UMaine freezes tuition again

Board of trustees votes to not raise cost for fourth year straight

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

The University of Maine System board of trustees has voted once again to freeze in-state tuition for the fourth year in a row, leaving students, faculty and staff wondering what this means for the future of USM.

According to Dan Demeritt, the UMaine system director of public affairs, students can expect Maine’s college tuition to be one of the most affordable in New England.

“It’s critical that the government is making an investment and that the board of trustees is using that to keep tuition flat so it doesn’t get harder for families to finance a college degree,” said Demeritt. “The hope is that as a public institution, it reduces financial barriers for students as well as potential students and reduces indebtedness once students graduate.”

Although other public institutions across the country have increased their tuition by 17 percent over the past four years, Demeritt explained that college competition is higher than ever and believes low tuition is an enticing factor for potential students.

“We’re seeing that the amount of high school students graduating has diminished by almost 20 percent over the past few years,” said Demeritt. “It’s a combination of that and competition between other universities - our customer pool has shrunk and we have more competition.”

Chris Quint, USM’s public affairs director, believes that affordability is a major problem across the country, similarly saying that this issue can be linked to the low high school graduate demographic and the competition between universities.

“We have to do everything we can to be affordable and accessible,” said Quint. “The action Speaker of the board of trustees took was a positive one in that direction.”

By giving students the confidence that their tuition bill will not increase, Quint said that in-state students can be expected to spend only $8,000 for the school year and out of state students with room and board costs can expect to spend about $20,000.

“We’re one of the better deals in the northeast here at USM,” explained Quint. “Portland is one of the most desirable cities in the northeast and we’re right in the heart of it. We have everything we need to be successful here, we just have to sell it to students.”

Junior finance major Amelia Worthing said that with all the faculty cuts, USM has seen over the past year, the tuition freeze will hopefully bring more fiscal stability.

“We have to do everything we can to be affordable and accessible,” said Quint. “The action Speaker of the board of trustees took was a positive one in that direction.”

By giving students the confidence that their tuition bill will not increase, Quint said that in-state students can be expected to spend only $8,000 for the school year and out of state students with room and board costs can expect to spend about $20,000.

“We’re one of the better deals in the northeast here at USM,” explained Quint. “Portland is one of the most desirable cities in the northeast and we’re right in the heart of it. We have everything we need to be successful here, we just have to sell it to students.”

Junior finance major Amelia Worthing said that with all the faculty cuts, USM has seen over the past year, the tuition freeze will hopefully bring more fiscal stability.

“We have to do everything we can to be affordable and accessible,” said Quint. “The action Speaker of the board of trustees took was a positive one in that direction.”

By giving students the confidence that their tuition bill will not increase, Quint said that in-state students can be expected to spend only $8,000 for the school year and out of state students with room and board costs can expect to spend about $20,000.

“We’re one of the better deals in the northeast here at USM,” explained Quint. “Portland is one of the most desirable cities in the northeast and we’re right in the heart of it. We have everything we need to be successful here, we just have to sell it to students.”

Junior finance major Amelia Worthing said that with all the faculty cuts, USM has seen over the past year, the tuition freeze will hopefully bring more fiscal stability.
Pearl Tap House

COLLEGE NIGHT

Every Thursday Night!

FEATURING

$0.25 Miller High Life!
$0.50 Bud Light Drafts!
$2 Vodka Cranberry!
$2 Fireball Shots!

www.PearlTapHouse.com
If you’re a USM student you recently received an email from Bayside Village comparing the costs of their apartments to the dorms on campus. Some of you may have even received an email confirming your tour of the apartment complex that you didn’t even schedule.

The email suggests Bayside is part of USM, but the two are not affiliated. The university is the targeting USM students to try and fills their rooms.

Student email addresses are publicly available through the registrar’s office, even to companies competing with USM for student business.

“Directory information can be requested from the university, it’s not protected. The registrar has to provide it,” said Jason Saucier, director of student and university life.

Amenities in Bayside apartments are similar to those provided in Upper Class Hall at USM. "If you’re not worried, [about Bayside] we’ve already filled our apartments. We always fill our apartments. And that’s what they’re trying to do," he said.

Students were indifferent to USM giving away their information. Kiya Caron, a criminology freshman, knew anyone could request information from the registrar’s office and then it’s just a matter of putting a period in between the first and last name and adding ‘@maine.edu.’

She has no plans to move to Bayside. For one, she doesn’t think she could use financial aid for off-campus housing and she also prefers living in Gorham because of the community there.

“I’m involved with a lot of things on campus and my friends live on campus,” said Caron.

Student government polls are open now

Resident assistants Taylor Carter and Miranda Piscopo, from Woodward and Anderson halls respectively, have heard rumors about Bayside Village.

“They’ve got a drug problem. I don’t recommend it to students looking to move to Portland,” said Carter an economics and political science senior. “It seems sketchy.”

They were unfazed by the unsolicited email. “Oh yeah, I missed my appointment the other day,” Carter said with a chuckle.

He’s staying put in the dorms for his final year at USM where he enjoys free housing, a perk of being an RA.

Piscopo, a sophomore jazz performance major, said she would probably stay on campus for her time at USM as well, due to the community and perks of being a RA.

“RAs work to build relationships and create a sense of community,” said Saucier. “It’s a different feel than an apartment in Portland – you’re not on your own, someone is checking in on you.”

