

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

4-14-2021

Meet the 2021 Outstanding Graduating Students

Margaret Nagle

Division of Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Nagle, Margaret, "Meet the 2021 Outstanding Graduating Students" (2021). *General University of Maine Publications*. 1144.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications/1144

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Meet the 2021 Outstanding Graduating Students

April 14, 2021

Thirteen undergraduates have been named 2021 Outstanding Graduating Students at the University of Maine.

Among them is Bailey West, the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and in the Honors College, and the [2021 valedictorian](#). Her profile story is [online](#). Short biographies of the other UMaine Outstanding Graduating Students follow:

Melanie Berry

Melanie Berry of Morrill, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. The Dexter native will receive a Bachelor of University Studies with a minor in psychology. Her numerous awards during her UMaine years include the Nontraditional Student Scholarship, the Alpha One Powering Education Scholarship and the Adult Degree Scholarship. Berry is a human resources associate with athenahealth in Belfast, where she has worked full time since 2009. She started taking classes in 1994-95 at Wilmington College and at UMaine in 2005-06 before returning to complete her degree in 2018.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Melanie Berry

A full Q&A with Berry is [online](#).

Hana Davis

Hana Davis of Tsawwassen, British Columbia is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She will receive a bachelor's degree in communication with a





CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

double major in marketing. The scholar-athlete is captain of the field hockey team and a four-time NFHCA National Academic Squad honoree. Davis served as Spread Respect chair on the UMaine Student Athlete Advisory Committee and represented the university on the America East Conference Student-Athlete of Color Leadership Group. She also is a Mind Spa volunteer. Davis plans to pursue an MBA at UMaine while playing her last year of eligibility.

A full Q&A with Davis is [online](#).



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Hana Davis

Khoa Kieu

Khoa Kieu of Da Nang City, Vietnam is an Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. The chemical engineering major received multiple scholarships during his years at UMaine, including the Roger B. Hill Engineering Scholarship. He participated in a chemical engineering co-op at Verso Paper in Jay in 2019. On campus, he has worked in Dining Services, and as a teaching assistant and peer tutor. He plans to pursue a career in chemical engineering as a process or production engineer.

A full Q&A with Kieu is [online](#).



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Khoa Kieu

Vilgot Larsson

Vilgot Larsson of Stockholm, Sweden is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. The civil engineering major has a concentration in environmental engineering. The scholar-athlete is a member of the men's basketball team. He was a member of the Swedish National Team in the summers through 2019 and at UMaine was involved in community volunteering initiatives. Larsson plans to pursue a career in environmental engineering.

A full Q&A with Larsson is [online](#).



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Vilgot Larsson

Iaryna Iasenytska

Iaryna Iasenytska of Kyiv, Ukraine is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Honors College. She is an international affairs major with a concentration in international security, with minors in Spanish and in legal studies. Her honors thesis is "One-Eyed Man and the Wicked Boar." Last year, Iasenytska was a research assistant with the Marine Fisheries Partnership and is an assistant in the Office of International Programs. She has had internships in Kyiv with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Relocation VIP Servis. Iasenytska has held leadership positions in the International Student Association. She plans to pursue a career in international politics.

A full Q&A with Iasenytska is [online](#).



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Iaryna Iasenytska

Blanca Millan-Modia

Blanca Millan-Modia of Santiago de Compostela, Spain is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is a kinesiology and physical



Education and Human Development. She is a kinesiology and physical education major with a concentration in exercise science, and minors in child development and family relations, and in human nutrition. The scholar-athlete and member of the women's basketball team is a two-time America East Player of the Year and America East Defensive Player of the Year — the only woman in America East history to win both honors twice. Millan-Modia did her kinesiology internship in Latti Fitness Center — UMaine's strength and conditioning facility, where she worked with other student-athletes on other UMaine teams. She has entered the 2021 WNBA draft and also plans to play in Europe. Following her professional basketball career, Millan-Modia plans to use her academic training to assist athletes and teams perform at the highest level.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines
Blanca Millan-Modia

A full Q&A with Millan-Modia is [online](#).

Jordan Miner

Jordan Miner of East Baldwin, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. She is a biomedical engineering major with minors in electrical engineering and bioinstrumentation. Miner is a Maine Top Scholar who received two fellowships from the Center for Undergraduate Research to study Duchenne muscular dystrophy. She has been a student researcher collaborating in the laboratories of professors Karissa Tilbury and Clarissa Henry. Miner has presented and published her research findings, and received best poster honors at the 2019 Northeast Symposium on Biomedical Optics. She also has participated in three internships at IDEXX Laboratories and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. On campus, Miner has been a peer tutor and a leader in the Biomedical Engineering Club. She is captain of the Fastpitch Club that won the 2019-20 New England East conference championship. Miner will pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering at UMaine, focused on cancer research.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines
Jordan Miner

A full Q&A with Miner is [online](#).

Anna Schumann

Anna Schumann of Moers, Germany is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. Schumann will receive a bachelor's degree in molecular and cellular biology, with a double major in biochemistry and a minor in microbiology. The Presidential Scholar is captain of UMaine's track and field team, competing in the long jump and triple jump, and was named to the 2020 All-America East Track & Field Academic Team Indoor & Outdoor. She also received the 2021 M Club Dean Smith award. Schumann has been a research assistant in professor Sally Molloy's lab, investigating how prophage (viruses that infect bacteria) contribute to the fitness of their bacterial hosts and contribute to antibiotic resistance. For her work, Schumann received a Center of Undergraduate Research Fellowship and a UMaine Institute of Medicine Fellowship. Schumann is a peer tutor on campus and mentors youth in track and field in the community. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical and biological sciences at Cornell University.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines
Anna Schumann

A full Q&A with Schumann is [online](#).

Miranda Snyder

Miranda Snyder of Brimfield, Massachusetts is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. The secondary education major with a concentration in English received highest honors for her thesis completed in December



English teacher and highest honors for her thesis completed in December, "How Alumnae of a Middle and High School Feminist Organization Perceive Their Involvement Related to Their Academic Self-Concept." Snyder was awarded a Center for Undergraduate Research Summer Fellowship and received the Thomas E. Lynch Honors Thesis Scholarship. Last year, she also collaborated with professor Rebecca Buchanan on multicultural teacher education programs. Snyder is president of All Maine Women, co-chair of Feminist Collective, a Fogler Library student ambassador, and a member of Hip Hop Club, Black Bear Menors and Eating Disorder/Body Positivity/Body Liberation Advocacy/Activism. She did her student teaching at Herman and Bangor high schools. Snyder plans to be a high school English language arts teacher.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Miranda Snyder

A full Q&A with Snyder is [online](#).

Cameron Spicer

Cameron Spicer of Erie, Colorado is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. He will receive two bachelor's degrees in financial economics and in business administration in finance. Spicer is a defenseman on the men's ice hockey team. The Eagle Scout and Presidential Scholar received a Lavery Scholarship and Dale Lick Academic Achievement awards. His honors thesis is "The Role of the IEX in a Fragmented Market System." As a student researcher, Spicer has collaborated with professors Tim Waring and Sharon Klein to conduct analysis of greenwashing and community solar projects in the United States, respectively. He is a member of the Student Athlete and Honors Student advisory committees, has participated in the Student Portfolio Investment Fund (SPIFFY) and is a leader in the American Sign Language Club. Spicer has started graduate work in the 4+1 program and will complete a master's degree in information systems while competing in his final year of eligibility.

