

# Making a Difference

A monthly sampler of educational, cultural, and economic contributions of Maine's public universities



UMaine



UMA



UMM



UMPI



UMFK

**Graduation 2012**  
 Congratulations to more than 5,700 students who graduated from Maine's Public Universities this month!



USM



UC



UMF

## UMS Trustees Appoint New Presidents at UMPI and UMF



Dr. Kathryn A. Foster



Dr. Linda K. Schott

BANGOR – In late April, UMS Chancellor James H. Page announced that the System’s Board of Trustees approved two individuals he recommended as the next leaders of UMF and UMPI.

[Dr. Kathryn A. Foster](#), currently a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., was appointed as UMF’s next leader. In addition, [Dr. Linda K. Schott](#), dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, was appointed as the next president at UMPI.

They begin their new roles on the respective campuses on July 1.

## Six UMaine Initiatives Selected for Visions of University Excellence Program

ORONO – Six initiatives at UMaine designed to enhance excellence and campus transformation were selected for funding by the Presidential Request for Visions of University Excellence (PRE-VUE) Program.



The six initiatives were rated highest in their potential to enhance excellence and campus transformation with a broad-based impact, employ a cost-effective approach to addressing pressing issues for UMaine, achieve a sustainable impact, and align with the university’s emerging and strategic priorities.

[The six funded PRE-VUE initiatives](#) are: increasing student satisfaction and retention, enhancing undergraduate academic experiences through student-faculty research collaborations, pre-tenure research and creative activity fellowship program, UMaine Humanities Center, UMaine web standards, increasing UMaine recruitment, and finally, enrollment and retention through Black Bear 4-H science.

## UMFK Utilizing Local Biomass Fuels, Becoming More Energy Independent

FORT KENT – UMFK is taking a major step toward energy independence with a new, wood-to-energy heating system.

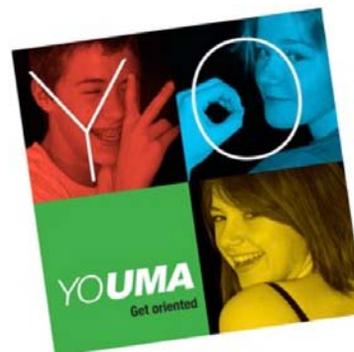
This is the first of two biomass systems that will convert more than 90 percent of the campus from foreign heating oil to locally-sourced,



renewable, biomass fuels. In preparation, UMFK replaced one of two fuel oil boilers with a high-efficiency boiler which is capable of burning various biomass products.

One year ago UMFK announced an award of \$500,000 Federal Stimulus grant toward this project, through the Maine Department of Conservation. Now a reality, the alternative fuel system will provide heat for 1.75 acres of floor space and is expected to save the campus nearly \$1 million in heating costs in the next decade.

## YoUMA, UMA’s Summer Program Now Accepting Registrations



AUGUSTA – The 2012 Yo (Youth-Oriented) UMA program will be held over two weeks this summer for high school students entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year.

Blending courses taught by UMA faculty members with afternoon field trips and large group discussions, YoUMA is designed for both high school students who know they are college bound, as well as for high school students who need to explore whether college might be for them.

Courses include: The Psychology of You; The Science of Soaps; From Pixel to Print; What Would Sherlock Holmes Do; Culinary Arts; Being Better at Being You; and Acting Up.

To find out more about YoUMA, how to register, and apply for a scholarship, go to [yo.uma.edu](http://yo.uma.edu) or contact [michael.cooley@maine.edu](mailto:michael.cooley@maine.edu).

## 14th Annual Maine Model UN at USM

GORHAM – More than 400 high school and middle school students from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York recently attended the 14th annual [Maine Model UN Conference](#) at USM's Gorham campus.



Teams represented different countries in a range of meetings and sessions, simulating the United Nations. This year, the conference featured a simulation of the International Criminal Court where students try Omar al-Bashir, president of Sudan, on charges of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

## UMM Announces 2012 Summer Camps

MACHIAS – This summer UMM will offer eight different day and overnight camps.

[Clipper Kids Day Camp](#) offers an action packed camp that will provide an environment that focuses on fair play and maximum participation.

Clipper Athletics will offer several [youth sports camps](#) in a day camp format, including basketball, volleyball, golf, soccer, and swimming.



[Maine Environmental Summer Session for Youth \(MESSY\)](#), is a camp that promotes awareness, builds knowledge, and stimulates creative

approaches to environmental stewardship and sustainability.

[Rock Camp](#) provides young aspiring musicians a place where they can learn some serious Rock 'n' Roll, and will teach students how to play in and run a real band.

[Civil Rights Leadership Mini-Camp](#) provides high school students from diverse backgrounds and different regions in Maine with a chance to work and learn together.

For information, visit [www.machias.edu/summer](http://www.machias.edu/summer), call (207) 255-1245, or e-mail [nichole.cote@maine.edu](mailto:nichole.cote@maine.edu).

