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Sam Hill
University of Southern Maine

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The three USM programs up for elimination, to be voted on Monday, Sept. 22 at the Board of Trustees meeting in Fort Kent, do not yet have a plan for students to finish their degrees, if it passes. According to Kent Ryden, director and professor of American and New England studies, administration has not given much direction about what the future will hold, specifically for students.

“Everything is pretty much up in the air and despite asking for guidance and more information, if only so I can tell our students what their futures may look like, I haven’t been getting much,” Ryden said.

The same was true for Professor and Chair of Geosciences, Stephen Pollock, who on one hand had a conversation with James Graves, dean of the college of science, technology and health. According to Pollock, the conversation was brief and established that in the spring semester, courses will be offered as they have been in the past, following a multi-course plan that’s been in place for years.

Still, upper level administration has remained silent.

“They [administrators] haven’t even talked to us about what will happen after, basically, October,” said Pollock. “We’ve had no direct communication with anyone in administration.

Ryden explained that, as he understands it, currently enrolled students will be allowed a four-year window in which to finish their degree programs. He suspects that if the program is eliminated, the two full-time faculty, he and Professor Ardis Cameron, will be retrained at the end of the fall semester.

“I don’t really know who would be teaching courses that students would need to finish their degree programs,” said Ryden. “Let alone, who would advise on theses and independent studies.”

Ryden explained that representatives from the dean’s office and provost’s office have said that they will, in collaboration, develop a teach-out plan.

“You’d think developing a teach-out plan would be part of developing a program elimination proposal, but that didn’t happen,” said Ryden. “It’s been more a matter of, ‘Well, let’s eliminate the program then figure out what to do.’”

Christopher Quint, executive director in the office of public affairs, explained that they are now working on a plan for students.

“We have an obligation and commitment to our students to assure that they can graduate in their chosen major,” said Quint. “The provost and deans have initiated a process for developing a plan, now, to ensure that those students enrolled in one of the three programs being proposed for elimination to the Board of Trustees on Sept. 22 will be able to continue their programs and receive their degrees in a timely manner.”

Ryden does admit that it is possible to offer some courses, as faculty in the past have taught for the program.

“This would require the interest and permission of their home department and getting the administrators to sign off on the whole plan. So it can be done,” said Ryden. “The faculty resources and curriculum resources are here, it’s just that nobody has yet sat down with me to actually formulate the plan, any kind of a plan. The attitude’s been more of wait until after the votes [Board of Trustees] take it.”

Both Pollock and Ryden agree that the eliminations are not necessary and urge the Board of Trustees to vote against the eliminations.

“It’s very disappointing to me that in this elimination proposal process, so little thought has been given to the students and their welfare and their peace of mind, their ability to be assured that they’ll be able to finish a good program in a timely way,” said Ryden. “The discussion has been all about eliminating the degree program, but it’s disappointing and baffling to me that administration has evidently given so little thought to how the degree program will be taught out in the absence of its full-time faculty.”

According to Pollock, it didn’t have to come to this, and it still doesn’t have to be this way.

“There are alternate approaches to saving money without terminating programs,” said Pollock. “This is going to be a major loss for the university, and I think it’s going to take USM years to recover.”
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The USM police department currently has four M16 assault rifles locked up in their armory that they received from the U.S. Department of Defense back in 2007. The guns were loaned to USM as part of a military surplus initiative, known as the 1033 program, that had weapons and equipment delivered to at least 117 colleges across the nation. Equipment that was loaned to colleges included ordinary things like medical supplies and men’s trousers, but some schools like the University of Central Florida received grenade launchers and one armored truck. USM’s Police Chief Kevin Conger said that he was given the option to request more equipment through the program, but he opted out.

“We’re not planning on being any more militarily armed than we are already,” said Conger. “I think we’re as prepared as we need to be.” According to Conger, the program helped USM’s limited police budget as they only had to pay for the shipping of the weapons. However as the guns are on loan, they have to be surrendered to the government at any request and are “regularly checked on.”

Conger said that he was referring to “worst case scenario” situations such as an active shooter on campus. Police at USM have never deployed the weapons since they’ve received them. “We hopefully will never have to use them,” Conger said. Portland is the largest city in the state and Conger believes it’s just better to be prepared in case the “unthinkable” happens. “I think you will realize that no place is exempt from these [school shootings] tragedies and see the need for everyone to be prepared.”

According to Conger, the guns have been retrofitted for civilian use by a semiautomatic modification. While assault rifles on campus are meant to provide USM’s police with another tool in case they need it, some students feel a bit uneasy about their presence. Courtney Pomerleau, a senior theater major, describes the loaning of military weapons as “scare tactics” and would prefer if campus police used the program to acquire things like armor, furniture and medical supplies. “The program itself is alright,” said Pomerleau. “I don’t feel comfortable with these weapons being on campus, and I foresee feeling even more uncomfortable if I see them in person.”

