. 10 in the Memorial Union.

A shadow box displaying the uniform of UMaine graduate and former ROTC cadet Matthew Coutu, a second lieutenant when he was killed June 27, 2005 in Baghdad, was ceremoniously unveiled before being moved for permanent display in the Army ROTC hallway inside the Memorial Gym on campus.

Coutu was shot by an enemy sniper while on patrol in Iraq.

He was the son of Donna M. (Matarazzo) Coutu-Freeland of North Kingstown, R.I. and Michael A. Coutu of North

Hampton, N.H.

Born in Freehold, N.J., Lt. Coutu moved to Lake Forest, Ill. in 1994 and to North Kingstown, R.I. in 2002. He graduated from Lake Forest High School in 2000, where he was the captain of the football team and also competed in track, wrestling and shot put.

A history major, Coutu graduated from UMaine in 2004 with a 3.4 GPA. As a senior in the Reserve Officer Training Corps, Coutu received the organization's highest honor, the George C. Marshall Award. He was assigned to the 64th Military Police Company, 720th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas.

Besides his parents, Coutu is survived by his brother, Derek Coutu of Norwood, Mass.; a half brother, Andrew Coutu of North Hampton, N.H.; a half sister, Holly Coutu of Canterbury, Conn.; his maternal grandmother, Alice Matarazzo of Smithfield, R.I.; and his paternal grandmother, Gertrude Coutu of Warwick, R.I. He was the grandson of the late Sandino Matarazzo and Clarence Coutu.

(photo available upon request)

UMaine Muslim Student Association Holding Islamic Awareness Week

14 Nov 2006

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Members of the UMaine Muslim Student Association have scheduled a series of talks and events on the Orono campus this week in hopes of introducing the public to the culture of Islam, as opposed to the politics.

A short film, food, live music and lectures are designed to raise awareness of the religion of Islam and Muslims at the University of Maine. Activities -- all free -- began Monday and continue through Friday, ending with a concert in the North Pod by The Sound of Reason, an R&B hip-hop duo that promotes consciousness and political awareness.

More than 70 members of the student Muslim association have been preparing for the week's events for about two months, says Hiba Sharif, the president of MSA.

"The objective is give a better understanding of Islam and Muslims through real live Muslims, not what we see in the media," says Sharif, who was born in Somalia and now lives in Lewiston. With the nightly news awash in Middle-East violence, many Americans wrongly conclude that Islam is the basis for terrorism, she says.

"That's not what I see in my religion," she says.

Sharif says the UMaine community has welcomed the Islamic Awareness Week activities.

"Everyone is excited about it. We've never had an event like this, since the Muslim community here is very small," she says. "Most college students want to learn and they want a better understanding of new stuff."

The MSA is bringing in several local and national speakers for this year's first Islamic Awareness Week. Already common on other U.S. college campuses, Sharif says the observance will be an annual program. The public is welcome to attend all events.

The schedule follows:

Tuesday, Nov. 14

"Don't Panic, I'm Islamic," a movie presentation by the MSA, based on interviews with fellow students, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union

"Muhammed, the Man and his Message," with guest speaker Mokhtar Magroui,

7:30-9 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Wednesday, Nov. 15

MSA table in the Union all day, with Henna tattoos and sweets

Thursday, Nov. 16

"Islam, Does it Make Sense?" with Muthir Subree, a chaplain in a South Carolina prison,

7:30-9 p.m., Bangor Room

Friday, Nov. 17

Performance by The Sound of Reason

North Pod 7-8 p.m.

UMaine, Bangor Youth Symphony Bands Team Up for Nov. 20 Concert

14 Nov 2006

Contact: Curvin Farnham, 581-1254; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The 66-member University of Maine Symphonic Band and the Bangor Symphony Youth Symphonic Band, with more than 35 student musicians, will team up Nov. 20 for their annual concert at the Maine Center for the Arts.

The youth Symphonic Band will open the program at 7:30 p.m. in Hutchins Concert Hall. The university's Symphonic Band will perform second on the program after the intermission, and both bands will combine for a piece at the end of the concert.

The Bangor Symphony Youth Symphonic Band is composed of middle and high school-age wind percussion players selected from the Eastern Maine area. It performs under the direction of School of Performing Arts graduate student Gina Provenzano of Blue Hill. They'll present a program of traditional band music including "Kentucky 1800" by Clare Grundman, "Air for Band" by Frank Erickson and "Big Band Voodoo" by John Wasson.

After intermission, the UMaine Symphonic Band, under the leadership of Curvin Farnham, director of bands in the UMaine School of Performing Arts music division, will conduct a varied program of band literature from the 17th century through 2006.

Selections include "Fantasia in G Major" by Johann Sebastian Bach, "Scenes from The Louvre" by Norman Dello Joio, "Invocation and Toccata" by James Barnes, and the premiere of "The Passing of the Torch," composed by UMaine senior Seth Morton of Lewiston.

The annual joint concert offers students from area middle and high schools a first-hand look at university-caliber band members; university musicians also enjoy sharing the stage with the younger musicians.

General admission for the concert is \$6; UMaine students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

For ticket information, please call the MCA box office at 581-1755.

UMaine Safety Education Program Friday

15 Nov 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine students leaving campus for Thanksgiving travel on Friday Nov. 17 will encounter police officers and fellow students at "Safety Education Stops," designed to provide safety information and first aid kits to student motorists. Data show that Thanksgiving break is a period of time that traditionally has the highest number of accidents involving college students, and the UMaine Dept. of Public Safety has created this program to help traveling UMaine students be more safe as they drive to their destinations.

The police will be joined by students from UMaine fraternity Alpha Gamma Rho.

The safety stops are scheduled from 2-5 p.m. on Rangeley Road, near the Public Safety Building. Additional stops may be created at Munson Road and College Ave., if there are sufficient student volunteers.

Allied Forces Chief Commander to Speak at UMaine

15 Nov 2006

Contact: Peter Fandel, 581-1988; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- U.S. Navy Admiral Gregory G. Johnson, retired commander in chief of Allied Forces, Southern Europe, and commander of U.S. Forces, Europe, will be at the University of Maine on Nov. 27 for a luncheon lecture on "Lessons of Bosnia and Other Conflicts."

Johnson will speak from 12-1:15 p.m. in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House. His appearance is sponsored by the William S. Cohen Center for International Policy & Commerce. The event is free and open to anyone with a reservation. Reservations can be made by calling the Cohen Center at 581-1988 or emailing Peter Fandel at peter.fandel@umit.maine.edu or Rebecca Sedgwick at rebecca.sedgwick@umit.maine.edu.

Gregory Johnson is a native of the small northern Maine community of Westmanland and alum of the University of Maine, where he earned a B.A. in political science in the late 1960s. He became a commissioned officer after graduating from Aviation Officer Candidate School in 1969 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1970.

His initial sea duty assignments included flying an A-7E Corsair II and deploying with the USS Independence. Subsequent squadron and sea duty assignments included serving aboard the USS Nimitz, serving as executive officer and commanding officer of the Marine Air Group Twelve and USS Forrestal, as deputy commander of the Carrier Air Wing Six (USS Forrestal), and commander of Carrier Air Wing Three on the USS Eisenhower.

Shore duty assignments have included serving with the Joint Chiefs of Staff as head of the European Command and

Central Command Branch of the Joint Operations Division.

Admiral Johnson was selected for flag rank in February 1995. His initial flag assignment was as the Director of Operations, Plans and Policy on the staff of the Commander in Chief's U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

In 1996, he served as commander of the Carrier Group Eight on the USS Theodore Roosevelt Battle Group. As commander, he served as the principal advisor to type commanders in all matters concerning the operational support and employment of assigned forces. In 1999, he became the senior military assistant to Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen.

Admiral Johnson's previous assignments included commanding the U.S. Sixth Fleet and Naval Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe. Johnson assumed duties as commander of U.S. Naval Forces, Europe, and commander in chief, Allied Forces, Southern Europe in 2001.

His decorations and awards include: the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with two bronze oak leaves; Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with two gold stars; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars; Air Medal; Navy Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; and various service and campaign awards.

Maine Women's Studies Conference Planned Nov. 18 at UMaine

16 Nov 2006

Contact: Mazie Hough, 581-1225; Angela Hart, 581-1228

ORONO --The University of Maine will host the 21st Annual Maine Women's Studies Conference on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition to offering panel discussions on immigration, globalization, Maine history, student activism and more, the conference will have two main sessions.

Beverly Guy-Sheftall, director of the Women's Research and Resource Center and the Anna Julia Cooper Professor of Women's Studies at Spelman College in Atlanta, will present "Global Black Feminisms" at 2:30 p.m. in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Guy-Sheftall has published texts that scholars consider pivotal works, including the first anthology on black women's literature, "Sturdy Bridges: Visions of Black Women in Literature," which she co-edited with Roseann P. Bell and Bettye Parker Smith, "Daughters of Sorrow: Attitudes Toward Black Women, 1880-1920," "Words of Fire: An Anthology of African American Feminist Thought," and an anthology co-edited with Rudolph Byrd, titled "Traps: African American Men on Gender and Sexuality."

