



University of Maine **Profile**

Dean of the Honors College
Spring 2013



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Mission and Values

The University of Maine advances learning and discovery through excellence and innovation in undergraduate and graduate academic programs. UMaine addresses the complex challenges and opportunities for students of the 21st century through a unique approach: research-based knowledge. Inspiring and dedicated teaching propels students into new fields of learning and promotes interdisciplinary understanding.

UMaine helps students set educational goals to develop their creative abilities, their communication and critical thinking skills, and understanding of traditions in ethics and rationality within the arts, sciences and professions.

Opportunity for all members of the University of Maine community is a cornerstone of the UMaine mission. The university welcomes students, research partners and collaborators into an atmosphere that honors the heritage and

diversity of the state and nation.

Internationally recognized research, scholarship and creative activity distinguish the University of Maine as the state's flagship university, where faculty and students contribute knowledge to issues of local, national and international significance. Naturally, research and education are inextricably linked for students in the state's doctoral-granting institution, but most research grants are regarded as opportunities to engage both undergraduate and graduate students in focused research projects, and are used to provide students with employment-learning opportunities.

Preservation and stewardship of the land, water and sea are a *raison d'être* of Mainer's and a guiding principle of the University of Maine. Because Mainer's are blessed with highly productive farms, abundant forests, majestic mountains, thousands of unspoiled lakes and streams, and, of course, the longest ocean coastline of any continental



state, their respect — even reverence — for the environment and the outdoors is central to how the residents of the state define themselves. Students living and studying in Maine naturally come to absorb this core value of Mainers.

Brief History

The University of Maine was established as the Maine College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts under the provisions of the Morrill Act, approved by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862. Founded in 1865, the institution opened September 21, 1868, with 12 students and two faculty members. In 1897, the name was changed to the University of Maine.

By 1871, curricula had been organized in agriculture, civil engineering, mechanical engineering and electives. From these courses of study, there gradually developed the colleges of Life Sciences and Agriculture (later to include the School of Forest Resources and the School of Human Development), Engineering and Science, and Arts and Sciences. The School of Education was established in 1930 and received college status in 1958. The School of Business

Administration was formed in 1958 and was granted college status in 1965. Women have been admitted into all curricula since 1872.

The Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station was founded as a division of the university in 1887. In 1912, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, which offers field educational programs for both adults and youths, was initiated. The first master's degree was conferred in 1881; the first doctoral degree in 1960. Since 1923, there has been a separate Graduate School. The Summer Session as a separate entity dates from 1902. The Winter Session began in the 1997–98 academic year. A Continuing Education Division offers evening and Saturday courses from the several curricula. Noncredit courses of general adult interest are also made available.

In 1980, the federal government designated the University of Maine as a Sea Grant College under a program conducted with the University of New Hampshire. In 2004, UMaine received that designation for its own program, according to the provisions of the National Sea Grant College Program Act.

Accreditations

The University of Maine receives overall accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the oldest regional accrediting association in the United States, as well as from many other professional accreditors.

Governance and the Administrative Team

UMaine is the flagship of the University of Maine System. The senior administration of the university consists of President Paul W. Ferguson, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Susan J. Hunter, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron, Vice President for Research Michael Eckhardt, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Eric Rolfson, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana and Vice President for Enrollment Management Jimmy Jung. Vice President for Innovation and Economic Development Jake Ward. The senior administration governs cooperatively with the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, James H. Page, and the 16 members



of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees (of whom 15 are appointed by the Governor of Maine and one is the current Maine State Commissioner of Education). The Board of Trustees has full legal responsibility and authority for the university system. It appoints the chancellor and each university president, approves the establishment and elimination of academic programs, confers tenure on faculty members, and sets tuition rates/operating budgets.

Academics

As Maine's land grant and sea grant university, UMaine is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast, attracting students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 10,901 undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars.

Students are offered more than 90 academic and bachelor's degree programs, 75 master's degree programs, more than 30 doctoral programs, and one of the oldest and most prestigious Honors programs in the U.S.

Besides the more conventional four-year degrees, UMaine also offers five-year degree programs in liberal arts and engineering or engineering technology dual degree; the B.A./B.S. in liberal arts with an M.B.A.; the B.A./B.S. in engineering with an M.B.A.; and the B.A./B.S. in liberal arts with an M.A. in teaching.

Most important, however, is the student academic experience. UMaine is right-sized: neither too big nor too small, yet enjoying all the advantages that both large and small institutions offer. Students find faculty accessible: an open-door policy is the rule in most academic departments. They find faculty fully dedicated to student learning and many faculty members who subscribe to a "hands-on" education that engages students in top-flight research projects.

