

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **UNIVERSITY SYSTEM TRUSTEES TO MEET IN MACHIAS NOVEMBER 5-6**

BANGOR—The University of Maine System Board of Trustees is expected to approve several appointments, including extending the contract of University of Maine at Machias President Cynthia Huggins, when it meets Nov. 5-6 in Machias.

System Chancellor Terrence J. MacTaggart is recommending that the Board grant Huggins a two-year, renewable contract. In June 2005, Huggins was appointed to a two-year, fixed-length appointment as president. If approved, Huggins' new appointment could be renewed in 2008 in a manner similar to other System presidents.

"Dr. Huggins has the strong support of the [UMM] community," MacTaggart explained. "Her work in leadership positions has shown a commitment to UMM...and a willingness to tackle difficult issues."

Other appointments to be considered by trustees are the appointment of James S. Ward as the University of Maine's assistant vice president of research, economic development, and governmental relations; Eric Rolfson as UMaine's associate vice president for development; and James D. Stepp as the University of Maine at Presque Isle's interim dean of students.

In other business, MacTaggart will update trustees on the search process for his successor as chancellor. MacTaggart, who served a five-year term as chancellor from 1996-2001, was asked earlier this year to accept a short-term reappointment to his old position, and to help the Board complete a search for a longer-term appointment.

MacTaggart also will discuss the progress made so far as a result of his operational audit of System-level functions and activities. MacTaggart's objective has been to determine how effectively and cost-efficiently System-level services are being provided; and to identify ways to reduce operating costs.

The Board's agenda also includes:

- action on the last of six employee collective bargaining agreements
- discussion and acceptance of the System financial report for the fiscal year that ended in June
- a report on Fall 2006 enrollment
- a resolution offering support for a student-led initiative to promote tax incentives to aid and encourage more Maine residents to seek and complete a post-secondary education

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- a progress report on Project Enterprise, the System's administrative information system upgrade
- actions on lease agreements
- a discussion between the trustees and the UMM Board of Visitors, one of seven statutorily established advisory groups to the universities of the System

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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.maine.edu/board/meeting_agenda.php).