USM has 980 students in campus housing, out of a capacity of 1,100. This number doesn’t include the now vacant Dickey Wood Hall, which was closed because there wasn’t enough demand for the space. The university retains 450 students in campus housing each year.

USM once had a dorm on Congress Street, Portland Hall, but it’s been closed since 2008. Saucier admits there is demand for a Portland dorm but couldn’t comment about any specific project.

President Flanagan recently mentioned that the university should hold onto the white houses lining Chamberlain Ave, in case of expanding housing there.

“You could see a day in the future that we would put a hall out in Portland, but to do it and be successful we’d want it to be in close proximity to campus,” said Saucier. “Ideally the Portland campus would be a great place for dorms.”

“There’s demand, it’s just having capital to do the project,” he said.

When asked how they obtained the address of their student’s email, USM’s vice president for student life, Andrew Estabrook property manager at Bayside said, “We received your email from USM.”

“Bayside Village, leasing consultant Brianna Hamilton, echoed this sentiment. USM gives you email to us. UNE doesn’t,” she said.

According to Saucier, USM never promotes Bayside as an alternative to USM and that they are a completely separate entity.

“I think they’re struggling as a company, so they’re trying every marketing-wise to try and fill spots,” he said.

A Google search for “Bayside Village” reveals “Bayside Village: University of Southern Maine Student Housing,” giving the illusion that the company is an arm of USM.

During a tour of the Bayside apartments there were USM coffee mugs and UNE swag strewn about on the welcome tables.

According to Hamilton, of the 400 residents that make up Bay-

Student government polls are open now

Candidate bio available online, introductions planned

Brian Gordon
Free Press Staff

This year’s presidential race is between four candidates, including current members of the student government.

Rebecca Tanous, current student body vice president and senior chemistry and education major, is running with junior chemistry major Matthew Creisher.

“I truly believe that this position is where I can best serve the students,” wrote Tanous in her election bio. “Being a member of the Student Senate for two full years, I feel confident in my knowledge of how the SGA functions and am passionate on utilizing it to better aid the students.”

The pair list improving USM’s marketing efforts, improving connections between students, faculty and administrators and student organization groups as key issues they hope to focus on.

Tanous, a transfer student, I have a vested interest in how this University represents itself to those that are interested in enrolling,” wrote Creisher. “As vice president I would be able to work closely with students and faculty members in the creation of a stronger image for USM and to assist with schools advertising system; in order to showcase a more welcoming and inviting front to those looking into the school.”

Senator John Jackson, a political science and business management major, is running for president with economics major Mackenzie McHattan as his vice president. Information on the candidates’ academic standing was not provided.

“As a Student Senator here at USM this past year, especially during the roll show of an academic year we’ve had, I have not only established relationships with the people that are in the most influential of positions within the University that allowing me to get tasks done, but I have also have first-hand experience with the requirements and commitment of the position of Student Body President,” wrote Jackson. “I believe that Mackenzie and I are the best people to help and be able to ensure that the voice of the student body is heard among the faculty, administration and the board of trustees on any subject that the student body wants its opinions voiced.”

Jackson noted that student involvement in university governance, parking problems on campus, university marketing and pushing the potential of university model as issues he would tackle.

The final runners for the president’s role are sophomore political science and criminal justice major Paul McGuire and junior leadership and organizational studies major Cameron Engge.

“We are passionate about USM and it’s future,” reads their campaign bio page. “We recognize this is an important time in shaping the University and we want the opportunity to do that responsibly.”

Their goals include improving communication across the board at USM and helping students better represent themselves in the surrounding community.

Junior psychology and criminology major Derrick Kennedy is running for vice president.

“I want to be Student Body President because I have a voice,” wrote Kennedy, and I, like many of the students of USM recognize what the issues are, and believe that I have a powerful enough voice to be heard and to make a difference in bringing about a much needed change.”

Kennedy lists improving student resources on the path to graduation as his presidential goal. His hobbies include hiking, mountain biking and weight lifting, according to his profile.

Only 13 candidates for the student senate are on the ballot and the senate has 21 seats to fill. It looks like only 35 percent of the student body is completely uncontested this year.

This year’s referendum questions look for student input on adjusting the hours of the Gorham Transit and Woodbury cafe to better accommodate late classes, athletics. Another topic up for debate is expanding the Saturday mall bus run to include stops at places like Walmart and Target and increasing the frequency of late night buses to the Old Port.

The SGA has scheduled a ‘meet the candidates’ event for Monday at 1 p.m. in the Woodbury Campus Center.

Polls open at 1:30 p.m. and student can vote online through the SGA page on USM’s website.

Chart created using infogram

Bayside Village sends students unsolicited suite offers

Brian Gordon
Free Press Staff

First event cancelled without notice

Brian Gordon
Free Press Staff

There was an event scheduled last Friday for students to meet and learn more about their peers running for student government, but no one attended, not even the candidates.

An email was sent to the USM Events listings confirming the event on Tuesday, it was rescheduled for Monday, but no official notice of the change was posted on university or student government websites or social media accounts.

In an email on Friday evening, student senate vice chair Tom Babin told the Free Press that an email was supposed to have been sent out by either Dean of Students Joy Mullah or student life director Jason Saucier.

“The elections committee and the student body president asked to consolidate the Friday event with the Monday event to make a stronger one,” said Saucier in an email on Friday evening. “Unfortunately we did not get a correction out on the e-mail list.”