Andrew N, a former USM student who wished to have his last name remain anonymous, said that he’s concerned whether USM’s police force is properly trained with the weapons, and wonders if there are actual tangible justifications for having military-grade assault weapons. “It just seems extreme and unwarranted,” said Andrew N. “The image of an assault rifle on campus sets a precedent that’s hostile regardless of who’s holding it.” Conger couldn’t reveal which campus the rifles were stored in, for security reasons, but stressed that in the event of an emergency, they would be made available when necessary.

Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

The USM police department is not the only college in Maine to receive military equipment from the government. The University of Farmington has on loan seven assault rifles and the school in Augusta has three.
Students Senate spent more than 2 hours discussing a proposal to fund a shark fishing expedition since any other item on their agenda or topic brought up, including USM’s budget deficit, program eliminations and senate attendance and recruitment issues.

The proposal, which was brought to the senate by Chris Wagner, a student leader in the Veteran’s Student Organization, was asked the senate to approve $2,400 in funding to bring disabled student veterans fishing for sharks.

The proposal was eventually passed, but only after nearly half an hour of debate on the topic. There was confusion over who would be benefitting from the event and why Wagner had not brought the proposal to the Board of Student Organizations in his VSO capacity, instead of coming to the senate as an individual.

Some senators were concerned that the funding would only benefit students already involved in a group that has access to funding, but Wagner explained that he didn’t know who would attend the trip.

“I’m coming here as a member of the veteran community, not as a student involved in the VSO or the Senate. There are over 500 veterans at USM, so any of them could join the trip.”

There was a lot of misconceptions during discussion of the proposal, and Wagner did not seem to understand that the senate was still discussing a proposal because members of the new committee had been unable to participate in senate business due to other obligations.

The proposal went to a vote and was approved by most senators.

Because of the amount of time spent on the proposal, senate pushed other concerns to their next meeting, including deciding what their procedures for eliminations should be and discussing the need for senators to display a professional attitude in the community, which has been on the agenda for two meetings now.

Earlier in the meeting, Alex Greenlee, the undergraduate representative to the board of trustees, informed the senate of multiple issues that will be facing the BoT during their meeting on Monday, which includes the elimination of three USM programs and the possible sale of the Stone House, which houses USM’s MFA in creative writing program.

Last year, the student senate cast a vote of no confidence in former USM President Theodora Kalikow and her council amidst faculty retrenchments when the programs were originally slated for elimination and sent a resolution explaining their decision to the BoT. Greenlee offered the senate a chance to weigh in on the issue again, as the eliminations will likely be finalized on Monday.

“Tif you’re all interested and would like to send up your comments on the decisions that they have made in picking these three programs for elimination, I would be more than happy to read anything you have to say into the minutes so your case can be made,” said Greenlee.

Greenlee suggested that the senate talk about a resolution during their meeting last week, but they did not. The only question raised about the eliminations came from Senator Elizabeth Martin, who asked Greenlee to clarify which programs he was talking about.
USM needs a new BoT representative

Only one person applied

Alex Greenlee discusses strategies to find strong applicants, one of whom will ideally take his place next year as the new BoT representative.

Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

The deadline to apply to be USM’s new undergraduate representative to the board of trustees is being pushed back a week because there has only been one applicant.

The deadline was supposed to be this Monday, but according to Kyle Frazier, the student body president, the student government hasn't received any application requests as of Wednesday and decided to extend it.

"Not only were there no applicants, but there were no students even remotely interested until today," said Frazier in an interview last Wednesday. Frazier received one email regarding the position, but it was someone asking for more information about the job, not an applicant.

According to Joshua Dodge, the chair of the student senate, the executive board received an application on Friday, so there will be someone to interview, but that they’d like to have more candidates to choose from.

"We need to find a number of strong applicants to choose from for the position, and we need to pick someone who will be willing to do a lot of hard work," said Alex Greenlee, the current undergraduate BoT representative, at last week’s Student Senate meeting.

The representative would be tasked with representing the interests of the undergraduate student body at Board of Trustees meetings and working with USM leadership to address system-level issues. There is an annual stipend of $3,000 that comes with the position and any travel expenses are covered as well.

The position requires a two-year commitment, something that both Greenlee and Frazier have said might be a deterrent for those interested.

"I think it’s difficult to get someone who can commit for two years, so we need to talk to as many people as possible to increase the chances of finding someone willing to put in the work," said Greenlee.

"A lot of the students who might be interested in the position are juniors and seniors right now, when they really need a freshman or sophomore with the time to commit," said Frazier. "That’s a big job for a younger student to commit to, though."

Frazier said that, with the help of the Student Senate, he would be working this week to make the details of the position more known to students. A mass email was sent out last week to students, but yielded no results, so they’re aiming to table and post flyers around campus to lure in applicants.

"We’re going to liven-up the search and get more people publicly talking about it," said Frazier. "Hopefully we can find someone by next week."

Frazier and Dodge both said they did not know what the procedure would be if the senate cannot find a candidate for the position.

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“...”
In Brief...

