UMPI hosts Turbine Commissioning Ceremony

The University hosted a special ceremony on Thursday, May 14 in the Campus Center to officially commission its 600 kW wind turbine – the very first midsize wind turbine to be installed on a University campus in the State of Maine. Campus and community members joined local and state dignitaries in this historic event.

The University’s Wind Turbine Commissioning Ceremony was held just two days before the University hosted its 100th Commencement Exercises and just two years after University officials announced their intentions to move forward on installing a wind turbine on campus.

The commissioning event included remarks by local and state officials and a short presentation to explain how the University’s wind turbine will transform wind into electricity and how that electricity will get from the turbine to the campus buildings it will power. Special guests included Sumul Shah, President of Lumus Construction, Inc.; Commissioner Vendean Vafiades of the Maine Public Utilities Commission; University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenauade; representatives speaking on behalf of Maine’s Congressional Delegation; and Presque Isle City Manager Tom Stevens.

The event then moved outside to the wind turbine site where a formal commissioning ceremony was held. The ceremony included a Native American drumming song and a ribbon cutting featuring the release of environmentally-friendly, dove-shaped paper balloons. The University also celebrated the ceremonial commissioning with the release of more than 100 small, paper whirligigs from the top of the turbine tower. Refreshments and videos showcasing UMPI’s wind turbine installation were available inside the Campus Center following the ceremony.

“This has been such an exciting time for us at the University of Maine at Presque Isle as we have watched the turbine assembly and counted down the University opened its doors in 1903 – and the lasting impact many of them have had in their professions and in Maine – we are recognizing Congressman Michaud and Bruce Brown as examples of the importance of serving the people of Maine and the differences individuals can make at the local, state and national level by standing up for what they believe in,” President Zillman said. “There isn’t a better message we could offer to this historic graduating class and we look forward to the lasting impacts

Congressman Michaud speaks at 100th Commencement

Congressman Michael H. Michaud delivered the commencement address during the University’s 100th Commencement Ceremony, held on Saturday, May 16. During this historic event, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degrees were presented to U.S. Representative Michaud and Bruce Brown, a leading proponent of art education and contemporary art in the State of Maine.

“As the University of Maine at Presque Isle marks its 100th commencement, and remembers the thousands of students who have earned their degrees here since the

continued on page 2
UMPI partners with Carleton Project

The University and the Carleton Project held a joint press conference on Friday, April 3, to announce a partnership that will allow the alternative private school to establish a permanent location in the Presque Isle area.

President Don Zillman and Jennifer Walker, Executive Director of the Carleton Project, were joined by UMPI’s Center for University Programs Chair Kim-Anne Perkins and Carleton Project Board Member Roger Shaw in announcing that the University will provide classroom space on its campus for the Carleton Project. This agreement will allow the Carleton Project to offer classes to students in the greater Presque Isle area while providing them with important exposure to the atmosphere of a college campus.

“We are so pleased to be working with the Carleton Project on this effort to create important educational linkages for local students,” President Zillman said. “We believe the positive educational experiences that students with the Carleton Project have on our campus will only help them to make the decision to continue their education and experience success once they get to college.”

The Carleton Project is a private alternative school that offers students in grades 9 through 12 the opportunity to obtain their high school diploma in a non-traditional setting. Project officials work individually with students to meet their academic potential and map out a college plan.

This collaboration increases the number of Carleton Project learning sites to three; there are well-established sites in Houlton and Livermore Falls. Carleton Project classes are underway now in Park Hall.

Commencement continued from page 1

we know they will make in their own professions and for Maine.”

Michael H. Michaud, the U.S. Congressman representing Maine’s Second District, has served the people of Maine for nearly three decades, working to effect important changes in areas ranging from healthcare to veterans affairs to economic development in Maine.

Michaud, who was raised in Medway, worked for Great Northern Paper Company for 29 years before venturing into politics. A desire to help clean up a polluted river near his home led Michaud to seek a seat in the Maine House of Representatives in 1980. He served seven consecutive terms there. In 1994, he was elected to the Maine Senate, where he served as Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee in 1996 and as Maine Senate President in 2000.

Michaud was sworn in as a United States Congressman in January 2003, becoming the first recognized Franco-American from Maine to be elected to federal office. In the U.S. House of Representatives, Michaud serves on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee on Small Business.

