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*University of Southern Maine*

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# CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 15, Number 1

September, 1996



Crews clear land to make way for a new roadway and parking associated with the Gorham field house.

## Gorham Growing

For the first time in more than 25 years, major new construction has begun on our Gorham campus. When construction is completed next summer, Gorham will be home to a \$5.5 million field house and a \$3.9 million ice arena.

In presenting the construction projects to Trustees, President Richard Pattenaude said the buildings will provide needed recreational opportunities for students; support development of sports medicine and other academic programs projected to be in high-demand; and meet a demonstrated community need for recreational facilities. Ultimately, said Pattenaude, the project will improve student recruitment/retention for the benefit of the entire university and help build mutually beneficial relationships with Gorham and surrounding towns.

And he stressed that all construction and operating costs will be financed entirely through student recreation fees, community user fees and external fund raising. In an editorial titled "The Entrepreneurial University: USM's bold thinking

brings field house, recreation center," the Portland Press Herald concluded, "This shows what innovative thinking and an entrepreneurial approach can do. As USM benefits from it, so do we all."

Road and parking lot construction for the field house, which has gained university and municipal approvals, has begun. Construction of the ice arena, which has been approved by university trustees but as of this writing is awaiting municipal approval, should begin in the spring. Plans call for both facilities to open for student and community use in September of 1997.

The field house will be attached to the front of the Warren G. Hill Gymnasium. A final decision has not been made on the location of the ice arena but early studies indicate that it will be attached to the right side of the Hill Gym.

Major features of the field house include four tennis courts, a six-lane, 200-meter track, basketball courts, seating for 750, a fitness facility, study areas and baseball/softball practice areas. The arena will feature an Olympic 200' x 100' ice surface for student and community use, and seating for 800.

Early planning for the facilities began two years ago, shortly after an external visiting committee evaluated our recreational/athletic facilities. The committee reported that our "rapidly growing programs" were in need of additional support "...to ensure the quality of current activities...and to alleviate the current pressure on overextended and inadequate facilities."

USM enrolls some 9,700 students, including 3,500 students who are between the ages of 18 and 23. Though the traditional age students account for 30 percent of USM's enrollment, they generate more than 60 percent of the tuition income. "Attention to their interests is a wise investment," said Pattenaude, "and, in the long run, will help ensure financial resources to support other USM activities."

## USM: A Work in Progress

The 1996-1997 academic year will be one of our "most important and challenging years" as USM strives to reach its vision of becoming a first-rate, comprehensive university. President Richard L. Pattenaude presented his view of the coming year to more than 350 faculty and staff at the opening breakfast, held Friday, August 30, in Gorham.

"USM," said Pattenaude, "is a work in progress, a university in transition."

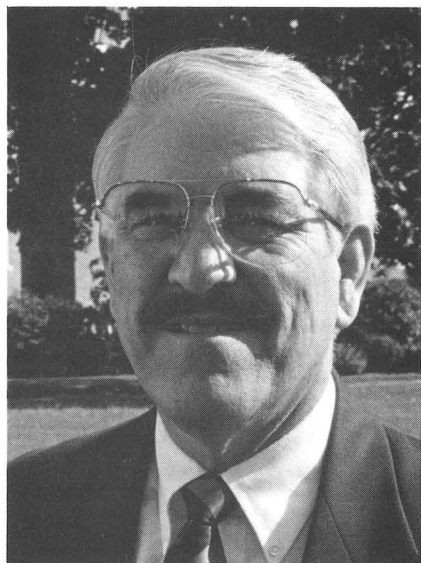
He observed that momentum is gathering to carry us forward. Summer Session enrollments were up; fall applications are running ahead of last year; new academic programs are on line or in planning (see story elsewhere this issue); new self-supporting facilities in Gorham are underway; and residence hall occupancy rates have increased.

"But," he said, "momentum doesn't mean anything unless we know our direction." That direction was outlined in the five year plan, "USM in the 21st Century: Building a Better University During a Time of Challenge," distributed to the campus last April. It states that USM will become a first rate public university by supporting the development of a rigorous, learning-centered academic institution, and by creating selective programs responsive to regional needs. "This is imperative," he said, "to enable us to fully participate in the region's development."