In 1983, Guy-Sheftall became founding editor of "Sage: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women." Beyond the academy, she has been involved in many advocacy organizations, including the National Black Women's Health Project, the National Council for Research on Women, and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.

Earlier in the day, at 9:45 a.m., participants in the University of Maine's Somali Narrative Project will present "Telling Somali Women's Stories: A Readers' Theatre," also in D. P. Corbett.

The project is an interdisciplinary, community-based research initiative that involves students and faculty at the University of Maine, working with members of the Somali community to document the experiences of Somali immigrants in Lewiston, Maine. The readers' theatre is based on the songs, oral histories and literature of Somali women and follows them from their lives in Somalia into exile and finally to Maine.

Both plenaries are free and open to the public. Those wanting to attend the full conference should contact Angela Hart at 581-1228.

The conference is supported with funds from the University of Maine System and the University of Maine's Distinguished Lecture Series/Cultural Affairs Fund.

UMaine Professor Eric Landis Honored by the Carnegie Foundation

17 Nov 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) established the Professors of the Year Program in 1981. CASE works in cooperation with the Carnegie Foundation and various higher education associations to administer the award, nominees for which can be teachers at public or private institutions of higher learning. Winners are selected based on outstanding teaching, commitment to undergraduate students and influence on teaching. There is one award winner from each state, along with four national award winners.

Landis earned a Ph.D. in civil engineering from Northwestern University in 1993, and joined the UMaine faculty in 1994. He received the 2004 Distinguished Maine Professor Award, presented each year by the alumni association in recognition of faculty achievement.

"We are pleased that Eric has received this prestigious recognition from the Carnegie Foundation," says Todd Saucier, president of the University of Maine Alumni Association, which nominated Landis for the Professor of the Year award. "Generations of UMaine students have benefited from the the dedication and expertise of UMaine's faculty, and Eric is a wonderful example of that tradition."

Landis, who is a prolific scholar with more than 75 scholarly publications to his name, also received UMaine's Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award in 2002. He earned a prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER Award in 1998, and was named UMaine Civil Engineering Professor of the Year in 1996. His academic specialty involves studying the relationship between material microstructure and engineering properties of concrete and other materials.

"I am extremely flattered by this honor," Landis say. "There is no question that working with students is the most rewarding part of my job. I believe this award highlights our teaching efforts here at UMaine, and while this is a research university, teaching, at all levels, is the most important thing we do."

Landis, who is certified as a registered professional engineer, lives in Orono with his wife and two daughters.

"I often can not believe my good fortune to be here at the University of Maine," Landis says. "I work with some truly great teachers and scholars who make the university an exciting and stimulating environment on a daily basis. We are doing world-class research here, but there is a tightness between students and faculty unlike any place I have ever been. We can have heated debates during class in the morning, and have pizza together at Pat's in the evening."

"A scholar of the first order, Eric enjoys a great deal of well-deserved respect from his students and his colleagues," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This award, which singles out Eric among the many outstanding faculty members all across Maine, validates our belief that he is a truly exemplary professor. He is most worthy of this great honor."

Cathcart Wins 2006 Maryann Hartman Award

17 Nov 2006

Contact: Mary Cathcart, 581-1539; George Manlove, 581-3756

Photo available upon request.

ORONO -- Mary Cathcart, senior policy associate at UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, was recognized recently as one of three 2006 Maryann Hartman Award winners.

The university's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program organizes the annual awards, which recognize accomplished Maine women for outstanding achievement in the arts, politics, business, education and community service.

Cathcart, of Orono, began her work on behalf of women nearly three decades ago as a volunteer for Spruce Run, one of the oldest battered women's projects in the country. She followed up on her commitment to fight domestic abuse as a member of the Maine House of Representatives from 1988-1994 and as a member of the Maine Senate from 1996-2004.

According to the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, Cathcart has helped improved women's lives in many aspects, including education, care-giving, environment, healthcare, reproductive choice, mental illness, family security, veteran's affairs and aging.

Cathcart says she is both excited and honored to receive one of the Maryann Hartman Awards. "It's great company to be a part of," she says.

Previous winners have been individuals "with all sorts of public service, artistic abilities and intellect. I think it's very appropriate that these awards have been continuing over the last 20 years," she says.

The other two Maryann Hartman Award winners were Lee Sharkey, a poet, peace activist and professor at the University of Maine at Farmington, and Sarah Hudson of Maine Maritime Academy, an emergency medical technician and founder of Bagaduce Ambulance Service in Castine, who now trains students for U.S. Coast Guard licenses in ship medicine.

UMaine Professor Maryann Hartman was director of forensics in Speech Communication at UMaine and a pioneer in the field of oral interpretation. A teacher, scholar, advocate, friend and mother, Hartman died in 1980 of cancer.

Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program also bestowed its Young Women's Social Justice Awards high school students Hazel Stark of Winterport and Amelia Butman of Greenville.

UMaine Commuter Week Starts Nov. 27

20 Nov 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- A series of informational seminars and fun activities will highlight the University of Maine's "Commuters Count: Celebrating Commuter Students" week, beginning Monday Nov. 27. Approximately 8,000 of UMaine's 11,797 students live off campus, with many of them residing in the Orono/Old Town area. A Tuesday resource information fair will include representatives from those communities, local mass transportation officials and others. A complete schedule:

Monday, Nov. 27

: Brown Bag Seminars, The Bumps Room, Memorial Union

11:00AM Quick and Easy Meals on a Budget:

12:15PM Financial Responsibility at UMaine and Beyond, Managing Your Credit Cards, Avoiding Identity Theft:

Tuesday, Nov. 28

: FFA Room, Memorial Union

10:00AM - 3:00PM - Resource and Information Fair: Town of Orono, City of Old Town, The BAT Bus system, Fire Safety in your Home, Safe Travel Tips

Snowflake Photos -Come have your photo taken and make a great gift for family and friends!!!!

2:00PM, Commuter Lounge - Commuter Social

Wednesday, Nov. 29:

Commuter Lounge, Memorial Union

9:00AM -- 3:00PM, Know Your Rights Video

10:00AM -- 2:00PM Caricature Drawings

3:00PM What's on Wed: a discussion with UMaine Provost Edna Mora Szymanski

Thursday, Nov 30

: Brown Bag Seminars , FFA Room, Memorial Union

11:00AM Hosting a Responsible Party

12:15AM Wellness/ Managing Stress

Friday, Dec 1

: Commuter Lounge, Memorial Union

8:00AM First Friday Bagel Social

8:30AM - 11:30AM Free Massages

11:00 AM, Bumps Room Brown Bag Seminar

Tenant's Rights: Brett Baber, Student Government Legal Services

These activities are sponsored by UMaine's Commuter and Nontraditional Student Programs office in collaboration with Off Campus Board.

Fall Dairy Forage Conference

20 Nov 2006

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, 800-287-1426

WATERVILLE, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the 2006 Fall Dairy Forage Conference on Thursday, Nov. 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at John Martin's Manor on College Avenue in Waterville. This seasonal conference is designed for dairy producers and industry personnel to learn and discuss innovative ways to produce high-quality forages for their dairy cows and young stock.

University of Vermont agronomist Sid Bosworth will discuss corn variety selection and how to maximize forage and grain yield. Tim Griffin from the USDA Agricultural Research Service's New England Plant Soil and Water Lab in Orono will present information from a research project on small grain, recently funded by USDA Northeast Sustainable Research and Education (SARE). That project looked at harvest windows for small grain silages. Also on the agenda will be a farmer panel to discuss winter grains for alternative forage production systems; a discussion of wildlife issues with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife representatives on topics such as turkeys; and a presentation by crop consultant Mark Fulford on improving forage quality by using foliar applications of nutrients.

Several forms of recertification credits will be available to participants, including two Maine nutrient management credits and 3.5 Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) credits.

The registration fee of \$10 per person covers the conference and a buffet lunch. Pre-registration is required. For registration materials, please contact the Waldo County UMaine Extension office at 800-287-1426 in Maine or 207-342-5971 outside of Maine.

Funding and support for this conference comes from the Maine Organic Milk Producers and USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) grant 2005-51106-02390, funded under CFDA 10.303--Integrated Organic Program, "Reducing Off-Farm Grain Inputs on Northeast Organic Dairy Farms."

UMaine to Offer Organic Dairy Production Workshops

20 Nov 2006

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, 800-287-1426

ORONO, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer organic dairy transition workshops at three locations: Houlton, December 4; Albion, December 5; and Turner, December 6. The workshops, each from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., are free, but preregistration is required by calling 800-287-1426 (in Maine) or 207-342-5971.

Participants will learn USDA National Organic Program (NOP) standards, as well as the ways in which current organic producers manage herd health. Presenters will also provide information to help producers evaluate the economic viability of transitioning to the organic milk market.

Organic dairy production is one of the fastest growing segments of agriculture in the Northeast. Maine leads the nation in the percentage of dairy farmers shipping to the organic market, with nearly 70 dairy farms now certified organic. Interest among farmers is strong, as organic prices for milk bring a premium that is close to double that of conventional milk prices.

