

# Academic Affairs



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MAINE**



**Academic Affairs**  
Annual Report  
*2017*



UMaine students take learning outside the classroom.

# Academic Affairs Annual Report



In 2016, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees identified four priority outcomes that will be the Board's focus for the next five years: increase enrollment; improve student success and completion; enhance the fiscal positioning of UMS; and support Maine through research and economic development. As I prepared this year's *Academic Affairs Annual Report*, I was struck by how clearly the strategic vision that has guided our work over the past four years aligns with the Board's vision for the coming years. We have made great strides in each of the four priority areas and are well positioned to make further advances.

The 2017 report summarizes and samples highlights of the various ways in which the Division of Academic Affairs serves Maine, fosters a culture of excellence, and engages students so that they become the instruments of their own success. The report concludes with some thoughts about the challenges and opportunities we'll face in the coming year.

The accomplishments summarized herein, while only a sampling, provide a flavor of the quality of the faculty, staff and students at the University of Maine. Their work ethic, dedication to excellence, and resilience are evident in the successes listed in the following pages. As you read the report, I hope you will experience the sense of pride at being a part of the UMaine community that I did as I put the report together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JEFF E HECKER', written over a light gray background.

Jeffrey E. Hecker  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

# 2017

## Academic Affairs Annual Report

### I. Overview

On census day in Fall 2016, UMaine's total enrollment was 11,219 undergraduate and graduate students, nearly 300 more students than at the same point in time the previous year. In September 2016, we welcomed the largest first-year class in UMaine's 151 year history with 2,230 first-year, full-time students enrolled on Oct. 15, 2016. Fully 44% of the new class was "from away," raising the overall percentage of out-of-state students to 32%. UMaine students earned 266,579 credit hours in 2016–2017 — nearly 6,000 more than in the prior academic year. UMaine awarded 2,304 degrees, including 371 master's and 59 doctoral degrees. The 1,794 bachelor's degrees awarded were the most in the past five years.

UMaine faculty, staff and students were remarkably productive in research and scholarship, with well over 1,000 publications and hundreds of presentations, performances and exhibits. Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, a total of \$56,926,782 was received from extramural

sponsors, a 13% increase over the prior fiscal year. The number of proposals submitted in 2016–2017 was also greater than the previous year (573 versus 500, a 15% increase) and the university received \$8,768,079 in indirect cost recovery (versus \$8,041,760 in fiscal year 2016).

We continue to make progress toward our goal of moving more students from matriculation to graduation in a timely fashion. The Think 30 initiative has resulted in significant increases in the number of students enrolling in 15 or more credit hours each semester and a higher percentage of the cohort of students who started at UMaine in 2012 earned their bachelor's degrees in 2016 than in any of the previous nine cohorts.

In 2016–2017, 62 new scholar-teachers joined the faculty, resulting in a net increase in the overall faculty by more than 20 full-time equivalents. The infusion of intellectual energy occasioned by these new colleagues' arrival cannot be overestimated.

## II. Serving Maine

The University of Maine serves the state and region through its commitment to community engagement, economic development and workforce development. As the flagship campus of the University of Maine System (UMS), UMaine collaborates with the other System universities to provide accessible, affordable, quality educational opportunities for Maine citizens, and to advance the state economically and culturally.

### Community Engagement

UMaine faculty, staff and students partner with hundreds of companies, agencies and organizations.

- Mark McLaughlin, History (HTY) and Canadian Studies (CAC), was the lead organizer of National History Day, at which over 250 middle and high school students from 28 schools shared their projects.
- Kreg Ettenger, Anthropology (ANT) and Maine Folklife Center (MFC), gave a report to the Eeyou Marine Region Planning Commission and collaborated with the National Park Service on an internship for the new Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument.
- Darren Ranco, ANT and Native American Programs (NAP), served on the Culture Committee for the Penobscot Nation and as an adviser to the Penobscot Nation on a language revitalization grant.
- Aria Amirbahman, Civil and Environmental Engineering (CIE), is serving as the Director of the Advisory Board of the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, the longest-standing and largest citizen lake science program in the United States.
- Richard Eason, Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), organized 11 high-altitude balloon flights involving K–12 students in the development of payloads, as well as in the launch and recovery process.
- College of Education and Human Development (COEHD) faculty and staff are involved in the Bangor Educational Leadership Academy; Eastern Area Agency on Aging; Exercise Is Medicine Leadership Team; Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP) and other community organizations.
- Jason Harkins, Maine Business School (MBS), founded CoVort, a co-working space for entrepreneurs and professionals who work remotely, and Fractional Executives of Maine, a consulting and fractional executive firm for startups that need executive talent or customer discovery expertise.
- Renee Kelly, Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED), continues her engagement with Maine Accelerates Growth (MxG). MxG partners with programs across Maine to support entrepreneurs and innovators.
- Matthew Skaves (MBS) is President and Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Robinson Ballet, and serves on the Endowment Investment Committee of the Maine Seacoast Mission.
- Darling Marine Center (DMC) hosted 968 K–12 students from Cobscook Community Learning Center, Eastern Maine Skippers Program, Bangor, Chewonki, Waynflete SOS program and Lincoln Academy.
- College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture (NSFA) faculty served on various advisory boards, including Malcolm Hunter, Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology (WFCB), on Maine's Ecological Reserves Scientific Advisory Committee; Walter Golet, School of Marine Sciences (SMS), on National Marine Fisheries Service Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel; George Denton, Earth and Climate Sciences (ECS), and the Climate Change Institute (CCI), Advisory Board of the Comer Family



The Honors College sponsored the 2017 Hungry 100K: Maine Day Meal Pack-out. Over \$25,000 was raised to allow the more than 250 volunteers to pack over 107,000 meals.