Faculty members encourage student exploration of complex issues and topics, and are eager to assist students in their intellectual journey. Students who aspire to academic excellence will find a welcome home in the university's Honors College or the Foster Center for Student Innovation, where Innovation Engineering permits students of any major to refine and shape out-of-the-box ideas into practical applications.

Distinctions and Innovative Programs

Honors education has been a priority at the University of Maine for more than 75 years, making the UMaine Honors College one of the oldest programs in the United States. UMaine's well-regarded program is a model for other schools across the country, known for its one-on-one attention to students and thoughtful generation of a meaningful honors curriculum. Under the visionary leadership of Dean Charlie Slavin, the Honors College has come to provide an undergraduate education unsurpassed in New England.

Through first- and second-year preceptorials, third-year tutorials and the honors thesis, the curriculum of the Honors College emphasizes learning that is both broad and deep, expanding students' perspectives by exploring diverse areas of thought and allowing them to work in their majors with an intensity beyond the conventional course pattern. With small class sizes and individualized learning models, faculty in the Honors College focus especially on student research and scholarship. The Honors experience moves beyond the classroom with frequent social and scholarly events, trips to conferences, cultural performances on and off campus, Honors housing opportunities, and an end-of-year college celebration of our Honors graduates.

The Honors College offers numerous fellowships and grants in support of thesis work. One particularly active area of undergraduate research is in comparative functional genomics, where programs supported by the



National Institutes of Health and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute allow first- through fourth-year undergraduates to engage in hands-on, cutting-edge research. A highlight of these experiences is the week-long immersion course taught at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory each year.

Honors College students participate in study abroad and global service programs, with scholarships and fellowships available. Each year, many students present their research at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, at various other conferences and at the UMaine Center for Undergraduate Research Academic Showcase. Honors graduates are recognized at the UMaine Commencement for their distinctive achievement. They represent every major on campus, and most go on to pursue graduate or professional studies.

Faculty and Research

UMaine's 608 full-time and 235 part-time faculty members are committed to breaking down academic silos and collaborating across disciplines in recognition of the interconnectedness of

knowledge and in pursuit of interdisciplinary truths that produce new ideas, new insights, and new ways of looking at old issues and unresolved intellectual problems.

It is rare for a top-flight research university to have so many faculty members who are so dedicated to teaching, and so prone to involving undergraduates in faculty research projects, but those characteristics exemplify the University of Maine. The university enjoys a student-to-faculty ratio of 15:1 (the median undergraduate class size is 19), akin to a small liberal arts college, enabling the development of strong mentoring relationships.

In FY10, UMaine exceeded \$100 million in external expenditures for research — 86 percent of which was federal funding. Leading sectors of the university in generating external support are advanced materials, marine sciences, climate change, environmental studies, forestry, precision manufacturing and aquaculture.

For example, notable research by college includes:

College of Engineering

- NASA EPSCoR Wireless Shape Monitoring of Inflatable Structures (as of November

2010, UMaine hosts NASA's only mock-up of the Lunar Inflatable Habitat)

- Modular Advanced Composite Hull (MACH) forms for Hybrid Ship Structures
- Structural Integrity Assurance of Aerospace Vehicles for the Maine Space Grant Consortium
- Modular Ballistic Protection System (MBPS) with the U.S. Natick Army Soldier RD&E Center
- Bridge-in-a-Backpack
- Blast-Resistant Wood Structures with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers R&D Center

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- One of the world's largest collections of chromosomal images that will be used to compare normal and abnormal cells to indicate the onset of tumors
- "Thwarted Voices," recovered music of composers silenced by the Third Reich
- Moral and ethical issues surrounding medicine and medical research
- Infant sleep neurophysiology and behavior studied to analyze the consequences of prenatal exposure to alcohol, opiates and



other drugs on the developing brain

- Archaeological field research in Machias Bay with the local Passamaquoddy to analyze subsistence changes along the coastal regions of Maine at the time of European contact

Maine Business School

- “What Is Wrong with this Picture? A Problem with Comparative Return Plots on Finance Websites and a Bias Against Income-Generating Assets”
- Organization research: how sports teams (baseball, football, ice hockey) enable knowledge sharing, creativity and team learning
- Knowledge Transfer Alliance, connecting UMaine professors in business, economics and engineering to Maine businesses to help improve their efficiency and effectiveness
- “Sustainability, Complexity and Learning: Insights from Complex Systems Approaches”

Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- The ecology of the Canada lynx in Maine’s northern forests

