UMPI announces innovative online project

The University has taken a bold, new step into the world of online learning with its UMPI OpenU project, an innovative effort to allow learners of all ages to participate in online college courses for free, as long as they aren't seeking college credit.

"At the heart of UMPI OpenU is the idea of learning for learning's sake," Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Sonntag said. "There are many people out there who would love to learn the things that are taught in a college course, but may not necessarily be interested in earning college credit toward a degree in order to gain that knowledge. Our OpenU project gives people that opportunity – to learn alongside our matriculated students in an online course setting and be enriched by the experience."

Everyone – community members and people throughout the state, nation, and the world – is able to take part in UMPI OpenU courses. Each participant receives full access to the designated online courses and all of the materials related to them, including direct interaction with the instructors responsible for designing and delivering the courses. The first UMPI OpenU classes are underway now as part of the Fall 2012 semester.

One of the most exciting components of UMPI OpenU is the fact that participants are able to take part in specific UMPI online courses at no cost for either the class or the books. UMPI officials were able to provide this unique opportunity by doing two things. First, they selected...

continued on page 2

Willens to give first Distinguished Lecture of 2012-2013

The University is pleased to announce that it will begin its 2012-2013 University Distinguished Lecturer Series with a talk by scholar, memoirist, and humanitarian Dr. Liliane Willens. Dr. Willens will deliver her talk Stateless in Shanghai: A First-Hand Account of Life in China through WWII, Chinese Civil War, and Communist Takeover on Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Campus Center.

Willens’ lecture is free and the public is invited to be a part of this special evening. Liliane Willens was born of Russian parentage in the former French Concession of Shanghai. She, her parents and sisters – all stateless – experienced World War II under the Japanese military occupation, and, later, the aftermath of the Chinese Civil War between the Nationalist government and the communists.

Because of difficulties in obtaining a visa to the U.S. under a very restrictive quota system, Willens remained in Shanghai for two years after the establishment of... continued on page 4
UMPI offers its first-ever Fall Short Term

The University is offering its first-ever Fall Short Term from Oct. 15 to Nov. 30, providing students and others looking to complete their four-year degrees with a concise, 6-week session as an alternative – or an addition – to the regular 15-week semester.

“...will give students who are progressing well in their ‘normal’ 15-week coursework the opportunity to pick up an extra course, thus helping speed their time to completion,” UMPI Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Sonntag said. “And if a 15-week course just isn’t working for students for whatever reason, this gives them an alternative, allowing them to pick up a new course mid-semester and avoid getting behind. Our short terms will help us meet the University of Maine System Board of Trustees goals of promoting quicker time to degree completion and increasing graduation rates.”

The University has been moving in this direction already by implementing several initiatives, including new online majors in English, History, Psychology and Liberal Studies, a wider variety of online courses, and a comprehensive list of summer courses. Provost Sonntag indicated that the University is strategically moving in the direction of year-round course offerings and the campus community is responding positively to these initiatives.

The University piloted its first short term in January offering a J-term to provide degree seekers with a short class between the fall and spring semesters. Based on its success, UMPI is moving forward with its Fall 2012 Short Term and will offer another J-term at the beginning of 2013, as well as two six-week-long short terms in Spring 2013.

For more information about UMPI’s Fall 2012 Short Term, or to sign up for classes, contact the Office of Student Records at 207 768.9540. To see Fall 2012 Short Term course offerings, visit www.umpi.edu/short-terms.

Online project

continued from page 1

the courses that initially are being offered through the project. Each course remains a for-credit class that UMPI students take and also is available to OpenU learners: both have access to Blackboard, the system UMPI uses to deliver online courses. This special access for OpenU participants allows them to engage in Blackboard’s discussion boards, UMPI’s email system, and other asynchronous and synchronous activities with enrolled students and the instructor (such as written or recorded lectures).

Second, they are requiring that all materials used as part of these courses are either public domain works (such as Jane Austen and Charles Dickens), copyright free, or created and delivered by the instructor through Blackboard. Public domain works will be available to participants either as PDF files through Blackboard, or personally downloaded as digital copies (through devices like a Kindle or Nook).

Initially, the project involves a slate of English courses: English 151 Introduction to Literature; English 211 Introduction to Creative Writing; English 300 Major Authors including Austen, the Brontes, and Dickens; English 309 The British Novel, and The Pastoral Novel; English 358 Studies in American Literature before 1900; and English 360 Literature of the Sea.

