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CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 15, Number 3

November, 1996

Input Needed To Shape Campus Technology

The future quality of our teaching, learning and research environments could be greatly impacted in the next few months as a systemwide task force develops recommendations on how the university should use information technology in classrooms, libraries, labs and administrative offices.

The Telecommunications & Information Technology Task Force, chaired by USM President Richard Pattenau, has drafted an interim report. Open hearings have been held on campus. The USM Faculty Senate is scheduled to take faculty input on the report at its next meeting, scheduled for 2:30 p.m., **this Friday, November 15, in Rooms ABC of the Portland Campus Center.**

"Too often decisions are made on these issues without adequate input from those who are affected," said Henry Amoroso, chair of the Faculty Senate and a task force member. "This document represents a genuine attempt to develop a coherent plan that will guide our use of information technology."

The 16-member task force will take campus input into consideration when writing its next draft. That draft will be circulated for additional comments in January. The final plan is scheduled to be submitted to Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart in March.

Calling information technology "a powerful force profoundly influencing how we learn, teach, conduct research and provide services to the people of Maine," MacTaggart has asked the task force to "define the System's vision for using information technology, identify goals and planning priorities, and recommend strategic investments."

In a recent USM hearing, Pattenau noted that USM spent \$1.8 million last year for hardware and

software alone. Faculty, students and staff, he said, need to have "extensive dialogue" on how to build our technological capacity as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Faculty and staff who attended the USM session emphasized that careful consideration must be given to providing adequate support services; expanding funding sources to defray costs of acquiring and maintaining current information technology; and ensuring that the infrastructure exists to provide equal access to that technology.

The final document, said Richard Clarey, associate professor of management and director of the Center for Business and Economic Research, must recognize the "strategic importance of fully developed support services, including training." Support is a costly area, said Clarey, but one that will lead

to "improved utilization" of technology.

The task force also needs to "explore other sources of income" to increase the university's technological capacity, said Amoroso. The interim plan suggests increases in the student technology fee over three years to defray some costs. Several faculty and staff suggested that the university ought to defray costs by seeking mutually beneficial partnerships with cable TV and other utilities that are investing heavily in technological infrastructures.

Expectations for student access to computers and other technologies need to be carefully considered "in the context of a state that is geographically dispersed, rural and relatively poor," said Nance Goldstein, associate

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The final architectural rendition of the field house. The 200 X 300 foot building will be located directly in front of the Hill Gym, Gorham. Major features 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. Roadway and parking lot construction should be completed soon with groundbreaking for the actual building scheduled in February. The \$5.5 million facility, which is being financed entirely with student fees, will open in the fall of 1997. Plans also are under way for the ice arena. That project still needs final municipal approval.

Invitation from the Czar

The Music Department invites you to join Czar Nicholas and Princess Alexandra for an evening's entertainment. "Winter's Eve in St. Petersburg: A Russian Holiday Gala" will take place from 6 to 11 p.m., Friday, December 6 at the Radisson Eastland Hotel, High St., Portland. Tickets are \$60 per person; \$85 includes membership in the Troika Club. Reservation deadline is Monday, December 2.

This is the sixth year that the Department of Music has held a costumed gala in downtown Portland to benefit music scholarships. This year's theme is turn-of-the-century Russia, with President Richard Pattenaude and his wife, Michele, presiding as Nicholas II and Alexandra. The gala is made possible through the generous support of Forest City Saab.

Besides a feast of fine Russian dishes, the program, directed by faculty member Ellen Chickering, includes music students performing seasonal and traditional Russian music; entertainer Randy Judkins; and the Liberty Balalaika Ensemble providing an authentic atmosphere. Performers will be in period costumes, and guests are invited to wear costumes.

A highlight of the evening will be the drawing of the Imperial Raffle for



Pianist Irina Soukmanova and sopranos Maria Benecchi and Jenny Lynd Robinson of USM's Music Department prepare for their performances in the Russian winter holiday gala. *Snell photo*

winners of 10 prizes ranging in value from \$250 to the grand prize of two tickets to Russia or Europe. Only 100 raffle tickets will be sold.

Other businesses that have donated support are: Auto Europe, A.J. Kennedy Fruit & Produce Inc., Champagne Taste Caterer, Coach Factory Store, Connie Hayes, Delta Airlines, G.M. Pollack & Sons, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Greenhut Galleries, Harbor Fish Market, Harmon's & Barton's Florists, Hewins-Carlson Travel Networks, H.P. Hood, J. Nelson Collection, Joseph's Men's Store, Kirsten Scarcelli, Nelson Rarities, Olga Meleshkova, PIP Printing/Dave White, Portland Concert Association, Portland Opera Repertory Theater, Portland Symphony Orchestra, Quinn Enterprises, Rachel's Wood Fired Grill, Radisson Eastland Hotel, Shop 'n Save, Suitsmi, Tabitha Jean's, The Whip and Spoon, and Zephyr Grill.