In the hour after the event was sent to begin, not a single student wandered into the area where the event was supposed to take place. USM tech support employees had set-up equipment in preparation for the event, but packed up after an hour when no one arrived. They had not been notified of a cancellation.
Quint also explained that the urban concept played a large part in how they evaluated his candidacy. “The metropolitan university is going to evolve in many ways that we don’t even see today as it unfolds and develops over the years,” said Page. “It will give the university strength and vision to move along, and, Kesselman’s enthusiasm for the university and the state of Maine is high.”

According to Kesselman, by his very nature, he’s going to be different than other USM presidents.

Coste said that unlike the last two administrations which were largely focused on cutting, Kesselman is more focused on building. “This will serve him well as he will need to share a positive vision for the university to re-energize its battered workforce,” said Coste. “Flanagan faced some very difficult trials, but it’s past us and it’s time to move forward,” said Kesselman.

**USM Tuition cost through the year:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year ($)</th>
<th>Tuition Rate ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY05</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY06</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY07</td>
<td>$6,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY08</td>
<td>$7,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY09</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY10</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY11</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY12</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY13</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY14</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY15</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The chart above shows the gradual increase of the cost to attend USM and displays the tuition freeze as well.

**Defining creativity through art and science**

On April 2nd, USM will be holding an event hosted by Dr. Edison Liu the president of the Jackson Laboratory.

However, he won’t be giving a lecture on genetics.

Instead, he’s presenting the connection between art and science. He’s partnered up with the Maine Center for Creativity, which is presenting a trilogy of unique and informative lectures, called The Creative Toolbox.

The first in the Creative Toolbox series will explore the concept of creativity itself.

Liu encourages his employees and everyone to embrace their creativity and to convert creativity and innovation in their market.

“The Creative Toolbox concept is a very important one in one aspect: to convert creativity and creation from solely as a focus of self-fulfillment into impactful outcomes for humanity. The Toolbox funnels that personal creativity into impactful means,” Dr. Liu said.

This Creative Toolbox event is going to explain why Dr. Edison Liu believes that humans are hardwired to be creative individuals.

He believes that in our DNA we are meant to be creative and that through science we’ve evolved with each other throughout the years. It appears as if his lecture may say these two things are not individualistic.

Liu plans to discuss how something can originate from nothing, in both science and creative senses.

He will be conveying these points with piano pieces and hopes to show how creativity and innovation affect all of our lives.

This event will be filled with music but also very informative science discussions, which are advertised as being both entertaining and interesting.

Event tickets cost $35, but the admission is free for students.

The event is being held on April 2nd, 5:30 - 7:30 in the Abromson Center in Hannaford Hall.

**Definitions:**

- **Tuition Freeze:**
  - A period during which the cost of tuition does not increase.
- **Creative Toolbox:**
  - A series of lectures exploring the concept of creativity.
- **Human Genome Organization:**
  - An organization that focuses on the human genome.
- **Jackson Laboratory:**
  - A research facility for the study of genetics.
- **Maine Center for Creativity:**
  - An organization that promotes creativity in Maine.

**From KESSELMAN on page 1**

**From TUITION on page 1**

through the door, Quint said that not only do they have to modernize recruitment strategies but they also want to improve how they market and talk about the university. “It really comes down to recruiting more students,” said Quint. “We’re hoping that by being a metropolitan university, we will open up enticing opportunities for current and prospective students not only in the classroom but in the community.”

With the arrival of USM’s new president Dr. Harvey Kesselman, Quint also explained that the future of USM is in good hands because he has raised a university from the ashes of financial debt once before.

“When he started as Executive President at Stockton University, they were very much in the same situation as we are,” said Quint. “Along with their faculty and administration, Kesselman was able to turn it around to the point now where they are thriving. I know he can do that for USM.”

Demerit said that as each university takes the proper action to combat financial issues and the University of Maine System promises to provide Maine’s strongest commitments to affordability. The individuals who voted for the tuition freeze recognize that. “It really is all about the students,” said Demerit. “We want to be an option for everyone and that’s why its so important to keep the tuition down.”

Liu the president of the Jackson Laboratory.

He’s partnered up with the Maine Center for Creativity, which is presenting a trilogy of unique and informative lectures, called The Creative Toolbox.

The first in the Creative Toolbox series will explore the concept of creativity itself.

Liu encourages his employees and everyone to embrace their creativity and to convert creativity and innovation in their market.

“The Creative Toolbox concept is a very important one in one aspect: to convert creativity and creation from solely as a focus of self-fulfillment into impactful outcomes for humanity. The Toolbox funnels that personal creativity into impactful means,” Dr. Liu said.

This Creative Toolbox event is going to explain why Dr. Edison Liu believes that humans are hardwired to be creative individuals.

He believes that in our DNA we are meant to be creative and that through science we’ve evolved with each other throughout the years. It appears as if his lecture may say these two things are not individualistic.

Liu plans to discuss how something can originate from nothing, in both science and creative senses.

He will be conveying these points with piano pieces and hopes to show how creativity and innovation affect all of our lives.

This event will be filled with music but also very informative science discussions, which are advertised as being both entertaining and interesting.

Event tickets cost $35, but the admission is free for students.

The event is being held on April 2nd, 5:30 - 7:30 in the Abromson Center in Hannaford Hall.
Sex trafficking horror stories exposed

Activist Ruchira Gupta visited USM last week to speak on her experiences fighting to abolish sex trafficking. She started her career as a journalist and won an Emmy for her documentary The Selling of Innocents which explores the plight of young girls in India being taken from their homes and sold into prostitution to work the brothels.

