

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 5, 2006

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**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM TRUSTEES TO MEET JULY 10;
APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ON AGENDA**

BANGOR – The University of Maine System Board of Trustees will meet at the System's operations center in downtown Bangor on July 10.

This will be the first Trustees meeting under the leadership of newly-elected board chair Margaret A. Weston, of Yarmouth. The meeting also marks the return of Terrence J. MacTaggart, who on July 1 was appointed for a one-year term as System Chancellor. MacTaggart previously served as Chancellor from 1996-2001.

The Board of Trustees will review a variety of topics at the meeting including the Strategic Planning Subcommittee's final recommendations. The Subcommittee has made several recommendations including strengthening and investing in undergraduate and graduate programs; providing effective financial aid programs to ensure student access; and modernizing campus teaching and learning environments.

The Board is also expected to approve a collective bargaining agreement with the Universities of Maine Professional Staff Association and MEA/NEA, representing professional and staff university employees.

The Trustees will consider a proposal to create a Bachelor of Science program in secondary education at the University of Maine at Machias. Previously, secondary education was offered only as a minor. The expanded program expands UMM's education program by offering a major with concentrations in art education, English education, life sciences education, physical science education, mathematics education and social studies education.

Established in 1968, the University of Maine System is the state's largest educational entity. It features seven universities -- some with multiple campuses -- located across the state, as well as 11 University College outreach centers and more than 100 interactive distance education sites. For more information, log onto www.maine.edu.

All Board meetings are open to the public. Persons with disabilities who need accommodations to attend should call David Wilson, director of the University System Facilities Office, at 973-3335 (voice) or 973-3262 (TDD/TDY) or by e-mail at dwilson@maine.edu.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The complete meeting agenda is available at:
http://www.maine.edu/board/meeting_agenda.php.