For more information, call Catherine Cleaves in University Advancement at 780-4542.

USM: Cutting Edge of Education

Earlier this fall USM's College of Education and Human Development participated in two national efforts to upgrade teaching and teacher education. COEHD hosted a conference, sponsored by the National Education Association, on teacher education reform. The conference, held September 25 through 29, followed a report issued by the NEA on teacher education which called for a "complete overhaul" of teacher-training programs. The National Commission on Teaching and America's Future report noted that more than 12 percent of this country's new teachers begin their careers with no training; that 14 percent enter the profession without having fully met state standards; and that fewer than 75 percent of all teachers have studied child development, learning and teaching methods, and have degrees in their teaching subject areas.

The blue-ribbon commission's report, released September 12, said teacher education programs needed to be redesigned if school reform is to succeed. It calls for all colleges of education to meet national standards, or be closed.

Lyne Miller, USM professor of

education and director of the Southern Maine Partnership, served on the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future as one of its 26 members and one of only three members from the Northeast. She points out that USM had already instituted most of the changes in training teachers that the commission calls for in the report. For this reason, USM's COEHD was selected by the NEA as one of seven model programs in the nation to help lead the initiative to improve teacher preparation. The report urged colleges to make teacher education a five-year program (with a fifth year of work in the schools) and cited USM's teacher-training program as a model. Six years ago, USM dropped its traditional undergraduate education degree in favor of a program that gives prospective teachers a fifth year of classroom internships and courses at the graduate level.

In another education initiative, the Southern Maine Partnership, a USM-based collaboration between COEHD and some 30 schools that implements reform efforts, and USM's Department of Engineering are working with schools in Old Orchard Beach on a technology development project, called the Electronic Marketplace. The Old Orchard Beach School District was one of 23 sites selected from some 600 schools across the country that applied for a \$3.5 million federal Electronic Marketplace Grant Award.

The grant will fund development of computer Web sites that will help teachers, students and parents track and assess student performance. The Department of Engineering will build and maintain the sites; the Partnership will work with schools throughout southern Maine to identify the best examples of tracking and evaluating student progress; and Old Orchard Beach schools will serve as a model for how schools can use Web sites as primary resources to implement a K-12 student assessment program.

The information on these sites will be based on Maine's Learning Results, which specifies standards in eight areas, among them English, science, math, foreign languages and the arts. When completed, these Web sites will feature the best examples of student work in these areas and how their teachers are assessing that work. Parents, teachers and students who use the sites can then be linked to information at other schools and research in the subject areas.



Theatre students in the award-winning play "As Is," which explores the life of an AIDS patient. The play, directed by Will Kilroy, opened November 8 and runs through November 17. Call 780-5483.

Snell photo

Box Score

■ HUSKY KIDS CLUB

In an effort to reach out to young kids in the Gorham community and surrounding towns, the Athletic Department has formed the Husky Kids Club, open to all boys and girls in the eighth grade and below. For a nominal membership fee, club members will receive free admission to all USM regular season athletic events and other benefits. Special clinics will also be held throughout the academic year featuring USM players and coaches.

For an application or more information, call 780-5434.

■ HODGDON BIG WIN

Five days shy of the thirtieth anniversary of her first collegiate coaching victory, field hockey head coach Paula Hodgdon achieved another milestone when she guided the Huskies to a 3-0 victory over St. Joseph's College to record the 200th win of her 31-year career.

Hodgdon began her collegiate coaching career in 1966 at Springfield College, where she won her first victory as a coach that October in a 4-0 win over Mt. Holyoke. Four hundred eighteen games later, she led the Huskies to the milestone victory over St. Joseph's. The only coach in USM's 30-year field hockey history, Hodgdon's next win will be her 200th for the Gorham-based program.

During her outstanding career,

Hodgdon has coached ten regional and national All-Americans.

■ ANNUAL TURKEY DAY RACE

The Portland Downtown District and the Women's Track Team invite interested runners to participate in the 15th Annual Thanksgiving Day 4-Miler and Kid's K road races and to take part in the Athletic Department's annual food drive.

A Thanksgiving Day tradition, the 4-Miler is open to all runners and starts at 9 a.m. Registration is \$9 that morning, \$8 by preregistering. The Kid's K race (.62 miles) is open to kids 12 and under with a \$3 registration fee and starts at 8:30 a.m. Runners who bring a non-perishable food item to the Athletic Department's food drive can deduct \$1 from the registration fee. Now in its fifth year, the USM food drive has provided over 500 pounds of food to a local agency.

