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2018 Alumni Achievement Awards Presentation

University of Maine Alumni Association

Ric Tyler

Master of Ceremonies

Brian Harris

Hannah Hudson

Owen McCarthy

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University of Maine Alumni Association, Ric Tyler, Brian Harris, Hannah Hudson, Owen McCarthy, Norman Minsky, George Pullen, Todd Saucier, Allen Morell, Patricia Morell, The Family of Don & Pat Collins, Frank Drummond, and John E. Baldacci



Alumni Achievement Awards 2018

Date: May 3, 2018

Run Time: 01:08:09

<https://youtu.be/w3cgl9a3XY>

2018 Alumni Achievement Awards presentation. Honorees include Brian Harris, Hannah Hudson, Owen McCarthy, Norman Minsky, George Pullen, Todd Saucier, Allen and Patricia Morell, The Family of Don and Pat Collins, Dr. Frank Drummond, and John E. Baldacci.

Transcript is machine generated, unedited, in English.

0:01

[Music]

0:15

[Music]

0:41

to the tree to the sky glorious [Music]

1:21

[Music]

1:28

[Music]

1:41

welcome to the University of Maine alumni Achievement Awards tonight

1:46

honoring Brian Harris Hannah Hudson Owen

1:55

McCarthy Norman Minsky George pullin

2:05

Todd so seer Allen and Patricia Morrell

2:13

the family of dawn and Pat Collins our

2:18

distinguished Maine professor recipient dr. Frank Drummond and the honorable

2:25

john Baldacci now here's your host Rick

2:31

Tyler and welcome back to Wells Commons

2:38

my name is Rick Tyler class of 1987 and I still have some of a Freshman Fifteen and a few outstanding parking tickets to

2:44

prove it but I don't remember the food tasting this fantastic in Wells Commons

2:49

back in 87 tonight we have a stellar

2:56

theme if you've noticed the Ursa Major on all of your tables and the stars that are inside and so it seems fitting

3:02

search that we begin with our rising stars this year awards that are

3:09

presented on behalf of WBRC as we present honors to Brian Harris head of

3:15

Hudson and Owen McCarthy Oh McCarthy is the president of met

3:20

rhythms which is a neurologic music therapy company they use neurologic music therapy concepts to help people

3:27

who have had strokes or traumatic brain injuries Owen is definitely an innovator to be

3:32

doing this kind of groundbreaking work with med rhythms and bringing this care to people around the world I know Owen from my work on the board of

3:40

visitors for the University Owen brings a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm a very calm sense

3:48

of enthusiasm where he kind of has an idea about where he wants to go and then

3:53

clearly can kind of winnow away the wheat from the chaff to get there Brian

3:59

Harris has really made a mark the company that that Brian started with

4:04

with his partner Owen to me it's pretty apparent that what they're doing works they're giving quality of life to people

4:10

that maybe might not have been able to enjoy that same quality of life again he's incredibly inspiring what he has

4:18

done from the day that when he was a student here to what he's doing now it's incredible what he has built and

4:24

how he is enlivened the whole music therapy field panet Hudson is the

4:30

president of the all mean women alumni interest group one great thing that hannah has done to increase communication is appoint a liaison

4:38

between the current all men women class and the alumni interest group so that we can work together and know what projects

4:45

both of us are working on with this liaison hannah has helped us fundraise and really keep in touch with our alumni

4:53

I first met in 2013 when she was still a student and then in 2014 she came to

5:00

Washington and I brought with her her skills and language her skill in

5:06

speaking Spanish and focusing on Latin American affairs but she has broadened

5:11

her expertise very quickly into dealing with issues of importance to China and

5:17

the u.s. relationship with China when Bryan and Hana they are rising stars Owen always brings

5:23

a certain energy to the room I would say that he's a rising star simply because he is passionate about the university of

5:29

Maine Bryan being a rising star having this award very deserving and just very apt

5:35

he's the whole package of what we think a University of Maine student should be intelligence integrity and hard work

5:41

Hannah represents all that is possible in this country and we need more

5:46

Hannah's in all mean women in senior classes and in the entire University of Maine in these rising stars you really

5:53

get to see those people who are well on their way to being successful contributors to the state of Maine but

6:00

we see even greater potential in them some day you never know where they're gonna be they're gonna take their

6:06

companies to new heights in Hannah's case maybe some leadership and some political aspects and I think we will

6:13

see more from them in the future [Music]

6:21

[Applause] [Music]

6:27

ladies and gentlemen presenting his evenings rising stars to Owen Hannah and

6:34

Bryant here's Bob Frank of WBRC okay we

6:45

didn't rehearse this but they're supposed to walk up to the stage to the sound of Earth Wind and Fire singing shining star

7:12

I'm great thank you so much for this it truly is an honor a night as I think

7:17

about this type of award I can certainly think of many of my colleagues and friends from the University of Maine who feel like should be much more deserving

7:23

in something like this to me and so I'm I'm truly honored and as I think about you know we as people are a product of

7:29

those that we are surrounded by and I had the great privilege and blessing to

7:35

grew up in a town with a family who happens to be here tonight there were excellent examples of what it

7:40

means to be a good person in the world and I'm very thankful for their example for that and then to come to a place at

7:46

the University of Maine where I was surrounded by people who absolutely changed my life or I found an amazing

