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Robert S. Caswell
University of Southern Maine

Susan E. Swain
University of Southern Maine

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CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 9, Number 13

April 8, 1991

Two Who Helped Shape USM to Retire

The Gorham and Portland campuses were home to fewer than 1800 students when professors George Ayers and James Sullivan started their university careers in 1959. Now, 32



George Ayers

years later, five times that number can be seen just riding the shuttle buses each week. Both Ayers and Sullivan, who have contributed a combined 64 years of teaching and community service to USM's growth, are retiring next month. Ayers, an associate professor of physical science, will be honored at a reception from 3:30 to 5 p.m., Thursday, April 25 in Hastings Lounge, Gorham. A reception for Sullivan, professor and chairman of the Department of Recreation and Leisure

Studies, will be held from 3 to 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 8 in Rooms A, B and C of the Campus Center, Portland. A community dinner also will be held in his



James Sullivan

honor at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, May 18 at Keeley's Banquet Center, Portland.

"They say that you shouldn't retire from something," said Ayers, "you should retire to something." Though looking forward to pending carpentry

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Accreditation Team Praised and Cautioned USM

USM is now perceived as an institution of quality rather than as a university of last resort.

That was one of the conclusions voiced in a debriefing session hosted by the eight-member accreditation team that visited USM last month. The team of educators was here Sunday through Wednesday, March 17-20, under the auspices of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which is presently considering USM's request for another 10-year accreditation.

The team, chaired by Sherry H. Penney, chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Boston, also cited USM's growing community and corporate support as well as the faculty and staff's enthusiasm for the institution. The quality of our student affairs and human resources programming, the planning for the Osher and Smith map collections, and our Honors Program, among other academic programs, were also noted.

A number of concerns were aired, too, among them the need to integrate academic and fiscal planning, the delivery of the Core Curriculum, and the need to further strengthen faculty advising. Team members agreed that it's difficult for members of the administration to maintain visibility at three primary sites, Portland, Gorham and Lewiston-Auburn. In addition, the university faces the challenge of delivering academic programs of quality to more students with fewer sections.

It's expected that the NEASC will vote later this spring on USM's accreditation, based largely on the final report from the visiting team. The eight-member team met with more than 100 faculty, 100 administrators and staff members, 50 students, members of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and community

representatives.

The accreditation process began in the fall of 1989 when a representative committee of the campus community, under the guidance of chair Henry C. Amoroso Jr., and Robert J. Goettel, prepared a self-study. The visiting team lauded USM's self-study process and noted that the self-study report should help the incoming president understand the university and its future needs.

Besides Penney, members of the NEASC team were: Reenie Duff, coordinator of arts and lectures, Bentley College; Lenore A. DeLucia, vice president for administration and finance, Rhode Island College; Janet Freedman, dean of library services, Southeastern Massachusetts University; Richard Allan Gerber, vice president for academic affairs at Eastern Connecticut State University; Thomas J. Haas, associate professor of chemistry, U.S. Coast Guard Academy; George J. Larkin Jr., vice president for student affairs, New Hampshire College; and Leo O'Donnell, associate dean of the College of Human Science and Services, University of Rhode Island.

Reminder: Russell Chair Lecture

Jeremiah P. Conway, director of the Honors Program and associate professor of philosophy, will lecture on "The Wasteland Grows: The Responsibility of Thinking" at 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 10 in Luther Bonney Auditorium, Portland. A reception will follow. Conway is the 1990-92 Russell Chair scholar. The chair was endowed by Winifred S. Russell in memory of her husband, Dr. Walter E. Russell, principal of Western Maine Normal School.



Functional sculpture in the form of a glove-shaped bench by visiting artist Richard Lethem. Dratch photo

Artist's Image

Visiting artist-in residence Richard Lethem will leave at USM as a permanent installation a piece he calls "Hitchhiking in the Glove of Night," made up of two units, a functional sculpture and a painting. The sculptured bench in the shape of a glove will be placed in the Gorham Student Center, outside the snack bar, facing the wall painting, not yet completed, which Lethem describes as a Witness/Window.

The New York artist has used the visual concept of a glove, inspired by a work glove he found on a city street, as the starting point for many works. "The glove is a metaphor for being in one's body," he said. It also suggests to Lethem the experience of the homeless by suggesting protection and shelter. It is, he says, a witness to human needs. The window painting enlarges on that image.

Lethem, primarily known as a painter, is giving drawing workshops for seven USM students. He holds a master's in fine arts from Columbia University and has had nine one-person shows nationally. He will be on campus through April.

Campus Notes

■ USM International Students Night will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 18 in the Portland Campus Center. Hosted by USM's international students, the celebration will include food and entertainment

from around the world. Free and open to the public. Call 874-6565 for information.

■ USM's Earth Day Fair will be held all day on Friday, April 19 outside of Luther Bonney Hall, Portland. Speakers include congressman Tom Andrews and Portland mayor Peter O'Donnell. Presentations will focus on energy and water conservation, composting, and USM recycling efforts. There will be music and booths. Call 780-4160 for information.