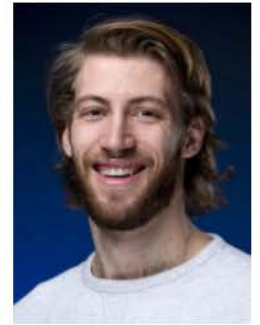


Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Cameron Spicer

A full Q&A with Spicer is [online](#).

Caroline Strolc

Caroline Strolc of Phoenix, Arizona is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is an honors student majoring in art history with a minor in history. A member of the women's swimming and diving team, Strolc has been team captain for the past two years, and a member of the 2020 America East All-Academic Team. She holds records in the 200 and 400 medley relays. Her honors also include the Robert Thomson Memorial Thesis Fellowship and Zillman Art Museum-University of Maine Curatorial Internship. Her honors thesis is, "Benjamin West and His Studio: The Making of an Anglo-American Identity." Strolc has interned at the Hudson Museum on campus and at the American Independence Museum in Exeter, New Hampshire. She also has been a student mentor, lifeguard and swim instructor. She plans to pursue a master's degree in art history and museum studies.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Caroline Strolc

A full Q&A with Strolc is [online](#).

Fanny Wadling

Fanny Wadling of Nacka, Sweden is the Outstanding Graduating International Student for the second consecutive year — last year in the College of Education and Human Development; this year in the Maine Business School. In 2020, she received a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and physical education, with a minor in business administration, and a concentration in exercise science. This year, she



will receive a bachelor's degree in business administration in management. Wadling is a co-captain of the women's basketball team and was named three times to the America East All-Academic Team. She stayed a fifth year at UMaine to earn a second degree and to play her final year of eligibility. Wadling plans to play basketball professionally in Europe, followed by a career in business.



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Fanny Wadling

A full Q&A with Wadling is [online](#).

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

[Home](#)
[Submit news](#)
[Podcast](#)

[UMaine Today Magazine](#)
[Subscribe](#)
[Contact](#)



[Apply](#) [Student Resources](#) [Nondiscrimination notice](#) [Clery Safety and Security Report](#) [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) [Emergency](#)

University of Maine | Orono, ME 04469 | 207.581.1865

UMaine News

[Home](#)
[UMaine Today Magazine](#)
[Submit news](#)
[Subscribe](#)
[Podcast](#)
[Contact](#)


Want weekly
UMaine news
updates in your
inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free
webinar about nutritional
supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public
servant trains in Maine,
Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion,
support draws student from
Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with
Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in
coverage of OUI arrest rise in
Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

[UMaine Today](#)



UMaine names 2021 valedictorian and salutatorian

April 5, 2021

Biochemistry major [Bailey West](#) of Stockton Springs is the University of Maine 2021 valedictorian and mechanical engineering major [Drew Bennett](#) of Brewer is this year's salutatorian.

"We are very proud of these two exceptional students," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Both Bailey and Drew have excelled in all that they have pursued at UMaine and have made their own significant contributions as engaged students — Bailey in the laboratory as part of a team studying a harmful toxicant, and Drew in the Advanced Manufacturing Center involved in 3D modeling and machining. We look forward to seeing just how far their talents will take them."

West also is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College. The honors student and Maine Top Scholar is the recipient of the Society of Toxicology Undergraduate Research Award and the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship. In spring 2020, West studied abroad at University College Cork.

West has been involved in research since high





CONFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

school, first with scientists at The Jackson Laboratory, MDI Biological Laboratory and Maine Medical Center, and then at UMaine with professor Julie Gosse. Her honors thesis is titled, "Oral-care antimicrobial cetylpyridinium chloride inhibits mast cell function: role of tyrosine phosphorylation cascade."

On campus, she has been a peer tutor and teaching assistant, and a student ambassador for the Honors College and the Study Abroad Program.

"I was drawn to UMaine for the extensive opportunities to engage in undergraduate-driven research in my home state," says West. "UMaine strikes a great balance between a tight-knit community and a wealth of opportunities limited only by your imagination. Whenever I have wanted to pursue something here, there has been a mentor who has helped me find or create an avenue to do so."

This summer, West will participate in The Jackson Lab's Summer Student Program, a 10-week research fellowship in mammalian genetics and genomics. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in pathobiology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine this fall.

Bennett, who has a minor in robotics, has received Mid-South Engineering scholarships and the Thomas P. Hosmer Scholarship. Throughout his time on campus, Bennett has been an undergraduate research assistant in the Advanced Manufacturing Center. Last year, he also was a manufacturing intern with General Electric in Bangor and is currently an education application engineering intern with PTC in Boston.

On campus, Bennett is president of Black Bear Robotics and of the UMaine NASA Robotic Mining Challenge Team. In the community, he mentors youth robotics teams, including one at Brewer High School and one at Bucksport High School.

"I would define the opportunities for student success as both unique and endless," says Bennett. "There are so many different research opportunities, internships, and on-campus jobs that allow students to explore their passions and find success in the fields they care about."

Bennett has accepted a full-time position as an education technical services engineer at PTC, where he will work with teachers, students and STEM organizations to implement the company's software technology.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Bailey West



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Drew Bennett

UMaine News

Home

UMaine Today Magazine

Submit news

Subscribe

Podcast

Contact



Want weekly
UMaine news
updates in your
inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free
webinar about nutritional
supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public
servant trains in Maine,
Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion,
support draws student from
Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with
Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in
coverage of OUI arrest rise in
Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Bailey West: UMaine 2021 Valedictorian and Outstanding Graduating Student

April 6, 2021

Bailey West of Stockton Springs is the 2021 Valedictorian and the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and in the Honors College. The biochemistry major and honors student is a Maine Top Scholar.

Her numerous honors include the 2021 Society of Toxicology Undergraduate Research Award and the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship. Her honors thesis is titled "Oral-care antimicrobial cetylpyridinium chloride inhibits mast cell function: role of tyrosine phosphorylation cascade." In spring 2020, she studied abroad at University College Cork.

West has been involved in research since high school, first with scientists at The Jackson Laboratory, MDI Biological Laboratory and Maine Medical Center, and then at UMaine with professor Julie Gosse.

On campus, she has been a peer tutor and teaching assistant, and a student ambassador for the Honors College and the Study Abroad Program.

This summer, West will participate in The Jackson Lab's Summer Student Program, a 10-week research fellowship in mammalian genetics and genomics. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences this fall.