UMPI OpenU learners will have the option during UMPI’s add/drop period to enroll in the course for credit, but the course may not be added for credit once the add/drop period is over. Either way, participants walk away at the end of the semester with a much deeper knowledge of the subject area they have been studying.

“The OpenU project allows UMPI instructors to make their expertise, knowledge, and love of their subject matter available to interested individuals everywhere,” said Dr. Ray Rice, Chair of UMPI’s College of Arts and Sciences and coordinator of UMPI OpenU.

“...and if a 15-week course just isn’t working for students for whatever reason, this gives them an alternative, allowing them to pick up a new course mid-semester and avoid getting behind. Our short terms will help us meet the University of Maine System Board of Trustees goals of promoting quicker time to degree completion and increasing graduation rates.”

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The International Students Club will host a CHINESE MOON FESTIVAL celebration Monday, Oct. 1 at 6:30pm in the Campus Center, with music, calligraphy demonstrations, tea and moon cakes. The festival, also called the Mid-Autumn Festival, is one of the most important for Chinese people and is an official holiday and a day for family reunions. Moon cakes are a traditional food for the celebration. Fall Bonnie Devaney, 768.9750.

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The University hosted another jam-packed Homecoming celebration Sept. 14 to 16.

Alums from across the country and as far away as Australia turned out for this year's Homecoming weekend.

Festivities got underway Sept. 14 with a Homecoming Kickoff and BBQ lunch, a Business Program Reception where two new UMPI alumni hires – Bryan Thompson '03 and Stacey Emery '06 – were honored, a University Credit Union open house, the Women's Soccer Spaghetti Supper fundraiser, an Alumni Basketball Game, a Homecoming Bonfire, and the annual Alumni and Friends Social.

The fun continued on Sept. 15 with the second annual Triathlon Race, the Physical Therapist Assistant Program open house, the art exhibit Bardo by Adriano Farinella at the Reed Fine Art Gallery, a narrated tour of Presque Isle on "Molly the Trolley," the rededication of the newly restored and reinstalled Owls sculpture, and the Alumni Baseball Game.

The Homecoming Alumni and Friends Brunch held that morning at the President's House honored the class of 2002 (10 years), 1987 (25 years), and 1962 (50 years) and recognized Theodore Van Alst, Class of 2004, as the Educator of the Year Award, presented to an alumnon/alumna who has received ongoing recognition as an outstanding educator.

Alumna Donna Lisnik received the Distinguished Alumni Award, presented to an alumnon/alumna who has made long-term contributions to the Alumni Association or the University, or who has received professional recognition that has reflected positively on the University.

Van Alst graduated from the University in 2004 with a Bachelor's degree in Behavioral Science-Sociology. He went on to earn his Master's degree in 2007 and his Ph.D. in 2008, both in Behavioral Science-Sociology.

Lisnik graduated from the University of Southern Maine in 1999. Lisnik spent decades teaching in Presque Isle and Easton school systems and has served as the Principal at Presque Isle High School since 2010.

In nominating Van Alst for the Educator of the Year Award, Dr. Raymond Rice, the Chair of UMPI's College of Education, said: "Our region benefits every day from Donna's commitment to excellence in public education. We're pleased that her UMPI degrees in History and in Education/Mathematics helped launch this outstanding career."
The University celebrated the 225th birthday of the signing of the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17 with a special panel presentation that examined our nation’s fundamental governing document from the perspective of a Political Scientist, a Historian, and a Superior Court Justice.

The Honorable E. Allen Hunter, who presides over the Aroostook County Courthouse, was joined by UMPI faculty members Dr. John Zaborney, Professor of History, and Dr. Brent Andersen, Political Science Lecturer, for the panel discussion, titled The U.S. Constitution: From Its Creation to Modern-Day Interpretation and Application.

During the presentation, all three panelists discussed the U.S. Constitution through the lens of their research and professional work. Dr. Zaborney described the historical circumstances surrounding how and why the Constitution came to be. Dr. Andersen discussed how the U.S. Supreme Court’s interpretation of the document shapes public policy, and Justice Hunter shared his observations, as a practitioner, on the role the Constitution plays in today’s court proceedings.

Congress designated September 17 as Constitution Day – a national celebration of our country’s founding document – to commemorate the Sept. 17, 1787, signing of the Constitution. In 2004, Congress passed a spending bill that included a provision requiring every school and college that receives federal money to teach about the Constitution on Sept. 17, with a grace period should that day fall on a weekend or conflict with established schedules. In past years, the University has marked Constitution Day by holding Living History presentations and discussions on topics such as contemporary issues connected with the First Amendment.

