Rebecca Tanous wins elections

Maine’s first shadow play

Million dollars spent on ads

The Loss of Liberal Arts

Eliot Cutler to lead new business school

News

For details on the rest of the election, see our story on page 3.

The free press

University of Southern Maine Student Newspaper

A one million dollar ad campaign was launched in February encouraging prospective students to “find themselves at USM,” but the effectiveness of this campaign is unclear at this time.

Two weeks ago the Portland Press Herald reported that despite the numerous television and radio ads, undergraduate applications are down ten percent from last year and new enrollment for 2015 is down 41 percent. So far the admissions office has seen 3,809 applications compared to 4,249 from last year. But according to Christopher Quint, it’s too early for a definitive understanding of this trend.

“People are clicking on our ads and inquiring about our programs,” said Quint. “We were able to use those savings and put it towards something positive; getting more students here, so we don’t have to do this again. If you lay off someone, and don’t fill that position, that money is still in your budget. You can use it for something else. We made the decision to turn our enrollment around.”

In a comment written on social media, Susan Feiner a professor of management information systems said that all of this can be seen as a snapshot in time, it was a snapshot in time, during a turnaround that requires big changes to occur.

“If it’s adequately funded I think we have innovative ideas in plan for our future.” said Cutler. “You are trying to build something better that is more responsive to what the market wants.”

James Suleiman, an associate professor of management information systems said that all of this can become a reality if a community we can work together to seek out funding for this effort and build a top notch program to accomplish it. “If it’s adequately funded I think this graduate school will be a success.” said Suleiman. “There are a lot of different measurements of whether or not it will fully succeed, such as whether or not it will get adequate enrollment.”

Cutler explained that because there is no model or plan that has already been put in place, he is the one who will have to develop a plan with the dean and the president over the course of the next year and a half. Assuming the board of trustees approves his plans, he explained that the program will become a collaborative project to give students the chance to obtain more skills for today’s job market.

Cutler said that this will give students the opportunity to try things out and give them the opportunity to see how the program initiative works out. He believes that what will measure the school’s success will be the number of student participants.

When asked about whether or not the decision to begin a financially dependent project in a time when USM has been faced with financial crisis, Cutler said the effort being made to develop this new approach for graduate education is entirely funded, and therefore no money is being taken out of the system. He also explained that USM is simply going through a turnaround that requires big changes to occur.

“What work is right there is no model or plan that has already been put in place,” said Cutler. “You are trying to build something better that is more responsive to what the market wants.”

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Student advocacy program launches

Troy Bennett / BDN Staff Writer

File photo of the statehouse in Augusta.

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Toward the end of March, students from six of the UMaine system’s seven universities took a trip to Augusta to spend a day at the statehouse.

The visit was the pilot event for a new pilot program developed at the system level. The goal of the program is to bring student advocates from all UMS campuses together in Augusta to meet government officials, sit in on meetings and talk about issues that college students in the state are facing.

“I think students have been asking for this kind of opportunity for a long time,” said Laura Cyr, a postgraduate fellow in finance and administration, in an interview last month. “Students have been looking to learn about the decision making process, not only at their university but in their state government as well.”

This time around, the hot topic is how Governor Paul LePage’s proposed state budget affects Maine’s public universities.

According to a summary of LePage’s 2016-2017 budget, his plan includes a 3.64 percent increase — roughly $14.2 million — for the University of Maine system.

“I think this year, we’re handed an issue on a plate,” said Cyr, “but we’re excited that in future years, students will be able to bring their own issues to the table.”

Four students attended the trip on March 24, along with students from other campuses. The University of Maine at Machias was the only school that did not send representatives.

Overall, student attendees said the day was a success.

“We’re here to really get an idea of what happens at the statehouse, to be student advocates for the UMS system and to really get our bearings in Augusta,” said Rachel Cormier, a non-traditional student who served on the Metropolitan University Steering Group earlier this year.

Cormier says that spending a day watching legislators work and getting a chance to speak with some of them erased the “imitation factor” some students might face when it comes to state politics.

“They were very communicative with us on levels that I didn’t expect,” said Cormier. “We have to remember that they’re just people and that we shouldn’t be afraid of reaching out to them.”

John Jackson, a student senator double majoring in political science and business administration, enjoyed his experience as well.

Jackson said his interest in the program sparked because of the cuts to faculty and staff that occurred.

“Getting a chance to meet legislators is important in getting this budget passed,” he said.

Jackson said he has hoped to have more of an opportunity to speak with legislators, specifically those who might be on the fence with their vote on the budget.

“They’re going to be very busy on those days when they’re in session, so I know it’s difficult,” he said.

Jackson said he feels the state contribution to UMS funding is on the low-side and that it needs to be changed in order for the university to succeed financially.

“Hearing student voices is very important. Having students show up, especially from all campuses, is worth a lot more than an administrator or faculty member speaking out,” said Jackson.

“I don’t think students need to necessarily join the program with an agenda,” said Cormier, who didn’t mention any specific issues she was looking to address during her trip. “I think it’s better to just speak and get to know your local legislators.”