Bruce Brown, an educator and art collector, has worked for more than 35 years to enrich the lives of the people of Maine, serving as an important proponent of art education and contemporary art in the state.

Brown, a Portland native, is the curator emeritus of the Center for Maine Contemporary Arts in Rockport, where he organized more than 200 exhibitions between 1987 and 2006. He did this while working as an educator at Freeport High School, where he served from 1972 to 2000. Since the 1970s, he has been able to gather together an impressive collection of contemporary art, featuring American prints and Maine photography. Brown was recognized by Arts and Antiques Magazine in 2007 as one of America’s significant art collectors.

In honor of the University’s 100th commencement, students wore, along with their traditional graduation regalia, blue stoles bearing the centennial logo. Each graduate received a commemorative mug featuring the centennial logo from the UMPI Alumni Association.

The University’s Commencement Exercises were scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16 in Wieden Gymnasium.
The University and Momentum Aroostook wrapped up their second Young Professionals Institute on April 22 with a Mock Board Meeting, Business Reception and Etiquette Dinner in the Campus Center.

This year’s Young Professionals Institute brought together a dozen professionals from across Aroostook County to further develop their skills in public speaking, professional writing, social networking, and interaction with the media. The Institute was facilitated by President Don Zillman, Professor Clare Exner, Matt McHatten of MMG Insurance, members of Momentum Aroostook, several local business and community leaders, and graduates of the first Young Professionals Institute.

The final session on April 22 allowed participants to showcase their newly honed skills to their employers, supervisors and mentors. Businesses and organizations represented included MMG Insurance, The Aroostook Medical Center, Loring Job Corps Center, ACE Rent-A-Car, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, the County Federal Credit Union, and UMPI.

Based on the success of YPI 2, plans are underway already for YPI 3, to take place in the spring of 2010.

The 2nd Annual Young Professionals Institute capped off a successful eight-week session with a formal presentation, reception and dinner on April 22. Participating in the event were, from left, front row, YPI Participants Kate Quin-Easter of the Loring Job Corps Center, Chris Maple of MMG Insurance, Grace O’Neal of MMG Insurance, Sean Bagley of ACE Rent-A-Car, Kerri Watson-Blaisdell of TAMC, Marie Strouse of DFAS, Kelly Lamont-Kinney of MMG Insurance, James Mattila of the County Federal Credit Union, Linda Menard of TAMC, Matt Cote of MMG Insurance, and Terry Cummings of UMPI; back row, their supervisors and local businessmen and women Javed Siddiqui of MMG Insurance, Stacey Shaw of MMG Insurance, John Harvell of ACE Rent-A-Car, Andrew Soucier of TAMC, Shirley Bowman of DFAS, Dianne Collins of MMG Insurance, Ryan Ellsworth of the County Federal Credit Union, Joyce Allen of TAMC, and Pam Johnson of MMG Insurance. Missing from the photo was YPI Participant Susan Gilson of TAMC.

Gentile provides legacy gift to UMPI

Officials with the University and its Foundation Board announced on Friday, May 8 that through gifts and the estate of the late Caroline D. Gentile, the University’s longest serving faculty member, UMPI has received a legacy gift of more than $1 million – making it the largest gift that has been given to an educational institution in The County’s history.

Gentile, known to many as Miss Gentile, dedicated herself in many ways to the institution over the course of her 56-year teaching career and gave more than $500,000 several years ago to help build the wellness center that now bears her name. Including the legacy gift that she bequeathed to the campus, her gift to the University totals approximately $1.1 million.

UMPI President Don Zillman and Larry Shaw, President of the University’s Foundation Board, announced the details of the legacy gift during a morning press conference held in the Caroline D. Gentile Health and Physical Education Building.

“We take immense pleasure in announcing this legacy gift and what it means to the institution,” President Don Zillman said. “The remarkable aspect of this gift is that – in addition to the human legacy that Caroline Gentile left over 58 years of teaching, mentoring and program building of Physical Education and Recreation throughout the state – she has also left this remarkable financial legacy.”

During the press conference, Shaw discussed the possibilities the Foundation Board is considering in how to utilize Miss Gentile’s gift, including scholarships, distinguished lecturers, recreation and physical education-related activities, and improvements to Gentile Hall.

