

4-1992

Currents, Vol.10, No.9 (Apr.1992)

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Recommended Citation

Caswell, Robert S. and Swain, Susan E., "Currents, Vol.10, No.9 (Apr.1992)" (1992). *Currents*. 89.
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents/89>

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CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 10, Number 9

April, 1992

New USM Facilities

Library Construction Bid Approved

USM has accepted J.T. Callahan & Sons of Randolph, Mass. as the general contractor for the new Portland library. Maine law requires public agencies to award contracts to the company submitting the lowest bid. Callahan bid \$3,945,000, nearly \$81,000 below the second lowest bidder, a Maine firm which bid \$4,025,876. A bond, approved by voters in 1988 for a library, is funding the project, not current operating monies. The demolition phase of the project has been completed. The construction work by Callahan and Sons will begin shortly.

"Given Maine's economy, we would have preferred that a job of this size go to a local firm," said Richard A. Eustis, the associate vice chancellor of the University of Maine System who oversaw the bidding process. "But a full, legal review of Maine bidding laws determined that the University, as a public agency, must publicly advertise projects and can not give preference to Maine firms except in the case of identical bids." Eustis added that his office and the project architect reviewed Callahan & Sons qualifications for the job and "found nothing which would disqualify them as low bidder." Twelve firms submitted bids, among them five out-of-state firms and seven Maine firms.

Eustis also noted that regardless of which general contractor had been awarded the contract, two-thirds of the work would be done by the same subcontractors. Many of the 25-30 construction workers will be hired locally and local vendors will supply most of the materials.

University Librarian George Parks pointed out that the \$80,000 difference in bids assumes extra importance when working within the tight budget

parameters of this project. "We have such a tight margin that there are no non-essentials that could be dropped from the project. Without the extra \$80,000 saved through this low bid, we would have to eliminate a major feature."

Four floors of the seven-story building, formerly known as the Johnson Supply Building, will be completed, nearly doubling the space now available in the present library in Luther Bonney. The new library will feature the Osher Map Library, which includes rare cartographic collections donated to USM by Dr. and Mrs. Harold L. Osher and by the late Mrs. L.M.C. Smith. The project will be completed in the summer of 1993.

USM Buys Steego Building

The current depressed real estate market has allowed USM to purchase three properties in an agreement allowing lower annual payments that the current rental obligations on two of the buildings.

At their March 23 meeting, Trustees approved the purchase of the Steego Building on Bedford Street next to the new library building, 68 High Street and the Powers House at 88 Winslow Street. The Powers House is used to house student organizations, and USM's in-town center at 68 High Street houses USM TV, the Division of Continuing Studies, USM's Institute for Real Estate Research and Education and other university units.

The Steego site contains approximately 44,200 square feet of land and a building on two levels containing nearly 50,000 square feet of floor area. Conversion of the property to a conference and meeting center has been deemed feasible by an architectural consultant.

The three buildings are now owned by Peoples Heritage Properties (ownership of 68 High Street was transferred from USM as part of the

Center to Support Campus Women

A new center to support USM women opened on the Gorham campus on International Women's Day, March 8 under the direction of Lucie

Arbuthnot, a part-time professor at Goddard College and a former director of the Centers for Educational Excellence at the University of Maine.



The Women's Center is located in the Student Dining Center on the Gorham campus and will have a location on the Portland campus when a suitable facility is found. The center is funded by the President's Office and the Student Senate. Arbuthnot's position is half-time.

It is Arbuthnot's responsibility to be a visible advocate and contact for women on campus. "The center will focus gender issues and meet the needs of women on campus, especially those who are not involved in the Women's Studies Program," Arbuthnot said. Besides organizing educational forums on topics of concern to women, such as date rape, safety on campus and hate/bias crimes, the center will provide information and referrals on and off campus.

The center and its director are available to women faculty and staff as well as students. Men are also welcome. "We are very open to having men use the center on concerns having to do with gender and relationship issues," Arbuthnot said. "Men's and women's issues are closely related."

A central goal is to counter low self-

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Women's Center

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esteem among women which may keep them from succeeding academically and professionally, and especially to support commuter students and women of non-traditional age returning to school. "Women back in school after a gap in their education may need extra support, advice on study habits, or help with specific problems," Arbuthnot said. "I want the center to be a resource and an advocate for them."

As advocate she would push for "institutional change." Part of her role, she says, is to ensure that student services have responsible policies on harassment, date-rape, and lifestyle issues. As a first undertaking, Arbuthnot worked with Christopher Castiglia, assistant professor of New England Studies and English, to organize a teach-in on homophobia following the vandalism of the AIDS exhibit in February.

