



Matthew Revitt <matthew.revitt@maine.edu>

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## Celebrate research collaborations and more!

1 message

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**UMaine Research** <research@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Research <research@maine.edu>  
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

Tue, Oct 4, 2022 at 10:08 AM



## October 2022

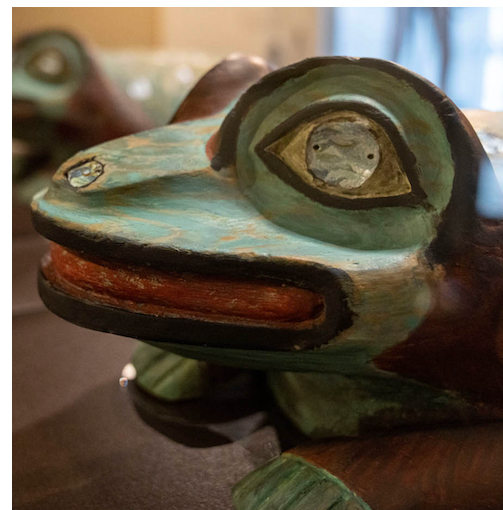
[Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School](#)

### Spotlight

#### UMaine Arts Initiative to host "Creative Research Collaborations" talks

Join us to celebrate creative research! The winners of a new competitive seed grant offered by the UMaine Arts Initiative present on October 19th at 3:30 pm in person at the IMRC Center and streamed via Zoom.

- Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future
- The Island Soundscape Project
- Art & Creative Ecologies Series



- I Give You My Home: a site-specific opera and its historical background
- Blending Migratory Wildlife Science, Curatorial Practice, and Visual Arts for High School Educational Programming

[Zoom participants register now](#). Visit the [event listing](#) for more event details. Light refreshments will be served.

[Read More](#)

## Featured Stories



**ARCSIM's Laura Jackson named NSF ACCESS Campus Champion**

[Read More](#)



**Urcuqui-Bustamante strives to reduce tick-borne diseases through landscape management**

[Read More](#)



**Fanning awarded \$3M from USDA for spotted-wing drosophila research**

[Read More](#)



**Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps**

[Read More](#)

## Announcements

- [UMaine's EMPOWER program enters second year with new cohort](#)
- [Current Job Openings in Research at UMaine](#)

- [New UMS Request for Ideas Process](#)
- [Call for Applications: Flagship Doctoral Research Fellowship 2023](#)
- [UMaine Arts Initiative \(UMAI\) Seed Grant Request for Proposals](#)
- [UMaine AI Webinar: Secure AI, October 6](#)
- [Grants 101: Seeking, Analyzing, and Writing Basics, October 11](#)
- [First Annual Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering, October 13-15](#)
- [Tour of Advanced Structures and Composites Center, October 14](#)
- [Institute of Medicine Mental Health Lecture, October 18](#)

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## UMaine News: Research Stories and More

Funding Opportunities

External Grants Awarded



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Website



Email

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This event has passed.

## Creative Research Collaborations at UMaine

October 19, 2022 @ 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm



Join us to celebrate creative research!

The [UMaine Arts Initiative \(UMAI\)](#) is pleased to present the [winners of a new competitive seed grant program](#), created to encourage innovative and interdisciplinary collaborations that seek to build a diverse, inclusive, sustainable and equitable community of art researchers, practitioners, supporters and promoters. The participants will present on their projects:

**Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future**

Gretchen Faulkner, Director, Hudson Museum

**The Island Soundscape Project**

N.B. Aldrich, Associate Professor of Art

Steve Norton, Independent researcher

**Art & Creative Ecologies Series**

Susan Smith, Associate Research Professor of Art, Graduate Coordinator of Intermedia Programs, Department of Art

Justin Wolff, Chair, Department of Art, Professor of Art History

**I Give You My Home: a site-specific opera and its historical background**

Beth Wiemann, Director, Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, Professor, Music Division

**Blending Migratory Wildlife Science, Curatorial Practice, and Visual Arts for High School Educational Programming**

Amber Roth, Assistant Professor of Forest Wildlife Management

George Kinghorn, Executive Director and Curator, Zillman Art Museum

**Enjoy light refreshments with us in-person at the IMRC Center at 3:30pm on October 19th OR register to attend via Zoom!**

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**DETAILS**

Date:

[October 19, 2022](#)

Time:

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

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**VENUE**

[IMRC Center](#)

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**Event Navigation**

[« Grants 101 Workshop](#)

[Finding Funding Challenge »](#)

- [Apply to UMaine](#)
- [A-Z](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Give](#)
- [Map](#)
- [News](#)
- [Careers](#)
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## ARCSIM's Laura Jackson named NSF ACCESS Campus Champion

October 3, 2022     [Announcements](#), [Faculty Spotlight](#), [Research News](#)

Laura Jackson has been named an [Advanced Cyberinfrastructure Coordination Ecosystem: Services & Support \(ACCESS\) Campus Champion](#).