“We urgently need a new law on trafficking, one which is not based on old British colonial laws,” said Gupta, who is fighting today to abolish trafficking.

The laws created by Parliament were designed to provide disease-free women to soldiers fighting in the British army.

Gupta believes that change needs to be made across the globe and not just within a certain country. Part of the problem is that with the advancement of technology, traffickers have become much more skilled at what they do, using websites to lure and deceive young girls into working as prostitutes.

There seems to be a trend in the class and gender of people that traffickers prey upon. In almost all cases it is generally women living in India and poor, younger girls that were sought after by traffickers. The same holds true in the United States, where most of the women trafficked are poor minority girls.

Traffickers would also try to make going to work in a brothel sound appealing by telling these young girls that they would get to go live in a big city and make some money for themselves, and these girls would bring him to the brothel.”

Gupta believes that in order for there to be change, the laws have to be targeted towards the traffickers and to punish the clients because a lot of the time the victim has no choice. She also believes that things need to be done so that the buyer has less power and fewer choices when he decides to go to the brothel.

In countries such as Norway and Sweden purchasing sex is illegal, not the setting of sex. This means that if a trafficker was to be caught or a brothel was searched, the women would not be punished for what they were being forced to do. “Those governments understood and recognized that prostitution was an outcome of gender inequality, so the women should not be punished,” said Gupta.

Those laws have put the blame on the traffickers, resulting in a decrease in trafficking for those countries. Now many other countries are also starting to adopt a similar model when they craft laws against trafficking.

There has been some success in trying to bring change. Recently, new laws have been passed against trafficking through lobbying and putting pressure on government.

“It has created a new paradigm with how we deal with trafficking,” said Gupta. “We have shifted the blame from the victim to the perpetrator.”

Prostitution will still occur, Gupta said, as long as there is a buyer. Gupta believes that there needs to be partnerships between governments so that policies and laws can be passed to make a difference and try and protect women against trafficking.

news@usmfreepress.org
@USMFreePress

Ruchira Gupta, an Indian sex trafficking abolitionist, journalist and activist. She has worked for over 25 years to end sex trafficking and has been honored for her work by governments, national leaders, and organizations on a global scale. Gupta established Apne Aap an organization that’s saved over 15,000 Indian girls from the clutches of sex slavery.

Please Mail Pot to me
7:20 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana at Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Monday, March 9

Huffin’ Gas
1:15 p.m. - Gas leak. Report of odor of gasoline. determined to be leaking from a vehicle. Contact made with the operator. Item has been fixed. Woodward Hall, 20 University Way

Wednesday, March 11

Mommy Kisses Boo-boo, Makes It All Better
10:21 a.m. - Subject evaluated following medical emergency and released to parent at Upton Bonney Hall, 95 Bedford Street.

Rolling With Tons of Weed
8:05 p.m. - Summons for possession of illegal amount of marijuana issued to Cassidy D. Wright, 18 and Chase Hopkins, 21 both of Gorham at GS1 Parking Lot, 128 School St.

Friday, March 6

Poo-Boxes Towed Daily
1:55 a.m. - Vehicle towed for unpaid parking fines at GS2 Parking Lot, 140 School St.

Young Drunk Fights Self
2:34 a.m. - Arrested Jared M. Beckwith, 21 of Gorham for disorderly conduct. GS2 Parking Lot, 140 School St.

Bumper Poo-Boxes
12:25 a.m. - Report taken for two car property damage only accident at G16 Parking Lot, 55 Campus Ave.

Respect the Sign Foo’
8:07 p.m. - Warning to operator for stop sign violation at Cherry Street by Marston Street.

Homeless Not Allowed to Read
9:15 p.m. - Disruptive/unwanted person. Subject issued trespass paperwork and moved along at Glickman Library, 314 Forest Ave.

Give the Children Booze!
11:18 p.m. - Summons issued to Dalton A. Rice, 18, of Gorham for illegal possession of alcohol by a minor by consumption at Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way.

Friday, March 13

Poo Boxes Beware Rolling Through Campus
4:17 p.m. - Motor vehicle stop. Traffic summons issued to Andrew J. Holt, 56 of Falmouth for illegal possession of marijuana by a minor by consumption at GS1 Parking Lot, 128 School St.

It’s Called Art, Philistines
8:46 a.m. - Vandalism. Report of graffiti on a building at 501 Forest Ave.
Students perform in the musical that features a wide range of student talent

**Catch Me If You Can**

Dora Thompson
Free Press Staff

Stealing the USM main stage this month was the ridiculously catchy, deliciously sixties con art-istry set to music: *Catch Me If You Can*. Premiering in Maine for the first time, this euphoric bang of a show features a wide range of student talent.

“It’s great showcase of the talent here at USM,” said musical director Ed Reichert, USM lecturer in musical theatre.

Nominated for four Tony Awards, with music and lyrics written by Hairgrove creators Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, *Catch Me If You Can* is a hit. It is based on the similarly titled autobiography by Frank Abagnale Jr. that tells the tale of a charming con artist who loves women. There is also a movie adaptation starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks.

The musical follows the misadventures of Abagnale as he drops out of high school at 16 after his parents divorce. He then runs away from home to become one of the world’s most famous con artists, cashing millions of dollars worth of bad checks and successfully impersonating an airplane pilot, a doctor, and a lawyer.

“It’s told with a lot of dance, song, humor and some drama,” said Wil Kilroy, USM professor of Theatre and director of the musical. “You see what led Abagnale to become the person that he became.”