“The income generated from this gift is going to allow the University to spend more than $25,000 per year on items that will continue to promote the work that Caroline Gentile spent her whole life doing,” Shaw said. “It’s inspiring to see her legacy continue and to think that 20 to 30 years from now, these initiatives will still be moving forward and her name is still going to be tied so closely to the principles in which she so strongly believed.”

Charles Bonin, Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Dick Gardiner, Director

YPI marks second year of success

The University and Momentum Aroostook wrapped up their second Young Professionals Institute on April 22 with a Mock Board Meeting, Business Reception and Etiquette Dinner in the Campus Center.

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Based on the success of YPI 2, plans are underway already for YPI 3, to take place in the spring of 2010.
Students honored during Awards Convocation

The University held its annual Awards Convocation on Sunday, April 26, in the Campus Center, presenting 36 students with academic honors and recognizing many more for their service to the institution.

Departmental and Academic Area Awards were presented first. In the College of Education, Frances Cote received the award for Outstanding Elementary Education Major; Samantha Cousins received the award for Outstanding Secondary Education Major; Kelli Wolfe-Enslow received the award for Outstanding Post-Baccalaureate Education Student; Michelle Phillips received the award for Outstanding Physical Education Major; and Chad Parker received the award for the Ruel Parks “Rising Star” Memorial Award.

In the College of Professional Programs, Stephen Hopkins and Meagan Toussaint received the award for Outstanding Athletic Training Major; Collette Sloat received the award for Outstanding Social Work Student; Yueying Wang Bloomer received the award for Outstanding Criminal Justice Major; Brandon Carlow received the award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Accounting; Brandi Hill received the award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Business Management; Jenna Flanagan received the award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Management Information Systems; Steven Callioras and Ashley Espling received the award for Outstanding History Major; Michael DeWitt received the Political Science Polis Award; and Emerson Wright received the Prix d’Excellence en Langue et Culture françaises for French.


In the College of Arts & Sciences, Mathieu Bourgeois and Daniel Sheffield received the Mathematics-Science Award; Emily Bartlett and Stephanie Corriveau received the General Biology I Award; Joanna Dumond, Rebecca Kelley, Shane Smith and Bryanne Thomas received the Fine Art Talent Award for Outstanding Studio Achievement; Bhava Albert, Lila Albert and Andrew Bellamy received the Film Scholar Award; Joanna Dumond and Sean Smith received the Art History Award; Erin Pelletier received the English Book Award; and Anthony Scott received the Humanities Award.

The Distinguished Teaching Award was presented to Professor Richard Zuras.

AFUM Scholarships also were presented during the event. Steven Giangiordano received the Daniel Patterson Scholarship and Mihaela Pavlova received the John K. Steinbaugh Scholarship.

Student Senate Scholarship recipients included the following: Lenka Rambouskova received the Alan Arman Memorial Scholarship; Pamela Perkins received the Monica G. Gilbert Memorial Scholarship; Rachel McGlenn received the Steven Edward Eagles Memorial Scholarship; and Lacey O’Donnell received the T.W. Morrison Scholarship.

The University Times Advisor Award was presented to David Hamilton.

UMPI Professor named Social Worker of the Year

A University professor has received a top honor for those in the Social Work field in the State of Maine.

Jean Cashman, Associate Professor of Social Work at UMPI, was named the 2008 Social Worker of the Year by the Maine chapter of the National Association of Social Workers during the organization’s spring conference held at the Samoset Resort in Rockland in April. This is the second time Cashman has received the award. She previously was given the award in 2001.

Cashman was nominated and selected for the award based on her work as a Social Work educator, her work with the Aroostook County Critical Incident Debriefing Team, and the work she did for the Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Team during the 2008 flood in Fort Kent.

In addition to that work, Cashman is the co-chair of the Aroostook County NASW Chapter Branch, is a member of the NASW State Ethics Committee, and conducts ethics workshops for the Maine Health Association. She was presented with a Merit Award by the Governor in 2007 for her work with Emergency Management Services in Aroostook County.

During its spring conference, the NASW Maine chapter gave awards for Legislator, Agency, Citizen, Student and Social Worker of the year. Also during the event, student Heidi Rackliffe was recognized as the UMPI Social Work Student of the Year. The Social Work program annually brings Social Work majors to the event to provide them with experience in attending a professional conference, and this year 19 students were able to participate, network, and learn about their future profession.