Former Free Press editor to lead AP’s GOP presidential coverage in 2016

Last week the Associated Press chose former Free Press Editor Steven Peoples, its Northeast political reporter, to cover the field of Republican presidential candidates in 2016. According to Peoples’ career in journalism began when he started covering the student government beat at the Free Press as a freshman in 1999. He has been covering presidential primaries in New Hampshire out of Boston since 2011 and spent most of 2012 covering Mitt Romney’s political campaign. “For months during the last presidential campaign, Peoples was a fixture in the living rooms and coffee shops where the New Hampshire primary is won and lost,” political editor David Scott announced in an memo to staff on Tuesday. “In recent months, even as he continued covering GOP contenders, Steve took it upon himself to keep the AP’s political reporting team organized and on point, leading story discussion meetings and organizing coverage of key moments of the off-campaign year. His assistance has been invaluable to me as I get up to speed in Washington.”

“Pretty cool how things turned out,” wrote Peoples in an email to the Free Press, knowing that the ‘In Brief’ section always needs stories. He said he’ll always be grateful to the Free Press.

White House launches “It’s On Us” campaign

Senior White House Officials and Generation Progress will hold an on the record press conference call last week for college and university media to discuss the official launch of a new public awareness campaign to help prevent sexual assault on college campuses. The campaign, launched on Friday at the White House by President Obama and Vice President Biden, is called “It’s On Us” and builds on recommendations released earlier this year by the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault and brings the government and outside private partners together to raise awareness with college students and campus communities.

At last week’s student senate meeting, Alex Greenlee, the undergraduate representative to the board of trustees mentioned the campaign and encouraged them to take the campaign’s pledge to not be a bystander on the campaign website.

Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log September 1 to September 17

Thursday, September 11

Something smells

12:08 p.m. - Odor of marijuana, unable to locate source - Upton-Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Drinking games

11:53 p.m. - Liquor law violation. Subject transported to hospital following medical emergency - College Ave.

Friday, September 12

Did you hear that?

1:26 a.m. - Checked in on a noise. Subjects were all set. - G-20

Missing in Action

11:32 a.m. - Student was reported as not being in class. Subject is no longer attending school and is all set. - Payson Smith Hall, 96 Falmouth St.

Saturday, September 13

Break it up

9:16 a.m. - Disruptive and unwanted person present. Subject removed from building and trespasses. - Payson Smith Hall, 96 Falmouth St.

Sunday, September 14

Destructive behavior

8:31 a.m. - Report of damage to university property. - Portland, 501 Forest Ave.

Monday, September 15

Check-up

7:00 a.m. - Well being check, subject all set. - Philippi Hall, 19 Campus Ave Apt. 105

Hospital bound

11:47 a.m. - Subject transported to hospital following a medical emergency. - Angerson Hall, 40 Campus Ave.

Caught in the act

11:10 p.m. - Summons for a usable amount of marijuana issued to Jasmine S. Senatus, 18 of Gorham. - Upton-Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Tuesday, September 16

Five finger discount

6:17 p.m. - Officer responded in response of a disruptive person to calm the situation. - Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Wednesday, September 17

Leave me alone

7:16 p.m. - Report taken for theft of items - Sullivan Gym, 21 Falmouth St.

Thursday, September 18

It’s getting hot in here

3:51 p.m. - Fire alarm activation. Gorham Fire Department responded and reset the system - Central Heat Plant, 37 University Way Ext.

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.
Arcadia National Bar is drawing in consistent crowds of adults from several age groups, all of whom share a common love for drinking beer and playing classic video, arcade and pinball games. Since the founding of the first popular “video game bar” in Brooklyn in 2004, barcades have gained popularity and popped up all over the country, with the newest entry in the social craze located right on Preble Street in Portland.

When people see the Sega Genesis with Sonic loaded on it in the corner of the bar, they just hunker down and play for hours.” said Culver. One side of the bar had a couple of people excitedly playing Sonic the Hedgehog Adventures on the Genesis, while next to them a larger group was spectating a particularly intense competitive match of DC Universe. When the Green Lantern eventually succumbed to Superman’s finishing move, the gathering of people actively watching Sonic’s butcherly went berserk. Said Culver, “This place is a blast even if you’re waiting for your drinks.”

“Even though there’s a lot of drinking going on, the social environment is unique and special because it’s the perfect social environment for people like us,” said Grassi.

“Four of the most popular games Arcadia offered. According to Grassi, the unique atmosphere lends itself to two things: a good variety of games and a bar free from awkward social expectations.”

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It’s the only place in town you can actively do something while you drink,” said Joe Harmon, who was intensely concentrating on an arcade game called “Ice Cold Beer.” The game required raising and balancing a marble on top of the bar as you try to navigate through ten specific

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Anastasia Muca
Contributor

USM’s planetarium, located in the basement of the Science building at the Portland campus, will be holding events to explore the sky, historically, presently and in its future. Right now planetarium goers, astronomers and stargazers are prepping for a total lunar eclipse.

Edward Gleason, planetarium manager, can assure that both the solar and lunar cycles occur continuously for thousands and thousands of years.

“The idea is to get outside, look up and enjoy the wondrous sky of Southern Maine,” said Gleason. The dome displays power points, videos and the stars of the night sky promoting knowledge and curiosity for our galaxy.