Cormier says that if students realize they have access to their government officials and learn how to speak with them, it will be easier for them to recognize student voices.

“I feel like it’s easy for anyone who doesn’t have regular contact with students to assume we’re all just spoiled, young teens, but that’s not true,” said Cormier. “A lot of people at USM are a little older and should reach out to legislators. It can be a resource, what do you need from me?”

Both Cormier and Jackson aspire to become legislators at some capacity in the future.

“I think this program is only going to open more doors for students,” said Cormier. “I hope that more students are able to go next year.”
SGA elections turnout lower than last year

Zachary Sears
Free Press Staff

Late Monday afternoon, the results from this year’s student government elections were sent out by email, naming Rebecca Tanous for student body president and Matthew Creisher as vice president, winning by a margin of just 26 votes.

The newly elected Tanous expressed how excited and eager she was to get started.

“I’m really passionate about actually seeing changes and actually seeing action happen,” she said. Tanous has been involved with student government for two and a half years and is currently serving as vice president until she is sworn in as president later this month.

“First and foremost, we have these student leaders who are here to serve us and we need to use them more,” said Tanous. According to the pamphlets laid out last week on the tables in the Brooks Center on the Gorham campus, Tanous wants to accomplish a lot. Tanous wants to look at the legislative side of the UMaine system and see what is most negatively affecting USM’s fiscal situation.

“We just had big cuts, we had a lot of student activism last year but that’s really tapered off,” said Tanous. “This is where I can have the most impact,” said Tanous. “It’s kind of just been a natural progression and this was my next step.”

Despite her leadership position on the SGA, Tanous said that she has no interest in pursuing politics after her college career.

“I’m not a politician,” said Tanous. “I’m really passionate about what I am involved in and right now I’m a USM student so I’m really passionate about what is happening.” According to Tanous her first order of business is to train other student leaders.

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“In this year’s election there was a grand total of 345 ballots casted out of almost seven thousand students, so less than 5% of the student body participated in this year’s election. The voting numbers were even down from last year, when 452 students casted ballots.

Both Tanous and the director of student & university life Jason Saucier expressed their concern with how low voter turnout has been. “One of the biggest challenges is getting on student’s radar,” said Saucier.

Tanous expressed that she would be very interested to see an audit to find out just how much is being taken out by the UMaine system.

“I think that is almost a bigger issue than the funding equation,” said Tanous. Tanous expressed desire not only to boost the voting numbers but to get students more interested and knowledgeable with all student government activities, projects and elections. news@usmfreepress.org @USMFreePress

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2015 NYC15 APPLE AWARDS
BEST PRINT AD

Abigail Ruscansky/I Design Assistant

Candidate debate from a Friday, when the Woodbury Campus center is virtually empty, to a Monday when it would be more busy. An increase in foot traffic and more convenient timing resulted in the candidates being exposed to more people.

“This year the voting process was not up to par,” said Tanous. “We had less people working on elections than usual, so we were really stretched thin.”

Tanous expressed desire not only to boost the voting numbers but to get students more interested and knowledgeable with all student government activities, projects and elections.

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The loss of liberal arts education

USM professors discuss 'a blow to student success'

Brian Gordon
Free Press Staff

On Wednesday night, the Arts Association hosted a panel of five professors who gave a talk titled "Deforming the System: The Loss of Liberal Arts as a Blow to Student Success." About 40 students attended along with a few faculty members. It was a well-attended event, with a diverse group of students and faculty engaged in the discussion.

"I'm kind of nervous about the future of the criminology program at USM so I don't really have a whole lot of choice but to transfer said Flanagan. "Public universities are now deformed education."

Professor François Flisiuk, Managing Editor

USM professors discuss 'a blow to student success'

Faculty members from departments that offer liberal arts degrees spoke on a panel last week to discuss the decline of liberal arts programs and the affect on students.

"I don't understand how we have so much wealth [in America] and productivity yet so little money to share," said Bjelić. "I just don't buy it."

Francis Flisiuk / Managing Editor

Flanagan then outlined his vision of how a metropolitan university looks, operates and functions through partnerships with people and businesses in the community. Flanagan said he doesn't think we should just stick out our hands and ask for money, but instead show the legislature real results.

A student who's already putting his forthcoming bachelor's degree to work is political science major, Joshua Dodge. For the past semester he's been working in Manhattan for the State Department as a liaison to the United Nations. According to Dodge, he helps diplomats live in NYC by, for example, taking care of their parking tickets or getting them safely from the airport.

Dodge credits USM hugely for his success and Professor Franciscas Vassallo of the political science department for getting him into this internship.

Dodge doesn't think USM is 'under attack' but does wonder about the value of his degree. "I would be lying if I said that I never worried about my program being on the chopping block. We all have said," Dodge. "It's no longer guaranteed anymore that we will have a job when we graduate from college, especially one in our chosen field of study."

Kathy Bouchard, a senior criminology major just is glad to be graduating this May before nothing is left of her program. Both Bouchard and Harrington plan to return to their native Massachusetts to look for work and attend graduate school.