The ACCESS program is a virtual collaboration funded by the National Science Foundation that facilitates free, customized access to advanced digital resources, consulting, training and mentorship. ACCESS helps the nation's most creative minds discover breakthroughs and solutions for some of the world's greatest scientific challenges.

Jackson currently serves as an integrative data scientist working with UMaine's [Advanced Research Computing, Security, and Information Management \(ARCSIM\) unit](#), which provides expertise and solutions for reliable and cost-effective high performance computing, AI, data storage and information management, data security, and visualization, delivered via consultation, training, and grant writing support.

Shane Moeykens, director of Maine [Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research \(Maine EPSCoR\)](#) and ARCSIM says "NSF's ACCESS program provides the national research community with access to computing resources and technical expertise. The role of a Campus Champion is to serve as a local expert and help guide University users with their consideration of engagement with and access to the ACCESS program."

Campus Champions work to advance scientific discovery by directing researchers to national high-performance computing information, resources and services.

"I hope Laura receives many inquiries about this program every week, understanding that the more it is leveraged here in Maine, the more our state's research enterprise will benefit," says Moeykens.

Jackson joined UMaine in May 2021. She earned her doctorate in bioinformatics at the University of South Dakota after finishing her masters and undergraduate work at Southeastern Louisiana University.

"There are a lot of great programs within ACCESS that provide users with computing, training, and general cyberinfrastructure resources. Being able to guide people and advise them on how to effectively choose and utilize these resources to enhance their research is a very exciting opportunity," says Jackson.

11/20/23, 3:23 PM

ARCSIM's Laura Jackson named NSF ACCESS Campus Champion - UMaine Research - University of Maine

For more information about ACCESS email [um.arcsim@maine.edu](mailto:um.arcsim@maine.edu).

Contact: [research@maine.edu](mailto:research@maine.edu)

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## Urcuqui-Bustamante strives to reduce tick-borne diseases through landscape management

October 3, 2022 [Faculty Spotlight](#), [Postdoc Highlight](#), [Research News](#)

Andrés Urcuqui-Bustamante, postdoctoral fellow in the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine, is working to address one of the greatest challenges that our state faces: ticks and tick-borne diseases.

His work integrates data from forest ecology, social science and medical entomology to identify landscape management solutions that could reduce tick-borne diseases like Lyme.

Urcuqui-Bustamante recently had the opportunity to present his research “Reducing Vector-borne Diseases Through Landscape Management” during an event that celebrated National Postdoc Appreciation Week. He discussed the complexity of the human-tick system, socioecological systems modeling and collaborative modeling during his presentation.

“Humans are part of this complex ecosystem through how we modify our environment. We modify our forests through forest management practices. We actually alter habitat structure and composition,” says Urcuqui-Bustamante. “We are part of this ecosystem. Any decision that we make impacts the forest and tick density, but also wildlife.”

Urcuqui-Bustamante works with his advisor, Associate Professor of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources, Jessica Leahy on his research at UMaine. He obtained his doctorate degree in environmental science from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at the State University of New York (SUNY). He also holds two master’s degrees, one in management and conservation of biodiversity in the tropics from Universidad CEU San Pablo, and the other in rural development from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.

### What is novel or notable about your research?

We are proposing a novel framework to study the impacts of forest management on tick density and tick-borne disease prevalence. The use of social-ecological systems modeling with participation from stakeholders is particularly novel in tick ecology research.



**Elaborate on the interdisciplinary nature of your research and collaborations.**

My research builds at the intersection of human systems and natural science, so we build on previous research in tick ecology, disease ecology, forest management, human perceptions, and decision-making. We integrate knowledge and data from biophysical studies and social science research.

Recently, Urcuqui-Bustamante presented at the inaugural Research Talks event, featuring short presentations by five postdoctoral scholars. The event was sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. To listen to the presentations, please visit the [Postdoctoral Research at UMaine webpage](#).