In addition to the panel presentation, the University marked the day with a display about the Constitution in the Library. As well, the University’s homepage included a link to an interactive version of the Constitution.

Willens continued from page 1

the People’s Republic of China.

When she was able to immigrate to the U.S., she studied at Boston University, where she received a Ph.D. in French Language and Literature and taught these subjects at Boston College and MIT. Upon moving to Washington, D.C., Dr. Willens focused on humanitarian work with the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Peace Corps.

Since her retirement, she has given lectures on China and on her book Stateless in Shanghai which she will sign after her talk. Stateless in Shanghai was published in 2010 by China Economic Review Publishing in Hong Kong for Earnshaw Books. It is now in its fourth printing. The book recounts the experiences Willens and her family faced living in China during the 1940s and early 1950s.

The University’s Distinguished Lecturer Series was established in 1999. Each year, the UDLS Committee sponsors five to six speakers who come from Maine and beyond, representing a range of disciplines and viewpoints. While the emphasis tends to be on featuring visiting academics, it is not exclusively so. The speakers typically spend two days at the University meeting with classes and presenting a community lecture.

All are invited to a reception and book signing with Willens to be held immediately following her talk. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact the University’s Community and Media Relations Office at 768.9452.
PTA Program reaches accreditation milestone

The University’s developing Physical Therapist Assistant Program is one step closer to earning accreditation after receiving word recently that it has achieved candidacy status from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

“This status means that we are now a candidate for accreditation and have the green light to accept a class into the technical phase of the program this fall,” UMPI Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Sonntag said. “We are so pleased to reach this important milestone.”

When it is accredited, the program would be one of two Physical Therapist Assistant programs available in the State of Maine.

The University began the two-year accreditation process in 2011, hiring Christopher Rolon to develop and lead the associate degree program. Since then, Rolon has worked with area hospitals to create partnerships with the program; laid the program’s foundation; Vanessa Patenaude has been hired to serve as a Professor and the program’s Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education; and a new PTA Lab and classroom space has been created in Wieden Hall.

According to Rolon, their hard work has seen fruitful results so far.

“We currently have a class of eight qualified students who are taking PTA courses this fall, and we have more than double that number completing their general education requirements for application to the program next spring,” Rolon said.

With the initial cohort of UMPI students now undertaking the first of their final three semesters in the PTA Program, there are three other major accreditation milestones left:

- The completion of the first cohort’s final clinicals, expected by Fall 2013,
- The final accreditation decision by CAPTE, expected in November 2013, and
- The graduation of the first cohort of students, expected in December 2013. The University would become accredited with the successful completion of the first graduating class and by completing a satisfactory program self-study report over the next year.

To learn more about UMPI’s developing PTA program, please contact Rolon at 768.9542 or christopher.rolon@umpi.edu.

Effective July 31, 2012 the University of Maine at Presque Isle PTA program has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703 706.3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). Candidacy is not an accreditation status nor does it assure eventual accreditation. Candidate for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program is progressing toward accreditation.

First Youth Triathlon a major success

Over 60 young triathletes gathered at the University on Sept. 9 for the first ever REDY... Set... Let’s Go! Youth Triathlon. Organizers are calling the event a major success.

“Everyone involved seemed to enjoy the triathlon,” said Reegan Brown, the event director and a community education specialist with Healthy Aroostook.

“The triathletes had a great time, our volunteers were tremendous, and UMPI was a gracious host.”

The triathletes completed the traditional three legs of a triathlon. They began with the swim portion in the Gentile Hall pool, navigated a bicycle course through the heart of the campus, and finished with the run portion on the south and west sides of Gentile Hall.

The top female finisher in the 7-9 age group was Izabelle Higgins with a time of 16 minutes, 36 seconds. Connor DeMerchant had the best time among males in the 7-9 age group at 14 minutes, 46 seconds. Sarah Beaulieu paced the field in the female 10-13 category with a time of 22 minutes, 40 seconds. Craig Schiff was the fastest in the male 10-13 group, completing the course in 20 minutes, 40 seconds.

The triathlon was supported by over 60 volunteers from TAMC, UMPI, and other local organizations. They assisted on the course, in the pool, and in the transition area. Volunteers also helped with registration, setup and takedown, refreshments, and more.

