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CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 12, Number 4

December, 1993



Students Jayson Mathieu, left, and Alison Lowe, right, were among USM theatre majors who added to Portland's holiday festivities, sharpening their improvisational skills while providing Portland shoppers with holiday entertainment. They are joined in this picture by Christenia Kinne, USM's wardrobe manager. During the first two weeks of December, actors, including community volunteers, dressed in Victorian costume, roamed downtown Portland interacting with shoppers. Actors attended a workshop session on Victorian etiquette and customs and played characters ranging from royal courtier to chimney sweep. Traveling in pairs, the actors engaged passers-by in conversation and improvised scenes in shops. USM students were directed by Wil Kilroy, assistant professor of theatre. *Mary Farnum photo*

WinterSession Returns

Based on positive feedback and strong enrollments, USM is again offering a special "WinterSession" schedule of courses during the traditional holiday break between semesters.

USM piloted the session in December of last year, attracting 172 students to nine, specially designed courses. This year's session, which is open to the general public, will begin on Monday, December 27 and continue through Friday, January 14. USM's traditional, 15-week spring semester will open on Tuesday, January 18.

USM officials decided to schedule a winter session for the 1993-1994 holiday break after reviewing faculty and student reactions last year, recorded in written evaluations and voiced in focus groups. "Their

reactions were consistently favorable," said Rosa Redonnett, executive director of extended academic programs. "They supported findings in studies in other states showing that short sessions, given the right conditions, can be as effective as the traditional 15-week courses."

Necessary conditions include limiting students to one course due to the intense schedule; eliminating courses such as math or science which rely on incremental learning; and scheduling only those courses that have been, or can be, redesigned for an intensive, three-week format.

USM is one of the few institutions in the Northeast to offer credit courses during the semester break. One of the closest colleges to offer such a session is Central Connecticut State University, where President Richard L. Pattenaude served as vice president for academic affairs. Pattenaude promoted estab-

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USM Adds to Property

As part of the Portland campus long-range development plan, USM has contracted to purchase the house and property at 1 Chamberlain Avenue, a corner property opposite the parking lot bordered by Bedford and Surrenden streets. The purchase was authorized by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees at their November meeting.

Since USM already owns the house next door at 7 Chamberlain Avenue and the two houses which back up to these properties at 92 and 94 Bedford Street, acquisition of this corner property completes ownership of this quarter of the block. Should the university ever decide to pursue construction of a parking garage across Surrenden, acquisition of the Chamberlain property will relieve one problem which arose when the garage was last considered. City officials recommended closing the block of Surrenden between Bedford and Chamberlain to traffic so that cars waiting to enter the garage would not block traffic on Bedford. This could now be done since USM would own all property that would be affected. In addition, the Dutch Colonial-style house provides 1512 square feet of space which can be used as office space to relieve overcrowding on the Portland campus.

USM is purchasing the property from John and Dina Gianibas for \$110,000. Ownership will be transferred in January. Purchase of the property will be funded through the use of the campus Incentive Budgeting Reserve, and annual maintenance costs of an estimated \$3500 will be budgeted through the normal campus process.

No decision has been made on what offices will occupy the space, according to Vice President for Administration Sam Andrews.

End of Semester Retirements

"Thirty years in the same job, aren't you bored?" friends and colleagues ask Bob Southworth. "I've taught full time at the undergraduate level, divided my time between undergraduate and graduate, taught full-time graduate, been department head, taught in Germany for a year, and Great Britain for a semester," he responds. "It hasn't been the 'same job.'"

Nevertheless, Southworth, professor of educational psychology in the College of Education's Department of Human Resource Development, will be retiring at the end of this month, but not without mixed feelings.



"There are a lot of fine, humane people here, yet the university is becoming more ~~depersonalized~~ personalized. Computers and other technological advancements

have made it too easy for people to conduct business in the solitude of offices," he explains.

"Still, I'm proud of the department and the role I've had in it," each year offering more than 250 students graduate programs in adult education, counselor education and school psychology.

"The first big push came (in the mid-1960s) with the demand for elementary school guidance counselors," says Southworth, himself a former teacher and guidance counselor at area high schools. The USM master's program then moved to meet the training needs of rehabilitation counselors, mental health counselors and school counselors at all levels.

