

3-1996

Currents, Vol.14, No.6 (Mar.1996)

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.14, No.6 (Mar.1996)" (1996). *Currents*. 50.
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents/50>

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 14, Number 6

March, 1996



Wroth Named Dean VT Law

L. Kinvin Wroth, professor of law and former dean at the University of Maine School of Law, has been named the new dean of Vermont Law School. Wroth's five-year term will begin Aug. 1. He will also serve as professor of law.

The appointment was the result of a national search. Six finalists were interviewed by faculty, staff, and students.

As the sixth dean of Vermont's only law school, Wroth will lead a school with 490 students from 45 states and seven countries. The school, a national leader in the field of environmental law, offers a J.S. degree and a master of studies in environmental law degree. It also features innovative experiential programs and an Environmental Law Center.

Wroth, who has been on our law school faculty since 1964, served as dean from 1980 through 1990. He was acting dean from 1978 to 1980 and associate dean in 1977-78.

continued on p. 3

Working Together Works

by Brian C. Hodgkin, dean, School of Applied Science

Editor's Note: This is part of a continuing series of columns by USM's deans.

For several years the development of molecular biology and immunology at USM has been stymied by financial constraints. We needed to upgrade laboratories; we wanted to integrate immunology into the undergraduate curriculum, but like other parts of the university, we lacked the resources to move forward.

Eighteen months ago an opportunity was discovered in a granting program of the U.S. Department of Energy which provides for human resource development in the sciences. This program, part of the Experimental Program for the Stimulation of Competitive Research, is administered in Maine by the Maine Science and Technology Foundation.

The proposal we submitted to the foundation to develop molecular biology capability at USM was judged to be meritorious, but reviewers asked, "Is this something Maine industry needs and wants?"

We knew that the need was there. After all, we had been working with many biotechnology companies and nonprofit organizations for years. They were hiring our graduates. Our graduate students were doing thesis projects in these companies and organizations, and many of our part-time students were employed by these same companies.

To back up our proposal, we conducted a survey of businesses which demonstrated present and future need for educated and trained employees. In addition, conversations with company representatives provided valuable insight into what they look for in graduates. Ten letters of support for the proposal were

continued on p. 3

Celebrating Women's History

A senior scientist and critic of science, Ruth Hubbard, professor emerita of biology at Harvard University, will give the keynote address during USM's annual March celebration of women's history. Hubbard, who is now retired after a long research career at Harvard, will speak on "The Politics of Women's Health" at 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 15 in Luther Bonney Auditorium on USM's Portland campus. A reception will follow her lecture, and at 6:30 p.m. USM will host the International Women's Day Dinner. The lecture and reception are free and open to the public. For dinner tickets and price, call USM's Women's Studies Program at 780-4289.

Hubbard has made important contributions to the understanding of the biochemistry of vision, but since the early 1970s she has expanded her focus to include analysis of how science progresses, especially in relation to women's health. She has

continued on back page



Ruth Hubbard, key note speaker for USM's Women's History celebration.



Senior Lori Towle takes a shot against Worcester Polytechnic Institute in NCAA Tournament action on March 2 at the Hill Gym, Gorham. The Huskies defeated Worcester and advanced to the NCAA sectional tournament in Defiance, Ohio. Mt. Union College defeated the Huskies in the first game, ending USM's season with 25 wins against only four losses. This season, the Huskies compiled more than 20 wins for the 16th consecutive year, an NCAA record for any level, Division I, II or III. Coach Gary Field has a win-loss record of 221-41, for an .847 winning percentage, one of the highest in the nation among Division III coaches.

Caswell photo

Training Health Professionals

A master's program that prepares health professionals for leadership in the rapidly changing field of management of health services and policies will be offered in the Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, beginning September 1996. The Muskie Institute is currently accepting applications for admissions for part-time students. After the first year, the program will be available for full-time students also. For more information on the program, call 780-4430.

Approximately 10 percent of the state and national economies are tied to the health care system, a system which is undergoing tremendous change in the organization, financing and delivery of care. In Maine, an estimated 44,000 persons are employed in public and private health care organizations.

The new graduate program responds to a statewide needs survey which indicated a strong demand for a

master's level program in health policy and management. There is no such program in Maine at this time that is accredited by the national accrediting agency, the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration, but this program is designed to achieve that accreditation.