These workshops are intended for farmers interested in becoming organic dairy producers, as well as those who just want to learn the rules, regulations and management techniques associated with organic production systems. The workshops are sponsored by a USDA grant for the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education.

For more information, contact UMaine Extension educator Rick Kersbergen at 207-342-5971.

UMaine Workshop Will Help Growers Meet Rising Demand for Organic Grain

21 Nov 2006

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, 800-287-1426

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will sponsor an organic grain production workshop from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Thursday Dec. 14. It is scheduled for the Bease Building in Albion Registration, which includes lunch, is \$10. Preregistration is required by calling 800-287-1426 (in Maine) or 207-342-5971.

The rapid growth in organic dairy farms in Maine has increased the demand for organic grains to feed livestock. The market for organic grains for bread and other products for human consumption is also growing.

The workshop will feature three growers from Vermont who will discuss production techniques they use for growing small grains, corn and soybeans. In other workshops, Jim Amaral from Borealis Breads and Matt Williams from Aurora Mills will address selling to human consumption markets. Tim Griffin from USDA New England Plant, Soil and Water Lab will share information on collaborative grain research at the University of Maine and the University of Vermont. Heather Darby from the University of Vermont will discuss soybean culture and Tom Molloy will present research from Europe on weed control in small grains.

Funding for this project is being provided by a Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) project to expand grain production and use on organic dairy farms in Maine and Vermont.

UMaine Art Museum Closed for Thanksgiving

21 Nov 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Nov. 26 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The museum will reopen on Monday, Nov. 27 at 9 a.m.

UMaine Jazz Ensemble Readies Familiar Favorites for Nov. 30 Concert

22 Nov 2006

Contact: Jack Burt, 581-1773 (jburt@maine.edu)
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Jazz Ensemble is preparing a list of familiar favorites by some of the most popular American jazz musicians for its annual fall concert Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at Hauck Auditorium on the Orono campus.

Under the direction of Jack Burt, the jazz band will perform originals from the modern big bands of Buddy Rich, Stan Kenton, Thad Jones and Mel Lewis and Woody Herman, plus classics from the libraries of Count Basie and Duke Ellington. Featured selections include "Stompin' at the Savoy," "Straight, No Chaser," and a special Stan Kenton version of the Glenn Miller tune "String of Pearls."

Expect new versions of familiar tunes, Burt says, plus some wonderful ballads like "My Romance and Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most," a medley of songs from Gershwin's "Porgy & Bess" and compositions by Pat Metheny, Rodgers & Hart, Sammy Nestico, Thelonius Monk, John Coltrane and Duke Ellington.

"It's all music to make you smile and be happy," says Burt. "Toes will tap and the roof just might catch fire."

The jazz ensemble is an audition-only big-band ensemble, and comprises more than 20 student musicians, mostly, but not all, music majors.

"We have a substantial non-music major component in the band," Burt says. "Anyone can audition."

The School of Performing Arts also has a chamber jazz ensemble, a smaller group led by music Professor Karel Lidral.

General admission is \$6 and free for students with a MaineCard. Call the Maine Center for the Arts box office art 581-1755 for ticket information.

"Lessons from Ancient Greece" is Subject of Philosophy Colloquium Talk Nov. 30

29 Nov 2006

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Department of Philosophy Colloquium Nov. 30 will present a lecture by John Russon, associate philosophy professor at the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, and an expert in ancient philosophy and 19th and 20th century European philosophy.

Titled "The Elements of Everyday Life: Three Lessons from Ancient Greece," the talk begins at 4 p.m. in the Levinson Room of The Maples on the Orono campus. The public is invited to the free lecture.

Russon is the author of *Human Experience: Philosophy, Neurosis and the Elements of Everyday Life*, which won 2005 Canadian Philosophical Association Award for Best New Book in Philosophy. He also is the author of two books on German philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, *Reading Hegel's Phenomenology* and *The Self and Its Body in Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit*.

The 2006-2007 Philosophy Colloquium Series is funded in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee.

For additional information, contact philosophy professor and Philosophy Colloquium Coordinator Doug Allen at douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu or call 581-3860.

Annual Maine Indian Basket Makers Sale and Demonstration Dec. 9

01 Dec 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Hudson Museum's Twelfth Annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance basket sale and crafts fair Dec. 9 offers the public an opportunity to see and learn about Maine Indian artforms, listen to traditional music and sample Maine Indian foods.

The event, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., features more than 30 Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot artists from Maine, who come to the Orono campus each year to sell their hand-made, one of a kind, ash splint and sweet grass basketry. Work baskets include creels, pack and potato baskets and fancy baskets range from strawberry- and blueberry-shaped baskets to curly bowls. Authentic porcupine quill jewelry, wood carvings and birch bark work also will be available at the sale.

Traditional foods served up by the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club (hull corn soup, fry bread, blueberry desserts), music, demonstrations of brown ash pounding and basket making, in addition to traditional drumming and dancing also will be featured throughout the day.

Though the sale and crafts show is free from 10 a.m. on, early bird shopping is available for a \$10 fee. The annual event typically draws hundreds of shoppers, basket collectors and others from throughout New England and beyond, as it is one of the few public opportunities to find such a large gathering of Maine tribal craftspeople and basketmakers in one place.

The Hudson Museum Friends will raffle off a brown ash and cedar bark basket, hand-made by renowned basketmaker Theresa Secord of the Penobscot Nation, according to Gretchen Faulkner, museum director. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and are available at the Hudson Museum Shop and at the event.

Secord is the great-granddaughter of acclaimed Penobscot basketmaker Philomene Saulis Nelson. She carries on family basketmaking traditions using the same blocks and gauges that her great-grandmother used to create acorn and barrel baskets, as well as innovating new forms, such as corn baskets.

Secord also is known for her advocacy of Maine Indian sweet grass and brown ash basketmaking, and she serves as executive director of the Old Town-based Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance, an organization of more than 200 members. She has received awards for her basketry from the Eiteljorg Museum and the Heard Museum. In 2003, she became the first U.S. citizen to receive the Prize for Creativity in Rural Life from the Women's World Summit Foundation at the United Nations in Geneva Switzerland.

The event schedule follows:

9-10 a.m., early bird shopping

\$10 admission fee for this special shopping opportunity

10 a.m., opening welcome by the Penobscot Nation, the event's host tribe, and the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance

10:30-11 a.m., brown ash pounding and work basket demonstration by Micmac Eldon Hanning

11 a.m.-noon, Penobscot songs by Kelly Demmons, a Penobscot

11 a.m.-1 p.m., traditional foods, Bodwell Lounge area, with hull corn soup, fried bread and blueberry desserts; food sales proceeds benefit the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club

1:30-2:30 p.m., the Burnurwurbskek Singers, with drumming, singing and dancing

3 p.m., drawing for the Hudson Museum Friends Maine Indian Basket Raffle

Temporary exhibits currently running at the Hudson Museum include "Muwin and the Magic Hare" by Maine artist and illustrator Robert Shetterly and the 2006 Waponaki Student Art Show, featuring artwork by pre-school and elementary students on the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy reservations and Native students at nearby high schools.

The Shetterly exhibit features twelve images created and published in *Muwin and the Magic Hare*. Shetterly's work features Muwin, the black bear and Mahtoqehs, the Great Magic Hare of the North Woods, and draws upon a traditional Passamaquoddy tale from Dream Time -- a time after the earth, the water, and the sun, moon and stars were made.

People and animals could talk with each other, and beings with magical powers were able to transform themselves from one form to another.

In this traditional tale, Muwin tracks the magical trickster hare from his den on the march, over the heath, to the bay and back to his winter den. Mahtoqehs eludes him, transforming himself in Passamaquoddy men and women, who entertain Muwin with ancient tales and feed him snowshoe hare, but then disappear while Muwin is sleeping.

The 2006 Waponaki Student Art Show, running Dec. 4 to Jan. 31, 2007, is organized by the Abbe Museum and Maine Indian Education.

More information can be obtained by calling the Hudson Museum at 581-1901.

Ivan Manev Awarded Nicolas Salgo Professorship

01 Dec 2006

Contact: Ivan Manev, 581-1984; George Manlove, 581-3756

Ivan Manev, professor of management in the Maine Business School, has been named the University of Maine's fourth Nicolas Salgo Professor of Business Administration.

The professorship is a five-year, renewable appointment accompanied by a financial award to be used to advance the international mission and priorities of the business school through research, international travel-study courses and service activities. Recipients, chosen by a multidisciplinary selection committee, must have a strong research record and demonstrate a willingness to work with the business community, in addition to the Maine Business School's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce.

Manev's teaching and research interests are business management, entrepreneurship and international business. He joined the business faculty in 1997, having earned a bachelor's degree at the Higher Institute of Economics in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1987, an MBA from the University of Minnesota, Duluth in 1992, and a Ph.D. from Boston College in 1997.

He has published and presented extensively, and also is the author of a book, *The Managerial Network in a Multinational Enterprise*.