There are serious challenges ahead, among them a lack of state finances and increased competition from other institutions.

To meet those challenges, "we will, to a great extent, fund our own future," Pattenaude said. We will work to increase the perceived value of a USM degree, we will increase the quality of the student experience at USM through improved advising and

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## New VP for Advancement

USM's new vice president for advancement, John R. Maestas, has developed nearly 750 proposals that have funded more than \$90 million in projects during his 25-year career as a college advancement officer.

The University of Maine System Board of Trustees confirmed Maestas's appointment at their May meeting, and Maestas, formerly a vice president for institutional advancement at The College of West Virginia in Beckley, assumed his new duties on June 24.

He is responsible for the Offices of Alumni Relations, Annual Fund, Corporate Relations, Foundation Relations, Media and Community Relations, and Publications and Marketing. Maestas, one of more than 50 applicants for the position, replaces Richard Sturgeon, who now coordinates efforts to revitalize USM's Gorham campus.

Under Maestas' direction, fund raising at The College of West Virginia, a private institution of 2,000 students, increased in four years from \$200,000 to nearly \$17 million per year, including \$5 million for a new library, creation of a \$1 million endowment and the awarding of federal contracts for technology research. He also created a campaign to stock the new library with donated books. The "book shelter" campaign, which was highlighted in a recent edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, collected more than 300,000 volumes from publishers, libraries, other colleges and retiring professors throughout the country.

Earlier in his career, he worked with Health and Human Services

Secretary Margaret Heckler to provide the department's grant recipients with training in private sector fund raising.

"John brings a broad background and creative, energetic vision to all our advancement efforts that will be instrumental in building upon an already solid record of support," President Richard L. Patten said. "We cannot meet our teaching, research and service responsibilities without increased support, financial and otherwise, from external sources. John and his entire advancement staff will play a key role in ensuring that USM and the communities we serve are supported."

"The University of Southern Maine is a significant resource for the people and organizations in the region," said Maestas. "I'm looking forward to working with the university's advancement team so that the university's programs and services are valued and supported for the benefit of us all."

Maestas also worked for 19 years at Brigham Young University, the largest private university in the country. In addition to duties as director of development at the Provo, Utah campus, he directed a multi-cultural department that served 7,000 students. Maestas, a Pueblo Indian, has been active in development of programs that serve Native Americans and African Americans, and has lectured and written on Native American issues.

Prior to West Virginia, Maestas served as vice president for institutional advancement at Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has been responsible for development of promotional materials, including pieces honored by the Art Directors Club, Inc. of New York, and the Annual Communications Arts Magazine Exhibition.

Maestas received his B.A. from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado, and an M.A. and Ed.D from Brigham Young. He and his wife, Theresa, and children, Bob and Tricia, reside in Greater Portland.

## Spring Awards

Three USM staff members were honored last May. John Keysor and Mary Sloan received Professional Staff Awards at the Professional Staff Luncheon, May 15, and Deborah Berry received the Distinguished Classified Staff Award at the Classified Staff Breakfast.

Keysor, university registrar,

received the Distinguished Professional Staff Award in recognition of his 22 years of service to USM. His nominators recommended him for the award because of his commitment to serving students fairly and effectively. After serving at Defiance College in Ohio as director of institutional research and assistant to the president, Keysor came to USM as registrar in 1976. He has served USM as special assistant to the provost, director of admissions and records, dean of educational services, special assistant to the vice president for student affairs and as executive director of enrollment services. Recently, he has computerized student records and instituted the Interactive Voice Response System to allow students to register, receive financial aid and GPA information over the phone.

Sloan, assistant to the director of Graduate Affairs, received the Emerging Professional Staff Award, given to a member of the professional staff who has been at USM for less than five years and who merits recognition for achievement and promise of continued excellence in service. Sloan was nominated for contributing significantly to long-term planning in Graduate Affairs and for implementing changes to record-keeping and admissions procedures to improve efficiency and students' access to information and services and to enhance recruitment efforts. In addition, she advocates for funds to support graduate students on the Trustee Tuition Waiver Committee.

