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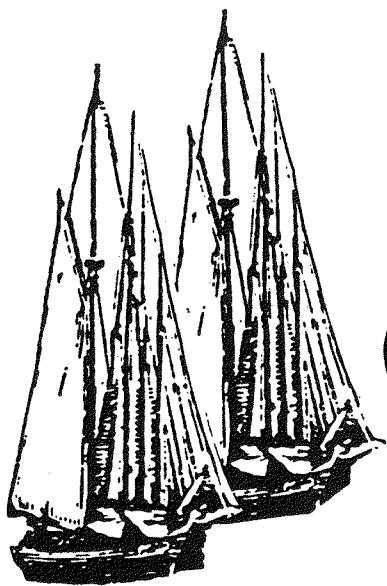
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University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 6, Number 6

December 1, 1987

What's Inside

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An Award-Winning Team: Eleanor Law, Special Assistant; Beth Warren, Executive Director; Paula Hollis, administrative assistant and co-author of the New Ideas paper; Stephen Lehane, director of Child Care Services. Mary Collins, director of Staff Development and coauthor of the New Ideas paper, was conducting a workshop when the photo was taken.

(Slipkowsky photo)

Scanning the Possibilities

USM's new electron scanning microscope has the kind of features you just won't find listed in the operator's manual.

The device, which can magnify materials more than 30,000 times, opens new worlds for our microbiology, immunology and engineering students who can now closely observe the structure of cell membranes, antibodies or microcircuits. It will allow a USM archaeologist who has been sending specimens to the University of Pittsburgh for analysis to simply travel instead to the Portland campus. And it enables industries like GTE to reduce time and expense in examining product samples.

Faculty members, students, industry representatives and reporters gathered in Room 167 of the Science Building earlier this month to see the microscope in operation. The demonstration also gave USM the opportunity to publicly thank S.D. Warren for donating the piece of equipment and an accompanying vacuum evaporator that will be used to prepare specimens for viewing. Barry Moores, manager of administration for S.D. Warren's research lab, said the donation was an opportunity to return a favor.

"In making this donation, we repay a debt to USM in providing quality students for our work force over the years," said Moores. "On behalf of the S. D. Warren Research Lab, we're delighted that you have accepted this piece of equipment."

The \$30,000 microscope is the prize piece of equipment in a new lab designed so that students, faculty and local industries can make full use of it. The University has spent some \$40,000 on renovations and additional equipment. The facility also houses a smaller, transmission electronic microscope which had not previously been available for lack of suitable space. "Not every university can provide the instructional or research capability we can now offer to our students, faculty and the community," said James W. Smith, associate professor of engineering. Smith, Michael Derby, assistant professor of biology, and Louis E. Gainey Jr., associate professor of biology, are on a committee formed to coordinate work done in the lab.

Provost Helen L. Greenwood stressed that the donation prompted the development of a facility that will serve as a valuable resource "to students, faculty and the community as a whole."

USM Child Care: A Creative Achievement

The Division of Human Resources will need a trophy room soon. Beth I. Warren, executive director, and her colleagues in the division have received more than 20 regional and national awards since 1984.

Award number 22 was presented by the College and University Personnel Association to Warren at CUPA's recent 1987 national conference. One of two annual awards established by CUPA to recognize creative achievement, it commended Warren "for her ingenuity in finding ways to put together community and institutional sources to support a child care service."

Coming at a time when state and national leaders are calling for the public and private sectors to work together to provide more quality day-care facilities, the award recognizes the advances of USM's child care program that 14 years ago served 20 children in a basement but today caters to the needs of nearly 200 children in a child care building believed to be the only facility of its kind on any U.S. college campus.

Nancy Deane, president-elect of CUPA and director of human resources at the University of New Hampshire, said CUPA wanted to recognize that this program "is serving the changing needs of students, faculty, staff and indeed the general population. Over the years, I have been impressed by

Beth Warren's accomplishments. Her creativity always astounds us at CUPA," Deane said.

An enrollment breakdown of the 187 children now in the USM program shows that 44 percent of them are children of students, 23 percent of alumni, 21 percent from the general public and 12 percent are from faculty and staff.