## **Community Engagement** *continued*

- Foundation; Heather Leslie (DMC and SMS) on Alliance for Maine's Marine Economy.
- The Honors College (HON) participated in Islamic Awareness Week — a partnership between Honors, the Islamic Center of Maine and the Muslim Student Association.
  - HON sponsored the 2017 Hungry 100K: Maine Day Meal Pack-out. Over \$25,000 was raised to allow the more than 250 volunteers to pack over 107,000 meals.
  - The Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service facilitated a half-day class visit to Orono High School by former U.S. Reps. Connie Morella and Mike Ross.
  - The Division of Lifelong Learning (DLL) established the UMaine-MidCoast Educational Resource Collaborative (UMERC) with RSU 71 Adult Ed., College Connections, Waldo County Technical Center, Goodwill Workforce Solutions, Maine Educational Opportunity Center and Literacy Volunteers, to offer a wider range of coordinated student support services.
  - Cooperative Extension (CE) adapted its Dining with Diabetes Down East program to be culturally specific to the Passamaquoddy community in Washington County.
  - Dan Dixon, Director of Sustainability, is a founding member of the Bangor Area Food Council.
  - CE partnered with Maine Sea Grant and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension to develop a two-state Community Academy to train citizens in community leadership and facilitation skills.
  - UMaine hosted 25 emerging public management leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa for a six-week academic and leadership institute as part of the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Extensive engagement with the local community is a hallmark of this program.

UMaine was selected in 2017 to host a second cohort of Fellows.

- At Eastern Maine Medical Center's 125th anniversary celebration, Public Relations and Special Collections staff from Fogler Library presented an information table and a display featuring photos, documents and memorabilia.
- Michael Alpert, University Press (UP), serves as Chair of the City of Bangor Board of Ethics and as President of the Greater Bangor Area NAACP.
- Betsy Rose, UP and National Poetry Foundation (NPF), is the volunteer president of local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).
- School of Engineering Technology (SET) faculty members John Allen, Phil Dunn, Scott Dunning, Howard "Mac" Gray, Will Manion, Jude Pearse and Paul Villeneuve all serve on Eastern Maine Community College industrial advisory boards.
- Nine faculty members from STEM disciplines served as scholarship judges for the Maine State Science Fair in March 2017.

## **Economic Development:**

- Jake Ward (OIED), Heather Leslie (DMC and SMS) and Paul Anderson (Sea Grant) received a \$7 million award to establish the statewide Alliance for Maine Marine Economy.
- The Foster Center for Student Innovation provided counseling to 78 student entrepreneurs and provided business workspace for five startup companies.
- Cynthia Isenhour (ANT) played a leading role in the Mitchell Center's interdisciplinary Materials Management research group. Stakeholders include waste haulers, landfill operators, municipal and tribal representatives, regulators, environmental groups, citizen activist groups, and legislators serving on the Maine Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

**Economic Development** *continued*

- Hemant Pendse, Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI), and Clay Wheeler, Chemical and Biological Engineering (CBE), work on facilitating production of forest bioproducts (fuels, chemicals and advanced materials) on brownfield sites in Old Town, Millinocket and East Millinocket.
- Habib Dagher and the Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) continue to impact Maine's energy landscape with offshore deepwater wind energy research and development efforts. UMaine has been elevated to the highest level of Department of Energy funding.
- Alex Friess, Mechanical Engineering (MEE), is collaborating with Bath Iron Works on advancing marine technology using the Alford W<sup>2</sup> Ocean Engineering Laboratory.
- The Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) has assisted 36 Maine companies, including General Electric, Hussey Seating, Lanco Integrated, Fiber Materials Inc., Labree's Bakery, Grover Gundrilling, Mobility Technologies, Mölnlycke Health Care, SIB Wood Pellets, Rockport Imaging, Possum Hollow Farm Soap, Holy Donut, Progress Engineering and CompoTech.
- Jake Ward and Renee Kelly (OIED) serve on the Board of Directors of UpStart Maine, a nonprofit that supports the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the greater Bangor area.
- Mohamad Musavi (ECE) is working with Central Maine Power and RLC Engineering in developing Smart Grid technologies for electric network and training industry workforce.
- Robert Rice, School of Forest Resources (SFR), supports the bioenergy industry by working with manufacturers to improve products, help with environmental compliance issues and maintain competitiveness.
- Neal Pettigrew (SMS) provided background data critical for the development of offshore wind power.
- Joe Zydlewski (WFCB) helped to optimize tradeoffs between hydropower and fish passage during Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing.
- Huijie Xue (SMS) worked with technology developers, engineers, fish biologists, social scientists and policymakers to develop ocean renewable energy, particularly tidal and wind power.
- Andrei Alyokhin, School of Biology and Ecology (SBE), works with Acadia Harvest Inc. to develop sustainable aqua feed from organic waste.
- Lynn Atkins and Leonard Kass (SBE) work with Sensory Cyber Systems to develop vision-related education software.
- Stephen Shaler (SFR) represented the University of Maine on the Executive Committee of the Maine Forest Economy Growth Initiative.

**Stephen Shaler, Professor of Wood Sciences and Technology, represented the University of Maine on the Executive Committee of the Maine Forest Economy Growth Initiative.**







