

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 13, 2009**

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**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM MEDIA STATEMENT: FORMER CHANCELLOR ROBERT L. WOODBURY**

*University of Maine System Chancellor Richard L. Patten today issued the following statement regarding Dr. Robert L. Woodbury, the former UMS Chancellor who passed away Saturday:*

It was with great sadness that we all learned of the loss of Bob Woodbury. Bob was a remarkable leader, educator, and person. As such, he was greatly admired here in Maine and throughout the nation's academic community.

Bob led the University System through some of its most challenging times as well as through some of its most significant accomplishments lifting it up to new levels of enrollment, accessibility, and quality. In that service, he became one of Maine's most respected individuals.

For me, Bob was a colleague, friend and mentor. It was he who brought me to Maine in 1991 to serve as USM President. He was always optimistic about challenges, and was generous with his time—to me, and to other presidents and chancellors in Maine and around the country—when advice was needed.

On behalf of the Board, the presidents, and the entire university community, I offer our deepest condolences to Bob's wife Anne and to all his family and friends. The State of Maine has lost a dedicated and much admired public servant.