• UMaine context
• Research development in strategic planning
• Inter-institutional research collaborations
• Insight from my tenure at NSF
• Facilitated discussion to gain ideas for near and long term opportunities
Maine’s only public research university

Land, sea, and space grant institution

Carnegie R1 aspirations

Flagship campus of the University of Maine System

UMaine Context
Areas of Research Strength

- Marine Science
- Earth and Climate Science
- Engineering
- Forestry and the Environment
- STEM Education
Areas Targeted for Growth

NIH

Energy

NASA

Foundations/Corporations
R&D Plan Findings

Investment by the State of Maine and the University of Maine System in R&D has been essential to reach our current R&D capacity.

Each System campus has its own unique, engaged R&D core of expertise that should be further strengthened.

Across the University of Maine System we have been failing to compete as well as we should for significant Federal funding, and our facilities, infrastructure, and administrative support for R&D are inadequate in several fields important to Maine’s future.
R&D Plan Findings

Across the System undergraduate students are engaging in authentic research experiences and community-engaged research initiatives that are benefitting the region and the state.

The private and non-profit sectors and the Maine State Government are eager for expanded R&D interactions with higher education.
UMS R&D Plan Goals

1. Make Maine the best state in the nation in which to live, work, and learn by 2030.

2. Establish an innovation-driven Maine economy for the 21st century.

3. Prepare the knowledge- and innovation workforce for Maine.

Highlights to date

1. Grand Challenge Initiative Launched – *Rural Health and Wellbeing*

2. Growth in extramural research dollars

3. Emphasis on partnerships and research learning
$20 million additive manufacturing initiative connects local economies with national lab, UMaine resources
UMaine receives DOE funding to advance VolturnUS floating offshore platform
1. Leveraging Intelligent Informatics and Smart Data for Improved Understanding of Northern Forest Ecosystem Resiliency (INSPIRES) - UMaine, UVM & UNH
2. Harnessing Spatiotemporal Data Science to Predict Responses of Biodiversity and Rural Communities under Climate Change - UMaine, UVM, University of Maine at Augusta, and Champlain College
UMaine and NU Research MOU Executed, 5/9/20

- Joint seed grant funding program request for proposals released with a July 22, 2020 deadline
- Interdisciplinary proposals with UMaine and NU faculty teams working together to address any of the following areas, or combination thereof:
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Earth and Climate Sciences
  - Health and Life Sciences
  - Manufacturing
  - Marine sciences
- Up to 3 projects will be selected in the inaugural round funded at a level up to $50,000 for one year
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<th>NSF’s 10 Big Ideas</th>
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<td>Growing Convergence Research at NSF</td>
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NSF Presence in the U.S.

NSF-FUNDED U.S. CENTERS, SITES, LABS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Credit: NSF slide
Thank you!

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