Bouchard thought the cuts were unfounded and said, "Is that the goal of USM to make this an efficient education? If you cut liberal arts you cut programs that cause us to think."

Professor of criminology Dušan I. Bjelić who's been at USM for 25 years and is a native of Serbia thought it was ridiculous that he went to university for free in a "much, much, much poorer country," while in America we get burdened with debt for our education. "I don't understand how we have so many wealth [in America] and productivity yet so little money to share," said Bjelić. "I just don't buy it."

"It's a user-pay system, [students] don't have to pay the lions-share of tuition. There's been a dramatic shift in the funding of education," said Messerschmidt.

Ronald Schmidt, professor of political science said, "The State of Maine has made a choice about what higher education is, it's a private choice. You can choose to buy it or not to buy it. I don't agree with it, but that's the decision they've made."

According to Messerschmidt, retracements like the ones last year at USM, which saw 51 fac- ulty, five academic programs and 100 staff expeuned from the university, aren't happening at private colleges. Retracement also often don't happen outside liberal arts departments.

"Given the vast majority of students at USM are working class, while their peers attending private colleges are middle and upper class, what we have happen- ing is an aggravation or worsening of social class inequality of higher education," said Messerschmidt.

"I am transient, I'm only here to get involved," said Ford. "I think we should just stick out our hands and ask for money, but instead show the legislature real results."

"The conversation has to be in- formed, not deformed," said Car- roll.

Her long-winded and passion- ate diatribe complaining of "tran- sient administrators that haven't been here long enough to make informed decisions," was aimed largely at a man sitting three seats to her left, president David Flanagan.

Flanagan interrupted the pre- sentation, coming in ten minutes late, and asked if he could take a place on the panel as defender of the recent cuts to liberal arts at USM.

"I am transient, I'm only here for a year but I am familiar with the issues of USM," said Flana- gan.

Flanagan served for 10 years on the board of trustees, two of which he held the title of chair- man.

"We do have a problem in this country of not supporting uni- versities enough, and that's not a successful society," Flanagan said. "Colby, Bates and Bowdoin, the elite, continue to be very high quality but for everyone else the quality is at risk of moving to a lower level. I think that's a legiti- mate concern.

"I think more money in public higher education should be a higher priority for our society," said Flanagan.

Among the attendees of the lecture speaking on the importance of liberal art degrees was Katie Grenier, a sophomore criminol- ogy major who likes USM but is uncertain of its future. She's looking to transfer out of state because she doesn't know if her program will be around much longer.

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From ADS on page 1

year because the faculty that were fired are still paid their salary for 18 months.

However Quint explained that the severance pay is a cost borne by the UMaine system. Both Quint and the new presi-
dent Harvey Kesselman said that boosting enrollment is the key to USM's success.

"It's our number one priority right now," said Quint. "If we don't boost enrollment, we're going to continue to see a slide."

The recent campaign ran ad-
vertisements on television, radio, Hulu and various websites promot-
ing new scholarship money and USM's new metropolitan vision. The ads themselves did not have any live action shots of people or footage from campuses, but instead utilized blue and gold typography with a voiceover saying that USM is a "game changer."

"Whenever I hear, 'there's never been a time like now to attend USM,' in the ads I laugh because that is so true, but not in a good way," said Annie Stevens, a 2013 USM graduate, now Maine Law student. "There has never been a time when USM was doing so terrible and no one wanted to be there."

Kate Ginn, a political science major, said that it's a fallacy to tell students will be leery to apply to USM because they can't be sure that their major will survive the time it takes for them to graduate.

Some community members such as Portlander and Rutgers graduate Mark Usinger are more lenient and said that even Rome wasn't built in a day and to cut the new guy some slack.

Marin Conte, a senior English major, said that it's a fallacy to tell people not to go to USM if you care about the school's future. "Boosting enrollment won't solve our severe issues with mis-
management but they will help with heaps of other things, and there's no reason to oppose these attempts to do so," said Conte.

For now, USM's administration under Kesselman remains as opti-
mistic as ever and is, will be and has been focusing on boosting en-
rollment in other ways besides tar-
eted advertising.

"The ad campaign is done, but we're not done," said Quint. "We've been aggressively recruit-
ing and placing phone calls to prospective students encouraging them to enroll."

Last Friday, Kesselman drove nine hours from New Jersey to wel-
come 357 students and their fami-
lies at Gorham's accepted student day, and ultimately inspire them to take the final step toward enrolling. Kesselman said that he wants to be as visible as possible during his time as USM's president.

"I think that many of the things that we are making are helping to generate more excitement about our university; it plays a role in people choosing to come here," said Kesselman. "Our university has experienced some difficulties, but now it's rejuvenating and it's incredibly satisfying to be a part of that process."

Francie@usmfreepress.org
@FrancieFlusik

Police Beat
Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log March 6 to March 15

Monday, March 16
Liar, Liar Pants on Fire
7:52 a.m. - Fire alarm activation by contractors working in the building.
Central Heat Plant Unit - 25 Durham St.