The need for a women's center surfaced in a survey of women on campus last year during Women's History Month. Goals were formulated by a collective of campus women and put in a proposal to President Richard L. Pattenau shortly after his arrival on campus last summer. Forums were held on each campus, and although overall response was positive, according to Women's Studies Director Diana Long, there was some controversy about opening a new center during a period of financial cutbacks. "At issue was whether a center was needed in addition to the Women's Studies program."

Five key services were identified that the center would provide: support and validation for women, information about resources on and off campus, further education by housing a library and hosting lectures and seminars, advocacy for women on campus, and promoting safety. An advisory board made up of students, staff and faculty meets weekly to help focus the work of the center.

Arbuthnot, who reports to Larry Benedict, Vice President for Student Life, was chosen from a field of 54 applicants. She began her academic career as a feminist film scholar and taught at the University of Minnesota at Duluth, where she won the Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence in 1985 and received nine grants to design interdisciplinary courses. She has also been a corporate trainer and consultant, leading workshops on writing and critical thinking for business executives.

Steego Building

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purchase arrangement of the Johnson Supply Building). USM is renting the Powers House and 68 High Street for a total of \$136,200 for the coming year. That amount will go up by \$14,300 for each of the next two years. Under the new sales agreement, all three buildings will be sold to USM for a combined price of just over \$1.5 million, a price which allows a fixed rate payment of \$136,200 per year. Thus, USM will save approximately \$15,000 during '93-'94 and \$30,000 during '94-'95 over the former lease agreement.

As future funding becomes available, renovation of the Steego building will be undertaken. In the meantime, acquisition of three buildings for the current rental costs of two allows the university to follow a master plan, created in 1988 by Sasaki Associates, which recommended that the campus expand toward Forest Avenue.

Caffentzis Reports on Africa

A growing number of violations of academic and human rights in Africa prompted George Caffentzis, associate professor of philosophy, to develop a forum for increasing public awareness of these problems.

With a colleague from Hofstra University, Caffentzis founded the Committee for Academic Freedom in Africa (CAFA) to air issues and pressure African academics and politicians to change what has become a repressive, and sometimes deadly, environment. Though less than a year old, CAFA is publishing a newsletter and has established a network of academics to keep in direct contact with their African colleagues. "As a starting point, we want to give a needed, public voice to our very real concerns over conditions in Africa," said Caffentzis, who taught at the University of Calabar in Nigeria from 1983 to 1987.

Those conditions are highlighted in the recently published, second edition of the CAFA newsletter. CAFA reports that the government of Nigeria has arrested, tortured and killed many university students, despite promises

to institute democratic reforms. In Uganda, two Makerere University students were fatally shot during a protest over the cancellation of government-financed allowances.

Economic oppression also is common, according to reports in CAFA. At Uganda's Makerere University, lecturers receive 30,000 Ugandan shillings per month (the equivalent of \$40 in U.S. currency) in an economy where it costs about \$30 per week to feed the average family.

CAFA also questions the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. CAFA reported in its first newsletter that, "...the most frequent violations of academic rights occur when African governments implement World Bank and IMF policies and meet the protests they (those policies) generate." According to CAFA, the World Bank and IMF finance program, the Structural Adjustment Program, has eliminated education subsidies in many countries, inflated the cost of educational materials and devastated family incomes, "making it difficult for parents to send their children even to primary school."

"We hope to provide a forum that enables those of us in North American institutions to analyze U.S. policies toward Africa and the ethical consequences of those policies," Caffentzis said. "Should I, as a North American academic take a position at an African university where my colleagues have had their rights violated? And if the policies of the World Bank and IMF are contributing to that situation, what is my role and responsibility as a U.S. citizen [to help change those policies]?"

Caffentzis, CAFA cofounder Silvia Federici of Hofstra University and their colleagues plan to outline their concerns at future academic conferences and workshops.

Editor's Update: Caffentzis reports that he has heard recently from a professor at the University of Dar es Salaam that Tanzania's elite riot police had beaten and detained dozens of students there. The university suspended hundreds of others. Students were protesting World Bank and IMF programs which will increase tuition and decrease student subsidies.

Congratulations!

