

9-25-1989

## Currents, Vol.8, No.2 (Sept.25, 1989)

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### Recommended Citation

Caswell, Robert S. and Swain, Susan E., "Currents, Vol.8, No.2 (Sept.25, 1989)" (1989). *Currents*. 110.  
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents/110>

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# CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 8, Number 2

September 25, 1989

## New Initiatives for USM

The annual faculty/staff breakfast has become an opportunity, President Plante said in her September 1 address, to comment on "some theme that matters to the biography of USM." This year, she said, she wanted to consider "our professional lives in a metropolitan university."

At the invitation of the president of Wright State University, she explained, USM has joined ten other universities with common goals to form a coalition to create national recognition for metropolitan universities, the term agreed upon to represent a particular form of university. The first step in pursuing this goal will be a national conference inviting some 50 universities to Wright State in April "for the purpose of refining the concept and attaching to ourselves a large number of peer institutions." The conference will be televised on PBS as part of a series on metropolitan America, she said. The conference will additionally present the first issue of a new national journal, tentatively called Metropolitan Universities.

President Plante also reported on: preparations for USM's reaccreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges in the spring of 1991; a capital campaign to raise \$65 million for the University of Maine System; and the success of USM's Annual Fund.

Henry Amoroso will be chairing a committee to prepare for the accreditation review. The committee will report to Provost John Deegan and will be assisted by Robert Goettel, executive assistant to the president.

The five-year UMS capital campaign, "Pride and Promise," was launched with a gift from Mrs. Betty Noyes of \$5 million, part of which will endow five professorships at USM, each worth \$250,000. USM will be conducting a simultaneous campaign

for our campus. USM's Annual Fund raised \$133,000, almost \$100,000 more than in past years. Next year's goal for the Annual Fund is \$175,000.

The president reported that she had asked Provost Deegan to establish committees to examine four major issues this year and report on these to the Faculty Senate. The issues under study are expansion of graduate programs; the role of the fine arts at a metropolitan university; consolidation and expansion of programs in health and human services; and further initiatives in internationalizing the curriculum and the campus.

In further discussion of the role of the metropolitan university, the president referred to the need to avoid the traps within higher education that

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USM President Patricia R. Plante accepted from B. Dean Stearns, director of external affairs for New England Telephone, the first \$8,000 installment of a \$24,000 gift donated by N.E. T. as part of its Academic Support Program for Colleges and Universities at a brief ceremony held Monday, July 24 on the Portland campus. The unrestricted gift is being presented to USM in three, \$8,000 installments in each of the next three years. With the NET initial gift and other recent gifts, the Annual Fund received a total of \$133,000 for the 1988-89 year.

Caswell photo

## Through a Poet's Eyes

### Convocation on Latin America Opens

A Latin American poet/novelist and advocate for liberation in her homeland will open the 1989-90 Convocation, "Worlds in Flux: Latin America." Claribel Alegria will speak on "A Poet's View of Latin America" at 1:30 p.m. in the Portland Gym, Wednesday, October 4. Alegria comes to USM following her appearance as an honored guest at the annual P.E.N. World Congress of writers.



Claribel Alegria

In her writing and in her personal life, Alegria has been an outspoken advocate of political freedom in her homeland, El Salvador, and in Central America. A native of Nicaragua, Alegria grew up in El Salvador after her father's anti-Somoza politics forced their family to flee their native country. Many of her friends and colleagues have been imprisoned or disappeared, and since 1980, her criticisms of the Salvadoran government have kept her in exile. This past imbues all of Alegria's work. One of her better known books, "Luisa in Realityland," draws from her personal past and the history of Latin America, blending politics and personalities as it blends prose and poetry. An earlier book "Ashes of Izalco," coauthored by Alegria and her husband, American writer Darwin J. Flakoll, is considered a Salvadoran classic and has become one of the most widely read novels in Central America. It was published in

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## Global Perspective

■ Twelve students and three faculty members from Kharkov State University in the Ukraine will be on campus from Thursday, September 28 to Thursday, October 5 as part of the Soviet Pairing Project.

■ Hosts for homestay dinners are being sought for visitors from Shinagawa, Japan. The 210 visitors will be in Portland during the week of October 9 to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Portland/Shinagawa sister-city relationship. The homestay dinners are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10. Three to five guests, including at least one English-speaking guest, will be hosted for a typical dinner. Host families will be invited to participate in other special events during the week. Contact Tim Honey, vice president for development and external affairs, at 780-4382 for more information.

