

2-1999

Currents, Vol.17, No.5 (Feb.1999)

Susan E. Swain
University of Southern Maine

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents>

 Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Swain, Susan E., "Currents, Vol.17, No.5 (Feb.1999)" (1999). *Currents*. 37.
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents/37>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Currents by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.



CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 17, Number 5

February 1999

Black History Month at USM

A photography exhibit of historical portraits of members of Maine's African American community highlights USM's observance of February as Black History Month. "Re-membering Maine's Past: African-American Portraiture as Historical Text, 1885-1925" opened February 1 and will run through Sunday, March 28.

The exhibit is curated by Maureen Elgersman, assistant professor of history at USM and faculty scholar for the African American Archives. The 55 photographs in the exhibit are drawn from the archives and document the African American middle class that emerged in Maine in the late 19th-early 20th centuries. Elgersman believes that the photographs in the exhibit will counter prevailing Black stereotypes and give Maine residents a greater sense of the history of the



Cecil Johnson of Bangor, Maine, circa 1910.
From USM's African American Archives.

Black community in Maine. Elgersman has developed an exhibition catalogue that includes essays on the photographs, which she hopes will become the basis of a book in the future.

Other exhibits, as well as discussions, a movie series honoring Black history and performances are part of the USM celebration. All USM events celebrating Black History Month are free and open to the public. For more information on any event, or for access inquiries, call 780-5094. For a full listing, check the Events calendar, the Events phone line, or the Events listings on the USM website.

A display of Black women writers will be on display at USM throughout the month of February in USM's Women's Center in the Woodbury Campus Center, Portland. During February, USM's Lewiston-Auburn College, is presenting "North to Freedom: Maine's Vital Role in the Underground Railroad," an exhibition of artifacts, written and oral histories, books, newspaper articles, and photographs in the first statewide presentation of material gathered by the Maine Underground Railroad Association on the role of Maine citizens in aiding the safe escape of runaway slaves. For gallery hours, call Lewiston-Auburn College at 753-6554.

Also during the month, the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Archives of USM's Sampson Center for Diversity will celebrate establishment of the Archives with a reception and a performance by black playwright/actor Brian Freeman from his one-man show on Bayard Rustin. Rustin was the Black civil rights leader who organized the 1963 March on Washington at which Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream Speech." Freeman, a gay activist, will talk about Rustin's life as a gay man and perform scenes from his play, "Civil Sex" on race relations and gay culture. The event on Friday, February 26th will open with a 6 p.m. reception in the Woodbury Campus Center Amphitheatre, followed by the

continued on page 3

Faculty Senate Debates

At the January 29 Faculty Senate meeting, faculty reaction to the President's draft Diversity Plan was nearly as contentious an issue as allocation of space on campus.

The Senate's agenda each year is usually the result of the initiatives of other campus units that the Senate believes it should comment on, Senate chair George Caffentzis pointed out earlier in the semester. A concerted effort is underway, Caffentzis said, to have the Senate assume a more active part in decision making at the university. But planning ahead is difficult.

"We may think that there are certain important issues we should take up," he said, "but the Senate agenda usually ends up being shaped by default." Issues that are too broadbased to be dealt with inside of departments, such as the Core Curriculum, and that are not within the responsibility of the union fall to the Senate, he said. Caffentzis, now beginning the second semester of his one-year term, said that at the start of this year, he thought the Senate would be addressing other issues—intellectual property rights, for instance.

This year, however, the Senate's focus is on space allocations, scheduling of courses, and the Diversity Plan. All three surfaced in the first Senate meeting of the spring semester.

Last fall the Senate passed a resolution asking for Senate representation on the space committee. Eileen Eagan, associate professor of history and a longtime Senate member, is that representative. Campus space has become more controversial as the university expands and makes changes in departmental office allotments. It's a good example of the kind of issue the Senate needs to become involved in, Caffentzis says, because one department would not have a powerful enough voice to make a case that

continued on page 3



Portland Police Chief Michael Chitwood as Officer Krupke collars two USM students.
Snell photo

Chief Chitwood is Officer Krupke in "West Side Story"

Portland Police Chief Michael Chitwood has agreed to make special guest appearances as the character Officer Krupke in USM's upcoming production of "West Side Story."

The USM production of this great American musical will run from March 12 to 20, on the Main Stage of Russell Hall, Gorham.

Chief Chitwood will appear in the opening and closing shows, Friday, March 12 and Saturday, March 20.

Originally set in New York City in the 1950s, the musical is a classic of the American stage. The show's unforgettable music is by Leonard Bernstein with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and book by Arthur Laurents.