7:52

life who who lives up to those examples an amazing friend and mentor in Owen

7:58

that you know as I said change my life and those are the people that we lead on and I feel like I've made on all the

8:03

time and sort of receive this type of award from the University I'm very grateful so thank you very much everyone

8:14

just such an honor to be here tonight thank you so much for the recognition it's great to do one small thing to support our universities it worth I know

8:20

and folks that I definitely watch rise just a freshman here on campus growing up or mentors to me actually level thank

8:27

you so much

8:32

see you can tell that Brian and I spent about 12 hours a day together because he stole my speech we didn't even know we

8:39

didn't even talk about it before but I'm humbled and honored to be here the University of Maine was a critical part

8:46

of my development as a person and it really was a launch pride for men life

8:51

and this is gonna sound a lot like Brian but I took a class in business school to study the history of leaders and they

8:58

said you know the product that who someone is is a lot about where they're from and the people they surround

9:04

themselves with and so I've been fortunate enough to be from small town Maine with great parents that have

9:09

helped me out along the way and you know met a great wife who has around myself with every day who helps me out and I go

9:15

to spend time with people like Brian etc and with that you know everyone challenges each other to be better and

9:22

you know I think that is you know what we can all hope for in life so thank you for this award and

9:41

everyone needs a champion this University has many champions search and

9:47

tonight we salute the champion of humane award a presentation made by Krause

9:52

Minsky and who is this norm Minsky guy

10:00

being part of a relatively small Jewish community Norman was always somebody who

10:06

was looked up to and held in very high regard he has done so much for not only

10:15

the University of Maine but our community he has served our country he has served our state and the legislature

10:21

and he has done so with very little recognition or fanfare we get together probably about every two months and we

10:28

usually have lunch together I feel very fortunate to know somebody that's been involved in the community as a city

10:34

councilor and also as it legislative even though he went to bu I think he

10:40

likes to be a support of the University of Maine because he wanted to be more involved with a real hockey school

10:47

[Music] Norman Minsky has single-handedly raised

10:54

the question of religious studies here at the University of Maine specifically

10:59

Judaic Studies without Norman Skees vision for this without his passion for it it just wouldn't have happened he is

11:06

absolutely passionate about ensuring that as many students as possible understand the contributions of Jewish

11:13

people and Jewish culture to American culture as a whole and specifically to

11:18

Maine at one time the Bangor area had a much larger Jewish population and as the

11:25

the older people had children those children had opportunities those opportunities were elsewhere no one

11:31

person can reverse that kind of demographic change but he could reverse

11:36

it culturally in a sense by fostering Judaic Studies on this campus in the

11:43

place that matters to him the most we gave Norman the Stillwater award a few years ago here at the University of

11:49

Maine we were trying to find either

11:55

video or pictures of him he's quite camera shy a lot of people

12:02

find that he's very modest about what he has done both in community service and also with his gifts to the different

12:09

charities that he supported in many ways nor Minsky is a very quiet person but

12:16

what he's contributed speaks for him he has taken action rather than simply putting words out there he has put deeds

12:23

out there and that speaks volumes and will echo on this campus and in this

12:29

community for decades [Music]

12:40

our champion of the UMaine award winner norm in sting and presenting the award the president of gross Minsky and mogul

12:46

egg cool I'm not a graduate of the

13:02

University but I grew the university means as a citizen of Maine it's our state it's our school as the educator of

13:09

my youth and therefore it deserves the support of all citizens of Maine whether

13:15

the rent of the University of man's not for the benefit of Susan hundred was

13:20

expecting me to say something I will I'm

13:25

still waiting for the Christian and the Islamic Studies programs she be ready to go out

13:30

thank you very much and I hope he will continue to support this university because it deserves

13:37

[Applause]

13:56

that'll be up on his Facebook page for the end of the night promise we've got

14:02

spirit yes we do we've got spirit how about you fortunately we have a spirit

14:12

of Maine Award to give out this evening and is presented by the University of Maine School of Business
14:26

I remember when George was a student in my class that he was always one of the spirited people you knew when he came in

14:32

the room he sat there there was a presence around him and when he first had this interview with the Commodity

14:38

Futures Trading Commission I was intrigued with that because that's not something that I believe has never happened before out of Business School

14:45

than to hear that George was going there as an economist was a was a pretty interesting and a good thing for the

14:50

school down here in Washington we think the world of George George brings out our warmth and humanity he's an example

14:57

of the best in public service brilliant highly competent and an incredibly nice guy George came to the Commission in

15:05

2010 and he quickly became indispensable I know because we served on some panels

15:11

together during that time George was on no fewer than 15 rulemaking teams to put

15:17

this in perspective even serving on 1 to 2 rulemaking teams would complete most

15:23

federal careers George has worked on numerous special projects and teams in the areas of swap

15:30

data analysis our Technology Advisory Committee oil markets natural gas and

15:36

electricity we gave George the toughest jobs and he always came through for a

15:42

number of years now there's been a group of four members of the spiffy group the student investment fund group who have

15:48

gone to New York in November to meet with money managers there and George was

15:55

one of the first groups that did that that evening we took them all to see the

16:03

Broadway play Oklahoma oh mama where the wind comes sweeping

16:09

down the plain and on the small airplane flying back home all of a sudden he

16:16

bursts out in song with Oklahoma and everyone just cracked up with that on

16:23

the plane again spirit he made people feel good and just created a memory there which was pretty cool with the