Berry was recognized for her financial management skills in her capacity of manager of funded accounts for the Maine Child Welfare Institute, a collaborative program between USM, the Maine Department of Human Services and the Maine Bureau of Child and Family Services, and for her service to USM on search committees within the Muskie Institute, on the Classified Staff Senate, the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee and the Combined Charitable Appeal. She came to USM in 1987.

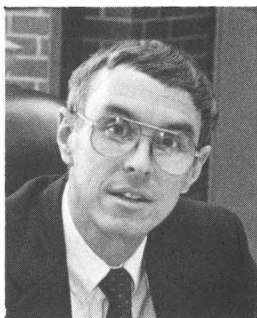
Although no university-wide faculty award was made last year, the College of Arts and Sciences presented awards during CAS Recognition Day ceremonies, held April 24, to Jeremiah Conway, associate professor of philosophy, Cheryl Laz, assistant professor of sociology, Gary Johnson, associate professor of history, and Peter Martin, professor of music. These faculty were selected for demonstrating excellence in teaching and scholarship, advising and availability to students.

# Reacquainting USM with Law School

by Don Zillman, Dean, School of Law

**Editor's Note:** This is part of an ongoing series by deans of USM's Schools/Colleges.

I appreciate the opportunity to bring the USM community up to date on the University of Maine School of Law, an administrative unit of USM with a statewide responsibility, by direction of the Legislature and the system trustees. We are Maine's law school with responsibilities from Fort Kent to Kittery. Our USM location allows us to thrive in the economic, population, legal and cultural heart of the state. It also allows rich opportunities for collaboration with other units of Maine's public comprehensive university.



Some raw numbers: 280 students are taught here by 15 faculty and capable adjuncts. We are one of the five smallest fully accredited law schools of the 178 in the U.S. Our tuition is the highest in the University of Maine System. By direction of the Trustees, our tuition revenue covers 100 percent of the costs. That means an average tuition of about \$8500 per year for resident students and about double that amount for non-residents, roughly 40 percent of each new class. The mandate for total tuition support forces the Law School to operate much like a private educational institution or a private business.

The Law School is pointed in two directions. As Maine's law school, we are closely tied to Maine's needs. We write a considerable portion of the commentary on Maine law. We consult with government officers, the courts, and the private legal community. We make essential contributions to the provision of legal services to low-income Mainers through the Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic. We serve the state through programs like the Marine Law Institute and EXCEL, which introduces elementary and secondary students to law and legal institutions. We also host the Garbrecht Law Library, an essential arm of the System's library resources and one of

the heavily used public access libraries.

At the same time, our reach is national and international. As noted, 40 percent of new students come from outside Maine. This year that includes eight who list a foreign country as home. The instructional method is keyed to preparing students for legal work in any state in the U.S. Faculty share their professional expertise with colleagues, academics and practicing lawyers across the U.S. and internationally. In the last two years, faculty members have been involved in professional projects in China, Russia, France, Italy the United Kingdom, East Africa and Israel. Students also utilize exchange programs at Dalhousie in New Brunswick, Canada, Buckingham in the U.K., Galway in Ireland, and LeMans, France.

While we are not rich in financial resources, we pride ourselves on a commitment to teaching and mentoring, an involvement in scholarly activities and a remarkable student body. We look forward to an exciting 1996-97.

## Fifth Annual Coffin Lecture

Alvin Bronstein, the founding executive director of the National Prison Project, will give a free lecture on "Representing the Powerless: Lawyers Can Make a Difference," 7 p.m., Tuesday, October 8, in Luther Bonney Auditorium, in the fifth lecture of the series honoring Judge Frank M. Coffin. Coffin, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, is a long-time friend of the Law School. Members of the judiciary, attorneys, leaders in government and public causes and law scholars are invited to speak in the Coffin Lecture series on public service by the legal profession. Bronstein founded the American Civil Liberties Union's prison project in 1972 and left at the end of 1995. He is now consulting the ACLU's national office. He has argued numerous prisoners' rights cases in federal trial and appellate courts as well as the U.S. Supreme Court. He was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 1989 for his many contributions in the development of prisoners' rights and correctional case law and has been listed since 1983 as one of the hundred most influential lawyers in America by the National Law Journal. Call 780-4355.



