

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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University System Board of Trustees to Meet September 9-10 in Fort Kent

BANGOR—The University of Maine System Board of Trustees will meet September 9-10 on the campus of the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

The gathering will be the first full meeting of the Board since Richard L. Pattenaude took over as System Chancellor. Pattenaude, the former president of the University of Southern Maine, assumed the chancellorship on July 1, following his appointment by the Board in February.

Pattenaude is scheduled to present to the Board a set of “multi-year efficiency initiatives” intended to reduce costs, reallocate savings to top-priority areas, and minimize tuition increases. According to Pattenaude, the efficiency initiatives will be developed on three parallel tracks: at the individual campus level; in collaboration with the Maine Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy; and at the System-wide Services (i.e., centralized) level. He will also begin discussions on long-term goals for the University System.

The Board also will receive a presentation by Vice Chancellor James H. Breece on the University System’s economic impact on Maine. His report notes that Maine’s public universities create an annual economic impact of nearly \$1.5 billion—a return of \$8 for every \$1 of State appropriation.

The September Board meeting will also feature a discussion of two bond proposals appearing on the November statewide ballot, both of which are relevant to Maine’s public universities: Question 2, a jobs and economic development bond which would provide competitive-based funding for Maine-related research initiatives; and Question 3, which would provide improvements to facilities at all seven universities as well as Maine’s community colleges and maritime academy.

Established in 1968, the 44,000-student University of Maine System is the state’s largest educational enterprise. It features seven universities – some with multiple campuses – located across the state, as well as 10 University College outreach centers, a law school, and an additional 75 interactive distance learning 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 Eduard Dailide, director of facilities management and planning, at 973-3335 (voice) or 973-3262 (TDD/TDY) or by e-mail at edailide@maine.edu.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: The complete meeting agenda is available at:
<http://www.maine.edu/pdf/Agenda-Sept2007.pdf> .