Announcement of the award comes at a time when state and national leaders are underscoring the economic and social importance of more and better child care programs. At a recent statewide conference, Governor John R. McKernan called on Maine's public and private sectors to "address the (child care) needs of those for whom adequate care is neither available or affordable." At the same conference, U.S. Representative Olympia J. Snowe noted that of 6 million employers in the U.S., only 3000 provide any form of day-care assistance. Congress has begun to address that imbalance with the introduction of the Act for Better Child Care Services of 1987, explained U.S. Representative Joseph E. Brennan Thursday, November 12 at a news conference held at our child care center.

Human Resources was further honored this fall by publication of an article describing development of USM's Child Care Services in the "New Ideas" booklet distributed at

CUPA's national conference. USM's child care program was also one of four model programs in the nation to be included in "Home, School and Community Relations: A Guide to Working Parents," a college textbook from Delmar Publishers, Inc.

With "flex care" that allows parents to have their children cared for during certain blocks of time and night care programs at the Child Care Center already well established and warmly received, Human Resources is about to initiate further innovations in the near future.

Child care for sick children, a hard-to-find necessity for two-job families, has already been approved and will be implemented early next semester, according to Stephen Lehane, director of Child Care Services. USM's sick care program, titled Chills and Spills, is one of only 10 such programs in the country. Also in the works are holiday camps to provide care for school age children during holidays which fall in their parents' work schedules.

Support groups are now underway for single parents and for step-parents through the Parenting Center, and the USM ECOS (Employee Consultation and Outreach Services) program is planning a support group for the "sandwich generation"—those adults who are responsible for the care of elderly parents as well as children.

Jane Still Charms Russell Square remounts a classic

Jerome Kern's musical "Leave It to Jane," which first charmed audiences in 1917, will be revived by the Russell Square Players, from Friday, December 4 to Saturday, December 12.

"Leave It to Jane" was one of a series of precedent-setting, intimate shows written by theater greats P.G. Wodehouse, Guy Bolton and Jerome Kern. Known as "princess musicals," these shows, by abandoning the grandiose settings, lavish costumes and large casts which had been copied from Grand Opera, became the prototype of musical comedy for the next 20 years.

The play is still a favorite, not so much for plot as for mood. At a small Midwestern college, the campus belle, Jane, is trying to lure an All-American football star, Billy Bolton, away from a rival team to play for her own school. Jane has been nicknamed the "college widow" for breaking at least one heart each semester. Will she get her man or will she fall for his charms?

It's a show director Minor Rootes has wanted to do for years. "The show has a youthful wholesomeness forgotten in modern musical fare," says Rootes, USM professor of theatre. "Audiences can't help falling for 'Jane'."

Rootes is also enthusiastic about the contributions of set designer Charles Kading and costume designer Susan Picinich. Kading returns to our faculty after two years designing sets for the Alley Theater in Houston. For "Leave It to Jane" he has designed two settings which capture the peaceful charm of the early days of this century. Kading has included some spectacular scenic surprises that Rootes says "will leave audiences talking for some time."

After designing costumes for shows in Illinois, Michigan and New York State, Susan Picinich has joined the Theatre Department as our first costume designer. (See accompanying story.)

"Leave It to Jane" will play at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5 and Wednesday, December 9 through Saturday, December 12, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, December 6. Tickets are \$6 for the general public, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for students. For reservations and information, call 780-5483.



Susan Picinich, costume designer, creating a period look for "Jane."

(Slipkowsky photo)

Dressing Up Jane Picinich first costumer at USM

When you see the Russell Square production of "Leave It to Jane," one of the pleasures you'll enjoy will be the array of specially made costumes. For the first time, our theater department has a costume designer on staff—Susan Picinich, assistant professor. For "Jane," Picinich has designed and overseen the construction of 64 costumes, worn by 25 characters.