Laura Kargul, associate professor of music, opens the 1996-97 Faculty Concert series with a solo concert on USM's new Steinway piano, 8 p.m., Friday, September 27 in Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham. The program, which won critical acclaim when performed in June on a six-concert tour in Germany and Holland, includes works by Mozart, Schubert, Debussy Schumann and Liszt. ARAMARK is the sponsor for the concert. Tickets are \$9 for the public, \$5 for students/seniors. Call 780-5555 for tickets.

## USM

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mentoring, we will add degrees in response to regional needs, we will reach the targets of the financial plan through cost effective changes and through increased enrollments. The direction for our journey to the future is clear, he said, and he quoted USM's new Vice President for Advancement John Maestas' reminder that "the journey is part of the gift."

"We need to find satisfaction in the journey," Pattenau said. "We need to savor our small victories, note our progress and celebrate each other."

The key part of the journey this year will be efforts to increase retention. Our retention rate is now 43 percent, the president said, that is, 43 percent of matriculated students graduate or are still enrolled within six years. Similar institutions show 53 percent retention of students, so we must improve by one percent each year to reach our goal. Good students come here and we provide them with an excellent education, he said. "There is no need for students to leave, but we have work to do in helping them stay."

"We haven't talked about anything that we can't achieve," the president said in closing. "If you detect a sense of urgency, you are right. If you detect a sense of optimism, you are right. We have the vision, the plan and the people to move forward."





Upgrades to the exterior facings and classrooms at the Mitchell Technology Center are just some of the improvements on campus over the summer.

## What's New?

While the most noticeable changes at USM this fall are due to the construction of the new athletic facilities on the Gorham campus, these are not the only initiatives under way.

Two new health studies programs have opened the doors to students this September. Students who have earned 60 credits and an associate's degree in allied health can earn a B.S. through our new Health Sciences program. This completion program was developed at the request of Southern Maine Technical College and approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees in July. Primary components are a focus on community health concepts, health policy and research to broaden the education of health professionals whose education focused on technical training. Another undergraduate program in the School of Nursing, Sports Medicine, is still in the planning stages and is expected to be offered a year from now. But a new health program at the graduate level is available this fall through the academic arm of USM's Muskie Institute. The Health Policy and Management program prepares health professionals for leadership in the rapidly changing field of management of health services and policies. This master's level program was created in response to a statewide needs survey which indicated a strong demand for such a program and that potential students would be drawn from the fields of health care, government and insurance.

The School of Business has announced that a revised MBA program is being offered this fall. USM's MBA program, the oldest in the region, has

been streamlined to a 30 credit program that can be completed in about two years by part-time students who satisfy new entry requirements. The number of foundation courses for admission have been increased, focusing the program on higher-level courses. MBA students can now concentrate in one of five areas, accounting, finance, management, marketing and operational analysis. New components, such as courses in forecasting and quality management, have also been added. Admission standards have been raised, with this year's student average on GMATs equivalent to that at the top 15 percent of schools.

Two new courses are available this fall as part of the Core Curriculum—Northern Ireland: History, Culture and Conflict, taught by F.C. McGrath, associate professor of English, with a colleague from St. Joseph College's History Department, and An Introduction to Global Culture, assessing the interrelationship of local and global issues, culture and politics, taught by Michael Williams, assistant professor of political science, and Matthew Bampton, assistant professor of geography.