The schedule for the months of September and October are all located on USM’s website. Some upcoming events include Eight Planets and Counting, on Sept. 22 and the recurring Dinosaurs at Dusk! special on Sept. 22 and 26. Taking advantage of USM’s planetarium is an absolute must. So bring a friend along for the show, and experience the amazing view within the planetarium.

Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

Arts & Culture Recommends: The Planetarium

Album Review

U2’s New Album sounds familiar to its 2000s fans

On every Apple phone, the album is automatically downloaded into your music library and seen on your purchased page. It’s free, of course, but not all users may have wanted it in the first place.

I will admit that most of the songs seem to overproduce the sound quality of the drums, but it brings forth a nice mixture of electronics and live acoustic instruments. Songs of Innocence sounds like a mixture of their early 2000’s albums, All That You Can’t Leave Behind and How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb.

Their new song “Every Breaking Wave” brings more of an alternative sound to it. It speaks about trust and how we often rely on things that are unpredictable. This message can be seen when Bono sings about how “Every sailor knows that the sea is a friendly-made enemy / Every shipwrecked soul knows what it is / To live without and to receive.” Although the lyrics show deep meaning about unpredictability, there were no huge dynamic changes between chorus and verse. The introduction reminds listeners of their previous hit “With or Without You” because of the relaxed drumbeat and guitar tone. Another new song on Songs of Innocence, “Volcano,” incorporates a heavy bass intro. The message in this particular song speaks about the unpredictability of human beings. “Your eyes were like landing lights / They used to be the clearest blue / Now you don’t see so well / The futures gonna land on you.” U2’s guitarist The Edge can switch between heavily distorted and clean sound guitar tones.

Another song worth mentioning, titled “Sleep Like a Baby Tonight,” is very electronically influenced with heavy synthesizers. It uses provoking lyrics and describes how sleeping acts as a saving grace from a state of emptiness. “You’re gonna sleep like a baby tonight / In your dreams, everything is alright / Tomorrow dawns like suicide.” It produces a more laid back rhythm.

This album wasn’t memorable, but acted more as a throwback to their old sounds. Songs of Innocence is certainly not a new release, but it’s one of the funniest things I’ve listened to in a long time, and it has a way of making early morning drives less miserable. Definitely listen to them if you haven’t!

-Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

In Heavy Rotation

Each morning I listen to this radio show on my way to school. It’s one of the funniest things I’ve listened to in a long time, and it has a way of making early morning drives less miserable. Definitely listen to them if you haven’t!

Free Beer and Hot Wings

Lindsey Sterling

Shatter Me

Alright so Youtube vlogger Lindsey Sterling’s second album is certainly not a new release, but it is to me. In fact I just discovered all of Sterling’s electric dance numbers and beautiful video game covers for the first time and I can’t get enough. Her haunting string notes and energetic beats has led to an instant follow on Spotify and maybe even a bit of crush.

-Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor
The Complexity of Coffee

Coffee By Design, a local coffee shop located on Diamond Street in Portland, offers free tours for any individuals interested in learning more about the science behind their brew. Students and faculty alike have always liked how caffeine makes them feel. Whether they have to attend that 8 a.m. lecture or work a late shift at their part-time job, they find that coffee keeps them going when they need to be alert and at their best performance.

“I love coffee,” said Jenny Fogg, a sophomore health sciences major. “I’ve been trying to cut back though because I used to drink whole pots of coffee in a day, and it wasn’t giving me the energy I needed anymore.” According to a National Coffee Association Survey done in 2013, over 83% of adult Americans consume caffeine, and some start at a young age.

“I started drinking coffee when I was 13,” said Courtney Mann, a junior history major. “I have cut back though because I used to drink so much coffee. Now I’m drinking two large coffees a day and sometimes it feels like I’m barely functioning.”

John Broida, a professor of psychology, explained to the Free Press how coffee affects the brain. “Coffee blocks adenosine - adenosine causes tiredness and the result is alertness,” said Broida. “If we block something that causes tiredness we make people more awake, and it ultimately increases metabolic activity.”

While some students are in it for the caffeine boost, hoping it will get them through their homework for class the next morning, others care more about the flavor of their brew. “I love Coffee By Design,” said Fogg, explaining that she prefers the flavors of the company’s custom USM Flavor, Husky Blend.

At CBD on Diamond Street, the general manager Kevin Gastardi offers tours of his shop where the brewing process can be seen through a large glass window. “We don’t add any artificial flavors to our coffee because we don’t want the smells to gravitate into the roasteries,” said Gastardi, who proudly points to the roasteries attached to the building. “You can watch them make your coffee. There is no better experience than that.”

CBD goes through a serious selection process to pick which roasts they sell to their customers. “When we look for coffees, we only pick the top 1% arabica beans in the world. They are definitely the sweeter of the coffees and grow between five and eight thousand feet.”

Gastardi explained a bit more about where coffee comes from saying that the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are the areas coffee grows best. “There are two types of coffee that the world consumes; Arabica Coffee, which is mild and aromatic; and Robusta, which is biter tasting but has almost 50% more caffeine.”

