

11-1994

**Currents, Vol.13, No.3 (Nov.1994)**

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**Recommended Citation**

Swain, Susan E., "Currents, Vol.13, No.3 (Nov.1994)" (1994). *Currents*. 61.  
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# CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 13, Number 3

November, 1994

## Workplace Ed Program Receives New Funding

The Casco Bay Partnership for Workplace Education, a collaboration between USM's College of Education and local employers which during the last year helped more than 600 Greater Portland workers improve their literacy and communication skills through classes at the work site, will expand its services thanks to a new, three-year, \$2.1 million grant. The project is one of 46 proposals nationwide to receive the latest U.S. Department of Education funding. The grant to the Casco Bay Partnership is for \$720,000 per year. It is estimated that the project will serve 900 adult learners annually.

USM's Department of Professional Education, Hannaford Brothers of South Portland, American Tool (formerly Irwin Company) of Gorham, Barber Foods of Portland and National Semiconductor of South Portland started the program in the summer of 1993 with a \$409,000 federal grant and a nearly equal dollar amount of in-kind donations. Henry Amoroso, associate professor of education, and Michael O'Donnell, professor of education, coauthored the original grant application. Amoroso is currently principle investigator of the project. The partnership is housed in the graduate literacy education program.

In the nearly 18 months since its founding, the partnership has grown to include three more businesses, Nichols/Portland, Sebago, Inc. of Westbrook, and Wood Structures of Saco.

Tutors, many of whom are graduate education students at USM, have delivered courses tailored to the specific needs of each company. Courses at National Semiconductor, for example, have focused on giving employees the skills to interpret



Portland Police Chief Mike Chitwood recently honored two members of USM's Police and Safety for their capture of a man charged with robbing Key Bank. Last month, USM officers Ron Saindon and Peter Conley approached a man who was acting suspiciously and asked him for identification. When the suspect fled, the officers ran after him, finally apprehending him near the intersection of Falmouth St. and Deering Avenue. The suspect was charged with the robbery of the One Canal Plaza branch of Key Bank. Chitwood commended the officers for their actions, adding, "The department wants to recognize you for helping us maintain a quality of life and public safety in our city." Pictured from the left are Chitwood, Conley, and Saindon. Caswell photo

technical material while courses at Barber Foods --a business where more than 15 languages are spoken-- have offered English-as-a-Second Language training.

"The basic thrust of the partnership will continue to be work-based instruction in reading, writing, math, ESL and communications skills," said Nancy Martz, project director. "But during the next three years, we will be developing ways of exposing employees to diversity issues, making better use of computer-aided instruction, and measuring, in quantifiable terms, the actual benefits of a better-educated work force."

"This partnership has proven, and will continue to prove, that this university, through cooperative ventures with businesses and others in the community, can creatively meet the educational needs of southern Maine," said President Richard L. Pattenau.

## USM Gives

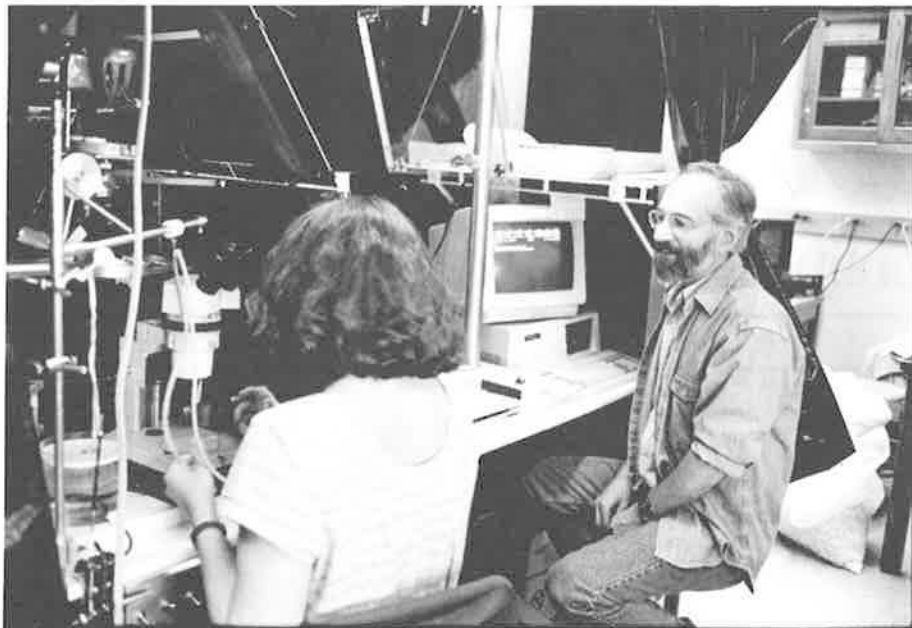
USM's 1994 Combined Charitable Appeal was the most successful yet, raising \$35,036, an increase of nearly 19 percent over the 1993 figure.