■ Neal Rote, director and professor, Applied Immunology Program, presented an invited talk at the 4th International Congress on Reproductive Immunology in Kiel, West Germany in July.

■ At the request of the TriServices Medical School in Taiwan, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Neal Rote, director and professor, Applied Immunology Program, has invited a member of the obstetrical staff to spend two years in Maine, learning new lab techniques in reproductive immunology and studying the latest in obstetrics and gynecology clinical practices. All expenses will be paid by the TriServices Medical School, Taiwan.

■ Ah-Kau Ng, associate professor of applied immunology, presented two papers at the 4th International Congress on Immunology in Berlin, West Germany in August.

■ Richard H. Fortinsky, associate director and research and advanced study associate, Human Services Development Institute, Public Policy and Management Program, attended the International Gerontology Conference in Acapulco.

■ The Office of International Programs reports that 22 students will travel abroad during this academic year: 12 to England; two to Ireland; one to Scotland; three to the USSR; one to France; one to the Netherlands; one to Austria; and one to Korea.



Sixteen students from the Caribbean and Central America are enrolled in our associate degree program in business administration through an agreement with the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (C.A.S.S.). Host families are still being sought for several of USM's C.A.S.S. students. Contact Marilyn Gellner at 780-4550. *Caswell photo*

## Texts That Matter

### New Honors Program Lecture Series

"As part of a university, we live in a world of texts. Some texts we can't forget fast enough; others become central to who we are." This quote prefaces a new, exciting, speakers series, titled, "Texts That Matter," sponsored by the Honors Program Student Association. The series will examine how individual lives have been affected by particular texts, and the peculiar ability of certain texts to shape or change the readers.

Speakers in the series come from all sectors of the university: students, faculty and administrators; each will explain the impact of a particular work on his or her thinking. President Patricia Plante, for example, will speak on Richard Rorty's recent book, "Contingency, Irony and Solidarity." Professor William Owens from the Department of Foreign Languages and Classics will discuss the importance he finds in a detective novel. Four students, three of whom are in the Honors Program, will be speaking on works ranging from "Woman Warrior" to "Agamemnon."

These informal talks, open to all members of the university and the general public, will be held on four Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.,

this semester, in Room 503, Luther Bonney Hall.

According to Jeremiah Conway, director of USM's Honors Program, there are a number of reasons for undertaking the series. "First," he says, "we seek to provide a forum, often neglected, for explicitly examining the intersection between texts and personal lives. Second, the fact that it features student speakers serves the Honors Program's conviction that public speaking is an important dimension of undergraduate education. Third, it highlights the great willingness of people throughout the university to participate in intellectual discussion, outside the boundaries of disciplinary specialties, and on a personal level. Finally, the fact that this series has been developed and organized by students in the Honors Program is a tribute to the calibre of students found at USM."

Wanda Whitten, president of the Honors Students Association, adds, "From a student's point of view, the series offers a forum for students not only to exchange ideas, but also to extend their capabilities in other ways. As one student said, when asked to participate: "This (public speaking) is the last thing I want to do, but I can't pass up the opportunity."

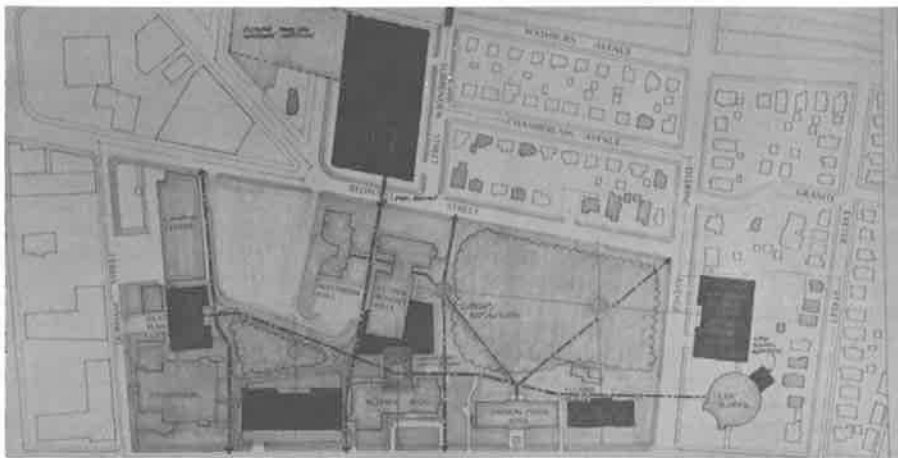
### Series Schedule

**September 27**, Sandra Brunk, Honors student, discusses "Agamemnon," and Gloria Duclos, professor of classics, discusses "The Aeneid."

**October 11**, William Owens, assistant professor of classics, discusses Michael Gilbert's "The Body of a Girl;" Honors Program student, James Jellison, discusses Maxine Hong Kingston's "The Woman Warrior;" and Rebecca Lockridge, assistant professor of communication, discusses "The Photography of Margaret Bourke-White."

**November 15**, President Patricia Plante discusses "Contingency, Irony and Solidarity," by Richard Rorty; and Rebecca Fredericks, a Honors Program student, discusses "Crime and Punishment" by Dostoevsky.

**December 6**, Richard Clarey, dean of the School of Business, Economics and Management, discusses "African Genesis" by Leo Frobenius and Douglas C. Fox; Stephen Roy, the 1989 recipient of a Presidential Scholarship Award, will discuss Thoreau's "Walden;" and Willard Callender, professor of education, will discuss the Bible.



Pictured is a preliminary master plan for the Portland campus, prepared by Sasaki Associates, a Portland-based architectural firm. The plan includes a 50,000 to 60,000-square foot the Portland library, a 12,000-square foot addition to the School of Law library, and a parking garage on the site of the present Bedford Street lot. Those projects are to be financed with \$9.1 million from passage of the 1988 bond issue. The plan is in the early stages of development. An informational meeting was held last Wednesday, September 20 for the benefit of people who live in the neighborhoods surrounding the campus. We also are scheduled to take the plan to the Portland Planning Board this Tuesday, September 26 for an informational hearing. Based on feedback and suggestions from those two sessions, we will select an architect to develop final plans. In the above drawing, the lighter areas represent existing buildings, the darker areas, ideas for possible expansion.

## Campus Notes

■ USM's Art Gallery will present an exhibition of prints from the collection of Maurine and Robert Rothschild, published by USM and printed by Thomas Black and Richard Wilson, from Sunday, October 1 to Thursday, October 19, on the Gorham campus. An opening reception will be held from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 28. The Art Gallery is open from 12 noon - 4 p.m., Sunday through Thursday. Call 780-5409 for more information.

■ The Honors Program is offering a lecture series, "The Ancient World: Origin(al) Searches," this semester. The first event will be a play reading of Aristophanes' "Lysistrata," taking place at 7 p.m., on Saturday, October 7, in Luther Bonney Auditorium, Portland, and co-sponsored with the Theatre Department.

## New Initiatives

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would push metropolitan universities to "teach courses of study that are predominantly of immediate economic usefulness—even to the neglect of those that are of long-term intellectual importance." Her assessment of the future of metropolitan universities is optimistic: "We're in the right place at the right time."

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However, because of our "patchwork quilt history and our historically meager resources," USM will have to work hard to catch up with some of our peer institutions, she said. "That we can do it, I have no doubt. And my confidence is built upon the conviction that this university is filled with enormously talented people."

## Convocation

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English translation this month.

Alegría is the author of ten volumes of poetry, three short novels and a book of children's stories. With Flakoll, she has published several books, including testimony and contemporary Latin American history. While at USM, Alegría and Flakoll will visit Profesor Alfred Padula's Latin American history class to lecture and meet students at 10 a.m., Tuesday, October 3. The class has been moved to Room 1, Payson Smith Hall.

Upcoming Convocation events include one-hour documentary videos, to be held at 12 noon in the Campus Center, Room C, Portland: "A Man, A Plan, A Canal," on Thursday, September 28; and "Rio Sao Francisco," on Thursday, October 5. For more information, call Alyce O'Brien, Convocation administrator at 780-4440 or Prof. Padula, Convocation scholar at 780-4392.

## Fall Open House

The Office of Admissions is sponsoring a Fall Open House on Saturday, October 28, offering the public an opportunity to become more familiar with USM's courses, campuses, faculty, staff and students. The open house, to be held in the Portland Gym from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., is part of a statewide "Come to Campus Day." Contact 780-4040 for more information. Additional details will appear in an upcoming issue of *Currents*.



Ten journalists from West Africa and Haiti came to USM in late August as part of a training institute established for French-speaking journalists by Voice of America and the University of Maine. Participants of the institute have the opportunity to compare techniques with American journalists. Maine was chosen for the institute because of the number of French-speaking professionals in the state. The group was addressed by Senator Georgette Berube of Maine, center, and hosted by Stephen Simonds, International Programs. *Erhun photo*



## What We're Doing

**KAREN ERICKSON**, assistant professor of political science and director of International Studies, was an invited participant and discussant at the second biennial U.S.-Finnish Conference, sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution's Woodrow Wilson Center. She served as Portland's delegate to the annual conference on the Council on Foreign Relations, focusing on "The Emergence of Japan as a Global Power." Erickson was recently reelected to the executive board of the Foreign Policy Analysis Section of the International Studies Association.

**MICHAEL S. HAMILTON**, assistant professor of political science, is editor and author of one chapter of a book, "Regulatory Federalism, Natural Resources and Environmental Management," accepted for publication in 1990 by the American Society for Public Administration.

**CARTER MANNY**, assistant professor of business law, presented a paper titled "Countervailable Domestic Subsidies under United States Law" at the annual meeting of the American Business Law Association in Los Angeles on August 17.

**AH-KAU NG**, associate professor of applied immunology, presented a seminar to the Department of Pathology, Maine Medical Center. Ng's article, "Expression of Class I and Class II Major Histocompatibility Antigens on Human Hepatoma Cell Lines," appeared in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. He also had an article in *Transplantation* titled, "The Mechanism of the Induction of Immunologic Unresponsiveness to Rat Cardiac Allografts by Recipient Pretreatment with Donor Lymphocyte Subsets."

**PATRICIA R. PLANTE**, president, will have her book, "Myths and Realities in Academic Administration," published by ACE/Macmillan in March, 1990. She will have three papers published this coming academic year: "Leadership and the Making of New Words," in the January/February issue of *Liberal Education*; "An Administrator Will Yearn for the Classroom," in the January/February issue of *Educational Record*; and "The Metropolitan University Faculty: Form and Texture of a Professional Life," in the spring inaugural issue of *Metropolitan Universities*. Plante has also authored one of the chapters in "Governing Tomorrow's Campuses," to be published by ACE/Macmillan in September.

**NEAL S. ROTE**, professor and chairperson of the Department of Applied Medical Sciences, was an invited speaker at Pathology Grand Rounds at the Cardinal Cushing Hospital in Brockton, Mass.; at the Ob/Gyn Nursing Conference held in the Kennebec Valley Medical Center, Augusta; at the regional meeting of the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics in Wakefield, Mass.; at the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development sponsored workshop on Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension; and at the Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. Rote chaired the session on immunology at the 15th annual Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium and the session on autoimmunity and pregnancy at the 9th annual meeting of the American Society for the Immunology of Reproduction at Prout's Neck. He has been appointed a full member of the Human Embryology and Development Study Section of the National Institutes of Health, serving from July 1989 through June 1993; is an appointed member of the editorial board for the *Journal of Reproductive Immunology*; and has accepted a part-time faculty position in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Vermont. He co-authored a paper on "Ultrastructural Localization of Antigenic Sites

in Human Term Placenta for a Monoclonal Antibody (3SB9b) Directed Against Phosphatidylserine" which was presented at the 9th annual symposium of the American Society for the Immunology of Reproduction. Rote has recently published "Monoclonal Antibodies Against Phosphatidylserine Induced by Phospholipid Liposomes" (abstract) and "Monoclonal Antibodies to Platelet Activation Antigens" (abstract) in the *American Journal of Reproductive Immunology*. His abstract, "Antiphospholipid Antibodies and Recurrent Pregnancy Loss," appeared in the *Journal of Reproductive Immunology*.

**EUGENE P. A. SCHLEH**, professor of history, and USM alumna, Mary Lou Quinn, had their article, "The Little Maine Murders of B. J. Morison," published in the spring/summer issue of *Clues: A Journal of Detection*.

**LEONARD J. SHEDLETSKY**, associate professor and chair of communication, has a chapter titled, "What Evidence Do We Have for the Psychological Reality of Non-conscious Processing?" in "Intrapersonal Communication Processes: Original Essays," published by Spectra and Gorsuch Scarisbrick in 1989.



In the second of the 1989-90 Faculty Concert Series, at 8 p.m., Friday, October 6, Thomas Parchman will perform works by Schumann, Brahms, Dahl and Bricciale on clarinet, assisted by Laura Kargul on piano. Kargul will perform in the next concert, Friday, November 17. All concerts in the series are held in Corthell Concert Hall on the Gorham campus. Tickets are \$7 public, \$4 students, faculty and staff. For more information, call 780-5555. *Erhun photo*

## University of Southern Maine

### Currents

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Portland, ME 04103

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*Currents* is published bi-weekly on Mondays throughout the academic year. Materials should be submitted no later than Friday noon, 17 days prior to publication to: Media Relations 96 Falmouth Street, Portland

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