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine has pushed me in every way, in terms of independence, knowledge, leadership, empathy and confidence. By consistently pushing me outside of my comfort zone, UMaine has prepared me well to pursue my goals in science.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

The cumulative impact of all my experiences at UMaine has shaped the way I view the world. In particular, my experiences in the Honors College and studying abroad have contributed tremendously to that growth. With its strong emphasis on the humanities and discussion-based learning, the Honors College experience has challenged me to embrace new perspectives and subject areas outside of my discipline. The Honors College has also provided me with experiential learning through service projects and travel opportunities, including a trip to Washington, D.C. Studying abroad in Cork, Ireland was one of the best learning experiences I've ever had. It further pushed my comfort zone and made me more cognizant of my position as a global citizen by increasing my empathy for the immigration process, acceptance of uncertainty and appreciation of my Irish heritage.

Why UMaine?

I was drawn to UMaine for the extensive opportunities to engage in undergraduate-driven research in my home state. I have been fortunate to participate in the Maine Top Scholars program, which has provided extensive support for these research endeavors and made college affordable.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

In my experience, the most important resource has been the supportive community. My peers, professors and mentors have helped me navigate the challenges and opportunities of my undergraduate education. UMaine strikes a great balance between a tight-knit community and a wealth of opportunities limited only by your imagination. Whenever I have wanted to pursue something here, there has been a mentor who has helped me find or create an avenue to do so; it's just a matter of reaching out.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

I have been fortunate to have several incredible mentors during my time at UMaine, one of whom being my research mentor: Julie Gosse. Professor Gosse welcomed me into her lab during my freshman year and has consistently pushed me to develop independence and confidence as a researcher. She has gone out of her way on countless occasions to support my growth as a scientist and a student. Melissa Ladenheim has also been a fantastic mentor since my freshman year, and she is now the adviser of the newly developed Honors Ambassadors program. Professor Ladenheim's enthusiasm and vision are unmatched, and she has provided me with a platform to take on leadership roles in areas in which I am passionate. Melissa Maginnis and Sally Molloy are professors in my department who have also had a significant impact on my growth, having mentored me in several courses and in my career development on countless occasions throughout the past four years.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Make the most of the supportive community and resources that are available to you. Reach out to your peers and professors, and know that you do not have to do this alone.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

[Home](#)
[Submit news](#)
[Podcast](#)

[UMaine Today Magazine](#)
[Subscribe](#)
[Contact](#)



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clery Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)

University of Maine

| Orono, ME 04469

| 207.581.1865

UMaine News

Home

UMaine Today Magazine

Submit news

Subscribe

Podcast

Contact



Want weekly
UMaine news
updates in your
inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free
webinar about nutritional
supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public
servant trains in Maine,
Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion,
support draws student from
Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with
Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in
coverage of OUI arrest rise in
Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Drew Bennett: UMaine 2021 salutatorian

April 6, 2021

Drew Bennett of Brewer is the University of Maine 2021 salutatorian. Bennett is a mechanical engineering major with a minor in robotics. He has received Mid-South Engineering scholarships and the Thomas P. Hosmer Scholarship.

Throughout his time on campus, Bennett has been an undergraduate research assistant in the Advanced Manufacturing Center. Last year, he also was a manufacturing intern with General Electric in Bangor and is currently an education application engineering intern with PTC in Boston.

On campus, Bennett is president of Black Bear Robotics and of the UMaine NASA Robotic Mining Challenge Team. In the community, he mentors youth robotics teams, including one at Brewer High School and one at Bucksport High School.

Bennett has accepted a full-time position as an education technical services engineer at PTC, where he will work with teachers, students and STEM organizations to implement the company's software technology.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine gave me the resources I needed to develop my skills and establish myself as a successful engineer. Through my coursework, job at the AMC, and leadership in Black Bear Robotics, I've been able to hone my skills and find a full-time job utilizing them in



CONFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University Forests?)

a way I am passionate about.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

My trip down to the JFK Space Center in Florida as part of UMaine's NASA Robotics Mining Challenge Team was a ton of fun and certainly encouraged me to dive deeper into the field of design engineering. Being able to see firsthand the feats of engineering that NASA has accomplished was a great experience.

Why UMaine?

As a local resident whose parents both graduated from UMaine, I've been familiar with the university for a long time. After attending the Consider Engineering program, I was impressed by how many unique engineering opportunities UMaine had to offer and how affordable the tuition was, making it an easy choice.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

I would define the opportunities for student success as both unique and endless. There are so many different research opportunities, internships, and on-campus jobs that allow students to explore their passions and find success in the fields they care about.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

The director of the Advanced Manufacturing Center, John Belding, gave me a position at the AMC after I graduated high school. Since then, I've worked on many projects with John and made a great number of connections to industry professionals who helped me earn my internships. I wouldn't have been able to find this much success without him.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Find a club, volunteer organization, or on-campus job that you're passionate about. This is where you'll meet your closest friends and make the professional connections that will help you succeed in the future.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clery Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Melanie Berry: Outstanding Graduating Student

April 14, 2021

Melanie Berry of Morrill, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. The Dexter native will receive a Bachelor of University Studies with a minor in psychology. Her numerous awards during her UMaine years include the Nontraditional Student Scholarship, the AlphaOne Powering Education Scholarship and the Adult Degree Scholarship. Berry is a human resources associate with athenahealth in Belfast, where she has worked full time since 2009. She started taking classes in 1994-95 at Wilmington College and at UMaine in 2005-06 before returning to complete her degree in 2018.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

The entire experience at UMaine and the Hutchinson Center through the Adult Learning program has been incredible. I have always been surrounded by support and encouraged when needed.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

Each class changed the way I see the world by exposing me to different thoughts, ideas, and made me question my own view of the world.

Why UMaine?

I have always had a special place in my heart for UMaine. It all started back when I was in high school, 1983-87, where I attended MSYM (Maine Summer Youth Music) each summer. As a teenager hanging out on campus for music camp, then watching my daughter do the same when she went to MSYM, has made UMaine a special place to me

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

I feel UMaine does a great job keeping students informed and involved. This was demonstrated most recently by the way the university handled themselves during the pandemic. Student and faculty health and safety were top priority and I feel the school did an excellent job keeping us all



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

updated with any information that became available. As an adult learner, I also feel that UMaine, via the Hutchinson Center for those of us in the midcoast area, makes it easy and exciting for nontraditional students to excel.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Barbara Howard was a wonderful adviser. She guided me through the remaining process. Professor Muralee Das was one of my favorite educators. I enjoyed his style of teaching and his genuineness; Kathryn Walsh was a tremendous help with financial assistance and helping me find scholarship money.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Keep going! If life happens (and it does) and you find yourself in a place where you just cannot attend school, don't let that be the end. Believe in your soul that you will one-day finish and it will be the best feeling in the world. Education matters! It shapes our world view and helps us to be the best we can be.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clery Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Hana Davis: Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

April 14, 2021

Hana Davis of Tsawwassen, British Columbia is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She will receive a bachelor's degree in communication with a double major in marketing. The scholar-athlete is captain of the field hockey team and a four-time NFCA National Academic Squad honoree. Davis served as Spread Respect chair on the UMaine Student Athlete Advisory Committee and represented the university on the America East Conference Student-Athlete of Color Leadership Group. She also is a Mind Spa volunteer. Davis plans to pursue an MBA at UMaine while playing her last year of eligibility.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine has made a major impact on my life and I believe that I would not be the same person I am today without taking the risk to attend. My classes, professors, athletic career and connections have helped me grow into the independent person I am today. Being a UMaine student as also taught me resilience, work ethic, confidence, and the skills needed to succeed in the future.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

I have loved every minute of my time at UMaine. It has provided a space for me to grow into the best version of myself. It is the place where I have made lifelong connections and opened my mind up to new perspectives. I have obviously struggled with being homesick, but I would not change any of my experiences one bit.