16:31

group projects he was involved in in the research presentations coupled with his technical skills he was a hot ticket

16:37

upon graduation and I'm just I just think it's great that he landed where he did George's greatest gift maybe this he

16:44

always brings out the best in others he makes his colleagues better raises their

16:50

sights higher and their work product better [Music]

17:05

and presenting this year's spirit of Maine award to George pullin please welcome George and humane professor Bob

17:12

strong [Applause] [Music]

17:18

[Applause] [Music] [Applause]

17:32

he said I should sing if I want to but I'm gonna spare you guys it's been a while since collegiate chorale I was

17:40

gonna start by saying that uh that was a really nice video I didn't I think

17:46

expect to term it but some I've had together for me that's nice of them I want to also thank my family my my wife

17:52

is here my parents my sister my grandfather came out I've got a high school friends here as well and it's

17:58

really nice to have so much support and also support here I see a number of my my skull brothers my

beta brothers here

18:05

maybe some of you made sure leaders in the room maybe maybe not but it's great

18:11

to be surrounded by you all I really appreciate that I got a chance to come to a place that humane I first started

18:18

coming to or know for research projects backgrounds the Middle School in high school my parents would have to drive you over here from Central which is an

18:25

East Corinth by the way so a long drive I got to come up here for upper bound

18:33

for the summers and developed a love for me for the University I really just cherished the time I've

18:40

had here there's only five short years but but but they would buy all too

18:48

quickly good well too quickly and I'm just really thankful to have this award and

18:53

to be recognizing this way it's very humbling and I really really appreciate it thank you very much

18:59

[Applause]

19:11

before we lose her to a lake and a kayak and retirement she's crying already I

19:18

can see it out of the corner of my eye ladies and gentlemen the president of the University of Maine dr. Susan hunter

19:32

in scenic kayak now than putting cupholders so I can just sort of launch myself and sit out in the middle of the

19:39

lake and have absolutely no one talk to me and good evening everyone this is a

19:50

fabulous event it's great to see the room so full but I want to offer congratulations to our rising stars

19:56

Brian Hanna and the one I talked to all three of you and it's uh I guess I I'm

20:02

not surprised that you're getting this award and I know that you will years from now could be even decades from now

20:07

I'm sure you'll be back to it to accept alumni Achievement Awards of some other

20:13

sort because you're just those kind of people and it's it's I feel actually I feel very old right now because I knew

20:20

them all as students which is a real plus when you've been here this long and watch people who start obviously came

20:27

here is to please you watch the leadership that they displayed when they were on campus and now we'll look how

20:33

they turned out we should all feel very proud of them so I want to say congratulations to my very close from

20:39

norm Minsky and my new friend George Pollan both of you were very deserving of the

20:45

honors you've received this this evening and I'm delighted you're both here to accept them what about the video that

20:55

video was something it was it was a 1947 short that was played in theaters we did

21:01

have a lot of fun Ville filming it it was real beer in the Stein's I don't know more fun I do have to say that the video

21:12

plus and brought dr. Dana is here that video plus my experience making carpool

21:18

karaoke dr. Dana several other students

21:25

and bananas in one of the motor pool vans it's it's I can say that my

21:30

colleagues have absolutely dropped kicked me out of my comfort zone I do

21:38

want to offer thanks to the Alumni Association for hosting this award ceremony tonight as as many of you know

21:45

and it has been referenced I think that the Alumni Association has really ramped up its annual recognition awards event

21:51

and in doing so I think it's making an even greater statement about the value and importance of the faculty alumni and

21:59

Friends to you Maine's quality and reputation and I'm also very thankful of

22:05

the support of the Alumni Association that the support has provided me into the entire campus leadership they've

22:11

been actively engaged in helping us with legislative advocacy fundraising student

22:17

recruitment and relationship building and those efforts are really deeply appreciated and really payout play out

22:24

for all of us in a very positive fashion as it as it plays forward in terms of the university's success recognition and

22:32

reputation around the state so I am looking forward to the rest of tonight's program I'm not in anymore videos that I

22:38

know of so we will finish the way we started by recognizing several

22:44

outstanding black bears for their service and accomplishments so my congratulations to the remaining

22:49

honorees Todd saucier and I know you're over there somewhere the morels are

22:56

sitting right here the Collins family and they're here on mass and it's great

23:02

to have all of you with us tonight my dear friend dr. Frank Drummond dear friend and colleague and governor

23:09

Baldacci sitting here at the table up front here with us so thank you and please enjoy the rest of the evening

23:14

thank you

23:23

some people just don't know when to quit they have boundless energy search and

23:30

this evenings winner of the pine tree emblem service award presented by Bank where savings bank sure seems to emulate

23:37

just that Todd's commitment to the

23:42

University of Maine Alumni Association actually I think stems from Todd's love for the University of Maine he

23:50

understands that alumni are the lifeblood of the university and he

23:56

really does make sure that he lives and breathes the Alumni spirit

24:03

Todd's done an amazing job here at the University of Maine Alumni Association over the years been a great leader a

24:09

spirited ambassador and worked tirelessly honestly to advance the Alumni Association when I met him on my

24:18

first day of work I looked at Todd and I thought to myself that's the guy that

24:23

leads the cheers at the UMaine hockey games I thought that that was part of

24:28

his job but it turns out it was Todd's passion Todd was a you named black bear

24:35

hockey fan like no other and because of that we all became fans like no other

24:42

the guy works hours beyond most any of the leaders I know when you get emails

24:49

from Todd at 3:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. and he's often carrying on business meetings