"I am quite honored and in a way humbled, because typically these kinds of awards go to people closer to at the end of their career," Manev says. "This is quite exciting, and I am grateful for the opportunity to advance research in the business school and make it better known in both the scholarly and business community."

Manev, an Orono resident, is the fourth professor to receive the professorship, which was created in 1968 by an endowment from Nicolas Salgo, an immigrant who became a millionaire financier and commercial real estate developer, and served under the Reagan Administration as U.S. ambassador to his native Hungary.

Salgo wanted the professorship to enhance the visibility and reputation of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health at the University of Maine and, additionally, to further the business school's international initiatives, research and publication efforts. Funding associated with the professorship will provide stipends for research staff and selected projects.

The professorship is important to the business school as it continues to broaden its curriculum and research, observes Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health.

"Clearly, the economy is becoming much more global in scope. The Salgo professorship helps us pursue research and teaching that includes a global perspective," Innis says. "This professorship, in conjunction with the Cohen Center,

positions the school very well in terms of integrating those global perspectives into our research, publications and outreach."

Salgo's expertise was in international finance and the politics of Eastern Europe. The former president of Watergate Companies in Washington, D.C., which included the Watergate hotel properties, previously was consultant to the Bangor Punta, one of the first in a new generation of American corporate holding companies that started in the early 1960s with the ownership of the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad. Under Salgo's leadership, and with two former Bangor & Aroostook presidents, Curtis Hutchinson and W. Gordon Robertson, the conglomerate diversified its holdings to include Punta Alegre Sugar Corporation, C-G-F Topeka Grain Elevators, Crown Fabrics, Smith & Wesson, Piper Aircraft and part of Harley Davidson, among other companies.

Bangor Punta was sold in 1983 to Lear Siegler, Inc.

Salgo, who died in 2005, was an early friend of the Maine Business School and also served on the Hudson Museum Board on Trustees.

Prior to Manev being awarded the professorship, retired business professor John Ford held the post.

UMaine Student Art Show, FUSE, Opens Dec. 8

04 Dec 2006

Contact: Ed Norton, 949-1459; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Twenty-four University of Maine studio art majors exhibiting dozens of works that culminate their fall semester's efforts are inviting the public to Lord Hall Gallery's newest show, "Senior Art Exhibition, FUSE," Dec. 8 through Jan. 26.

The exhibit represents collaboration by all of the 24 senior studio art majors at UMaine. Participation in the show is the required senior Capstone project, which includes supplemental presentations, artists' statements, essays and hands-on involvement in putting the show together. The artwork includes mixed media abstracts, portraits, landscapes and conceptual.

The exhibit is free and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. An opening reception for the public is scheduled Dec. 8, from 5:30-7 p.m. All are welcome to enjoy art, food and live music.

While the artwork is an expression of creative thought and process, the show is an exercise in reality for the student artists. They planned and organized the exhibition, from the matting, framing and hanging of the works to its promotion and marketing.

Art professor Ed Nadeau, faculty advisor for the student exhibit, says the show "is really about professionalism and knowing what to expect in the art world. This is a segue into the professional art world."

As budding career artists, students must know how to get their work in front of the public -- a curricular component that hasn't always accompanied an art education, Nadeau says. Hence, students are being taught how to explain and promote their work, and how to get it into conventional art shows.

"Success," he says, "doesn't just happen naturally. It's important for young artists to understand the structure of the art world."

Mariel Connor of Old Town agrees. She wants to pursue a master's degree in fine arts in painting after graduation in the spring so she can teach art at the college level while pursuing her own craft.

"It's helpful to see all of the things we need to be prepared for if we're going to be showing our work in a gallery somewhere," she says. "I didn't have any experience with it before."

Olivia Cyr, from Fort Kent, says each piece chosen for the show reflects the creator's strengths and interests, and is indicative of the body of work each artist has produced and will produce in the future.

Themes for the exhibit are evident in the information presented with the work, in the artist's statements to be posted with the work. The statements describe the artist's philosophy, influences, methods of working and ambitions as new artists. Statements serve as abstracts of a larger, fully developed thesis that students have researched and written throughout the semester, in order to develop and realize themselves as artists, Cyr says.

On Dec. 12 and Dec. 14, from 7-9 p.m., the students will gather at the Lord Hall Gallery for "Artist Talks," an evening when they'll discuss their work with each other and the public.

Ludlow UMaine Cooperative Extension Nutrition Aide Honored

06 Dec 2006

Contact: Jolynn Stevens, 207-532-0506

HOULTON, Me.--Jolynn Stevens, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension Nutrition Aide from Ludlow, was honored recently at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) 2006 annual session. Stevens provides nutrition education for families in southern Aroostook County as part of UMaine Extension's *Eat Well* Program. She received the Eastern Region Para-Professional Award at the annual NEAFCS conference in Denver, Colorado.

The Para-Professional Award recognizes outstanding accomplishments of para-professionals in Extension Family and Consumer Sciences for the use of imaginative and effective methods to reach special audiences, including youth. Stevens received this award for her work in promoting behavior change in elementary school children and helping the school win a state nutrition award. Stevens also provides nutrition education and cooking classes to home-bound individuals through a home visitation program.

UMaine Extension Nutrition Professional Lisa Fishman, Stevens' sponsoring NEAFCS member, remarked that "Jolynn

UMaine MBA/MSA Association Elects New Officers

06 Dec 2006

Contact: Rich Grant, 581-1971; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The MBA/MSA Association of the Maine Business School at the University of Maine elected new officers in November for 2007.

All are students in the master of business administration or master of science in accounting program.

Bangor native Steve Parlee, who works as a distribution supervisor for the U.S. Postal Service center in Hampden, was elected president. Parlee earned undergraduate degrees from UMaine in 1994, in political science and sociology. He succeeds outgoing president Jaime Call-Laliberte of Bangor.

Peter Harriman of Stillwater was elected vice president of networking and social interaction. He received an undergraduate degree in political science from UMaine in 2002, and most recently worked for U.S. Cellular.

Steve Fortune was elected vice president of learning and professional development. Originally from Trinidad and Tobago, Fortune earned his undergraduate degree in electrical and computer engineering at UMaine in spring 2006.

Courtlandt McKinlay of Cheshire, Conn., was elected vice president of community involvement. She earned an undergraduate degree in communication from Boston University in 2005.

Before electing new officers, the association approved several changes in the organizational structure of the group, whose mission is described as "providing personal and professional exploration opportunities for business graduate students, via seminars, collaborative activities, meetings and social events."

The original configuration, which included a president, vice president and secretary/treasurer, was changed to operate under a president, vice president of networking and social interaction, vice president of learning and professional development and vice president of community involvement.

Extension Publication Explains Use of Rain Gardens to Filter Runoff

06 Dec 2006

Contact: Laura Wilson 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu

ORONO--University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published a new bulletin, Adding a Rain Garden to Your Landscape,

Maine Sea Grant Director to Lead National Organization

07 Dec 2006

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, 581-1434

ORONO, Maine -- Paul Anderson, director of the Maine Sea Grant College Program, has been elected president of the Sea Grant Association, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to furthering the Sea Grant program concept.

Through membership in the Sea Grant Association, the University of Maine and other academic institutions that participate in the National Sea Grant College Program have a means to coordinate their activities and set Sea Grant program priorities at both the regional and national level. "Paul's knowledge of the issues and his ability to forge consensus among diverse partners and stakeholders speaks volumes for his future success as president. I'm certain he'll be an exceptional leader for the Sea Grant Association and look forward to working with him over the next two years," said outgoing president Jonathan Kramer, director of Maryland Sea Grant.

As chief executive and chief operating officer of the Sea Grant Association, Anderson will be responsible for overseeing the organization's government relations activities, as well as providing the association's unified voice on issues of importance to the oceans and coasts.

"There is broad, national enthusiasm for the unique Sea Grant structure that links university research with education and outreach, and as president of the SGA, I hope to continue to share our successes and to promote Sea Grant as a major contributor in addressing America's coastal challenges," Anderson said. Before joining Sea Grant in 1999, Anderson directed the Maine Department of Marine Resources Public Health Division, where he focused on environmental monitoring for seafood safety. Anderson also leads the Marine Extension Team, a group of 10 Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension staff members located along the Maine coast from Eastport to Wells. The Marine Extension Team helps coastal communities gain the capacity to make informed decisions on the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources.

Sea Grant is a national network of 30 programs that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Maine Sea Grant College Program is based at the University of Maine and has a mission of supporting marine science education, research, and outreach.

For more information, visit <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/index.htm>.

Fellowships Worth Up to \$24,000 Available for Future Teachers

07 Dec 2006

Contact: Prof. Mark Brewer at 581-1863

ORONO -- The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally endowed and privately funded program designed to strengthen instruction about the Constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 2007 for master's degree level graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. College seniors and college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government, or social studies are eligible for the fellowships.

Through a nationwide competition, James Madison Fellowships will be awarded to at least one legal resident of each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the other U.S territories. After completing study under their fellowships, James Madison Fellows are required to teach American history, American government, or social studies in grades 7-12 for a minimum of one year for each academic year of graduate assistance they receive.