For more information about research and scholarly activities at UMaine, visit [UMaine Research](#).

Contact: [research@maine.edu](mailto:research@maine.edu)

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## UMaine News



### Fanning awarded \$3M from USDA for spotted-wing drosophila research

September 26, 2022

With its appetite for berry flesh, the spotted-wing drosophila has drastically impacted the wild blueberry crop in Maine, and other berry industries throughout the country. Currently, the pest is controlled primarily through the use of insecticides, of which there are few effective organic options, leaving organic blueberry farmers with few options to manage the economic impact of the pest on their harvest.

Philip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at the University of Maine, leads a team of scientists across the country looking to develop solutions for organic fruit farmers to control the pest in an environmentally and economically sustainable manner. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) [awarded](#) Fanning and his team nearly \$3 million for their research on the organic management of spotted-wing drosophila in fruit crops.

“Organic farmers generally focus on the use of natural or biological methods to control pests in the fields, and that is a focus of this project,” Fanning says. “Our team’s aim is to integrate more biological control options into existing practices and develop more decision-aid tools to ensure that they are economically feasible.”

Fanning’s team will carefully collaborate with stakeholders to develop and expand monitoring for spotted-wing drosophila, promote beneficial insects in the fields that can combat the pest like the wasp, *Ganaspis brasiliensis*, which is a [newly released biological control agent](#), and develop a training program to implement the organic management strategies. The project will also host undergraduate students throughout the summer to develop knowledge of pest management research and learn about careers in organic agriculture-related fields.

“Higher education in STEM plays a critical role in training the next generation of professionals, and experiential learning experiences can have a key role in getting students interested in research and outreach,” Fanning says. “Another exciting part of this project is that it will include a Research and Learning Experience (RLE) for undergraduate students. Through this, students will develop knowledge of scientific research, outreach and analytical skills while learning about careers in organic agriculture-related fields,” Fanning says.

11/20/23, 3:24 PM

Fanning awarded \$3M from USDA for spotted-wing drosophila research - UMaine News - University of Maine

Fanning's project is one of 18 awarded grants by NIFA's [Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative \(OREI\)](#), which funds research, education and Extension projects to improve yields, quality and profitability for producers and processors who have adopted organic standards.

The award started Sept. 1, 2022, and will run through Aug. 31, 2025.

Contact: Sam Schipani, [samantha.schipani@maine.edu](mailto:samantha.schipani@maine.edu)

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## UMaine News



### Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps

September 16, 2022

Caitlin Howell, associate professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, researches how to design catheters that are less likely to cause infections. News of her research caught the eye of a philanthropic organization, and now, her research has the backing it needs to potentially enter the medical market.

Howell leads a team of researchers at the UMaine Biointerface and Biomimetics Lab studying different coatings that can help prevent protein deposition that could lead to urinary tract and blood infections. Together with Ana Flores-Mireles, assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame, they have shown that liquid-infused silicone (LIS) catheters can significantly reduce the deposition of the protein fibrinogen and decrease the risk of major pathogens in the urinary tract.

Open Philanthropy, a grantmaking organization that supports research through philanthropic donations, contacted Howell directly after learning about her research in multiple news outlets and on the University of Maine [website](#).

On Sept. 7, Howell received news that she was awarded \$350,000 in support from the organization.

“We were very happy to learn that organizations like Open Philanthropy exist to identify and support research that has the potential to improve millions of lives. Having their support means that we can begin to focus on what needs to be done to move this technology to the market where it can begin to help people,” Howell says.

The funding will support the next steps of Howell’s research, which is translating the technology to the market. The team will be working on intellectual property protection and licensing; customer discovery and market analysis; and beginning the FDA approval process.

11/20/23, 3:25 PM

Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps - UMaine News - University of Maine

“Our goal is to get this technology to the point where it can help all those who rely on catheters. It will be a long process to get this into the hands of doctors and patients, as it is with nearly all new medical technologies, but we are motivated to get it done,” Howell says.

Media contact: Sam Schipani, [samantha.schipani@maine.edu](mailto:samantha.schipani@maine.edu)

Intellectual property contact: Christopher Fasel, [christopher.fasel@maine.edu](mailto:christopher.fasel@maine.edu)



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## UMaine's EMPOWER program enters second year with new cohort

October 4, 2022 [Research News](#)

The University of Maine is pleased to announce the successful launch of the third cohort of the Enhanced Mentoring Program with Opportunities for Ways to Excel in Research (EMPOWER). This initiative supports UMaine and the University of Maine at Machias faculty at multiple career stages.