Cashman’s award during this year’s conference adds to the Social Work program’s distinguished reputation around the state – all three Social Work faculty members at UMPI have earned recognition as the Maine Social Worker of the Year.

"Spring Strings" Concert held

Live classical music returned to the Wieden stage with a special recital concert by the students of Dr. Anatole Wieck, Professor of Upper Strings at the University of Maine in Orono, on Friday, May 15.

Dr.Wieck’s students performed their year-end recital, and Dr. Wieck himself played two pieces during this very special collaboration between the two UMaine campuses.

Dr. Wieck has taught upper strings at the University of Maine since 1986 and conducts the University of Maine Chamber Orchestra. As an accomplished violinist, violist and conductor, he has performed, taught, and conducted in Europe, North America and South America and has participated in chamber music festivals all around the globe.

Born in Latvia, Dr. Wieck received his early musical training in Riga and Moscow. In 1973, he came to the United States to study at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City where he earned his Bachelor, Masters and Doctorate degrees.

His principal teachers in Russia were Yuri Yankelevich and Zinaida Gilels. At Juilliard he studied with Ivan Galamian, Joseph Fuchs, Lillian Fuchs and Paul Doktor, and chamber music with members of the Juilliard String Quartet. After graduating from Juilliard he continued to study with composer-philosopher Iosif Andriasov.

Dr. Wieck is on the roster of the Maine Touring Artists Program, and since 1999, he has served as conductor-in-residence at Rocky Ridge Music Center in Estes Park, Colorado.
days until our wind turbine starts spinning,” President Don Zillman said. “We are extremely proud to be stepping forward as a statewide leader in the utilization of wind as a renewable energy resource with this project and look forward to attaining our major goals of reducing our carbon footprint, lowering our energy bill, and serving our educational and community roles as a public university.”

The University’s wind turbine is expected to produce about 1 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year and save the institution more than $100,000 annually in electricity charges. It is expected to 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.

The University announced its intentions to move forward on a wind turbine project two years ago, on May 3, 2007. After securing the proper permits and completing contract negotiations, the University signed an agreement with Lumus Construction, Inc. to build the turbine.

Construction work on the $2 million project began on Nov. 19, 2008. Foundation work was completed during the winter, and in late February 2009, the tower parts, which were manufactured in North Dakota, began arriving. On April 15, the blades, hub and nacelle – manufactured in Chennai, India – were delivered, and in just 4 days, the turbine was completely assembled. The turbine began spinning in mid-May.

To view photos, videos and more details about the University’s wind project, visit www.umpi.edu/wind.
Eighteen students participated in a multi-dimensional poster session focused on the path they’re taking to become Social Workers.

Students who participated in a service learning trip to Guatemala give a presentation about their journey.

Darren Pelletier, foreground, Rose Webb, and Harrison Kilpatrick deliver a presentation on the research they’ve done during the first year of a two to three year study on the potential impacts of the campus wind turbine on breeding birds.

Susan Greenlaw offers a presentation on work she did to create a GIS map of the land constraints associated with the Houlton Band of Maliseets’ land holdings.

UMPI student Anthony Scott gives a presentation about the Blues in African American Poetry.

An official unveiling of former University of Maine at Presque Isle President Nancy Hensel’s portrait was held on April 7 in the President’s Office. The watercolor was created by artist and UMPI alumna Patricia Collins. Hensel’s portrait is one of eight portraits of past UMPI presidents on display in the President’s Office. Collins is joined during the April 7 event by her husband Donald Collins.

Creating Learning, Life and Community
the 8th annual University Day
April 8, 2009

Glenda Wysote and others wait for the grand entry to start during Native American Appreciation Day.

Several aspects of Native American culture were displayed, including this young girl performing a traditional hoop dance.

Windygrass drummers from Presque Isle perform.

April 17, 2009

Native American Appreciation Day
The University has announced that a nationally recognized ski coach – whose athletes have garnered World Championship and Junior Olympics National titles and spots on prestigious national and international teams – has been hired to lead the development of its Nordic Ski Team as it prepares for Division I NCAA status for the 2009-2010 athletic season.