24:54

over breakfast at 7 a.m. and he's at the same events you see him at at 9 p.m. at night still doing work for the Alumni

25:00

Association he's to wonder how to talk to be in all those places how does he do it I think I figured it

25:08

out I figured it out it's the banner it's that banner you see everywhere

25:16

everywhere everywhere I look everywhere you look there's Todd there's Todd maybe

25:28

it's not the banner but Todd really is a great supporter of the UMaine Alumni Association he's built relationships

25:36

he's partnered and he's left the Alumni Association in a really good position to

25:42

be supportive and be a partner with the University [Music]

25:59

presenting the Pinetree emblem service awards at Tasos here here's the executive vice president and chief

26:04

commercial officer for Bangor Savings Bank Jim Collin [Music]

26:12

which one does he want I'm still holding

26:36

it what are they saying whoa for only 60 seconds I'm gonna take some of Norman

26:42

skews time I think you didn't use all it is you know so thank you very much first

26:47

to the you Mabel um night Association something which has held my heart obviously during my time here and you

26:54

guys have knocked out of the park tonight so congratulations to you JD and all your crab held a job being able to

27:03

share this stage with the folks that are being recognized tonight just the beautiful people in which they are and

27:09

I've no mall in their various capacities that I've appreciated them I gotta tell you though I gotta give it a little bit

27:14

of a hell yeah to to the president as she mentioned our rising stars and

27:20

George pullin these young folks is as she mentioned I knew them when they were students on campus and they were letting

27:27

the world on fire back then and just truly to adore them and admire them for what they've done and what they're doing

27:32

and for anybody that has any questions about the millennial generation have a look at these folks and and their their

27:38

respective spouses and you'll understand just where we're going in the next generation so get out of the way they're

27:44

coming want to be thankful of course and tearing and and his wife Julie French

27:51

you're here tonight and that's our that's my new home at United insurance for that poster that you've seen so thank you very much than supporting all

27:57

my efforts for the things in which I do my family of course is here as well my

28:03

in-laws Walter haddock and Gilmore Gail's you may know mama I didn't mention that ed and Julie are both alums as well but

28:09

Gail's an alum and my three beautiful women that they're sitting at my table and the reason which I leave them last

28:15

because I don't know that I get through all the way what about to say about them but my beautiful white B we met right

28:22

here in this building there was a wall right here that dr. Kennedy threatened he was going to take out he couldn't and

28:28

it was inside the dish room of that Welles dining come of this well Dining Commons that I met her and now that's been 28 years later and God love her

28:37

she's she's still hanging around I don't know what her run what's wrong with my

28:45

beautiful daughters Hayley and Corinne they're 21 and 17 now but they've been

28:52

black bears since the day they were born I was working here they have traveled as

28:58

many miles as I ever did evangelizing on behalf of this university and I've so

29:03

appreciated all the time that they've put in and and appreciate what they've given up really to be for me to do what

29:10

I've done and do it as well as we have together as a family and we continue to so this place holds a very special place

29:17

in my heart and I'm very pleased and thankful for our evening together that's my so thank you we'll change the rules

29:35

for you a little bit what the paparazzi is chasing you however

29:44

while they snap some photos let me ask you a question have you ever wanted to change the world

29:50

well my question to you is how big is your world think about that as you watch

29:58

this it's the Bernard Loney Humanitarian Award this year presented by CBR Eva

30:05

Buddhist company to Alan and Patricia Morel to understand Alan and Patty's

30:10

passion you need to understand what's going on in Sierra Leone Sierra Leone has experienced a number of setbacks

30:16

within the past ten years they've had civil war they were affected by the

30:22

Ebola outbreak and most recently the country was gripped by the mudslides

30:27

that took out a lot of the infrastructure as well as some lives of the citizens family and extended family

30:33

is very important to the people of Sierra Leone what the people of Sierra Leone didn't know is that their extended

30:38

family reached all the way to Alan and Patty beyond the research that Alan and Patty have been doing they've been

30:45

traveling frequently to Sierra Leone working with caregivers and children in the area and just giving them hope

30:51

that's what Alan and Patty are there hope to the people of Sierra to me and two other students at the

30:57

University of Maine they are inspiration Allen and Patty are the most generous people that I have

31:03

ever met not only do they visit Sierra Leone multiple times per year to work at

31:09

the Child Rescue Center but they have also been incredibly generous to the University of Maine Allen

and Patty have

31:15

enriched the lives of so many people in Sierra Leone but they've also enriched the lives of our students that

31:20

transformed their lives and their education here at the University of Maine as an alumnus of the

University of

31:27

Maine Allen understood the resources here and understood that the students had the skills and the

dedication to

31:34

work with the folks of Sierra Leone but they needed that opportunity they needed that context in which they could be

31:40

effective and they could actually have their own lives transformed and enriched I also an Allen believe that you go on

31:48

mission to grow closer to God why do they do it Allen a petty understand that they have the means to help the children Sierra

31:54

Leone and we see signs of miracles every day part of this is motivated by their

31:59

faith I think that's a very deep part of who they are they genuinely care they're

32:05

good people they have good hearts and they saw a problem and they wanted to fix it and to be honest they're just

32:11

really nice people [Music]