EMPOWER is a mentoring program that supports faculty in their quest to achieve significant professional growth and advancement, including in research and scholarly activity. Mentoring is available for pre-tenure faculty as they establish a research program, promoted faculty as they expand their research, or faculty set to begin a significant administrative assignment. A total of 19 mentoring pairs will be supported in the second year of the program, representing the third cohort of accepted faculty participants.

The program is adapted from a similar program developed and successfully implemented at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). EMPOWER has a special emphasis on supporting the professional attainment of faculty who are underrepresented in their academic areas. Along with one-on-one mentoring, participating faculty will receive limited funds in support of research and professional development, as well as tailored engagements to support the mentoring relationship.

The first cohort of EMPOWER completed its formal participation in the program at the end of August 2022. The second cohort will reach the end of its direct support at the end of December 2022. This new third cohort represents the continuing schedule of the program, with spring recruitment for fall starts, lasting one year.

Mentors and mentees are expected to meet on a regular basis and develop program goals and objectives throughout their one-year mentoring relationship. Mentees work towards at least one significant assignment during this process, typically a submitted application for external funding.

In cases where there are mentees facing unique challenges that would impact them professionally, including their research and scholarly activity, their primary mentors are complemented by others who would be qualified to provide advice in overcoming or reducing these unique

challenges.

Plans are underway to have previous EMPOWER program participants share their experiences with colleagues and we are seeking appropriate venues to do so. Deans, directors, and chairs interested in hosting such an engagement should contact Danielle O'Neill, Assistant Director of Research Development for Faculty Outreach and Education, [danielle.oneill@maine.edu](mailto:danielle.oneill@maine.edu).

## Competition Details

# New UMS Request for Ideas Process

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### Dates

**Internal Submission Deadline:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM

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### Details

**Administrator(s):** Saul Allen (Owner)  
Edward Derrick  
Danielle O'Neill

**Category:** University of Maine System

**Cycle:** AY 2022-2023

## UMS Request for Ideas Process

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# New UMS System Request for Ideas Process



# UMS Request for Ideas Process

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- A predictable schedule for new ideas at multiple scales and stages
- Open to ideas from across the UMS
- A simplified, more equitable, process for reaching different mechanisms of support
- A way to cast the widest net for project ideas
- **Consolidates and replaces** prior calls, competitions, and opportunities





# UMS Request for Ideas Process

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- Systemwide notice of opportunity
- Streamlined form for concept presentation
- Low-barrier entry for ideas to be presented



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: How & When to Apply

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- Submit a concept paper through the [InfoReady](#) platform using standing due dates:

**Fall due date:** October 20, 2022

**Spring due date:** February 16, 2023

- Annually on the 3rd Thursday of October and February; by 5:00 pm



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Application Process

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- A structured concept paper that articulates the key elements that will go into any request for funding
- Applicants are asked to address
  - Problem to be solved
  - Actions to be taken (e.g. who and what will the funding support, expected outputs and outcomes)
  - Relevance to UMS, state and/or federal priorities
  - Impact (including sustainability)
  - Budget



# How to Apply

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Navigate to the University of Maine [InfoReady Application portal](#).



The image shows a screenshot of a presentation slide. At the top, there is a browser address bar with the URL "maine.universityofmaine.edu". The slide content is divided into two main sections. The first section is titled "Measure Success: Economic Impact" and includes the subtitle "Quantity and describe economic impact". Below this is a presentation toolbar with various icons for navigation and editing. The second section is titled "Pathway to Sustainability" and includes the subtitle "Describe a pathway to sustainability". This section also features a presentation toolbar. The slide is mostly blank, suggesting it is a template or a placeholder for content. In the bottom right corner of the slide, there is a small black box containing a red pause icon and a timer showing "00:02:25".





# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Review

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## Next Steps for your Idea

Following submission, your idea will undergo an administrative review, and if eligible, a merit or peer-review process. For ideas being considered for internal funding or for inclusion in congressionally requested funding support, a separate merit review may be performed by a panel of reviewers specific to the opportunity.

Your idea may require additional sign-off or review at your home institution, or it may be redirected towards a specific external opportunity.