Alexei Sotskov, who helped to develop the Gunstock Nordic Association in Gilford, New Hampshire, and Vermont Academy in Saxtons River, Vermont, into national powerhouses for the U.S. Nordic Ski Team, will take over the University’s program, which has won seven National Championships in its first four years in the U.S. Collegiate Ski Association (USCSA).

Sotskov’s former athletes include U.S. Ski Team member Kris Freeman (4th at the 2009 World Championships and a contender for a medal at the Vancouver Olympics), Carl Van Loan and Jed Hinkley (U.S. Nordic Combined Team and former World Nordic Combined Junior Champions), and Kate Newick, a standout for Middlebury Ski Team. Sotskov has also had 14 athletes win Junior Olympic National titles.

“Presque Isle offers one of the top Nordic venues in the world, one of the longest snow seasons in the country and a community that embraces the benefits of the Nordic skiing lifestyle,” President Don Zillman said. “We thank coaches Kris Cheney Seymour and Petr Jakl for advancing our fledgling program at UMPI. They set the stage for Coach Sotskov to bring the program to competitive excellence at the highest level of NCAA competition.”

Sotskov was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia. He has a wealth of international coaching experience, having served as a ski and athletic coach for the Russian National Nordic Combined Team, and as the head Nordic Combined coach at the School of Superior Athletic Performance in Russia. During the summer of 2008, he coached the New Zealand National Nordic team, and one of the athletes qualified for the Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

Most recently, Sotskov served as the Assistant Athletic Director and On-Snow Sports Coordinator at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire.

Gentile Legacy
continued from page 3

of Gentile Hall, provided details on green initiatives and other immediate changes that will be able to happen because of the legacy gift, how it will help to preserve Miss Gentile’s building, and what the gift means in terms of promoting health and physical education in The County. Bonin mentioned that one item officials anticipate purchasing is a pool cover for the Gentile Hall pool that could save up to $16,000 annually in energy costs. He said officials also hope to conduct a study to find out how to make Gentile Hall more energy efficient. Following their presentations, a video tribute to Miss Gentile was shown that described what an important force she has been throughout the University’s history.

Miss Gentile served the University for 59 years. She was hired in 1946 by Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden to teach at the then Aroostook State Normal School, and build its Health, Physical Education and Recreation program (HPER). Through her extraordinary long range planning abilities and her more than a half-century as a classroom teacher, she created a physical education program that has served The County, the State, and the regions beyond. Over the years, the program has gained a reputation for excellence around New England. For more than 50 years, she orchestrated commencement every year, paying strict attention to protocol and tradition. She taught thousands of students, served on hundreds of committees, and influenced many a faculty member.

In March of 2000, Miss Gentile was inducted into the Eleventh Maine Women’s Hall of Fame. In 2003, she was inducted into the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Honors. In November of 2006, MAHPERD [Maine Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance] honored Miss Gentile with its top distinction: the Highest Praise Award.

Sports!
Nationally recognized Ski Coach to lead Nordic team
Owls follow-up story appears in The New York Times

The UMPI Owls Baseball Team was in the news again when The New York Times ran a short follow-up story on May 1 called “Constantly Traveling College Team Ends Season Close to Home.” In March, New York Times sports reporter Bill Pennington wrote a story about the UMPI road warriors called “On the Road.”

Again,” which followed the team on one of the many road trips it’s had to take over the years in order to play college baseball. The March story pointed out that the team hadn’t been able to have a home game in several years. The April story discussed the success the team has had this season. To view the story, visit: www.nytimes.com/2009/05/02/sports/baseball/02presque.html?_r=2&ref=baseball

Owls Baseball Team gets to play home game

The Men’s Baseball team was able to play their first home game in years when they played a double header against Bates College on Wednesday, April 29, at the Presque Isle High School baseball field. A crowd of 50-60 people got to see the Owls play at home, many seeing their first-ever UMPI Owl’s baseball game. The two games were also the only home games of Brandon Elie’s entire four-year playing career (Elie is the lone senior on the team); his parents were also in attendance.