Technology

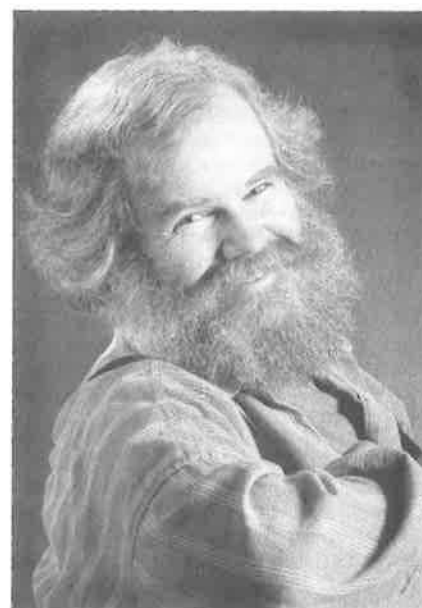
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professor of economics. She also cautioned against getting "locked into a particular technology" due to the rate of technological change.

As presently written, the interim report consists of five goals: to substantially increase our internal capacity through investments in hardware, software and support services; to become a national leader in the use of information technology in support of our learning and teaching mission; to assure that appropriate tools and applications are available to support faculty research and scholarship; to become a major source of policy analysis and advice on information technology within Maine; and to serve as a model for public and private sector organizations in productively applying information technology to our work. Each goal includes a series of "possible action steps."

The task force still is seeking input on its interim report and will solicit additional feedback once the draft report is prepared. In addition to Pattenau and Amoroso, USM members include Andrew Anderson, associate professor of technology, and Robert Goettel, executive assistant to the president.

Copies of the interim report are available in the President's Office, the offices of deans and in campus libraries.



Songs of Work

Nationally-known folksinger Charlie King will appear in concert at 8 p.m., Friday, November 22 at Luther Bonney Hall on the Portland campus. King's concert, which is co-sponsored by USM and a broad array of community and labor organizations, will kick off a weekend-long celebration of the songs that have been important to working people in Maine's history. Tickets are \$5 at the door. King will also appear at Lewiston-Auburn College at 12 noon on Friday, November 22 in Room 147 in a free performance.

At 10 a.m., Saturday, November 23, there will be a walk along the Portland Labor History Trail, which will include a sing-along led by King. Walkers will visit the scenes of some of Portland's most important labor actions, including the trolley car strike of 1916 and the telephone workers' strike of 1919. Walkers should meet at the Maine Historical Society, 485 Congress St.

Charlie King is one of America's foremost writers and singers of labor songs. Pete Seeger has called him "one of the finest singers and songwriters of his generation." He has recorded many albums, including several for the Flying Fish label. He was a founder of the group "Bright Morning Star." His current CD, "Inside Out," features the modern anthem "Bring Back the Eight-Hour Day."

Concert co-sponsors include the Portland Folk Club, USM's History department, USM's Arts and Humanities Department at Lewiston-Auburn College, the Greater Portland Federated Labor Council, the Newspaper Guild and WMPG Radio.

What We're Doing

RICHARD E. BARRINGER, the director of USM's Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, has been named the first recipient of a national award, the Jack Brizius Memorial Rough Rider Award for Excellence in Public Policy by the Council of Governors' Policy Advisors at their national meeting, in September in Burlington, Vt.

DAVE EARLY, director, Facilities Management, **THERESA JORDAN**, administrative manager, Facilities Management, and **LEE FOREST**, facilities operation manager, Custodial/Housekeeping & Recycling Services, attended the 46th annual Eastern Region Association of Physical Plant Administrators Conference in Princeton October 5-9. Early and Forest made a presentation titled "Employment Partnership, Creating an Inclusive and Diverse Organization with Strategies for Doing More with Less," along with **ELISE SCALA**, associate director of Human Resources, and **YVETTE C. HACHTEL**, professor and director of Occupational Therapy, Lewiston-Auburn College.

JOSEPH GRANGE, professor of philosophy, has been invited to address the Chinese Academy of the Social Sciences on the theme of "The Public Good and Private Greed." His lectures will be published simultaneously in Chinese and English by The University of Beijing.

SAT GUPTA, associate professor and director, Graduate Program in Statistics, will have a paper he co-authored, "A Time Domain Approach to Estimating Fractionally Integrated ARIMA Models," appear in the Journal of Information & Optimization Sciences (vol. 17, pp.1-17, 1996). Another paper co-authored by Gupta, "Time Domain Estimation of Long Range Dependence," has been accepted for publication in the same journal and will appear in a 1997 issue.

