



**Peter Neptune, left and Sabattis Tomah at Peter Dana Point, Indian Township, Maine.**

Photo courtesy of Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy Tribe

## The Sabattis Tomah Project

Micah Pawling will work with the Passamaquoddy tribe to finish transcribing and annotating the notes of ethnographer Nicholas N. Smith, which will be part of an exhibit in Indian Township.

MICAH PAWLING, an assistant professor of history and Native American studies at the University of Maine, is one of eight humanities scholars nationwide to be awarded a 2017 Public Engagement Fellowship from the Whiting Foundation.

The eight were selected from more than 80 scholars nominated from over 50 institutions.

The fellowship supports scholars as they engage the public in humanities-focused projects that encourage community building and cultural literacy.

Pawling's initiative, "The Sabattis Tomah Project: Making History in the Community," focuses on the significance of Passamaquoddy cultural leader Sabattis Tomah of Peter Dana Point in Indian Township, an isolated community in Down East Maine. Tomah (1873–1954) was an important keeper of ceremonial songs, plant medicine, traditional stories and intimate knowledge of Passamaquoddy homeland.

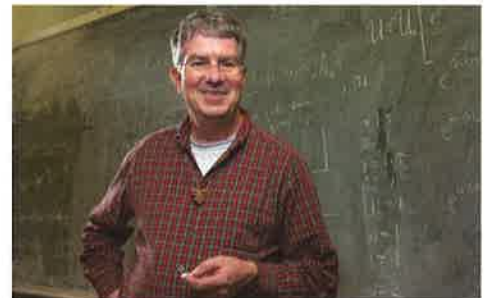
Weekly conversations took place in the early 1950s between Tomah and ethnographer Nicholas N. Smith. As part of Pawling's community engagement project beginning in spring 2018, Smith's ethnographic field journals, transcribed stories and original photographs will be "brought home" to the Passamaquoddy community for the first time in over half a century.

Pawling and Passamaquoddy historian Donald Soctomah will lead intergenerational workshops to help young members of the Passamaquoddy tribe interview their elders in an effort to preserve traditions and tribal stories, including memories of Tomah.



## GLOBAL SPAN

ADVANCED INFRASTRUCTURE Technologies, a University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center spinoff company, has signed an exclusive distribution and marketing agreement for North America with Terre Armee Group/Reinforced Earth Company. The agreement will help grow adoption of UMaine's patented composite arch bridge technology in North America, with the intent to expand into global markets. The innovative composite bridge system lowers construction costs, extends structural life span up to 100 years and is an alternative to traditional construction.



## AAAS FELLOW

R. DEAN ASTUMIAN, University of Maine professor of physics, has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). His selection brings the number of full-time UMaine faculty members named AAAS Fellows to 10. Astumian was cited for significant contributions to the field of biological and synthetic molecular motors; particularly, for clarifying the role of microscopic reversibility in governing molecular machines. His work was cited in the scientific background for the 2016 chemistry Nobel prize on synthetic molecular machines.