With the script set, the Owls almost pulled out game 2; Brandon Elie had pitched very well for 7 innings but was behind 4-1 in the bottom of the 7th. The Owls needed a rally to finish the season with a win and give Elie his fourth pitching win of the year. They managed to get two runners on base; a home run would tie the game. At bat with 2 outs was Tyler Delaney, the Owls’ top hitter who leads the team in almost every offensive category including home runs. Delaney was down in the count – 1 ball, 2 strikes – when WHAM! A well hit linedrive went through the right-center field gap and both base runners scored, making it 4-3. Delaney, now the tying run, is at 2nd base. The team’s second leading hitter is at bat; he is 3 for 3 on the day, hitting over .400 for the season. Just one more hit would tie the game, a homerun would win the game, and the hitter already hit a homerun earlier in the game, hit 4 HRs on the season, and was the leading HR hitter the season before. CRACK! went the bat – a popout to 2nd base. The Owls lose 4-3.

The Owls end their season with a GREAT last game; the only thing better, of course, would have been the 2-run homer to win the game. However, GREAT games aren’t always won. The Owls played well and gave themselves a chance in the bottom of the 7th. It was a good ending to a record season for UMPI Baseball; 14 wins is believed to be the most ever (athletic archives are tough to find) by an UMPI baseball team. The Owls played more games than ever before, had a team batting average of well over .300, had 4 players make ALL CONFERENCE, have a player leading the nation in triples, and on and on. There are many more record-setting accomplishments. The next step is to keep improving, set goals, and work hard. The returning players to the 2010 team will surely do just that; they know Coach Saucier expects nothing less.

Lady Owls Softball Team captures Conference Championship

The UMPI Women’s Softball team captured the Sunrise Conference Championship on Saturday, April 25 after beating out Fisher College of Boston for the win. Following the game, the Owls’ record was: undefeated in conference play at 10-0, and 17-9 for the season.

The team traveled to Charleston, West Virginia, to take part in the NAIA Regional Qualifying Tournament against the winner of the Gulf Coast Conference, William Carey University of Alabama. The Owls did not clinch either of the two games they played against WCU, but ended their season with an overall record of 17-11.

HR Corner

WE VALUE EMPLOYEES

and recognize that from time to time personal problems can affect our ability to perform at our jobs. The University of Maine System provides an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) a free, voluntary, and confidential service to help employees and families cope with personal problems and challenging times. To learn more, visit http://apps.cignabehavioral.com/home.html employer ID = ums; or call CIGNA at 1.877.622.4327. Thanks, From Your Friendly Human Resources Office.
UMPI hosts GIS Championship event
Middle and high school students gathered at the University on Saturday, May 9 for the Northern Maine GIS Championship, a poster competition for middle and high school students in northern Maine. The event – which was one component of a statewide GIS program sponsored in part by the National Science Foundation – involved students developing and submitting posters on a project they did using computer mapping software and hardware. The event also included GIS and GPS activities open to anyone interested in learning more about geospatial technology. Winners were selected in each category and regional champions were invited to enter the finals scheduled to take place at the University of Maine at Machias in June. In addition to championship ribbons, winners received prizes and scholarships.

UMPI, Caribou School Department hosts PDS Celebration
Officials with the University and the Caribou School Department hosted an end-of-the-year celebration at the President’s House on Friday, May 8 to mark the first successful year of their Professional Development School agreement. The PDS agreement allowed UMPI Education students to take part in extensive internships at Teague Park Elementary School in Caribou while providing professional development opportunities for veteran teachers there. Books and certificates of appreciation were presented to the participating teachers and interns.

Allagash Wilderness Waterway trip in May/June
For those who would like to gain canoe camping skills, while experiencing the beauty and history of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, the University is offering a nine-day canoe trip/course, May 30 through June 7, with the first two days spent learning the basics on local waterways. The course develops skill in flat water and white water canoeing techniques, as well as an understanding of safety, nomenclature, portaging, camping, equipment, cooking, and wilderness canoe trip leadership. Participants may register for the trip as a four-credit hour course or join the group on a non-credit basis. No previous canoe camping experience is necessary. For further information, contact Dr. Anja Whittington at 768.9537.

Alcohol awareness events held at UMPI, NMCC
Students at UMPI and NMCC were presented with alcohol awareness events just before graduation as part of a $5,000 United Way of Aroostook grant. Healthy Aroostook, a project of the Aroostook County Action Program, received the grant in order to provide the area’s college-age population with more information and resources concerning substance abuse. “Let’s Party! An Alcohol Awareness Event” was held on Tuesday, May 5, at UMPI’s Campus Center, and on Thursday, May 7 at NMCC, in the Edmunds and Christie Buildings. Both events were held from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and included a free lunch, an afternoon keynote speaker, mocktails in the evening, and an outdoor dance featuring a D.J. The event provided students with engaging and informative activities just prior to graduation festivities while allowing organizers to inform area students about alcohol consumption, underage and binge drinking, operating under the influence, and the medical complications associated with alcoholism.