Tuesday, March 17
Reefer Madness
2:55 a.m. - Marijuana Odor / Viola Summons Issued.
Summons for a useable amount of Marijuana issued To Shanidin V. Shay, 21 of Gorham
G12 Parking Lot, 19 Campus Ave.

Wednesday, March 18
How Did You Pass Drivers Ed?
1:47 a.m. - Warning for wrong way on a one way issued to operator.
G8 Parking Lot - 24 University Way

Taste Of Your Own Medicine
8:05 p.m. - Initiated - Parking Enforcement Vehicle Towed G2B Parking Lot, 25 Husky Dr.

Winter Night Shower Fight
8:49 p.m. - SUMMONS for Assault issued to Hannah E. Wardwell, 19 of Gorham. Also issued paperwork to same subject.
GC3 Anderson Hall - 40 Campus Ave.

Thursday, March 19
Look At Me Mom, I Can Multi-task
1:43 a.m. - Warning to operator for texting while driving.
University Way

Friday, March 20
We(ed) Didn't Know It Was Wrong
12:19 a.m. - Summons issued to Nicholas Emmons 18, of Gorham for Possession of Marijuana
G11 Parking Lot - 52 University Way

But Officer, This Isn't A Bong It's an Inhaler
12:40 a.m. - Summons issued to Travis J. King, 20 of Gorham for Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia, summons to Emma M. Anderson, 18 of Gorham for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and summons issued to Alexander C. Caponigro for Possession of a useable amount of Marijuana
Robie Andrews Hall - 29 University Way

At Least I Didn't Fail A Test
11:00 a.m. - Carly M. Festervan arrested on Failure to Appear Warrant
Robie Andrews Hall - 39 University Way

Friday, March 20
I'm Lost But Now I Am Found
11:00 a.m. - Jai S. Allen, 38 of Portland arrested for Criminal Trespass. Suspects handled by Officers.
Glickman Library - 314 Forest Ave.

Double Trouble
5:38 p.m. - Summons for Insurance Violation and warning for stop sign violation issued to Julia B. Finkle, 23 of Porter, ME.
Falmouth St.

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.

Free Press News
Free Press wins national award

In March, seven Free Press staff members attended the Col-
lege Media Association in New
York City and took home an apple from high-profile media profes-
sionals and other student media
organizations from around the coun-
try.

New editor-in-chief named for Fall '15

Last month, the Free Press ex-
cutive board and the Student
Communications Board approved a motion to make Krysteana
Scriber, the paper's current news editor, the editor-in-chief for the '15-'16 school year.

Scriber is a junior English major and has been with the Free Press for two semesters.

Thompson, a sophomore communications major, will be taking over Scriber's position in the arts section. Thompson has worked for the Free Press for two semesters as well.

April 13, 2015

News

FRIDAY MARCH 20
I'M LOST BUT NOW I AM FOUND
11:00 A.M. - JAI S. ALLEN, 38 OF PORTLAND ARRESTED FOR CRIMINAL TRESPASS. SUSPECTS HANDLED BY OFFICERS.
Glickman Library - 314 Forest Ave.

Doubt Trouble
5:38 P.M. - SUMMONS FOR INSURANCE VIOLATION AND WARNING FOR STOP SIGN VIOLATION ISSUED TO JULIA B. FINKLE, 23 OF PORTER, ME.
Falmouth St.

Police Logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.
USM puts on Maine’s first shadow play

Dora Thompson
Arts & Culture Editor

Starting on the April 17, Shakespeare is making a visit to USM’s main stage in his sharp-witted stage comedy, As You Like It. The show will feature all the hallmarks of The Bard, with its traditional costumes, period music and gender confusion. Thanks to director Assunta Kent, this play will be Shakespeare like you’ve never seen him before. Every performance will have American sign language interpreters accompanying the actors, making this the first shadow play to ever be performed in Maine.

Kent has had this idea in her head since 1985, when she did a version of Romeo and Juliet with some interpreters. Now that the ASL program is mature at USM, it is the perfect time to tackle a project like this. Doing a shadow play also engages the large and active deaf community in Portland. The integration of the ASL and the performance at the same time. Kent would like to change this. “For deaf audience members, watching theatre with one interpreter in the corner is like going to see a foreign film, but the subtitles are in a completely different place than the screen,” explained Kent.

She also wanted to make sure that interpreters acted while they weren’t signing. She layered shadows and speakers on different levels throughout the stage to create depth and integrate their different methods of storytelling. Shadows act behind, beside, and around the speaking actors, making for a dynamic performance.

“The positioning of the actors has been fluid and ever changing. You need to find a place where the shadows can be seen and the speakers can be nonintrusive,” said junior marketing major Josh Cohen, who plays one of the male leads, Oliver.

“As our director likes to say, ‘if you aren’t seen as a shadow you aren’t heard as a shadow.’”

A new wave of deaf theater and interpreting is becoming big. USM is the first theater in the state to do a signed performance. It’s spreading.

Zac Stearns, junior theatre major

Shadow interpreters and Speaking actors in the cast of As You Like It rehearse on USM’s main stage

Audience members may find themselves watching both pairs of actors to provide a deeper understanding of Shakespeare.

