New Academic Program: B.S. in Aviation, UMA. UMA President Allyson Handley and Joseph Szakas, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at University of Maine at Augusta explained that the UMA requested Board approval for the creation of a Bachelor of Science in Aviation. This 4-year program is designed for students interested in becoming FAA certified commercial pilots while earning a comprehensive baccalaureate degree from an accredited university.

The new B.S. in Aviation will consummate the collaboration/partnership between UMA and Maine Instrument Flight (MIF) so each can market the degree to potential students and take advantage of what is expected to be a growing market for commercial airline pilots. The program will enhance UMA’s traditional professional focus on workforce development opportunities and will attract students from Maine, veterans, other military personnel, out-of-state and international students. External reviewers provided constructive feedback which strengthened the proposal and the program has strong support from community leaders.

On a motion by Trustee Collins, which was seconded by Trustee Hadyniak, the Academic Affairs Committee agreed to forward the recommendation of the New Academic Program: B.S. in Aviation at UMA to the Consent Agenda for action.

International Study Centers: Update. Ms. Janet Waldron, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance at the University of Maine, provided an update on the International Study Centers. Approximately one year ago, the concept of establishing two International Study Centers within our System (located at UM and USM) to help recruit and retain international students was introduced. Under this initiative, UMS would partner with an international recruiting firm that would bring students to an intensive study center to be exposed to English, American culture, and some first year college courses. Benefits of study centers include increases in enrollment and dorm occupancy, a more streamlined approach to international recruitment, and an increase in the diversity of our student population and an expansion in our international recruitment efforts.
A review team, comprised of representatives from both campuses, has explored the various options available, has gone through an extensive Request for Qualifications process. Study Group USA Higher Education LLC has been selected.

Study Group was formed in the United Kingdom in 1994. It has since developed long-term positive relationships in education, serving over 50,000 students from more than 130 countries per year across 350 programs on 41 campuses in Australia, Canada, China, Europe, New Zealand, UK and the USA. Students engage with Study Group through multiple offerings:

1. **Higher Education**: Serving more than 12,000 students per year, Study Group operates through 27 university partnerships as well as through two wholly-owned providers, Bellerbys and Taylors College in the UK.
2. **Language Education**: Through Embassy English, Study Group serves more than 33,000 students across 20 global locations to learn English while engaged in a vibrant overseas experience.
3. **Career Education**: Primarily focused in Australia, this division serves over 8,000 students per year through three schools in Australia - ACPE, AIAS and Martin College.

Study Group focuses on successful student outcomes, and utilizes global leadership teams with extensive academic and business experience. North America is a new area for these study programs. Higher education partners in the US are James Madison University, Widener University, and Roosevelt University.

The term of contract is five (5) years, commencing in the 2013 Fall Semester and ending at the end of the Spring Semester of the fifth year. There is a five year renewal following successful Review Process. Either party may terminate the contract in advance of the formal review date by providing a 12 month notice for specified reasons. The University of Maine System and Study Group will establish the System International Student Center (ISC) Steering Council. UMaine and USM will, with Study Group, each establish a campus Steering Committee, an International Academic Committee and a university personnel-only Unit Curriculum Committee.

The objectives of the International Study Centers is to recruit 300 students each year and during the 4th year of operation there will be 1,000 students total at UM and USM and at least 50 at the 5 other universities.

**Credit Transfer Steering Committee: Intra-System Implementation Plan.** President Wilson Hess, chair of the Credit Transfer Steering Committee (CTSC), presented an update on the Credit Transfer Steering Committee: Intra-System Implementation Plan. The Credit Transfer Project is aimed at improving the college credit transfer process to make it easier for students to move among Maine’s public universities and to transfer from the Maine Community College System (MCCS) to the University of Maine System (UMS) and vice versa. The recommendations relating to intra-system transfer were approved at the November 2012 Board of Trustees meeting.

The CTSC’s Plan Design recommends the establishment of reliable, robust credit transfer practices based upon the implementation of four (4) System-wide credit transfer best practices to make it easier for students to move among Maine’s public universities:

- Electronic communication tools
- Block Transfer /General Education Common Core
- Major (program-to-program) Articulation
• Adult & Transfer degree completion - including Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

The Implementation Plan outlines an Organizational and Governance Structure for the project (Role of Steering Committee, Executive leadership, Project leadership team, and subcommittees). It describes in modest detail components of the project to be implemented based upon the Plan Design. It also offers an assessment of financial risks, funding opportunities, and provides an overview of impact and outcomes of the project. Audit Milestones have been established to assess and measure the stages of plan implementation through project completion at the end of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Adult Baccalaureate Completion/Distance Education (ABCDE) Committee. President Allyson Handley, Chair of the ABCDE Committee, provided an update on the current status of the Adult Baccalaureate Completion/Distance Education (ABCDE) Committee. She reviewed the current status of the project and the timeline for completion as presented below.

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<td>Collaborate With Other - Relevant UMS Committees: UMS EMSC (Adult Learner &amp; PLA), Credit Transfer, T4, DLSC, LMS</td>
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UMS Teacher, Counselor, and Administrator Preparation Programs: Responding to State and National Initiatives. Dr. Katherine Yardley, Associate Provost and Dean of Education at the University of Maine at Farmington, and Dr. Jean Whitney, Director of Educator Preparation at the University of Southern Maine, provided an update on the work being done within our programs to address new initiatives on UMS Teacher, Counselor and Administrator Preparation Programs and to ensure that higher education, and specifically the UMS, is an active participant as these are implemented at Maine’s schools.

There are a number of initiatives currently underway in our K-12 community with which our teacher, counselor and administrator preparation programs interface. These initiatives range from the implementation of the common core state standards, smarter balanced assessment in 2014 and transition to a standards-based educational system and proficiency based diplomas by 2017. Dr. Yardley and Dr. Whitney discussed the longstanding beliefs and practices that require candidates to work with established standards and proficiency measures.

Academic Year Calendars 2013-2015. Ms. Redonnett reviewed the two-year common academic calendar project and how effective the project has been in meeting its objectives. As a result of the New Challenges, New Directions initiative, representatives from the faculty leadership of each university met to create the parameters for a common academic calendar. This is the second two-year common calendar covering the academic calendar years 2013 through 2015.
Computer Science-Information Technology (CS-IT) Initiative: Update. Chancellor Page and Ms. Redonnett provided a brief update on the Computer Science-Information Technology (CS-IT) Initiative including the UMS role in this important work. A comprehensive update will be delivered to the Board in March.

The CS-IT Initiative, now named Project Login, represents a major public-private partnership between higher education and business/industry that has developed to respond to Maine’s workforce needs in these fields. This business-led Initiative, in partnership with the University of Maine System, seeks to strengthen Maine’s economy by building Maine’s computer science, computer engineering and information technology (CS-IT) workforce capacity by increasing the number of college graduates with the requisite degrees. The lack of qualified employees in CS-IT fields has been identified as one on Maine’s top workforce gaps, made more serious by the relatively low numbers of students going into the field.

The Initiative’s goal is to double, in four years, the number of students graduating with Computer Science and Information Technology degrees from the University of Maine System, in a manner which is sustainable. This Initiative includes degrees in Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Information Technology. The targeted populations are matriculated students at the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System, adult learners and middle and high schools across Maine.

To address this gap, a group of CEO’s from some of Maine’s largest employers convened and began this Initiative. During its inception, the Chancellor of the University of Maine System joined forces as a partner with the CEOs. In 2011, a steering committee comprised of representatives from the businesses and the University created a lengthy and comprehensive set of 25 recommendations to meet the goal. A consultant was retained to help prioritize, organize and develop the Initiative. The 25 recommendations were rationalized into seven priority goals. In June 2012, about 60 stakeholders from higher education, business, K-12 education, and non-profits attended a preliminary work session to engage in the development of the initiative.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Educate Maine and the University of Maine System is being developed which articulates the roles and expectations between these two organizations in this partnership. The MOU will articulate the ability of the University of Maine System to review and evaluate progress on the Initiative, as well as engage in the development of further strategies and tactics. Educate Maine will engage a Program Director and the University of Maine System will designate persons accountable for University action items. It is anticipated that the Program Director will be in place by February 2013.

The template created by this Initiative is one that is intended to be scalable to other workforce gaps in Maine. The website framework, the marketing tools and the collaborations between business, higher education, K-12 and non-profits all should serve as a model for other content and curriculum areas.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk