Program eliminations to be finalized this month

Emma James
News Editor

In two weeks the University of Maine System board of trusteess will vote on whether or not to eliminate three programs at USM: American and New England studies, geosciences and the arts and humanities program on the Lewiston-Auburn Campus.

USM administrators proposed eliminating these programs in March as a cost-saving measure in an attempt to cut an estimated $12.5 million from the budget, which will increase into $15 million at the end of this fiscal year. Former President Theo Kalikow proposed the cuts, but Interim President David Flanagan is carrying them forward.

The eliminations were recently approved by a UM committee and sent to the full board of trustees for final voting.

“We have to start somewhere,” said Flanagan. “There did not seem to be any good reason to delay acting when it’s clear that there are going to be even bigger deficits to deal with prospectively.”

Trustee Bonnie Newsom cast the single vote against the eliminations.

“[Trustee Newsom] wanted to be able to vote on the three programs individually, but the proposal as it was was a straight up yes or no on all three programs together,” said Meghan LaSala, senior women and gender studies major and leader in the group Students for USMFuture, who was at the meeting. “She spoke in support of American and New England studies and said that she couldn’t in good conscience vote in favor of the elimination of the program because of the service it provides to the region. It’s one of the only of its kind in the country.”

Flanagan agrees and notes that the American and New England studies program is remarkable and unique, but expensive, in terms of the deficit it runs and the number of students they graduate. USM developed and applied quantitative based criteria that the programs didn’t meet. This criteria looked at enrollment, graduation rates, retention numbers increase.

According to Savage, this tactic is working well for the University.

See CUTS on page 3

President David Flanagan stands on stage and gives a welcoming speech to a sparsely attends crowd of faculty and students at Hannaford Hall on the Portland campus. His speech was around 9 minutes long.

We have to keep our costs down while we face the realities of this revenue situation if we’re going to make USM more efficient, accessible and affordable to the Maine people,” said Flanagan to a sparse, mixed crowd of faculty and students at a welcoming speech last Wednesday in Abromson Hall. “I think if we can control our costs, overall we’ll attract more students, and we’ll do a better job of serving the state of Maine. That’s got to be a primary focus for us in these challenging times.”

Lydia Savage, a professor of geography in the Muskie School of Public Service, believes that the administration should decrease tuition to see their enrollment numbers increase.

According to Savage, this tactic is working well for the University.
Administrators surprised by enrollment shortfall

Enrollment at USM has dropped again this year, with reports showing a negative six percent change in credit hours enrolled for the coming year.

According to Chief Financial Officer Dick Campbell, declining enrollment has been one of the biggest contributors to the ongoing budget deficit, as revenue from tuition and fees make up two-thirds of the university’s income. He said that the administration was prepared for enrollment troubles, but had only budgeted for a loss of less than two percent.

“We have an unsustainable model right now,” said newly-appointed Executive Director of Public Affairs Christopher Quint. “It’s not just about cutting programs; we have to grow.”

Fewer first year students applied and enrolled this fall, and there was a drop in the number of students transferring from other universities as well, according to university reports. Out-of-state enrollment, which brings in more money, is up by 15 percent, but enrollment, which brings in more money, is up by 15 percent, but doesn’t balance the loss of enrollment overall.

“Too many students are choosing not to come to USM. Declining enrollments are flashing lights calling for fundamental change,” said newly-appointed Provost Joseph McDonnell.

This semester, Dickey-Wood Hall in Gorham has been made completely offline as a student housing option due to a drop in spring enrollment. McDonnell says that he plans on making USM a more distinguishable higher education choice by attempting to offer more tuition flexibility, better career direction, an easier transfer experience and changing the campus culture to create a more welcoming environment.

“The administration steering USM toward being an urban metropolitan university aims to increase enrollment as well, providing more accessibility and efficiency to applicants, resources for older students and attractiveness to commuters.”

“A big part of our plan is expanding our applicant base,” said Campbell.

“It’s a plan that we’re working on and evolving the criteria for.”

Part of this criteria includes tactics observed from schools with rising enrollment like the University of New Hampshire, such as more aggressive out-of-state recruiting.

Quint said that he will be working on completely overhauling the communications and marketing operations at USM in hopes of giving it an edge in the competitive higher education market. He will work on re-evaluating how the administration deals with admissions, how college goals are distinguishable higher education choice as well as more aggressive out-of-state recruiting.

McDonnell recognized that scaling back academic programs might result in a further enrollment decrease next year and said it will definitely not be a primary tactic.

“Recruitment and retention will be my highest priorities,” said McDonnell.

Quint admitted that it would take drastic changes to get USM’s enrollment up to par, but that the administration is up to the challenge.

“Our class sizes are appealing, and students that come to USM feel like they are at home,” said Quint, noting that focusing on the positive aspects of USM will help the most. “Students can come here for a great education combined with the beauty of Maine.”

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

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"It might sound strange but I'm not stressed. I feel challenged and stimulated."

- David Flanagan
  President of USM

From PROGRAMS on page 1

their degrees.

Kent Ryden, director and professor of American and New England studies, described his feelings as "disappointed."

"I think [American and New England studies] is a very important and valuable program for the university and for the region," said Ryden. "We’ve traditionally had a close working relationship with schools and museums and historical societies in the community, so I’m disappointed that we haven’t had the opportunity to find a way to restructure the program."

Ryden explained that he would like to keep the program alive in any way possible – if not as the self contained entity that it is now, then in a way that’s more cost efficient and will bring in more revenue.

According to Lydia Savage, professor of geography, USM just didn’t have the resources to explore alternate options for any of the other programs on the table.

In the board of trustees meeting, both President Flanagan and Provost McDonnell praised the three programs for their quality of teaching, research, community engagement and said that with a little investment and a little time, they could be turned around, but USM didn’t have either," Savage said.

"So these are decisions that are being made while acknowledging that it could be different," LaSala said.

Still, Flanagan believes that even if we could offer many majors, it would mean higher costs and reducing accessibility and affordability.

"They had developed criteria and these programs seemed to be, by any reasonable standard, high priorities for elimination," said Flanagan. "It’s not because they’re not good programs."

Phil Shelley, USM graduate and active member of Students for USMFUTURE, feels that, since these are the same programs that President Kalikow ‘targeted’ a year ago, the elimination of them is seen as part of a larger end game.

"We won’t be able to withstand $15 million in cuts. It’ll result in a drastic change in the nature of the institution and the way it serves the people of Portland and Maine."

- Phillip Shelley
  USM graduate; member of Students for USM Future

"So I think he has a very realistic sense of the position that he’s been put in. I perceive him as having to go out and dissolve a problem that the previous administration wouldn’t or couldn’t.

“We will have to make more cuts. We’ll try to do it strategically. We’ll try to do it consistently hitting the priorities of the metropolitan university report. We’ll try to do it with the least pain to the USM community. We will have to reduce both faculty and administrative staff in the coming year,” said Flanagan.

These cuts will be done by eliminating individual faculty in programs that are going to continue, as well as eliminating whole programs.

Still, LaSala and Shelley believe the students remain the strongest force to be reckoned with.

“There’s an opportunity here to organize and to make a difference, but students need to take that opportunity,” said LaSala. “That’s up to us.”

From CUTS on page 1

of Maine in Presque Isle and Fort Kent. Savage also thinks that the UM system should be actively investing more into USM.

"USM should be one of the top assets in Southern Maine, the population center of the state," said Savage. "Instead, we are told to cut, to cut, to cut. We seem to be making decisions behind a curtain," said Flanagan. "In terms of finding a solution, it was like throwing darts at a board."

Flanagan also said that if bitter tones across blogs and social media continue, USM will look a lot less appealing to potential applicants and their parents.

"Complaining about them [the economic factors] does not erase the deficit," said Flanagan. Flanagan closed off the welcome speech on Wednesday by exhibiting a great deal of optimism about the year and future of USM. Flanagan said that although it may seem strange, he’s not stressed and is ready to take on the challenges at USM.

“This is not my first rodeo,” said Flanagan. “I feel challenged and stimulated.”

“USM is a place you can be proud of,” said Flanagan. “But I will bend every effort and spend every waking hour thinking about this issue and ways I can make students even more proud to call USM their home.”

Emma@usmfreepress.org
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Fall 2014 Hours of Operation

Sunday 9:45 am – 6 pm
Monday-Thursday 5:45 am – 10 pm
Friday 5:45 am – 7 pm
Saturday 6:45 am – 6 pm
All activities end 15 minutes before closing. Schedule is subject to change. Call 780-4169 or visit our website for details.

The Fitness Center will be closed Tues/Thurs 8:45am – 9:45am due to an academic class & The Body shop will be closed Tues/Thurs 1:30pm – 2:30pm due to the Women’s Power Hour.
Use the opposite room for your Fitness needs during these times.

Memberships
If you’re a current USM Student, you’re already a member!

ID’s: Every person who enters Sullivan Complex must show a valid USM Photo ID or a government issued ID for entrance. No exceptions!

Risk Release Forms: An assumption of Risk and Release is required to be completed at the time of purchase by each member for participation in all activities and programs held within the Sullivan Recreation & Fitness Complex.

Family memberships are available for immediate family members only. Visit the web FMI: http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus

Services
Towel, laundry service & lockers available with membership only.

Towel Service: Clean towels for showering after your workout.
Fee: 3 months $7, 6 months $12, 12 months $20

Lockers:
Half Locker Fee: 3 months $7, 6 months $13, 12 months $24
Full Locker Fee: 3 months $12, 6 months $18, 12 months $30

Laundry Service: Launder time and remove your workout clothes clean!
Fee: $6 months $28, $50

Saunas: Saunas are available in women’s and men’s locker rooms
Fee: Free

Connect with Us!
www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus

Sullivan Recreation and Fitness Complex
Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation - USM Outing Club - Sullivan Complex Recreation & Fitness
Information Desk: 207-780-4939
E-Mail: wsargent@usm.maine.edu

Fitness Center & Body Shop Programs

Fitness Programs can be found on the web: http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus/usm-fitness-center-body-shop

Registration Information
To Register: Go to the USM Sullivan Recreation & Fitness Office, 104 Complex with your USM student photo I.D card beginning September 2, 2014. Classes are subject to change.

Stop in or view website for updates on program offerings. http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus

Fitness Activity Programs
All programs require pre-registration.
Program Preview - Schedule is subject to change

Class fees are per semester offering 10-12 weeks depending on offering

Belly Dance:
View the web for class description. Instructor Mary Ann Butts.
Schedule: Monday Time:5:30pm – 6:30pm, (1 day a week)
Begins: 9/15/14 Ends: 11/24/2014
Fee: $10 Student, $25 Member, $65 public

Cardio Dance:
A fusion of Latin & Fusion music &/or Hip Hop dance themes that create a dynamic, exciting and effective workout system. Wear loose comfortable clothing! Instructor Kate Ostander
Schedule: T-T-H 5:00pm – 6:00pm (2 day/week)
Begins: 9/16/14 Ends: 12/11/14
Fee: $10 Student, $50 Member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Incredible 20
Open gym time for walk jog. The main gym is 12 laps to a mile.
Schedule: M-W-F: 6:00am-9:00am (3 day/week)
Fee: Free to Students, Included with current gym membership, $5 drop-in day fee for all non-members

Indoor Walk/Bag Drop In:
Open gym time for walk jog. The main gym is 12 laps to a mile.
Schedule: M-W-F: 6:00am-9:00am (3 day/week)
Fee: Free to Students, Included with current gym membership, $5 drop-in day fee for all non-members

Cross Training:
This program will include cardiovascular and anaerobic exercises, strength training, and plyometric Training methods, race training and running technique tips and general fitness programs will be addressed. Class is appropriate for all fitness levels. Instructor Bruce Koharian.
Schedule: M-W-F, 4:30pm-5:00pm (3 day/week)
With fit balls & general fitness
Schedule: M-W-F, 5:00pm-6:00pm (3 day/week)
Full-fledged advanced class
Begins: 9/15/14 Ends: 12/12/14
Fee: $10 Students, $20 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Spin IT:
Group fitness workout on spinning bikes. Instructor Jillian Magee.
Limited to 14 participants.
Schedule: M-W-F 6:00am-7:00am (3 day/week)
Begins: 9/15/14 Ends: 12/12/14
Fee: $15 students, $30 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $120 without membership