At its meeting on March 23, 1992, the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System awarded tenure to the following USM faculty, effective at the beginning of the 1992-93 academic year:

Tenured at Present Rank of Associate Professor

Constantine George Caffentzis, Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences

Joseph Capelluti, Professional Education, College of Education

John M. Kinsella, Foreign Languages and Classics, College of Arts in Sciences

James W. Smith, Engineering, School of Applied Science

Tenured at Present Rank of Professor

W. Douglas Thompson, Applied Medical Sciences, School of Applied Science

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Scott W. Brown, Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

India L. Broyles, Professional Education, College of Education

Ardis Cameron, New England Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

Nance Goldstein, Economics, School of Business, Economics and Management

Richard A. Grover, Business Administration, School of Business, Economics and Management

Lois V. Hinckley, Foreign Languages and Classics, College of Art and Sciences

Christine Holden, History, College of Arts and Sciences

Gary A. Lombardo, Business Administration, School of Business, Economics and Management

Bruce B. MacLeod, Computer Science, School of Applied Science

Carter H. Manny, Business Law, School of Business, Economics and Management

Rose Marasco, Art, College of Arts and Sciences

Thomas A. Newton, Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences

Susan Ellen Picinich, Theatre, College of Arts and Sciences

Tenured and Promoted to Professor

William W. Wells Jr., Law, School of Law

Campus Notes

This year's Honors Convocation Day (formerly Recognition Day) is Thursday, April 30, 1992. The awards ceremony and reception will begin at 2 p.m. in the Hill Gym on the Gorham campus. About 130 students will receive awards. Honor society inductions will follow, beginning at 4 p.m. in Corthell Concert Hall. For more information, call Mary Schools, 780-4200.

USM's Library joined the Maine Library Awareness Campaign in a year-long campaign to support public state libraries, hurt by budget cuts. More than 17000 Mainers signed a pro-library statement opposing the cuts as part of a library awareness campaign organized by the Maine Library Association. Sign up during National Library Week, April 5-11.

University employees are reminded by Jerry Blazek, director of labor relations that university policy states that university resources—the telephone system, including the Infoswitch system for long-distance calls (except in the case of emergency), mail and printing services, equipment, supplies and offices and travel funds—are to be used only for approved university business, not for personal or non-university business purposes. Information on resource use policy is contained in the "Conflict of

Interest Policy" pamphlet.

The Women's Center announces that the informal, brown-bag lunches will continue for professional staff women every second Tuesday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.: April 7 in the Presidential Dining Room in Gorham, April 21 in Room 1, Payson Smith, Portland, May 5 in the Boiler Room, Portland Campus Center. For more information, call Lucie Arbuthnot, 780-5523 or Rosa Redonnet at 780-4059.

Faculty Senate meetings are scheduled for April 10, 326 Luther Bonney, Portland; May 1, 404 Bailey Hall, Gorham and May 8 in 326 Luther Bonney, Portland. For more information, call Monique Crochet, chair, at 780-4324.

The Professional Staff Senate meets once a month from 8:30 to 10 a.m.; senate meetings will be held Wednesday, April 8 in Campus Center, Room C, Portland; Wednesday, June 10 in Campus Center, Room C, Portland and Wednesday, July 8 in the Presidential Dining Room, Gorham. The Professional Staff Lunch will be held May 20. All are invited to attend senate meetings. For more information, call Chair Rosa Redonnet at 780-4059.

The Classified Staff Senate meets every third Tuesday, from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Chair Lee Townsend at 874-6500.



USM students (left to right) Laurel Guerin, Kevin Keirstead and Kathleen Weddleton, are featured in the Russell Hall Theatre production of "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean," by Ed Graczyk. This comedy-drama, later made into a feature film, about the 20th reunion of a 1950s fan club called the Disciples of James Dean, blends Southern charm and heated emotions. Performances on the Mainstage, Russell Hall, Gorham are at 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 17, Saturday, April 18, and Thursday, April 23 through Saturday, April 25. There will be 5 p.m. performances on Sunday, April 19 and Sunday, April 26. Reservations can be made by calling the box office at 780-5483.

Dratch Photo

What We're Doing

NANCY AUSTIN, assistant professor of education, has recently been awarded a Dwight D. Eisenhower Grant given to improve the quality of mathematics and science education for her project, "Rediscovering the Mathematics Learner Within." She has also been appointed to the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance, the governing body of the State Systemic Initiative in Mathematics and Science.

GREGORY P. BAZINET, assistant professor of technology, presented his paper, "The Prism Effect," to the Unemployed Professionals Group of Portland on February 19 at Woodfords Congregational Church.

SUSAN F. CLARK, assistant professor of theatre, chaired a panel and gave a paper in November titled, "Finding Women's Voice: Plays By Women," at the New England Theatre Conference Convention in New Haven.

HOWARD M. FAULKNER, associate professor of technology, is the recipient of the Energy Efficient Building Association Distinguished Service Award for 1992 which was presented at the 1992 EEBA Conference and Exposition in North Carolina this March.

