



One University For All of Maine

Service To Every Maine Community
Access To Learners of All Ages and Locations
Statewide Partnerships and World-Class Research

A monthly update on Maine's One University Initiative

Maine's University Youth Movement

Maine's demography, stagnant in size and increasing in [age](#), is creating real challenges for our communities, employers and institutions. Leveraging our resources strategically and across the state as part of the One University Initiative, our public universities are developing programs and services designed to attract promising new students to Maine and keep more of our high school graduates here at home for their college education. Here are but a few examples:

UMPI Good Neighbor Program

Graduates from six high schools in western New Brunswick will be able to take advantage of a unique, tuition-saving opportunity at the University of Maine at Presque Isle beginning in the fall of 2016.

The first-of-its-

kind [grant](#)

[program](#) will allow

students from

these high

schools to pay

tuition "at par,"

potentially saving

students \$12,000

based on today's currency exchange rates

between the United States and Canada.

USM International Early College



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[University of Maine
System](#)

University News

Follow links for news highlights from our seven campuses and centers.

[UMA](#)

Climbs to 30th in the Nation for Best Online Programs says U.S. News & World Report

[UMaine](#)

Engineering students assisting renovation of rehabilitation retreat for wounded veterans, families

[UMF](#)

Partnership for Civic Advancement receives grant from Community Development Foundation

[UMFK](#)

UMFK and UMPI students engage in real life research at biological lab.

[UMM](#)

Two UMM Marine Biology Professors Awarded Major Grants to Support Research

Attracting talented and ambitious international students to the Portland region is the objective of the International Early College being developed at the University of Southern Maine. Approved [last month](#) and set to launch in the next academic year, the International Early College will bring diversity, youth and tuition dollars to Maine by offering up to 50 language-ready students from abroad the chance to earn a high school diploma while enrolled in entry level classes alongside traditional USM students.

Out-Of-State Applications up 25% as UMaine Matches Competition

Last fall the University of Maine launched the [Flagship Match](#) program, committing to match what students from throughout the Northeast would pay to attend their home state flagship institution. Combined with the growing national reputation of UMaine's [emerging and signature](#) areas of excellence, the opportunity students from away now have to affordably attend the University of Maine is drawing attention and applicants. This year's out-of-state undergraduate applicant pool at UMaine is up by 25 percent over last year!

Instate applications at UMaine are up 2 percent as graduating high school students and their families take advantage of the new [Maine Matters Program](#). A component of Maine Matters is a commitment to review financial aid offers from other New England Land Grant institutions and match the offered net cost of attendance. The result is an assurance that Maine's best and brightest students will not be enticed to leave Maine to attend a competing New England Land Grant institutions for financial reasons.

Deborah Meehan and URock

Finding a place for college in the lives of students caught between a rock and a hard place

Beset by personal tragedy, estranged from his family, and homeless, the would-be college

[UMPI](#)

Offers major tuition break for nearby Canadian students

[USM](#)

Plan for two-year International Early College at USM moving forward

[University College](#)

Rockland Models the One University Concept

Upcoming Events of Interest

February and March 2016
Board of Trustee and
Committee Meetings

Agendas, locations, and changes in meeting times will be posted [here](#). Please check the website for final confirmations.

February 22, 2016, 1:00 PM
Investment Committee

March 7, 2016, 9:00 AM
Finance, Facilities and
Technology Committee

March 11, 2016, 10:30 AM
Human Resources and Labor
Relations Committee

March 11, 2016, 1:00 PM
Academic and Student Affairs
Committee Joint Meeting with
Human Resources and Labor
Relations Committee

March 11, 2016, 2:00 PM
Academic and Student Affairs
Committee

March 13-14, 2016
UMS Board of Trustee

junior transfer and Mitchell Scholarship recipient faced obstacles fortunately unfamiliar to most college students when he met with University College Center Director Deborah Meehan two weeks before the start of the fall 2015 semester.

Utilizing university and community contacts developed over a decade of helping adult and at-risk students progress toward their academic and professional objectives, Deb Meehan and the team at University College at Rockland made sure this student had the housing, support, and resources he needed to maintain his momentum toward a college degree.



Deborah Meehan Rocks!

"Our approach to student service is comprehensive, community-inclusive and life changing," said Deb Meehan. "As a student Concierge, I serve as a single point of contact, an advocate, and a problem solver for adult learners. [Concierges](#) at our University College Centers and on our campuses across Maine strive to find a place for college in the complicated lives of our non-traditional students. That often means outside-the-box thinking and the bundling of both university and community resources."

University College at Rockland, "URock," is one of eight University College Centers around Maine where students of all ages, backgrounds, locations, and ambitions can pursue degrees and receive support needed to earn a college degree despite the everyday complications of busy adult lives. Providing its 500 students and the entire Midcoast Region with access to 100 university programs from Portland to Fort Kent through onsite instruction, online, and distance delivery, URock exemplifies the statewide access that will be achieved for all of Maine under the One University Initiative.

"No matter where our students start or how far they hope to progress, we are ready to help," concluded Deb Meehan. "The individual stories of student success can be inspiring but we are also motivated by the understanding that our communities get stronger with every step of individual progress we support."

Editor's Note: The Island Institute's Working

Meeting at the University of
Maine at Farmington

If you have a university event you would like to share with our statewide advocacy network, please use the contact information in the feedback box below.

Feedback Received



Thank you to the many subscribers who provided feedback on the draft logo we shared in the January edition and for the positive comments about our inaugural edition. There will be much more to come and your continued comments, ideas, and suggestions will also be welcome.

[Dan Demeritt](#)

Public Relations

UMaine System

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Waterfront [examines](#) how URock and One University is helping Maine's coastal communities and its residents find new opportunities off the ocean.

STAY IN TOUCH



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