Spin IT – Lunch Spin Express:
A moderate to vigorous 45 minute workout that will include a warm-up, 35 minutes of spinning and then cool down and stretching. Good for exercisers of all levels. Instructor Niffy Allen. Limited to 14 participants.
Schedule: T-T-H 12:00pm-12:45pm (2 day/week)
Begins: 9/16/14 Ends: 12/11/14
Fee: $10 students, $20 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Women’s Strength & Power Hour:
The Women’s Only Fitness Hour will focus on providing women with all the essentials to get in shape. Circuit strength training for increasing muscular strength, bone density, core stability, balance and mobility. Cool down stretching at the end. Get all the benefits of a good balanced workout. Modifications can be made to meet different fitness levels. Instructor Niffy Allen. Limited to 12 participants.
Schedule: T-T-H 1:30pm-2:30pm (2 day/week)
Begins: 9/16/14 Ends: 12/11/14
Fee: $10 students, $20 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Yoga:
Pre-registration for yoga class offerings is a must. If you are signing up for this program, you should be prepared to make a 12 week commitment to one class per week.
Fee: $20 students, $50 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Classic Yoga - Make your own plan with the room’s yoga class. A gentle to moderate class in the traditional (Iyengar) hatha yoga style. Tuesday Instructor Severina Druchlovna & Thursday Instructor Lisbeth Balligan
Schedule: Classic Yoga - Tuesday 12pm-1:15pm (1 day/week)
Classic Yoga - Thursday 1:15pm-2:30pm (1 day/week)

Vinyasa Yoga Evening:
Instructor Jeanette Richard
Schedule: Vinyasa-Tuesday 7:00pm-8:15pm (1 day/week)
Begins: week of 9/16/14 Ends: week ending 12/12/14
Fee: $20 students, $50 member, Alumni, Faculty/Staff or Gen Public w/ membership, $100 without membership

Basketball & Racquetball Courts

Basketball:
Drop-in hours vary. Please check our website for an updated schedule Call 780-4169 to confirm availability.
www.usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus
Bring your own basketball for play, basketball courts are limited in availability

Racquetball/Squash/Wallyball:
Courts are reserved up to 1 week in advance.
Cost: Non-Members: $5 day fee and $2.50 court fee
Bring your own racquet for play as racquets are not available

Main Gym Group Activities/Open Gym

Open Gym for students/Drop in Activities:
Bring your own group or join with others! Badminton, Dodge ball, Floor Hockey, or Volleyball equipment is available for sign out.
Schedule: Tuesday & Thursday 2pm-4pm Held in the Main Gym
Fee: Free for students and members with ID, $5/day public
Fencing: Schedule: Tuesday 6pm-9pm – Held in the Main Gym
Fee: Free for students and members with ID, $5/day public
FMI: E-mail: the Blade Society usmsbladesociety@gmail.com

Indoor Soccer – Thursday 7:30pm – 9:30pm Held in the Main Gym
Fee: Free for students/members Must pre-register. Limit 20

Ultimate Frisbee: Tuesday 7pm-9pm – Held in the Main Gym.
Fee: Free for students and members with ID, $5/day public
FMI: Visit the Portland Ultimate Frisbee website at: http://portlandultimate.com/

Skating & Swimming

Students must register at USM Sullivan Complex Recreation Office, Rm. 104. Offering available to current semester students only. Come to 104 A.m. pre-registration.

Masseage & Reiki
Therapeutic Massage & Reiki: Appointments available with a Licensed Massage or Reiki Therapist.
Visit our website for more information. FMI: http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus/therapeutic-massage
Schedule: Appointments made in advance by calling 780-4909.
Fee: $45 for 60 minutes or $65 for 90 minutes

Ski Pass Discounts
Lost Valley, Mt. Abrams, Shawnee Peak, Sunday River, Sugarloaf, and Loon Mtn., NH all have student/faculty/staff/family member day pass discounts available. For a complete list visit: http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus/university-community-recreation-fitness-discount-offerings

USM Community Discount Offerings
Discount Program offerings through University Community Recreation & Fitness for Students, Faculty, Staff, and University Community members with a valid Campus Photo ID. Dine Around books, Sunrise Guides, Amusement park discount tickets at Funtown/Splashtown USA, Six Flags New England, Water Country, Canobie Lake & More For a complete listing of all ongoing specials visit the following website: http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancampus/university-community-recreation-fitness-discount-offerings

USM Outing Club
FMI: E-Mail: usm.outing.club@gmail.com

Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation S.M.O.R.
What is SMO? Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation is a University Funded program that offers discounted recreation adventures to you! There is something for everyone, regardless of your skill level. To find out more information visit us in the Sullivan Complex on the Portland Campus. Call us at 207-780-4939 or 228-8242.
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Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation

Empty senate seats now open to student body

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

The 43rd Student Senate held their first meeting of the semester last Friday and, while there was little official business on the table, attendance and filling seats in the senate was talked about the most.

Throughout the meeting, the importance of communication and attendance was discussed multiple times, and it was announced that four different senators would become less involved in different ways as the semester progresses.

Senator Christian Webb was excused from the first meeting by other senators, but it was made known that he would likely be missing the first five meetings of the semester as he went through tutoring training.

Senator Nick Marchetta and Senate Chair Joshua Dodge will leave after the fall semester and Senator Keegan Delaney, who was absent, is likely to resign.

Dodge said that he isn’t concerned and the senate goes through natural phases of losing and gaining members.

“The beauty of the senate is that it’s fluid, but stays structured. I’m confident that we’re going to have a handful of competent new senators soon,” said Dodge.

Dodge added that he has already been approached by numerous freshmen about joining the Student Government Association. Dodge will likely be replaced by Senate Vice Chair Judson Cease.

