

Middle & High School Students Invited to Wind Blade Challenges

ORONO – Registration is now open for the Windstorm Challenge 2012 and 4th Annual Maine Wind Blade Challenge. These are competitions for middle school and high school students to design, build, implement and test wind power technology components similar to those being used in an extensive UMaine research program in deepwater offshore wind power. Both events will be held Friday, April 27, at UMaine.

Both events are designed for students with diverse ranges of experience and interests. Teams are not required to be from a specific school or classroom, and home school students are



welcome. All winning team members who go on to attend UMaine receive a \$20,000 paid internship at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

To learn more visit <http://windstormchallenge.com> or [Windstorm Challenge on Facebook](#).

UMPI Garners \$95,000 in EPSCoR Sustainability Grant Funding

PRESQUE ISLE – UMPI received \$95,000 in grant funding from the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research [EPSCoR] to continue a wide range of research on the Aroostook River Watershed and its sustainable development.

The funding totals \$236,000 and is part of a larger grant led by UMaine and USM. This is the third year in a row the team has received funding from EPSCoR.

The work the UMPI team is doing during this grant year involves evaluating the potential of grass biomass production for central Aroostook County using the watershed as a sampling space and the community of Fort Fairfield as a way to focus on one stakeholder municipality. The project will include coordinating efforts to locate and establish up to 10,000 acres of grassland, and evaluating the potential ecological impact, or benefit, to grassland birds.

UMS Trustees Vote to Freeze Tuition for Upcoming Academic Year

BANGOR – On January 23 in Bangor, UMS Trustees approved a comprehensive new set of goals and actions to move the University System quickly forward in the areas of program and workforce development, cost control, and student success.

As part of one major goal which focuses on students and controlling tuition increases for the upcoming fiscal year 2012-13, the UMS Board unanimously approved a motion to keep in-state tuition and fees at current levels—meaning zero increases for the upcoming academic year. This is the lowest level in 25 years, when tuition was kept level with the previous year.

A second goal is centered on Maine's employers, including a directive to form additional business partnerships and collaborations to provide services and support to businesses, and to align academic and certificate programs with the state's workforce needs.

A third and final goal focuses on 21st Century educational delivery and highlights the need for providing more online and hybrid programs to better meet the needs of Maine's working adults. It also includes a new initiative to provide more flexible admissions start times to serve working adults.

UMF Partnership for Civic Advancement Awarded Grant to Fund Student Internship Program

FARMINGTON – UMF was recently awarded a three-year grant totaling \$45,000 by the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation to help fund the student internship program of the new UMF Partnership for Civic Advancement.

The grant from the financial institution will provide stipends to outstanding student interns in the new community-based student internship program, which students will gain valuable work and life experiences and develop the professional, civic, and leadership skills, while small businesses and community organizations will benefit from having access to important resources they need to succeed.

UMF Symposium Connects Students with Maine Business Professionals

FARMINGTON – UMF’s sixth annual College to Corporate Symposium was recently held, bringing business-minded students together with Maine business professionals to help prepare them for the transition from college to career.

The forum featured a panel discussion by representatives of Maine businesses and the chance for students to speak with them. Participants learned about current hiring practices, future industry trends, the best way to rise to the top in a job interview, key ways to navigate today’s job landscape, and meet employer’s expectations and more.

The event was sponsored by UMF Career Services; Division of Social Science, Business and Global Studies, and the UMF Pre-MBA Program.



Career Services offers one-on-one career counseling services to students regarding career and academic issues and continuing workshops and information regarding internships, resume and interviewing skills and graduate school planning. For more information about this event or any career-related programs, contact Stephen Davis at 207-778-7232, or stephen.davis@maine.edu.

UMM Launches New Disabilities in Youth Specialization

MACHIAS – UMM announces a new Disabilities in Youth concentration within its Psychology and Community Studies bachelor’s degree program. This concentration is designed to meet the needs of individuals who are interested in working with children and youth who have disabilities, as well as their families.

Nearly 10 years ago, UMM developed a special education program through distance learning that has consistently drawn the interest and enrollment of individuals who wish to become special education teachers. The courses have also caught the attention of another population who wish to work with children and youth who have special needs but do not wish to teach.

All students will participate in an internship with a community partner organization to complete their degree.

UMaine Receives \$150,000 Grant to Develop Database Sustainability

ORONO – UMaine has received a \$150,000 federal grant to create a comprehensive new online database to allow researchers, scientists, and industrialists to assess ecological, social, and economic implications of new and emerging products, starting with wood-based biofuels. The “one-stop database” will include environmental emissions data, in addition to economic and social data, which include jobs creation, for biofuels development.

The database will benefit Maine and other states with an economic reliance on forestry, and could become a national model for assessing how “green,” new, and emerging products are, and what advantages or disadvantages come with the manufacture or provision of various services and products.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Sustainable Bioenergy Grant program is funding the project.

UMFK Hosts Presentation on Baxter State Park

FORK KENT – UMFK will host environmental speaker, Rick Morrill, resource manager of Baxter State Park on Friday, February 3 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in Nadeau Hall teleconference room.

The presentation is part of the Environmental Speaker Series on campus. The event is free and open to the public. Morrill will speak on “The Baxter State Park Scientific Forest Management Area: Managing the Current and Future Forest Today.”



Morrill oversees forest management activities in the scientific forest management area, a Forest Stewardship Council—certified 30,000-

acre demonstration forest in the northwest corner of the park. Morrill currently serves as a member of The Forest Guild board of directors, a national organization of forestry professionals.

For more information on the presentation or the Environmental Studies Speaker Series, contact Dr. Steven Selva at 207-834-7617.