Why UMaine?

The campus culture and environment. The first day I visited UMaine it reminded me of home, even though I was across the continent and in a different country. The atmosphere of being a supportive and welcoming environment that would allow me to thrive and make lifelong connections was present in my first few minutes. I knew right away that UMaine was the school for me.



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

Professor office hours! Take the time to get to know your professors and take advantage of the opportunities they are offering to further your understanding. There have been multiple times where I have struggled in my classes and was able to turn my grades around with extra effort on my part. Also, to take advantage of the library and its amazing resources. I used to plan weekly trips to bunker down and grind out my assignments. It allowed an environment that persuaded me to work harder and allowed me to access resources to be successful.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Professor Liliana Herakova has been a professor that I have had for multiple classes throughout my college career and has become a mentor, role model and friend. She has taught me kindness, compassion and a drive for education and equality that I will cherish with me forever.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

To learn how to fall in love with learning. We are given such an amazing opportunity with amazing resources and professors. Take pride in your academics as I have learned throughout my time at UMaine on how much those individual classes have impacted my life and have taught me little things I will take away with me forever. Also, to enjoy our beautiful campus and surrounding areas. Be brave to challenge yourself with hikes in Acadia or go ice fishing on Pushaw lake. We are blessed with this beautiful campus and I sadly failed to take advantage of it.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#) [Student Resources](#) [Nondiscrimination notice](#) [Clergy Safety and Security Report](#) [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) [Emergency](#)

University of Maine | Orono, ME 04469 | 207.581.1865

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today

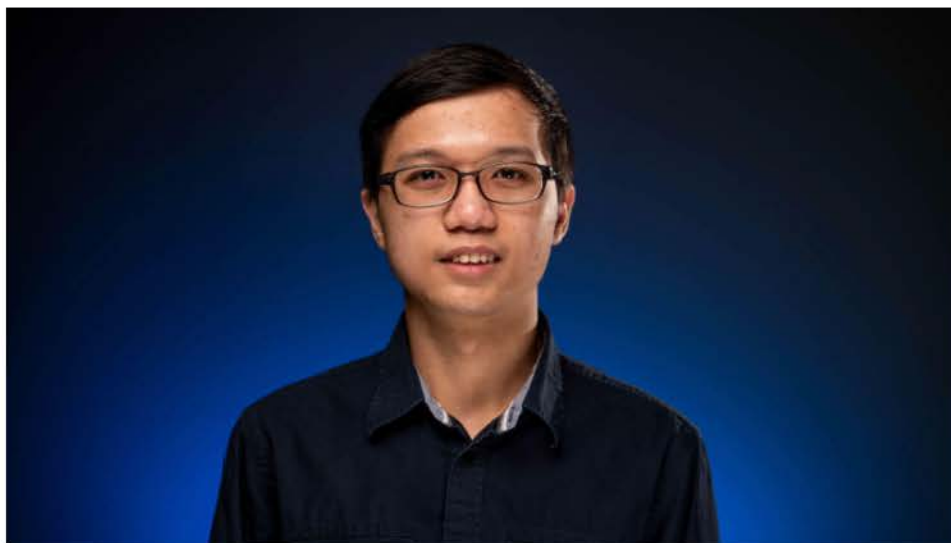


Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Khoa Kieu: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Khoa Kieu of Da Nang City, Vietnam is an Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. The chemical engineering major received multiple scholarships during his years at UMaine, including the Roger B. Hill Engineering Scholarship. He participated in a chemical engineering co-op at Verso Paper in Jay in 2019. On campus, he has worked in Dining Services, and as a teaching assistant and peer tutor. He plans to pursue a career in chemical engineering as a process or production engineer.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

Living by myself in a country far away from my hometown taught me many things like cooking, taking care of myself or how I can manage my time well. I have also improved several important skills like teamwork, presentation, problem-solving, which are all necessary to achieve a good academic result and help me with my future job.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

At UMaine, meeting many people from different regions and different countries help me learn a lot about other cultures, which broaden my knowledge about the vast world that I'm living in. It also changed my way of seeing people around me and how to respect and acknowledge different opinions. The most important thing that UMaine has taught me is how to think like an engineer. This engineer's mindset shaped how I should approach a problem, how would I correctly analyze it and how I can figure out the best solution.

Why UMaine?

UMaine has a great College of Engineering. The Chemical Engineering Department is well-known in the industry. They have good resources to support the students and they have many opportunities for co-op, internships with great companies and corporations. In addition, when I was first admitted to UMaine, the Office of International Program was very friendly and willing to answer any of my



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University Forests?)

questions and concerns.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

The Career Center is a good place to look for co-op and internship opportunities. It's also a good place to expand your social network. All of my professors are very friendly and always willing to help. Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better? Professor John Hwalek is one of the best professors I have worked with. I had four classes with him at UMaine. He taught the very first chemical engineering class that I took. His friendliness and enthusiasm helped me to adapt into a new type of academic and new culture quickly and comfortably. He is always willing to help me with homework or giving me advice about both academic and extracurricular activities. Thanks to him, I gained much more confidence in communication with other professors.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Don't be afraid to ask questions or hesitate to reach out for help if you don't understand class material. Classes in college move quickly and you don't want to fall behind.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#) [Student Resources](#) [Nondiscrimination notice](#) [Clery Safety and Security Report](#) [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) [Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Vilgot Larsson: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Vilgot Larsson of Stockholm, Sweden is an Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. The civil engineering major has a concentration in environmental engineering. The scholar-athlete is a member of the men's basketball team. He was a member of the Swedith National Team in the summers through 2019 and at UMaine was involved in community volunteering initiatives. Larsson plans to pursue a career in environmental engineering.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine has helped me achieve both my academic and athletic dreams simultaneously. I attended a junior college in Texas for one year that only provided me with a few elective credits, so coming to UMaine I was unsure if I would be able to take all my engineering classes within the three year that my scholarship covered. It was only with the help of my advisers, coaches, teammates, professors and through hard work that I managed to achieve my goals, so I am forever grateful to those who helped me fulfill some of my dreams.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

Through athletics I have had the opportunity to partake in many volunteering opportunities. Before coming to Maine, I had limited experience working within my community, but I have seen the positive impact that it has on people as well allowing me to better understand and connect with others. It is certainly something that I would like to continue going forward.

Why UMaine?

On my recruitment visit I quickly fell in love with Maine and the people here. Everyone seemed so genuine and willing to help each other out, making it an easy decision for me. I have certainly benefited from this experience and I hope that I have helped others feel the same way about UMaine.