Representatives of the triathlon’s three partner organizations, UMPI, Healthy Aroostook, and TAMC are discussing repeating the event next year.

“It has been so rewarding for us at UMPI to have shared in this collaboration with TAMC and Healthy Aroostook and to see the results – lots of kids in the community excited about exercise and healthy living,” President Linda Schott said.

“We enjoy collaborating on opportunities to provide fun, safe, and healthy ways to get kids moving,” said Sylvia Getman, TAMC president & CEO. “We look forward to staying connected with the triathletes and working with UMPI and Healthy Aroostook to keep the momentum going. Congratulations to the triathletes and everyone involved for a job well done.”

Photo courtesy of Kim Griffin

Triathletes Jessica Thomas and Sarah Beaulieu compete in the run portion of the REDY... Set... Let’s Go! Youth Triathlon. Sixty-three athletes participated in the first youth triathlon held in Aroostook County.

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UMPI celebrates 330 years of service

The University honored nearly 30 employees and celebrated 330 years of service during its annual Welcome Back and Annual Staff Recognition Breakfast on Aug. 31. The following individuals were honored for their years of service to the University.

30 years - Mary Lawrence
35 years - Charles Ames
25 years - Stephen Merrill not pictured
20 years - Lorelei Locke, Christine Standefer and Jean Cashman not pictured
15 years - Laurie Boucher, Allen Salo, Raymond Rice, Lisa Udasco, Robert Michaud, and Michael Knopp not pictured
10 years - Lisa Leduc, Daniel LaLonde, and Frank Thompson
5 years - Tomasz Herzog, Patricia Armstrong, Linda McLaughlin, Rene Gorneault, Heather Craig, William Breton, Michael Sonntag, Rachel Rice, Jason Johnston, Michele Green, Michelle Richards, and Jennie Savage not pictured
Reed Fine Art Gallery presents Bardo

The University’s Reed Fine Art Gallery presents Bardo: An Exhibition of Recent Paintings by Adriano Farinella through Oct. 6, 2012. The exhibition debuts Farinella’s recent body of work to the Maine art community. The public is invited to view the exhibition throughout the show’s run and join the artist for a closing reception on Oct. 5 from 5-7 p.m. The reception is being held in conjunction with the Presque Isle First Friday Art Walk.

Adriano Farinella is a painter, originally from New Jersey. He received his BFA in Drawing and Painting from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania in 1998. He additionally studied plein air painting in Italy and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Farinella is an instructor of Drawing and Painting at the Baum School of Art in Allentown, Penn. He is widely collected in the Mid-Atlantic States region. His work resides in numerous public and private collections and was recently featured at the Allentown Art Museum’s International Juried Exhibition, curated by Chakaia Booker. Farinella’s work was first introduced to Aroostook County at the recent 10x10: an auction of art event in May 2012.

His exhibition, Bardo, is about his use of the skyscape as metaphor for consciousness. His website states, “The clouds represent the infinite ideas, inspirations, emotions, and choices available at any moment. They are full of purpose and presence but are in constant motion, perpetually changing and evolving into some other form, and yet, ultimately remaining themselves. They are at once the beginning of things and the end of things.”

During the Oct. 5 reception, Farinella will present a gallery talk at 5:30 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

The Reed Fine Art Gallery is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gallery is closed Sundays and University holidays. For more information about this event, please contact Heather Sincavage at 768.9442 or heather.sincavage@umpi.edu.

Colby Chaplain to speak at 4th annual Gay Days

Rabbi Rachel Isaacs, Jewish Chaplain at Colby College and spiritual leader of Waterville’s Beth Israel Congregation, will speak during the University’s 4th annual Gay Awareness Days. Her address will be at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 2, in the Campus Center.

In May 2011, she became the first openly gay rabbi of either sex to be ordained by the Conservative movement’s Jewish Theological Seminary. During UMPI’s Gay Awareness Days, Rabbi Isaacs will speak about “A Faith-Based Approach to Marriage Equality” and will bring her personal story to the topic.

Rabbi Isaacs grew up in New Jersey and attended Wellesley College in Massachusetts. After graduation she studied in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, and then began rabbinical school as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. The Wexner Foundation provides young North American Jewish leaders with an intensive Jewish learning program, deepening their understanding of Jewish history, values, and texts, and enriching their leadership skills. In addition to her duties as Jewish Chaplain at Colby, Rabbi Isaacs teaches Hebrew and Jewish theology on campus.

Being the first openly lesbian rabbi ordained by Conservative Jews is “really an honor,” Isaacs said. Modern Jews usually identify with one of the various movements: Orthodox (practicing the most “fundamentalist” Judaism), Reform (a progressive movement), Conservative Judaism, which falls between the Orthodox and Reform, and Reconstructionist, a small liberal movement found primarily in the U.S. All but Orthodox Jews ordain women as rabbis; the Reform and Conservative branches also ordain gay clergy.

UMPI’s annual Gay Awareness Days is co-sponsored by the Gay-Straight Alliance and the Diversity Committee. For more information, contact Dick Harrison, GSA advisor. 768.9604 or dick.harrison2@umpi.edu.
The University of Maine at Presque Isle Owl's Athletic Hall of Fame inducted three new members on Sept. 15 at a ceremony held during Homecoming weekend. This year’s inductees are: Erica (McGary) Tweedie ’04, Shawn Windle ’96, and Lawrence (Larry) Worcester ’88.

There are star players that are naturally good, come onto the scene with a bang, and whose games do not evolve from freshman to senior seasons. Then there are student-athletes like UMPI women’s basketball’s Erica (McGary) Tweedie, Class of 2004. Erica tasted success as a freshman and used it to fuel her to continue working on her game and improving upon her already lofty freshman statistics.

Erica averaged 11 points per game after her freshman year, but was up over 16 points per game by her senior year. After pulling down 6 rebounds per game her freshman year, Erica was up to 10 rebounds per contest before she was done.

While in her freshman year, Erica was MVP of a tournament (UMPI’s own Star City Tournament). During her senior year she was 1st team ALL-CONFERENCE and 2nd team ALL-STATE. Also in her freshman year, she won the first of six career “Conference Player of the Week” awards. By her senior year she was team MVP and the UMPI Female Athlete of the Year.

Erica achieved 1000 points in her career in the first month of her senior season. At the end of that season, Erica had reached her school career record of 1256 points.

“Erica was dominant and a “go to” player down the stretch in games. In fact, we ran the same play for four years when we needed a score at the end of games and I don’t remember her not either scoring or getting to the free throw line and not missing a free throw. Erica was a lockdown shooter from 15 feet and her versatility became a match-up problem for opponents. If teams put a guard on her, we’d post her up and if they put a post on her, we’d bring her out to the perimeter. She could score from anywhere,” Alar Gordon, former Women’s Basketball Coach and now fellow UMPI Athletics’ Hall of Famer, said.

Her teammates describe a player that had a true passion for the game of basketball, that gave nothing less than her best every day, and her success with the UMPI Owls basketball program is well deserved.

Since earning her Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education at UMPI, Erica continues to strive to get better. Despite being a gifted and energetic teacher already for MSAD #29, she is now pursuing and has halfway completed the requirements for her School Counseling Graduate Internship.

Basketball has remained part of Erica’s life after her playing days as well. In 2004, she began coaching; teaching the skills that guided her to success as a student-athlete. Erica has coached girls’ basketball, softball, and soccer in MSAD #29. The last two seasons she has served as the JV Girls’ Basketball Coach at MSAD #29.

Erica resides in Houlton, Maine with her husband Tim and their two children, Jay and Ty.

Shawn Windle, Class of 1996, had a short-lived career as a student-athlete at the University of Maine of Presque Isle. Yet he would go on to have arguably the biggest impact on sports at the highest collegiate and professional level than any other student to walk through Wieden Hall.

By the time Shawn came to UMPI, he had been to other colleges and tried other career paths. However, it was at UMPI that he found a way to combine his love of sports with a fulfilling career. By the accounts of many that he played with, Shawn was a great teammate and was always concerned with helping make the team better. After earning his Bachelor’s degree in Athletic Training, he brought those traits with him into the athletic training career field as well as into his area of expertise, strength and conditioning. The result was a drive to constantly educate himself on how to get the players he was working with better.

A testament to the success Shawn has had since first arriving at UMPI can best be told by those with whom he came in contact:

“There is nothing superficial, nor is there any hidden motivation in Shawn’s demeanor and because of this people trust him and believe in him. Although he
was not a four year player at UMPI, his presence was felt by the members of those teams by his interest and support of their efforts. All of us who have been part of Shawn’s life are proud of what he has accomplished but, more importantly, feel privileged for what he has brought to us all. He is a credit to family, teammates, education and to his own character,” Karl Henrikson, former UMPI Men’s Basketball Coach, said.

“Shawn has elevated the education and training that he received from the University of Maine at Presque Isle into a career that many could never dream to achieve. He has demonstrated that, to graduate from a small university in northern Maine, one can still take their place among the best that this country produces,” said Richard Ward, former UMPI Athletic Director.

“During Shawn’s time here, men’s basketball won our first NCAA National Championship in 1999,” Jim Calhoun, University of Connecticut Men’s Basketball Coach, said. “While we can’t give Shawn all the credit, he was certainly an integral part of our team effort to become one of the elite programs in the nation. He understood the importance of educating the young guys on taking care of themselves, both on and off the court.”

Shawn, a native of Auburn, Maine, was recently named by the National Basketball Strength and Conditioning Association (NBSCA) its Strength and Conditioning Coach of the Year. He is in his seventh year as the strength and conditioning coach for the Indiana Pacers and is president of the NBSCA. Shawn resides in Westfield, Indiana, with his wife Stacee and their children, Elijah, Gabrielle and Brady.

There are people that love sports. And then there are people that LOVE sports. Given his body of work in northern Maine. Larry Worcester, Class of 1988, would seem to fall into the latter category. Larry has the landscape of athletics in northern Maine surrounded; not only as a basketball player at UMPI, but as a basketball coach for 17 years, soccer coach for 16, 13 years of coaching volleyball, and even 2 seasons coaching baseball and softball. And as if that were not enough, he has also served as a soccer and basketball official for the better part of 24 years at both the high school and college level.

What is truly amazing about Larry’s lifelong involvement in athletics, though, is not just that he’s participated. It’s the staggeringly high level of success he has achieved with seemingly everything he takes on.

While a basketball player at UMPI, Worcester was a 3 year starter, 2-time team MVP, an All-Conference selection, and a 1988 Maine Small College Senior All-Star. Larry was the 8th 1000 point scorer (1159 pts) in school history and the 1988 collegiate leader in the state of Maine in both free throw percentage (90.6%) and three-point percentage (57.7%). Larry even played baseball at UMPI in 1986, hitting .285 while playing pitcher and shortstop.

While that amount of success can often separate a player from his team, Larry was a leader even of success can often separate a player from his team, Larry was a leader evenL

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**Notes**

**McCartney undertakes sabbatical in Poland**
Dr. Kevin McCartney, Professor of Geology, is undertaking a semester-long research sabbatical in Poland. McCartney will be working with colleagues at the University of Szczecin in northeastern Poland, conducting research on silicoflagellates, which are marine single-celled plants. He is hoping this sabbatical will parallel his last one, with his research resulting in several peer-reviewed international articles. During his trip, McCartney will deliver a course on microfossils. He has already presented at the 22nd International Diatom Symposium in Belgium and plans to present talks at his host university and at schools in Warsaw and Berlin. He also expects to visit some famous fossil-collecting sites along the shores of the Baltic Sea. Dr. McCartney will maintain a blog during his sabbatical; it can be found at http://wp.umpi.edu/kevinmccartney/.

**SAGE kicks off fall class offerings**
A University program that serves local residents over 50 and believes in “learning for life” hosted its fall kick-off event on Friday, Sept. 14. Seniors Achieving Greater Education (SAGE) is celebrating 15 years of bringing short courses in arts, sciences, and specialty areas to the region’s senior community. At the Sept. 14 event, participants had the opportunity to socialize with SAGE members and learn all about upcoming SAGE classes. This fall, SAGE officials are offering 12 courses and learning excursions — on topics ranging from Homer’s Odyssey and Maine history to Astronomy and weather spotting. Learning excursions include trips to the Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge in Limestone, the National Weather Service Office in Caribou, and the Northern Prosthetics and Orthotics in Presque Isle, where participants will learn about the new facility and the amazing state-of-the-art prosthetics, arthritis and orthotic devices there. For more information about SAGE, contact Mary Lawrence at 768.9502.

**Zaborney publishes book on slavery**
In his new book Slaves for Hire: Renting Enslaved Laborers in Antebellum Virginia, from Louisiana State University Press, UMPI History Professor Dr. J. Zaborney sheds new light on slave labor in the southern United States. Previously, scholars viewed slave hiring as an aberration — a modified form of slavery, involving primarily adult male slaves that worked to the laborer’s advantage and weakened slavery’s institutional integrity. In the first in-depth examination of slave hiring in Virginia, Zaborney suggests that this practice bolstered the institution of slavery in the decades leading up to the Civil War. But, instead of the Union to protect slavery. Moving beyond previous analyses, Zaborney examines slave hiring in rural and agricultural settings, along with the renting of women, children and elderly slaves. His research reveals that, like non-hired-out slaves, these other workers’ experiences varied in accordance with sex, location, occupation, economic climate and crop prices, as well as owners’ and renters’ convictions and financial circumstances. Zaborney’s book will be released in October 2012 and will be available in e-book format.

**Gelder delivers short course, seminar in Illinois**
Dr. Stuart R. Gelder, Emeritus Professor of Biology at the University, recently traveled to Southern Illinois University Carbondale to give a three-day course on crayfish worm identification techniques and deliver a seminar on branchiobdellid (crayfish worms) biology as part of a National Science Foundation-funded project. He also continues to collaborate with scholars around the world on all aspects of crayfish worm biology. Recently, this has led to five publications with co-authors in North America, Europe, and the Middle and Far East. Dr. Gelder is one of the world’s leading researchers in this field of study.

**UMPI hosts Community Casting Call for Blue Potato**
This summer, the University experienced a little bit of Hollywood when it hosted a Community Casting Call for Blue Potato, the second feature film by award-winning filmmakers, Aron Guadet and Gita Pullapilly (The Way We Get By). Guadet and Pullapilly, a chance to collaborate with the world’s leading researchers in this field.

**AMA American Management Association**
Gaudet and Pullapilly held casting calls for Blue Potato in Aroostook County at venues in Houlton, Presque Isle, and Van Buren Blue Potato, which was filmed this summer in a small northern Maine town near the Canadian border.

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Houlton Center’s Smith receives Adult Education award.

During the annual Maine Adult Education Association Banquet held in June at Colby College, Otis Smith, the Director of Houlton/Hodgdon Adult Education, which is located at the Houlton Higher Education Center, was honored as Outstanding Adult Education Administrator of the Year. This special honor is awarded through a nomination (made by Bernadette Farrar, Assistant Director of Houlton/Hodgdon Adult Education) and selection process of peers in the adult education profession in Maine.

Criteria of the award include community collaboration, support of and participation in ongoing professional development, responsiveness to community needs, management of resources, and leadership at both the local and state level.

Highlights of Smith’s career in adult education include co-chairing the local committee that brought the Houlton Higher Education Center to fruition, creation of a local advisory board for adult education, and tenure as president and treasurer of the Maine Adult Education Association, where he helped guide the organization to 501c3 status.

UMPI student wins grant

UMPI student Amy Schnoor of Monticello and two other students who utilize the Houlton Higher Education Center were thrilled to be awarded $250 Credit Yourself grants from Women, Work, and Community and KeyBank to help move their finances forward. Joyce Transue of Houlton and Wendy Wells of Castle Hill were the other two recipients. With support from KeyBank, 10 grant recipients were selected from almost 60 graduates throughout the state who took part in the program. The Credit Yourself class helped students understand their credit better and make strides toward improving it. Getting back into a classroom environment also prompted Schnoor to continue her schooling. She is currently working toward her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology. “I may never have gotten the confidence to do this had it not been for Women, Work, and Community and the empowerment I got from taking the Credit Yourself course,” Schnoor said.

Farewell for Susan & Bob Grove-Markwood held

More than 100 campus and community members gathered to bid a fond farewell to Pastor Bob and Susan Grove-Markwood during a celebration event held on Sept. 8 in the Campus Center. Both Bob and Susan have been excellent, long-time supporters of UMPI – Bob served as the UMPI Women’s Soccer Coach from 1996-1997 and Susan came out of retirement to lead the Community and Media Relations Office while the director was on maternity leave. The Grove-Markwoods have had a major impact on the greater community during their decades in Presque Isle and they will be greatly missed. Good luck to them in their new endeavors!

Club & Community Fair

The University hosted its annual Club & Community Fair on Thursday, Sept. 20, at the Campus Center. Students were introduced to services and products that are available to them in the community. Area businesses participated in the event and gave samples and coupons to students to promote their products and services. The Fair provides local businesses with the opportunity to meet UMPI students as prospective part-time employees.