The Russell Scholars program, a resident learning community in Gorham's Woodward Hall featuring faculty mentoring and an individualized educational plan, is beginning this fall with an enrollment of 32 students. Also in Woodward Hall are two floors dedicated to students who want to live in a community-controlled environment. Last year, at student request, the eighth floor of Wood was established as a chem-free environment, free of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. All 24 openings on this floor were signed up, and a waiting list was created. This year, again at student request, another area has been created, on the seventh floor of Wood, that is a quiet floor for residents who wish noise levels to be limited. These special housing programs allow students to apply to participate in a residential community in which members sign a community agreement stating that they will follow certain guidelines. Community standards are used to self-monitor, but resident assistants also promote observance. Other options in small group housing are also available. Students can organize themselves into groups and sign up for a floor as a unit. These community environments are proving popular and fill up readily.

Resident Student Services reports that the number of students seeking on-campus housing, in Gorham residence halls and in Portland Hall,

has been higher this year than in the last several years. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of students who lived on campus last year and signed up for campus housing again.

Another initiative aimed at retaining students is Project 100, a pilot program coordinated by Toni Passerman, First Year Alternative Experience director, to identify by mid-semester those students who may need assistance in learning skills or advising. Through Project 100, faculty in 75 course sections this fall will alert advisors of students demonstrating problems in attendance or academic performance. Academic skills workshops for students are scheduled throughout the fall semester, and a conference for faculty and staff with academic advising expert Susan Frost is scheduled for Friday, September 20.

High school students are extending their academic reach through two programs at USM. The Early Study Program enables students to take USM courses before they graduate from high school. More than 20 students from local high schools, including Deering and McCauley schools in Portland, and Sanford, Gorham Yarmouth schools, have signed up to participate in the program, and calls are continuing to come in daily. Most students have registered for classes in mathematics and languages. More than 30 area students enrolled in Upward Bound, a program designed to improve the academic skills and raise academic aspirations of economically disadvantaged high school students. Upward Bound participants were housed on the Gorham campus taking classes in the mornings and working on campus or in community settings during the afternoons. The program also took students on field trips to cultural institutions and other colleges to learn about academic programs, financial aid planning and career possibilities. The Gorham-based program will continue to work with these and new students in the program in their school settings during the year.

The Coalition for the Liberal Arts is holding a forum on the **Library in the Electronic Age, 12 noon to 3:30 p.m., Friday, September 27 in Rooms ABC of the Campus Center.** Keynote speaker is Laverna Saunders, an expert on the problems in finding a balance in investing in new technology and traditional resources and publications. She is the author of "The Evolving Virtual Library" Call 780-4080/5459/4392.



## Jordan Heading Admissions

USM's new director of admissions, Deborah Jordan, wants the residents of Maine and college-bound students from out of state to be as excited by USM's options and innovative programs as she is.

Jordan, a Maine native, had moved back to Maine two years ago and had been serving as admissions officer at Bowdoin College since 1995. After a national search, she was selected as the top candidate for USM's admissions position and began work at USM August 8. She is based in Corthell Hall on the Gorham campus.

Having worked out of state for many years, Jordan, who grew up in South Portland, has been pleasantly surprised to discover how much USM has developed. "I see my job as finding consistent ways to help the community realize how much USM has to offer," she said. "It's exciting to be in an institution that feels poised for a blossoming of potential." With a fresh eye, Jordan sees USM's three campuses, Portland, Gorham and Lewiston-Auburn, as a plus. "Students have a choice of locations and environments," she points out. USM's location in southern Maine is a selling point to out-of-state students who find Maine very appealing, and USM's nearness to the state's largest city can draw students from rural Maine as well, she believes. In addition to enthusiasm for USM and all the university and state have to offer, she brings to USM experience in marketing and recruitment.

Before returning to Maine, Jordan was assistant dean for graduate programs and director of the MBA

Program at Boston University from 1991-1995, in which capacity she supervised graduate admissions and coordinated marketing, public relations and student recruitment, managed registration, coordinated class schedules, and developed policies. Earlier, from 1986 to 1991, she had directed BU's Public Management Program. Prior to joining the B.U. administration, Jordan had been an educational specialist in the Massachusetts Department of Education's Training and Employment Bureau, awarding grants, monitoring programs, negotiating agreements with state agencies and preparing reports to the state Legislature. Earlier positions include job placement coordinator and rehabilitation counselor for New Hampshire's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, director of adult services for Great Bay School and Training Center, and director of residential services for the Learning Center for the Multiply Handicapped.