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

In the words of Albus Dumbledore, "help will always be given at Hogwarts to those who ask for it," the same goes for UMaine. Professors, other students, and many tutoring programs are there to help you along the way if you ask. It is crucial that you stay on top of your work and ask questions early so that your work does not start to snowball. For me, the math lab in Neville Hall was extremely helpful, as there is a lot of math in the engineering courses.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Throughout my experience as not only an engineering major, but a student-athlete, Ann Maxim, my athletic academic counselor has been particularly helpful to me. She was available almost always, helping me with last minute changes and making sure I was set up for success. My experience has shown me that if you are respectful with your professor's or mentor's time, they will be willing to give you more help than you asked for.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Stay on top of your work and ask if there is something you do not understand, chances are someone else is thinking about the same thing. Also, don't be afraid to try some new activities in college, it might end up being one of your passions in life.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#) [Student Resources](#) [Nondiscrimination notice](#) [Clery Safety and Security Report](#) [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) [Emergency](#)

University of Maine | Orono, ME 04469 | 207.581.1865

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Iaryna Iasenytska: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Iaryna Iasenytska of Kyiv, Ukraine is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Honors College. She is an international affairs major with a concentration in international security, with minors in Spanish and in legal studies. Her honors thesis is "One-Eyed Man and the Wicked Boar." Last year, Iasenytska was a research assistant with the Marine Fisheries Partnership and is an assistant in the Office of International Programs. She has had internships in Kyiv with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Relocation VIP Servis. Iasenytska has held leadership positions in the International Student Association. She plans to pursue a career in international politics.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

I think UMaine's education had a big role to play in building up the first steps to who I am striving to become. In other words, UMaine gave an opportunity to learn from many great people who have taught me and challenged me to dig and think deeper.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

I think the overall experience of being in the academic place provided a lot of insight on how the future is built out. Thus, while sitting with future engineers, chemists, teachers, computer scientists, diplomats and politicians, it all created that perspective that each generation is built not in a single day. Furthermore, UMaine also has shown me that although we live in a more globalized world today, the flow of information, or rather misinformation, is rather concerning. Hence, it is at best to set one's values, research those topics that are important and continue educating oneself every day.

Why UMaine?

I visited the campus my senior year of high school and UMaine felt right. At that time, I was debating between going to a university in the city versus those more campus oriented — they



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

seemed more intact and less hectically dispersed. As a result, the day of my visit, as I was walking by Fogler Library and through the Mall, I saw students being so engaged in what they were doing, flicking through the pages; maybe an exam or an upcoming midterm? It was something that I was looking for too! Plus, when I got to know the faculty at UMaine, it definitely reassured me that I was at the right place.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

UMaine has many good resources. Nonetheless, by the end of anyone's fourth year, Fogler Library, its librarians and resources all become your best friends since they can get almost any paper, research article or document that you need.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

There were a couple of professors I found extremely inspirational, with whom I gladly worked, met, and chatted with day to day, including Kristin Vekasi, Paul Holman, Stefano Tijerina, Asif Nawaz, Maria Sandweiss, Robert Ballingall, Robert Glover and Lora Pitman. The first professor I have gotten to know well and who has served as a big inspiration for me was Michael Palmer. I would say that he was that unique professor who you had to get to know better to appreciate. Long story short, somehow, my freshman year, I ended up having him for Intro to Political Philosophy and then the next day, saw him in my Honors Seminar. Overall, professor Palmer helped me learn extremely valuable lessons not only in regard to academics, but also life.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically

Academic life is similar to jogging. The result depends solely on you, and you are the one who has to keep pushing no matter what. The finish line might be sweet or bittersweet, and it all comes to you and how much of "you" was put into those four years. So relax, focus, dream and achieve!

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#) [Student Resources](#) [Nondiscrimination notice](#) [Clery Safety and Security Report](#) [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) [Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Blanca Millan-Modia: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Blanca Millan-Modia of Santiago de Compostela, Spain is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is a kinesiology and physical education major with a concentration in exercise science, and minors in child development and family relations, and in human nutrition. The scholar-athlete and member of the women's basketball team is a two-time America East Player of the Year and America East Defensive Player of the Year — the only woman in America East history to win both honors twice. Millan-Modia did her kinesiology internship in Latti Fitness Center — UMaine's strength and conditioning facility, where she worked with other student-athletes on other UMaine teams. She has entered the 2021 WNBA draft and also plans to play in Europe. Following her professional basketball career, Millan-Modia plans to use her academic training to assist athletes and teams perform at the highest level.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

First and foremost it gave me an opportunity to explore many different facets of my interest in the past five years, allowing me to get my degree and two minors. It also gave me the opportunity to play basketball at a high level and continue pursuing my career path of being a professional athlete. It has helped me grow as a person and as a player. Coming from Spain to a community like UMaine was a difficult decision but the family environment we have here made it so much easier. It gave the opportunity to meet some incredible people that became family.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

I can't choose one particular experience. I will say that coming from Spain when I was only 18 years old, impacted me in many different ways. The cultural differences are many, I had to learn how to adjust and fit in, but it helped me to be aware of how many ways of understanding life there are and know that they are all valid. The same thing happened with food, people and sports, everything



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

is so different and I am lucky enough to have more than one perspective and have an open mind, to still learn and take in new things five years later. Being in such a multicultural community, where I met people from all over the world, from the dorms to my team and other athletes and friends was also something that I got to experience and shaped the way I see the world.

Why UMaine?

There were multiple reasons why I chose UMaine. Even though at the beginning of my five years here I was undeclared, I always knew I wanted to do something related to sports. When I learned that UMaine had a Kinesiology and Physical Education program it made a difference. Since the beginning of my recruiting process, education was a priority for me and my parents and we knew that UMaine had a great reputation as well as a great basketball program. The family environment also played a big role in my decision.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

The University of Maine has so many amazing resources that it is hard not to be successful as a student. There are so many offered opportunities, such as internships or jobs around the area, and the faculty always makes sure that we get them and we are successful. On top of all the extra hours, and labs there are also resources like the Writing Center, which I found very useful. Something that helped me succeed was the Tutor Program. There were some times where I wouldn't understand some topics in lecture or it was too fast, specially at the beginning, and to have a tutor was very helpful since they could go over the material again, make clarifications and slow it down.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

The Kinesiology and Physical Education program has excellent professors. I would say all the professors I had in the past four years were very helpful and enabled me to be successful in this program. I would like to thank them for everything they have done for me and for understanding how hard it can be to be a student athlete at times. Here is a special mention to all of them: Sherrie Weeks, Shannan Fotter, Jennifer McNulty, Lauren Jacobs, Robert Lehnhard, Christopher Nightingale and my adviser Jesse Kaye-Schiess. Thank you so much.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

One of the things that I learned was to ask for help, ask for tutors, mentors, professors or whoever else you may need. Take advantage of all the facilities and resources the university offers. It is the first time you are in college and there are going to be things that you don't know, and that's OK. There is always someone in your program that is willing to guide you if you have any academic struggles. It might be hard at the beginning, but as long as you put in the work every day, you will be fine. I will also make sure that you are as organized as possible and you are able to manage time.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:     

Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clergy Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Jordan Miner: Outstanding Graduating Student