- Cellular and molecular processes that allow plants to respond to low-temperature stress
- Bear Brook Watershed Project — climate change, air-quality regulation, surface water quality and forest sustainability
- Use of cellulose nanofibrils in thermoplastic composites
- Economic impacts and spending patterns of cruise ship passengers visiting cities
- Consortium of 11 state universities working to develop a program for promoting healthful eating and improving the quality of life of young adults
- Satellite ocean color imagery to study ecological processes, such as what species of phytoplankton dominate, and biogeochemical processes, including how fast carbon is fixed by phytoplankton into organic material

College of Education and Human Development

- Literacy i3 (Investing in Innovation) grant
- Using the State Longitudinal Data System to examine the impact of student mobility on the changing educational services needs throughout Maine and to evaluate the state professional

development activities targeting special education teachers and staff

- The Developmental Epidemiology and Biobehavioral Informatics group continues to work with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to provide state-of-the art informatics support enhancing the state’s capacity to identify at-risk children and ensure they receive services, and has partnered with the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council on the Maine Autism Spectrum Disorders Development Project to assess the prevalence and nature of autism in Maine
- Aunts and uncles and their relationship with nieces and nephews
- Contexts, causes and consequences of women faculty’s advancement, recruitment and retention at UMaine
- Hazing on college campuses
- Kinesiology: aerobic capacity in 17 schools across Maine; and, in partnership with Logan Chiropractic University, research on sophisticated gait measurements with implications for athletes with concussions

Students and Student Life

The university is the cultural hub of eastern and northern Maine, and home to a premier performing arts center — the Collins Center — where music, dance and theatre enrich students' lives. The New Balance Student Recreation Center offers opportunities for all kinds of physical exercise and serves as a venue for intramural sports, Zumba, kickboxing, yoga and spinning.

Forty percent of students live in residence halls and another 40 percent live off campus in Orono or nearby Bangor. First-year students are generally required to live on campus. Upperclass students also have the option of joining one of 25 fraternities or sororities. Greek life has existed at the University of Maine since 1874. The presence of Greeks is still strong with more than 700 students participating in one of the 17 fraternities or eight sororities. Almost 10 percent of University of Maine undergraduates are members of Greek letter organizations.

As the state's only Division I university, UMaine fields intercollegiate teams in all major men's and women's sports. Its men's ice hockey team, which attracts as

many as 5,000 fans to games at the Alfond Arena, has garnered national standing year after year and has won two national championships.

Orono is located near America's only national park on the East Coast, Acadia National Park, where world-class hiking, boating, kayaking and camping permit lovers of the great outdoors to experience stunning scenery up close and personal. For skiers, Sugarloaf USA and Sunday River are located nearby, and just 1.5 hours away are Mount Katahdin and Baxter State Park, which comprise the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail.

The university also offers Maine Bound, an organized outdoor program for students who enjoy socializing while exercising and exploring. Club sports include Alpine skiing, crew, golf, rugby, volleyball, cycling and more than a dozen other activities.

For more cerebral social activities, the university has more than 200 student organizations, including a Robotics Club, Classics Club, Maine Peace Action Committee, Mock Trial Club, Forensics Club and French Club.

Culture and the Arts

Several campus venues — Lord Hall, Minsky Recital Hall, Hauck Auditorium and the Cyrus Pavilion — are homes to UMaine's art exhibits, performances and productions, expanding culture and the arts for the university and the region.

The University of Maine Museum of Art (UMMA) enriches the cultural life of Maine citizens and the university community through exhibitions, collections and innovative educational programming designed to promote an understanding of the visual arts, with particular emphasis on the modern and contemporary. The UMMA, located in nearby Bangor, offers exhibits of world-famous and contemporary art. The museum shares the mission of the University of Maine — to advance research, teaching and educational outreach, and to serve as a center of aesthetic engagement for diverse audiences.

The Collins Center for the Arts is a cultural focus for the university and surrounding region, while the Hudson Museum, located on the refurbished second floor of the Collins Center, is a state-of-the-art anthropological museum, exhibiting

artifacts and hosting educational programming for the surrounding region. The Hudson Museum maintains a collection of more than 8,000 ethnographic and archaeological objects, including a world-class assemblage of 2,828 Precolumbian ceramics, lithics and gold work dating from 2000 B.C. to the time of the Spanish Conquest.

Setting

The University of Maine is located in the town of Orono, five miles north of Bangor. Bangor's history begins with a visit by Champlain in 1604. Today it is the commercial and social center of northern, central and eastern Maine, and the largest retail center and hub of government, education and employment in Maine. The Bangor-Orono region is rated high nationally for "liveability" and quality of life.