Charismatic and young, Abagnale takes the audience on a whirlwind journey of multiple uniforms, all the while being hotly pursued from a darkened pub into a crisp setting boards, informing the audience where the scene was taking place. The giant blue tinsel backdrop for the play was turned from a darkened pub into a crisp doctor’s office.

“I love the chase of the show. You never really know who to root for,” said West. “Abagnale is on stage a lot, so as an actor I get to show off my chops, and that’s a lot of fun.”

Plato’s USM main stage was quite a production. Kilroy says his favorite part about directing this musical is that he could get so many students involved. Since there are so many roles, theatre majors as well as musical theatre majors try their hand at song and dance. There was also a live eleven-piece orchestra providing music for the show, with nine student musicians and two alumni under the command of Reichert, with assistant music director Kelly Moody.

“It’s a challenge to take a show this big and produce it on a smaller scale. No mics are being used for the actors, it will be more intimate,” said Reichert. He said his favorite part is making the score come alive, through the actors, singers and musicians.

Songs like “Doctors Orders” and “Don’t Break the Rules” stuck in audience members heads for days. Vanessa Beyland’s choreography was captivating, quick, and true to the time frame the show took place in.

“As an actor who is not a dancer first, its really nice to be eased into some of the more challenging choreography,” confesses Matt West, who plays Frank Abagnale Jr and is junior musical theatre major.

For a show of this size and this pace, it was difficult to condense everything onto the small stage. Director Wil Kilroy has to deal with this.

“It’s very quick, so there’s not a lot of time to change scenery because we want the whole show to flow. It’s challenging to know how to get scenery off really fast, and to make sure we have enough room to dance,” explains Kilroy.

The crew did a great job designing the set as well, a simple stair-way set with large panels on either side of the stage with electronic bars resembling airport announcement boards, informing the audience where the scene was taking place. The giant blue tinsel background for the play was turned from a darkened pub into a crisp doctor’s office.

“Catch Me If You Can perform choreographed music numbers in Russell Hall on Gorham Campus.

“Catch Me If You Can” is a fun, jazzy musical that brings together the showiness of musical theatre. It’s hard to blend the showiness of this production while trying to keep true to the real characters,” Grindle observes.

USM will forever get to claim to be the Maine premier of this high-kicking and morally compromising show. West said, “You’ll laugh, you’ll cry and you’ll feel all these fantastic things, but in the end, you won’t be disappointed because it ends on a high note.”

**Catch Me If You Can**

Photo courtesy of USM theatre department

Marc H. Scheff / Design Assistant

Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky
Design Assistant
Last week, student filmmaker’s set out to cast roles for their films, taking the first step in the process of their hort movie creation. This film project is for an Advanced Field Video Production class, where USM students majoring in media or communications get the chance to cast, direct and film their own movies.

These 3 films, titled Red Rum, Captain Hook and Disruption had students from all around campus walking in for auditions. Upon arrival, they were handed scripts and given little time to memorize anything on the sheet. Associate professor of media studies David Pearson said that this stress of being put on the spot actually allows everyone to have an equal chance at getting a part.

“The cast members play such an important part in making these films successful, but the class itself is really about film directing,” said Pearson. “How you work with actors will determine where the dramatic beats are in a script.”

For one of the short films Captain Hook, 4 students sat together in a room prepared to meet their next auditioner. Sophomore communications major Matthew Donovan said the most important part of the process is casting members.

“We’re looking for people who look the part as well as good actors,” said Donovan. “This is going to be a film, not a theatre production. So we’re looking for people who are more subtle on camera and will transfer well in film.”

Junior media studies major Brad Willette, who was also in the group explained that the script they chose was important part in making these films Captain Hook’s set and great set of characters and a great set. Chosen this to him, senior media production major for personal interpretation. Sitting next interesting because it left a lot of room explained that the script they chose was important part of the process is casting members.

“We’re looking for people who look the part as well as good actors,” said Donovan. “This is going to be a film, not a theatre production. So we’re looking for people who are more subtle on camera and will transfer well in film.”

Junior media studies major Brad Willette, who was also in the group explained that the script they chose was interesting because it left a lot of room for personal interpretation. Sitting next to him, senior media production major Beverly Youngberg explained that they chose this film simply because it has a great set of characters and a great set that new and challenge us in a way that will benefit us in the future.”

The other two films, Red Rum and Captain Hook, were also self chosen films that appealed to the budding filmmakers.

“Actually, said Dennett, “it’s definitely a challenge but it’s a way to learn something new and challenge us in a way that will benefit us in the future.”

The other two films, Red Rum and Captain Hook, were also self chosen films that appealed to the budding filmmakers. Senior media studies major Mary Kearney, who is filming Red Rum with her classmates Emily Pierce and Grace Waldron, said that a lot goes into making a movie besides the filming.

“The audio has to be clear and we need to have clear images for our film,” said Kearney. “Everything has to make sense in the last copy of our work too.”

Senior theatre major Alyssa Rojecki, who auditioned for the films Captain Hook and Red Rum, explained that she auditioned simply for the learning experience.

“I did this last year and had a lot of fun doing it,” said Rojecki. “I mostly do theatre performances, but I am trying to do more film acting to build my resume and hopefully move on to New York City after graduation.”

Nat Ives, Manager of the communications and media studies production center, explained that this is the 15th year they’ve been doing this and that every year students love participating in both the acting and film production crew as part.