The market survey also showed that most of the potential students will come to the program with experience in the field, having worked in mental health, long-term care, outpatient clinics, government, insurance, managed care and other private care settings. Since many students will be place-bound because of current jobs or for other reasons, an essential part of the program will be to develop the capacity to provide distance learning through the Education Network of Maine, the interactive television system.

The Master of Health Policy and Management program will build on the Muskie Institute's national reputation for research in health policy and services and on a certificate program in health policy, begun in 1991, which draws 10 to 20 students a year. The Muskie Institute provides research, policy analysis, and technical assistance for agencies throughout the country. Its projects are funded by major foundations and government agencies including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, the Health Care Financing Administration, and the Maine Department of Human Services.

The graduate program will offer a rigorous, problem-oriented curriculum designed to prepare students for a rapidly changing health policy and management environment that is characterized by a shift from inpatient to outpatient care, and continuing changes in reimbursement policies. Students will be required to complete 47 credits of coursework to earn the degree. Other advantages offered by the new graduate program are its small size, the opportunity to work with the nationally prominent faculty and researchers in the Muskie Institute, and the ready access to state and local government and private sector health care providers in Maine.

President Richard L. Pattenau said, "this graduate program matches our mission to meet community needs and will help the state in making the transition to managed care by training more qualified health managers."

Counseling USM

After establishing a counseling center in a Micronesian prison, and working in community-based mental health centers from California to Maine, Kristine Bertini is glad to be at USM "where people are not in a constant state of crisis."

That's not to say that life is dull for the new coordinator of the Center for Employee Assistance. Bertini divides her time between the Division of Human Resources, where she directs a short-term counseling program for employees, and the Counseling Center, where she works with students on a range of academic and personal issues. Since starting last fall, Bertini has worked with more than 75 faculty, staff and students, as well as with a variety of on-campus groups. Her day might start with a young student who is having trouble adjusting to campus life and end with a staff member anxious about the transition from academia to retirement. In between, she counsels staff and students on such issues as stress management, substance abuse or a difficult personal relationship at work or home.

Bertini began her career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Pohnpei, Micronesia where she established the island's first counseling center and instituted a counseling program in the Pohnpei Prison. Since then, she has worked as an outpatient therapist, as a director of social services for a California medical center and at the UNH Counseling Center. The Kennebunk resident, who holds a doctorate in clinical psychology from Antioch/New England Graduate School, also is a private therapist, specializing in the treatment of women and children. She brings to USM extensive clinical experience with substance abuse, anxiety, depression, family conflict and issues of diversity.

Bertini reminds USM employees that her in-house consultations are free and confidential. She is available to work with individuals, families or work groups on a short-term basis, and, if needed, makes referrals to off-campus services.

"People often feel some discomfort, or even some shame at seeking out a therapist," said Bertini, "but counseling can be very productive for both the individual and those with whom they share their lives."

For more information or an appointment, please call 780-5260. Faculty and staff who want to make non-confidential contacts can e-mail Bertini@Maine.Maine.Edu.

Reaching Alumni

Barbara Hester has just started work as USM's new director of alumni affairs and already is jotting down notes and brainstorming ideas on how to take alumni involvement at USM to a new level.



"A number of very good projects have been put in place over the last few years under the 'Horizons Program,'" she points out. "There's the alumni advocacy project

through which alumni keep legislators connected to USM and the alumni ambassador project which utilizes alumni in admissions outreach efforts and to provide career mentoring to students. So there are some good initiatives to follow up on."

Hester is a USM alum herself, having graduated as a psychology major in 1983. Since then she has worked as a counselor in the Fair Harbor Emergency Shelter, as a caseworker for Big Brother/Big Sisters of Southern Maine, and since 1988, as coordinator of community relations and volunteers for the Family Crisis Shelter in Portland.

Her specialty is organizing and motivating volunteers, and she plans to bring more alumni into volunteer roles at USM as well as find more ways in which USM, and especially the Alumni Association, can serve alumni. "I want the university community to be more aware of how much alumni do to help the university," she said during her first week on the job, "and I also want our alumni to know what's available to them here on campus. I see volunteering as a reciprocal relationship." Volunteering can provide opportunities to fill in gaps in work experience or expand skills and job contacts, she says, but most of all volunteers are rewarded by knowing they've contributed to the university.

