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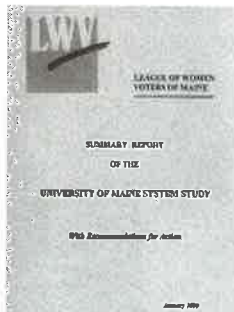
University of Southern Maine

Volume 18, Number 6

March 2000

League of Women Voters Recommendations for USM

USM should be a major center for graduate education in Maine. That's one of many recommendations included in a two-year study of the University of Maine System, conducted by the League of Women Voters of Maine. League members, who conducted 222 interviews and visited all seven campuses as well as several university outreach centers, released the report at a State House news conference held last month.



Orono-based graduate programs "should continue to flourish," the report states, but "The economic development of Maine requires that USM be empowered to develop doctoral programs in such fields as biotechnology, business, social work, information science, and the humanities..." According to the report, "USM needs enhanced library resources, laboratories and other facilities, as well as adequate funding to hire appropriate graduate faculty."

Funding formula

The report also questions the System's "complex and arcane" funding formula, stating, "It is not intuitively obvious why almost half of the university's fiscal resources are allocated to UM which has only 36 percent of the FTE students..." USM has 30 percent of the system's students but only 22 percent of the system's budget. The report calls for a commission "...to overhaul and make more rational and equitable the formula for the allocation of funds among the campuses."

Faculty

The report praised faculty throughout the System for their talents and hard work, and recommended a gradual increase in salaries; better support of faculty development; and well-developed policies governing the use of part-time faculty.

Noting the link between research and development, and economic development, the report advocates continued legislative support of R&D at USM and UM. But the report also recognizes the role of the liberal arts, and recommends that each campus, "no matter what its professional or vocational focus," offer high quality, liberal arts programs.

Legislative relations

The report commends Chancellor Terry MacTaggart and others for the "very real advances" that the System has made in strengthening relations with the Legislature; addressing duplication of programs; codifying the transfer of credits; and taking steps toward more equitable funding among campuses. The current UMS structure should be retained, states the report.

Other

Included among other recommendations are: increased library funding that supports undergraduate and graduate funding at USM and UM; and tuition and financial aid that's in line with Maine income levels.

The report terms the System "a critical educational and economic asset to the State" that must be supported, and warns, "the only thing more expensive than maintaining a quality university system is not maintaining a quality university system."

Civil Rights Awareness Days

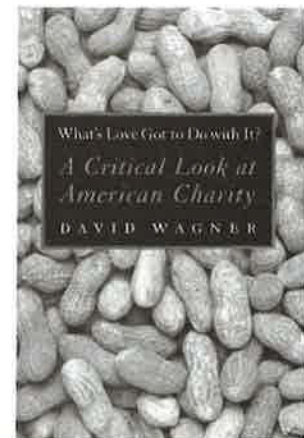


bell hooks (photo: Marion Ettlinger)

Acclaimed author, activist and social critic bell hooks will be on campus (see below) for a series of events to commemorate Women's History Month and Civil Rights Awareness Days.

Born Gloria Jean Watkins, hooks is known for her deconstructive analyses of race and gender, and her advocacy of African American female fortitude. The Kentucky native adopted and

see Awareness, page 3



Four faculty books -- page 2

Faculty Publish

- "Letters from Sea 1882-1901; Joanna and Lincoln Colcord's Seafaring Childhood" by **Parker Bishop Albee, Jr.**, professor of history.

Walter Cronkite is quoted on the back cover: "Richer than any treasure of gold brought up from the ocean bottom, these recently discovered letters are priceless additions to our maritime history. ... dandy tales of the sea, more exciting than fiction for their total authenticity."

The book is filled with richly detailed "journal letters" to family ashore, along with logbooks, numerous historic photos, and other correspondence — providing "a splendid window into the life of a seafaring family."

- "What's Love Got to Do With It? A Critical Look at American Charity," by **David Wagner**, assoc. prof. of social work and sociology.

Considered "an insightful debunking of the way charitable giving disguises American neglect of the public welfare. ... One of the few works to examine the overall role of charitable giving in America." (The New Press)

One reviewer (Howard Zinn) says, in part, "...this book cuts through the self-congratulation that accompanies charity giving in the United States, and asks the important question: why, with all this philanthropy, does the country have so much poverty, homelessness, infant mortality, imprisonment?"

The book's cover? A close-up photo of peanuts. (You may ask the author to explain.)

- "Introducing Communication Theory" is co-authored by **Richard West**, associate professor of communication and associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences. The book is an examination of two dozen theories in the communication discipline.