Dennett explained that the after the showing of all the films on May 6 in the Talbot Auditorium, her group is producing the film Captain Hook would like to enter their film in festivals.

“There have been some competitions and films I’ve found online and that is definitely a venue we want to look into to establish our resumes,” said Dennett. “I think we really would like to give our Professor Pearson and Nat Ives a huge thank you when we send it out because they really gave us an amazing challenge.”

Krysteana Scribner / Arts & Culture Editor

Krysteana@usmfreetpress.org / Krysteana2016
USM is ready for long-term leadership from Kesselman

We welcome Harvey Kesselman as USM’s new president and value his enthusiasm and experience, but he’s got a tough job ahead of him and we’re ready to see how he can handle the challenge.

USM has had three presidents over the past four years and most of them have been focused on cutting programs and faculty positions instead of building them up. Kesselman’s deal with issues of declining enrollment and budget shortfalls, as prviso of the Richard Stockton College in New Jersey, and we hope that this experience will arm him with the tools he needs to lead USM into a more sustainable future.

Previous administrations have alienated students and faculty when making decisions that affect the without input from the community. We hope Kesselman keeps his promise of a focus on shared governance. He’s told the Free Press that he plans on meeting community input and attracting more students and faculty positions and gutting certain academic departments. Just last month Flanagan said that if enrollment isn’t stabilized, he’s going to have to cut more programs, and become indistinguishable from past presidents that have demoralized our campus community.

Kesselman’s motivated nature and unbridled optimism is promising, and it’s likely that USM needs to happen and be implemented quickly.

Last year, President David Flanagan cut $16 million out of the budget by eliminating 50 faculty positions and gutting certain academic departments. Just last month Flanagan said that if enrollment isn’t stabilized, he predicts more cuts to come. USM’s admission office has seen 10 percent less applications being sent in and new enrollment is down 41 percent from last year. Kesselman should talk to students about their reasons for leaving USM, or choosing other schools from the minds of all of us on campus.

We don’t believe that keeping tuition costs down will necessarily solve our enrollment problem though. Tuition has been held flat for the past three years, but USM’s enrollment has continued to decline. Declining enrollment causes revenue loss, not only in tuition, but merchandising, meal plans and housing as well. To believe that lowering tuition is what attracts students to our university when students aren’t looking at when researching colleges and money is always on the minds of all of us on campus.

We believe that the majority of students would rather add a few hundred dollars to their bill than see more of their professors let go over the next year because of financial constraints.

Students should think of their tuition bill like any other purchase. Do you choose the pricier, quality, durable option that you know will last or choose the product that’s constantly cutting back on features to keep prices low? Administrators and students should support investing in and building a strong university instead of trying to save money by eliminating features to keep prices low. We don’t believe that keeping tuition costs down will necessarily solve our enrollment problem.

How do you tell stories?

No matter your medium, we’re looking for good story tellers. Apply to be a reporter, columnist, photographer, designer or copyeditor today! Email editor@usmfreepress.org

Tuition freeze will not help increasing budget deficit

The decision to freeze tuition across all UMaine campuses has been pushed by system public relations offices as a “historic” vote, but only time will tell exactly how flat-tasting costs will be remembered.

As students, we appreciate system-level administrators watching our backs. We’ve got rent to pay, books to buy, old cars that cost too much to fill up, so the last thing we’re looking for is more debt added to our post-college lives. Tuition costs are often one of the first things students look at when researching colleges and money is always on the minds of all of us on campus.

We don’t believe that keeping tuition costs down will necessarily solve our enrollment problem though. Tuition has been held flat for the past three years, but USM’s enrollment has continued to decline. Declining enrollment causes revenue loss, not only in tuition, but merchandising, meal plans and housing as well. To believe that lowering tuition is what attracts students to our university when students aren’t continuing to apply to our university is absurd.

Our Opinion is written by the Free Press editorial board.
Sustainability and the illegality of hemp is foolish

Non-psychoactive plant material has many benefits

Caleb Cone-Coleman
Contributor

Hemp is a fascinating material, having been used by humans for at least 8,000 years. While it is unclear in recent history it has come under such strict prohibition. Often, hemp is confused with marijuana, hemp is also classified as Cannabis sativa, but is cultivated in a manner which eliminates almost all of the psychoactive terpenes, CBDol (THC) element, and emphasizes the strength of the stalk or the abundance of seeds. It's uses are seemingly limitless, from construction and textiles, to body armor, to shampoo. It is efficient to grow and environmentally friendly, almost the entire plant can be utilized after harvest, and the roots go deep into the ground which helps to prevent soil erosion. Furthermore, it grows tall rather than wide, so a large crop can be planted on a relatively small amount of farmland.

However, despite the great utility of the plant and its lack of THC it is seemingly impossible to cultivate in any state because it is considered a schedule one narcotic by the federal government. One of the many uses of hemp is as an effective construction material. The fibers of the outer husk of the plant can be broken down and mixed with lime to form a material much like concrete. In addition, because the carbon contained within the hemp plant can't be grown in a block cannot decay easily like wood used in construction, this hempcrete as a form of carbon sequestration as the surrounding time petrifies and removes carbon from the atmosphere temporarily. Hempcrete has better insulation value than concrete, as it is less dense and there are small air bubbles formed by the hemp fibers within the blocks.