In the USM production, a collaboration between the departments of Music and Theatre, director Wil Kilroy has updated the time to the present and has moved the setting to Portland. The Sharks and the Jets are now street punks challenging high school teens instead of warring gangs of Anglos and Puerto Ricans. But the themes of forbidden young love and senseless teen gang violence remain.

Kilroy is complemented by musical director Beth Barefoot Jones and choreographer Nancy Salmon, both guest artists. Set designer is Charles Kading, and costume designer is Susan Picinich, both Theatre faculty mem-

bers.

Performance times for West Side Story are: Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with a Sunday, March 14 matinee at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 general, \$6 seniors and USM faculty/staff, and \$4 for students. Call the Theatre Box Office at 780-5151.

New BS in Workplace Safety

The Board of Trustees at their January 25 meeting approved a new bachelor's degree to be offered at USM. The degree in Environmental Safety and Health, the first in Maine, will be delivered through the Department of Technology.

Surveys of area companies showed a strong demand for specialists in workplace health and safety to guide businesses and industries, such as construction, forest products, transportation and manufacturing, in meeting OSHA regulations. Graduates of the program will be able to address risk management issues and workplace air quality, hazardous materials, and tool and machine safety.

Currently anyone seeking a degree in environmental health must travel outside of Maine to take courses or enroll in this kind of degree program. In the past, USM offered a concentration in this area within the B.S. in Industrial Technology. Al Kirk, associate professor of technology, developed the degree proposal.

USM's Environmental Safety and Health program would provide further education and a career path for students in associate degree programs who may want to advance further. Central Maine Technical College in Auburn has a two-year associate program in Occupational Safety and Health, and Southern Maine Technical College (SMTCC) in South Portland has a two-year associate program in Environmental Technology and Occupational Health and Safety. Students graduating from these programs will now be able to continue their academic aspirations without going out of state through existing articulation agreements with USM.

Students in the program will graduate with credentials that demonstrate an expertise in the field.

In addition, the Department of Technology sees an opportunity for student co-op positions or practicums with local businesses. There is also the possibility of winning federal grants in the area of safety and health training.

The new degree in Environmental Safety and Health gives the School of Applied Science the opportunity to serve the needs of professional employees and employers, technical college graduates, and high school seniors wanting a four year degree and/or courses in environmental safety and health.

Media Log

Don Zillman, professor of law, wrote an opinion piece for the Christian Science Monitor in January on the drop in members of Congress with military experience.

Bill Gayton, professor of psychology, was interviewed about fan violence and the Super Bowl by the Atlanta Journal and on Denver radio.

Richard Maiman, professor of political science, was interviewed by the Christian Science Monitor on independent governors and by USA Today, FOX TV in Washington D.C., and the syndicated Gary Burbank Show on the impeachment, by WRTA-Radio in Altoona PA on Gingrich's resignation, and by CNN's Inside Politics on third party candidates.

Mahmud Faksh, professor of political science, was interviewed by the Boston Herald and a daily paper in Brazil on the Middle East situation.



Guitarist Keith Crook in the final faculty concert for this season, at 8 p.m., Friday, March 5 in Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham. Crook's program will span 500 years of Spanish guitar music, including the popular pieces "Homage" by Manuel de Falla and "Asturias" by Isaac Albeniz. This concert is sponsored by Filene's. Tickets are \$9 general admission, \$7 for seniors, and \$5 for students. For reservations, please call the USM Music Box Office at 780-5555.
Snell photo

Senate

continued from p. 1

opposed possible administration decisions.

While space allocation affects faculty comfort, it is not as core an issue as policy on faculty searches and hirings and course content and departmental curricula, which will be affected by the Diversity Plan. The Faculty Senate will be the only vehicle to present the faculty viewpoint on this serious issue which affects how faculty teach and how colleagues are selected, Caffentzis noted. This is a discussion of primary importance in development of the university, Caffentzis said.

The Faculty Senate sent out a questionnaire to all full-time faculty in December with a return deadline in January. A Senate committee, chaired by Jim Roberts, associate professor of political science and long a member of the Senate's Executive Committee, analyzed the results of the survey. A report was then issued and presented to the Senate on January 29.

While diversity in the university as a general goal seemed to be universally embraced, the few negative comments during the Senate proceedings questioned whether quality standards or diversity goals would drive admissions and hirings. Most participants saw no ground for conflict between the goals of quality and diversity. The ability of the survey report to adequately represent the feeling of the faculty as a whole was also questioned because of the low return of questionnaires.

The issue was resolved with a vote in favor of requesting a "process of clarification," including "a period of discussion, research and collective debate" on the concepts of diversity within the university context. Provost Lapping pointed out that debates about the goals should not be framed in terms of race and numbers, but in terms of furthering a civil culture.