Zuras to be published in Coe Review
Professor Richard Lee Zuras has received notification that his experimental short story “Four Daily Do’s” will be published in Coe Review early next year. Coe Review is historically “linked” with the Iowa Writers Workshop, and has been publishing since 1971. The literary journal has a glowing reputation for having reprinted work from the likes of T. Coraghessan Boyle, Eavan Boland, James Tate, ZZ Packer, and Robert Coover. It was also one of the first journals to print Chris Offutt, whom Zuras worked under while on scholarship at the Wesleyan Writers Conference.

Student Support Services Program Awards Grant Aid
During a President’s Reception held on April 30, eleven students at the University of Maine at Presque Isle received grant awards through the Student Support Services Program. Each full-time-student award was approximately $1,250 and will assist students by reducing their loans. A total of $13, 474 was awarded.

Richard Lee Zuras

UMPI at Presque Isle received the grant in order to provide the area’s college-age population with more information and resources concerning substance abuse. “Let’s Party! An Alcohol Awareness Event” was held on Tuesday, May 5, at UMPI’s Campus Center, and on Thursday, May 7 at NMCC, in the Edmunds and Christie Buildings. Both events were held from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and included a free lunch, an afternoon keynote speaker, mocktails in the evening, and an outdoor dance featuring a D.J. The event provided students with engaging and informative activities just prior to graduation festivities while allowing organizers to inform area students about alcohol consumption, underage and binge drinking, operating under the influence, and the medical complications associated with alcoholism.

GT students explore art and culture at UMPI
Fifteen Aroostook Regional Gifted and Talented students from seven different schools have spent the last six weeks working with Cultural Affairs Director Carol Ayoob on her self-designed project called “T R I B E,” which encouraged students to translate for themselves, through several art projects, common means of expression of a culture. Students participated in face-painting, costume making, weaving, doll-making, and drum making. Ayoob believes that through the common thread of “creat-

continued on page 11
continued from page 10

ing,” students were able to make a kind of mini-cultural experience for themselves on a micro-cosmic level. An open house was held on Monday, May 11, at the Caribou Performing Arts Center to showcase the whole program’s work.

Professor helps students prepare for Science Olympiad

University geologist Kevin McCartney has been assisting the Maine Science Olympiad middle school championship team in their study of fossils as they prepare for the national Science Olympiad. Dr. McCartney previously helped the students in studying for the state competition in Portland last March, where they won the gold medal. Eighth-grader Rachel Kahn and ninth-grader Kate Howard visited Presque Isle in early May to examine portions of the University fossil collection and ask many questions. Not only will these students be tested for knowledge of the scientific names for many important fossils, but also their geologic age, history, ecology and skeletal terminology. The two students on the Maine fossil team developed detailed notebooks packed with information on fossils. McCartney examined these, provided more information to clarify some concepts, and showed them specimens of most of the fossils that they might be tested on. He also provided them with books and specimens from his own collection for them to study. The students will put their learning to work later this month when they compete in the national Science Olympiad competition in Augusta, Georgia.

Gelder, McCurry published in Northeastern Naturalist

The results of a project supervised by Dr. Stuart R. Gelder, emeritus Professor of Biology at the UMPI and assisted by Lana McCurry, a 2008 UMPI graduate in Biology, and Dr. Donald F. McAlpine, Curator of Invertebrates at the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, were published in the latest edition of the journal, Northeastern Naturalist. Their paper was entitled, “Distribution and first records of Branchiobdellida (Annelida: Clitellata) from crayfishes (Crustacea: Decapoda) in the Maritime Provinces of Canada.” The joint project between UMPI and the New Brunswick Museum used crayfish in the museum’s collection as a source of crayfish worms. The results showed the value of having museum collections of organisms available to researchers and added to the knowledge of New Brunswick fauna. Of wider interest was the establishment of the eastern limit of crayfish worms in North America.