32:24

ladies and gentlemen the winners of this year's Humanitarian Award Allen and Patricia Merle and presenting the award

32:32

a member of the class of 2018 a legal matter [Applause] [Music]

32:49

good evening everyone this is a beautiful evening and we congratulate all the other honorees and when Alan I

32:57

heard that we were nominated for this award we were very honored but we were totally surprised and humbled when they

33:03

were told we were selected because we know there's many many people who are very deserving on this award and we're

33:10

so grateful to the University of Maine for their interest in what God has been doing through us in Sierra Leone and

33:18

particularly the Honors College and we've been so blessed to work with students who just excite us they're so

33:24

capable they're so motivated they're so smart and they're working on two projects that are really helping the

33:31

students and caregivers in short in Sierra Leone thank you

33:41

peace be with you I'll bring you greetings from Sierra

33:47

Leone West Africa the parents students the teachers want to thank all the

33:55

university for what they've done in energizing the resources with faculty

34:01

and students in a way that will have a national impact we believe in the next three years

34:07

tremendous powerhouse what you have your University of Maine in sylvan they call

34:16

patty and I'm Linda that means I'm with you I'm for you I'm part of you you are with me and we are

34:25

with you you are all of our neighbors were so delighted to be here tonight we're honored by your selection of patty

34:33

and I if you could see through a Sierra Leonean eyes the power and the beauty

34:40

that sits around these tables you would know what great favor you have all been

34:46

given there are times where we all receive inspiration and that's

34:51

motivating but all of us know that we give in our position and our blessings

34:58

we have to continue working hard and our very best in order to achieve what we

35:05

believe will help others and the University of Maine has been part of that solution for us god bless you

35:11

[Applause]

35:27

as Patti and Allen teach us sometimes support is a family affair which brings

35:35

us to our next award this evening the Bullard legacy award is presented by Joe and Suzanne Seer and Ralph and Jim

35:42

letter it's the Collins family the Collins

35:48

family has a strong deep-rooted commitment to Maine represented by their decades of service to the University of

35:54

Maine system the University of Maine and the people of the state there are three

35:59

generations of colonists who have chaired the University of Maine Board of Trustees and there are four generations

36:07

of Collins's that have graduated from the University this commitment to serve

36:13

or passion to serve community and civic engagement I think that's what makes our nation great and they understand this

36:20

it's in their DNA Don characterized that as did Pat and it's extends in succeeding generations

36:27

of that family I met Don when he was on the Board of Visitors and I was associate provost

36:33

he was a sharp guy who asked tough questions and I really liked him Don was

36:38

very dedicated to northern Maine but not to the exclusion of the rest of the state having served in the legislature

36:44

for 22 years Don was a role model for his family and for all of us my mother

36:50

was the first woman to chair the University of Maine system Board of

36:56

Trustees when you're on the University Board State University you have the

37:02

students you have the professor's you have the college presidents you have the

37:07

legislature and you have the parents so it is sometimes it's hard to satisfy all

37:14

these different groups I did say to my family don't ever go on a State

37:21

University Board go on College Board's but not a state it's too hard and you

37:27

see how that worked out my brother Sam has chaired the

37:32

University of Maine system Board of Trustees for several years during very

37:38

difficult times because of budget constraints and I wanted to make sure

37:43

that the good stewardship that has had has had was continued and whatever I

37:49

might be able to to do to help with that I thought it was important he does a

37:55

much better job than I ever did he he is he's much more patient I look at the

38:04

University of Maine system as one of our if not our most important asset in the

38:09

state of Maine and if you look at the infrastructure and you look at the opportunity that it creates for somebody

38:16

from Fort Kent to Machias to Farmington to USM it is critically important for

38:23

the future of the state of Maine my mother and I are very proud of his

38:29

leadership and of his carrying on the family legacy Sam works tirelessly for

38:36

his community and for his state and Susan never forgets Maine in her work as one of the most influential voices in

38:42

our nation today that's why it's our tremendous pleasure to have senator Collins as our commencement speaker in

38:48

May joining us for that event will be Pat and other family members including

38:53

Sam who will be on stage giving the greeting from the Board of Trustees in the morning commencement ceremony and

38:59

Don will be with us in spirit as always our state faces many vexing challenges

39:06

at the moment many of our communities are suffering our rural communities and the Civic fabric of our communities is

39:12

going to hold us together the Collins family is a wonderful example of that and we would all do well to emulate what

39:18

they have done in their community of caribou and in Aroostook County you throughout the state and even national

39:24

[Music]

39:36

representing the Collins family please welcome Sam break senator Susan Collins and Patricia Collins and presenting the

39:42

Fogler Legacy Award gives Joe and Susan's here

40:21

thank you we're certainly honored to be recognized tonight and I have governor

40:30

Baldacci to blame for being on the board of trustees Thank You governor but I

40:38

have a secret to tell everybody here you know I've always wanted to come to a Maine alumni recognition dinner and I

40:46

said how am i as a st. Lawrence saint following my sister's a path going to

40:53

become come to an alumni recognition dinner well I figured it out you have to

40:59

have big coattails with a lot of family and generations that goes to the universe and Maine system numerous Maine

41:05

at Orono and also get it work really hard for the universe Maine system and

41:10

so I said so I was very thankful to the governor for giving that opportunity but

41:16

in all seriousness you know the University of Maine system is a wonderful system and University at Orono