“It’s in our constitution that the vice chair will step up if they have to, and I’m completely confident that he’ll be able to,” said Dodge. “He’s been my right-hand man so far.”

Last year, members of the senate were sometimes accused of filling empty seats with their friends and people of similar interest groups, because the process to appoint a senator was so simple.

They’re combating those accusations with a new petition form that would require prospective senators to get 100 signatures from students to join.

“We want new senators to be good stewards of students and not just have the senate filled with people who just don’t know what to do with their spare time,” said Dodge.

“This way, a senator has to go up to students around campus and say, ‘this is why I would be a good senator,’ instead of just interviewing with one of us,” said Senator Joshua Tharpe.

Dodge added that he has already been approached by numerous freshmen about joining the Student Government Association.

Dodge will likely be replaced by Senate Vice Chair Judson Cease.

“We want people who are dedicated,” said Dodge. Dodge said that the senate will start advertising the open seats to the student body soon, and they will be marketed more heavily than in the past.

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Southern Maine Outdoor Recreation S.M.O.R.

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Administration hosts telethon to get students back in class

Two weeks ago the Office of Public Affairs announced that 1,000 students who were in the process of getting their degrees at USM hadn’t signed up for fall classes yet.

President Flanagan immediately reached out to staff and faculty members, asking them to call students in their departments and encourage them to sign up for classes.

“We have great concern for those learners who have become sidetracked or stalled on their path to a degree,” said Flanagan in a prepared statement.

“Our work with the Commission on College Affordability and College Completion has shown us that it is important to not only examine the rising costs of education but also other factors that impact students’ ability to complete higher education,” she said. “We need to recognize the challenges that have emerged with this new competitive environment in higher education.”

Alternative Spring Break info session planned

If you haven’t planned a trip for spring break yet, USM’s Alternative Spring Break group will be hosting information sessions next week for interested students.

Alternative spring break usually consists of traveling and participating in volunteer services somewhere else in the country or world, instead of a typical spring break filled with partying and draining savings accounts. This year the group will be traveling to Baltimore, Maryland.

The cost of traveling is covered by fundraising that the group does throughout the semester.

One session will be held in 44 Payson Smith Hall at noon on Wednesday and another will be held the following night on the Gorham campus in 113 Bailey Hall at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Craig Deforest, the Coordinator of Service-Learning & Volunteerism, by calling him at 207-228-8284.

USM to host NY Times philosophy columnist

The department of philosophy announced this week that Todd May, a class of 1941 memorial professor of the humanities at Clemson University and regular contributor to a New York Times philosophy column, will be giving a lecture titled “‘What Makes Life Meaningful?’ next Friday.

May is the author of eleven books of philosophy, with two more for forthcoming. One of these, to be published next spring, is entitled A Significant Life: Human Meaning in a Silent Universe.

“USM is very fortunate to have an internationally recognized scholar and philosopher come to campus,” said Jason Read, a professor of philosophy at USM.

Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log August 23 to September 1

Saturday, August 23

Time’s up

5:13 p.m. - Summons for Expired Registration and Warning for Expired Inspection issued to Joel B. Lavine, 59 of Portland. - Brighton Ave at Woodmont St.

Tight quarters

9:33 p.m. - Report taken for a motor vehicle accident. - Parking Garage, 98 Bedford St.

Sunday, August 24

 Darkness falls

5:03 a.m. - Allen J. Kiefer of Westbrook issued a summons for Failure to provide Proof of Insurance and warning for Inadequate Headlights and Expired Driver’s License. - Forest Ave.

Monday, August 25

Wrong turn

12:06 p.m. - Warning for Failure to Follow Turn Direction. - Bedford St. at Durham St.

Wrong way

8:38 p.m. - Warning for operating wrong way on a one way. - Oakhurst

Thursday, August 28

Fast and furious

12:35 a.m. - Warning to operator for speeding violation. - School St.

Saturday, August 30

Stop! In the name of the lot

9:32 a.m. - Warning for stop sign violation. - GS1 Parking Lot, 128 School St.

Sunday, August 31

Rolemodels

11:51 a.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana. - Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

Young and influenced

3:33 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana. - Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Monday, September 1

All clear

12:03 p.m. - Wellbeing check, subject all set. - Robbie Andrews Hall, 39 University Way

Holiday activity

1:17 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana. - Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

At it again, one hour later

2:13 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana. - Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

No rescue necessary

7:05 p.m. - Rescue call, no transport required. - Robbie Andrews Hall, 39 University Way

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.
Students spent their evenings walking around and trying a variety of new foods. William Grubb, who’s featured in the bottom left photo, was the organizer of this successful event.

The welcome team that helped Grubb set up and run the event for the day agreed with him on this perspective. They believed it was an essential tradition to be started at USM for Welcome Week.

“This event is unique to USM and Portland as a city,” said Samantha Ireland, a graduate assistant at the Wellness Resource Center. “While there are other events in Portland that give people a look into what’s on the menu for local restaurants, Taste of Portland gives attention to the up-and-coming craze of food trucks and street vendors within the city.”

“We enjoy getting involved with the community and having this relationship with USM,” said Phil George, creator and founder of Leonardo’s. “We like seeing local food vendors getting attention, and it’s just fun for us to be here.”

This event creates exposure to both the Glickman Library and the food trucks. Taste of Portland serves as an opportunity not just to eat free food, but to hang out amongst peers. Andrew Kiezulas, a junior chemistry major, feels as if events like these are important to USM because it gives people a reason to connect with others.

“I come for the food and I stay for the conversation.”

Taste of Portland is only on its second year and, according to Grubb, the head count for attendance appeared to be the same as last year. There weren’t many complaints about the event, except for the observation of student Mia Bogyo that it might be “better during the day.”

Despite the later scheduled time of 4:30 p.m., the hope is that more students will catch onto Taste of Portland for next year and find themselves drawn to an area of the campus that they otherwise might not have explored. This will allow students to see what Glickman has to offer for their education, to bond with their peers, and to sample some of Portland’s delicious food.

Students spent their evenings walking around and trying a variety of new foods. William Grubb, who’s featured in the bottom left photo, was the organizer of this successful event.