Speakers and their shadows also have to act with each other, making sure not to go too slow or fast with their lines so the other can keep up.

“This has been one of the more challenging pieces I’ve worked on because I have to be conscious of what my shadow is doing without letting my attention focus on him. I have to be aware of how he is acting while I am acting,” said Cohen.

Darleen Hutchin, a resident of South Portland and teacher at a private school, plays the shadow of leading lady Rosalind. She is one of the two deaf interpreters in the cast. She explained that she can’t see him before. Every performance will have American sign language interpreters accompanying the actors, making this the first shadow play to ever be performed in Maine.

Kent has had this idea in her head since 1985, when she did a version of Romeo and Juliet with some interpreters. Now that the ASL program is mature at USM, it is the perfect time to tackle a project like this. Doing a shadow play also engages the large and active deaf community in Portland. The integration of the ASL and the performance at the same time. Kent would like to change this. “For deaf audience members, watching theatre with one interpreter in the corner is like going to see a foreign film, but the subtitles are in a completely different place than the screen,” explained Kent.

She also wanted to make sure that interpreters acted while they weren’t signing. She layered shadows and speakers on different levels throughout the stage to create depth and integrate their different methods of storytelling. Shadows act behind, beside, and around the speaking actors, making for a dynamic performance.

“The positioning of the actors has been fluid and ever changing. You need to find a place where the shadows can be seen and the speakers can be nonintrusive,” said junior marketing major Josh Cohen, who plays one of the male leads, Oliver.

“As our director likes to say, ‘if you aren’t seen as a shadow you aren’t heard as a shadow.’”

“A new wave of deaf theater and interpreting is becoming big,” declared Stearns. “USM is the first theatre in the state to do a signed performance, and now other theatres in Maine are doing it. It’s spreading, it’s a bigger deal.”

So come to USM’s main stage April 17th, and see that “All the world’s a stage” for all the sorts of people in it.

Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff
**A&C Listings**

**Monday, April 13**
The Stuart Hall Project Space Gallery 538 Congress St. Starts: 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 14**
Women's History: Voting Down Rose Longfellow House 489 Congress St. Starts: 12:00 p.m. / Ends: 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 15**
Traci Molloy Opening Reception University of Southern Maine 35 Bedford St. Starts: 4:00 p.m. / Ends: 6:00 p.m.
Music: Shakey Graves State Theatre 609 Congress St. Starts: 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, April 16**
Music: Cuddle Magic Space Gallery 538 Congress St. Starts: 8:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 17**
As You Like It Theater Performance University of Southern Maine 37 College Ave. Starts: 7:30 p.m.
Language Exchange Open House Language Exchange 80 Exchange St. Starts: 7:30 a.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.
Film showing: White God Space Gallery 539 Congress St. Starts: 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 18**
The Mafia Kills Only In Summer Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Sq. Starts: 2:00 p.m.
Music: Between The Buried And Me Cross Insurance Arena 45 Spring St. Starts: 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 19**
WMPI 11th Annual Fashion Show Port City Music Hall 504 Congress St. Starts: 8:00 p.m.

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**Artist explores adolescent trauma**

**Krysteana Scribner**
**News Editor**

Brooklyn-based artist Traci Molloy identifies as an education activist, creating art that tackles difficult topics of adolescent violence, suicide and loss in a variety of media. A reception and discussion will be held on April 15, where people can learn about her project and ask any questions they may have.

In Gorham, Molloy currently teaches classes and creates art with students. She also works in Portland, collaborating with The Center for Grieving Children. Where she works with refugees and displaced adolescents from Sudan, Iraq, and Somalia who have experienced trauma.

Her more recent work will be discussed on Wednesday’s event, a collaborative project titled “I Am, I Will, I’m Afraid” that shows what it is like to be a young displaced adolescent in the Portland community.

Molloy photographed 17 participants each in the same location. She was able to create an art piece that morphed all the photos together to create one individual. Text written at the top of the banner is written by the participants. They write on the topic of, “I am, I will, I’m afraid” and these words hover over the painted portrait. The individual depicted in this portrait is not real, but rather a symbolic representation of the misplaced individual in the community.

“My recent project was a collaborative success because of the help of middle school youth from the Portland community,” said Molloy. “USM has given me the privilege to work a partnership with the Center for Grieving Children Multicultural Center.”

USM media studies students have been filming a documentary over the project that will be shown at the event this Wednesday. The purpose of this short educational film is to show the process that went into the collaborative work of students and Molloy.

Carolyne Eyler, director of Exhibitions and Programs explained that the event will allow students to obtain a better insight into Molloy’s work, which explores the notions of identity, race politics, class politics, gender and the aftermath of trauma and violence.

Molloy explained that there is a lot of excitement around this work because it’s a project that has engaged the community.

She believes this event will not only serve as an educational outlet to people but as a way for people to come together. She hopes to show individuals just how important a role collaboration played in the success of this project.

“The teamwork that goes into this project is like a massive machine with lots of moving parts,” said Molloy. “You need all the parts to be working to get a successful outcome - and I know that’s what we did here.”