UMPI participates in PowerSmart Expo

The University recently took part in an energy expo hosted by Bangor Hydro and Maine Public Service, sharing its experiences working with a wide range of renewable energy systems. During the PowerSmart Maine Expo held at the Aroostook Centre Mall on Sept. 8, UMPI officials provided an overview of the energy systems that have been established on campus, from solar and wind to bio-mass and heat pump technology. These systems have helped the University to reduce its carbon footprint, increase educational opportunities for students, and reduce its annual power and heating bills. With heat pumps serving as a major focus of the Expo, UMPI officials were able to share their experiences overseeing the installation and operation of two commercial grade heat pump systems in Folsom and Pullen halls, the University’s two main classroom buildings.

Documentary on Maine’s Same-Sex Marriage Battle

Question One is a film that chronicles the “fierce and emotional battle that took place in Maine” in 2009 over the right to marry for same-sex couples. The film’s producers note that the “political symbolism is a bellweather for the greater ideological battlefield in American politics.” This film will be screened at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3 in the Campus Center, and is part of Gay Awareness Days. For information, contact Dick Harrison, dick.harrison2@umpi.edu or 768.9604.

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**THROUGH OCTOBER 6**
Barlo: An Exhibition of Recent Paintings
by Andriano Farinella, Reed Gallery
768.9442

**SEPTEMBER 24**
UMPI Dance Team
6:30pm, St. John Rm
Hockey Club 8pm, Folsom 105

**SEPTEMBER 26**
UMPI Dance Team
6:30pm, Wieden Auditorium
Night of Worship 7pm, Owl’s Nest
Gay-Straight Alliance 1pm, Alumni Room, 768.9604

**SEPTEMBER 27**
Student Organization of Social Workers
12:30pm, CC118
Alpha Phi Sigma
12:30pm, Normal 104A

**SEPTEMBER 28**
International Students
Club 2pm, Alumni Room
UMPI Games Club 6pm, Pullen 111

**SEPTEMBER 30**
Kappa Delta Phi NAS
8:45pm, CC118

**OCTOBER 1**
Gay Days Blue Jeans
Day ■ BSW Program Accreditation Celebration 3pm, Normal Faculty Lounge ■ Chinese New Moon Festival 6:30pm, Campus Center, 768.9750

**OCTOBER 2**
Gay Days Keynote speaker Rabbi Rache Isaacs, 12:30pm, Allagash Room ■ Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Liliane Willens, 7pm, MPR, 768.9452

**OCTOBER 3**
OAPI Meeting 1 pm, Gentle Hall ■ Gay-Straight Alliance 1pm, St. John Rm, 768.9604 ■ UMPI Dance Team 6:30pm, Wieden Auditorium

**OCTOBER 4**
Student Organization of Social Workers 12:30pm, CC118

**OCTOBER 5**
International Students Club 2pm, Alumni Rm

**OCTOBER 7**
Kappa Delta Phi NAS 8:45pm, CC118

**OCTOBER 8**
Columbus Day & Canadian Thanksgiving Day

**OCTOBER 10**
UMPI Dance Team 6:30pm, Wieden Auditorium

**OCTOBER 11**
Student Organization of Social Workers 12:30pm, CC118

**OCTOBER 12**
International Students Club 2pm, Alumni Rm ■ UMPI Games Club 6pm, Pullen 111

**OCTOBER 14**
Kappa Delta Phi NAS 8:45pm, CC118

**OCTOBER 15**
UMPI Dance Team 6:30pm, Wieden Auditorium

**OCTOBER 17**
Gay-Straight Alliance 1pm, Alumni Room, 768.9604 ■ Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Jonathan Bassett, 7pm, MPR, 768.9452

Two new babies join the UMPI family!

Peyton Jason Gorneault was born on September 10, 2012. He weighed 6 lbs. and 7 oz., and was 18 in. long. Congratulations RENE GORNEAULT, PJ Gorneault, and big brother Pierce on their new arrival!

Lillian Angelina Johnson was born July 2, 2012. She weighed 7 lbs. and was 21 in. long. She joins her big sister Annabelle, who is almost three. Congratulations to PAUL JOHNSON, Beth Johnson, and Annabelle on your new addition! ★

HOULTON Higher Education CENTER

The Houlton Higher Education Center was bustling with color in August when the Friends and Needles Quilt Guild held the largest quilt show in northern Maine at the facility. More than 100 quilts were on display and quilters from across the state and beyond were on site to view the works. ☆

Image is a monthly publication of the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s Media Relations Office, and is distributed to members of the University community. The deadline for material is ten days before the date of publication. ★

Rachel Rice, editor • 207.768.9447 • rachel.rice@umpi.edu
Dick Harrison, design, layout & photography • Gayla Shaw, administrative assistant

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