



**University of Maine  
Diversity Leadership  
Institute (UMDLI)  
Advisory Committee**

**Barbara Blazej**

Former Director, Youth Violence  
Prevention Project

**Phyllis Brazee**

Associate Professor of Education

**Shelly Chasse-Johndro**

Director, Project Reach

**Marcia Douglas**

Associate Professor of Theatre,  
School of Performing Arts

**John R. Kidder**

Human Resources Officer

**Margo Lukens**

Associate Professor of English and  
Director of Academic Program and  
Innovation Engineering

**Barbara Smith**

Staff Associate for Student Affairs,  
Commuter and Non Traditional  
Student Programs and Veterans  
Education and Transition Services

**Devon Storman**

UMDLI Coordinator and Senior  
Assistant to the Associate Provost  
and Dean, Division of Lifelong  
Learning

**Francine Sulinski**

Assistant Director, Cooperative  
Extension

**Mary Beth Willett**

Tutor Program Coordinator, College  
Success Programs

TO: UMaine Employees  
FROM: UMDLI Advisory Committee  
DATE: February 1, 2012

Dear Colleague:

Are you interested in helping shape a diverse and inclusive campus community? Do you want to improve your skills and reduce your fear of difficult cross-cultural communications or situations? If these questions spark your curiosity and you would like to learn more about these topics with a committed and supportive group of colleagues, we cordially invite you to apply for membership in the University of Maine Diversity Leadership Institute (UMDLI).

Sponsored by the Division of Lifelong Learning, UMDLI is a campus diversity-training institute designed to foster awareness of all facets of diversity and provide leadership skills and ongoing support. Since its inception in 2004, UMDLI has trained 40 members of the UMaine community representing many campus units and many employee groups. UMDLI members grow personally to be leaders in the effort to promote diversity values in the daily operation of the University, and in their personal and community lives. They are committed to educating themselves and others to build an open and welcoming campus environment where each person is valued and can contribute their talents.

The UMDLI Advisory Committee is currently seeking applicants from the campus community to join a new cohort of up to 12 members for the 2012-2013 academic year. Prerequisites for membership are a sincere interest in learning about diversity issues, a willingness to examine yourself and consider new concepts and ideas, and a commitment to develop leadership skills that will be used to enhance campus climate. UMDLI membership requires:

- attendance at a two and a half day overnight immersion (May 15, 16, and 17, 2012) to begin your learning process,
- attendance at monthly four-hour training sessions during the 2012-2013 academic year each of which will explore a different topic in a more in-depth manner,
- commitment to campus diversity leadership as an ALUM,
- supervisor support of your participation, and
- no financial contribution from your department and/or you.

Additional information about UMDLI and reflections from past members detailing how they have applied the ideas and concepts they have learned through the Institute can be found at [www.umaine.edu/umdl/](http://www.umaine.edu/umdl/).

Contact one or more of us to discuss possibilities!

“UMDLI has been an amazing experience. I’ve stretched and grown personally and professionally. I believe that my worldview has changed and I see through eyes that more realistically perceive the people and events around me.”

~**Sara Henry**  
Learning Specialist,  
College Success Programs

“An appreciation of diversity must come from within. The more comfortable we are with ourselves, the more we understand ourselves, the better we are in accepting different ideas.”

~**Stephen Allan**  
Administrative Assistant II for  
Undergraduate Records, College of  
Education and Human Development

“Since being with the UMDLI, I think about diversity more broadly. I think of myself as an “aware” individual, but as Dr. Nieto said, we have to do more than just be aware. I now consider what I bring to the conversation and how I can contribute to a positive climate, and not just a positive climate for a select few or for select groups.”

~**Carey Nason**  
Coordinator of the Safe Campus  
Project, Women’s Resource Center

## To apply for the unique, transformative experience of UMDLI:

- Complete the application form below, and
- Prepare a statement addressing your interest in learning about diversity and making a difference: 1) How do you see this training adding to your personal and professional growth and development? 2) How do you envision your acquired leadership skills will contribute to providing leadership within your workplace and/or beyond? 3) How will you give back to UMaine?

Completed applications should be sent to Devon Storman, 106 Chadbourne Hall or devon@maine.edu, no later than close of business on **March 1, 2012**. Applicants selected for the informal interview stage of the selection process will be notified by March 14.

We look forward to learning more about you and your interest in the Institute and diversity leadership.

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### UMDLI 2012-2013 Application Form

Please complete this form, ask your supervisor to complete the consent section, attach a personal statement (addressing topics stated above) and **send to Devon Storman** at 106 Chadbourne Hall or devon@maine.edu no later than close of business on **Thursday, March 1, 2012**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Academic Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Supervisor’s Consent

As supervisor of the above named applicant, I support him/her to attend the UMDLI immersion scheduled for Tuesday, May 15 through Thursday, May 17, 2012 and additional monthly four-hour training sessions during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Supervisor’s Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_