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Success Stories

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## Planning grant:

### **Understanding and supporting teachers' needs and instructional practices in students with reading difficulties**

Sara Flanagan, Assistant Professor of Special Education, UMaine and Kathryn Will, Assistant Professor of Literacy Education, UMF

Partnering with Maine Department of Education to conduct surveys and interviews of teachers. Undergraduate research assistants at both campuses are central to the research team and outputs.



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Success Stories

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Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Collaboratives (IURC):

## **Expanding Municipal Capacity to Respond to Covid-19**

Vanessa Levesque, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Policy, USM; Kathleen Bell, Professor of Economics, UMaine; Eileen Johnson, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Studies, Program Manager, Bowdoin College

*Interdisciplinary & multi-institution undergraduate team: 2 USM, 4 UM, 1 Bowdoin*

*The team examined Maine communities' ability to respond to COVID-19 as an indication of their resilience against similar large scale challenges (e.g. climate change) by exploring the digital communication response of 100 Maine municipalities*



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Success Stories

## Seed grants:

Recent example from the Arctic Initiative Seed Grant Program:  
*Building a US-Canadian Research Network to Evaluate and Adapt to Arctic Influences on the Rapidly Changing Northwest Atlantic Lobster Fishery*



To catalyze cross-border collaboration, we propose to convene two in-person workshops, one in the US and one in Canada, during the autumn 2021 each comprising approximately 20 scientists, industry members, fishery managers, and other stakeholders from both sides. We request UMaine Arctic Seed Grant support for these two 2-day meetings.

**Team:** Richard A. Wahle (UMaine Lobster Institute & School of Marine Sciences); Remy Rochette (University of New Brunswick)

**Organizing Committee & Co-investigators:** Damian Brady (UMaine School of Marine Sciences - Ecosystem Modeling); Christina Cash (UMaine Lobster Institute - Assistant Director); Joaquim Goes (Lamont Doherty Geological Observatory, Columbia University - Biological oceanography); Kathy Mills (Gulf of Maine Research Institute - Fisheries Modeling); Natalie Springuel (Maine Sea Grant Extension); Joshua Stoll (UMaine School of Marine Sciences - Marine Policy and Social Sciences)

**Outcome:** *Collaborative Research: Rapid Arctic change and its implications for fisheries and fishing communities of the western North Atlantic* (\$1.426M NSF grant, working with the international collaborators convened through the seed grant project), awarded in the summer of 2022.



# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Success Stories

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## Seed grants:

Recent example from the UMS Rural Health and Wellbeing Grand Challenge Injury Prevention Seed Grant Program:

*Rural Health and Wellbeing Grand Challenge Injury Prevention Seed Grant Application: Safety and Wellness of Acadian Residents of the Upper Saint John River Valley (Awarded in Spring, 2022).*

PIs: Duane Belanger, (Assistant Professor of Nursing at UMFK) and Barbara J. Blackstone, (Dean, College of Professional Programs; Associate Professor of Exercise Science)

- Examine the roles of traditional and complementary medicine on the fall risk for Acadian individuals.
- Employs undergraduates to assist with data collection
- Launching research efforts right now – Fall, 2022

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## Additional Information about previous RRF awards:

[2022 Research Reinvestment Fund Awards](#)

[2021 UMS Research Reinvestment Fund Awards](#)





# UMS Request for Ideas Process: Success Stories

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**\$73M + in FY22 & FY23 Earmarks, including**

- UMFK Fox Auditorium Renovation (\$4M)
- UMaine Wild Blueberry Production for Changing Markets and Climates (\$3M)
- UMS Teacher Residency (USM-led, all UMS EPPs) (\$987,000)
- Dental Workforce Development and Community Dental Health Services in Aroostook County - UMA/UMPI (\$750,000)



## UMS Request for Ideas Process: Summary

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Get your ideas in, and we can help

- Find the right opportunity
- Support concept development toward a specific opportunity
- Identify possible connections among concepts and facilitate partnerships
- Direct the concept down the best path to long-term success



# UMS Request for Ideas Process

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## Application Template (info is copied into InfoReady fields)

Jason Charland, Senior Advisor to the President and Director of Research Development- questions about broad conceptual fit

Samantha Warren, Director of Government & Community Relations- questions about the Congressionally Requested Funding process

Saul Allen, Associate Director of Research Development-requests for ORD proposal and/or submission support



# New University of Maine System Request for Ideas Process

**Please submit applications by October 20, 2022**

Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation Joan Ferrini-Mundy invites University of Maine System (UMS) faculty, staff, and administrators to submit innovative project ideas that could result in internal or external funding to advance the mission of the System and its universities. Submitted ideas will be used for multiple purposes that include serving as pre-applications for congressionally directed spending and programmatic increases; established internal UMS funding programs; and extramural programs from federal, state, and private funders.