- "The Seventies: The Age of Glitter in Popular Culture" edited by professor of English **Shelton Waldrep**. This is the first book devoted exclusively to the cultural production of the 1970s, a decade that has emerged as a major definitional force for the 1990s. Assembled essays from a diverse range of scholars cover such topics as the black action film as a genre and 70s fashion as compulsory artifice. The book includes photos from the period and reprints of articles from the 70s.

"Frankenstein" will come to life in the USM Department of Theatre production March 17-25 in Russell Hall, Gorham. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on March 17-18 and 21-25, and at 5 p.m. on March 19. Here, the specter of the creature (Nathan Raleigh; back to camera), overshadows their joy when Henry (John Hildreth; left), congratulates Elizabeth (Kelsy MacKilligan) and Victor Frankenstein (Michael Toth) on their engagement. (Snell photo)



"The Spirit of Teaching" Conference, April 8 at USM

"Teaching to Transform." "Students at the Tube: Pop Culture as Inspiration." "Teaching and Humor." "Interpersonal Mindfulness in the Classroom."

These are among the numerous sessions offered at a day-long "Spirit of Teaching" conference to be held Sat., April 8 in Bailey Hall on USM's Gorham Campus.

Registration for the conference will begin at 8:15 a.m. that day. Three sessions, each consisting of nine concurrent roundtables, will begin at 9:00 a.m.; the conference is scheduled to conclude at 2:00 p.m..

To pre-register (\$25; space is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis) send name, address and telephone number to: Russell Chair Conference, PDC, 305 Bailey Hall, Gorham, Maine, 04038.

This conference is being presented as part of a requirement of the Walter E. Russell Chair in Philosophy and Education at USM. Russell was a teacher at USM for many years and established an endowed chair "devoted to the teaching of subjects" that were "the passion of his life." Every two years a USM faculty member is appointed to hold the chair; the current, and 10th, chair is E. Michael Brady, professor of adult education.



Michael Brady, Walter E. Russell Chair in Philosophy and Education (Elzenga photo)

USM Tidbits

For every \$1 million in research funds awarded to faculty and staff, \$1.5 million is generated in the Maine economy.

USM's traditional undergraduate enrollment now equals that of Bates, Bowdoin and Colby combined.

USM social work students contribute some 30,000 hours per year in helping those in need in the community.

USM was the first college in Maine to win an NCAA national team title (baseball, in '91).

Nearly 75 percent of USM's Lewiston-Auburn campus graduates reported that their education improved their pay and job security, according to a survey this year.

Workplace Learning

"Is it better to train the employee and risk their leaving the company, or not to train them and have them stay?"

This was a comment from a panelist at a recent USM Corporate Partners breakfast. Businesses represented on the panel were Acorn Slippers, Maine Barrel, American Tool, and Nichols Portland.

Every one of the businesses had high praise for the Center for Workplace Learning which is helping to train and re-train employees, provide additional skills, offer reading, writing and literacy courses, etc.. A grant to the Center is now helping more than 500 employees in the Lewiston-Auburn area.

The panel was presented by Nancy Martz, Director of the Center which is part of the College of Education and Human Development. For more information on the Center, contact 780-5572.

(Awareness continued)

lowercased the name bell hooks in honor of her outspoken great-grandmother, Bell Hooks.

Publishers' Weekly has ranked hooks' 1981 book, "Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism," among the 20 most important women's books of the last 20 years.

hooks taught women's studies at Oberlin and in 1993 joined the faculty of the City College of New York.

Numerous campus organizations, including Convocation and Women's Studies, have combined forces to sponsor hooks' visit.

- bell hooks, Thurs., Mar. 9, 11:30 am, 1 Payson Smith Hall, USM Portland. Q & A session with bell hooks

- bell hooks, Thurs., Mar. 9, 3pm, 301 Baily Hall, USM Gorham. Q & A session with bell hooks

- Reception and Dinner for bell hooks (tickets required), Thurs., Mar. 9, 5pm, Woodbury Campus Center, Rooms A, B & C, USM Portland.

- "Is God Love?," bell hooks, Thurs., Mar. 9, 7:30 pm, Sullivan Gymnasium, USM Portland. Lecture.

- ◆ "In Whose Honor," Wed., April 5, 7pm, Luther Bonney Auditorium, USM Portland. This film critically examines the racist impact of using Native Americans as Mascots.

(continued next column)

- ◆ "Smoke Signals," Thurs. April 6, 8pm, 10 Baily Hall, USM Gorham. The chronicle of a young Native American son from the Salmon Indian Reservation. This groundbreaking film was the first of its kind written by, for and featuring Native Americans in a realistic portrayal.

For more information, Women's Resource Center and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, 780-4996 or 780-4730.

Kindergarten Connection

A new report shows that USM students have worked with more than 100 Portland kindergartners as part of "Project Story Boost," a USM program designed to encourage young children to read.



NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RECORD: USM President Rich Pattenaude and Athletic Director Al Bean present the game ball to Coach Gary Fifield (left) following the USM women's team Little East Conference win over UMass Dartmouth at Hill Gym on February 22. The win was number 20 of the season for the Huskies, marking the 20th consecutive year of 20 or more wins. That's an NCAA women's record, any division.

MEN ADVANCE: In the second game, the USM men's team, under Coach Dan Costigan, defeated Plymouth State to advance to the Little East Tournament. It was the team's first postseason win in six years. (Caswell photo)

Late add: as Currents goes to press, it is reported that senior forward Mike Fennessy and senior guard Julie Plant have been named Little East Conference Player of the Year for men's and women's basketball respectively. And USM's Dan Costigan has been named men's Coach of the Year.

What We're Doing (continued)

H. FRED WALKER, assistant professor of technology, received the Rudolph G. Woodward award as the "1999 Maine Quality Professional of the Year," from the American Society of Quality (ASQ). Walker has been nominated for and elected to the Margaret Chase Smith Maine State Quality Association Board of Directors. He also worked with **NANCY ARTZ**, associate professor of business administration, as co-principal investigators on a study of "Quality Inhibitors" funded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

NANCY WANDERER, director of legal writing and research program, and instructor of law, had her article, "Culture and Crime: Kargar and the Existing Framework for a Cultural Defense" published in the *Buffalo Law Review* (Vol. 47, No.2).

MARGO WOOD, associate provost for graduate studies and research and professor of literacy education, is the author of "Reaction Papers and Breakthroughs: Teaching and Learning in a Graduate Program," published in the January 2000 *New England Reading Association (NERA) Journal*.

JENNIFER WRIGGINS, associate profes-

sor of law, presented a paper, "Marriage, Duty, Morals, and Couples of the Same Gender" at the International Society of Family Law's North American Regional Conference, "A More Perfect Union? Marriage and Marriage-Like Relationships in Family Law" in Albuquerque, last June. Wriggins has been asked to be a reviewer for the National Science Foundation's Societal Dimensions of Engineering, Science, and Technology Program. Her article on lead poisoning, "Genetics, IQ, Determinism, and Torts: The Example of Discovery in Lead Exposure Litigation," published in the *Boston University Law Review*, was cited by a Massachusetts judge of the Northeast Housing Court in his decision in the case "Hafford v. Ravgiala."

FENGGANDG YANG, assistant professor of sociology, received an International Travel Stipend for a trip to China. The Penn State Press has nominated his book "Chinese Christians in America" for the 1999 Theodore Saloutos Memorial Book Award in American Immigration History sponsored by The Immigration and Ethnic History Society. He received a planning grant for a research project of "The Chinese Protestant Ethic and China's Transformation Toward a Market Economy and Democratic Society."

What We're Doing

WALDECK E. MAINVILLE JR., professor of mathematics, had the third edition of his "College Algebra" book published by the Pearson Education Company.

JOHN A. MARSHALL, assistant professor of industrial technology, presented three research papers at the National Association of Industrial Technology's (NAIT) annual convention held in Panama City, Florida last November. The topics of Marshall's presentations were: "Programmable Logic Controlled Mobile Robots"; "Rheological Fluid Power Automation"; and "Understanding Internet E-mail Delivery." Marshall has contributed research presentations at this convention for the past fifteen years, and has also served on the NAIT Accreditation Board.

JULIEN S. MURPHY, professor of philosophy and associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, had her review of *Labelle MacWhorter's "Bodies and Pleasures: Foucault and the Politics of Sexual Normalization"* for *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy* is forthcoming. Her review of "The Debate Between Sartre and Merleau-Ponty" edited by Jon Stewart will appear in *Ethics: International Journal of Social Political and Legal Philosophy*. She reviewed "Facing It: AIDS Diaries and the Death of the Author" by Ross Chambers for the Winter 2000 issue of *Biography, An Interdisciplinary Quarterly*. The *International Network on Feminist Approaches to Bioethics* (Fall 1999), published her review of "Leaky Bodies and Boundaries: Feminism, Postmodernism, and (Bio)Ethics," by Magrit Shildrick; and *The Journal of Homosexuality* (Vol. 37, No. 3, pp.154-159) published her review of "Sex Changes: The Politics of Transgenderism," by Pat Califia. Murphy reviewed "To Relieve the Human Condition: Bioethics, Technology, and the Body" by Gerald P. McKenny, for *Ethics: International Journal of Social Political and Legal Philosophy* (Vol. 109, No.1, 1998). In December, she was session chair for "Issues in Identity and Ethics and Epistemology of Passing" at the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meetings in Boston last December. In addition she has been elected to the Board of the Maine Bioethics Network (1999-2002).