"As I begin to get feedback on what people need, I'll better know what information to get out there." Many alumni already are aware that USM is a resource for them as well as a place where they can continue their educations and professional development, she points out. But they may not know that as alums they can use the career counseling and job placement service, for example. "I know as a resident of

Portland and as an alum how much I've relied on USM. I've taken credit and non-credit courses to expand my skills, I've come to visit the planetarium, hear a lecture, and to use the library. The relationship with USM has been on-going for me and for thousands of other alumni who live within a stone's throw of USM. We have a lot to offer our alums, just as there are many ways they can help us." It's a two-way street, she says, and she wants to see the traffic increase in both directions.

Applied Science

continued from p. 1

written by local companies, and finally, when the revised proposal was presented to the review group, three company representatives traveled to Bangor to attest to the importance of the proposed development.

Who are the companies and nonprofit organizations that came forward in support of our proposal? There are many, but among those who played a key role at the critical time are Binax, Bioprocessing, Capricon, Casco Standards, Idexx, Immucell, Maine Biotechnology Services, Foundation for Blood Research, Jackson Laboratory, and the Maine Medical Center Research Institute.

As a result, USM will receive a \$250,000 grant for the first year with the possibility of a like amount for each of two additional years. In-kind and cash matching funds from the university as well as from industry and other sources bring the total development funds for the project to approximately \$1.5 million.

With those funds we will hire two faculty, build teaching and research laboratories, provide undergraduate and graduate instruction in molecular biology and immunology, develop and provide continuing education, and provide student scholarships and fellowships.

USM will gain the capability to fill a long-standing gap in education.

Companies and nonprofit organizations will gain better prepared new employees, education for existing employees, and access to additional research capacity. USM students will gain the opportunity to study cutting-edge biology in southern Maine and the possibility of staying in Maine to work.

When the university and local industry work together, everybody wins.



Guitarist Keith Crook (left) and violinist Lawrence Golan (standing) join cellist William Rounds in a Faculty Concert at 8 p.m., Friday, March 15 in Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham, sponsored by ARAMARK.

Snell photo

Wroth

continued from p. 1

As reporter and consultant to the Vermont Supreme Court's rules advisory committees since 1969, Wroth wrote the Vermont rules of civil, criminal, and appellate procedure; rules of evidence; and the code of judicial conduct. He also drafted amendments to those rules and Vermont's rules for family proceedings, rules of probate procedure, and code of professional responsibility.

In Maine, Wroth has been consultant to similar court advisory committees. He chaired the alternative dispute resolution task force of the Commission on the Future of Maine's Courts and has served as consultant to the Supreme Court's committee on alternative dispute resolution.

Wroth was a founder and president of the Maine Bar Foundation, which delivers legal services of the private bar to the poor. Since 1985, he has been a member of the board of Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Inc.

In 1994, the American Judicature Society presented him with the Herbert Harley award for his contributions to the administration of justice in Maine. He also has been honored by the Maine State Bar Association, the Maine Bar Foundation, the Maine Civil Liberties Union, and the Maine Trial Judges Association.

He is the co-editor of the prize-winning Legal Papers of John Adams (1965) and editor-in-chief of *Province in Rebellion* (1975). He is co-author of the second edition of *Maine Civil Practice* (1970).

What We're Doing

MUHAMMAD EL-TAHA, associate professor of mathematics and statistics, and **JOHN HEATH**, professor of computer science, co-authored the paper, "Traffic Overflow in Queueing Networks" which has been accepted for publication in "Stochastic Models" and is scheduled for publication during the summer of 1996.

BRUCE FITHIAN, associate professor of music, had his song cycle "My Splendors Are Menagerie," reviewed in the fall issue of *The Journal of Singing*. The work, based on 24 poems of Emily Dickinson, was performed by Fithian and USM's Judith Quimby, at Bates College in October. On November 19, Fithian was featured as guest soloist with the Baltimore Musica Rara ensemble at the Baltimore Art Museum. Also on November 19, the premiere of his song "No More Kissing—AIDS Everywhere" was given at the Portland Museum of Art with Elizabeth Hogue, soprano. The world premiere of Fithian's song cycle "Kinderlieder," was presented on February 2 by USM's Ellen Chickering. He made a CD titled "Angels" with the Boston Camerata in February. This March he is conducting the world premiere of a commissioned work, Daniel Pinkham's "The Inner Room of the Soul," performed by the Maine Gay Men's Chorus. Fithian will be in residence at North Texas State University March 25-29 where he will give master classes, perform a recital and sing the evangelist in Handel's "St. John Passion" on March 31 with the Denton Bach Society.