April 14, 2021

Jordan Miner of East Baldwin, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. She is a biomedical engineering major with minors in electrical engineering and bioinstrumentation. Miner is a Maine Top Scholar who received two fellowships from the Center for Undergraduate Research to study Duchenne muscular dystrophy. She has been a student researcher collaborating in the laboratories of professors Karissa Tilbury and Clarissa Henry. Miner has presented and published her research findings, and received best poster honors at the 2019 Northeast Symposium on Biomedical Optics. She also has participated in three internships at IDEXX Laboratories and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. On campus, Miner has been a peer tutor and a leader in the Biomedical Engineering Club. She is captain of the Fastpitch Club that won the 2019-20 New England East conference championship. Miner will pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering at UMaine, focused on cancer research.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine has provided me with so many amazing opportunities and I am thankful for all UMaine has done for me. My first internship (at IDEXX) was brought about because the Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Department invited John Brogan of IDEXX (along with representatives from other companies) to Jenness Hall for interviews my sophomore year. Furthermore, my internship at NASA all started when I saw a poster in Jenness Hall advertising paid NASA internships. My mentor, professor Karissa Tilbury, helped me get in contact with professor Ali Abedi who then proceeded to help me fill out an application. It was that application that landed me a NASA internship for the summer of 2020. In addition to internships, my Maine Top Scholar scholarship put me in contact with my mentor, professor Tilbury, and started my research career, which has influenced me so much that I am pursuing a Ph.D. to continue researching in the future. My involvement in undergraduate research made me realize how much I love doing research and that I want to continue doing it as a career. A Ph.D. will help me achieve these goals. Furthermore, UMaine has provided me with amazing network opportunities through many different platforms. Some of these



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

include the Biomedical Engineering Club attending conferences, the UMaine Student Symposium, and being a student ambassador for prospective students (joining Zoom meetings with the dean of engineering to help answer questions and get prospective students excited about UMaine).

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

My undergraduate research has been the experience at UMaine that has changed the way I see the world the most. I have always been interested in research ever since I was young (I always liked to ask why about everything). I always assumed growing up that only advanced scientists could publish or conduct research. I was mistaken. I have participated in research since my freshman year and now have a publication under my belt as an undergraduate — two things I never thought could happen until I came to UMaine.

Why UMaine?

UMaine has everything I could have wanted and more. I was able to participate in three internships and undergraduate research, which is hard to come by at other universities. Furthermore, the community at UMaine is beyond my initial expectations. I was able to develop personal relationships with many professors which has enhanced my overall experience at UMaine. The campus itself also is beautiful. I love the surrounding area and I am happy to call Orono my home away from home.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

The opportunities for student success are vast at UMaine. The biggest things that helped me succeed were getting involved early, making relationships with professors and joining the Biomedical Engineering Club. These three things provided me nearly all my opportunities. Additionally, always being on the lookout for opportunities is a trait that is very valuable. I have always been told you will miss all the shots you don't take, and that motto definitely helped in my success.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Professor Karissa Tilbury, my undergraduate mentor, has been one of the most influential and helpful people I have encountered in both my time at UMaine and in my lifetime. She has been there every step of the way and helped me achieve my goals. I would not be here without her constant guidance and her determination in watching me succeed. She is always there for me, whether it is for research, guidance, internship or general life advice and genuinely cares for me and my successes. She was the one who truly pushed me to explore my limits and if not for her, I would never have applied for the NASA internship.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

My advice for incoming students is to get involved early and explore new things. UMaine has so many great opportunities and unless you take initiative and start exploring, these opportunities may not come around for you. Furthermore, UMaine has so much to offer besides academics, such as clubs, intramurals and research. Exploring these opportunities will make you a better individual and you may find something that changes your perspective on life, as I did with research, that pushes you in a direction you never thought was possible. Stay focused and stay determined and you will succeed.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Anna Schumann: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Anna Schumann of Moers, Germany is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. Schumann will receive a bachelor's degree in molecular and cellular biology, with a double major in biochemistry and a minor in microbiology. The Presidential Scholar is captain of UMaine's track and field team, competing in the long jump and triple jump, and was named to the 2020 All-America East Track & Field Academic Team Indoor & Outdoor. She also received the 2021 M Club Dean Smith award. Schumann has been a research assistant in professor Sally Molloy's lab, investigating how prophage (viruses that infect bacteria) contribute to the fitness of their bacterial hosts and contribute to antibiotic resistance. For her work, Schumann received a Center of Undergraduate Research Fellowship and a UMaine Institute of Medicine Fellowship. Schumann is a peer tutor on campus and mentors youth in track and field in the community. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical and biological sciences at Cornell University.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine has changed me a lot. Before I came here, I knew that I wanted to do something related to science, but I had no idea what I wanted to do exactly. Due to many of the classes in our department, specifically a class in my freshman year where we conducted our own little research experiment by extracting and characterizing a bacteriophage (a virus that infects bacteria), I realized that I have a passion for research. Knowing that, I joined the Molloy Lab my sophomore year and am happy to say that I will make it into a life-long passion by pursuing a Ph.D. As an athlete, I had the chance to be a part of something bigger than myself, to take on a leadership role, and to have teammates who pushed me to become the best version of myself. Without them, I would not be the woman that I am today.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University Forests?)

world?

As an international student who grew up in Germany and has never lived in a different country, just living here and being exposed to a different culture changed me. I really enjoyed interacting with people from different backgrounds and learning more about their culture to increase my understanding and awareness for others. My experience as an international student was also great because everyone at UMaine is really excited to meet people from different places and is super helpful. Something that stood out to me when I first got here was how friendly everyone is. I specifically remember that people would go out of their way to hold doors open for everyone. The kindness left a lasting impression on me and helped me see things more positively.

Why UMaine?

I chose UMaine for two reasons. First I really wanted to continue to run track during college, something that is almost impossible in Germany because sports are a separate entity from schools. When I was recruited by different schools, I immediately clicked with my former coach, Christopher Flynn. Additionally, the department offers a great, hands-on science education with professors that will support you in and outside of the classroom. If I had to choose again, knowing what I do now after almost completing my bachelor's degree, I would make the same decision.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

UMaine offers students many opportunities to succeed. No matter what your interests are or what your goal after college is, you will find a resource that will help you pursue your interests/goals. You sometimes will have to do a little bit of digging to find what you are looking for, but there are plenty of helpful people around who can guide you! In terms of being a student-athlete, the academic center and all of our amazing advisers do a really good job in helping us with any type of struggle. The same is true for the Office of International Programs that has helped me many times.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

My experience at UMaine has been shaped by a lot of amazing people — professors and mentors — that made my time here really special. Professor Sally Molloy really helped me to become a critical-thinking researcher and has shown me how to work through tough times. Additionally, everyone who has been on the track and field team or been involved with it as a coach in the past four years has made my experience better by making Maine and UMaine a special place that I have been calling my home away from home for the past four years.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

My advice is to come prepared to classes, get organized and keep track of assignments, deadlines and exams. That way you will be on top of your classes and less likely to get behind. The transition from high school to college can be really stressful, and professors usually know that. Don't hesitate to reach out to professors if you are struggling with something and need help /more time. From my experience, they understand that life can be difficult and will be more than willing to help you, as long as you reach out to them in time.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Miranda Snyder: Outstanding Graduating Student