It was recognized that the proposed forums to debate the concepts and concerns would follow after a draft of the Diversity Plan is forwarded to the Chancellor's Office on February 10, a timetable set by the System Office. Faculty input on the plan can continue after the draft plan has moved off campus since it will not then be in final form.

Other discussion of the diversity plan touched on legality of the language in stating the goals. The language is being reviewed by the UM System counsel.

The discussion about space allotments concluded with a statement



Bayard Rustin, civil rights activist, above with Martin Luther King Jr. Scenes from Rustin's life will be dramatized as part of a presentation by Black, gay playwright/actor Brian Freeman. His lecture and performance on Friday, February 26 will celebrate USM's Gay and Lesbian Archives. Reception at 6 p.m. in the Woodbury Campus Center, Portland and performance at 7:30 p.m. in Luther Bonney Auditorium, Portland.

Photo courtesy of the Bayard Rustin Fund

by the provost that he wished to look at all possible changes generated by the moves in science departments. "I hope people who are now on the Portland campus can stay in Portland," Lapping said. But he could not make any decisions, he said, until Steve Worchel, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has completed a full assessment of need.

In terms of classroom space, Lapping said that Registrar John Keysor made those decisions in conjunction with the space committee. Chief Financial Officer Sam Andrews is looking at all campus space in terms of longterm priorities.

The final issue the Senate touched on in the first meeting was the course schedule, with a diagram of possible class blocks distributed by the registrar for future debate. The Senate began discussion in late fall of scheduling options suggested by Keysor. "This will be taken up again after concerns about the Diversity Plan have been resolved," Caffentzis said.

The debates on these three important university issues underline the understanding of the role of faculty in the academy, Caffentzis said. "U.S. universities are one of the few workplaces in which the self-determination of employees, the faculty, is recognized," he said. "We are supposed to know our own fields, and thus we have the right to determine how we present our disciplines to our students. The Senate is a direct expression of the legitimacy of the faculty role in decision making about academic issues."

Black History

continued from p. 1

performance/lecture at 7:30 p.m. in Luther Bonney Auditorium, Portland. USM's Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity was created by USM to foster understanding of Maine's diverse communities. It includes special archives related to diversity. For more information on the event, call Wendy Chapkis at 780-4955.

Romona Africa, a freedom fighter and sole survivor of the MOVE revolutionary family that was bombed in their home in Philadelphia in 1985, will speak on ending police brutality and racism at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 17 in Luther Bonney Auditorium, Portland.

Looking Ahead to March: Women's History Month

Recognition of Women's History Month at USM includes an International Women's Day celebration at USM's Women's Center on Monday, March 8; call 780-4996 for details. A film series starts March 4 and continues on Thursdays through March. Guest speakers include Elaine Bernard on creating a labor party to challenge the two party system in the U.S., 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16; Cynthia Enloe, expert on the impact of women in the military, will keynote Women's History Month with an address followed by dinner, Thursday, March 18; and Barbara Bergman will defend affirmative action Wednesday, March 31. Call 780-4289 for more information.

What We're Doing

DONALD F. ANSPACH, associate professor of sociology, presented the findings from his analysis of sentencing practices in Maine to Maine's 1999 Sentencing Institute held at the Augusta Civic Center on January 15.

JOHN BAY, associate professor of economics, gave a presentation, "Federal Reserve System and Monetary Policy," to the Commercial Loan Committee of the Maine Association of Community Banks on November 19.

DOMENICA T. CIPOLLONE, director of international programs, was a presenter at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Region XI Conference in Hyannis, Mass., last November. She chaired and presented on the panel, "Understanding and Using Primary and Secondary Sources of Regulatory Information" and was a presenter on the panel, "Earning a Living and Living Too as a International Educator."

RICHARD J. CLAREY, associate professor of management, and RICHARD A. GROVER, associate professor of business administration, won the North American Case Research Association's (NACRA) "McMaster Award" for the best innovation and technology case study presented at the NACRA 1998 annual national conference. This case was supported by a stipend from the Harold P. Nelson Case-Writing Grant administered by the School of Business Entrepreneurship Center. RAYMOND P. NEVEU, professor of finance, and JEANNE L. MUNGER, assistant professor of marketing, also presented at that conference.

CHARLES S. COLGAN, professor of public policy and management, presented "The Economic Outlook for Maine," at the Portland Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Luncheon Series on February 9.

MAHMUD A. FAKSH, professor of political science, gave a lecture in December a senior class at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point on "The Question of Rule and Legitimacy in Islam." Also, he conducted a faculty colloquium on the subject of Islamic fundamentalism and the challenge to U.S. foreign policy.

DAVID D. GREGORY, professor of law, was reappointed by the Maine State Bar Association to serve on the board of directors of Pine Tree Legal Assistance for a second term. Gregory also serves on the Bar Association's Committee on Continuing Legal Education.