Coffee By Design also offers such coffees as Cappuccino, Lattes, Iced, Decaf, Americano, Crema, you name it. There are so many types, and we serve them all.”

Once you start drinking coffee, it can be hard to stop. So do you need to? A study done by The New England Journal of Medicine, a minority of moderate caffeine consumers experience some amount of clinical depression, anxiety, low vigor or fatigue when discontinuing their caffeine use.

“I started drinking coffee when I was 21, so I developed a taste for it later on in life compared to students these days. For me, it’s more about the taste than for the caffeine consumption,” said Chris Harriman, an administrative specialist, who also said that she couldn’t live without coffee.

Next time you buy coffee, take into consideration your wallet, your brain and the process that goes into brewing a perfect cup.

Matthew Francois, Junior History education major

I used to get coffee almost every day, so I decided to estimate how much money I spent on coffee. Turns out I’m losing about $1090.00 a year on average.

Matthew Francois, Junior History education major

Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

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While some students are in it for the caffeine boost, hoping it will get them through their homework for class the next morning, others care more about the flavor of their brew. “I love Coffee By Design,” said Fogg, explaining that she prefers the flavors of the company’s custom USM Flavor, Husky Blend.

At CBD on Diamond Street, the general manager Kevin Gastardi offers tours of his shop where the brewing process can be seen through a large glass window. “We don’t add any artificial flavors to our coffee because we don’t want the smells to gravitate into the roasteries,” said Gastardi, who proudly points to the roasteries attached to the building. “You can watch them make your coffee. There is no better experience than that.”

CBD goes through a serious selection process to pick which roasts they sell to their customers. “When we look for coffees, we only pick the top 1% arabica beans in the world. They are definitely the sweeter of the coffees and grow between five and eight thousand feet.”

Gastardi explained a bit more about where coffee comes from saying that the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are the areas coffee grows best. “There are two types of coffee that the world consumes; Arabica Coffee, which is mild and aromatic; and Robusta, which is biter tasting but has almost 50% more caffeine.”

Coffee By Design also offers such coffees as Cappuccino, Lattes, Iced, Decaf, Americano, Crema, you name it. There are so many types, and we serve them all.”

Once you start drinking coffee, it can be hard to stop. So do you need to? A study done by The New England Journal of Medicine, a minority of moderate caffeine consumers experience some amount of clinical depression, anxiety, low vigor or fatigue when discontinuing their caffeine use.

“I started drinking coffee when I was 21, so I developed a taste for it later on in life compared to students these days. For me, it’s more about the taste than for the caffeine consumption,” said Chris Harriman, an administrative specialist, who also said that she couldn’t live without coffee.

Next time you buy coffee, take into consideration your wallet, your brain and the process that goes into brewing a perfect cup.

Matthew Francois, Junior History education major

I used to get coffee almost every day, so I decided to estimate how much money I spent on coffee. Turns out I’m losing about $1090.00 a year on average.

Matthew Francois, Junior History education major
Top 5: Overlooked Artwork On Campus

Dora Thompson
Contributor

1.) Gorham Attic drawing installation: In the uppermost floor of the oldest structure on campus, the Academy Building, there is an enchanting secret. Off limits to the general public because of safety issues, this art installment is worth braving the creaky floorboards and ducking under a beam or two. In 2004, visiting artist in residence Jamie Snyder created a mysterious geometric piece in this attic. It involves bits of paper, each about 1 inch by 3 inches. Ridden in black pen, they form triangle patterns and cover the entire peaked ceiling, except its mighty beams. In the daylight, the work is lit by a cupola, the small dome-like structure on top of the Academy Building.

According to Michael Shaughnessy, a professor of sculpture, as the sun goes down the attic is lit by ultraviolet lights creating a dramatic and soft transition. The result is a strange and glowing wallpaper, hidden in the corner of an ancient attic, unknown to many students who work beneath it. Snyder was able to produce this art because of Artist-In-Residence program. This has been in operation since 1986, and consists of the university inviting an artist to create a piece for the campus and community, and host a class and discussions for students. The Artist-In-Residence usually stays for about seven weeks. Their Artist-In-Residence program offering students an opportunity work with contemporary artists and those artists to work in ways and on projects they may not ever have the opportunity for.

2.) USM Earthwork: You might not even realize this is art until you’re standing directly on top of it. The late James S. Pierce’s work outside the Brooks Student Center in Gorham is made out of the ground itself. It is called “USM Earthwork” and is a grassy raised mound, looping and swirling across the green. It is not in as great of condition as when it was built in 1993 with the help of USM students. It is one of the only earthworks that is outside of Pierce’s home and is still a favorite hangout spot for students on a sunny day.

3.) The Encyclopedia: In the third floor of the Glickman Library in Portland, there is literary inspiration on the walls. In 1994, Artist-In-Residence Scott McCarney used his love for encyclopedia to create an art piece for USM. He took the 1960 edition of a 30 volume set of Encyclopedias to create an art piece of interest for his piece. He used these bits of paper to create a giant carved tiled hand (McCarney’s own hand, in fact). The white parts represent text and the black parts represent images. The idea was to make the hand look rather pixelated and digital, yet have it come from masses amounts of actual printed words. The Encyclopedia also inspired McCarney to take a cave painting approach with his hand print. The result is in the perfect setting of the third floor of The Glickman Library.

4.) Environment Z: Nestled in the lobby of Corthell Hall in Gorham is Jin Soo Kim’s haunting hodge podge of nautical items. With the help of USM art students, this Chicago born Artist-In-Residence designed this piece to represent our connection with the sea, and how we rely on it for our livelihood and pleasure. The sculpture, titled “Environment Z,” features anchors and rudders hanging from copper chains to create a striking effect that might go unnoticed by students on their way to music lessons.

5.) The Common Ground Gazette: In 2000, Alan Holt created the Common Ground Gazebo, an inspiring piece in the Back Bay Community Garden on the Portland Campus. This large gazebo sports 120 hand decorated tiles by the elders and children of the community. It also features the words “Community, Spirit, Place” etched on it’s multi-sided skylight in six different languages, representing the ethnicities of the children part of the project.

Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

Nestled in the lobby of Corthell Hall on the Gorham Campus, the sculpture “Environment Z” features anchors and rudders hanging from copper chains.
Our opinion: USM’s student body deserves a more committed student senate

The attendance and involvement issue that has plagued the Student Senate has, hopefully, reached its highest points.

At last week’s senate meeting, the senate was unable to make a quorum to begin their meeting and important discussions were pushed to next week for the sake of saving time. Two senators also defaulted and were removed from the senate, another sign that they had been absent too often.

Trust us, we know students lead busy lives and sometimes we have to pick and choose what we have time to do. We just don’t think senate meetings are one of those responsibilities we sweep under the rug. Senators cited visiting their family and working to pay the bills as excuses for their absences last week and, while those can be legitimate excuses most days, we feel now isn’t the right time to take a break.

The atmosphere at USM is tense and is only going to get worse. The student body needs the senate to act as a representative of itself, USM’s administration and system-level officials. As servants of the students, now is not the time to take a break or slack-off when it comes to paying attention to what’s happening all around us. Programs, jobs and the quality of education is constantly on the line and the student body needs vocal student representatives to them. There are plenty of active students in system-level discussions, but not enough that the administration has attention to.

Last year, the Student Senate did what they could to make the voices of USM’s student body known. They cast a vote of no confidence in former president Theodora Kalikow and her council. They passed a resolution supporting the Metropolitan University plan, but concerning how the administration was approaching the budget issues, the renunciation of faculty and program eliminations.

Last Friday, Alex Greenlee, the same undergraduate representative that assisted the senate in their decision last year, offered the senate a chance to relay their message and concerns to the board of trustees at this Monday’s meeting, but no serious discussion on the matter ever took place.

No senator asked any questions, gave their opinion on the programs likely to be eliminated or asked for anyone else’s. One senator asked Greenlee to explain which programs were going to be eliminated, which is information that has been in the headlines of the Free Press, Bangor Daily News and Portland Press Herald since March.

Being a member of the senate is a big responsibility, a continuous time commitment and a sometimes complicated position to be in. Knowing the constitution, commanding senate meetings, handling a budget and holding office hours are all sizable tasks, but we won’t let it should distract from the basics: be present and connect with the students.

The number one goal of the senate right now should be learning about the financial troubles USM, surveying students about the issues and relaying that information to the administration so student’s have a voice in the future of this university. Oh, and filling senate seats, too. Talking about and planning on doing something isn’t the same as taking a stand and solving problems.

Our Opinion is written by the Free Press editorial board.

Philip Shelley
Contributor

Here’s a quick civics lesson for USM students, especially new or transfer students who may not know how their school is governed: USM is one of the 7 campuses that form the public university system for the state of Maine. Each school has its own president and provost, but the system as a whole is run by a chancellor who serves as the CEO for the entire system. The chancellor is appointed by the UMaine System’s board of trustees, and the trustees, in turn, are appointed for 5 year terms by the governor of Maine, and those appointments must be approved by the Maine Legislature.

In our divided political landscape, we often gloss over these political implications. They are no longer a matter of pro forma rubber-stamping by a compliant legislature or contract to let the system more or less run itself, the UMaine System no longer hovers along in any kind of status quo, ever did. Instead, the public university system is in the process of being radically transformed by a whole new wave of board of trustees stacked with appointees, many of whom are more and more transparently partisan, serving a larger political agenda.

Most people reading this know that USM is in crisis. The administration claims that there is a current budget shortfall of $16 million (having risen mysteriously from a publicly stated $12.5 million just a month ago) and that three popular programs are scheduled to be eliminated on Monday, Sept. 22. Whole-sale reorganization and massive faculty and staff layoffs are planned for October. If we let this happen, what remains in the smoking crater that used to be USM will be barely recognizable.