The funds support MaineShare, the Combined Health Appeal of Maine, the National/United Service Agencies and United Way of Greater Portland. Those organizations, in turn, distribute money to numerous local charities.

Some 169 new donors contributed to the campaign, joining the 169 USM faculty and staff who contributed in 1993.

Bill Mortensen, executive director of public service, and Noelle Lord, director of alumni relations, co-chaired the 1994 campaign. They were joined by a team of more than 20 volunteers who coordinated the solicitations within their respective schools.

Contributions are still being accepted by Ellen Corkery, Public Service, 68 High St., Portland.



Ken Weber, assistant professor of biology, right, works with a student on equipment he has assembled for his gene-mapping project. Barrett photo

## NSF Grant Gathers Flies

Working with equipment he has rigged together and swarms of fruit flies, geneticist Kenneth Weber, assistant professor of biology, carries on a four-year gene mapping project on the second floor of the Science Building in Portland. The lab does not look impressive, but the equipment he assembled himself is a prime reason Weber recently received a \$340,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

His goal is to enumerate and locate the genes that control the shape of an individual fly's wing. Fruit fly wings vary slightly from one individual to another in wing contour, and Weber has exaggerated these differences by breeding a hybrid strain so the differences can be measured. The premise behind this project is that the genetic mechanism in flies parallels that in humans.

Weber says that fruit fly wings are easier to study than most features of living things because they are translucent and can be projected in magnification. Fruit flies are especially useful as research subjects because of their speed in reproducing. Weber says he can produce a new generation in 10 to 14 days so he can get a lot of variations quickly. He has developed equipment and a process for measuring individual wings by computer that allows for assessment of minute differences between one fly and another. A high-tech microscope connected to a video camera allows the scientist to look at

the chromosomes in the fly's DNA. The methodology is so straightforward that undergraduate students can mount the flies and take the measurements.

Although Weber says there is a huge jump from gene mapping projects such as his to eventual medical applications for humans, projects like this do give information on development of form in living things. "This project will give some insight into cell growth, into the way in which groups of cells are coordinated to produce shape," he explains. In the long run, the project will render more information on the genetic basis of individual differences in details, for example, the genetic basis of the shape of a human hand or length of a person's fingers, or facial characteristics such as size and shape of a nose. Collectively, gene mapping studies eventually will provide more information on the location on chromosomes for various genetic controls. Medical applications of molecular genetics are moving toward mapping genes so they can be isolated and studied. At some time in the future, scientists hope to have gathered enough information through such projects to prevent or treat disease in humans.

Weber, who won a Maine Science and Technology Commission award in 1992, came to USM in 1991. He holds a Ph.D. in biology (1986) from Harvard University and was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard and at the University of Minnesota prior to coming to USM. He has published several articles in the journal, *Genetics*.

## USM Supports Campus Diversity

In an effort to encourage diversity on campus, USM created a scholarship program and opened a support center for minority students.