Wood publishes chapter in book on science education

Dr. Bonnie Wood, UMPI Professor of Biology, authored a chapter in a recently-published book, Inquiry: The Key to Exemplary Science from National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Press. Her chapter is Chapter 13, Erasing the Lecture-Laboratory Boundaries: An Inquiry-Based Course Design. The twelve-page chapter both promotes the University of Maine at Presque Isle and describes in detail the methods Dr. Wood uses to teach all of her science classes, explaining how these methods support the National Science Education Standards.

UTimes staff host Open House

Staffers at UMPI’s student newspaper, the University Times, celebrated a brand new Web site and their first year in the new Journalism Lab with an April 30 open house. Faculty, staff, friends, and members of the community and local media stopped by to view the facilities and chat with students about their work on the paper. Last fall the University welcomed Dr. Jacqui Lowman, Assistant Professor of English and UTimes advisor, who has been developing a journalism and mass media concentration for the campus. According to Dr. Lowman, “Our dedicated staff has accomplished so much; and the best is yet to come!”

Yankee Magazine lauds solar system model

The Northern Maine Museum of Science was recently recognized by Yankee Magazine in their “Best of New England” May/June 2009 issue. The magazine lauded the University and Geology Professor Kevin McCartney for the “Best Interplanetary Travel: Maine” for creation of the 3D 93-million-to-one scale Solar System Model along Route 1 from Topsfield to Presque Isle. The magazine noted recent changes to the model since the reclassification of Pluto as a dwarf planet. For more information: www.umi.maine.edu/into/nmms/solar.

Social Work students host Guatemala Fiesta

Campus and community were invited to share in a Guatemalan Fiesta hosted on April 14 by a group of social work students and their advisor, Shirley Rush, who spent February Break completing an international service learning project in South America. Each of the four students: Kasey Knowles, Laura Long, Jessica Plant, and Tia Shaw used the opportunity to display personal notebooks and discuss their experiences working with children in a local school. The fiesta, which featured food, photos, and celebration, was the group’s way of saying gracias for the local support they received.

May 20
- United Way Volleyball Tourney
  6 p.m., Wieden Gym. FMI 768.4170.

May 21
- Northern Maine Math League Competition
  9 a.m., CCTR. FMI 768.9539

May 23
- TRIO Upward Bound Saturday
  9 a.m., CCTR. FMI 768.9612

May 25
- Memorial Day Holiday
  no classes, offices closed.

May 27
- “Extinction of the Dinosaurs” lecture
  by Dr. Kevin McCartney, 3:30 p.m., Nylander Museum. FMI 493-4209.

May 30
- Aroostook River Fun Run
  Rotary fundraiser. FMI 768.9401.

Biggest Losers
is a healthy WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM offered to faculty, staff and students by the University Health Center. It runs for 12 weeks this summer beginning Wed., May 27, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Gentile Hall. Note: You do not have to attend meetings; you may weigh in at Emerson Annex on Wednesdays or Thursdays. For more information and to join, contact Flo Soucie 768.9587, or Linda Mastro 768.9586.

Northern Maine Math League competition May 21
Middle school students from throughout Aroostook County will gather on the UMPI campus to demonstrate their skills in mathematics at the Northern Maine Math League’s Spring Meet to be held Thursday, May 21 in the Campus Center. According to organizer, Leslie Carlow, students have been preparing for this event throughout the school year. Thirteen Aroostook schools, from Madawaska to Houlton, are scheduled to compete for individual, team, and special round recognitions. For information contact Terry Chalouat at 768.9539.

MSAD#1 Art Exhibit opens at mall
The Aroostook Centre Mall will once again serve as host as MSAD#1 presents its 14th annual Art Exhibit of student works. The exhibit held its opening celebration on Tuesday, May 12, featuring special musical performances by MSAD1 students. Artwork will be on display through Thursday, May 28 in the mall. For further information, contact Jennifer Flynn at 764.7722 or flynnj@sad1.org.

Congratulations, Mickey!
April Student of the Month
Michaela (Mickey) Pavlova, a Business Management major with a concentration in MIS/Accounting, is from Bulgaria. An active organizer and leader, she has shared her talents with many campus clubs, serving as President of the Professional Business Leaders at UMPI, and Treasurer for the International Students Club. A Dean’s List student – she’s a friend and role model to many.

Community