RICHARD H. FORTINSKY, director of the Center for Aging and Rehabilitation, Edmund S. Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, presented a paper titled, "Rural and Elders' Long-Term Care Service Use" at the February meeting of the Gerontology Forum Series sponsored by the Center for Gerontology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

MARGARET A. FOURNIER, associate professor of nursing, presented her research in process on co-mothering in a poster session at the Medical College of Pennsylvania Nursing Education '92 Conference in Orlando, Fla., January 4. In addition, Fournier was recently honored as a recipient of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance Presidential Award for her work in the area of Gay rights.

JOSEPH GRANGE, professor of philosophy, had his work in Environmental Philosophy featured in the spring 1992 edition of The Environmental and Architectural Newsletter which is published by the Kansas State University Department of Architecture and Planning. In addition to reprinting his essay on Normative Dimensions in Environmental Planning, the journal singled out for discussion many of his essays pub-

lished over the last decade. He was cited for his seminal contributions to the field of ecology and environmental ethics.

MICHAEL S. HAMILTON, associate professor of political science, published a book review on "Seabrook Station: Citizen Politics and Nuclear Power," by Henry F. Bedford, in Perspectives on Political Science. Hamilton also was invited by the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations to participate in a pre-publication peer review of its forthcoming report on "A Decade of Change in Regulatory Federalism: Evaluating Regulatory Trends and Relief Strategies for the 1990s."

H. DRAPER HUNT III, professor of history, recently spoke to the Gorham Historical Society on "Matthew Brady's World," to a Waynflete elementary school class on American presidents; to a Greeley Junior High School class on Abraham Lincoln; to the Gray-New Gloucester Kiwanis Club on "Lincoln and Hamlin," and to the Portland Club and Salvation Army Golden Age Group on "The Faces of Lincoln."

JUDITH L. JOHNSON, director of the Testing and Assessment Center, recently returned from a visit to the Polytechnic of North London, England, where she met with faculty and administrators to learn about adult access programs provided by the institution.

EDWIN P. KULAWIEC, associate professor of education, translated and wrote introductions for "When I am Little Again" and "The Child's Right To Respect" by Janusz Korczak, published by University Press of America in February.

VALARIE C. LAMONT, director of the Institute for Real Estate Research and Education, made a presentation to the York County Rotary titled "The Impact of Real Estate on the Maine Economy" on January 31, 1992, at the York Harbor Inn.

REBECCA BRYANT LOCKRIDGE, associate professor of communication, acted as reader for papers for the Visual Communication division of the Speech Communication Commission annual conference in Atlanta last November, and for the nationally selected top undergraduate paper for the Organization for Communication Language and Gender, October 1991. She has also been invited to review papers for the journal, Women and Language. Lockridge also had a chapter titled "Six Readers Reading Six Photographs" published in the book, "Constructing and Deconstructing Gender," State University of New York Press,

1992. As second vice president of the Eastern Communication Association, Lockridge is in charge of planning for The Maine Event, the ECA 83rd annual conference, to be held in Portland April 30-May 3. She is chair of, and respondent to, papers presented in the program "A Refuge Against the 'World's People': The Rhetorical Function of Shaker and Quaker Design."

JAYNE D. B. MARSH, director of Project AIMS, Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, will be presenting a workshop titled "Strengthening the Foundations of Emotional Development in Early Childhood," to the Westbrook College/Southern Maine Association for the Education of Younger Children, Infant and Toddler Caregivers Institute, May 29-30. She will be presenting a workshop titled "Project AIMS" to the Saint Anselm College Research Symposium, Health Promotion Across the Lifespan on June 8.

LINDA R. MEYER, associate professor of therapeutic recreation programs, has been appointed to the State Department of Education's Physical Education Certification Review Committee which will examine new teacher certification requirements in the area of adapted physical education.

JOHN MITCHELL, professor emeritus, industrial arts, recently completed 15 years as eastern regional director of Epsilon Pi Tau, International Honorary Fraternity for Education in Technology. He was twice chair of the international board, and as vice chair served on the editorial board of the Journal of Epsilon Pi Tau. He visited and advised trustees of chapters in colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and New England. As a life member and historian/archivist for the Portland chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Mitchell authored a history of the chapter titled, "The First 50 Years," copies of which were distributed at its anniversary celebration in December. He has been recognized by the International Technology Education Association, the Council of Technology Teacher Educators, as well as the Society of Manufacturing Engineers for his services and contributions to Technology Education at the state and national levels.

LESLIE H. NICOLL, executive director, Bingham Consortium for Health Research, and research associate in the Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, edited a second edition of an anthology of readings titled "Perspectives on Nursing Theory" that was published by J. B. Lippincott.



Currents
Office of Media Relations
96 Falmouth Street
Portland, ME 04103

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Materials should be submitted to Currents 17 days prior to publication to: Media Relations, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland

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