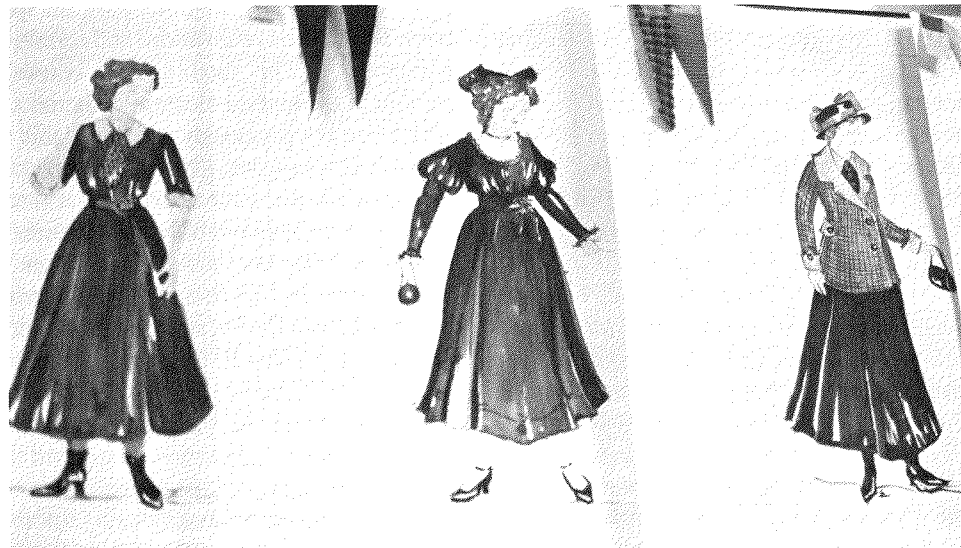
Picinich, who has been working with costumes since her undergraduate days at State University of New York at Albany, starts by researching the play. "Leave It to Jane" is set in 1916, but after investigations, Picinich decided the clothing of that period was not attractive enough to "hold" the stage. Instead, she compromised, taking some details from 1916 and some from earlier styles, circa 1905. "And some details are my invention," she says. The idea, she explains, as she pulls out yards of a luscious plum satin, is to create the proper mood. Real vintage clothes can't be used, except for a few accessories, because they look too shabby on the stage next to the newly made pieces.

After discussions with the director and set

designer, in this case Minor Rootes, professor of theatre, and Charles Kading, associate professor, to establish the approach to the play, the next step is to draw and color the designs for the director to review. "Some directors can really tell a lot from the drawings, and others are surprised when they get to dress rehearsals," Picinich says.

The drawings are invaluable to the construction of the costumes. "It's a thousand times easier to build costumes from painted representation," Picinich says. "It makes explicit changes in fabric, trim or bodices made of contrasting color," explains Christenia Kinne, an instructor in the theatre department who assists Picinich in constructing—cutting, sewing and fitting—the costumes. Picinich studied life drawing and watercolor with the art department as a graduate student as well as taking theater courses, design and pattern making. She holds a master's in theatre history from State University of New York in Albany and a M.F.A. in costume design from the University of Michigan.

The costumer follows the director's lead in creating a style to match the concept of the production. For "Jane," the goal was to mount a realistic, serious production, not a campy, tongue-in-cheek version of the period musical. The design concept must also consider brightness of the colors, flow of the materials and how the designs match the character. "Sometimes you get to the fittings, after casting has been done, and find the ingenue looks 'washed out' in pastels," she says. Designing, drawing, cutting, sewing and fitting take time, of course, but Picinich and Kinne both teach courses as well. And, Picinich says, "I spend a lot of time standing in stores looking at buttons or asking myself if I really want silver braid." But she insists, "It's work I love—balancing the colors on stage, setting off the personalities and capturing the feel of the period."



Watercolored plates and swatches of material are a guide for costume construction.

(Slipkowsky photo)

Whose Life? Film and panel on right to die

"Whose Life Is It Anyway?," a film that treats the sensitive issue of a patient's right to die, will be shown at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, December 10, in the School of Law's Moot Court Room, Portland.

The movie profiles a paralyzed man and his desire for the right to be taken off life-support systems. Following the film, James M. Freidman, professor of law and legal studies, will lead a discussion with faculty from the Department of Philosophy, School of Nursing, the School of Law, and representatives from Maine Medical Center, Susan Doughty, R.N. and Paul Cox, M.D.

The lecture—sponsored by this year's Convocation on "The Constitution: Roots, Rights, Responsibilities"—is free and open to the public. For more information contact Ellen Kandoian of the School of Law at 780-4224.

Blacks in Science

A professor considered a leader in a field of study that is attempting to focus attention on African contributions to Western Civilization will speak at the University of Southern Maine on Tuesday, December 1.

Ivan Van Sertima of the Rutgers Department of Africana Studies will speak at 11:45 a.m. in Room 165 of the Science Building, Falmouth Street, Portland. The lecture, titled "Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern," is free and open to the public.

