

Acadia Hospital Establishes UMaine Nursing Professorship

ORONO – The Acadia Hospital in Bangor has provided up to \$250,000 over five years to establish a professorship at UMaine's School of Nursing as part of what is likely the state's first-ever academic-service partnership aimed at improving opportunities in psychiatric-mental health nursing education.

Through the Acadia Professorship of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, the hospital and the university will work together to recruit a Ph.D.-trained faculty member who not only will teach student nurses and manage their onsite clinical education, but also will have an extraordinary opportunity to conduct research with Acadia staff on the specific needs of populations served by the private, non-profit psychiatric and chemical dependency treatment provider.

Representatives from the university and the hospital said the collaboration makes sense since both institutions share a common concern for the importance of having expert nursing faculty to prepare nurses with exceptional knowledge and skills and a commitment to lifelong professional development for optimal health outcomes of patients and families.

USM Youth Ensembles Jazz Weekend

GORHAM – This year's USM Youth Ensembles' Jazz Improvisation Weekend for high school musicians – January 17 and 18 – features guest artist, jazz drummer Terri Lyne Carrington.

The Sunday concert opens with student combos performing the first half. The second half features Carrington with USM School of Music jazz faculty.

Approximately 40 high school students have the opportunity to play jazz and attend a variety of clinics over the two-day Jazz Improv event. Clinics cover topics such as the art of jazz improvisation, as well as issues concerning the student's own major instrument. Students interested in registering should call 780-5126 for more information.

UMF Green Building Tours Available

FARMINGTON – UMF's Education Center is now available for free, pre-scheduled tours.

Created to house the UMF College of Education, Health and Rehabilitation, the Education Center was one of Maine's first LEED-registered buildings. The Leadership



UMF junior Stephanie Bossie, of Winslow, shares some of the exciting possibilities that green building design offers with fifth graders from Farmington's Cascade Brook School.

in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.

Tours feature the building's geothermal heating and cooling system, natural and recycled construction materials, non-polluting interior furnishings, and energy-conserving windows.

For K-8 students, the tour may be combined with lesson plans and materials developed by UMF faculty and education students to bring the science of green buildings into their classrooms. Tours may be scheduled by visiting the program's website at: <http://umfedctr.wikispaces.com>.



Benjamin Jealous,
NAACP National
President

NAACP President Featured at Human Rights Day

PORTLAND – In early December, local branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Amnesty International, and the United Nations Association hosted Human Rights Day and commemorated the 60th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. The event, "The World We Believe In: Hope for

Human Rights in a New Era," was held at USM in Portland.

Keynote speaker was Benjamin Jealous, national president of the NAACP. USM President Selma Botman gave welcoming remarks and Portland Mayor Jill C. Duson presented Jealous a key to the city. Governor John Baldacci also attended.



Sam Hess with the FPALM

UMaine Scientists Create Microscope System

ORONO – Scientists at UMaine have developed a new way of looking at the molecular organization of cells by creating a microscope system they call FPALM (Fluorescence Photoactivation Localization Microscopy).

The FPALM system breaks a fundamental limit on the resolution of lens-based microscopes. When detecting light through a lens-based imaging system, in this case a microscope, structures smaller than about half the wavelength of the detected light can't be resolved because of diffraction. Diffraction is the phenomenon that occurs when a wave, such as light, encounters an obstacle, such as a lens.

A normal microscope looks at all of the molecules at once, which can make the individual molecules difficult to see. It's like trying to pinpoint individual drops of water in a stream.

The FPALM system uses photoactivatable dyes to identify individual molecules and separate them.

While it does take longer to produce an image using FPALM, the system provides about 10 times better resolution. Its resolution capabilities exceed those of the most powerful confocal light microscopes currently available.

UMF Hosts College-to-Corporate Symposium

FARMINGTON – UMF's Center for Human Development recently hosted its third annual College-to-Corporate Symposium. This event brought more than 40 junior and senior business students together with corporate professionals from New England to discuss the job application process and today's work environment.

The evening began with a panel discussion including representatives from Ameriprise Financial, Barclaycard, Comfort Inn & Suites, Experience, Franklin Community Health Network, and Verso Paper.

Panel members explained the interviewing and hiring process and provided the audience with an inside look at how the practice compares among businesses. Employer expectations were reviewed regarding dress, decorum, and written presentation of a resume and cover letter. Speakers at the symposium recommended that students research positions of interest and their companies thoroughly to achieve the greatest employment success.

\$99,000 Grant Enhances UMFK Nursing Program

FORT KENT – UMFK recently received a \$99,000 grant from the Davis Education Foundation of Falmouth, in support of the university's nursing education program. The grant will provide significant support for the purchase of a neonatal simulator.

Due to the low birth rate in Aroostook County, UMFK nursing students often graduate with limited obstetrical, or childbirth, experiences. The Enhancing Birthing and Neonatal Education program will address that issue by employing technology to fill the experiential gap. Human patient simulators allow students to learn by true simulation because they participate in real-life patient scenarios with a life-like mannequin that responds to their interventions.

The grant will allow UMFK to purchase the simulation mannequins and the equipment needed to "treat" the new patients. UMFK students lack practical situations where they experience different complications and use the tools and equipment designed for these emergencies.

UMM Students Host Disabilities Awareness Event

MACHIAS – Students in UMM's "Recreation Services for Special Populations" class recently hosted a disabilities awareness night.

Participants in this program, titled "Your World, My World, Our Diverse World," had the opportunity to experience simulated disabilities at 10 different stations, each focused on a specific disability. Stations included hearing impairments, spinal injuries, visual impairments, temporary disabilities, permanent disabilities, aging, learning disabilities, autism, mobility and more. Information booths were available for participants to learn about resources, services, and career opportunities.

Misunderstandings often arise about disabilities and abilities, mobility and how it affects us all, and about barriers that limit participation and communication.

"Your World, My World, Our Diverse World" was sponsored by UMM's Professional Studies Division, Student Senate, MRPASS, Hall Council, and other contributing groups and organizations.

UMPI to Open Testing Center

PRESQUE ISLE – UMPI will soon open a Prometric Testing Center, meaning university students and community members will no longer have to drive for hours to take important computer-based exams such as the GRE, Praxis, and MCAT.

The university has signed a contract to open a 5-seat testing site. Work is now underway to renovate the space and outfit it with computer stations and other necessary testing equipment. Officials hope to host the official opening for the testing site in January.

The closest Prometric testing centers are in Bangor and Portland. Once complete, UMPI's center will offer tests, examinations, continuing education, practical exams, and assessments on a scheduled basis.

For more information on testing services that will be offered at the site, call 768-9589.



UMaine Press Publishes Passamaquoddy Dictionary

ORONO – More than 30 years of hard work and dedication has culminated with the publication of “A Passamaquoddy-Maliseet Dictionary” which contains 18,000 entries on more 1,200 pages and was a collaborative effort among native speakers, educators, and linguists.

The book, published by the University of Maine Press, is authored by Passamaquoddy tribal elder David A. Francis; Robert M. Leavitt, former director of the Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton; and Margaret Apt, community research coordinator and Passamaquoddy language teacher at Eastport's Shead Memorial High School.

The language is spoken in Maine and New Brunswick, Canada but never has been recorded in this form. For generations, American Indian culture and custom has been passed down primarily through oral tradition, but little has been formally documented.

Each dictionary entry includes sample sentences from both traditional and contemporary conversation. It also provides details of Passamaquoddy-Maliseet thought and culture, personal attitudes, humor, and linguistic ingenuity, according to information printed on the book's jacket.

UMA Program: Jerusalem Women Speak



Shown are Malinda Thompson with Partners for Peace (moderator), Julia Chatlin (Israeli Jew), Enas Mutaffar (Palestinian Muslim), Lucy Talgeigh (Palestinian Christian).

AUGUSTA – On November 12, a packed Jewett Auditorium listened to a Palestinian Christian woman, an Israeli Jewish woman, and a Palestinian Muslim woman share their visions of peace and reconciliation in their homeland. The

event titled “Three Women, Three Faiths, and One Shared Vision” was sponsored by UMA's Diversity Committee and is part of a multi-state tour for the women, sponsored by Partners for Peace in Washington, D.C.

UMM Students Community Clean-up

MACHIAS – Late this fall, a group of UMM students led a clean-up around the campus and throughout the Machias community, in an effort spear-headed by UMM's Green Council and the Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority. An estimated 10-15 bags of trash were filled within a 1 1/2 mile radius of the campus.

UMF Students Recognized

FARMINGTON – Eleven UMF students were recently recognized by the Undergraduate Research Council as fall 2008 Michael D. Wilson Research Scholars and Fellows. Under the Wilson program, each student's original research project is awarded funding that underwrites expenses and helps encourage and promote continuing academic investigation.

The annual Michael D. Wilson Research Scholar Program has been supporting single-semester research, scholarship, and creative projects at UMF since the fall of 2006. The program was expanded in the fall of 2007 to include two full-year Wilson Research Fellow awards to support more substantive research projects. The students are nominated by a UMF faculty sponsor and, after a competitive selection process, are chosen by the UMF Undergraduate Research Council.

This fall's research scholars are: Joshua Case, New Vineyard; Ben Engel, Westford, Mass.; Isaac Frith, Randolph; Jaimie Gagne, Gorham, N.H.; Caroline Gallant, Concord, N.H.; Eric Munson, Belfast; Stephanie Nobrega, Phillipston, Mass.; Victoria Pearson, Skowhegan; William Roy, Turner; and Samuel Valentine, Farmington. The 2008-2009 Michael D. Wilson Research Fellow is Daniel Allen, Gardiner.