## UMS Trustees Approve Budget, Endorse Chancellor's Initiatives

BANGOR – For the first time in twenty-five years there will be no increase in tuition for in-state undergraduate students at the University of Maine System.

This week the UMS Board of Trustees approved the System's Fiscal Year 2013 budget, where tuition was one of the focuses of discussion. System officials presented a balanced budget to Trustees despite a \$2.3 million decrease in State appropriation.

Chancellor James Page noted that the current financial model is not sustainable over the long term. To help improve and stabilize the System's financial future Chancellor Page is drawing on several [goals and actions](#) established by UMS Trustees in January and immediately plans to turn three of goals and actions into direct projects:

- Aligning the System's funding with performance-based outcomes which will include undertaking a review of performance-based funding formula models.
- Reallocating savings from administration and infrastructure to the University's main mission of teaching, research, and public service. As part of this, an in-depth review of administrative costs and structures will be conducted at all levels and in all divisions of the System. Recommendations will be brought forward to improve administrative efficiencies and services. At the meeting, Chancellor Page introduced a plan to evaluate and improve the System's statewide information technology, as an example of the type of efforts that this directive will include.
- 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 to the University of Maine System and vice versa.

Chancellor Page noted that the projects will also provide an opportunity to develop high-performing, focused teams throughout the System. This work will be the major first steps in building a system to address the University's challenges and opportunities.

The next meeting of the UMS Board of Trustees is scheduled to take place on July 9 at the System Office headquarters in Bangor.

## Titanic Exhibit at Osher Map Library



PORTLAND – In the wake of the 100th anniversary of the Titanic's ill-fated maiden voyage, USM's Osher Map Library is hosting an exhibit titled "[The Triumph of the Passenger Ship: Norman H. Morse Ocean Liner Collection.](#)"

It will up for viewing from 1 - 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Thursdays, through August 23 in the Osher Map Library.

Three years ago Norman Morse donated

his collection of ocean liner memorabilia to the Osher Map Library. Assembled over eight decades, the collection includes ship plans, brochures, pamphlets, postcards, rate cards, menus, passenger lists, snapshots, postcards, and a selection of reference books.

## UMPI to provide college credit to MSSM high school students

LIMESTONE – Officials at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM) in Limestone and UMPI signed a unique collaborative learning agreement that will allow MSSM students to earn college credit while still in high school, giving them a significant and cost-saving head start on college.

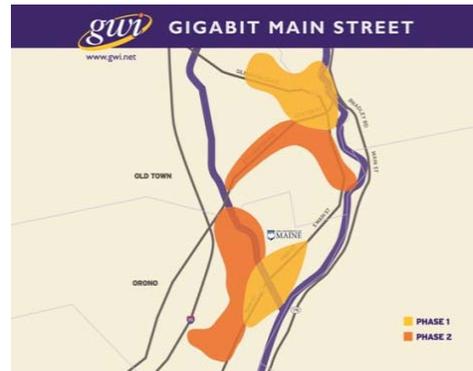
The agreement will give MSSM students the opportunity to receive UMPI credit for select MSSM courses they take that are taught by UMPI adjunct-qualified instructors.

As part of this agreement, a process is being put in place to award UMPI credit for specific MSSM courses, based on syllabi and texts approved by UMPI faculty members, to MSSM students who meet admissions standards set by UMPI.

This process will involve reviewing selected MSSM courses to determine if they are equivalent in content and rigor to UMPI courses, determining whether MSSM faculty members are qualified to be UMPI adjunct instructors so they can deliver approved courses, and then approving specific courses so that MSSM students enrolled in them can receive UMPI credit for the classes.

## Gig.U Coming to UMaine Area

ORONO – Installation of Maine's first gigabit Internet network commercially available to business and residential customers has begun in the Old Town and



Click on map to enlarge image.

Orono communities surrounding UMaine.

[The new ultra-high-speed Gigabit Main Street Internet Network](#) is expected to drive innovation

and create economic opportunity and will make UMaine one of the fastest-moving and leading innovators of the nationwide [Gig.U](#) initiative.

The network will be built in two phases: phase I will quickly build out and reach downtown districts and business-heavy parts of both Old Town and Orono; phase II will build out farther, based on demand.

The Gigabit Main Street network will provide 125 times faster download speeds and 1,000 times faster upload speed than current offerings. The network will be mixed-use, meaning that it will serve both business and residential customers.

## UMF Recognizes Maine Art and Music Students



FARMINGTON – In recognition of the creative talents of Maine high school art and music students, UMF's Emery Community Arts Center is hosting its first annual "Celebrate Our Youth"

exhibition of artwork by Mt. Blue High School students.

Approximately 45 students, ages 15-19, will feature their artwork in the exhibition in the Flex Space Gallery and throughout the Emery Center through May 31.