The intention is to cast a wide net to gather diverse project ideas as efficiently as possible and on a predictable schedule. Two standing due dates for Academic Year (AY) 2022-23 (one in the fall, Oct. 20, and one in the spring, Feb. 16) have been established to facilitate this process.

After all concept papers have been reviewed, we will communicate suggestions for next steps for the ideas submitted in a timely manner. Those might include:

1. invitation to submit a full application targeted towards a specific internal or external funding opportunity;
2. invitation to revise and resubmit in a subsequent round, possibly in collaboration with others who have submitted related proposals;
3. recommendation for the pursuit of extramural funding; or
4. feedback that the idea is not ready to advance at this time.

Although submitted ideas may be redirected towards appropriate external funding, *please note that direct application to external sponsors is unrelated to this call; individuals and groups seeking conventional extramural funding will continue to use the submission process specific to their university with the exception of requests for congressionally and legislatively directed funding, which are made by the System. Additionally, all submissions will be shared with the relevant university leadership and all relevant university and System/BOT policies apply, regardless of the funding source(s) ultimately secured.*

## How to Apply

Applicants can [submit ideas and supporting materials through the InfoReady Platform](#).

For more information, please view this [Recorded Webinar](#).

The application form asks for contact information from the principal investigator and an indication of the type of funding being sought. You may choose up to three of the following that best characterize either the intent or the form of the desired support:

- I. Congressionally directed funding / Community project funding (earmark): this type of funding is a request to Congress to appropriate a specific amount of one-time funding for a specific activity with

clear public benefit performed by a specific recipient and is managed through UMS VCRI and government relations staff.

- II. Programmatic increase: this type of funding is a request to Congress to appropriate general or specific funding to an existing federal program and is managed through UMS VCRI and government relations staff and UMaine's federal relations consultant.
- III. Student research fellowship: this type of project provides direct support to an undergraduate or graduate student contributing to research, development, commercialization, or other activities.
- IV. Seed grant: this type of project supports pilot or preliminary research by one or more eligible researchers needed to be competitive in a specific extramural funding program.
- V. Planning grant: this type of project supports multiple researchers, participants, or collaborators as they develop plans to create shared research agendas and to prepare for a specific follow-on opportunity.
- VI. Network development: this type of project convenes researchers, participants, or collaborators around a specific theme or opportunity.
- VII. Equipment, materials, or supplies: this type of project supports needed equipment, materials, or supplies for research, development, commercialization, innovation, or education purposes
- VIII. Student internship/externship/co-op: this type of project provides direct support to students to participate in an internship, externship, or co-op opportunity with a named external partner.
- IX. Faculty or staff externship/summer residency: this type of project supports faculty work outside of their home institution, at another UMS university or appropriate third-party host.
- X. Critical infrastructure investment: this type of funding supports needed research, development, innovation, or commercialization infrastructure.

The application contains multiple prompts. Each prompt is accompanied by a text box: some are required for all applications and are marked with an asterisk. Most responses are limited to 200 words. The result is a description of the project idea with the equivalent length of a three-page document. You may save partial work as a draft at any point through the "save draft" button at the bottom of the page, but you must submit your application by clicking the "submit application" button at the bottom of the page before the deadline.

The sections are:

1. Problem

Succinctly describe the background and context for the proposed project or activity.

2. Activities

Describe the actions to be undertaken with the funding and expected outputs including the geographic location(s) of the project and its range of impact and the duration of the project.

3. Relevance

Describe the connection to university, system, state and federal priorities including, but not limited to, existing university capital plans, advancing multi-university collaborations or other Board of Trustees strategic goals, and alignment with state-level plans and workforce development needs. Please list likely external supporters/partners, including those who may provide letters of support if called upon for an eventual external funding request.

4. Measure success

- a. Describe the impact after successful completion.
- b. (optional) Quantify and describe student involvement.
- c. (optional) Quantify and describe the economic impact.

5. Pathway to sustainability



Describe the next steps after the project is complete. Identify possible future sources of support<sup>ii</sup>.

6. Team involvement

Provide a brief list of individuals involved and note their relevant experience and anticipated role. This can include internal and external partners.

7. Order of magnitude budget

Give a rough estimate of the cost with an indication of what types of expenses will be incurred, e.g. faculty/staff, students, equipment, construction, etc.

8. Geographic location of where the proposed work will be conducted

Indicate where the work will take place in terms of town/city, county, state, country

9. Relevant external sponsors

For those seeking federal government support through congressionally directed funding or programmatic increases, please indicate the relevant federal agency and program, if it is known to you. For those seeking other types of investment, please indicate target external opportunities once this project is successful.

### Next Steps for your Idea

Following submission, your idea will undergo an administrative review, and if eligible, a merit or peer-review process. For ideas being considered for internal funding or for inclusion in the Congressional request, a separate merit review may be performed by a panel of reviewers specific to the opportunity.

### What's specific for the October deadline?

Please submit your idea by the October 20 deadline for best consideration for congressionally directed funding and programmatic increases in FY2024. You are also encouraged to submit research, development and commercialization ideas that could benefit from support from the [UMS Research Reinvestment Fund](#) (historically this has included interdisciplinary undergraduate research collaboratives, multi-campus seed grant programs, and technology acceleration via MIRTA<sup>iii</sup>) to start in spring 2023 or to propose project ideas for further development and/or collaborator matchmaking that are aligned with any of the [UMaine research initiatives](#) of which all interested UMS researchers are invited to participate. This call for ideas process is also a way for faculty from an eligible UMS campus to propose project ideas that could be further developed for the [Maine Economic Improvement Fund Small Campus Initiative](#) (MEIF SCI). Eligible MEIF SCI campuses include: University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine at Farmington, University of Maine at Machias, University of Maine at Fort Kent, University of Maine at Presque Isle, and Maine Maritime Academy. A separate MEIF SCI request for applications will be published separately with an anticipated due date of February 16, 2023.

### Further Information about Opportunities

Specifically for congressionally directed spending and programmatic increase requests, please note the following:

The University of Maine System (UMS) invites faculty, staff, and administrators to submit ideas to help the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation identify innovative ideas, research themes, infrastructure needs, and initiatives to present to Maine's Congressional Delegation for the FY 2024 federal engagement cycle, should this process be continued in the next Congress. Examples include but are not limited to: the creation of new federal programs that could be utilized to solve intractable problems that will draw upon UMS's research, teaching, and outreach strengths; or collaborative multi-state efforts that address pressing regional, national, and/or global issues.

Concepts may be directed towards requests for earmarks or programmatic increases. For earmarks, important budgetary considerations include the fact that these are “one time” funds that should not obligate future costs to the university and should have a clearly articulated sustainability plan. From the last two rounds of funding, it has been clear that personnel costs are typically not allowable as requests for equipment, infrastructure, facilities, and other spending that has an immediate and long-term impact on the communities within which the earmark projects ultimately get implemented and are truly of a one-time nature. A list of FY23 one-time appropriation request that have been advanced so far in Congress is at [this link](#).

Open information sessions will be provided via Zoom on October 6 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. and October 12 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. With advance notice, individual sessions can be requested by UMS presidents/provosts. To register for the sessions, please [contact UMaine Associate Director of Research Development, Saul Allen](#). For further information about this process, please [direct inquiries to Jason Charland](#), Senior Advisor to the President and Director of Research Development. For specific questions about the Congressionally Directed Spending process, please [contact Samantha Warren, Director of Government & Community Relations](#).

<sup>i</sup> Especially in regard to Maine’s Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029 at <https://www.maine.gov/decd/strategic-plan>; the recommendations of the Governor’s Economic Recovery Committee, at <https://www.maine.gov/future/initiatives/economy/economic-recovery-committee>; Maine Can’t Wait, the state’s climate action plan at <https://www.maine.gov/climateplan/>; the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, <https://umaine.edu/meif/> ; or other state-level policies and initiatives.

<sup>ii</sup> An institutional subscription to PIVOT RP provides access to all UMS persons to facilitate funding searches of federal and private sponsors across the US and beyond: <https://pivot.proquest.com/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://umaine.edu/econdev/faculty-resources/idea-development-programs-resources/mirta-accelerator/>