The plant is multifaceted in its uses, and almost all parts can be taken advantage of. The oil produced by the seeds is food grade, and rich in nutrients such as omega-3 fatty acids which have been linked to all kinds of health benefits such as lowering triglyceride levels and reducing inflammation. The oil, much of which produced in Canada currently, is also usable in the manufacture of soaps, paints, plastics and many other products that are often sourced from petroleum. By creating these products from hemp oil instead of fossil fuels, we could reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and rely more on biofuels, which can be recreated for generations to come.

Of course, there are still significant barriers to growing the plant in America, primarily the fact that it is still classified as narcotic alongside substances like heroin and LSD. Such laws foolishly prevent productive use of the plant and economic growth, and lead to Americans importing over $1 billion in hemp based products from Canada every year that could easily be produced locally here in Maine or almost anywhere else in the U.S. However, as the legalization effort for hemp's psychoactive components moves forward, the ability to cultivate and process hemp should follow closely behind. Giving the environmental benefits it confers, plus the potential economic benefits it brings, we can only think of how much a safely grown American hemp grown just around the corner.

Just remember, if you go the fresh food route to actually eat said fruit you don't walk around for a week wondering what the funky smell is coming from your backpack. Yeah, first hand experience talking here.

Don't want to prepare anything at all? Buy a meal plan. This might not be your first thought as a non-traditional student but Dining Services does offer meal plans tailored to commuters. Changes are that at some point in the semester you will find yourself on campus in need of food, having a few dining dollars available on your card will at least keep you from scrounging $1.00 in change from the bottom of your purse.

If you are cooking for one, you now have several servings of a meal you can package in containers and freeze for further lunches. A good resource for slow cooker and casseroles recipes is allrecipes.com.

Don't like to cook? Sandwiches made with veggies, cheese, cold cuts or even a good old PB&J are easy and highly portable. Chopped vegetables, your favorite salad dressing for dipping can be a great addition. Salads are about as simple as you can go when you have a bag of salad greens, add some canned tuna or chicken, plus a few other vegetables. A Google search for "brown rice lunch" will give you a surprising number of suggestions.

Just a snacker? Make a habit of keeping a few snacks in your bag or car like dried fruit, a granola bar, nuts, string cheese or even an apple.

Back to School

A food diary: Want to start trying to eat healthy?

Joie Grandbois-Gallup
Contributor

Breakfast: 1 slice of leftover pizza, coffee Lunch: 1 Clementine

Snack: 1 package Reeses Pieces, coffee Dinner: wait...I actually don't remember

I don't actually keep a food diary but this is a pretty fair approximation of a typical Monday (and my excuses for this run from being too busy to plan, too broke to buy decent food or just too bored of whatever is in my cupboard at any given moment)

My excuses for this run from being too busy to plan, too broke to buy decent food or just too bored of whatever is in my cupboard at any given moment are cooking for one, you now have several servings of a meal you can package in containers and freeze for further lunches. A good resource for slow cooker and casseroles recipes is allrecipes.com.

Don't like to cook? Sandwiches made with veggies, cheese, cold cuts or even a good old PB&J are easy and highly portable. Chopped vegetables, your favorite salad dressing for dipping can be a great addition. Salads are about as simple as you can go when you have a bag of salad greens, add some canned tuna or chicken, plus a few other vegetables. A Google search for "brown rice lunch" will give you a surprising number of suggestions.

Just a snacker? Make a habit of keeping a few snacks in your bag or car like dried fruit, a granola bar, nuts, string cheese or even an apple.

Want to write a column for the Free Press? Pitch your idea to editor@usmfreepress.org
**Crossword**

Across
1. Nape
8. Meas. of the cerebellum without the box
13. Ready for an engagement
14. Affirmative
16. Wood of "Wheat Side Story"
17. Stately denser
18. Giants or Vikings
19. Art
20. Where David slew Goliath
21. Mt. tending site
23. Voting day (abbr.)
26. Words before "number" or "brother"?
27. ... the beginning
28. Ivanov's place, backwards
29. Arnold Schwarzenegger role
31. Some Windows version
32. Think up
33. Fictional city in Baum's Oz books
34. Lassers
40. Common power sources
41. One of ten in a baseball grid
42. _______ (impossible restroom)
44. _______ Novosti (Russian news agency)
45. Texas school initials
46. Bread unit
47. Impeachment
48. Tend a toddler
49. Firewood supporter
51. Pollution, to some
53. Begin anew
54. Time between flights
56. Round seat
57. Test requirements

Down
1. It has 14 lines
2. Where a London rooster might say he lives
3. "Let them ..."
4. Lay it on thick
5. TV set
6. Opera song
7. Blauch
8. Hagen and Rico
9. Needle case
10. State capital near Princeton
11. Scoubidou's needl
12. Copious, often
13. Coming forth
15. Pair of pants order
16. Exploited by
22. without a coat
24. Absolutely
25. Shorty
26. Hermes pestum
27. Minic
28. Or a bodily splint
29. Man's invalid
30. Celadon handwear
31. Parent's authorization explanation
32. "What?"
33. "Like rushing water"
34. "More an analytical /
35. Dessert, to a girl
36. "Son of a gun!"
37. "Have you seen him?"
38. "Legend of Shirley"
39. "Here comes the sun!"
40. "Every breath we take"
41. "You just can't resist"
42. "I'm a little lady"
43. "We're doing the best"
44. "Lassie"
45. "Let the good times roll"
46. "Let's just try again"
47. "Let's just dream"
48. "You and me and the sun"
49. "Let's go fly a kite!"
50. "Let's just not talk"
51. "Let's just start again"

**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.

VXC SPC BHSXHE FQ IYHL DVXSE DHGFTCXCT LHXC- DKYFGTCX?