While grabbing a bite for free was the general motivation to attend amongst the event-goers, the event coordinator and Head of Reference and Instructional Services at the library William Grubb had a different motivation for starting Taste of Portland. By strategically placing the event in front of the Glickman Family Library, he said that he hopes students will notice the library more and utilize all the educational features it has to offer.

“Students think they can find articles and other study material with the click of a mouse on Google, but it’s the use of a library’s databases and books that are better tools for helping students learn,” said Grubb.

Grubb said that an event centered around local food relates to the Glickman Library’s origins as Huston’s Bakery, built in 1919. The building itself still has the concrete columns that once encased brick ovens.

Grubb mentioned that while Taste of Portland gives exposure to the library, it’s also important to celebrate and in some cases introduce Portland’s diverse culinary culture to the community.

The opinion amongst event goers was that Leonardo’s Pizza was the tastiest. They participated in Taste of Portland last year, and have been affiliated with other university events.

“While other events in Portland give people a look into what’s on the menu for local restaurants, Taste of Portland gives attention to the up-and-coming craze of food trucks and street vendors within the city.”

Lauren Ostis and Derrick Anderson, who run the Little Jamaican food cart, participated in Taste of Portland for the first time this year.

“We’re really trying to go to all types of events so we can meet people around the city and get exposure for our food,” said Ostis. She said that the jerk chicken and goat curry are two of the most popular sellers with USM students.

The welcome team that helped Grubb set up and run the event for the day agreed with him on this perspective. They believed it was an essential tradition to be started at USM for Welcome Week.

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Grubb mentioned that while Taste of Portland gives exposure to the library, it’s also important to celebrate and in some cases introduce Portland’s diverse culinary culture to the community.

The opinion amongst event goers was that Leonardo’s Pizza was the tastiest. They participated in Taste of Portland last year, and have been affiliated with other university events.

“We enjoy getting involved with the community and having this relationship with USM,” said Phil George, creator and founder of Leonardo’s. “We like seeing local food vendors getting attention, and it’s just fun for us to be here.”

This event creates exposure to both the Glickman Library and the food trucks. Taste of Portland serves as an opportunity not just to eat free food, but to hang out amongst peers. Andrew Kiezulas, a junior chemistry major, feels as if events like these are important to USM because it gives people a reason to connect with others.

“I come for the food and I stay for the conversation.”

Taste of Portland is only on its second year and, according to Grubb, the head count for attendance appeared to be the same as last year. There weren’t many complaints about the event, except for the observation of student Mia Bogyo that it might be “better during the day.”

Despite the later scheduled time of 4:30 p.m., the hope is that more students will catch onto Taste of Portland for next year and find themselves drawn to an area of the campus that they otherwise might not have explored. This will allow students to see what Glickman has to offer for their education, to bond with their peers, and to sample some of Portland’s delicious food.
Coffee shops in Portland

1.) Arabica

Out of all the coffee shops I have been to in Portland, I’d have to say that Arabica, located on Free Street in Portland, is my all time favorite place to go. Walking into this coffee shop, I was instantly greeted by the sights of comfortable seating and the smell of freshly brewed coffee and newly baked goods. Light music plays in the background while your barista kindly assists you in finding the perfect item to satisfy your needs. You are welcome to stay and relax or go about your day. The coffee can be a bit pricey, but if you love a warm and welcoming environment as well as high quality coffee and food, then this is definitely the place to go.

- Krysteena Scribner, Arts & Culture Editor

2.) Coffee by Design

I honestly have to say that my favorite coffee shop is Coffee by Design, located on Commercial Street in Portland. I just really like the variety of exotic roasts they have there, such as Kenya and Sumatran roasts. They literally send their employees to all parts of the world in order to find the perfect coffee. The Portland coffee shop has many locations, but for a true Portland hipster experience, I’d have to say that Coffee by Design on Commercial Street is the best.

- Francis Flisuik, Managing Editor

3.) Yordprom

I was never a huge fan of coffee shops because I don’t know anything about coffee. I always felt like only the cool Portland hipsters were allowed to go. Yordprom is my pick because they have parking, Wi-Fi, outdoor seating and Vietnamese iced coffee (plus I don’t have to add any extra milk or sugar; otherwise I’d spill it all over the counter). Its a great place to get work done or to meet up with friends for coffee dates.

- Sokvonny Chhouk, Design Director

4.) Bard Coffee

As a former coffee buyer for the local Whole Foods Market, I’m passionate about coffee. The city has some amazing shops that really focus on quality product. One of my favorites is Bard Coffee, located on Middle Street in Portland. They have a varied selection of single origin, organic coffees. I tend to be a purist, like my coffee black and usually opt for a fresh pour-over. It’s nice to sit at the bar and watch it drip. The bustling city atmosphere and local art are a draw and the highly skilled baristas create amazing latte art!

- Bruce Raymond, Multimedia Editor

5.) Crema

When I go to a coffee shop, it’s generally to hang out for a couple of hours to bang-out some homework, edit a bunch of stories for the paper or brainstorm some long-term creative projects to work on. I like to have plenty of space to work, which is hard to find in a lot of smaller, in-town shops. That’s why I like to hike across town and find myself a spot at Crema Cafe, on the east side of Commercial Street. You have to get there at just the right time of day to find a seat with access to an outlet (because obviously I’ll forget to charge my laptop the night before), but the wide-open atmosphere and giant wooden tables allow me to spread out whatever it is I’m working on. I get lost here and sometimes end up staying twice as long as I had intended. If you’re looking for a place to crank out some work, this is the place to set-up shop. Oh, and the coffee and baked goods are pretty excellent too.

- Sam Hill, Editor-in-Chief
First Friday a first for some, business as usual for others

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

Last Friday saw over 3,000 visitors, performers and local artists crowd Congress Street in Portland for a monthly tradition: The First Friday Art Walk. For some individuals it was the first time seeing this creative side to the Old Port.

Crowded Buses ran between the Gorham campus and Monument Square, which allowed students to get to the event with ease. Caroline Boston, Rachel Shokan, and Emily Benoit are all incoming freshmen who hadn’t experienced an art walk before and jumped on the bus to satisfy their curiosity.