UMA Bangor Receives Job Corps Award

BANGOR – UMA Bangor dental assisting students and faculty celebrated receiving the Job Corps "Commitment to Excellence" Award.

Last year, UMA Bangor helped Job Corps establish their first northeast region Off-Campus Training Program



and the students received financial and other support while they were enrolled in the UMA program. All seven students successfully received their dental assisting certificates last May, and are all now employed as dental assistants in the region.

Five new UMA Bangor dental assisting students are now currently enrolled and supported through Jobs Corps. Awardees include: Ashley Davis, Guilford; Skye Botting, Bangor; Cassie Lowell, Lee; Jerome York, Medway and Kayte-Lynn Porter, Chester.

UMPI Students Conduct Study for Local Police Department

PRESQUE ISLE – UMPI Criminal Justice students recently completed a study for the Presque Isle Police Department on thefts from motor vehicles, partnering with municipal officials to better serve the community.

Nine Criminal Justice students worked on the research project, titled Theft from Motor Vehicles: A Study in Presque Isle, Maine. The 40-page document explores the issue of items stolen from motor vehicle in Presque Isle—typical targets include cell phones, prescription medication, and cash—in an effort to provide solutions to the problem.

To complete the study, the students conducted research to better understand theft from motor



vehicles and to cite evidence of the problem in cities across the United States and also in the United Kingdom, where it is the largest category of police recorded crime. The students also did research on theft from motor vehicles in Presque Isle during the past three years, identified the five most-impacted streets and five other streets selected at random for comparison, and conducted two studies of those 10 streets.

UMaine Museum of Art Receives Gift

BANGOR – The UMaine Museum of Art has received a gift of 10 works of art by noted artist and printmaker Beth Van Hoesen from the E. Mark Adams and Beth Van Hoesen Adams Trust for UMMA's permanent collection. The donation is valued at more than \$18,000 and consists of an array of etchings and drypoint works.

Van Hoesen's work is represented in numerous public collections, including Museums in San Francisco, Washington, DC, New York, California, Oregon, Wisconsin, and London.

UMMA, which is located in Bangor, plans to exhibit a selection of these works as part of its 2013 rotation of the permanent collection. For more information, visit <http://www.umma.umaine.edu/>.

USM Students Work on Maine Communications Invention

PORTLAND – Newfield Design approached [USM's Campus Ventures](#) program for assistance in writing computer code for a new invention, the Expandable Remote Control System (ERCS).

ERCS allows communication to take place between different levels of a single organization or between several organizations.



This aided communication will allow public safety organizations to communicate seamlessly during natural or national disasters using a software program, a base transmitter and an Ethernet connection, without replacing existing equipment.

Campus Ventures assigned two computer science students to work with the company, giving the students the experience of writing code to make the database for a real company after studying the theoretical world of databases in the classroom. Their work helped Newfield Design Inc. win a "Juice 3.0 Pitch" contest grant of \$100,000.

Housed in USM's College of Science, Technology, and Health (CSTH), Campus Ventures connects students with companies who are in need of technical assistance. The Campus Ventures collaboration with Newfield Design recently came to a close with a December presentation for the CSTH administration.

UMF Partnership Awarded Grant for Student Internship Program



FARMINGTON – UMF was recently awarded a three-year grant totaling \$45,000 by the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation to help fund the student internship program of the new UMF Partnership for

Civic Advancement. This new initiative is being implemented to engage students in meaningful community-based activities

The grant will provide stipends to student interns in a community-based student internship program. Students will gain valuable work and life experiences and develop the professional, civic, and leadership skills to be productive and successful employees, while small businesses and community organizations will benefit from having access to important resources to succeed.

UMM and Washington County Celebrate Entrepreneurship Week

MACHIAS – In celebration of Maine Entrepreneurship Week, UMM will host a small business workshop on February 15.

There will be a panel of experienced local business owners who will share their tips for success, lenders will share their views about what they seek from loan applicants, and there will be opportunity for 20-minute one-on-one coaching sessions. Photographed above is Faye Mack, a 2005 UMM graduate and the owner of the Fat Cat Deli in Machias, who will be on the panel of local business owners. For more information, call 207-255-1439.



UMA and Downtown Alliance Team up

AUGUSTA – UMA and the Augusta Downtown Alliance will be co-sponsoring, [Light on Water - A Mid-Winter Art Walk](#) along Augusta's Water Street on February 16th. The walk will feature art and music at 15 downtown area businesses and UMA's Gannett Building Gallery.

Artists interested in showcasing their work at one of the Art Walk's 15 business locations, or as part of the outside projection display, had a January 20th deadline for submitting their work. For more information, send an email to jessepatkus@gmail.com.



Editor-in-training

BANGOR – This semester, UMaine senior and communications student Whitney Tulloch of Gorham is an intern with the System Office. Her responsibilities include researching and editing stories and doing the layout for this publication.

UMFK and MDF Announce New Education Partnership for Working Adults

FORK KENT – UMFK and the Maine Development Foundation announced a partnership to support workforce development for a growing network of committed employers and their employees across the state of Maine.

UMFK agreement extends a 50% discount on a student's tuition for the second 3 or 4 credit class, either on campus or on-line, to employees of the 120 Maine Employers' Initiative member companies. To take advantage of the discount, students will submit a letter from the employer prior to applying for a degree program or registering as a non-degree student.

USM Ceremony Celebrates New Computer-Aided Design Lab

GORHAM – Representatives of Stantec and USM gathered recently in Gorham to celebrate the completion of a \$100,000 pledge from Stantec that supported construction of a computer-aided design lab.



The facility, known as the Stantec Computer-Aided Design Laboratory, is used in teaching construction, engineering, and manufacturing design, and for prototyping designs with the latest equipment and techniques.