Fellowships carry a maximum stipend of \$24,000 for up to two years of full-time study for college graduates, which is used to cover the costs of tuition, required fees, books, and room and board.

Fellows must enroll in graduate programs leading to master's degrees in American history, political science, or education offered by any accredited U.S. university. Participation in an accredited four-week Summer Institute held at Georgetown University on the principles, framing, ratification and implementation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights is required of all Fellows, normally during the summer after the commencement of study. Fellows' attendance at the Summer Institute is paid for by the Madison Foundation.

Details about the program may be obtained on campus from Prof. Mark Brewer of the UMaine Dept. of Political Science or from the James Madison Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 4030, Iowa City, Iowa 52243-4030; telephone 1-800-525-6928, 8: 30 a.m.-5 p.m., central time; e-mail madison@act.org. The 2007 James Madison Fellowship application must be completed online. The application and supporting materials may be found on the Foundation's website: www.jamesmadison.com.

Application materials and all supporting documents must be received by March 1.

Student Group Raising Funds for Crossroads

08 Dec 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine student leaders who participate in Alternative Spring Break (ASB) community service programs all around the country are planning a week-long fundraiser to benefit an organization that serves local

communities.

The second annual ASB Camp-in for Crossroads starts at 8 a.m. Sunday Dec. 10 in UMaine's Memorial Union, continuing until midnight Saturday Dec. 16. Students will staff the indoor "campsite" round-the-clock during the week, seeking cash donations from those who pass by their location. The money raised will support community assistance activities at Crossroads Resource Center in Old Town.

ASB students spend their spring break in March working as part of a national program that brings volunteers to important service projects around the U.S. UMaine participation in ASB is growing each year.

Brewer Students to Visit UMaine Papermaking as Part of Mill History Project

11 Dec 2006

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- After studying and touring the closed and functionally abandoned Eastern Fine Paper mill as part of their "Save Our History" project, about 90 Brewer Middle School students are scheduled see a modern paper-making operation during a visit Tuesday to the University of Maine.

Three groups of about 30 students will tour the paper-making operation in Jenness Hall at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., and will have a chance to participate in making sample sheets of paper, according to Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the university's Folklife Center, and Proserfina Bennett, managing director of the Process Development Center in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

The "Save Our History" project is an educational outreach project coordinated by the Maine Folklife Center at UMaine. It involves introducing the Brewer Middle School students to methods of preserving the history of Brewer's now-closed Eastern Fine Paper mill through the stories and memories of former millworkers. The Folklife Center also has been conducting broader oral history research with former millworkers at other Maine paper mills in Old Town, Bucksport, Millinocket and Lincoln, in addition to Eastern Fine. The Bucksport mill is one of a handful in Maine that continues to operate.

With assistance from the Folklife Center, the Brewer students have been doing their own research since September for a class project on Eastern Fine and a group of its former employees. They visited the mill during the fall.

"When we toured the mill, it was dark and the students had to use flashlights," MacDougall says. Touring the Orono research facility, "is an opportunity for them to see how paper was made in the Brewer mill."

Students in Brewer Middle School teacher Richard Kimball's seventh-grade class have made video recordings of former workers, photographed the mill inside and out, drawn floor plans and drafted news releases to recruit former millworkers with mill stories to share.

The Folklife Center has documented stories from millworkers, collected articles from mill publications dating back as far as 1880 and recorded their work as it progresses on DVD and on the Folklife Center website (<http://www.umaine.edu/folklife/>).

Since its inception, the project has received grants from the Maine Humanities Council, the UMaine Women in the Curriculum program, and a \$10,000 grant from The History Channel's "Save Our History" grant initiative, which funds the center's work with the Brewer school students.

MacDougall says the purpose of taking the paper mill research into the public schools is to help students understand the importance and methods of historic preservation.

The experiential nature of the research makes the project more memorable for the students, and also will introduce them to the work being done at the Folklife Center, she says.

More information about the oral history and research into former paper mill employees' experiences can be obtained by visiting the website or call the center at (207) 581-1891.

UMaine Peace Studies Coordinating Delegation to Venezuela

11 Dec 2006

Contact: Barbara Blazej, 581-2625; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine Peace Studies Program, in conjunction with Witness for Peace, is inviting anyone who is interested to join a delegation to Venezuela March 4-13, 2007.

The trip, which focuses on the theme "Exploring the Complexities of the New Venezuela," "comes at a historic time to bear witness to the dramatic changes taking place in our hemisphere," says Barbara Blazej, an instructor in the Peace Studies Program who is coordinating the trip.

Previous delegations organized by UMaine Peace Studies have attracted participants from around New England and beyond. "We'd love to have a broad range of people coming on these delegations," Blazej says.

Venezuela, one of the northern-most countries in South America, represents an interesting and challenging new chapter in the history of the United States' relationship with Latin America. Nearly 200 years ago, independence movements swept through Latin America to rid the Western Hemisphere of European colonialism, led and inspired by revolutionary leader Sim

Weinberger Named to UMaine Post

12 Dec 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Steven Weinberger, an executive with 25 years of experience in personnel, labor relations and benefits, has been named Assistant Vice President for Human Resources at the University of Maine. A Connecticut native who most recently worked as executive director of the 18,000-member United Faculty of Florida bargaining unit, Weinberger started at UMaine on Dec. 4.

"Steve brings a wealth of relevant experience to this new role at UMaine," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance. "Human resources is a complex enterprise, and I am certain that the entire operation will thrive under Steve's leadership. He has an enviable track record of innovative leadership and professional achievement."

Catherine Pease has served as UMaine's interim director of human resources since April 1, 2004. She remain in a human resources leadership role, working on personnel issues and three departmental strategic focus areas: family-friendly workplace policies, emergency assistance planning, and professional development issues.

"Catherine has done a wonderful job leading this department for more than two years, and I am deeply appreciative of her outstanding work," says Waldron. "We are fortunate to have her continuing as a highly valued member of our team."

In addition to his work with the Florida faculty union, Weinberger has held human resource-related management posts with the Connecticut State Comptroller's Office, the Connecticut State Office of Labor Relations and the Broome County (N.Y.) Personnel Department. Following graduation from the University of Miami School of Law in 1977, he worked as an attorney for the New York City Council and for the Westchester County Law Department. Weinberger has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Teikyo Post University and Albertus Magnus College, both in Connecticut.

Traveling Cohen Papers Exhibit Now in Bangor

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Paige Lilly, (207) 581-2665

ORONO -- The new traveling exhibit extracted from the University of Maine's William S. Cohen Papers collection, featuring facsimiles of photographs, handwritten notes, speeches and campaign memorabilia from the former congressman's political papers, currently is on display at the Bangor Public Library through Jan. 17.

The exhibit illuminates the way Congress was designed to work and what politicians actually do on a day-to-day basis in Washington, as documented by the Bangor native and former U.S. Secretary of Defense.

Titled "Cohen, Congress and Controversy: Rediscovering Civics in the Archives," the six-panel exhibit is intended to bring the legislative branch into focus. Topics include Bill Cohen's successful 1972 bid for Maine's second congressional district seat, the powers of Congress granted by the Constitution, the busy life of a senator as portrayed in Cohen's book about his first year there, and the oversight role of Congress, illustrated with documents from the Watergate and Iran-Contra investigations.

The freestanding exhibit includes interactive panels designed to appeal to young children.

"The Cohen Papers are open for research," says Raymond H. Fogler Library Dean Joyce Rumery. "This traveling exhibit invites people all across Maine to glimpse the richness of the collection."

In 1996, Cohen donated his political papers and 1,500 boxes of documents and photographs to Fogler Library's Special Collections. In 2001, he added a selection of Department of Defense material on 16 compact disks. The University of Maine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health also is home to the William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce.

The exhibit has traveled to venues along the route of Cohen's celebrated 1972 campaign walk from the New Hampshire border to Fort Kent. The first stop was the Bethel Historical Society, on July 25. The exhibit moved to the Wilton Free Public Library in early September, and to the Lewiston Public Library in October.

After Jan. 17, the exhibit returns to the Orono campus, where it will be displayed from Jan. 17 through Feb. 7 on the second floor balcony of the D.P. Corbett Business Building. From Feb. 7 through March 1, the exhibit will be displayed in the lobby area of Fogler Library's mall entrance.

More information about the exhibit and its schedule can be obtained at www.library.umaine.edu/cohen or by calling Paige Lilly at (207) 581-2665, or emailing to paige.lilly@umit.maine.edu.

Engineering Honor Society to Induct Eight

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Eight University of Maine-educated engineers, including a UMaine Facilities Management project manager and the founder of a high-tech business based on his student research, will join UMaine's prestigious Francis Crowe Society as distinguished engineers on Friday, Dec. 15. The induction is scheduled for 1 p.m. in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in the Engineering and Science Building.

Francis Crowe Society Distinguished Engineers are UMaine graduates who have achieved notable success in engineering careers and significant contributors to their communities. The society is named for Crowe, a 1905 UMaine graduate whose accomplishments included the construction of 19 major dams in the Western U.S. between 1904 and 1944.