“We don’t really know what to expect, and we’re really excited to check it out and explore Portland a little more,” said Boston, a Nursing major at USM.

Benoit, a Psychology major, commented by saying, “We heard there was food, music and jewelry for sale - all things that intrigue us. So we thought, ‘why not?’ and decided to all go together!”

For Shokan, a Vocal Performance major, the street creatives and crowded sidewalks didn’t feel much different in comparison to the City of Boston in which she is from. The experience as a whole was still a novel one.

“I know what to expect in regards to the street life, but we still have no idea what this event is all about,” said Shokan.

Other students being dropped off at Monument Square gazed at the performers up ahead and curiously meandered around booths where a variety of homemade crafts were being sold.

Celebrated the first of every month, the Art Walk is Maine’s largest free cultural event and most of Portland’s galleries, studios and museums open their doors inviting the public to appreciate and potentially purchase some visual art.

Artists from any background and experience level are welcome at the Art Walk. While the Portland Museum of Art showcases the renowned work of America’s foremost photorealistic painter, Richard Estes, outside are less experienced vendors from all walks of life. Everything and anything from paintings, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, clothing can be seen peddled on the streets. More unique items like custom woodworking, license plates with an artistic refurbish and paper-mache theater masks can also be found strewn about on some vendor tables.

The goal of the Portland Art Walk is to encourage a range of individuals to think about buying local. The art walk isn’t just restricted to the visual arts either. Local performers such as magicians, dancers and vocalists show off their talents hoping to entertain crowds and make a name for themselves. From the mellow notes of an acoustic guitar, to the twangy sounds of a steampunk bluegrass band, the art walk is a busker’s field day, with almost every corner filled with a unique auditory experience.

Among the students who attended the event, Rachel Gates, a third year communications major at USM had her own booth where she sold her own creative wares. Gates strategically claimed an area right in the center of the art walk near the Maine College of Art. As potential customers walked up to her booth, she made sure to welcome them and give a little background about her art.

According to Gates, she makes and sells art in a variety of mediums, and recently began creating screen printed tank tops that she hopes will catch the attention of her customers. She also says that she always had a knack for drawing and painting growing up and after attending a few art walks last summer, she wanted to begin sharing her work with others.

“The cool part about being a part of this art walk is that once you start selling things, you begin to notice all the other things going on around you, and human creativity is really amazing.” Although this is only her second year, Gates plans on coming back for many more years to come.

At the end of the night, students walking back to the bus laughed and talked highly of the event they had just attended. “Our Resident Assistants really encouraged us to come to this event, and I’m really glad we did!” says Boston, as she heads back to the bus after a long night in Portland.

“Human creativity is really amazing.”

-Rachel Gates
Junior communication major

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Smith’s album is more than just his hit single

Sam Smith, a rising artist from London, released his first album, titled *In The Lonely Hour* in the United Kingdom where it peaked at the number one spot on the country’s album chart. Upon release to the United States in June 2014, the album hit number two on the Billboard 200. His songs are raw with emotion, and his lyrics speak to anyone going through a hard time.

Smith describes his album to interviewers by stating, “When I wrote all the songs in the album, I was just really heartbroken. All I wanted to do was go to the studio and write about this guy who I fell in love with.” His complicated yet breathtaking album explores how he has learned to deal with the stresses of life and love as he tries to find his place in the world.

Each track is distinct and dense with simple piano chord progressions and a variety of string instruments. Smith wrote each song with a similar soul genre that can also be found in the albums of individuals who have been inspirational to him, such as Adele’s album *21*. Smith is quickly becoming famous to the number one spot on the country’s album chart. His complicated yet breathtaking album explores how he has learned to deal with the stresses of life and love as he tries to find his place in the world.

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Hello readers,

Welcome to another semester at USM and another volume of the Free Press.

For those of you who aren’t familiar with us, the Free Press publishes 22 issues over the fall and spring semesters each year and our goal is to keep you updated on what’s happening on campus. Whether we’re covering issues on the administrative-level, an interesting student who’s doing incredible things on or off-campus or keeping you keen on the local arts scene, we’re here for you.

This newspaper is partially funded by the student activity fee in your school bill, so we’ll always be looking for your feedback. Write a letter to the editor if you have an opinion about an article in the paper. Shoot us an email if there’s something you love to death or something you absolutely hate. Like us on Facebook and Twitter for regular updates so you can share and comment on our content.

You can even come work with us if you’re interested. This newspaper is entirely student-run. Our writers, photographers, designers, copy-editors, and advertising executives and every position in between are all students. And you can get involved if you’d like, too. Check out our website at USMFreePress.org and find the jobs section to see what we have available. Whatever you’d like to do, we can find a spot for you. And you can get paid if you have federal work-study funds.

Over the course of the year, the paper will be evolving. We have an almost entirely new staff that is eager to learn, improve and take the Free Press to new heights. I couldn’t be more excited about the plans we have for our future and the work that we’ll be doing.

Help us grow by giving us feedback, working with us or contributing story ideas. This is your paper, so let us know what we can do to better serve the community.

Whether you’re a first-year student or are here for your sixth year, I hope you’re all ready for a new semester.

Thank You,

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Perspectives

Welcome from your presidents and our editor-in-chief

From the president

Dear Students,

Whether you are an upperclass student embarking on the final stretch toward graduation, a new student beginning your college career or a transfer student, welcome to the University of Southern Maine. You’ve made an excellent choice by enrolling in Maine’s Metropolitan University to further your education, and we are here to help you succeed.

Becoming a Metropolitan University is more than simply having campuses in Portland, Gorham and Lewiston. For USM, the MU idea needs to build on what some of your professors already do, and become an integral and systematic part of what we are. What do that mean for you? It will mean competent and consistent advising for you are learning in the classroom and the likelihood that you will put what you are learning in the classroom to use outside of our walls. It will mean that when you graduate, you will be ready for the next stage of your lives, whether in the workforce or in graduate school.

As you know, USM is now facing significant financial challenges. We need to find greater efficiencies both in our academic programs and how we manage this institution.

