

# **University of Maine Board of Visitors**

## **Annual Report**

### **September 2013-August 2014**

#### **Overview**

Chair Anne Lucey and members of the Executive Committee provided excellent leadership for the UMaine Board of Visitors during 2013-2014. During the past year, the full Board met four times; selected committees and focus groups met more frequently, in person, and by phone.

The major focus points for this year were research and development as well as enrollment, philanthropy and advocacy.

#### **Membership**

There were 19 voting members of the University of Maine Board of Visitors. The Board Chairs of the University of Maine Foundation and the University of Maine Alumni Association also attend on an *ex-officio* basis. Of the 21 total members, eight have homes in Maine; the other members reside in New Mexico, Massachusetts, Texas, Virginia, Florida and Georgia but retain close ties to their *alma mater* and the state of Maine as a whole. Nine of the 21 members are women. Seventeen of the members are University of Maine alumni. The professional backgrounds of BOV members are diverse and include, but are not limited to, law, healthcare, engineering, finance, banking, market development, policy, education, and nonprofit management. In addition to a balance of gender, geographic location, and career fields, the BOV includes alumni and friends of the University of Maine who represent different age groups (active professionals, retirees, etc.)

There are five vacancies on the University of Maine Board of Visitors at this time. Outgoing members: Jeanne Peacock, Henry Schmelzer and Bill Libby. Board Member Richard Higgins passed away unexpectedly in late August.

#### **Officers**

Anne Lucey, Senior Vice President for Regulatory Policy at CBS Corporation in Washington, DC, served as Chair and Chris Emmons, President and Chief Executive Officer of Gorham Savings Bank in Gorham, ME, served as Vice Chair.

#### **Schedule**

The UMaine BOV met on October 25, 2013 on campus in Orono; January 24, 2014 as a retreat in Cape Elizabeth, Maine; April 25, 2014 on campus in Orono; and July 13, 2014, also on campus in Orono. The July meeting was called as a result of a change in leadership at UMaine.

## Meetings and Agenda Items

### October 25, 2013

New members of the President's Cabinet were introduced to the Board: Carol Kim, Vice President for Research and Jeff Hecker, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. New members of the Board were introduced: Woody Talcove (absent) and Ray Jean.

Agenda items:

- University of Maine Research and Development Foundation and the Aqua Ventus Project  
Jake Ward and Janet Waldron spoke about the project.
- State Bond STEM Infrastructure  
Jeff Mills updated the Board and Cabinet regarding a Bond Question which would provide \$15.5 mil to enhance educational and employment opportunities for Maine citizens
- Institute for Leadership and Democracy  
Dr. Rich Powell from the Department of Politic Sciences and Founding Director of the Institute for Leadership and Democracy joined the group for lunch to discuss the new institute.
- Blue Sky Campaign was discussed
- Athletics  
Athletics Director Steve Abbott discussed UMaine Athletics and fund raising.
- Faculty Development  
Faculty Fellows Program Initiative and AFUM Contract progress
- UMS BOT Goals and Strategic Initiatives  
Progress and Impacts on the Flagship Agenda
- Student Life Update provided by Dr. Robert Dana, Vice President, Division of Student Life

### January 24, 2014

Agenda Items:

- President's Welcome  
President Ferguson talked of three focus areas for discussion as outlined in the Meeting Agenda: Philanthropy, Strategic Planning and Advocacy.
- Campus Highlights - Faculty Fellows Program, Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center (IMRC), Enrollment and Retention, Maine Aqua Ventus (MAV)
- Primary Roles of BOV Members: Philanthropy, Strategic Planning, Advocacy
- Philanthropy – Summary of the Advancement Committee review of the Blue Sky Campaign.
- Strategic Planning – FY15 Budget Discussion, Signature and Emerging Areas
- Advocacy

April 25, 2014

Agenda Items:

- Networking Breakfast with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee
- President's Welcome and Campus Update
- FY 2015 Budget Summary / Recommendations for approval
- Campus Tour of New / Renovated Facilities:  
New Balance Field House, Paul Mitchell Batting Pavilion,  
IMRC & Wyeth Family Art Studio, Emera Astronomy Center,  
Division of Marketing & Communications Alumni Hall Loft,  
Virtual Environments and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Lab
- Lunch and Discussion with Blue Sky Faculty Fellows
- Blue Sky Challenges - The Evolving Role of the Flagship in the University of Maine System and the Evolving Partnership Between the BOV and BOT with Chancellor Jim Page

July 13, 2014

Agenda Items:

- President Hunter spoke about her three main presidential areas of focus  
Continuation of Blue Sky Plan, continued development of signature and emerging programs and continued focus on R&D efforts
- Arthur Criscillis from Alexander Haas presented their Campaign Strategy Study Report for UMaine
- Conversation with Chancellor Jim Page and Board of Trustees Vice Chair, Grog Johnson