41:22

is a wonderful school and I may have been ventured elsewhere but I do bleed

41:28

blue and go black bears thank you

41:37

well Sam had the opportunity to be a black bear and you know he decided that

41:42

the hockey team in st. Louis or st. Lawrence was was a better choice but I

41:48

think we have a few more national championships than st. Lawrence so so my

41:53

fellow blackberries I I think we all made the right decision certainly it's

41:58

going to the University has been generational for my family for my grandfather for my parents

42:05

Don Pat and my mother is actually she is a both the traditional and a

42:12

non-traditional student which you may not know and I'm pleased that my kids my

42:17

three kids Emily Annie and Adam continued in my wife Laura in my

42:22

footsteps and going to this great University they they've all been very successful and in fact Adam is a senior

42:30

skull and he's here tonight and I know he has the secret handshake that goes on and and as you want to make your way

42:36

over to him he'll maybe I could steal it but you know we couldn't be more thrilled with this award we're very

42:43

appreciative to everything that the University of Maine has given to our entire family and we thank you

42:49

[Applause]

43:16

tall ones in the back well done and as the Collins family

43:29

makes the right back to their seats please welcome from the class of 2002 really really really the incoming chair

43:38

of the Alumni Association Board Julia Muncie good evening everyone and thank

43:49

you so much for being here this evening it's wonderful to see so many friends family and colleagues here to celebrate

43:55

these very deserving honorees in the early 1960s Mike Roy and other members

44:03

of the class of 1942 made a visionary decision they would establish an

44:08

endowment fund to honor each year a member of the UMaine faculty the

44:14

selection criteria would be based on the university's land grant tradition of teaching research and public service

44:21

they named the honor the distinguished made professor award Mike and his

44:26

classmates did not want this to be just any award they wanted it to be the most

44:31

prestigious award that a humane faculty member could receive so they created an

44:36

endowment fund and built it up to the point where each year the recipient receives a check for \$4,200 I'm not the

44:44

class of 42 they asked the Alumni Association to oversee the selection

44:50

process which involves a rigorous review of nominees credentials oral presentations by representatives of each

44:57

colleges Dean and a secret balloting by a special committee made up of alumni and past award recipients in keeping

45:06

with traditions at some other universities they arranged for each year's award recipient to receive a

45:11

distinctive blazer as well as a unique academic medallion to be worn with their

45:16

academic cap and gown at commencement and on other special occasions this is

45:23

the 57th year in which the Alumni Association has had the great honor to name the University

45:29

distinguished man professor six years ago Mike Roy and his remaining

45:34

classmates passed the torch to my class the class of 2002 and asked us to take

45:40

responsibility for keeping the endowment fund well fueled the Alumni Association has

45:45

also taken a financial interest in making sure that the distinguished main professor honorees past or present are

45:51

celebrated for the roles they played in elevating the University of Maine's quality value and reputation the college

46:00

of distinguished Maine professors is an elite group that's what happens when you add just one new member a year we are

46:07

fortunate to have several recipients of the award present tonight I'd like you to meet them please stand as I share

46:15

your name and remain standing dr. al Bush way dr. Habib daughter dr.

46:30

bill Davis dr. Ivan Fernandes dr. Joe

46:38

djenka let's stand up stand back up you

46:45

may remain standing yes dr. Dana Humphrey dr. Fred iron dr.

46:56

ján Krista dr. Paul mask dr. Jim Ross dr. Bob strong dr. David

47:09

Townsend and dr. Mary Tyler please give them a standing ovation

47:29

thank you for all of your countless contributions to our students our University and our state and now it is

47:38

my pleasure to introduce the recipient of the 2018 distinguished Maine

47:43

professor award Frank is first of all

47:57

just a phenomenon he's published more than 400 manuscripts he's brought in 27

48:05

million dollars to the campus and grant funding but I want to tell you about

48:11

things that numbers can't his job is more than just to find solutions to

48:18

problems it is to communicate those solutions to a wide audience and that's

48:25

something that scientists in particular find difficult to do but Frank does it

48:30

not only very effectively but with great enthusiasm years ago I called Frank up

48:36

and we had an insect that was on though that we will find it on the blueberry Barrens and we had no idea what it was

48:42

and Frank took a look at it and immediately knew that it was an insect that there was paper written about it in

48:48

1922 Frank's comment was it's not a problem to have that resource to be able to

48:56

utilize at any time is just an incredible asset to us Frank in some

49:01

ways is the quintessential University of Maine professor outstanding in his field and every sense of that word blueberry

49:07

growers have saved and and earned literally millions of dollars because of his work on insects Frank has an

49:14

international reputation in his area of expertise and so he draws other experts to the University and he draws

49:20

outstanding students who want to come study here Frank it's a passionate individual he

49:25

is a great professor and he's an even better mentor teaching you and talking to you like a colleague and never doubt

49:31

to you Frank is not afraid to get stung by honeybees whatsoever one of the first interactions I had with

49:38

Frank out in the field with him just sticking his hand into a colony of honeybees teaching me how to lift up

49:45

screens and I was just shocked as he was getting stung and you know I was just

49:51

sitting there like wow there's a story about Frank and it's a story about a

49:57

blueberry farmer she contacted him and said I have a hive that had an

50:03

aggressive Queen he knew the only way to solve the problem was to replace the Queen and he would have to do that at

50:10

home he didn't know where to put it so he put it in the back of his car suited up in a bee suit with the hive