April 14, 2021

Miranda Snyder of Brimfield, Massachusetts is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. The secondary education major with a concentration in English received highest honors for her thesis completed in December, "How Alumnae of a Middle and High School Feminist Organizations Perceive Their Involvement Related to Their Academic Self-Concept." Snyder was awarded a Center for Undergraduate Research Summer Fellowship and received the Thomas E. Lynch Honors Thesis Scholarship. Last year, she also collaborated with professor Rebecca Buchanan on multicultural teacher education programs. Snyder is president of All Maine Women, co-chair of Feminist Collective, a Fogler Library student ambassador, and a member of Hip Hop Club, Black Bear Mentors and Eating Disorder/Body Positivity/Body Liberation Advocacy/Activism. She did her student teaching at Herman and Bangor high schools. Snyder plans to be a high school English language arts teacher.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

The support and encouragement by the faculty and staff, and breadth of extracurricular, professional and academic activities at UMaine has shown me how my various interests and skills can merge for meaningful outcomes.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

Participating in and later organizing and hosting the annual "Take Back the Night" speak-out and march for survivors of sexual assault and harassment first introduced me to the power of personal experience, then solidified my passion for activism and education in storytelling modes. In the annual event, survivors voluntarily share their experiences in a non-mandatory-reporting space. The swelling sense of communal support from fellow survivors and allies at the event laid the foundation for my current and future storytelling-based advocacy, since I firmly believe that one's experiences hold immense potential for education and change.



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

Why UMaine?

The University of Maine simply “clicked” for me during my first campus visit in 2017. My family and I indeed were greeted with a “Hearty Maine Hello” in our entrance on campus, and the same feelings of welcome, warmth and openness have only continued to show in the past four years as an undergraduate. The abundance of opportunities ranging from arts to research in individual and communal efforts has expanded my understanding of what issues of interest can intersect and in what modes and contexts. Since my first entrance onto campus, the spirit of a “Maine Hello” has backed my academic, professional and extracurricular endeavors. This spirit is present in the Advising Center at the College of Education and Human Development, the outpouring of community spirit and service at Maine Day, and in the countless efforts of various student leaders on campus.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

UMaine has a host of opportunities for student success. As also referenced in my advice to incoming students, there is an abundance of professional and academic resources to be tapped into according to one’s interests and skills if they are to be sought out and tapped into. As mentioned before, the Advising Center at the College of Education and Human Development has been particularly helpful in not only providing support and suggestions for academic and professional inquiries, but also in creating a general collaborative air that carries throughout the college as a whole. Additionally, the college’s tapping into associate professors who are current teachers in the field to teach education-based courses has been immensely helpful for my early entry into the education profession. Working with and learning from these professionals throughout the development of my general praxis and principles for teaching has allowed my teaching to be adaptable, inventive and collaborative.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Conducting and co-authoring qualitative research alongside professor Rebecca Buchanan has demonstrated the ability for partnership in professional and academic endeavors. As I have grown to increasingly value my own critical insight as a researcher and educator, I have only better appreciated and sought out more opportunities for professional collaboration on a host of topics, whether it be executing a service project at a student teaching placement or asking for ample resources on a topic of interest. Executing my honors thesis under professor Susan Gardner was a similarly encouraging experience, since the model of professional, intentional and reflexive praxis in her work and mere mentorship provided a strong foundation of support for me to succeed on.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

My first and foremost tidbit of advice is to take stock of one’s strengths and interests, then locate resources on campus that align with these areas. For instance, the Advising Center at the College of Education and Human Development was essential to me crafting my academic course load to support my various academic interests, running from courses in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies to independent research opportunities such as the honors thesis. Advocating for oneself is essential to success in and out of the college classroom.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clergy Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Cameron Spicer: Outstanding Graduating Student

April 14, 2021

Cameron Spicer of Erie, Colorado is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. He will receive two bachelor's degrees in financial economics and in business administration in finance. Spicer is a defenseman on the men's ice hockey team. The Eagle Scout and Presidential Scholar received a Lavery Scholarship and Dale Lick Academic Achievement awards. His honors thesis is "The Role of the IEX in a Fragmented Market System." As a student researcher, Spicer has collaborated with professors Tim Waring and Sharon Klein to conduct analysis of greenwashing and community solar projects in the United States, respectively. He is a member of the Student Athlete and Honors Student advisory committees, has participated in the Student Portfolio Investment Fund (SPIFFY) and is a leader in the American Sign Language Club. Spicer has started graduate work in the 4+1 program and will complete a master's degree in information systems while competing in his final year of eligibility.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

The University of Maine has deeply served me with its invaluable community and extensive resources. Despite extraordinary circumstances that delayed my arrival here, I was welcomed with open arms. UMaine has not only helped me reach my goals, but gone further to help me refine and define them. My time here has been instrumental in discovering more about myself as a student, as an athlete and as a human being.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

Joining the Honors College here at the University of Maine has been an ongoing experience that has contributed to my view of the world. In my honors curriculum I have been exposed to peers and faculty that have simultaneously encouraged and challenged my intellect. Through my honors thesis process I have learned new skills and was given a powerful opportunity to reflect on my development through the honors reading list. The people here in Maine are amazing and my



worldview is indebted to each and every person I have encountered here.

Why UMaine?

From my very first visit to UMaine in 2013 leading up until now, I have been infatuated by the UMaine community. Orono is a charming place full of people with interesting and unique stories. There's a distinct humility about this place that has given it such a peaceful allure to me. UMaine and the communities in Orono have always felt like home to me.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

Unlimited. Students have so many existing options for success and there are so many more that have yet to be implemented. The University of Maine has everything someone could need to seize or create opportunity for themselves. As aforementioned, the Honors College was a fantastic place for me to grow and succeed academically, but it is different for everyone. UMaine is blessed to have some of the best faculty available in higher education in every program and are by and large the most valuable resource.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

Despite the lengthy list of people who have helped me, I am beholden to mention three specifically: Travis Blackmer, Stephen Jurich and Matt Murray. Blackmer has been a long-time role model, mentor and friend that has had a profound impact on my experience here. His compassion and drive to support students and their experience is unmatched. Professor Jurich has been my Honors thesis adviser and he has shown me unfathomable patience, guidance and support. Without him, I would not be where I am today. Murray was instrumental in my development as an athlete and supported me unconditionally. He gave me the strength and support to be resilient. Others worth mention and my dearest praise are Cristina Kerluke, Dave Townsend, Stefano Tijerina, Ron Roope and Ed Nadeau.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Use a planner! Journal often. Lean into your peers, professors and opportunities. Ask for help if and when you need it. Your long-run success as a student will reflect your level of care and commitment more than anything else, so don't be afraid of what you don't know. Staying highly organized was critical to my experience because of my involvement in so many aspects of the UMaine experience.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#) | [Student Resources](#) | [Nondiscrimination notice](#) | [Clergy Safety and Security Report](#) | [COVID-19 Risk Statement](#) | [Emergency](#)

University of Maine | Orono, ME 04469 | 207.581.1865

UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Caroline Strolc: Outstanding Graduating Student