The Multicultural Student Support Center, located in 125 Upton Hall on the Gorham campus, is directed by Linda Seiler, a member of the Passamaquoddy Nation who received her B.A. with honors from USM last May and is now enrolled as a graduate student. Seiler wants to reach out to the Native American community in southern Maine and recruit new students to USM. Native Americans are the largest minority group in Maine and through a 1971 Board of Trustees decision receive free tuition system-wide, yet at present only 74 Native American students attend USM.

For more information on goals and activities of the new center, call Seiler at 780-5243. The center is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The new Multicultural Community Scholarships made it possible for two new students from Maine's relatively small multicultural population to enroll at USM this fall. Jean-Paul Kalonji, a freshman majoring in electrical engineering, grew up in Zaire, and Chun Hua Liu, a freshman majoring in biology, graduated from Portland High School after moving to Maine from Beijing, China.

## Box Score

Beginning next season, the USM ice hockey team will affiliate with the ECAC Division III East ice hockey conference, a move designed to increase the quality of collegiate hockey in Greater Portland and place more of an emphasis on academics. This move is a step up in terms of caliber of play, according to Al Bean, athletic director.

USM has signed a four-year commitment with the conference, which features such teams as Bowdoin, Colby, Middlebury, the University of Connecticut and Holy Cross. The Huskies have been members of the ECAC North Conference since ice hockey was reinstated at USM nine years ago. USM has qualified for postseason play in three of the past five seasons.



Kenneth Rosen, professor of English, was installed as the Russell Chair Scholar for 1994 - 1996 on Monday, November 14 in a ceremony that also recognized the contributions of the outgoing scholar, Nancy Gish, professor of English. Rosen has published five volumes of poetry and expects his latest book of poetry, "No Snake, No Paradise" to be printed in December. His book "The Hebrew Lion" won the 1988 Maine Arts Commission chapbook, and he just received another award from the Maine Arts Commission, a fellowship of \$3000 in support of his work. He is the founder and the original director of USM's Stonecoast Writer's Conference. Barrett photo

## Big Band Bash

A 1940s-style gala to benefit the Music Department will be held Friday, December 2 and Saturday, December 3. Swing, Swing, Swing! will take you back to December 1944, the last holiday season of World War II with a Big Band USO camp show.

Costumes from the "Fabulous Forties" are encouraged and the evening includes big band jazz music by Scott Reeves and the USM Jazz Ensemble, singer Marie Pressman backed up by student crooners, ballroom dance demonstrations by Maine Ballroom Dance, and the chance to try out the steps yourself. Actor/Director Michael Rafkin will emcee the evening.

Friday night's show will be held at the Sonesta Hotel Ballroom in Portland at a cost of \$50 per person. Saturday night will be on the Gorham campus in the Brooks Student Center, for \$25 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Department of Music scholarship fund.

For more information, call the Department of Music at 780-5555.

## Improving Math and Science Education

The Eisenhower National Program for Mathematics and Science is funding a three-year project, administered jointly by the University of Southern Maine, the Maine Department of Educational and Cultural Services and the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance to reform and improve math and science education in Maine's preschool, elementary, middle and high school classrooms.

The project, titled the Curriculum Framework for Mathematics and Science, is being reviewed by 16 classroom teachers around the state.

"Our goal is to develop a math and science curriculum based on national standards, as well as on the benchmarks outlined in Maine's Common Core of Learning," said Paul G. Caron of USM's College of Education, the professional development director of the project and a former science teacher at Auburn's Edward Little High School. Caron emphasized that the proposed new curriculum framework will be flexible enough to accommodate local needs.

Regional forums will be held to gain additional input before the curriculum framework is tested in five pilot sites during the 1995-1996 school year. The pilot tests will be followed by statewide implementation, including inservice training and technical support for teachers.

## Campus Notes

The Cumberland County Legal Aid Clinic is now housed at 59 Exeter Street, on the Portland campus. The clinic, under the direction of Michael Mullane in the School of Law, offers free legal services to low-income clients. It is staffed by third-year law students who are licensed to practice law under faculty supervision. The new, larger space will allow student attorneys to expand their services. The clinic has handled an average of 220 cases each year.