Southworth doesn't buy the argument that public schools should focus on academics to the exclusion of social services. Counselors are critical, he believes, to the ability of schools to deliver a quality education. "You can't have a quality education without giving students a sense of who they are. If you don't feel good about yourself, you can't learn," he says.

Southworth and his wife, a recently retired professor of education at the

University of Maine at Farmington, plan to spend much of their time in Florida, though Southworth occasionally will teach a USM course during non-winter months. "It's hard to cut the cord completely."

"That's the best you can get out of teaching,"

Bob Findlay said, referring to the number of former students who attended the retirement party in honor of his nearly 27 years of service to USM.



"I'm proud to have played a role in educating so many students who went on to success," said Findlay, professor of accounting and former associate dean in the School of Business, Economics and Management.

Findlay decided to retire after returning to the classroom from a six-year stint as associate dean. "I found the transition back to teaching very difficult. I felt I wasn't as effective in the classroom as I wanted to be," says Findlay. "That, combined with the fact that I'll be 65 this spring, led me to the decision to retire."

In addition to his teaching and associate dean appointments, Findlay has served as department chair and acting dean. In 1971, as chair of the Department of Business Administration, he led development of the school's first cooperative education program. "Thanks to area business and industry," he recalls, "we served 15 to 20 students a semester in that program."

Findlay, who taught at Bentley College before joining USM, remains active in efforts by state and national professional organizations to increase continuing education requirements for practitioners. "By the end of the decade, the profession and the state will be requiring that accountants have 30 hours of study after completion of undergraduate work," says Findlay, a board member and former president of the Maine Society of CPA's.

Though he plans to follow developments in the accounting profession, his priorities for the foreseeable future will shift to two other areas of interest: grandchildren and gardens.

Anderson Wins Award

The National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) named USM's Andrew Anderson the 1993-1994 recipient of its "Region I Outstanding Professor" award. Region I includes 12 northeastern states.

The award, which recently was announced at NAIT's national conference in North Carolina, is based on excellence in teaching, research and service to the profession and community.

Anderson, an associate professor of technology, specializes in graphic communication, computer applications, computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing. He has authored manuals and tutorials on those subjects and serves as product development consultant for a computer-aided design software company.

Anderson, who joined USM in 1975, chaired the Department of Technology's successful reaccreditation effort and is a Laureate member of the professional society, Epsilon Pi Tau.



Representative Susan E. Dore of Auburn, the 1993 recipient of the American Psychiatric Association's Warren Williams Award, has donated a \$500 cash prize that accompanies the award to scholarship funds at the Lewiston-Auburn College and Edward Little High School. The award is presented to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of psychiatry and mental health. Dore was recognized for sponsorship of legislation requiring fair and equitable health insurance coverage for major mental illness. Dore, a 1977 graduate of USM, said she wanted to use the award funds to underscore the importance of education in her community. Dore, at right, is pictured with Helen Greenwood, dean of L-A College. Caswell Photo

Graphics Options for Students

Art majors and students interested in careers in graphic arts and video production will benefit from a new agreement USM has negotiated with the Center for Creative Imaging in Camden, known for its cutting-edge computer imaging technology. Students will be able to take selected courses at CCI for USM academic credit.

"This agreement expands on USM's course offerings and gives our students access to the highest level technology," Ellen Schiferl, associate provost, said. Schiferl was instrumental in achieving the agreement.

"Much of what the viewer sees in television advertising and news programs is produced through digital imaging," she explained. "Digital imaging enables instantaneous transmission and greater versatility and control in image production." Through this technology, photographed images can be scanned into the computer and transformed.

CCI, which opened in 1991 as part of Kodak, Inc. and was purchased by Maine business leader Rusty Brace in spring, 1993, offers courses on computer based imagery and digital media using state-of-the-art equipment. In addition to the separate Macintosh labs for imaging, desktop publishing and multimedia, the center has installed a photo-video studio, a silicon graphics lab and two personal computer labs. The faculty includes visiting instructors from Colossal Pictures, the American Film Institute and Industrial Light and Magic.

For spring semester, USM will offer academic credit for the beginning courses in creative imaging and intermediate and advanced courses such as Digital Photography, Multimedia Authoring, Professional 2-D Animation and 3-D Illustration. Each student has sole use of an assigned computer workstation while taking a course. The courses would be suitable for people planning careers in the visual arts, graphic arts, journalism, TV and video production, education and some kinds of scientific research.

Most of the courses are full day, week-long sessions with projects scheduled for evenings. Students will usually earn one credit for a 5-day course.

For more information, call Schiferl at 780-4680.

WinterSession

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lishment of the USM session, saying it offers students more scheduling options and allows a more efficient use of university buildings.

The 1993-1994 "WinterSession" features 17 courses that will run for at least three hours and 15 minutes, Mondays through Thursdays. Only required, core courses and upper-level courses for which there is a high demand are offered. The upcoming session includes "Approaches to Art," "Public Speaking," and a course on "The Documentary," as well as introductory courses in government, social welfare and history. An advanced course on French speaking and the Francophone culture will be held on the West Indies island of Martinique, and nursing students can practice community nursing techniques in the Dominican Republic. The costs of those courses are supported by fees from participating students.

The costs of all other courses are based on USM's standard undergraduate rate. Registration is open until Monday, December 27 on a first-come, first-served basis, at Room 101 of Payson Smith Hall, Portland, or Room 113 of Corthell Hall in Gorham. For more information, please call 780-4076.

Campus Notes

Congratulations to the staff of the Maine Scholar, the journal of the University of Maine System Honors Programs, for bringing out another successful issue. This sixth issue is titled "Academia, Business, and Community: Changing Relationships and Responsibilities," and is available for \$13 by calling 780-4749.

The Athletic Department has announced a new program which encourages faculty and staff to help with coaching. Staff members who choose to participate in the "USM Honorary Coaching Program" are asked to attend practice, as schedules permit, for the three days preceding a home game. They will then sit on the bench at that game as an honorary member of the coaching staff. Call Al Bean at 780-5588 for more information.

Larrey Homan, landscaper supervisor, requests that people not park in the driveways of the outbuildings during a snow storm or on the day following a storm. Grounds crews must be able to plow, sand and salt.



David Wagner, assistant professor of social work, introduces members of the homeless community who were subjects of his book at a celebration at the Preble Street Resource Center. Caswell photo

Wagner's Book Celebrated by Subjects

"Checkerboard Square: Culture and Resistance in a Homeless Community," by David Wagner, assistant professor of social work, became the first book on the homeless in New England when it was published in November. Wagner celebrated the publication of his second book with a party at the Preble Street Resource Center, a favorite hang-out site for Portland's homeless, on Tuesday, November 30. Robert Hayes, founder of the National Coalition for the Homeless, was a guest speaker, and students who helped Wagner with the research for the book also attended the celebration, along with many members of Portland's homeless community.

The book, which derives its title from the nickname given Congress Square Plaza by the city's street people, shatters stereotypes and challenges conventional wisdom about the causes of homelessness.

Wagner found through a long-term study that the street people of Portland had created an alternative community of their own. His research indicates that the roots of homelessness lie in the institutions of mainstream society—the structures, of family, work, and welfare. Solutions, he says, must play to the strengths of the homeless community—its strong sense of social connection. His book, which includes profiles of individuals and stories from the daily lives of many of the city's homeless, was described by sociologist Herbert J. Gans of Columbia University as "A well-written, often dramatic book that combines first-rate sociological analysis with sensitive storytelling."

What We're Doing

THOMAS CARPER, professor of English, has two poems, "A Late Rembrandt Self-Portrait" and "From Nature" (about Monet), and two translations of sonnets by Joachim du Bellay in the Summer 1993 issue of Sparrow, which will print his rhymed and metered version of Anna Akhmatova's "Requiem" in its next issue. Pivot, a New York magazine, has published "Roses in the Garden" and "Step by Step" in its 1993 issue, and a California journal, Free Lunch, has two poems, "The Traveler's Story" and "A Bar in the Islands," in press. Recent work has been accepted by Poetry, which will print "Sisyphus's Pet Rock" and "The Salvation of Faust" in a future issue. A British textbook, "Leading Questions," uses his poem "The Resident Poet" to introduce a discussion of metaphor; and "Facts," a poem from his recent book, "Fiddle Lane" (Johns Hopkins), is used as an example of the contemporary sonnet in S. J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia's "An Introduction to Poetry" (Harper Collins), which will be incorporated into the next edition of their "Introduction to Literature." "The Solemn Son," also from "Fiddle Lane," will appear this spring in "The Quotable Moose" (University Press of New England), a new anthology of Maine writing edited by Wesley McNair of UMF.