Anyone is welcome to attend the discussion and reception on Wednesday in the area gallery of Woodbury campus and the event will be free and open to the public. The reception will be at 4:00 p.m. and Molloy will speak at 5:00 p.m. USM’s President Flanagan is scheduled to speak along with Caroline Eyler and a variety of other individuals who participated in making this project a reality.

“If students are interested in hands-on experiences, then this is something they should attend. I collaborated with students and taught at USM,” said Molloy. “This project wouldn’t have worked without their help. In order to make this project a reality, I needed the help.”

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**WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS OF OUR STAFF THIS WEEK**

**HEAVY**

**ROTATION**

**WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS OF OUR STAFF THIS WEEK**

**Talking Dreams: Bright**

The first time I heard this song I couldn’t believe it was sung by Echosmith. This song rings with a country feel and every time I hear it I think it’s Taylor Swift’s creation. This song has a melancholy yet sweet sound to it that I am constantly humming in my head throughout the day.

**- Krysteana Scribner**
**News Editor**

**Nelly**

**Hot In Here**

It’s finally spring time and things are starting to heat up – literally. Please blast this sexy, Top 40 anthem to the weather gods and meteorologists in your area so they don’t dump anymore snow down on our poor state. Let’s hope the temperatures here will be closer to those in the dirty south.

**- Sam Hill**
**Editor-in-Chief**

**Self-Released Album**

**Echosmith**

**Talking Dreams**

As a follow-up movie to its predecessor, this second installment carries all the personal charm the first movie offered. A star-studded cast presents tales of love, sadness, frustration, joy and hopes to expand the hotel’s wings to bigger and better locations. Definitely a must-see, as well as a must-listen for the soundtrack.

**- Sergey Miller**
**Free Press Staff**
When the status quo has been unaccept- able, Maine has taken to pion- eering change. Indeed, our motto “Here, we boldly try” expresses the desire for political independent electorate that proposition. Through ranked choice voting (RCV), Mainers in November of 2016 can fur- ther this ideal by electing a timely and necessary reform aimed toward strengthening our democracy.

Why do we need reform? For far too long we have tolerated a process that runs counter to a key bedrock of democracy: that government through majority rule serves the common good. In the past 40 years, 9 out of 11 governors (Democrats, Republicans, and Independents) were elected with less than a ma- jority. If we wonder why Maine has become so increasingly parti- san, if we wonder why we have not shed our title of “poorest state in the northeast,” can we not blame it on a system that allows a governor to be elected, i.e. beholden only by a minority of Maine voters? RCV will reinvigorate our democracy through choice and increased participation, and will do so in such a manner to ensure that those who are elected are beholden to all – not to some.

Citing a North Carolina special election in 2010, some critics claim that the ballot imposes an undue burden on voters and election of- ficials, causing both confusion and decreased voter turnout. However, the use of RCV in that case was limited to filling judicial vacancies that occurred between primary and general elections, rais- ing reasonable doubts as to whether there was adequate voter education and preparation prior to its imple- mentation. Furthermore, the State Board of Elections made a deliber- ate choice to “handle recounts and challenges in other races” before addressing RCV ballots, a deliberate choice to delay results.

Closer to home, some critics cite two isolated statements made in an MPBN article in order to drum up a broader conclusion that Portland’s implementation “proved either too confusing or superfluous” for vot- ers. In doing so, it criticizes neglecting to bring under consideration an exit poll conducted by a nonpartisan or- ganization that proves otherwise. In fact, 94 percent of surveyed voters reported that they fully understood the voting instructions and ballot design, dispelling the claim that ranked choice is “too complex” for the average voter.

In other instances, critics raise questions as to whether the reform “rewards mediocrity” or influences a “pandering campaign style.” On the contrary, when both voters and candidates are free from the fear of “spoilers,” as RCV has been proven to do, it fundamentally transforms and opens up our current debate to per- mitted candidates. Yet as professor Emeritus Richard Maimon points out, ranked choice voting does not systematically advantage or disad- vantage either of the two major par- ties. It does, however, return power to the voters, who would have more freedom to fully express their range of preference among the candidates.

The current process of plurality voting is suitable for elections with two-way races for public office, but two-way races are rare in Maine. If we want to move forward, we must enact electoral reform to keep pace with the ever-expanding marketplace of ideas and hotly-contested three- and four-way races for public office.

Once again, Maine has an opportun- ity to be a pioneer, this time for better elections. If we reform and fine tune our democratic process to accommodate real debate and ac- countable candidates, we can move one step closer to achieving the common good of all Mainers.

Marphee Chann-Berry
Contributor

Letters & Comments:

Dear President Kesselman,

No, this is not YOUR home. This is OUR university, which you were hired to manage. Managing means keeping it alive. I don’t know what universe you come from, but hopefully it isn’t the one that whatshisface, the last president came from. You say only need to retain 400 students. Well, in this universe, cutting programs doesn’t do much for retention.

That is all, Whitfield Palmer.

Majoring in art history.
Break is never long enough, but appreciate it

Joe Grandbois-Gallup  
Contributor

By the time this column is put into print and distributed around the campus, spring break will be over. We will all be looking ahead towards the last five weeks of the semester. Many of us will be wondering how we are going to get everything done before the semester comes to a close. At the end of those remaining weeks more than a few of us will be receiving our diplomas. All of us will start thinking about our plans for the summer. But I’m getting ahead of myself.

One of the things I have come to love since starting school is the breaks. It isn’t that I don’t like my classes, I do, and filling my brain up with knowledge brings me to my happy place. It’s just that I have come to have a serious appreciation for having any amount of down time. Every day this week I’ve been asked by my fellow students what I am doing for spring break. I have no plans to travel, and as I live in Portland, I won’t be making any special trips to a place called “back home.” In fact my response has usually been that I’ll be working, catching up on homework and attempting to have a social life. In other words, not a lot will change, except that I will suddenly have about 15+ hours in my week that won’t involve going to or from class, sitting in class taking notes, preparing lunches and snacks (now my days are up to put the final touches on an assignment or finishing a chapter in my reading).

I feel like I’ve been given a huge gift. When I think about how to spend those 15 or so hours, I have fantasies of reading the next chapter in a book of the non-textbook variety that I started reading during the February break. I think of taking a long walk around the city counting all of the signs of spring that are beginning to appear. I ponder the possibility of spending an evening out on the town without worry of catching up on lost homework the next day. I imagine myself waking up, glancing at my alarm clock on a Monday or Tuesday morning and thinking of how I didn’t set it because I don’t have to be up early (okay, that last one really is a fantasy, I still have to get up early). I know that by the time the break is over it will feel like it passed far too quickly. I will wonder where the time went and how of reading. I did, I didn’t get as much done as I hoped. At the same time, I’ll be thinking about the people I managed to finally spend some time with, the quiet moments of doing nothing or just and how, hopefully, I finally feel rested enough to take on the remainder of the semester.

So welcome back everyone, the end is in sight!

Louis is a third year international business student at USM; he loves the great outdoors and is highly interested in sustainability.

Have you ever wondered what makes tape so sticky? Why paint sticks to walls? What makes sticky things so sticky?

The function of adhesives is to hold things together. Adhesives come in many forms, including glue, tape, sealant, and use in a variety of everyday applications. In addition, natural adhesives, such as glue, and use are common in many natural applications. Adhesives like protein, starch, and use are common in many natural applications. Adhesives like protein, starch, and sugar, and caramels.

The stickiness of the adhesive is caused by molecular bonds, and its strength depends on how much stress is needed to pull those bonds apart.

Most adhesives, including tape are viscoelastic material that means it has the properties of a solid and a liquid. When a viscoelastic material is stretched, it behaves like a solid, relatively unchanging. But when pressure is applied, the material behaves like a liquid, filling any cracks or holes in any surface it touches. The same pressure that makes the tape act like a liquid is also responsible for the price of the tape to form bonds called van der Waals between it and the molecules surrounding it. Van der Waals’ forces were discovered by Dutch physicist Johannes Diderik van der Waals in 1880 and are an inherent attraction between neutral molecules feel towards each other when they are close enough together. Thus when you press tape against a surface, it behaves like a small magnet and when you rip the tape off, you break those van der waals bonds.

But what about examples in nature?

Geckos have millions of small hair-like structures on their feet which are each one tenth the size of the human hair. Even more so each one of these follicles has billions of split ends which can interact with any surface they touch. Alone, these van der waals forces might not be enough to form the strong bonds that are caused by the addition strength can allow a gecko to climb vertically up a wall with ease. In fact, if a gecko’s foot was the size of an index card, it could hold 700 lbs on a smooth surface, such as a wall. So the next time you find yourself in a sticky situation, think about that formula that van der waals bonds can break.

Donald Sloszek is a USM graduate who is interested in human biology and is currently in his final year at USM. For the Free Press, he writes the column, “Perspectives.” The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from the USM community. Letters to the editor may not exceed 400 words and op-eds may not exceed 700 words without prior approval from the Editor-in-Chief. Content must be submitted electronically and must include a contact name, phone number, and email address. Letters and op-eds must be original works submitted or solicited for publication. Columns do not reflect the opinions of The Free Press or its staff. We have a gender-neutral language policy. Deadline for submissions is the Wednesday before publication. Send submissions to editor@usmfreepress.org.

Simple Science

What makes sticky things so sticky

Donald Sloszek  
Contributor

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Crossword

Across
1. Punjabi beverage
2. Great Barrier Reef makeup
3. “Little Shop of ___” (movie)
4. Deposed dictator Manuel
5. “Great Expectations” girl
6. Made manifest
7. Silent
8. Two days out of seven
9. “___, pageant to keep us in false gaza” (Othello line)
10. Cent. parts
12. HIST successor
13. Viewpoint
14. Adam’s grandson
15. Corn serving
16. Shrove
17. Sarcastic sound
18. Jungle cat, at times
19. “If You Leave” band, for short
20. Out of control
21. Price of admission
22. Dock
23. T—— (sockwearer’s brand)
24. Actress Tyler
25. Dance party
26. Building
27. Grins, as teeth
28. Tawn
29. Dealers
30. In a hurry
31. ___ de Saint-Exupery
32. Menudo’s “Si Tu No ___”
33. FNicky one

Down
1. Dresses
2. Like some takeovers
3. Culprit
4. Cork locale
5. It may be owed on the road
6. Detective story writer ___ Stanley
7. Gardner
8. “Fluke _____ being good for nothing” (Very Judy’s “york”)
9. Shouts out
10. Wilbur’s word
11. Moves back
12. Meeting schedules
13. Fire-truck attachments
14. Influential commentary magazine, with “The”
15. Boss
16. New Age musician John
17. With eqwivalence
18. Nick of “Cape Fear”
19. Not normal
20. Ticket amount
21. Transportation
22. Pastures
23. “Rat the instructions” of “Rats. To see the Mays models”
24. Disneyworld’s locale
25. Shirley’s TV room
26. Aisle
27. Fluffs
28. World Cup org
29. College class
30. Berlin singer Tieri
31. Concerning

Weekly Horoscope

Aries
March 21-April 19
When people around you are into “looking good,” don’t get overwhelmed. Actuality is still more important than appearances.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Change is on your mind—or on your partner’s. This could be a small alteration or a major break. Perk up your time together.

Gemini
May 21-June 20
You’ll have two kinds of tasks today: some requiring much focus and concentration, while others can be done quickly. Choose wisely.

Cancer
June 21-July 22
A sudden attraction flares. Your circumstances will dictate whether it is appropriate to act upon or not.

Leo
July 23-August 22
Secrets become more complicated. Be aware of the power of information and think twice about the people with whom you share data.

Virgo
August 23-September 22
You want to relax and feel good, but also feel driven to explore and dig beneath life’s surface. Placidity and probing must be blended.

Libra
September 23-October 22
Clothes, jewelry, decorating, makeup, or candy may be splurges today. Enjoy beauty and sugar without overindulging.

Scorpio
October 3-November 21
Today, you prefer life to be secure and predictable. The familiar appeals. Stick to what’s safe.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21
Assertive action by you can bring financial rewards. Put yourself forward.

Capricorn
December 22-January 19
You have a really enjoyable discussion with a friend and both end up feeling good.

Aquarius
January 20-February 18
Be sure your laid-back attitude does not spill over into languor. Comfort appeals. You’re adept at soothing ruffled feathers.

Pisces
February 19-March 20
Keep your communication going even if tempers flare. Irritations can be overcome if you talk things over.

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.

OCR MS XQMZ PR CM’Z TAKW XS MTMWJAS, WCM CVZJAMS XWAE JMLTPM “VMK, P’E LAKPWPBM.”

And here is your hint: V = Y

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Community Spotlight:
Former Navy SEAL shares transgender experience

Former United States Navy SEAL Kristen Beck spoke at the Wishcamper Center this past Wednesday about her experience as a transgender and the discrimination she has faced.

“I want to share my story with people to raise awareness to the discrimination transgender like me have to endure on a regular basis,” said Beck. “The transgender community does not get the same recognition as the gay community in terms of pushing for equal rights.”

According to Beck, the motivation for travelling around on speaking tours is fueled by a desire to educate people on what being a male to female transgender is like and how her rights have been violated.

Beck said that she faced discrimination from the moment she came out and discussed how her childhood environment fostered attempts to suppress her transgenderism. As a child, Kristen Beck was known as Christopher Beck and grew up on farm in Virginia where she was raised by very conservative Christian parents. As early as the age of five, Beck began to identify more as a girl than a boy.

“As a kid I was drawn to feminine clothes and toys. I would also sometimes wear my sister’s dresses and put her makeup on,” said Beck. “But I had to give that up when my parents forced me to take on more masculine roles.”

Kristen Beck ultimately had to suppress her sexuality for the rest of her childhood and most of her adulthood. In 1991, Beck joined the Navy Seals and served as part of SEAL Team Six where she went on to have a successful military career. Despite her triumphs at the military, Beck did not feel anymore masculine. After retiring from the Navy in 2011, Beck underwent surgery to change her gender and her name from Christopher to Kristen.

“When I came out as transgender by posting a photo of my sex change on LinkedIn, they were all extremely supportive of who I really am and have continued to stand up for me whenever I’m harassed or bullied for being transgender,” said Beck.

Beck provided some words of caution concerning the existing prejudice against transgender people that continues to this day.

“We’ve still got a long way to go in terms of achieving equal rights for transgender,” explained Beck. “Transgenders are still not allowed in the military, and businesses around the United States practice discrimination against us.”

Junior English major at USM, Jul Heald could relate to Beck’s situation. As a lesbian, Jul had to go through the same kind of bullying Beck did.

“When I came out in high school, I had my share of support from friends but also harassment from bullies,” said Heald. “I completely understand where Kristen is coming from and that’s why I came here tonight. I wanted to show up in support and to learn more about what it means to be transsexual.”

news@usmfreepress.org
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Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff
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Session 1: May 11–June 26
Session 2: June 29–August 14

14-WEEK SESSION
May 11–August 14

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