The Honors Programs of the University of Maine System have released the 1994 issue of the journal, *The Maine Scholar*, entitled "World Views: The Environment." For a copy, call USM's Honors Program at 780-4330. The journal editors also have issued a call for papers for the 1995 issue on the theme of childhood.

## Memorial Book Fund Set

### Knowlton remembered

A memorial book fund to benefit USM's libraries has been established in memory of Suzanne Knowlton, associate university librarian, who died unexpectedly on November 7.

Born in 1937 in Kansas City, Kansas, Knowlton earned her B.A. from the University of Kansas in 1960, her M.A. from the University of Denver in 1963, and came to USM in 1968. Before coming to USM, she was a librarian in the Young Adult section of the Denver Public Library, reference librarian at the Kansas City, (MO) Public Library, and head of the Circulation Department at the University of Kansas.

Knowlton joined the USM library staff as head of the Acquisitions Department, was promoted to assistant university librarian in 1974, and to her last position as associate university librarian in 1977. During her 26 years at USM, she guided the development of the book collection from approximately 65,000 volumes in 1968 to almost 400,000 volumes in 1994.

Over the years, Knowlton served on numerous university committees, including the Staff Development Task Force, Personnel Policy Review, Affirmative Action, USM Budget Advisory, UMS Off-Campus Library Advisory, and UMS Cataloging Standards. She also served on the Professional Staff Senate.

She was involved in national, regional, and state professional organizations, including the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, New England Library Association, and the Maine Library Association. For many years, Knowlton served as the contact person for NELINET (New England Library Information Network) and coordinated USM's library services with them.

Knowlton will be remembered by her many friends and colleagues at USM for her warmth, friendliness and genuine interest in others. Her love of books and their significance to lifelong learning was an important factor in making the USM Library a richer resource for the entire university community.

Those wishing to contribute to the Suzanne Loveall Knowlton Memorial Book Fund should send checks made out to the USM Library to Shirley Carswell, Portland Campus Library.



## What We're Doing

MARY ANN BENSON, assistant director of Career Services, has been voted president elect of the board of directors of the Eastern College and Employer Network for 1994-95.

MUHAMMAD A. EL-TAHA, associate professor of mathematics and statistics, had a co-authored, invited article, "Sample-Path Stability Conditions for Multiservice Input-Output Processes" accepted for publication in the special issue of the Journal of Applied Mathematics and Stochastic Analysis that honors the pioneer mathematician Lajas Takas.

RICARDO GUILLERMO, project coordinator, Department of Facilities Management, was awarded one of two Planning Board Awards for 1993 by the Saco City Council on October 17, for the design of the new Camp Ellis Fire Station.

THERESA C. JORDAN, administrative manager, Department of Facilities Management, was recently appointed to the Day One board of directors.

WILL KILROY, assistant professor of theatre, traveled to King Alfred's College in Winchester, England last May and taught in their drama department as part of a teaching exchange. This summer he co-directed "A Girl's Guide to Chaos" in Ogunquit and instituted a theatre camp for teens that ran in July and performed as part of the national Association for Theatre in High Education convention in Chicago. In October, he presented a workshop titled, "Will the Real Character Please Stand Up—Techniques of Michael Chekhov" at the University of New Hampshire.

DIANA E. LONG, director of Women's Studies and professor of history, was chair and commentator of the session, "Boys Will be Boys: Masculinity Across the Life Cycle," at the History of Science Society annual meeting in New Orleans on October 14. At the annual Social Studies of Science meeting, also in New Orleans in October, she was part of a panel assessing the new Smithsonian Institution permanent exhibit, "Science in American Life." She was part of the advisory committee formed in 1989 to develop this controversial display of the interactions of science and American social values. In 1993, Long used the exhibit as part of an experimental senior seminar in the History Department, "Science and Technology in American Life."