Creating those cost savings is essential to fulfilling our mission of providing access to affordable, quality higher education in this region.

USM’s value proposition for you as students must be to provide a reasonable diversity of courses in the humanities, social sciences and STEM at times and places and through modalities that work for you, and a supportive array of athletics, extracurricular activities and internship opportunities, at a price you can afford.

We cannot meet the goal if our costs stay out of line with our revenue, and we will be focused on achieving that alignment through the coming year.

I also am committed to transparent communication and will continue my dialogue with students, professors, staff, legislators and community leaders. Last week I spoke to our residence hall students and their parents during move-in weekend and again with students on the Portland campus. I’ve met with business leaders, community members, legislators and local mayors. I care deeply about USM and its future, and in all these meetings I will continue to reinforce the message that we will turn USM around and it will be the vibrant asset you, the communities we serve and the state deserve.

USM must become even more student-centric and community-supportive. You are here.

You and your families have given USM your confidence and support.

In return, we will do our best to keep USM’s value to you as an excellent choice for meeting your higher education aspirations.

Sincerely,

David T. Flanagan
President

To all my fellow Huskies, I would like to welcome all of you to another year at the University of Southern Maine, and I hope that all of your classes so far are going well.

As Student Body President I had the honor of speaking to all of the incoming freshmen at the convocation and seeing their energy was exciting and I can’t wait to see everything they bring to this great University. We have a great opportunity ahead of us to help shape the future of USM and I hope you are all ready for the challenge and the opportunity.

As I am embarking on my fourth year at USM I look back and can absolutely say that these have been the best years of my life and I hope that wherever you are in your time at USM you feel the same, and if you are just beginning I hope you can thrive to make these the best years of your life so far.

Student Body President

I just ask one thing of you: Be proud to be a USM Husky.

This is a great school with a lot of great people who attend, teach, and work here. All of them working everyday to provide you with the best academic experience you can get. I can say with great confidence that going to USM is one of the best decisions I ever made. I hope in a few years when you are all looking back you can say the same thing. I am sure that you will enjoy everything USM can offer, and try to offer as much to the university as you can because together we can make USM an even greater place.

I truly hope that we can work together in this mission of making USM prosper for many years to come, and I hope I get to meet all of you. If you ever need anything from me, I am easy to contact and find in the Student Government Association office. I am here to be your advocate and I hope that I, too, can make USM a great place for you.

Thank you, GO HUSKIES!

Sincerely,

Kyle N. Frazier
11th Student Body President

From the student body president

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Thank you, GO HUSKIES!

Sincerely,

Kyle N. Frazier
11th Student Body President
Who are you calling a climate denier?

Meaghan LaSala  
Contributor

At the 2014 welcome breakfast for faculty and staff, the new interim President David Flanagan laid out a grim path for USM. The cuts this year, Flanagan tells us, will be more in the ballpark of $15 to $16 million—not the $12 million projected last year. Already the administration has pressed forward with the elimination of American and LAC’s humanities program, New England studies, geosciences, the study of energy infrastructure, and the elimination of American and LAC’s humanities program.

Provost Joe McDonnell admitted that these programs could probably become more profitable if we invested in them a little. And yet the eliminations move forward, full speed ahead.

During his speech, while explaining the injustices for more millions in cuts, President Flanagan took a moment to address those who have been critical of the need to cut additional faculty and staff positions. “Some react to our trends by denying them—that somehow we are miscounting or miscalculating as false solutions like “clean coal” and fracked natural gas will never change the political possibilities. To make the necessary transition to a sustainable future, we need to invest in our communities. We need to invest in the students that study the complicated problems our society faces, such as climate change and its deeper roots of human and environmental exploitation. In the case of USM, these students are disproportionately women, veterans, immigrants, and first-generation college students.

As new million dollar condos sprout up around Portland, we need to assert that this region can afford a comprehensive public university with a tuition working people can afford. A society that guarantees the human right to education is a society that is better prepared to meet the challenges we face.

The climate movement is about changing what is politically possible. I urge all people of Southern Maine to join the movement to save USM. The history of social movements teaches us that ordinary people can change the seemingly inevitable by uniting together under a different vision. So tell your neighbors, tell your students, classmates, co-workers, legislators, local business owners, kids and families: stop the cuts. Invest in USM. The climate movement is about changing what is politically possible.

Meaghan LaSala is a senior women and gender studies major and environmental science minor. She is a leader with Students for USMFuture and Divest UMaine. She is a founding member of Maine Students for Climate Justice, a statewide student coalition working to address the climate crisis.
**Crossword**

Across
1. Cowry bust
5. Origin of "The
   Honeycombers"
10. Poes
14. Pummel Johnson
15. On to
16. Dill of the
   Bible
17. Each look alike
18. Name repeated in
   "Whatever ___ words: __"
20. Bleeding precursor
21. More swift
26. Branch order
27. November feast
32. ___ platoon
33. Like a rude remark
34. Nervous product
36. Energy
40. Strikes through
42. "Farewell Room" actor James
43. Glossy
49. At the summit
47. A/C capacity notation
50. Where to get scarred
51. Making cheap
54. Nutrition aids.
55. Figs out
56. Pest
58. Mating monegasque Niki
  Tiki ___
63. Current events magazine
69. "Come ___ the water’s first!"
70. Newsday frequency
71. Tea, second or third
69. Loo or Tid
70. Aquarium microorganisms
71. Bone (polka)

Down
1. Actress Thespise of TV’s
   "Family"
2. Occurring before Aler
3. State of North of Arizona
4. Certain hardwood tree
5. Algerian pop music
6. Wheat or barley covering
7. Fails to keep pace
8. ___ school (percentage
   institution)
9. At once
10. Nervous Vae
11. How some taxa is sold
12. Freeman biography
13. Square one
18. Kimes
22. Rat
24. Willcat
25. The Wozd of Menlo
   Park
27. Day partyer features
28. Mrs., for the
29. Extraordinary
30. "___ Does It, ___"
32. Unseen
37. Indian best of burden
42. Giant Micr and others
45. Casanova
46. Putting back on the payroll
49. Sandwier’s seaweaver or
   producer Mile
51. Move "Citizen"
53. Sige
54. Country south of Sudan
55. SUNY city on Lake Ontario
56. "The Cheever" author
57. Russian color
58. Water bar of "Silver"
59. Blue-green hue
61. Magic golp
62. CREE’s nomenclature
63. Like the world to pre-
   Colombians
64. Phoenixi reapers
65. P- mean kidnappers

**Weekly Horoscope**

**Aries**
March 21-April 19
You’ll have to choose among many possible leisure activities as time is limited. Your imagination can enhance recreational choices.