When I say “we” mean us, the people reading this essay, and most likely I mean the students of USM. The students are the people who really rule the school. As USM’s paying customers and the future of USM, students wield an incredible amount of power. Nothing scares the board of trustees more than the thought of student bodies of power. Nothing scares the board of trustees more than the thought of student bodies

But maybe students don’t want a leaner, more service-oriented university. With professional degrees charmed out like so much fast food. Maybe what we want is ongoing access to a first-class educational institution that is comparable in practice and reputation and academic continuity to the best private colleges.

The legislative confirmation hearing for new board of trustee nominees will be held at the State House in Augusta on Sept 26. Students can attend a chance to relay their message and concerns to the board of trustees at this Monday’s meeting, but no serious discussion on the matter ever took place.

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Students for USM Future

Who really rules the school?

To get an idea of the underlying austerity political agenda at work, here is a guest op-ed piece by Derek’s blog, where she writes about the organizational advantages enjoyed by private schools, which are not saddled with burdens such as teachers’ unions:

“Without union interference, non-public schools can turn the ship on a dime. Hiring, and firing board of trustees must have a chance to relay their message and concerns to the board of trustees at this Monday’s meeting, but no serious discussion on the matter ever took place.

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Students for USM Future

Who really rules the school?
A view from across the pond, the city of Winchester

Learning the cultural differences between the US and UK

Martin Conte
Free Press Staff

The city of Winchester, which has the feel of the city of Portland condensed into about a quarter of the size, is home to, among many domestic businesses, a McDonald’s, a Subway and a Starbucks. What makes Winchester’s Starbucks different than the one’s we’re used to is that it sits in a building that is approximately 400 years old. The first floor is entirely recognizable: glass walls emblazoned with the mermaid insignia, a few tables outside, a dark fake-wood counter inside and all the sugary flavors you could wish for. But just above the tables of appreciative British customers is a maintained frontispiece for the original building, a sort of Dutch architectural design, with wooden timbers, white plaster and a pointed architectural design, with wooden timbers, white plaster and a pointed peak roof. Below, young Winchester students vigorously type on Iphones to listen to the latest hit songs from the American charts, and perhaps discuss American Idol or America’s Next Top Model.

It is this sort of cultural amalgam that I am thrown into. I am, and feel, entirely international and foreign as an American student here. I can barely get through a sentence without tripping over the odd little differences in syntax. When I mention the colour of my pants, I hear snickers, for “pants” are underwear and “trousers” are pants here. I haven’t been drinking (legally, that is) since I was eighteen, like most students. And I still cannot entirely decipher a cockney accent.

And yet, the influence of Americanism follows me constantly. The imperialist, huge amount of popular cultural production and a shared language (for the most part), America and all its trends are a driving force in English pop culture. This offers me a neat viewpoint of my own identity, as an American, but as one who has had the privilege of the unique lifestyle one encounters in Maine. Let’s explore a few things that become blindingly obvious when observing the U.S. through a foreign lens.

First off, there is no such thing as an “American” culture. This is something we hear over and over again, but usually fail to fully recognize. The United States are just that, individual states, united by a common government and a common language. Beyond that, a Texan can be as different from a Mainer as a Scot. In fact, Maine is almost perfectly equidistant from the U.K. as it is from the opposite side of the country.

There are things to be proud of the United States for! With political upheaval, primitive social practices and an often cynical and sometimes hostile notion of American culture, it was a relief to hear Brits speak positively about what they love about the states, our music, our movies and surprisingly some aspects of our government. We still remain an inspiration for the rest of the world. Yes, the rest of the world thinks we are fat. We can laugh about it, we can be proud of our wealth and indulgences, but in the end, how can we wear the mantle of a progressive nation when we cannot keep ourselves healthy—a critical element of a nation’s happiness?

My list could go on, but I’ll limit myself here. Suffice to say that as an American, I am a new exotic character to those around me. I represent failures, successes, a place of inspiration and a place of danger. I am plagued by our legacy of school shootings, and applauded by a government which, though we feel is in every way inept, remains the test subject for the rest of the world.

During an orientation meeting this week, our International Student Advisor Alasdair Spark commented on how we don’t really get the opportunity to know ourselves, until we look at ourselves away from our environment. By looking at American culture through the British lens, I continue to see tremendous difficulty: political frigidity that benefits no one, social, racial, and class divides. Poverty is a system of popularizing drivel rather than real art. But I also see a more hopeful version of the United States, a United States that hopefully we can realize as the rest of the world hopes we can. A place where artists are given the opportunity to create, people of all backgrounds are given the opportunity to speak and upward mobility is a reality, rather than a mere possibility. I hope that I not only find a new appreciation for those parts of the U.S that should be celebrated, but also do the same in my own life, looking at myself. Let me be critical, let me be appraising and let me never be satisfied, but always pursuant, of a better self. The next few months in Winchester will hopefully help me do just that.

Martin Conte is a senior English major currently studying in the UK.

Corrections:

Last issue, in an article titled “This is an experiment”: Faculty express concerns for budget timeline,” two quotes were incorrectly attributed to Nancy Richeson, a former professor of recreation and leisure studies at USM. They should have been attributed to Nancy Gish, a professor of English.

