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Currents (October 20, 2014)

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Story Headline Last week I had the pleasure of attending two anniversary events at USM. On Thursday, the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education opened its 20th anniversary exhibition, “The Art of the Hand-Drawn Map.” I was a OML board member early on and it was heartening to see our community’s interest in this world-class treasure has not waned. The outreach that this facility continues to do with local school children and scholars worldwide is commendable.

On Friday, Professor Laura Kargul celebrated her 25 years at USM with a sold-out concert during which she amazed us with a program of her favorite works by Schubert and Brahms. She concluded with Liszt’s “Sonata in B Minor.” To say the least, I was overwhelmed both by Laura’s extraordinary talent and at the audience’s affection and admiration for her.

Congratulations to everyone at OML, especially our generous benefactor Dr. Harold Osher, and Professor Kargul for these impressive milestones.

These are examples of a Metropolitan University in action—impacting the communities it serves. A Metropolitan University also brings organizations onto campus as USM did when the Costello Field House was the site for a Muscular Dystrophy Association Walk-a-Thon in September. I recently received a note from Vicki Kelley and her family who hail from Pittston, Maine, and wrote, “What a beautiful facility and your student volunteers were not only helpful, but especially kind and cheerful as well.” *President David T. Flanagan*

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William B. Wise Honorees Announced This year, 148 USM student-athletes will be recognized for their outstanding academic achievements on Sunday, November 9 at the 27th annual William B. Wise Scholar-Athlete Awards Dinner—passing the previous record of 138 student athletes honored in 2013.

To qualify, student athletes must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative grade average for the fall and spring semesters, be a full-time student both semesters and be a member of varsity team for a full season.

This year, seven student-athletes will receive their fourth Wise Award. They are Ariel Kaplan, Erin

McNamara, Bridget O'Brien, Rick Chipman, Chris Bernard, Troy Thibodeau and Corey Dyke.

Congratulations to all!

NNECERAPPA Conference Hosted by USM The Northern New England Chapter Eastern Region of the Association of Physical Plant Administrators was held at USM earlier this month. Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Jessica M. Picard and Jeff McKay, now director of Facilities at UMaine Farmington and were the host committee co-chairs and Professor of Nursing Judy Spross led a session on "Sustainable Leadership." USM Assistant Director for Sustainable Programs Tyler Kidder presented the luncheon keynote address that explored the challenges our region and world, while presenting ideas for moving forward in an economic and environmentally sustainable way.

Kudos to all who were involved in bringing this conference to USM.

USM In the News Don't miss reading any of the 17 additions made to the "[USM in the News](#)" blog on October 20. To view all of the September 16-30 posts, click on the "<< Older Entries" button on the bottom left side of the page.

If you are interested in writing a Portland Press Herald "Off Campus" column, contact [Public Affairs](#) to discuss the paper's guidelines for these columns. We would be more than happy to assist you.

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