**Advanced Structures and Composites Center research technician Chris Urquhart works on ballistic panel construction.**

### **Economic Development** *continued*

- Aaron Weiskittel (SFR) worked with the Maine Forest Products Council on a Road Map and Vision of Maine's Forest Sector.
- Seanna Annis (SBE) provided mummy berry and other disease forecasting by blog, email and the Blueberry Hotline.
- Seven Maine businesses benefited from the business incubator and aquaculture systems at UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR).
- The Frederick Hutchinson Center (FHC) partnered with the Maine Department of Labor, Our Town Belfast, the City of Belfast, the Belfast Creative Coalition, the Belfast Chamber of Commerce and the Belfast Economic Development Office to host a Belfast Area Job Fair.
- CE works with Maine's wild blueberry industry to improve crop productively and efficiency by addressing pollinator population enhancement, weeds, pest insects and diseases.
- The economic impact from CE's pest monitoring and educational programs for Maine's potato industry is estimated to be more than \$12.8 million.
- CE helped facilitate the expansion of Commonwealth Poultry Co.
- UMaine's Maine Animal Health Lab (UM AHL) tested almost 10,000 samples to support veterinarians, livestock producers and animal owners of the state.
- MBS has 95 students concentrating in management information systems, 93 in entrepreneurship, and 64 in international business. These concentrations prepare graduates to find employment and contribute to economic development.
- Nine English (ENG) students had professional writing internships at host organizations, such as Casco Bay Lines, CBS, Maine Logging and Forestry Museum, United Way and Upward Bound.
- International Affairs students held internships at Sen. Susan Collins' office, the European Parliament in Brussels, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Save the Children Fund in Ethiopia, the Ripple Effect Project in Kenya, Birthright Armenia, the Parliament of Canada and the Maine International Trade Center.
- Roberto Lopez-Anido (CIE) is the lead faculty in the new Alford Advanced Manufacturing Laboratory for Structural Thermoplastics, where students are trained in thermoplastic composites manufacturing processes.
- Ali Abedi (ECE) continued his collaboration with NASA centers to provide workforce development opportunities for students.
- AMC collaborated with Lanco Integrated to train students on automation technology. At the end of the project, Lanco hired three AMC/ engineering students to full-time positions.
- The preservice education programs offered in COEHD graduate more elementary and secondary teachers than all other such programs in Maine combined.
- Renee Kelly (OIED) worked with the Career Center and Community Engagement Coordinator Claire Sullivan to launch the Flagship Internship program. Nineteen students participated in a four-day boot camp, learning important career skills while touring Maine businesses and meeting young business leaders in the region, before starting their internships.
- The Foster Center for Student Innovation continued the Innovate for Maine fellowship/internship program, placing 24 students in projects with 39 companies.

### **Workforce Development**

Every year, the University of Maine graduates more students than any other institution in the state. And those students are prepared to succeed. Over 75% of students who earned a baccalaureate degree in 2014–2015 are employed full time and another 7% are enrolled in graduate school full time. Almost 70% of the students employed full time are working in Maine, earning a median income of \$36,000 in their first jobs.

- CCAR welcomed three new industry partners in FY17, while continuing to partner with five other companies from previous years. Eight student and industry interns worked at CCAR alongside 12 industry employees.
- Deborah Saber and Kelley Strout, School of Nursing (SON), are activating a new nurse residency program at Eastern Maine Medical Center, creating opportunities to help address Maine's nursing shortage.
- All (100%) Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) graduates and 95% of Social Work graduates report employment in their disciplines within six months of graduation.
- HC's Idea Network of Biomedical Research (INBRE) program, the Sustainable Food Systems Research Collaborative (SFSRC) and the Servant Heart (Sierra Leone) Research Collaborative provide students innovative internships.
- FHC launched a portfolio of professional development programs and workshops to community members. For example: Grant Writing Certificate Program, Integrative Healthcare Workshops, Midcoast Leadership

Academy Certificate Program, Business Writing Workshop, Mindful Leadership Program and Data Literacy Training.

- CE presents effective Farm Tractor Safety courses to about 80 people annually.

## One University

UMaine has taken a leadership role in the UMS One University initiative. As the System's Flagship campus, UMaine has a special responsibility to partner with its sister universities to improve the accessibility, affordability and quality of educational opportunities available to Maine citizens, and to support Maine through research and development, as well as community engagement.

- English, Mathematics and Statistics, Psychology, Anthropology, Art, Music and Theater faculty members, along with the dean and associate dean, participated in program-specific planning teams for UMaine's "primary partnership" with the University of Maine at Machias (UMM).
- Physics and Astronomy (PHY) faculty members have worked with UMS colleagues to align learning outcomes and content in a physics course for life sciences majors taught at several campuses.
- UMaine and University of Southern Maine (USM) submitted a joint proposal to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) University Centers Program, which was awarded in 2016. The EDA Center partners with the SFR, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and OIED to provide market analysis and technology development support for the forest products industry.
- Susan Pinette, Modern Languages and Classics (MLC)/Franco American Studies (FAS), is working on two areas of collaboration for Franco American programs across the System: archives and curriculum.



**The School of Forest Resources introduces students to the latest technology.**



UMaine faculty worked with the smaller UMS universities to create pipelines into UMaine's MBA program.

**One University** *continued*

- Don Hummels (ECE) chaired the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Community (EMEC), which is made up of UMaine and USM Engineering faculty members. EMEC developed “smart classrooms” at USM and UMaine for joint delivery of engineering courses.
- OIED worked to expand technology transfer and commercialization capacity throughout UMS, and industry engagement and partnerships.
- AMC assisted the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) drone program by utilizing 3-D scanning capabilities to make CAD models of new drones.
- COEHD and UMM collaborate on teacher education programs related to rural poverty and meeting teaching shortages.
- The Maine Leadership and Policy Development Council, which is a consortium of faculty members from USM, University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) and the COEHD, promotes the implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Support in Maine schools.
- Scott Spolan (MBS) worked with the smaller UMS universities to create pipelines into UMaine's MBA program.
- NSFA faculty and administrators worked with UMM to develop partnerships, including 2+2 and 1+3 programs in biology, zoology and

botany (SBE); 2+2 programs in wildlife ecology (WFCB), marine sciences (SMS) and social work (SSW); and new pathways for UMM students to complete an Ecology and Environmental Studies (EES) degree at UMaine, and parks, recreation, and tourism (SFR).

- SON faculty are involved in work to the integrate graduate-level nursing programs and to address the need for a fast-track pre-licensure BSN program for people who hold a bachelor's degree in another field.
- UMaine and USM entered into a memorandum of understanding for shared business development services and commercialization initiatives between the campuses.
- DLL managed the M.Ed. in Instructional Technology collaborative degree program with UMF and USM. New admits increased by 61% from 18 in FY16 to 29 in FY17.
- CE trained and mentored 121 students from

six UMS campuses who provided hands-on STEM learning for more than 1,200 youths through the 4-H STEM Ambassadors program.

- The National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR grant, SEANET, includes UMM, USM, University of New England (UNE) and Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) to support Maine's aquaculture economic sector.
- The Graduate School has appointed faculty from every other System campus to Graduate Faculty status at UMaine so that they can participate in graduate programs.
- Fogler Library staff serve as a collection development and management resource to other System libraries, and provide advice on monograph collection management.
- Library staff developed and implemented an initiative to process interlibrary loan transactions for University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI), UMM and UMA, and Government Publications for UMPI.

### III. Culture of Excellence

#### Research Excellence

- UMaine is consistently ranked among the top 125 public universities for research through the NSF Higher Education Research and Development Survey.
- UMaine's Carnegie Classification remains High Research Activity.
- Eleven College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) faculty were authors or co-authors of books published last year. The CLAS faculty published 122 journal articles and 32 book chapters.
- The 10 faculty and staff members with full or partial appointments in the Honors College published three books, nine refereed journal articles and 11 nonrefereed pieces.
- Faculty in NSFA averaged 2.52 refereed publications per FTE last year. Their publications included work in *Nature* and *Science*.
- Engineering faculty published 63 refereed journal articles and 27 books/chapters, and had seven patents awarded.
- Maine Business School faculty had 21 papers published/accepted in peer-reviewed journals and 16 other publications.
- COEHD faculty published 54 refereed journal articles, which represents a 45% increase over the prior year.
- CE faculty published articles, proceedings and technical reports, and 75 presentations at local, regional and national venues.

### Research Excellence *continued*

- Fogler Library faculty and staff gave 13 conference presentations, wrote four book reviews, and published five journal articles and books.
- Undergraduate and graduate students launched *Spire: The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability*. The inaugural edition was released on May 4, 2017.
- The second annual Student Symposium was held April 3, 2017 at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. Over 1,200 students and faculty participated as presenters, showcasing the depth and breadth of student-engaged research and scholarship.

### External Funding

UMaine faculty, staff, and students have an excellent track record in winning grant support for research, teaching and service. In 2016–2017 a total of \$56,926,782 was received from extramural sponsors, a 13% increase over that of 2015–2016 (\$50,369,625). The number of proposals submitted also grew significantly greater (573 versus 500 — a 15% increase). Some noteworthy grants received in 2016–2017 include:

- Deborah Rooks-Ellis (COEHD) received \$504,096 for the Early Start Denver Model, which continues their collaboration with the Maine Department of Education to build capacity to serve Maine’s young children with autism and their families.
- Keri Kaczor (CE) received a \$175,499 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Maine Healthy Beaches 2017 project.
- Rosemary Smith (ECE) will receive a total of \$2 million over the course of the next two years from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency Department of Defense (DOD) for a feasibility study of interstitial fluid analysis and threat exposure monitoring.

- Hemant Pendse (FBRI) received \$4.5 million from the Defense Logistics Agency (DOD). The project, “Woody Biomass Conversion to Liquid Hydrocarbon Fuels,” proposes to advance wood to jet fuel technology.
- Habib Dagher (ASCC) received \$3.7 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to continue design efforts under the New England Aqua Ventus I program.
- Mindy Crandall (SFR) was awarded \$458,275 from the USDA Agricultural and Food Research Initiative for a 3-year study to look at economic restructuring, community characteristics, and young people’s perceptions of local labor markets in traditionally forest-dependent rural communities in Maine and Oregon.
- Michelle Smith (SBE and the RiSE Center) received a \$274,708 NSF grant for “Course Source Developing Disseminating and Understanding the Usefulness of Resources for Evidenced-Based Undergraduate Biology Teaching.”
- Clarissa Henry (SBE) received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) AREA R15 award in the amount of \$355,307 for the “Regulation of the extracellular matrix during development” grant.
- Katherine Allen (ECS) received \$283,274 from NSF for a project, “Pacific Ocean stratification: New constraints from benthic foraminifera.”
- Sue Righthand, Psychology (PSY), received a \$116,607 award from the U.S. Department of Justice for the “Juvenile Treatment Progress Scale Development and Implementation” project.
- Micah Pawling (HTY/NAP) received a grant for \$50,000 from the Whiting Foundation for “The Sabbatis Tomah Project: Making History in the Community.”

## Faculty Achievements

- Paul Grosswiler, Communication and Journalism (CMJ), received a Christine Nystrom Career Award for service to media ecology.
- Kate Beard-Tisdale was elected a fellow in the University Consortium of Geographic Information Science.
- Dylan Dryer (ENG) was recognized with a Kenneth A. Bruffee Award for best research article in *WPA: Journal of the Council of Writing Program Administrators*.
- Mazie Hough (HTY/Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies) received the James Phinney Baxter Award — from the Maine Historical Society — for the best article in *Maine History*.
- Christopher White was featured by the *School Band and Orchestra Magazine* as the Maine “director who makes a difference.”
- Daniel Bilodeau, Theater (THE), designed sets for two premier productions at the Custom Made Theatre Company in San Francisco.
- Bridie McGreavy's (CMJ) article “Resilience as Discourse” won the Christine L. Oravec Award for top article in the field of environmental communication from the National Communication Association, as well as the article of the year award from the Association for the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine.
- Micah Pawling (HTY/NAP) was awarded a Public Engagement Fellowship in the humanities from the Whiting Foundation.
- Adriaan van Heiningen (CBE) received the 2017 TAPPI International Research and Development Award and the TAPPI Aiken Prize.
- Xudong Zheng (MEE) was awarded a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Adrienne White, Food Science and Nutrition (FSN), received the 2016 Faculty Excellence Award from the Alumni Association.

## Faculty Awards

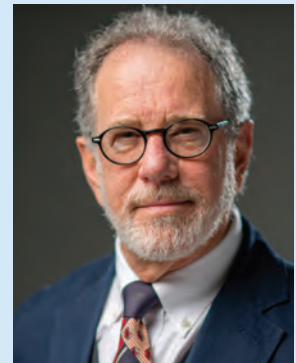
### Presidential Public Service Achievement Award

Marcella H. Sorg  
Research Professor in Anthropology, the Climate Change Institute and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center



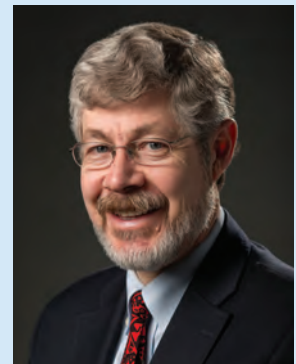
### Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award

Harvey A. Kail  
Professor of English



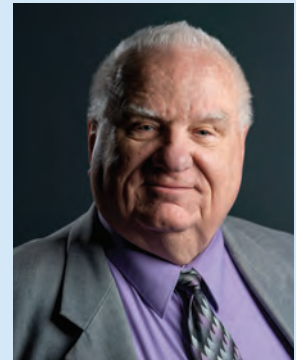
### Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award

Daniel H. Sandweiss  
Professor of Anthropology and Climate Studies



### Distinguished Maine Professor Award

John F. Mahon  
John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy



**Faculty Achievements** *continued*

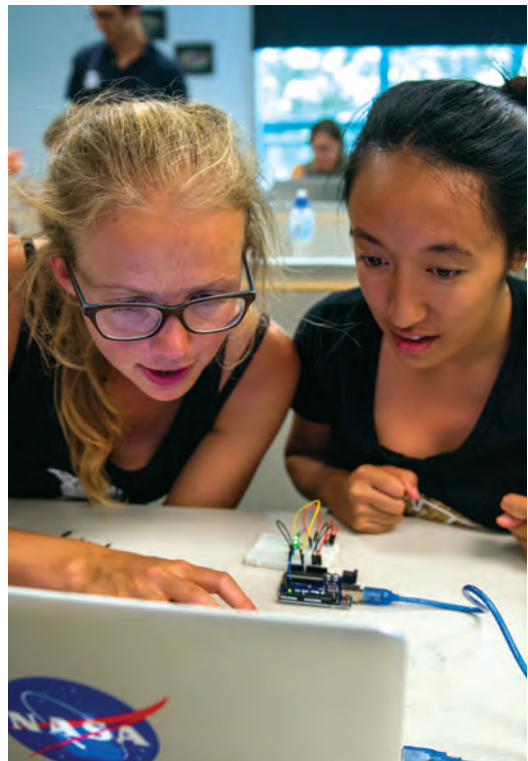
- Aaron Putnam (ECS) was awarded a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Alicia Cruz-Uribe (ECS) received the 2018 Young Scientists Award from the International Association of Geoanalysts for excellence in analytical geochemistry.
- Melissa Ladenheim (HON) was the 2017 Recipient of the Steve Gould Award, given for demonstrating “superior qualities of unselfishness and compassion in the course of service to the university and its ideals.”
- Kristy Ouellette (CES) was awarded the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of 4-H Extension Agents.
- Dean Astumian (PHY) was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).
- The American Library Association monograph *Shared Collections: Collaborative Stewardship*, which featured a chapter on Maine Shared Collections by Matthew Revitt, won the 2017 Association for Library Collections and Technical Services Outstanding Publication Award.

**Student Achievements**

- In the upcoming year, the graduate student body will include seven NSF research fellows, three NIH F31 awardees, one Switzer Fellow and nine Fulbright and USAID Pretasi Fellows.
- A team of students led by faculty adviser Sebastian Lobe (MBS) placed fourth nationally in a field of 726 teams in the 2016 TD Ameritrade’s thinkorswim completion.
- Ph.D. student Stacy Doore (School of Computing and Information Science) led the initiative to develop a student chapter of the Associate of Computing Machinery — Women in Computing, and UMaine was one of seven institutions to receive a 2016 National Center for Women in Technology seed grant to support this effort.
- Ian Jesse (HTY) won a Fulbright Fellowship to study in Fredericton, New Brunswick, and

Daniel Soucier (HTY) received a Young Scholars Research Award from the Mid-Atlantic and New England Council for Canadian Studies.

- Dair Rivas-Cruz (International Affairs/MLC), served on the Security and Defense Committee at the European Youth Parliament meeting in Tallinn, Estonia.
- Lucas Yoder (MLC) won an international Killam Fellowship to study French at l’Université de Montréal next spring.
- Michael Kennedy and Roy Meredith III (Philosophy) were selected to present their original research at the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium 28th Annual Undergraduate Conference at Drexel University.
- Graham Van Goffrier (PHY) received a Goldwater Scholarship.



**An Ocean Optics class at the Darling Marine Center in Walpole, Maine.**





Marine technology students  
at the Alford W<sup>2</sup> Ocean  
Engineering Laboratory.

- Samuel Borer, Physics (PHY) and Mathematics and Statistics, was selected to serve on the National Council of the Society of Physics Students.
- Julia Hidu (Political Science) represented Maine at the Student Congress of the Henry Clay Center for Statesmanship.
- Melissa Jankowski (PSY) was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) graduate research fellowship to support her planned research on peer influence in adolescence.
- Hannah Lawrence (PSY) received one of four Society for Psychophysiological Research graduate fellowships awarded nationally.
- Sage Duguay, Chemical Engineering (CHE), received the 2017 National TAPPI-PIMA Outstanding Award at the PaperCon meeting in April 2017.
- Meredith Allen (CHE) received the Student Poster Award from New England Catalysis Society.
- Jesse Orach (CBE) of the men's cross country and track and field teams was the male recipient of the 2016 "M" Club Dean Smith Award.
- Abigail Wessels received a German Research Internship in Science and Engineering (RISE).
- Emilia Golebiowska (CHE) was the winner of the Best Student Paper Award at the PaperCon 2016 in the Coating and Graphics Arts Division.
- Chitra Pandian (ECE) received an IEEE special award for her poster at the UMaine Student Symposium.
- Anin Maskay (ECE) received a Michael J. Eckardt Dissertation Fellowship.
- The Clean Snowmobile Team (MEE) received a second-place award for their exhibition at the SAE World Congress.
- Michael Choiniere and William West (MEE) received AVANGRID Foundation graduate scholarships.
- Kyle Shute (WFCB) received the New England Outdoor Writers Award for Best Student Writer.

## 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

**Allyson Eslin** of Bangor, Maine was the 2017 valedictorian. The honors student majored in economics, political science and psychology during her four years at UMaine. She was a Madigan Congressional intern in the Washington, D.C. office of Sen. Angus King, and served as editor-in-chief of *The Maine Campus* and as a committee chair in Student Government. She conducted research in each of her majors. Her honors thesis was “The Economic and Psychological Metrics of Political Decision-Making.” In her senior year, Eslin began coursework for a dual master’s degree in global policy and economics at UMaine. She also plans to attend law school.



**Allyson Eslin**

**Joshua Patnaude** of Sanford, Maine was the 2017 salutatorian and the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. He majored in computer engineering and electrical engineering. Patnaude was a first-generation college student and a 2013 Mitchell Scholar. He has held internships every summer, working at Great Works Foundation Inc. in Sanford; Pratt and Whitney in North Berwick; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery; and Modern Grid Partners in Portland. He plans to pursue a career in electrical and computer engineering, and earn an MBA.



**Josh Patnaude**

## 2017 Outstanding Graduating Students

**Donald Bistri**  
International Student  
College of Engineering

**Chad Caron**  
Division of Lifelong  
Learning

**Afton Hupper**  
College of Natural  
Sciences, Forestry, and  
Agriculture  
Honors College

**Sigrid Koizar**  
International Student  
College of Natural  
Sciences, Forestry, and  
Agriculture

**Hoang Anh Thi Le**  
International Student  
Maine Business School  
Honors College

**Maude Meeker**  
College of Education and  
Human Development  
Honors College

**Nhat Han Nguyen Dang**  
International Student  
College of Liberal Arts  
and Sciences

**Jake Osborne**  
International Student  
College of Education and  
Human Development

**Adeline Mae Hogan  
Schneider**  
College of Liberal Arts  
and Sciences  
Honors College

### **Student Achievements** *continued*

- Elizabeth Trenckmann (SBE) received the Presidential Research Impact Award with her adviser Michelle Smith.
- Erin Carter (MBS) received second place in the Governor John E. Baldacci Award for Best Oral Presentation at the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering's 10th Anniversary Annual Meeting.
- Grace McDermott (SMS) was selected as a NOAA Hollings Fellow.
- Walter Grenier, Bachelor of University Studies (BUS), and his educational journey were the focus of an *Ellsworth American* story. Grenier graduated at age 73.

### **Student Performance on State and National Exams**

- All (100%) COEHD students in elementary and secondary education programs passed the PRAXIS II exam, the primary exam used

across teacher certification programs. All graduate students in special education earned passing scores on related Praxis tests, and graduate certification students in English, math and science also achieved 100% pass rates, as did students in counselor education and athletic training.

- In the Master of Social Work (MSW) program, 81% of students passed the Licensed Master's Social Work Exam on the first attempt, while 78% of MSW graduates passed the Licensed Clinical Social Work Exam (taken two years after graduation).
- All (100%) FSN students passed the National Registration Exam for Dietitians.
- In CSD, 94% of students passed the Praxis Exam in speech-language pathology. The national pass rate is 86%.
- The first-attempt pass rate on the Registered Nurse (RN) national licensure exam for May 2016 BSN graduates was 88%. Graduates of the MSN family nurse practitioner program had a 100% first-attempt pass rate on the national certification exam.



All COEHD students passed the PRAXIS II examination, the primary exam used across UMaine's teacher certification programs.



Now in its third year, the Think 30 initiative is an important component of UMaine student success.

**Degrees Granted (Excluding post-baccalaureate certificates)**

	<b>Bachelor's</b>	<b>Master's</b>	<b>Doctoral</b>	<b>Total</b>
Education and Human Development	219	142 *	7	368
Engineering	364	24	10	398
Honors College <i>(87 bachelor's degrees with Honors)</i>				
Liberal Arts and Sciences	410	68	17	495
Maine Business School	283	25	–	308
Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture	504	135	22	661
Division of Lifelong Learning <i>(Bachelor of University Studies)</i>	14	–	–	14
Other programs	–	9	2	11
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>University of Maine totals:</b>	<b>1,794</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2,255</b>

\*Includes 22 certificates of advanced studies

## IV. Student Engagement and Success

### Enrollment

- Collaborations between Enrollment Management and Academic Affairs on student recruitment yielded the largest number of applications, and the largest number of confirmed first-year students (for Fall 2017) in UMaine’s history.
- DLL partnered with Enrollment Management and the Graduate School to implement the CRM Target X to better serve prospective graduate students.
- CE worked with Admissions staff during this year’s 4-H@UMaine Weekend to enable more than 20 high school students to apply.
- A new Visual and Performing Arts scholarship program proved successful with Fall 2016 enrollments in Studio Art and Theatre reaching a five-year high.
- The Fall 2017 first-year class for COEHD will be 52% larger than the Fall 2016 entering class.
- Engineering offers weekly tours for prospective students led by the dean or associate dean, introducing hundreds of high school students to the college. Nearly 2,000 K–12 students participated in the college’s outreach programs.
- The Graduate School and Enrollment Management launched a new online

application and decision-making software suite designed to make the graduate admissions process simpler and more efficient.

- Fall 2016 saw enrollment in the Maine Business School increase for the fifth year in a row, representing a 26% enrollment increase over that time period.
- NSFA continues to attract significant numbers of out-of-state students to UMaine, with fully 75% of students applying for Fall 2017 being “from away.”
- FHC initiated a statewide marketing campaign aimed at adult degree completion students who may be positioned to complete a B.A. or B.S. through the Bachelor of University Studies.

### Curricular Innovations

- The Cohen Institute offered a Fall 2016 course, Leadership and Public Service, taught by Tom Daffron, who served as chief of staff for three United States senators.
- The Center for Teaching and Innovation (CITL) was launched in September 2016. CITL’s mission is to support a culture of innovation in teaching by working workshops and personalized consultation on instructional design, education software, instructional

### Student Credit Hour Production

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
Education and Human Development	17,454	4,989	22,443
Engineering	27,081	1,360	28,441
Honors College	4,752	–	4,752
Liberal Arts and Sciences	118,844	3,970	122,814
Maine Business School	18,564	818	19,382
Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture	58,553	6,637	65,190
Division of Lifelong Learning	1,408	91	1,499
Other programs	1,407	653	2,060
	=====	=====	=====
<b>University of Maine totals:</b>	<b>248,061</b>	<b>18,518</b>	<b>266,579</b>

### **Curricular Innovation** *continued*

- technologies and related topics. CITL will expand its footprint and offerings in the Fall 2017.
- New academic programming in CLAS in 2016–17 included an M.A. in Anthropology, minors in Human-Computer Interaction and Media Studies, and a concentration in Jazz Studies within the B.A. in Music.
  - DLL supported the launch of new Hackerspace in the Memorial Union, where students and faculty can experiment with new technologies in robotics, 3-D printing, drones and other fields of discovery.
  - Innovations in the College of Engineering (COE) in 2016–17 included a new Process Economics course in CBE, the refinement of a flipped classroom delivery model in CIE 331 (Environmental Engineering), and a new 5-year B.S./M.S. pathway for ECE students.
  - CE faculty participated in the development of the National 4-H for Health Curriculum, a new nutritional and physical activity guide for 4-H youth.
  - In tandem with other URSUS libraries, the Portland Public Library, UNE, Minerva and the Maine InfoNet Library System, Fogler Library signed a new contract with Innovative Interfaces to ensure optimal access to informational resources and services for UMaine students and faculty.
  - In Fall 2016, the highly successful Phage Genomics courses, developed as a collaboration between the Honors College and Molecular and Biomedical Sciences (MBMS), were expanded to include all MBMS entering students.
  - MBS faculty introduced several new courses, including new MBA offerings in Managerial Marketing and Socially Responsible Investing.
  - “Leadership in Chaotic Times,” a Washington, D.C. Travel Course, was offered as part of the Leadership Studies program, and included meetings with members of Congress, ambassadors, lobbyists, military leaders, congressional staffers and others.

- The School of Nursing led a community health disaster simulation in partnership with UMaine students, UMaine police, local fire and rescue personnel, area nurses and the UMaine Volunteer Ambulance Corps.
- Jessica Leahy (SFR) developed a regional course on family forests with UMass Amherst and the University of Vermont through a grant from the New England Society of American Foresters.

### **Retention and Graduation**

- The Think 30 initiative is helping students to progress toward graduation in a timely fashion. Sixty percent of all UMaine undergraduates took 15 or more credit hours in the Fall 2016 semester and 61% took 15 or more in the Spring 2017, representing a 9% (Fall) and 10% (Spring) increase over the prior year. Increases for first-year students were even more dramatic, with 74% and 78% taking 15 or more credit hours in the Fall and Spring semesters, respectively. This represents a 14% (Fall) and 16% (Spring) increase over the previous year.
- The Explorations program migrated to CLAS, where students benefit from the college’s advising center and enhanced curricular planning.
- DLL enhanced support services for students in BUS programs, particularly for students completing a BUS online.
- During year two of Winter Session, 933 students completed three-credit hour courses, representing a 38% increase over year one.
- Engineering created a new position, Undergraduate Advising and Internship Coordinator, to provide additional support for students.
- The Engaged Black Bear program was launched with seven learning pathways and 28 badges developed. Eighty-four e-badges were issued in this first year of this innovative student engagement initiative funded by the David Foundation.



New academic programming in CLAS in 2016–17 included an M.A. in Anthropology, minors in Human-Computer Interaction and Media Studies, and a concentration in Jazz Studies within the B.A. in Music.

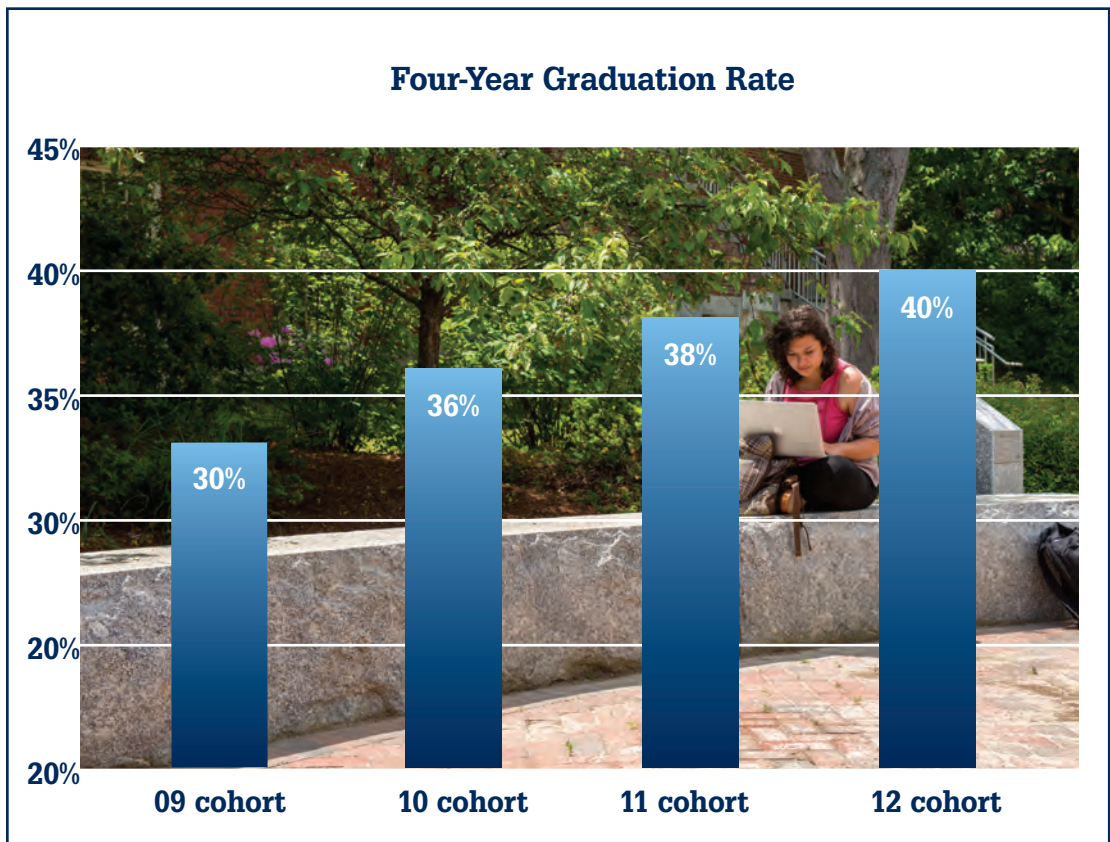
**Retention and Graduation** *continued*

- NSFA is piloting a communication initiative with incoming students in which students received texts periodically throughout the summer to provide information and support.
- The many initiatives helping students graduate in four-years are paying off. In 2016, 40% of students who started at UMaine in Fall 2012 graduated, the highest percentage in 10 years.

**Athletics and Academics**

- Seventy-eight student-athletes graduated in 2016–2017.
- Eleven teams earned multiyear and/or single-year NCAA Academic Performance Rate scores, exceeding the average scores of all Division I programs or public institutions.

- For the 13th consecutive year, over half of all student-athletes — 62.6% in 2016 — were honored for academic success as defined by GPA (cumulatively or in a given academic year).
- Women’s Cross Country’s latest Academic Performance Rate ranks in the top 10% of all teams nationally in that sport. Women’s Cross Country has achieved a perfect score of 1,000 for the 12th straight year — every year this award has been given.
- Over 92% of student-athletes — 400 out of 435 — were in good academic standing after the Fall 2016 semester.
- Jake Osborne (COEHD, Track and Field) and Sigrid Koizar (NSFA, Women’s Basketball) were named Outstanding Graduate and Outstanding International Student in their respective colleges in 2016.





## V. Challenges and Opportunities

The 2016–2017 accomplishments of the faculty, administrators, staff and students who comprise the Division of Academic Affairs are cause for celebration. This past year saw record first-year enrollment, sharp increases in grant funding and grant submissions, an improved four-year graduation rate, a larger faculty, outstanding scholarly productivity, and recognition of faculty members and students in the form of prestigious national awards. As a community, we have committed ourselves to growing enrollment, enhancing student success, stimulating funded research and building partnerships with business and industry. The upcoming academic year will provide opportunities to build on our successes.

On July 1, 2017, the University of Maine at Machias became a regional campus of the

University of Maine. President Susan J. Hunter is now president of both campuses and UMM is led on site by a Vice President for Academic Affairs and Head of Campus. The academic programs at UMM will remain distinct from UMaine’s degree programs, but there will be enhanced collaboration among related programs. This Summer, seven faculty teams are developing proposals for collaborations that will be presented to their respective faculties in September. In the coming year, as we further operationalize the regional campus to Flagship campus relationship, we will be guided by the goals of enhancing opportunities for students and faculty at both institutions, and meeting state needs.

The UMS One University initiative will continue to present challenges and opportunities for UMaine. Significant progress has been made in several projects that make up the broader One University initiative. For example, COE is working with other campuses to create opportunities for students to start Engineering studies at any UMS campus and complete them at UMaine or USM. UMaine is a partner in the proposed Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies in Portland, and UMaine is collaborating with UMF and USM to deliver the M.Ed. in Instructional Technology degree. There are many issues that still remain to be worked out with respect to these and other collaborations. Success will require data-informed, innovative thinking, as well as an unswerving commitment to quality.

UMaine’s strategic plan, *The Blue Sky Project*, was released in 2012 and has been a guide for strategic decision making over the past five years. The identification of UMaine’s Signature and Emerging Areas of Excellence, our commitment to improve student retention and four-year graduation rates, the modernized Enrollment



Over 92% of student-athletes — 400 out of 435 — were in good academic standing after the Fall 2016 semester.

Management operation, our enhanced commitment to community engagement, and the sharper focus on the UMaine brand can all be traced back to the Blue Sky plan. Last Spring, we began a process of evaluating what has been accomplished under the strategic plan. This Fall, President Hunter and I will convene a series of town hall-style meetings to share what we have

learned with the UMaine community, to engage in a dialogue about the findings, and to start the conversation about our vision for the future. Informed by these conversations, we intend to publish a report summarizing our assessment of *The Blue Sky Project*, which will lay the groundwork for the next strategic plan. I encourage you to join the conversations this Fall.



UMaine is welcoming the largest incoming class in Fall 2017.



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