50:15

inside and just drove wearing a bee suit the entire way with a bunch of speeds

50:21

flying in his car and he was willing to do that for people he's willing to go that extra mile with honeybees in the

50:27

back of his car that's dedication he is low-key he is there is not a

50:34

pompous bone in his body he's comfortable out in the field with the farmers he's comfortable in the
50:41

classroom he's extremely approachable he's truly outstanding in his discipline
50:47

but he's got that kind of humble Maine style why does he do it [Music]
50:53

because he can't help it he really had vision and and that is one thing that
50:58

makes Frank incredible he's energized by the students by their curiosity he's not
51:05

just the kind of professor to promise getting published he's really the professor who says let's go get
published I have never seen anybody so

51:13

interested in everything and everybody and that's Frank

51:21

[Music]

51:32

presenting the 2018 distinguished professor Awards Aransas running here's

51:37

Darren Hammond a wider surveyed [Applause] [Music]

51:45

[Applause]

52:12

this is very very special you know you

52:22

be sort of honored this way and compared

52:27

to the group of previous distinguished main professors which stood up here

52:33

today who are icons and part of the history of this campus is is just

52:39

overwhelming I know my mother would have enjoyed being in here here she passed

52:45

away just a few years ago but she lived to 97 and she was one of my first

52:51

inspirations but as many of the award

52:56

winners know that this award is more than just individual accomplishments

53:03

it's really all about the community and the community and main University of Maine and I have to say
this community

53:13

started for me 30 years ago when my wife dr. Ellie Grodin and I arrived here

53:19

sharing a faculty position and I sort of got my legs underneath me because of her

53:26

we taught classes together we did live our early research together I use

53:31

romantic so what happens with romance we had two wonderful kids and Bree and Nate my
53:41
son's a farmer Nate is here he probably will never know how much he inspired me and all of the faculty
here and the
53:50
students at the University of Maine challenged me made me a better professor
53:56
and people would always say to me well Frank how can you do all this well it's
54:02
it's because of these faculty especially who I call my blueberry buds dr. Shawna
54:08
anise dr. Dave Yarborough and one person who's very special Judy Collins who's my
54:16
research colleague may things work but
54:22
in addition to that there has been a community that has just made my life so joyous to work here in
Maine and as was
54:30
mentioned that has been the blueberry growers and they have told me when I'm
54:35
full of baloney they have given me ideas that you know started new research programs but also I had
cancer about 15
54:45
years ago and darkness on these blueberry growers didn't coming to the hospital and beat me at cards
and then
54:54
when I was able to break out of the hospital and go and give blueberry talks again
55:00
the first thing that many of them would do would be come up to me with real sincerity and say how are
you doing
55:06
you're doing okay I mean it just what kind of a community could make you feel
55:11
happier so so this is just really a special special award and I'll always
55:18
remember this night thank you very much [Applause]
55:41
these are the University of Maine Alumni Association Achievement Awards and I
55:48
guess the deep inside all of us want to achieve many want to achieve for
55:54
themselves however some want to achieve to the benefit of others this year's or alumni
56:02
career award was presented by Abby great to the Honorable governor Baldacci
56:09
before governor Baldacci was governor bob dachi he was a lot of other things and I think that's part of
his success
56:16

he was elected to City Council of 23 he was elected state senator 27 he was a
56:22
member of Congress at 39 and he was elected governor in 46 and because he
56:29
had that variety of experiences I think it helped him understand what's going on
56:35
for people in a lot of different levels I think what made governor Baldacci effective is his genuine sincere
care
56:43
for the people in the state of Maine if there was a complaint that there were
56:49
people angry with some policy decisions he made he took time to listen to them to find out why he
would talk out loud
56:56
about how he could be better for everybody in the state the qualities
57:01
that come to mind are patience respect for whoever he's sitting across the table from no matter what
the
57:08
circumstance or the issue the ability to really listen and ultimately to always
57:13
make a firm and thoughtful decision he is a great leader and somebody who has time and again been
faced with difficult
57:20
situations and that focus on where he comes from and who he is and the people
57:25
who he wants to work for every day is what has made him such a success I've seen him in difficult
situations
57:32
where he's kept his cool and he's kept his sense of who he is and his honesty
57:39
and his integrity I never saw a time when he wasn't true to his own beliefs
57:47
and true to his own ideals so if he had set out to have goals in his life to
57:52
serve people he accomplished all of them because he's done everything he's done from the heart and
for all the right
57:58
reasons John winning this award he's a great capstone of a very productive career
58:04
where the John Valdez of tomorrow I think they're all over the place they're
58:10
through the university many different kinds of fields and backgrounds and
58:15
they'll probably do what John did which is start at the local level and then perhaps become governor
someday
58:23
[Music]

58:32

[Music] presenting the 2018 alumni Career Award

58:39

to be honorable John Baldacci who's the CEO of app and great network mother come

58:58

thank you very much for that very generous applause it's a pleasure and

59:03

honor to be here with you the tape they gave me two and a half minutes I promise

59:10

that I won't use all of it best advice I was given when I was giving remarks was

59:15

to stand up so that you can see you speak loudly so they can't even sit down so they can appreciate you so beneficial

59:22

as possible first I want to thank the Alumni Association and John diamond for

59:28

the honor what they're doing tonight and have done and continue to do for future

59:34

generations of Maine citizens Maine families is one of the most important contributions we can make to a free