The society is open to all UMaine engineering graduates. In addition to the eight new Distinguished Engineers, Friday's ceremony will include recent graduates, some 50 of whom have been invited to the event.

"UMaine engineering has a long and proud history," says Dana Humphrey, the college's interim dean. "From the days when Frank Crowe was engineering the great dams that changed the face of the American west through today, our graduates have made a real difference. The new Distinguished Engineers are outstanding role models for our current students. We are proud of their accomplishments as leaders in business and academia."

Listed alphabetically, the new Distinguished Engineers are:

Christopher Frank, CEO and Founder of Intelligent Spatial Technologies, Inc., a business he developed from his UMaine engineering research

Victor Jipson, Vice President of Systems and Solution Engineering, Adaptec, Inc.

Carolyn McDonough, Project Manager, University of Maine Facilities Management

Wendy Porter, Director of Environmental Management, InterfaceFABRIC

Kenneth Priest II, President, Kenway Corporation

Timothy Sommers, Project Engineer, Pizzagalli Construction

A. Richard Viannozi, a faculty member at Wentworth Institute of Technology

David Walker, Corporate Facilities Engineer, InterfaceFABRIC

Internet Ticket Purchases for "Charlotte's Web" Movie to Support 4-H

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Mary Dinsmore, Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation, P (207) 581-3327, F (207) 581-1387

ORONO, Me. --Staff members of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H youth development program were excited to learn that their program will receive proceeds from ticket sales for the new movie, "Charlotte's Web." Paramount Pictures and Walden Media have agreed to donate one dollar of every ticket sale to the purchaser's state 4-H program, provided that the tickets are purchased through the national 4-H website at www.fourhcouncil.edu.

"Charlotte's Web," based on the beloved children's book by E.B. White, features a young 4-H member who lives on a Maine farm. The movie displays the 4-H clover several times, and embodies the 4-H values of dedication, friendship, and loyalty.

"We are very excited about this partnership," says Fred Schlutt, executive director of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation and UMaine Extension's resource development officer. "This is a great opportunity to see a classic tale brought to life on the movie screen while supporting a worthy program. It is also great advertising for 4-H, as Fern's hard work and dedication to Wilbur shows exactly the type of qualities we promote in 4-H. Whether they are raising a pig, designing a website, or participating in community service, 4-H'ers always give their best effort."

4-H is University of Maine Cooperative Extension's youth development program. The Pine Tree State 4_H Foundation is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization that provides financial and organizational support to 4-H clubs throughout Maine. For more information visit [the Cooperative Extension website](#).

UMaine Researcher Recognized for Contributions to Spatial Science

13 Dec 2006

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Professor Michael Worboys from the Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering at the University of Maine was recently named one of 24 distinguished scientists in an international nomination, peer evaluation and selection process managed by the Association of Computing Machinery.

ACM is the world's oldest and largest educational and scientific computing society and serves a membership of computing professionals in more than 100 countries in all areas of industry, academia, and government. Professor Worboys was cited for his early conceptual work on spatio-temporal information systems, research contributions related to object-oriented models of spatial data and uncertainty in spatial data and, more recently, event-oriented models of dynamic spatial information systems.

The core criterion for all recipients is that they must have made significant accomplishments or achieved a significant impact on the computing field as attested to in letters of nomination and support by well-respected peers in their disciplinary domain. In addition to the 24 distinguished scientists, seventeen distinguished engineers and eight distinguished members of ACM were recognized also in this first annual nomination and selection process.

Google, IBM, INTEL, Microsoft, Sun Microsystems, and Yahoo were among the corporations that had leading scientists or engineers recognized. In addition to Maine, other universities that had distinguished faculty recognized included Carnegie Mellon, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rutgers, Texas at Austin, Berkeley and Yale, among others.

Northern Maine Project Turns Seed Crops into Fuel

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Peter Sexton (207) 764-3361; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Working in collaboration with businesses in northern Maine, UMaine Cooperative Extension Crops Specialist Peter Sexton has completed a pilot project that successfully converted Maine-grown seed crops into 1000 gallons of the alternative fuel biodiesel. The project offers an exciting glimpse into Maine's potential as a producer of oil seed for use as fuel.

Utilizing of his expertise in field crop research, Sexton planted 30 acres in Aroostook County with oil-rich mustard and canola. The experimental plots yielded more than 25 tons of oilseed, which were pressed during the winter by CHB Proteins, an independent mill that is one of several small businesses participating in the project.

More than 2000 gallons of raw canola oil was extracted from the seeds harvested from Sexton's test plots. A portion of the thick, amber oil was later blended with petroleum-based fuel to produce the state's first 1000 gallons of homegrown biodiesel, an alternative fuel blend that can be used in the same way as traditional diesel fuel without any engine or burner modifications. While Sexton will keep a portion of the fuel for testing and demonstration purposes, more than half of the biodiesel is already being put to use -- warming homes and fueling farm equipment in northern Maine. Already available at select sites across the state, biodiesel produced elsewhere is rapidly increasing in popularity as an alternative to all-fossil fuels that are produced largely overseas.

While oil from field crops will likely remain only a small piece of the nation's energy puzzle, Maine has the potential to greatly increase its oil seed production, either as part of a potato rotation program or as its own cash crop

"Within the potato rotation in Maine, if we produce 10,000 to 15,000 acres of canola, then we could in theory produce approximately 800,000 to 1,200,000 gallons of biodiesel," said Sexton. "Biodiesel has less toxic emissions, better lubricity for engines, and is more biodegradable than straight fossil fuels. It also contributes less to global warming because growing the plants and burning their oil just moves carbon dioxide through its natural cycle, rather than inputting new CO2 into the atmosphere like oil that is pumped out of the ground. At a societal level, biodiesel is just a small percentage of what we use, but it's a step in the right direction."

Potato Pathogens and Biosecurity

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Laurie Connell (207) 581-2470; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Potato wart, a highly contagious fungal disease of potatoes, can not only ruin a potato crop, it can destroy the agricultural value of the soil it infects for decades. So virulent that it has been listed as a threat to the nation's biosecurity by the federal government, potato wart has had a devastating impact on European agriculture and can be found just beyond Maine's borders in isolated areas of Newfoundland, Canada.

UMaine researchers Laurie Connell and Rosemary Smith are combining their expertise in molecular biology and sensor development to help combat the dangerous disease. Utilizing a four-year, \$800,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Biosecurity Program, Connell and Smith are working with Steven Woods of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to create a fast and effective device for detecting potato wart in soil.

The mobile, hand-held sensor currently being developed will use groundbreaking techniques in nanotechnology to identify the RNA sequence specific to the potato wart pathogen, providing faster, more accurate results than the field identification techniques currently in use. The new sensor, which utilizes a bridge of gold nanoparticles that reacts to specific molecular configurations, could provide researchers with an important new tool for detecting a broad range of potential toxins and pathogens in the field.

Connell and Smith are currently developing the specialized surfaces and attachment methods required for the nanoparticles and streamlining the process for extracting the potato wart pathogen from the soil. The project promises to greatly improve the chances of early detection of the disease, which is critical to its control.

UMaine Engineers Excel in Bidding Competition

13 Dec 2006

Contact: Philip Dunn (207) 581-2326; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Eighteen students from the Construction Management Technology and Civil and Environmental Engineering programs competed in the 17th Annual Associated Schools of Construction Region I Bidding Competition held in Fairfield, NJ on November 9-12, 2006. Facing tough competition from more than a dozen schools, UMaine teams finished second in both the Heavy Civil and Design --Build categories.

The ASC is a nationwide organization of schools that offer construction management programs to promote and teach the standards of the construction industry. The greater construction contracting community sponsors the event with major contributing sponsors serving as the coordinators of each of the competition categories. Major sponsors provide actual project information to students and act as the judges for student team entries within their respective competition. Student teams use that information to prepare a full construction bid, means and methods, and schedule to build the project that is presented to them.

The team advisor was Philip Dunn, Jr. PE, Assistant Professor of Construction Management Technology at UMaine. Other sponsors participated in a job fair that offers each student participant the opportunity to learn about potential jobs with the represented companies.

Students competing in the competition from UMaine included:

Heavy Civil: Ben Winsor (Sr. in CIE), Brayden Sheive (Jr. in CMT), Zachary Davis (Jr. in CMT), Ryan Levesque (Jr. in CMT), Matt Morin (Jr. in CMT), Michael Morneau (So. in CMT)

Design-Build: Kate Hurley (Sr. in CMT), Jeff Kelley (Sr. in CMT), Jesse Nash (Sr. in CIE), Brock Bessey (Jr. in CIE), Travis Hamel (Sr. in CIE), and Brandon Blake (Jr. in CIE)

Commercial Building: David Manz (Sr. in CMT), Pat Skall (Sr. in CMT), Brandon Cummings (Jr. in CMT), Jason Jendrasko (Sr. in CMT), Kabe Mickon (Jr. in CMT), and Rob Sampson (So. in CMT)

Special assistance came from Mr. Tim Sommers and Mr. Garret Bertolini of Pizzagalli Construction, Mr. Brian Watson of Cianbro Corporation, and Assistant Professor Ann Joles of the Communications and Journalism Department.