Author of "They Came Before Columbus," Van Sertima also has edited a series of articles that examine African contributions to the development of science, agronomy and engineering.

The USM Honors Program is sponsoring the lecture. For more information, please call USM at 780-4330.

Black Nativity

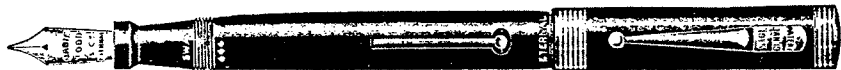
The National Center of Afro-American Artists will present "Black Nativity" at 3 p.m., Sunday, December 13 at Northeastern University. Our Employee Health and Recreation Program is sponsoring a bus trip to Boston for the presentation.

"Black Nativity" has been described as a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ through biblical narrative, poetry, gospel music and dance.

The bus will depart at 12 noon from the Campus Center in Portland, and leave Boston immediately following the performance. The cost is \$30 per person, including tickets to the performance, the bus trip and a box lunch.

For more information, call 780-4172.

Notes from the President's Desk



I am pleased to announce to our academic community that the following teacher/scholars have received a 1987-88 Achievement Award:

SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Andrew L. Anderson	Technology
Howard M. Faulkner	Technology
John R. Heath	Computer Science
John A. Zaner	Technology

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

Bruce H. Andrews	Business Administration
Frank A. Durgin, Jr.	Economics
Joel I. Gold	Associate Business Administration
Charles N. Greene	Management
Jean E. Gutmann	Associate Business Administration
John J. Houlihan	Business Law

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

E. Michael Brady	Human Resource Development Education
Willard D. Callender, Jr.	Human Resource Development Education
Libby G. Cohen	Professional Education Graduate-Special Education
Michael P. O'Donnell	Professional Education Graduate
John M. Sutton, Jr.	Human Resource Development Education
Margo Wood	Education

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Phyllis F. Healy	Nursing
Helen S. Peake-Godin	Nursing
Marianne W. Rodgers	Nursing
James V. Sullivan	Recreation/Leisure Studies
Janice Thompson	Nursing
Julia C. Tiffany	Nursing

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Richard H. Abrams	English
Kathleen M. Ashley	English
Piers Beirne	Sociology
Dianne Benedict	English
Jerry L. Bowder	Music
John P. Broida	Psychology
Thomas R. Carper	English
Robert W. Coakley	Physics
Jeremiah P. Conway	Philosophy
Craig Dietrich	History
Gloria S. Duclos	Foreign Languages/Classics
Joel W. Eastman	History
Louis F. Gainey, Jr.	Biological Science
William J. Gavin	Philosophy
William F. Gayton	Psychology
Nancy K. Gish	English
Joseph Grange	Philosophy
H. Draper Hunt, III	History
Richard Maiman	Political Science
Peter J. Martin	Music
Francis C. McGrath, III	English
James Messerschmidt	Sociology
Julien Murphy	Philosophy
Stephen G. Pollock	Geosciences
W. Gale Rhodes	Chemistry
John S. Ricci	Chemistry
Kenneth F. Rosen	English
Robert J. Russell	Music
Leonard Schedletsy	Communication
Richard G. Stebbins	Chemistry
Walter R. Stump	Theatre

New History Review

Alpha-Gamma-Pi, USM's year old chapter of the international history honor society Phi Alpha Theta, has been cited with a Special Commendation Award as part of the 1986-87 Best Chapter Award Program.

The award is based on the activities of the chapter and the participation of its 50 members. The new USM "History Review" is among their new undertakings.

The review, inspired by Mary Lou Quinn, USM graduate and teaching assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences, is a collection of undergraduate writings that are judged by a committee of faculty and student members of Alpha-Gamma-Pi.



Concert manager and drama critic Mary Snell.

(Slipkowsky photo) —

Assignment: the Arts in Maine

Mary Snell looks at music, dance and drama

Anyone who is interested in theater in Maine is familiar with Mary Snell's role as one of Maine's best drama critics. But not many are aware that she is also concert manager at USM. This fall's series of spectacular concerts—by faculty members and outside groups such as the Kronos Quartet and Calliope, the Renaissance band—were all arranged by Snell.

She came to USM in August, 1985, looking for a position that would allow her time to continue her free lance work as a critic but also enable her to diversify in the arts. She has managed to exceed in both areas, promoting the Music Department and handling all aspects of concert arrangements—tickets, posters, advertisements—while continuing to further her stature as a theater critic.