Orono (named for Chief Joseph Orono of the Penobscot Nation) was first settled in 1774. Currently, the population is 10,362 (not counting UMaine students). Part of the town is located on Marsh Island, bounded by the Penobscot and Stillwater rivers. The university is located in this part of the town, making UMaine the only land grant

university in the United States to be sited on an island.

The University of Maine, occupying 660 acres on Marsh Island, consists of 37 academic buildings, 30 administrative buildings, 18 residence halls, 18 specific laboratory facilities, 14 Greek life houses, four dining facilities, and 10 sports facilities, including an 87,000-square-foot recreation and fitness center (opened in 2007), and an air-supported athletic and recreation dome.

UMaine facilities benefit Maine's flagship university. Legendary landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted designed the grounds, and the many historic red brick and ivy-covered buildings surround one of the loveliest quads in the nation. Strong voter-backed bond support in recent years has permitted the university to add state-of-the-art laboratories, museums, field houses and recreation facilities. UMaine's newest buildings are LEED-certified. And the classic Fogler Library, with 5.2 million holdings, stands as the centerpiece of the campus.

Finances and Financial Aid

Sixty-six percent of students receive need-based loans, 42 percent receive need-based scholarships and grants, and 4 percent receive need-based work study funding. Total federal grant support in 2010–11 was almost \$16 million, while the state provided a bit over \$2 million in grants, and the university grants and scholarships reached almost \$10.5 million. Additionally, students received \$2.6 million in private scholarships. Total federal, private and parent loans amounted to about \$68 million. Almost \$5 million in merit awards and \$5.7 million in athletic awards were made as well. The average student indebtedness for undergraduate students who graduated in 2011 was \$22,749. The cohort default rate for 2009 was 4.4 percent.

Tuition and Fees

As with colleges and universities in most state systems, UMaine has been forced to raise tuition and fees in order to cope with declining state appropriations. One effect has been a decrease of 16.7 percent in financial aid support from FY09 to FY10. Nevertheless, UMaine



remains a smart buy. For Maine residents, tuition, fees, room and board cost about \$19,500, and for nonresidents, about \$35,250 in 2011–12.

Fundraising and Capital Campaigns

A recent comprehensive campaign has helped the university provide more financial support for students in need. The endowment is now in excess of \$200 million.

Commitment to the Environment

The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. Going further, however, UMaine recently launched the Sustainability Solutions Initiative (SSI), whose goal is to advance economic and community development while preserving the environment.

Funding SSI is a \$20 million National Science Foundation EPSCoR grant that permits the university to conduct world-class, solutions-driven research in sustainability. This effort brings the sciences and engineering into interdisciplinary partnerships with

the social sciences and other disciplines in generating frontier research.

Thus far, more than 100 researchers, including biologists, economists, communication specialists, engineers and others have focused on such issues as protecting clean drinking water, investigating renewable energy sources, improving forest management and curbing invasive species.

UMaine has employed SSI to reach out to experts throughout the state's private and public institutions of higher learning. To date, SSI teams have brought in an additional \$6 million through 42 successful grant applications.

Community Outreach

Comprehensive outreach — including public service, Cooperative Extension, continuing education and distance learning — engages learners of all ages in improving their lives and communities. Using research-based knowledge, these outreach efforts build intellectual, cultural and economic capacity within and beyond the state, and promote one of Maine's most important and abundant natural resources: its people.

Alumni

Politics

- John Baldacci, former Governor of Maine
- Janet Bewley, member of the Wisconsin Legislature
- Joseph Brennan, former Governor of Maine, member of the U.S. House of Representatives
- Styles Bridges, former Governor of New Hampshire, senator
- Emily Cain, Maine Senator
- Matthew Dunlap, Maine Secretary of State
- Paul LePage, Governor of Maine
- John R. McKernan, Jr., former Governor of Maine
- Wallace Rider Farrington, former Governor of Hawaii, founder of the University of Hawaii
- Leigh Saufley, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Court
- Olympia Snowe, former U.S. Senator

Arts, literature, humanities and entertainment

- Lawrence Bender, film producer (*Pulp Fiction* and *Good Will Hunting*)

continued





Alumni

Arts, literature, humanities and entertainment continued

- Rick Hautala, author
- Stephen King, author
- Tabitha King, author

Science and engineering

- Harold Beverage, inventor, Vice President of R&D at RCA Communications
- Francis Crowe, civil engineer, chief engineer of the Hoover Dam, namesake of UMaine's Francis Crowe Society
- Leslie Holdridge, botanist
- Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Professor at IIT Madras and Padma Shri recipient
- Bernard Lown, Nobel Peace Prize winner
- Richard Lutz, deep-sea vent researcher, Director of the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences







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