UMaine Community to Test Exercise Equipment

14 Dec 2006

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Future users of the University's of Maine's Student Recreation Center, under construction and due to open next fall, will have the opportunity to try out some of the exercise equipment that might be available to them in the new facility.

UMaine campus recreation officials will bring top-of-the-line equipment to campus, beginning Monday Dec. 18, so that UMaine students, faculty members and staff members can try the new models and provide feedback. That community input will figure into final decisions on equipment purchases.

From Monday through Friday of next week, a Cybex Arc Trainer, provided by Maine Fitness in Bangor, will be set up in the Spirit Room on the second floor of Memorial Union. The other pieces will arrive in January, according to a schedule to be determined. Those machines -- a Life Fitness 951TI treadmill with E-Z TV console, a Life Fitness Cable Motion Dual Adjustable Pulley Strength Trainer, and a Lemond Spinning Bike -- will be set up in the Spirit Room and Latti Fitness Center during January.

The 89,000 square foot Student Recreation Center is located behind UMaine's Hilltop Complex.

UMaine Recognized by IEEE

18 Dec 2006

Contact: Ali Abedi (207) 581-2231; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine has been selected as a recipient of the 2006 Supporting Friend of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Regional Activities Award. Approved by the IEEE Regional Activities Board in November, the award was established to recognize those organizations that encourage and support IEEE activities and volunteerism.

IEEE recognized UMaine for its support in hosting the highly-successful 2006 IEEE Region One Student Conference and Micro Mouse Competition. More than 150 participants from across the Northeast participated in the event - the largest attendance ever for the competition. This is the first time in more than 50 years of IEEE membership that UMaine has hosted the event, which is typically held on larger campuses in New York and Massachusetts.

"We worked very hard to get the conference here this year. We have a great school, but people don't really know about the excellent facilities that we have here," said UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering professor and IEEE Maine Communications/Computer Society Chair Ali Abedi.

The award consists of an engraved plaque. Among previous year's winners are General Electric Company (2000), Oracle Corporation (2001), Lockheed Martin Aeronautics (2002), Memorial University of Newfoundland (2003), Boeing Corporation (2004) and Gennum Corporation (2005).

UMaine Professor elected to Chair the Council of Scientific Society Presidents

18 Dec 2006

Contact: Peter Jumars (207) 581-3321; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP) elected UMaine School of Marine Sciences Professor Peter A. Jumars to be its Chair Elect for 2007 at its semi-annual meeting in December.

The CSSP (<http://www.cssp.us/>) is the nation's leading center for development of science leadership and science policy. It comprises the Presidents of about 60 scientific societies and represents well over 1.4 million scientists and science educators.

Jumars is highly regarded for his work, which focuses on biological-physical interactions in the marine environment. A former president of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, Jumars will become CSSP Chair in 2008.

Aquatic Animal Health Lab Receives Major Grant for Equipment

18 Dec 2006

Contact: Cathy Billings (207) 581-2751; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine's new Maine Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory (MAAHL) recently received a grant of \$395,205 from the State of Maine's Marine Research Fund, administered by the Maine Technology Institute. The award will allow MAAHL to purchase equipment that will greatly increase the lab's capabilities to serve as a resource to facilitate applied research in marine animal health assessments and investigations in a timely and exemplary manner. The Marine Research Fund grant will also facilitate the establishment of a state-of-the-art marine environmental samples repository. MAAHL is a collaborative service of the University's Department of Animal & Veterinary Sciences, Cooperative Extension, and the Lobster Institute.

Student Receives Fellowship for Work With Wood Adhesives

18 Dec 2006

Contact: Roberta Laverty (207) 581-2110; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Xuelian Zhang has been named UMaine's first recipient of the Wood Based Composites Fellowship, established in 2006 with a gift from the Virginia Tech Foundation. Zhang, a Ph.D. student working at the AEWCC Center, has completed approximately 2 years of her studies and is currently completing her comprehensive examination.

Zhang has received numerous awards for her groundbreaking work in the area of ultrasonic atomization of wood adhesives, including: 1st place for her poster, Ultrasonic atomization of resin-adhesives in oriented strand board production, in the University of Maine Student Research and Creative Achievement Week Poster Exhibition (2006) and 2nd place in the poster session of the Forest Products Society Annual Conference - Eastern Canada and the Northeast U.S. Section.

Zhang's major professor is Douglas Gardner, Professor of Wood Science and Technology. With this fellowship, she will receive support for her research activities in the area of adhesive spreading and penetration into wood.

Study Shows Collision Course for Aging Boomers and Alcohol, Drug Abuse

19 Dec 2006

Contact: Jennifer Crittenden, 581-2249; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A recently completed study by the UMaine Center on Aging on alcohol and drug problems among older adults in Hancock County has revealed that abuse is pervasive and getting worse as Baby Boomers age.

The center found through a year-long study that as drug and alcohol problems are increasing among older Mainers, particularly in rural Hancock County, they are poised to become worse as a new generation of boomers, aged 40-60, joins an existing older population already afflicted by substance abuse.

The study, conducted for the Maine Office of Substance Abuse and in partnership with the Healthy Hancock Collaborative, further confirmed what researchers had discovered in previous studies -- that many older people suffering from alcohol and drug problems go unnoticed if they routinely drink at home alone. Also, some people may not think about how much they are drinking on a daily basis. For example, someone who has a glass of wine with dinner and a night cap later in the evening would be exceeding federally recommended limits on alcohol consumption.

"They are not getting arrested for OUI and they're not getting treatment in large numbers, signs that otherwise would underscore the social and health consequences of this disease," says Jennifer Crittenden, research associate with the Center on Aging. "We're having a really hard time identifying numbers because with older adults, the abuse issues are

really hidden."

The study will form a foundation for a more ambitious approach to prevention and treatment work that would be carried out by the Center on Aging, Healthy Hancock Collaborative members in their communities, in addition to physicians, social workers and others who work with aging adults.

The findings came from a dozen community focus groups in Hancock County, a statewide survey of counseling and social work professionals, and interviews with a mix of professionals and community members. Secondary data analysis looked at arrest, substance abuse treatment and healthcare data. Though most significant in Hancock County, substance abuse among aging adults is a growing problem throughout Maine and the nation, Crittenden says.

"Older adults have unique needs when it comes to addressing substance abuse, which are not currently being met by existing services," Crittenden says. "We need this issue to get on the radar screen of physicians and counselors out there working with this population as it is often a hidden problem."

Among the ideas Crittenden says are being discussed include making everyone from friends and family members to professionals who work with older adults aware of the signs and signals of alcohol and substance abuse, in addition to creating more social opportunities for reclusive older people, particularly in rural or isolated areas.

"We already have resources in Maine that can be brought to bear on this issue," Crittenden says. "We have clinicians who are working in the field, healthy community coalitions, the Office of Substance Abuse and primary care physicians who work with older adults."

Part of the research that questioned healthcare providers showed that few knew much about the issue of alcohol dependence and older adults, much less how to address it in their offices.

Crittenden says the study affirmed the difficulty identifying substance abuse situations, partly due to the stigma among aging populations that surrounds the issue and the fierce independence of elders in Maine.

On a more positive note, Crittenden says that while many older adults deny they have substance abuse problems and tend to reject professional intervention, members of the boomer generation may be more willing to seek help. Traditionally more liberal attitudes about drugs and alcohol among many boomers, which in some cases leads to addiction problems, also extend to their attitudes about counseling, therapy and seeking help.

Boomers are more physically and socially active than any previous generation and are showing up on law enforcement and healthcare radar through arrest or treatment statistics, Crittenden observes, which is evidence that the free spirit generation is bringing certain habits along with them as they age.

The University of Maine is working closely with the Healthy Hancock Collaborative to plan local community forums, which can provide an opportunity for community members to learn more about the project findings, as well as start a dialogue about essential next steps in moving the recommendations forward.

UMaine Museums Closing for Holidays

19 Dec 2006

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1901; Patricia Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The Hudson Museum and the Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine will be closed over the holidays, from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2. Both will reopen at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2.

UMaine Business Graduate Students Win Second in Canadian Competition

19 Dec 2006

Contact: Richard Grant, 581-1971; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A team of graduate students from the UMaine Business School recently placed second in an international business plan competition held in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

All international students pursuing masters of business administration degrees, the UMaine students competed against 19 other student teams composed of both graduate and undergraduate students.

Artem Popov from Russia, Gohar Harutyunyan from Armenia and Monica Angelova of Bulgaria presented a business plan for a proposed company that would import sun-dried fruits from Armenia into Canada and distribute them to natural food stores and grocery chains from Ottawa to Quebec City. If the group is successful in launching its venture, the company, Amber Dried Fruits, would be based in Montreal.