Last year she was selected for a New England Foundation for the Arts scholarship which allowed her to attend the National Critics Institute. The Institute, part of the annual National Playwrights Conference held at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, Connecticut, accepts only 10 to 12 critics each year.

Snell, a native of Portland, began her career working for the Guy Gannett papers as a proofreader after graduating from UM. She left Maine in 1973 to spend two years in Greece. It was "sometimes terrifying, sometimes just incomprehensible," she says of her life there during the rule of the junta and the Greek war with Turkey over Cyprus. For a while she lived on an island with no communication with the outside world except for the Voice of America. Snell is now writing a collection of short stories based on her memories of that time and the people she knew.

Returning home, Snell took a job again with the Portland newspaper, but in a few years became dissatisfied with the opportunities available to her. With Sharon Zacchini, another "woman's page writer" at the Gannett

papers, Snell filed a sex discrimination suit against the paper in 1983 which has only recently been settled. Both writers continued to free lance for the paper, Snell as a theater and dance critic. She also reviews dance for MPBN radio.

Although the lawsuit has absorbed a lot of her energy over the last five years, she feels good about bringing up important issues: "Is there such a thing as 'women's news' and if so, is it economically less valuable than covering a fire or a murder?" she asks.

Snell studied acting at the Maine Actors' Studio in Portland but she feels more comfortable on the "other side of the proscenium. The important thing is to love theater," she says. "You can't be a good critic without that."

Though her career has not followed a smooth course, she now feels validated as a writer and a critic, especially after her experience at the Critics Institute. During the month Snell was in residency there, she wrote a review each night of the new plays mounted by the Playwrights Conference, made field trips to see other plays and took seminars in theater. "The best part was meeting other critics, some of whom have national reputations. I met August Wilson, who had just won a Tony for 'Fences,' and the faculty included Edith Oliver from The New Yorker, Michael Feingold from The Village Voice and Bernard Weiner from the San Francisco Chronicle. It was intensive and exhausting but very exciting."

Snell's sights are set equally high in her role at USM. "We're developing the concert series at USM to be competitive with the Portland music scene. We have all the resources necessary—the finest concert hall in the state, a new Steinway and excellent faculty performers. I want to make more audiences aware of what we have here."



University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

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Susan E. Swain

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Materials should be submitted no later than Thursday noon, 11 days prior to publication to: 209 Deering Ave., Portland. Distribution is free. Third class postage is paid at Portland, ME 04103.



(Bean photo)

Kristin Potito's expression tells the story as the Huskies begin the celebration after defeating Elizabethtown College of Pennsylvania by a score of 2-1. A win the previous day over Salem State College, coupled with the victory over Elizabethtown earned USM a trip to the NCAA Final Four. The field hockey squad, under the guidance of 21-year veteran coach Paula Hodgdon, became USM's first intercollegiate team to advance to the NCAA Final Four. The Huskies played a strong game in the finals but fell to the eventual national champion, Bloomsburg University (PA), by a 2-0 margin. Potito (pictured) and Georgia Gould were selected to the Penn-Monto Regional All-American Team. Stephanie Irish was voted to the National All-Tournament Team. The Final Four was held at William Smith College, located in Geneva, New York.

Unconventional Family Situations

If you're a single parent or a step-parent, you're balancing many responsibilities and may need help. The Parenting Center offers a support group for single parents on Monday evenings and a step-parent group on Thursday evenings. Both meet from 7 to 8 p.m. in room A of the Campus Center, Portland. Bruce McDuffie, L.C.W.S., of the Employee Consultation and Outreach Services, and two graduate social work interns, Rose Marie Ridge of Boston University and Kirk Little of Boston College, serve as group facilitators.



Michael Shaughnessy's "Annunciation at the Level of Shale"—part of the faculty exhibit at the Art Gallery, Gorham, Monday, November 30 to Thursday, December 10.

Time for Festivities

Jugglers, stiltwalkers, clowns, musicians, 1000 balloons, Santa and 1500 children will be in our Portland Gym on Saturday, December 12 for the Children's Christmas Party. Various campus organizations have sponsored the party for the children of students, staff, faculty and alumni since 1982.

This year's party will run from 1 to 3 p.m. with a drop of more than 1000 balloons scheduled for about 1:20 p.m.