ROY A. GALLANT, director, Southworth Planetarium, had his article, "Sikhote-Alin Revisited," published in the February issue of the quarterly journal *METEORITE!* The article described Gallant's expedition to the Siberian meteorite site in the mountains of the Russian Far East, some 250 miles north of Vladivostok.

THERESA JORDAN, administrative manager, Facilities Management, recently completed the second phase of APPA's Facilities Management Institute. She also is the Eastern Region APPA news editor and production designer.

RUSSELL KIVATISKY, assistant professor of communication, presented his paper, "Case Management and the Empowerment of Nurses" at an international conference at the University of Toronto last spring. While on sabbatical last fall, he examined the relationship between gender and professional role by conducting research with male nurses

and female physicians.

IVAN MOST, assistant to the dean for special projects and assistant professor of engineering, made a presentation at a meeting of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Boston February 23. His presentation was on "The Effect of Organizational Factors in Occupational Health Research."

H. FRED WALKER, assistant professor of technology, recently delivered a presentation, "Writing Effective Technical Proposals" at the AUTOFACT '95 International Conference and Exhibition and a presentation, "Using Generic Structure to Create Technical Proposals" at the 1995 International Conference of the National Association of Industrial Technologists.

Women's History

continued from p. 1

written and lectured extensively on the context in which science is done, how the questions scientists ask and the answers they accept as true are shaped by their sex, race and class and by the social institutions in which they operate. In addition, she examines why certain issues move to the front of research efforts at particular times, and evaluates contradictory research on specific medical issues, such as breast cancer. In addition to working on the original "Our Body, Our Selves," Hubbard is the author of more than 150 articles and several books, including "The Politics of Women's Biology" (1990) and "Profitable Promises: Essays on Women, Science and Health" (1995).

Other events being held during Women's History Month include "Roe v. Wade—Where Do We Stand Now?" with Kathryn Vezina of the Family Planning Association of Maine at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 14 in the Moot Courtroom of the Law Building; "Pornography and the Media: Images of Violence Against Women," with Gail Dines, media critic, at 8 p.m., Tuesday, March 19 in the Brooks Student Center, Gorham; a panel of

women in engineering, construction, plumbing and geology will discuss their careers in "Women's Work 2000," at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 20 in the Brooks Student Center, Gorham; and "The Poverty of Welfare Reform" with Randi Albeda, professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts, at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 21 in Rooms A, B and C of the Portland Campus Center. Also during March there will be a guided tour of the Women's Heritage Trail, which takes participants past sites in the history of women in Portland, led by history professors Eileen Eagan and Polly Kaufman, beginning at 2 p.m., Thursday, March 21, from Women's Studies, 94 Bedford St., Portland.

For more information on any event or for a complete listing of events, which continue into April, call Women's Studies at 780-4289.

Notice: Mailing Address

Some people have expressed confusion about USM's new mailing address, so here are all addresses to be used for USM. For the Portland campus, use: USM, 96 Falmouth St., P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104-9300 (the street address should be included to assure that all materials received via carriers other than the Post Office, such as UPS, FEDEX, etc., will be delivered to the campus. Only the post office can use the PO box; others must use the street address). The address for the Portland library is: USM Library, 314 Forest Ave., P.O. Box 9301, Portland, ME 04104-9301. There is no change in the address for the Gorham campus. It remains: USM, 37 College Ave., Gorham, ME 04038-1083.



Currents

Office of Media Relations
P.O. Box 9300
Portland, ME 04104-9300

Address correction requested

MARJORIE A DUVAL
LIBRARY
LIBRARY

-P

PR32

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

Editor Susan E. Swain

Director Robert S. Caswell

Sports Information B. L. Elfring

Editorial Assistance Judie A. O'Malley

Currents is published monthly throughout the academic year. Materials should be submitted by the 15th of each month to: Media Relations, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland