



UMS TRUSTEES APPROVE FY11 BUDGET AND STUDENT CHARGES
Approve lowest tuition increase in six years

FORT KENT— Trustees of the University of Maine System voted today to approve the System's budget for fiscal year 2011 and as well as student charges for the upcoming year.

"We've taken two very important steps in helping to control costs and improve access to programs by having the lowest tuition increase in six years and by adding three new academic programs," Chancellor Richard L. Pattenauade stated. "In addition, with OnlineMaine as a central Web site, we plan to increase the overall number of online degree programs available, as well as provide enhanced student-friendly online services."

Annual tuition and mandatory fees for in-state students ranges from \$10,142 at UMaine to \$7,110 at the University of Maine at Machias. It was noted at the meeting that UMaine has the lowest in-state tuition of all the land grant universities in New England.

In other business, trustees approved an extension of the appointment of Chancellor Pattenauade, resulting in a two-year term ending June 30, 2012; trustees also re-elected Lyndel Wishcamper of Freeport as chair of the board and Norman Fournier as vice chair. Other appointments include Ryan Low as UMF vice president for administration, and Roberto Noya as UMF vice president for enrollment management and marketing.

New academic programs were brought forward for consideration and approved at the meeting, including the creation of a Professional Science Masters degree at UMaine; an Associate of Arts degree in Special Education at UMPI; and an Associate of Science degree in Information Security at UMFK.

In addition, Trustees voted to adopt a plan proposed by USM to reorganize the university's academic structure from eight into five colleges. Officials estimate that the reorganization will lead to over \$1 million in administrative savings.

Trustees received phase one of a comprehensive report on findings and recommendations resulting from a study of markets, strategic pricing, and financial aid for the University System which was conducted by Noel-Levitz, a nationally recognized firm which specializes in enrollment management. As a follow-up to the board presentation, Noel-Levitz consultants will present their findings at an enrollment summit for System staff being held in Orono on Tuesday, May 25.

Three new trustees participated in their first board meeting on Monday: Samuel W. Collins of Caribou, M. Michelle Hood of Bar Harbor, and Benjamin D. Goodman, a UMaine student and resident of Kennebunk. The trustees were nominated by Governor John E. Baldacci and approved earlier this year by the Maine State Senate.

While meeting at the Fort Kent campus, Chancellor Pattenau and trustees recognized outgoing UMFK president Richard Cost for his years of service to the university, as well as his impact on both the university and local area community.

Established in 1968, the University of Maine System is the state's largest educational enterprise. It has an annual enrollment of more than 42,000 students and serves over 500,000 individuals annually through educational and cultural offerings. The University of Maine System features seven universities – some with multiple campuses – located across the state, as well as nine University College outreach centers, a law school, and an additional 75 interactive distance learning sites. For more information, visit www.maine.edu.