For more information, please call Judy Ryan or Samantha George of Student Activities at 780-4090.



Campus Exhibit

The annual Faculty Exhibition has opened in the Art Gallery, Gorham and will continue through Thursday, December 10. Art Gallery hours are 12 to 4 p.m., Sundays through Thursdays.

Members of the campus community are invited to a reception at the closing of the exhibit, from 4 to 6 p.m., on December 10. For more information, call 780-5409.

The work from established Maine artists as well as clients of mental health facilities, prisons and sheltered workshops will be on exhibit through Friday, December 31 in USM's AREA Gallery in the Campus Center, Portland. The exhibit—titled "INSIDE/OUTSIDE: Private Art"—is open during regular Campus Center hours, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays. For more information, call 780-4090.



Again this year, the Music Department brings in the Christmas season with an Elizabethan-style feast, Thursday and Friday, December 3 and 4 at 7:30 p.m. Appropriate costumes are encouraged.

What We're Doing

BOB BROWN, men's basketball coach and lecturer in physical education, addressed the Vermont State Coaches Association at Norwich University on the matchup zone defense. Brown also spoke on motivating athletes to the New Hampshire State Coaches Association in Londonderry High School.

JANET Z. BURSON, associate professor of nutrition, School of Nursing, took office as Chair-elect of Nutritionists in Nursing Education (NINE), a national practice group of the American Dietetic Association (ADA) at the 70th Annual Meeting of ADA in Atlanta, Georgia, last October.

MAURICE J. CHABOT, associate professor of mathematics, and chair, Department of Mathematics, attended a National Colloquium on "Calculus For A New Century," held in Washington, D.C. last October. The colloquium dealt with calculus reform and involved approximately 600 participants from the U.S. and Canada.

JOSEPH A. CONFORTI, director of New England Studies, delivered the lecture, "The New England Character: Ice and Granite," to a joint meeting of the Maine Historical Society, the Maine Colonial Dames of America, and the Maine Genealogical Society, as part of the Eleanor Pickering Sprague Memorial Lecture Series, in South Portland in November. Conforti also spoke on "The Transformation of New England, 1760-1820," for the New England Humanities Consortium's project on New England and the Constitution at the Portland Public Library.

GLORIA SHAW DUCLOS, professor of classics, gave an invited lecture, "The Legacy of Homer, Plato and Aristotle," at the annual conference of the Vermont Council on the Humanities in November. The theme of the conference was, "Can Virtue be Taught?"

JOEL W. EASTMAN, professor of history, delivered the keynote address, "Common Ground: Attitudes and Approaches to the Maine Coast, 1600-1987," at the annual Maine Conference of Land Trusts, in Wiscasset. His talk provided a historical perspective on land use for participants in the day-long program.

WILLIAM J. GAVIN, professor of philosophy, gave two invited talks, "William James and the Attack on Certainty: A Defense of Ambiguity in Literature, Psychology and Philosophy," and "The Limits of Rationality: A Jamesian Strain in John Dewey and Karl Marx," at the University of Maine in Orono in November.

JOSEPH GRANGE, professor of philosophy, has been invited to address the XVIII World Congress of Philosophy on the topic of Environmental Ethics. The Congress, which meets every five years, is to be held in August, 1988, in Brighton, England.

NANCY GREENLEAF, dean, School of Nursing, testified before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Health (chaired by Senator George Mitchell) on the nursing shortage crisis last October. Greenleaf represented the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

MICHAEL S. HAMILTON, assistant professor of political science, has been nominated to stand for election to a three-year term on the National Council of the American Society for Public Administration, a national professional organization with more than 16,000 members dedicated to better government and excellence in the public service.

JUDY KETCHAM, assistant professor of accounting, recently participated in the Casco Bay Marathon, placing second among women and 44th overall. Her time was 3 hours and 2 minutes and she raised almost \$1100 for the American Cancer Society.

KATHRYN LASKY, assistant professor of communication, presented a paper, "Perception of Television Programming Among College Students with Varying Degrees of Video Production Experience," at the Popular Culture Association meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, last October.

PATRICIA R. PLANTE, president, spoke at the Biddeford/Saco Chamber of Commerce in October. President Plante spoke about the needs and aspirations of the University to the Portland Club and the Sanford Rotary in November.