SAT GUPTA, professor of mathematics, chaired a session and gave an invited lecture

on "Estimating Fractionally Differenced ARIMA Models," at the International Conference on Combinatorics, Statistics, Pattern Recognition and Related Areas held at Mysore University in India, and an invited talk on "Regression Estimation of Fractionally Difference ARIMA Models" at the International Conference on Operational Research for a Better Tomorrow, held at New Delhi, India, both last December.

MICHAEL HILLARD, associated professor of economics, had a paper he co-authored, "The Ambiguous Promise of High Performance Work Organization," published in the Review of Radical Political Economics (vol. 30, no. 3). He gave a lecture, "Taking the High Road: Training in Maine" as part of the Inequality, Organization and Development seminar series at the Center for Industrial Competitiveness at University of Massachusetts, Lowell, last October.

H. CABANNE HOWARD, assistant professor of law and public policy, served as moderator and organizer of the Symposium on the Future of the Practice of Law in Maine, held November 18, in Augusta. Howard, who is Moot Court Advisor, also coached the team from Maine Law that won the Tri-Lateral Moot Court Competition held in October in New Brunswick, Can.

COLLEEN KHOURY, dean and professor of law, was the keynote speaker at the annual recognition dinner for the Board of Bar Overseers last October. She spoke about opportunities and challenges facing legal educators in dealing with professional responsibility and legal ethics issues.

MARK LAPPING, provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of public policy and management, recently published journal articles in the Journal of the American Planning Association and in Resources. He wrote two book chapters, co-authored a monograph, "Tourism and Maine's Future: Toward Environmental, Economic, and Community Sustainability," and completed a new book, "Contested Countryside: The Rural-Urban Fringe in North America" (Ashgate Publishers). He has joined the board of directors of Coastal Enterprises, the Maine Public Health Council, and the New England Environmental Policy Center, as well as the steering committee of the New England Public Policy Collaborative.

ROBERT LEMELIN, director of Learning Assistance, has been selected to receive the National Association for Developmental Education Award to an Administrator or a Public Servant for Outstanding Support to Developmental Education.

MICHAEL W. MULLANE, professor of law, recently returned from a visit to Pomor State University in Archangel, Russia, where he assisted the faculty of law in the development of a clinical program.

SCOTT REEVES, professor of music, had a CD, "You Are What You Think," released by Brownstone Recordings. It features him on trombone, alto flugelhorn and didgeridoo, along with other jazz musicians.

ALISON RIESER, professor of law and director, Marine Law Institute, presented a paper, at the Georgetown University Law Center last October, titled "Why U.S. Fisheries Law Has Failed: Lessons for Environmental Law," as part of their semester-long workshop on environmental law research. Rieger also spoke on developments in international fisheries law at the University of California at Berkeley Law School. She presented a paper on the use of marine reserves under U.S. fisheries law at a scientific meeting in Florida. In November, she took part in a symposium at Harvard Law School on trends in environmental law teaching and scholarship and presented a paper on property rights approaches to the management of marine ecosystems. The casebook she co-authored, "Coastal and Ocean Law," was published by West Group.

MARTIN ROGOFF, professor of law, spent three weeks last December at the Université du Maine in Le Mans, France, as visiting professor of law. Rogoff's article, "Federalism in Italy and the Relevance of the American Experience," recently appeared in the Tulane European & Civil Law Forum.

BILL THORNTON, professor of psychology, co-authored the article, "Physical Size Stereotyping as a Mediator of Attributions of Responsibility in an Alleged Date-Rape Situation" that appeared in the Journal of Applied Social Psychology (1998, vol. 28).

H. FRED WALKER, assistant professor of technology, presented three publications at the annual conference of the National Association of Industrial Technology last October in Indianapolis: "Manufacturing Technology Information Networks," "Leveraging Organizational Expertise to Enhance Productivity," and "The Relationship Between 'Networking' and 'Virtual' Forms of Organization: Leveraging Expertise to Enhance Competitiveness." Walker's, "Digital Close Range Photogrammetry: Measurement Automation and Machine Vision Systems," was published in the winter 1998 edition of the International Journal of Flexible Automation and Intelligent Manufacturing.



Currents
Office of Media Relations
P.O. Box 9300
Portland, ME 04104-9300
Address service requested

Elizabeth Lowell *

Glickman Library, PORTLAND Campus

Editor, Susan Swain; Director, Robert Caswell; Sports Information, B. L. Elfring; Editorial Assistance, Judie O'Malley
Currents is published monthly throughout the academic year. Materials should be submitted by the 15th of each month to: Media Relations, 209 Deering Ave., Portland.

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, ME
PERMIT # 370