59:41

society becomes a requirement of an educated citizenry and then making sure people have access to that so thank you

59:48

for that I'd also like to congratulate the other Award winners that are here tonight it's an honor to be here with

59:54

senator Collins and her family I served in the state Senate with Don he was a fabulous person real gentleman Pat was

1:00:03

the real power behind the throne though she may have been painting in the

1:00:08

background but she did portraits that there were members of the state Senate but she really was making sure that

1:00:14

everybody was in their place at the appropriate time but they heard leadership on the University of Maine

1:00:20

campus and the directorship of the Board of Trustees Sam you've got big shoes to

1:00:27

fill good luck it's a good Sam on the board because

1:00:33

John Martin was on the board name is telling the university of northern Maine thinks of the issues so I had to make

1:00:42

sure I had more than just one voice talking about what was going on in northern Maine I see John every once in

1:00:50

a while and he hasn't changed he's still in the legislature John diamond was the

1:00:56

House Majority Leader when John was Speaker of the House and John couldn't rise up to be Speaker because John Martin wasn't going anywhere so John

1:01:03

let's believe I see my good friend skip

1:01:08

Chapelle and Jenna Cashman and their families of my cousin even though he hates to admit Jill Farris but it's

1:01:16

great to see everybody here my staff from the office but I say staff my administration people of commissioners I

1:01:22

couldn't have done anything in office without your help and support and I

1:01:27

appreciate it it's great to see you all here tonight and I really couldn't do anything if I didn't have my wife's help

1:01:33

we've got this award earlier see shows you how far I get women are than the men she got this award this first lady and

1:01:40

she's kind of told me what to say and how to close myself and they prepared for it but what I do honey I couldn't do

1:01:46

any of this stuff so thank you very much the University of Maine graduate also and I'd like to really welcome you all

1:01:54

to and to see my son Jack and his lovely wife Leah those practicing attorneys now

1:02:00

in Portland so any business you can send that I want to thank Bob Kemp bob is the

1:02:10

CEO of having grid systems network and he's here with Jim torgeson who's the

1:02:17

CEO of the overall have a good company and Doug Hurley is here also he's the

1:02:22

president of central Maine power company and I just want to thank them for what they're doing here at the University of

1:02:28

Maine and making contributions and also for what they're doing throughout the state of Maine it's a huge impact on our

1:02:34

state and thank you my managing partner from Pierce a

1:02:40

Twitter CEO Dave berry and his wife and thank you Dave very much for making the trek

1:02:45

I appreciate it he is a terrific guy I've often said to him I said if you run for office I'll hand out your palm cards

1:02:52

he's really well like president hunter I first of all I told you this privately

1:02:59

but I'll say it publicly you may be the first woman president you're one of the

1:03:05

best presidents University has had

1:03:20

let me just close by saying how important the University of Maine is

1:03:25

Jill my brother who I was very impressed with the way you conducted yourself in that video it's one of the few times

1:03:37

you've listened to him there's two

1:03:46

lovely daughters and lovely wife is here and thank you very much for what you guys are doing but my father and mother

1:03:53

had eight children can they drove like a

1:03:58

piledriver into all of us how important education was in his and wanted to make

1:04:04

sure that we all had a foundation of education so that we'd be able to be independent self-sufficient and put out

1:04:11

our own shingled and that was our access to the American Dream seven out of eight

1:04:17

of our children have our brothers and sisters graduated from the University of Maine and handed as a foundation

1:04:24

[Applause]

1:04:29

so we in our small way set up a scholarship fund and my parents name and

1:04:36

we made contributions to you to Bangor high school graduates to come on to the University of Maine but we all do what

1:04:42

we can do and just reinforcing to all of you the importance of this institution what it represents the Maine families

1:04:49

and the opportunity of achieving the American dream so thank you for what you're doing here tonight thank you but

1:04:56

what you're going to be doing tomorrow and god bless you

1:05:04

[Applause]

1:05:20

couple of eight-by-ten glossies for the fans

1:05:26

wonderful well did you have a good time this evening

1:05:35

Juliet John thank you for this opportunity on behalf of the entire team at Sutherland Weston but before we leave two final pieces of business search a

1:05:42

final acknowledgement to all of tonight's winners [Music]

1:05:49

starting with some shining stars three of them who are certainly bright

1:05:56

a quiet champion whose contributions speak volumes a spirited student from

1:06:02

Maine's streets now minding Wall Street and a tireless advocate for his alma

1:06:08

mater a couple whose inspiration at home and

1:06:14

hope to so many so far away and generations serving community by county

1:06:19

college and country an icon to this university and an entire industry many

1:06:25

graduate who reminds us that true leaders serve what do they all have in

1:06:31

common they're from the college or hearts always who knows who will be here

1:06:37

to honor next year when we come back to the University of Maine alumni achievement awards but before we go what

1:06:45

would you say to build besides the dear old

1:06:57

but every boy [Applause]

1:07:30

[Music]

1:07:37

[Music]

1:07:46

to all the half

1:07:59

well done ladies in tone and give yourself a round of applause good night we'll see you next year

1:08:05

[Applause]

The University of Maine in Orono is the flagship campus of the University of Maine System, where efforts toward racial equity are ongoing, as is the commitment to facing a complicated and not always just institutional history. The University recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot nation, where issues of water and its territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac — through kinship, alliances, and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.