And here is your hint:

T = D

---

**Weekly Horoscope**

**Aries**
March 21-April 19
You can finally see over the top of that obstacle you've been confronting. You're almost there!

**Taurus**
April 20-May 20
Too much focus on the past keeps you there. Learn from what has been, but plan for what lies ahead.

**Gemini**
May 21-June 20
Rose-colored glasses loom large today. Take another look at reality lest you fool yourself by overlooking a significant fact.

**Cancer**
June 21-July 22
Today the focus is on the balance of power between you and other people at work. Neither give in nor demand too much.

**Leo**
July 23-August 22
An opportunity to lead comes your way. You're in a position to motivate others.

**Virgo**
August 23-September 22
You want beauty, comfort, ease and harmony in relationships today. Don't give up too much trying to avoid disagreement.

**Libra**
September 23-October 22
You may be feeling a bit frustrated today if you are thinking only of what you don't yet have. Face reality, while working to improve it.

**Scorpio**
October 3-November 21
Fun is in focus. Don't push yourself. Put off major efforts for another day; keep a playful attitude today.

**Sagittarius**
November 22-December 21
Plan your action and excitement today. You can enjoy drama, exhilaration and enthusiasm. Do things which are physically active or thrilling.

**Capricorn**
December 22-January 19
You gravitate toward fascinating people, scintillating conversations and fun. Don't be afraid to play the entertainer, host or hostess.

**Aquarius**
January 20-February 18
You can't buy love, but spending on something beautiful or a romantic evening is a good idea. If you really can't afford it, create a fantasy!

**Pisces**
February 19-March 20
Sensual gratification is more important today. Reach out and touch someone. Food, drink and material pleasures taste extra sweet.

---

**Puzzles**

**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.

VXC SPC BHSXHE FQ IYHL DVXSE DHGFTCXCT LHXC- DKYFGTCX?

And here is your hint:

T = D

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

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

---

**The GOLD Company**

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

- I CAN HELP WITH......
  - Deciding when to refi & to help with your cash flow in retirement
  - Rolling over your retirement accounts to IRAs
  - Developing an investment portfolio
  - Family money issues

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

---

The solution to last issue’s crossword

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza

---

**Leonardo’s Pizza**

415 Forest Avenue, Portland
(207) 775-4444

www.leonardosonline.com

$3.00 OFF
any large pizza
Community Spotlight:
Harvard graduate discusses religion and spirituality in seminar for student groups

David Sanok
Free Press Staff

Last Thursday in Bailey Hall, the Christian group Alpha Omega held a presentation on the Bible and its accuracy, entitled "The Word of God."

Alpha Omega is a non-dominion Christian organization, meaning they are not part of any Christian branch such as Catholicism, Lutheran or Mormon. Their goal as an organization is to make Christianity a more united religion by reaching out to students at colleges and giving presentations on what they consider proof that the Bible is the word of God.

Speaking on behalf of Alpha Omega was guest speaker Anselm Beach, a graduate from Harvard University. Beach began his presentation by speaking about why he became a Christian six years ago and how it gave him a spiritual connection with his God. For the rest of his presentation, Beach clicked through a slide show on what he considered to be proof that the narrative accounts in the Bible are historical fact, despite being shrouded in conspiracy and mythology.

"Beach's argument that the Bible is accurate because it's had such an enormous impact on so many civilizations throughout history, "For 2000 years, the Bible has helped to give ancient, medieval and modern civilizations a guideline on morality," Beach said. "Although the Bible has been translated into many different languages, the biblical messages carry the same meaning. To me, this proves the Bible is the word of God. His word can connect to any person no matter their language or culture."

Students in attendance had varying but positive reactions to Beach's presentation. Noah Turcotte an Episcopal Christian agreed with Beach's viewpoints. "I came tonight just for fun," Turchotte said. "Even though I will not convert to non-dominion Christianity, I agree with all of Beach's points and admire his passion and devotion to the Bible."

One non-Christian student in attendance, was second year Avery Filmore, who wanted to observe the differences and similarities with her own Buddhist faith. Filmore described her motivations for going as satisfying curiosity. "I find it interesting to see another point of God from a different religion," Filmore said. "I like studying all religions and learning about their cultures. As a Buddhist, I sometimes like to examine my own faith by comparing it to others."

When asked whether the presentation changed her mind or shook her faith at all, Filmore replied that it did not convert her. "I'll be a Buddhist for the rest of my life," Filmore said. "I also don't take the Bible literally because I believe there are multiple interpretations, and not one of them is the absolute word of God."

news@usmfreepress.org
@USMFreePress

David Sanok I Free Press Staff
Anselm Beach, a graduate from Harvard University spoke to students about religion.

For more events: www.usm.maine.edu/events
Breaking News!

BECOME THE NEXT:

› Design Director
› Ad Manager
› News Editor
› Perspectives Editor

A lot of our editors will be graduating and moving on next semester. Do you have the skills to take the lead?

Start working for us today to get ahead. For more info, Email editor@usmfreepress.org

Earn something besides a sunburn this summer.

4-WEEK SESSION
Session 1: May 11–June 5
Session 2: June 29–July 24

7-WEEK SESSION
Session 1: May 11–June 26
Session 2: June 29–August 14

14-WEEK SESSION
May 11–August 14

With over 500 offerings, including more than 150 online courses, it’s easy to fit a summer course into your schedule.

usm.maine.edu/summer