JUDITH M. McMANAMY, associate direc-

tor of admissions, gave a presentation, "Which Marketing Strategies Should Four-Year Institutions Use to Recruit Adult Students?" at the College Board National Conference on Recruiting and Serving Adult Students in Transition in Washington D.C.

BARBARA RICH, associate professor of social welfare, presented "Self Skills for Delinquent Adolescents," at the annual meeting of the National Association of Social Workers, October 10-22, in Nashville.

BETTY ROBINSON, associate professor of management and organizational studies, and ROBERT SCHAIBLE, associate professor of arts and humanities, both at Lewiston-Auburn College, co-authored a paper titled "Collaborative Teaching: Walking the Talk" which Robinson presented at the American Sociological Association held in Los Angeles, California on August 9.

MICHAEL SHAUGHNESSY, associate professor of art, exhibited "Ideas of Nature" at the University of Maine—Farmington. He had solo exhibitions at Millersville University, Millersville, Penn., and at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art in Wilmington. He was part of the group exhibition, "Garden of Sculptural Delights" at Exit Art/First World in New York City, and he was a juror for the Maine College of Art's Percent for Art competition for their new building. Shaughnessy has also been appointed to Windham's Development Committee for the North Windham Tax Increment Financing District and he is a member of the board of advisors to the Danforth Gallery.

LEONARD J. SHEDLETSKY, professor of communication, spent part of his sabbatical this fall at the University of New Mexico as visiting research professor of communication and journalism. At UNM he presented a colloquium, "Metaphor, Cognition, and Communication: Preliminary Data on Lakoff's Experiential Realism." At UNM he was invited to teach Nonverbal Communication, Advanced Interpersonal Communication and Gender and Communication. He is co-editing "Intrapersonal Communication Processes Reader," (co-published by the Speech Communication Association and Hayden-McNeil) in which he wrote the chapter "Where Do We Locate Intrapersonal Communication? within the Cognitive Domain?" and critiques of each chapter.

JOANNE SPEAR, director of the Department of Community Programs, presented a workshop, "Human Dynamics at Work," at the first annual conference of Maine Businesses for Social Responsibility held in

Portland on September 28. Spear became a certified facilitator of Human Dynamics at a two-week training in California in May of 1994 and will be offering seminars in this field through the Department of Community Programs.

SUSAN E. SWAIN, associate director of media and community relations, recently received the 1994 Bernays award for professional achievement from the Maine Public Relations Council.

WALTER STUMP, professor of theatre, won the national Jewel Box Theater Playwright Award for his play "Covington's Cave," the first of three plays in his "Mojave Trilogy."

DAVID WAGNER, associate professor of social work, presented a paper titled "Reinterpreting the 'Undeserving Poor': From Pathology to Resistance" at the 12th World Congress of Sociology meeting this summer at Bielefeld, Germany. The November 1994 issue of Social Work also includes his article "Beyond the Pathologizing of Non-Work: Alternative Activities in a Street Community."

RICHARD WEST, assistant professor of communication, is the co-author of the book "Gender and Communication," recently published by Wm. C. Brown Publishers. His article, "Understanding Relationship Termination through the Performance of Literature," was recently published in the Journal of Communication Studies.

## SNOW

Where To Tune In For Snow Day Cancellations

TUNE IN AFTER 6:00 A.M.

WMGX	93.1	FM
WBLM	102.9	FM
WCSO	97.9	FM
WPXM	106.3	FM
WPOR	101.9	FM
WCLZ	98.9	FM
WKZS	99.9	FM
WMPG	90.9	FM
WGAN	560	AM
WPOR	1490	AM
WLAM	1470	AM
WIDE	1400	AM

WCSH-TV Channel 6  
WGME-TV Channel 13  
WMTW-TV Channel 8

USM Storm Line 780-4800

## University of Southern Maine

### Currents

Office of Media Relations  
96 Falmouth Street  
Portland, ME 04103

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Currents is published monthly throughout the academic year. Materials should be submitted by the 15th of each month to: Media Relations, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland

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