YVETTE C. HACHTEL, professor and director of Occupational Therapy, Lewiston-Auburn College, presented "Supported Employment—A Valuable Level Fieldwork Experience," at the October 6 Advanced Practice Conference in St. Louis. At the October 8 Eastern Region Association of Physical Plant Administrators conference in Princeton she presented "Employment Partnership, Creating and Inclusive and Diverse Organization with Strategies for Doing More with Less."

MICHAEL S. HAMILTON, associate professor of political science, presented a paper titled, "Building Institutional Capacity for

Policy Development Through Bilateral Science and Technology Cooperation Using Joint-Teams: Mining Environmental Policy in Indonesia," at the annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Policy, Research and Development in the Third World, Cancun, Mexico.

THOMAS S. HOWICK, assistant professor of education, attended the joint conference of Maine Science Teachers and Association of Teachers of Mathematics in Maine in October and conducted a session on "Concept Mapping—Planning and Assessment Practice." Also, Howick attended the August National Marine Educators Association annual conference and presented a workshop on "Using Maps to Investigate the Geology and Ecology of Watershed and Coastal Environments." At the same conference, presented "For Sea CD-ROM," using multimedia. He wrote a "View From Space" which is one of the labs that appears on the CD-ROM. **CHERIE MAJOR**, associate professor of education, and Howick have an article in the fall 1996 edition of *Mainly Middle*, journal of the Maine Association for Middle Level Education, titled "Authentic Sixth Grade Interdisciplinary Experience for PreService Teachers." In addition, he was invited by the editor of *Habitat*, journal of the Maine Audubon Society, to write a book review of Sylvia Earle's "Sea Change—A Message of the Oceans."

CAROL K. JOHANSON, associate professor of management and organizational studies, Lewiston-Auburn College, presented a paper at the Institute of Public Finance and Fiscal Law conference, "The New Public Management in International Perspective," at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland.

KATHRYN LASKY, associate professor of communication, will present her paper, "Creating a Climate for Nontraditional Students," and will take part in the "Issues of Pedagogy" program at the 82nd annual meeting of the Speech Communication Association, November 23-26 in San Diego.

PETER LEHMAN, associate professor of sociology, published an article, "Will That Be On the Exam: Schema Theory and Testing in Sociology," in *Teaching Sociology*, a journal of the American Sociological Association.

REBECCA B. LOCKRIDGE, associate professor of communication, will present "Short Course #12: Advanced Topics in Teaching Visual Communication," at the 82nd annual meeting of the Speech Communication Association, November 23-26 in San Diego.

JAYNE D. B. MARSH, research assistant, Muskie Institute and Child and Family Policy Center, has been asked to write the forward to a book titled, "Loving Elizabeth: Opening My Heart to a Child with Special Needs," which will be published this month by Cathedral Foundation Press.

NANCY RICHESON, clinical instructor, Therapeutic Recreation, recently co-authored an article for the National Therapeutic Recreation Society titled, "A Community Therapeutic Recreation Program for High Risk Youth." She also presented at the American Therapeutic Recreation Association's national meeting on "Gender Specific Programming in Therapeutic Recreation," and the National Recreation and Park Association's national meeting on "Building the Team Using the Meyers-Briggs Type Principles."

DOROTHY WOODS SMITH, associate professor of nursing, recently returned from her 1995-96 sabbatical during which she completed the clinical provider training in Mind/Body Medicine, and participated in a ten-week series of the Behavioral Medicine Pain Program in Boston which is a subsidiary of New England Deaconess Hospital and affiliated with Harvard Medical School. During the spring she gave several presentations: "Barrett's Theory of Power," at New York University; "Power and Spirituality in Students Learning Therapeutic Touch," and "Developing a Theory of Spirituality within Martha Rogers' Nursing Science" at the sixth Rogerian Conference in New York City; and "Therapeutic Touch and Spirituality" at the 19th annual Scientific Conference of the American Holistic Medical Association. She was one of 40 international Rogerian scholars invited to take part in Dialogue 96 sponsored by the Martha E. Rogers Center for the Study of Nursing Science in New York City in June. She also attended the 19th East Coast Invitational for Advanced Nurse Healers in July.

H. FRED WALKER, assistant professor of technology, was invited to give a presentation, "Agile Practices for Product Development" at the annual meeting of the American Association of Cereal Chemists last September in Baltimore.

USM notes with sorrow the passing of retiree William Webber Sr., who worked for USM for 26 years in the Media Services Department, starting as an audiovisual technician in 1976. Webber retired in 1992. He died Sunday, November 3.



Currents

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