BRUCE B. CLARY, professor and interim director of Public Policy and Management, authored "The Passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982: A Multiple Perspectives Explanation," which appeared in "Policy Studies Review," and co-authored "Public Testimony in Nuclear Waste Repository Hearings: A Content Analysis," which was published in an edited volume from the Duke University Press, "Public Reactions to Nuclear Waste: Citizens Views of Repository Siting."

BHISHAM C. GUPTA, professor of applied mathematics, had his invited paper "Search Designs of Resolution 3.1⁽²⁾ for 2^m Factorials" accepted for publication in a special issue of the Journal of Combinatorics, Information and System Sciences, a quarterly international scientific journal.

RUSSELL J. KIVATISKY, assistant professor of communication, presented his paper, "Understanding Communication and Gender: A Training Program for Physicians and Nurses" at the October 1993 conference of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender in Phoenix, Arizona. Kivatsky was also the keynote speaker for the tenth anniversary conference

of the Maine Council of Nurse Managers in Boothbay Harbor.

DEBORAH KRICHELS, associate executive director of university advancement, has recently been elected an advisory trustee to the Maine Olmsted Alliance for Parks and Landscapes. She is an appointed member of the City of Portland's Friends of the Parks Commission and is also serving on the master plan committee for Deering Oaks Park.

BETTY ROBINSON, assistant professor of human services management at Lewiston-Auburn College, presented a paper titled "The Contributions of Applied Sociology to Management" at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Sociology conference held in St. Louis on October 15.

RICHARD WEST, assistant professor of communication, co-authored the chapter, "Maximizing Gender Sensitivity in Communication Courses" which appears in "Communication and Sex-Role Socialization" (Greenwood Press, 1993). He also authored "Voices Seldom Heard: A Typological Analysis of Elementary and Secondary Students' Responses to Teacher Behavior" which appears in the winter 1993 Communication Reports. He reviewed "Teaching Communication Courses: Pedagogy and Practice" which appears in Speech Communication Teacher. West also co-authored "Communication Satisfaction with Homosexual Parents" which will appear in "Parents, Children, and Communication: Frontiers of Theory and Research" (Erlbaum, 1994). He was appointed as one of four representatives to the Committee of Scholars for the Eastern Communication Association. His appointment by the president of ECA will begin in 1994 and involves serving as the ECA liaison to schools who want speakers to discuss advances in communication scholarship. In October, West presented "Establishing Anti-Racist Agendas in Classrooms" at the annual conference of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender in Tempe, Az.

KATHLEEN J. WININGER, assistant professor of philosophy, just returned from the meetings of the Society for Phenomenology & Existential Philosophy. She has had her paper "Nietzsche's Women and Women's Nietzsche" selected for publication in "Re-Reading the Canon: Feminist Interpretations of Nietzsche" (Penn. State Press, 1993).

L. KINVIN WROTH, professor of law, had his book review of "Essays in the History of Canadian Law, Volume III, Nova Scotia" appeared in the winter 1992 issue of The American Review of Canadian Studies.

Wroth appeared before the Judiciary Committee of the Maine Legislature on February 25, 1993 concerning state appropriations for legal services for the poor, and on March 10, May 12 and 17, concerning legislation to implement the recommendations of the report of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts.

LISTEN FOR SNOW

Where To Tune In For Snow
Day Cancellations

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WBLM	102.9	FM
WCSO	97.9	FM
WPKM	106.3	FM
WPOR	101.9	FM
WCLZ	98.9	FM
WKZS	99.9	FM
WMPG	90.9	FM
WGAN	560	AM
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