UMF's Research Scholars and Fellows are (left to right) first row: Jaimie Gagne, Caroline Gallant. Second row: Joshua Case, Ben Engel, Victoria Pearson, Stephanie Nobrega, Daniel Allen. Third row: Samuel Valentine, Eric Munson. (Not pictured) Isaac Frith, William Roy.

UMPI Announces Wind Turbine Project Details

PRESQUE ISLE – Officials from UMPI and Lumus Construction held a press conference recently to announce the details of their \$2 million project to install a 600 kW wind turbine on campus.

The turbine will produce about 1 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year and is expected to save the institution more than \$100,000 annually in electricity charges. It also will save an estimated 572 tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere each year, or the equivalent of removing 123 cars from the road.

Foundation work for the project began in mid-November. The site is located near the athletic fields at the southern end of campus.

Turbine blades that are 47 meters in diameter, as well as a 20-ton nacelle - which houses the turbine's gearbox and generator - are being assembled in India. The 65-meter turbine tower is being manufactured in the U.S. Officials expect the turbine parts to be delivered to the site by March. For more information visit: www.umpi.edu/wind.

UMA Reaching Out to Veterans

AUGUSTA – UMA President Allyson Hughes Handley recently established a military affairs task force as part of the university's efforts to reach out to service members and veterans. A newly created newsletter highlights UMA alumni, faculty, and current students who have served in the military.

In addition, the Task Force has hosted two informational sessions for military support providers who work with veterans and service members in November and December.

There is federal support for veterans to enroll in school, and a new GI Bill that will significantly expand benefits will go into effect this summer. Current service members may also enroll at one of our campuses or centers across the state, or take courses online from anywhere in the world.

For more information, contact Jon Henry at 621-3136 or jhenry@maine.edu.

UMFK Creates New Opportunity for International Students



Dr. Richard W. Cost (right), president of UMFK, and Lee Academy headmaster, Bruce Lindberg, at the signing of an agreement between the two institutions.

FORT KENT – UMFK and Lee Academy recently signed an agreement that will provide Academy graduates with guaranteed admission to UMFK, provided they meet certain academic pre-conditions.

Students must meet minimum scoring levels for SAT/ACT exams, as well as Test of English as a Foreign

Language exams and other criteria. The college preparatory school has 280 domestic, international, and post-graduate students. Four Lee Academy schools in China are planned for construction in 2009. In addition, three satellite campuses in mainland China and South Korea are under consideration.

Under the terms of the agreement, UMFK will provide tutoring and counseling for students needing assistance with language issues.

'Plant a Row' Provides 40+ Tons of Food

STATEWIDE – The tallies are in, and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension has collected 80,748 pounds of produce, 70 dozen ears of corn and 60 loaves of bread as part of its Plant a Row for the Hungry outreach project.

Home gardeners, master gardeners, and others with a green thumb participate in the program, which provides fresh fruits and vegetables to needy individuals and families in Maine.

The local effort is part of a national program sponsored by the Garden Writers Association.



USM Hall Receives LEED Gold Certification

GORHAM – USM's new 296-bed, 101,000 square-foot residence hall in Gorham has received LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for its environmentally responsible design. The \$21 million project was financed through room fees, not state dollars.

It is the first residence hall in Maine to receive LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification. The certification is based on strict environmental criteria related to site development and the careful use of energy, water, and materials to minimize the building's impact on the environment.

"Green" building features include: energy-efficient plumbing fixtures to conserve water; zero use of CFC-based refrigerants in HVAC systems; energy-efficient electrical metering; ten percent of building materials are of post-recycled content and twenty percent of building materials and products are manufactured locally; a permanent temperature and humidity monitoring system; and other features.

UMS, Financial Sustainability & 2009

BANGOR – Concluding that the University of Maine System's current model of operations is not financially sustainable, Chancellor Richard L. Patten and the presidents of Maine's seven public universities are pursuing significant, transformational operational changes.

Patten cites three primary reasons behind this effort: dramatic increases in the cost of energy and healthcare insurance; changing demographics, which forecast a drop in the number high school students graduating over the next several years; and the global financial crisis and its affect on Maine's economy.

UMS has been working for more than two years to reduce costs and sustain academic quality, Patten reports. In May, UMS cut \$19.1 million from its budget, eliminated 140 positions, reducing operating budgets, and freezing salaries of 59 senior administrators. However, the global financial crisis has created new problems for UMS's finances, affecting enrollment and investment income revenue. Most recently, UMS's State appropriation was cut \$8.3 million as part of a larger State budget curtailment plan.

Combined, these factors have led to a \$15 million shortfall in the current fiscal year, and created an even greater level of financial uncertainty. Patten says he, the presidents, and the Board of Trustees are committed to developing a new operating model to achieve long-term financial sustainability. Through an inclusive, mission-driven process, they will seek input from all key UMS constituencies. The topic of financial sustainability will be on the Board's January 11-12 agenda. Patten says he intends to present a sustainability plan to the Board later in the year.