She holds a B.A. in psychology from Williams College and a Master's in Education from University of New Hampshire.

## The Lives of Gay/Lesbian Teachers

Research on the experiences of gay and lesbian teachers undertaken by Rita Kissen, associate professor in the College of Education and Human Development, came to fruition over the summer with publication of her book, "The Last Closet: The Real Lives of Lesbian and Gay Teachers." The book, published in June to coincide with National Gay Pride Month and the founding of the Maine chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network, a national organization dedicated to ending homophobia in schools, looks at the lives of more than 100 lesbian and gay teachers in an attempt to document the effects of homophobia on schools and communities.

"This book tells lesbian and gay teachers that they are not alone, but it is also a wake-up call for heterosexual parents, teachers and citizens whose voices are needed to combat the lies and fear that threaten our schools," Kissen says. She began work on "The Last Closet" after her daughter became a high school English teacher and decided to let her school know that she is a lesbian.

"The Last Closet" documents the lives of elementary and secondary

school teachers, counselors, librarians and social workers in public and private schools from Oregon to Maine. The gay and lesbian educators featured in its pages include an eighth grade teacher in rural Michigan whose life was threatened by a student with connections to the Ku Klux Klan, a Long Island junior high school teacher who found unexpected support when his twin brother died of AIDS, an English teacher at a school for the Deaf who saved a gay student from suicide, and many others. About a dozen of Kissen's subjects teach in Maine.

On July 3, Kissen was one of 12 people honored by the National Education Association at their annual Human and Civil Rights Awards Program and Dinner. She received the Mary Hatwood Futrell Award which recognizes "the individual who has made a significant impact on educational opportunity for women and girls." In addition to recognizing her as the author of "The Last Closet," she was cited for working to reduce prejudice through workshops and as the founder of the Maine chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG). The Portland chapter of P-FLAG also honored her with a reception.

"The Last Closet" has already received a favorable review in Publisher's Weekly, which called the book "a unique resource." The New York Times News Service also has agreed to distribute excerpts to subscribers. She was interviewed about the book by the Associated Press and New Hampshire Public Radio, the Portsmouth Herald, among other media. She will participate in book signings in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and California and will join panel and round table presentations in Washington, D.C., New Jersey, and Chicago in November.



## What We're Doing

**RICHARD ABRAMS**, associate professor of English, had his paper, "William Shakespeare's 'Funeral Elegy' and the Turn from the Theatrical," printed in the Spring 1996 edition of *Studies in English Literature 1500-1900*.

**DOUGLAS K. ANDERSON**, assistant professor of sociology, presented "A Demographer Looks at Trends in Schooling of U.S. Women" at the Maine Women's Studies Conference held in Gorham in December 1995. He also presented "A Life-course Perspective on Secondary Education: Race/ethnic and Gender Differences in Schooling Careers" at the Eastern Sociological Society annual meeting in Boston last March. In August he presented "GED Certification After Dropout: Timing and Social Correlates" at the American Sociological Association annual meeting in New York. He was awarded a research grant from the Faculty Senate for his project, "A Life-course Perspective on Secondary Education: Race/Ethnic and Gender Differences in High School Careers."

**GREG BAZINET**, director, Applied Science External Programs, has been awarded a grant to work in support of the Center For Environmental Enterprise in collaboration with the Maine Science & Technology Foundation, KADY International, and Southern Maine Technical College. The project will support on-going research and development of KADY's mechanical technology in reduction of solid waste. The School of Applied Science will provide metallurgy expertise and critical failure analysis to support the KADY initiative in development of new technology.

**LAURA DEINES**, manager, Southworth Planetarium, was elected president of MAPS, the Mid-Atlantic Planetarium Society. MAPS is a professional society and forum for the exchange of ideas among planetarium personnel and science and astronomy educators.