April 14, 2021

Caroline Strolc of Phoenix, Arizona is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is an honors student majoring in art history with a minor in history. A member of the women's swimming and diving team, Strolc has been team captain for the past two years, and a member of the 2020 America East All-Academic Team. She holds records in the 200 and 400 medley relays. Her honors also include the Robert Thomson Memorial Thesis Fellowship and Zillman Art Museum-University of Maine Curatorial Internship. Her honors thesis is "Benjamin West and His Studio: The Making of an Anglo-American Identity." Strolc has interned at the Hudson Museum on campus and at the American Independence Museum in Exeter, New Hampshire. She also has been a student mentor, lifeguard and swim instructor. She plans to pursue a master's degree in art history and museum studies.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

I think the plethora of academic opportunities and the professors have certainly helped me obtain my goals. I know I would definitely not be where I am today without the help of my teachers who have supported both my academic and athletic goals without any hesitation. They were always incredibly understanding of my athletic schedule and worked with me to balance both athletics and academics. They also pushed me toward opportunities that I do not think I would have taken had they not been there to encourage me. The small community aspect of the school with the large university perks has given me the chance to be a part of something much bigger than myself, for which I am so grateful.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

I am so grateful for the Honors College when it comes to how it changed my perspective of the world. I am forever thankful for the different people and experiences I have encountered and learned about through the discussion-based classes in the Honors College. It opened my eyes in a way that I did not think possible. I have learned so much about myself and what I believe in. These



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the roles of Maine's University forests?)

way that I did not think possible. I have learned so much about myself and what I believe in. Those discussions facilitated by the college have allowed me to participate in tough conversations that I did not think I would ever have the opportunity to be a part of.

Why UMaine?

Living in Arizona my whole life, I knew I wanted to go to a college on the East Coast, but I wasn't really sure where. I heard about UMaine through swimming, as I knew it had a good team, so I reached out to the coaches and was able to come on a recruiting trip. When I arrived, I fell in love with the place. The atmosphere was exactly what I was looking for — not too big, but not too small — and the concept of having four seasons excited me, as I never really experienced a spring or a fall or even really a winter in Arizona. The team aspect definitely drew me in as they seemed like a family, which is exactly what I was looking for. Once I heard UMaine had art history as a major, I was sold and knew this was the place I wanted to be. Plus, I have family in New Hampshire, so I never really felt alone, even though I was hundreds of miles away from home.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?

Any person who comes to UMaine has the opportunity for success. If you're like me and need a little push to find those opportunities, that is totally OK! Some people can naturally find it, while others need a little guidance. If you're willing to look, there is always something that can help achieve those goals. If you think there is something worth pursuing but don't see any options, there will always be someone else with the same interest. Or you could bring it to the attention of a teacher and they can help you establish it at the school. For me, both the Honors College and the Athletics Department have helped me succeed. The Honors College provided me with the tools that I needed for my major, whether research skills, public speaking or engagement with others, while the Athletics Department provided me with the resources I needed to succeed at school. The academic counselors were incredibly supportive and always willing to help whenever I needed it, and I couldn't have done it without them.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

I've worked with so many amazing teachers and mentors who have helped me succeed during college. I would have to say I am incredibly grateful for my coaches, Susan Lizzotte, Linda Costello and Jeff Wren, for making this whole college experience way more fun than I ever thought it could be. They encourage me every day to be a better person, student and athlete, and I am so thankful for the opportunities and support they have given me during my college career. On the academic side, I am thankful for my adviser Justin Wolff and all of the support he has given me the past four years. I have had the opportunity to have him as a teacher every semester, and now he is my thesis adviser. He has always been so incredibly understanding of my crazy schedule and has been so helpful every step of the way throughout this thesis process.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

College is very different from high school. Be prepared to work hard in a much different way than you expect or are used to. If you do not achieve your goals or do as well as you wanted to in your first year, that is OK! What matters is recognizing what you have to do in order to succeed. Most importantly, remember to have fun! It really does go by quickly and you do not want to live with regret.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



UMaine News

Want weekly UMaine news updates in your inbox?

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Recent Posts

Camire to take part in free webinar about nutritional supplements for older adults

Published: April 16, 2021

Lila Harakles: Aspiring public servant trains in Maine, Washington, D.C.

Published: April 16, 2021

Abdelrhman Attia: Compassion, support draws student from Egypt to UMaine

Published: April 16, 2021

Fuller talks Fiddleheads with Calais Advertiser

Published: April 16, 2021

News Center cites Sorg report in coverage of OUI arrest rise in Portland

Published: April 16, 2021

UMaine Today



Photo taken in adherence with health and safety guidelines

Fanny Wadling: Outstanding Graduating International Student

April 14, 2021

Fanny Wadling of Nacka, Sweden is the Outstanding Graduating International Student for the second consecutive year — last year in the College of Education and Human Development; this year in the Maine Business School. In 2020, she received a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and physical education, with a minor in business administration, and a concentration in exercise science. This year, she will receive a bachelor's degree in business administration in management. Wadling is a co-captain of the women's basketball team and was named three times to the America East All-Academic Team. She stayed a fifth year at UMaine to earn a second degree and to play her final year of eligibility. Wadling plans to play basketball professionally in Europe, followed by a career in business.

What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?

UMaine made it possible for me to combine a great athletics program with great academics. Coming here has provided me the opportunity to move across the world, and I have found experiences and friends for life. Being at UMaine has allowed me to grow as a person and given me the opportunity to learn from people from all over the world.

Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?

Getting to see another part of the world and live in a different culture over the past few years has helped me better understand the world with its differences and similarities.

Why UMaine?

UMaine has a beautiful campus, a welcoming feeling from day one and the people, from supporting staff to professors, always care and are concerned about their students succeeding.

How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine?



CONIFER CLASSROOM (What are the risks of Maine's University forests?)

UMaine is a great place for students to succeed. Reaching out to professors and taking advantage of their knowledge and experience is a great help; they are always there to help you along the way. Talking to the people at the Career Center is also an opportunity for students and taking advantage of the help that your academic counselors offer.

Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?

In the Maine Business School, there are so many great professors. Someone that specifically has helped me understand my potential and possibilities in the world of business is Stefano Tijerina. His knowledge of international business and differences in cultures has inspired me greatly. His understanding of the different parts of business and how it can be used in your everyday life is something that I will take with me throughout the rest of my career and life. Another professor that has meant a great deal to me is professor Nory Jones. Her genuine concern about her students' well-being during the fall 2020 semester while everything was online because of the coronavirus is something that I greatly appreciated. Her interest in her students' experiences and ideas allowed me to express my thoughts and receive great feedback.

What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?

Stay organized from the beginning. College is a place to learn, but it's also a place to expand your network. Take the opportunity to do so. Reach out to your professors for feedback and help.

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Share this:



Division of Marketing and Communications
5703 Alumni Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5703

Tel: 207.581.3743
Fax: 207.581.3776

Home
Submit news
Podcast

UMaine Today Magazine
Subscribe
Contact



[Apply](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Nondiscrimination notice](#)

[Clery Safety and Security Report](#)

[COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)

[Emergency](#)