In an article titled “Multicultural students discuss diversity and discrimination,” we incorrectly attributed Hassan and Ali’s quotes to one another. The quotes were in reverse.
**Crossword**

Across
2. Fine valued, as stocks 
3. Make compact, as pipe tobacco 
4. Painter Jose Maria 
5. Stomach sweater 
6. Name of Furer, in German 
7. Pages read by a piano player 
8. Comedic actress Martha 
10. Beat convincingly 
11. Org. overemphasizing fairness in hiring 
12. Explains, with “up” 
13. APAP 
14. Bond number 
15. atom 
16. Fibers 
17. Takes the high road 
18. Kansas Chess Club 
19. Sport of pique, in German 
20. Suede shoe 
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71. Play (do some tennis)

**Weekly Horoscope**

**Aries**
March 21-April 19
Reach for the heights. You can fly high in love today, just don’t be so foolhardy you risk crashing to the ground.

**Taurus**
April 20-May 20
A day for fantasies and fairy tales with family. Indulge your imagination and enjoy the world of magic and make-believe.

**Gemini**
May 21-June 20
A child or person near you is more needy than usual today, and you’ll want to help. Do what’s necessary, but not too much!

**Cancer**
June 21-July 22
Warmth, caring and love are essential today. Cherishing someone and being cherished is more important than passion.

**Leo**
July 23-August 22
You can be unusually dramatic today—almost “casting a spell” on your audience. Be noticed!

**Virgo**
August 23-September 22
New alliances can bring money-making ideas into your life. Explore your possibilities.

**Libra**
September 23-October 22
Arguments come easily or people play word games. Exercise your quick wits with a mental challenge or constructive communication.

**Scorpio**
October 23-November 21
Leisure involves beauty. This could range from a personal make-over, to watching the sunset, creating something beautiful, etc.

**Sagittarius**
November 22-December 21
Now’s the time to exercise your power. Fight for justice. Sign petitions or write letters for causes you care about. Demonstrate.

**Capricorn**
December 22-January 19
You and your partner are torn between experimenting tonight and sticking to the familiar. A little bit of both can be enjoyable.

**Aquarius**
January 20-February 18
You’ll feel somewhat restless and could be too diversified in your activities today. Keep clear priorities.

**Pisces**
February 19-March 20
Your need for structure and organization could go overboard. Plan leisure activities, but remember to relax too!

**Cryptogram**

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

EBSDK E FEPWSHEG BWPPDK VKEDZ FWL GELS P KDES F W LHX MLD FD 2 MHGV GW DLS WGG.

And here is your hint:
D = E

**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.

**The solution to last issue’s crossword**

- Award-winning pizza
- Free delivery
- 10% off with college id
- Order online

Leonardo’s Pizza
415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444
www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
Any large pizza

www.leonardosonline.com
Free delivery or carry out
One coupon per pizza
Expires 5/15

The GOLD Company
Joel Gold, CFP®, Ph.D.
USM Finance Professor since 1973

~ Since 1995 ~

- Rolling over your retirement accounts to IRAs
- Developing an investment portfolio flow in retirement
- Family money issues

- INVESTMENTS & FINANCIAL PLANNING –
  Call 207-650-7884 or 207-934-3698

thegoldcompanyfinancialplanning.com
In a world where cyber-attacks and heists pose a very real threat, USM is arming its IT students with the knowledge of not only how to repel them but how to release viruses themselves.

Edward Sihler, the technical director of the cyber-security lab, said that in order to truly understand what a virus is made of, you have to build one from scratch.

“Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all,” said Houser.

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I’m trying to make students love the university more. If they could love this place half as much as I do, it’d be a much better experience.

Kyle Frazier, student body president

USM student body president Kyle Frazier is the kind of person who is able to talk to anybody comfortably. He can switch from talking about football in one sentence and school politics in the next. And he’s comfortable and charming in all topics. The Lisbon, Maine native was elected last spring in a landslide over opponents Jordan Miles and Erin Carlson. His election has been a culmination of a journey that started back in 2011.

Frazier admits that he used to be rarely involved in campus life outside of the classroom. That changed when he joined one of the most prominent fraternities on campus, Phi Mu Delta. “I didn’t do anything on campus my freshman year,” Frazier said. “I did nothing until I joined Phi Mu Delta, and that is basically what led to everything.”

After joining, Frazier quickly got involved in student government. He cites close friend and former Phi Mu chapter president and student senator Christian Evans as the primary reason he joined student senate. “Christian offered me the opportunity and I seized it,” Frazier said.

Frazier also cited that former student body president Chris Camire served as a major inspiration. “Seeing him speak to all the students compelled me to want that, but I didn’t think it’d actually happen,” he said. “I knew that I really wanted to become student body president as soon as I met a friend of mine, Isaac Misik, and was defeated by last year’s student body president Kelsea Dunham.”

Frazier has met with the new interim University President David Flanagan and thinks that he’s a really cool guy. He sympathizes with the president by saying “I know it’s not gonna be easy, and I know that everything that I try to do might not be well received by all the students.”

Frazier stressed that he wants the students to not be afraid to come to him and resolve any issues they have.

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Anthony Emerson
Free Press Staff

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