**Taurus**
April 20-May 20
Today you can improve your physical competence. Enhance your prowess at play; practice your athletic and competitive skills.

**Gemini**
May 21-June 20
Intimacy needs are strong today. Quality sharing is vital. Spend time with your spouse, partner or one you’d like to be a partner.

**Cancer**
June 21-July 22
A good day for interacting with others. Choose something sociable which you would like to do with the one you love—and do it!

**Leo**
July 23-August 22
Multiple interests pull you and your loved ones in different directions. Establish clear priorities and make time for each other.

**Virgo**
August 23-September 22
Beauty is tied to leisure activities. Choose what suits you—e.g., a make-over, redecorating, visiting an art museum, etc.

**Libra**
September 23-October 22
Discussing some of those feelings you have had a hard time expressing can lead to more closeness with your beloved.

**Scorpio**
October 23-November 21
Communication with family members flows more easily today, with acceptance on both sides. Shared feelings lead to more closeness.

**Sagittarius**
November 22-December 21
Topics holding your interest today range from material fulfillment, possessions and pleasures to spiritual, ethical and religious aspirations and goals.

**Capricorn**
December 22-January 19
Today, the old and the new may seem to be vying for attention in your approach to sensuality. Take the best from both worlds!

**Aquarius**
January 20-February 18
Control issues arise. Beware of giving away all your power or trying to keep it all in your hands; compromise.

**Pisces**
February 19-March 20
An opportunity for partnership comes your way. You can build a strong, sharing connection.

**Sudoku**
A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

**Cryptogram**
Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

UBH CPRFL CFA AMQB
FL GROPAQYEH
GBYWWPC UBFU
ABH GLAGAHT PL
CHFWGLV OMEUMWHT
OHWEA.

And here is your hint:
W = R

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XTREME
SCREEN & SPORTSWEAR
Community Spotlight:

Husky Fest welcomes new and returning students

On Wednesday, Sept. 3, students, staff and faculty worked to put together USM’s 14th annual Husky Fest. Husky Fest is an annual event that has always yielded the highest amount of student involvement.

The festival takes place during the first week of classes on the lawn between Payson Smith Hall and Luther Bonney Hall. The event is host to many student organizations, departments, as well as local vendors.

“Student leaders believe that the key to success is becoming involved. Husky Fest is the easiest way to get involved,” said Joshua Dodge, a senior international studies major as well as the vice president of the International Relations Association.

“I’m here to get the word out about my organization,” said Rachel Speer, a first-year graduate student in the biochemistry and molecular biology program, who was one of four to represent the Environmental Health and Toxicology Club.

“Most people wouldn’t explore clubs that USM has to offer without Husky Fest,” Speer said.

Nicole Nutter, another member of the Environmental Health and Toxicology Club agrees, adding that she thought this year was more successful than last year.

Zach Hardy, a senior linguistics major, explained, “Just having a booth is a way to kick start new connections between students and faculty.”

The amounts of varying student-run booths are not the only thing that brought students to the festival this year. For some, the lunch could not be passed up.

Both Drew Shane, a freshman marine biology major and Zach Tidd, freshman biology major agreed that when they got out of class, they saw the free food and had to get some.

Not only does Husky Fest provide a free BBQ cookout, it also has various musical performances for students. This year USM staff prepared to give away 700 lunches between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Husky Fest is a great way for students to connect with fellow classmates as well as their university, and it is a chance for them to learn about experience opportunities that local vendors could offer. Dan Welter, the coordinator of student activities who claimed to live for Husky Fest said, “We have a great balance of vendors, departments and student organizations. This helps students make connections with the community.”

Welter said that by inviting local business vendors he hopes it will encourage more internship opportunities for students.

Reza Jalali, coordinator of multicultural student affairs, had this to say about the annual festival: “One of the weaknesses that USM has is that it is scattered between three campuses. With Husky Fest, for a few hours we feel like part of the same institution.”

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Welcome to the new community page. USM hasn’t exactly been lacking hard news over the past year. Between updates on the budget deficit, system, faculty and student senate news, the creation and elimination of programs and general campus policy news, it’s easy to get caught up and forget all of the amazing things USM students are working on. Stories about student groups or profiles of students were often pushed on to the back page last year, but this year, we think they deserve more room. A two-page spread provides us with more room to devote to special projects and student activities. Last year, we had a marketing intern on our team and through online surveys, she discovered that the community page was one of the favorite sections of our readers. We want to give the people what they want, so be sure to email us about what you’re up to when you’re not in class so we can feature you right here. The change in sections also helps us in two ways:

1. The Sports section of the newspaper has always been a problem for us. We’ve never had a sports staff interested or dedicated enough to cover sports on campus on a game-by-game basis. Our weekly sports coverage has just consisted of simple score recaps and occasional game coverage that was out-of-date by the time it went to print.

   We’ll still be covering sports, but we’re not going to reach to supply sloppy stories each week. We’re going to continue to profile stellar athletes and celebrate Husky win-streaks, but simply don’t have the muscle to do it every week.

2. By putting community on the inside page, it opens up our back page for advertising. As you may know, the Free Press employs student ad executives who are paid on commission. We’re hoping that opening up our most attractive and expensive space will make for some friendly competition in our ad department and help our workers pay their bills.

   Also, it will help us create ties between our publication, the university and local business.

   I hope that you will continue to provide us valuable feedback as readers and let us know how you like the new set-up.

   Thanks for reading,

   Sam Hill
   Editor-in-Chief
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