**JULIE ELLIS**, assistant professor of electrical engineering, has been named the 1996 recipient of the Nelson and Small Prize, an award given annually to the person who has made special contributions to USM's Electrical Engineering Program.

**MARIJANE FALL**, assistant professor of human resource development, and **ZARK VANZANDT**, professor of education, have been named co-editors of a special edition of the *School Counselor* journal, focusing on

counselor educator/practitioner collaborative research. They both presented workshops at the 1996 Maine School Counselor Association conference. Fall's workshop was titled "Using Play Therapy Techniques in the Classroom," and VanZandt presented "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Counselors," based on Stephen Covey's book.

**ROY GALLANT**, director, Southworth Planetarium, presented a paper, "The Sikhote-Alin Meteorite Shower of 1947" at the annual meeting of the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society held in the Hayden Planetarium in Boston on May 9. He has been commissioned to write an article about the meteorite fall for *Sky & Telescope* magazine.

**JOSEPH GRANGE**, professor of philosophy, has published the following essays: "The Disappearance of the Public Good: Confucius, Dewey, Rorty" in *Philosophy East & West* (also reprinted in *Democracy and Justice*, University of Hawaii Press); "Community, Environment, Metaphysics," in *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy*; "Japanese Zen and the American Social Self," in *The Journal of Chinese Philosophy*; and "A Categorical Scheme for Environmental Ethics," in *The Maine Scholar*. In addition he has published ten book reviews in various international scholarly journals.

**MICHAEL S. HAMILTON**, associate professor of political science, environmental science and policy, visited Indonesia for three weeks in June, including the Ujung Kulong National Park World Heritage Site on Peuchang Island at the western tip of Java, and the Orangutan Rehabilitation Center at Mt. Leuser National Park in north Sumatra. He completed a program evaluation for the first-year effort of a three-year project in which the U.S. Department of Interior is providing technical assistance to the Republic of Indonesia, developing environmental policy to control the effects of mining in the rain forest.

**NATHAN HAMILTON**, associate professor of archaeology, presented an illustrated lecture for the Moosehead Marine Museum on the history of the Moosehead Lake Region on August 30.

**CHRISTENIA A. KINNE**, wardrobe manager, Department of Theatre, had her musical, "Sweet River," performed at the Maine Festival this summer.

**MARK B. LAPPING**, provost and vice president for academic affairs, during last spring and summer published articles in the following journals: *Resources: Engineering and Technology*, *Metropolitan Universities*,

*Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*; chapters in the following books, *The Changing American Countryside* (Oregon State University), and *Research in Rural Sociology and Development*; and signed a contract with the British publisher, Avebury, for three new books in rural studies in the coming decade.

**CHERYL LAZ**, assistant professor of sociology, presented her paper, "Act Your Age" at the 1996 annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society in Boston last April. Laz has also published an article titled "Science Fiction and Introductory Sociology: The 'Handmaid' In the Classroom," in *Teaching Sociology* (24 (1):54.63, 1996). She presented a paper, "Age as an Accomplishment: A New Direction for the Sociology of Age," at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Society, in New York City, August, 1996.

**PETER LEHMAN**, Department of Sociology, presented two papers at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Society, in New York City, August, 1996: "The Legal Ratification of Trash as a Commodity: 1970-1996" and "A Group Problem-Solving Approach to Learning about Gender Stratification and Research Process in Sociology."

**RICHARD J. MAIMAN**, professor of political science and director of graduate studies and research, delivered a paper, "Communities of Practice Among Divorce Lawyers," at the 1996 meeting of the Law & Society Association in Glasgow, Scotland. His co-authored article, "Changes in Divorce Law Practice: View From the United States," will appear in a forthcoming issue of the French social science journal, *Droit et Societe*. Maiman also has written biographical essays on George Mitchell, Edmund Muskie, and Margaret Chase Smith for the *Encyclopedia of New England Culture*, to be published in 1997 by Yale University Press.

Please note: Entries for the What We're Doing Column can be sent directly to us now via email, saving staff time. Please send them to:  
SESWAIN@USM.MAINE.EDU  
Thank you.



### Currents

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