CHRISTOPHER A. O'CONNOR, assistant director of Portland Student Life for Portland Hall, was recently recognized as Maine's "Outstanding New Professional" in the field of student affairs by the Maine Association of Student Affairs Professionals at the an-

nual MASAP Conference last October, at the University of Maine at Farmington.

THOMAS PARCHMAN, associate professor of music, performed in the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C. last summer, as well as acting as the orchestra manager, performing in chamber orchestra concerts, and conducting backstage for the operas. Last summer he also performed as the "campana" player in Puccini's "Suor Angelica"; in "La Bohème" with the Portland Opera Repertory Theater; in Mozart's "The Magic Flute"; and in Carlyle Floyd's "Susanna with Opera North." He also performed as a recitalist and guest clinician at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, last November.

RICHARD L. PATTENAUDE, president, was elected to the AASCU Board of Directors at the association's annual meeting held in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico, last November. His book chapter, "Administering the Modern University," appears in "Higher Education in Transition."

SCOTT REEVES, associate professor of music, is on leave for the 1999-2000 academic year and will be playing and teaching in New York, including concerts with bassist Ron Carter and pianist James Williams. He has completed the manuscript for the third edition of "Creative Jazz Improvisation" to be published by Prentice Hall. He guest conducted the District VI, N. Y. High School Jazz Festival in Plattsburg last November. He presided over a panel discussion at the International Association of Jazz Educators convention in New Orleans in January.

ROBERT J. RUSSELL, professor of music, led the USM Chamber Singers on a tour of Vienna, Venice, and Paris. The Chamber Singers also sang in November at Maine Music Society's Battle of the Blends. He conducted the world premiere of Dan Locklair's "Gloria" with the Choral Art Society in December. This spring he will guest conduct the All-Aroostook Festival Chorus and the Maine High School Masterworks Chorus in Gorham.

CHRISTINE SADY, coordinator, Nutrition Network Project, Muskie School, was invited to present at a meeting at the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, on December 14 in Alexandria, Virginia, at which she gave an overview of the first year of the Maine Nutrition Network's social marketing campaign, "Eat Smart: It's a Healthy Start!"

MARY SEXTON, reference/government documents law librarian, was one of a few

U.S. librarians invited to participate in a European Union training session held in Brussels. The Law Library is an E.U. depository.

WAYNE St. PETER, women's tennis coach, received the 1999 USTA/New England Jack Lynch Junior Tournament of the Year Award, for hosting the USM Junior Championships last summer, at the USTA/NE's awards luncheon last December in Dedham, Mass.

LEONARD J. SHEDLETSKY, professor of communication, was notified that his article, "A Lot of Teachers Who Can, Don't," will be reprinted in "Selections from the Speech Communication Teacher, 1996-1999" (McGraw-Hill). He organized the panel, Publishing On-Line, and presented his paper, "Co-editing a New On-Line Publication: Communication Teacher Resources On-Line" at the National Communication Association (NCA) last November in Chicago. Also at the NCA, he organized the panel, "The Internet and Pedagogy," and co-presented "Teaching an Intrapersonal Communication Course Collaboratively," and organized and co-presented "Teaching Communication Courses with the World Wide Web: Cognitive Technology." He has been named managing editor of *Communication Teacher Resources Online* (CTROnline), a new publication of the NCA (<http://www.natcom.org/>). His research, "Cognitive Style, Family Handedness, and Degree of Laterality Account for Inconsistent Sex Differences in Direction of Gaze," which appeared in "Replication Research in the Social Sciences," (Sage, 1991) was discussed as an exemplar of replication research in "Investigating Communication: An Introduction to Research Methods" (second edition, Allyn & Bacon, 2000).

KIMBERLY B. SINCLAIR, coordinator, Office of International Programs, was one of five panelists who presented a workshop, "Making Low Tech and High Tech Communication Decisions for the International Office," at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Regional Conference in Newport, Rhode Island, last November.

MARK W. STEEGE, associate professor of school psychology, made two invited presentations at the National Association of Dual Diagnosis conference in Columbia, South Carolina last December. Steege's presentations were titled "Analyze This" and "Show Me The Data," both emphasizing his current research in the application of behavioral assessment methodologies with persons with developmental disabilities.

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Address correction requested

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