The teams each had 12 minutes to present their plans to a panel of three judges at the University of New Brunswick's annual business plan competition sponsored by CIBC, a Canadian bank. The UMaine team won the second place award for a separate, shortened version of the business plan presentation, a one-minute "elevator pitch," delivered by Popov.

"Their written business plan was clear and it was easy to understand what they intend to do," judge Kathy Malley of Malley Industries in Dieppe, N.B., said afterward. "They did a beautiful job on developing a logo and promotional flyer. It was evident that a great deal of work went into this project and we certainly believed their venture to be viable."

Richard Grant, director of business graduate programs and executive education at the UMaine Business School, accompanied the students as coach and advisor.

UMaine Army ROTC to Commission Two Dec. 23

20 Dec 2006

Contact: Major James C. Moreno, enrollment officer, University of Maine Army ROTC, Room 112, Armory, 581-1125

ORONO -- The Black Bear Battalion will hold its cadet commissioning ceremony Saturday, Dec. 23 for two army ROTC cadets at UMaine.

Candyce Jacobson of Winterport and Nicolas Phillips of Stuttgart, Germany, will be commissioned into the United States Army as second lieutenants at 2 p.m. in Arthur Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall.

Jacobson is graduating with a bachelor of science degree in marine sciences, with a minor in military science, and will be a medical service corps officer. She will receive her federal oath of office from Lt. Col. Kevin Harris, professor of military science.

Phillips is graduating with bachelor of science degree in environmental management, with a minor in military science, and will be an engineer corps officer. He will receive his federal oath of office from his father, retired Chief Warrant Officer Four Chris Phillips.

Both cadets will receive their Maine state oaths of office from Lt. Col. Diane Dunne, a former member of the UMaine

Army ROTC staff.

Following the ceremony, the new second lieutenants will take part in the time-honored tradition of presenting a silver dollar to the first non-commissioned officer that renders them a salute. Retired First Sgt. Bruce Judkins, a former member of the UMaine Army ROTC staff, will be the non-commissioned officers receiving the silver dollars. Both future officers Jacobson and Phillips will attend officer basic courses in the coming months and will return to Maine to serve with the Maine Army National Guard.

Eight Students Inducted into Engineering Honor Society Chi Epsilon

22 Dec 2006

Contact: Jon Kenerson, jon.kenerson@umit.maine.edu
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Eight students have been inducted into the honor society Chi Epsilon in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Maine.

Membership in Chi Epsilon is a mark of distinction placed on undergraduates who have upheld the honor of the department through high scholastic ability. Chi Epsilon holds that an honor society with the broad principles of scholarship, character, practicality and sociability is incentive to greater achievement in the civil engineering profession.

The undergraduates inducted into the Maine Alpha chapter on Dec. 13 were: juniors Brock Arthur Bessey of Ashland, Julie Erin Faloon of Medway, Richard Wayne McLain, III, of Levant, Derek John Nener-Plante of Bedford, Mass., Jennifer Lynn Stevens of Knox, Michael Paul Swett of Old Town, William Donald Syron of Burlington, Vt., and senior Kevin Adam Merrill of Westbrook.

UMaine Professor Howard Wins International Essay Prize

22 Dec 2006

Contact: Michael Howard, 581-3861
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine philosophy professor Michael Howard recently won first prize in an essay contest conducted by Basic Income Studies, a new international academic journal that focuses on basic income issues and universal welfare policies.

Howard received the award at the Eleventh Congress of the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) in Cape Town, South Africa in November. The award is designed to inspire promising research on basic income and related policies. The Basic Income Studies essay prize is awarded for an essay that exemplifies the high standard of quality and original basic income research. Winners are chosen from essays presented on alternating years at the BIEN Congress and U.S. Basic Income Guarantee Network Congress.

In his article, "A NAFTA Dividend: A Proposal for a Guaranteed Minimum Income for North America," Howard applies Thomas Pogge's argument for a global resource dividend on a regional basis in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

"The paper is both novel and important, and it is well-developed both in terms of its comparison with the related proposal for a basic income for the European Union and in its examination of the specifics of the North American Free Trade Area," Basic Income Studies editors Karl Widerquist and Jurgen De Wispelaere say. Howard's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal.

Howard also has an article in the first edition of the new Basic Income Studies, which can be accessed through the journal's website (<http://www.bepress.com/bis/>).

The Prize Essay and three essays worthy of honorable mention were selected by a panel of judges from Basic Income Studies and the Basic Income Earth Network, who represented the fields of economics, politics, philosophy and development studies.

Honorable mention was awarded for: "Good for women? Advantages and Risks of Basic Income from a Gender Perspective" by Julieta Elgarta (Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina and Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium); "Why Switzerland? Basic Income and the Development Potential of Swiss Republicanism" by Eric Patry (Institute for Economic and Business Ethics, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland); and "Australia's Disabling Income Support System" by Jennifer Mays (Centre for Social change Research, Queensland University of Technology, Australia).

University of Maine Receives Largest Ever One-time Gift from Private Individual or Family

22 Dec 2006

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, (207) 581-5100 or (800) 982-8503

ORONO -- The University of Maine Foundation has accepted the largest one-time gift ever donated to the University of Maine by a private individual or family, a \$4.2 million personal residence at 200 Woodville Road in Falmouth. Eric and Peggy Cianchette, the home's previous owners, finalized the donation earlier this week.

"This generous gift represents an important milestone in UMaine's \$150 million private fundraising campaign, known as 'Campaign Maine,'" said UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "It will provide an important and useful physical space in the southern part of Maine, where UMaine has a large contingent of supporters, including 25,000 alumni. This facility will allow us to reach out to alumni and friends, and to provide the kind of programming and opportunities that represent UMaine's broad-based statewide impact."

"Thanks to the Cianchettes' remarkable generosity, UMaine's ability to serve Southern Maine will be greatly enhanced," said Amos Orcutt, president and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation. "The acquisition of this facility will bring the University of Maine's considerable resources to Southern Maine and further the foundation's and the university's opportunities to provide useful and valuable service to the local communities."

Orcutt added that Eric and Peggy Cianchette, who donated the property, have been wonderful to work with and that he is extremely grateful for their generous gift.

"The Cianchette Family, meaning my immediate family and our parents, grandparents, uncles, cousins and everyone who have worked with us in our business pursuits, believe in the State of Maine," says Eric Cianchette. "We hope that this gift will help the University of Maine educate a new generation of Mainers who will share our values of honesty and hard work."

The foundation will be working closely with town officials and the Falmouth community to assure that the university will be the kind of neighbor that contributes significantly to the fabric of the community. As specific plans are finalized, more information will become available.

The University of Maine Foundation, located on the Orono campus, was established in 1934. It is a private, non-profit foundation that exists to encourage gifts and bequests for the benefit of the University of Maine. The foundation has a small office at 100 Foden Road in South Portland, Maine. Planned giving officer Dan Willett staffs the South Portland office and was instrumental in the acquisition of this valuable property.

Training for Poultry Producers at AG Trades Show

22 Dec 2006

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205, rbrz@umext.maine.edu

AUGUSTA --University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Alternative Poultry Association (MAPA) will sponsor an afternoon of practical training for poultry producers, 12:30 - 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at the Augusta Civic Center. The training is part of the 2007 Maine Agricultural Trades Show (www.getrealmaine.com), scheduled for Jan. 9

Informational Session for 4-H Poultry Teams

22 Dec 2006

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4207, rbrz@umext.maine.edu

AUGUSTA, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an informational session for 4-H Leaders on establishing a Maine poultry team for the 2007 Avian Bowl competition in Louisville, Ky.; the session will feature poultry specialist Jacqueline Jacobs of University of Minnesota Cooperative Extension. This meeting will be Tuesday evening, Jan. 9, from 6-8 p.m. at the Kennebec County Extension Office, 125 State Street in Augusta. Those at the meeting will explore the possibility of training 4-H youth for a poultry team. States from all over the country send poultry teams to Louisville each November to compete in the Avian Bowl, Poultry Judging, Chicken BBQ, Turkey BBQ, and Egg Preparation.

For more details, contact Richard Brzozowski at (207) 780-4207.

Art Exhibition January 26

19 Dec 2006

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207-561-3352 kj@umit.maine.edu, www.umma.umaine.edu

Digital images available

Bangor, Maine-- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present three exhibitionsbeginning January 26.

Saul Leiter Early Color provides a survey of the artist's seminalwork in color photography throughout the 1950s into the 60s with the city ashis subject matter.

Witty, Sexy, Gimmicky British Pop Art draws from the museum'sextensive collection of modern prints to provide a glimpse of the beginnings ofPop Art which originated in Britain.

William Greiner Blogs* Katrina combines New Orleans photographerWilliam Greiner's photographs, writings and

recollections that have been posted on his blog since October 2005.

Saul Leiter Early Color

For many decades, traditional art photographers considered color to be the poor stepchild of black and white photography. But starting in the late 1960s, an iconoclastic band of young American photographers, among them William Eggleston, Joel Sternfeld and Joel Meyerowitz, took to the street, and irrevocably established color as a vibrant alternative to black and white in the domain of expressive, socially-concerned photography.

Yet only recently has the seminal color street pho