■ Call the "Waste Not" Hotline at 780-4751 to share reactions, comments and suggestions concerning USM's Energy Committee activities.

■ Nominations are being accepted for the Nelson and Small Prize. The prize honors a USM employee for special contributions to the USM Electrical Engineering Program. The award this year is \$2,000. Nominations should include a description of the individual's contribution to the program. Send nominations to Dean Brian Hodgkin, School of Applied Science, USM, 37 College Avenue, Gorham, ME 04038. Nominations must be received by April 19.

■ Nearly 600 people attended the annual Adult College Fair, hosted by our Undergraduate Admissions Office and cosponsored by WCSH-TV, Channel 6. The fair, designed for adults interested in starting or resuming their postsecondary educations, was held Wednesday, March 27 in the Campus Center, Portland. Representatives from USM and nine other institutions were on hand to talk with prospective students.

Congratulations!

At the recent meeting of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, the following faculty were promoted and/or granted tenure, effective September 1, 1991.

Promoted to Associate Professor

Joseph Capelluti, assistant professor of education
John M. Kinsella, assistant professor of Spanish and Portuguese
Robert M. Schaible, assistant professor of literature and writing

Promoted to Professor

Joyce K. Bibber, associate professor of history
John J. Houlihan, associate professor of business law
Leonard J. Shedletsky, associate professor of communication

Tenured at Rank of Associate Professor

James A. Curry, associate professor of education
Lee Goldsberry, associate professor of education
Gerald J. LaSala Jr., associate professor of physics

Tenured at Rank of Professor

Bruce B. Clary, professor of public policy and management
Vincent E. Faherty, professor of social work
Andrew J. Potts, professor of accounting

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

David A. Briggs, assistant professor of computer science
Diana C. Crader, assistant professor of anthropology
Mahmud A. Faksh, assistant professor of political science
Josephine M. LaPlante, assistant professor of public policy and management
Jo-Anna J. Moore, assistant professor of art education
John J. Sanders, assistant professor of associate business administration
Reid D. Stevens, assistant professor of education
Charlene E. Suscavage, assistant professor of Spanish
Clair E. VanZandt, assistant professor of education

Tenured and Promoted to Professor

Diana E. Long, associate professor of history
Lynne Miller, associate professor of education
Ah-Kau Ng, associate professor of applied immunology

Retirees

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projects and indulging his interest in photography, Ayers is leaving much behind, most notably a legacy of sharing his passion for astronomy with thousands of Maine people. "He is an extremely dedicated teacher," said Stephen G. Pollock, associate professor of geology and chair of the Department of Geosciences. "Everyone would agree that George Ayers exemplifies quality science teaching."

The former high school principal developed a series of USM astronomy courses and directed the Southworth Planetarium from 1971 to 1980. Under his guidance, annual attendance increased from 3,000 to nearly 20,000. And Ayers has made the viewing of Comet Kohoutek, eclipses and other astronomical occurrences community events by developing a popular observation area on the roof of Gorham's Bailey Hall, complete with telescopes, cameras and other items. His photos and writings also have appeared in newspapers throughout Maine.

As an invited participant at conferences at Cal. Tech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Kennedy Space Center, Ayers had an opportunity to learn more about such probes as Voyager I and Galileo. "We (astronomers) have been living at the right time to see all this," said Ayers. "I'm simply glad that I've had a chance to share it with people."

Jimmy Sullivan has made a career out of sharing his boundless energy and enthusiasm for physical fitness with as many people as possible. "After five decades here," said Sullivan in an unusual respite from his daily whirlwind of teaching, meetings, writing and exercise. "I figured it was time for me to change direction."

In the fall of 1959, Sullivan was teaching physical education in the barn on the former Deering Estate, near the present Portland campus library. Within 10 years he had overseen the design and construction of the Portland Gym. "I'm proud of that building," said Sullivan, "because it was designed as a resource for the entire community, campus and the public." A few years after the gym's 1969 opening, Sullivan was instrumental in the founding of Lifeline, one of the largest community health and fitness programs in Maine.

At the same time, Sullivan developed USM's associate and baccalaureate programs in therapeutic recreation. Graduates of these programs design recreational and leisure activities for the handicapped and elderly. Surveys

indicate that it is among the fastest growing health-related professions in the nation. "It's the only such program of its kind in the state, but more importantly, our students can help the handicapped and elderly enjoy healthier lifestyles," noted Sullivan.

"Jimmy has worked tirelessly to get this department (Recreation and Leisure Studies, which offers the therapeutic recreation major in the School of Nursing) where it is today," said William T. McCullough, associate professor of therapeutic recreation. "Thanks to the respect he has earned and the wonderful rapport he shares with everyone, his contributions to the field are simply invaluable."

The author of several books in the health and fitness field, Sullivan also headed the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, worked on the development of Maine's special education laws, advised educators in Brazil on physical education, directed USM's employee health and recreation program and designed a football shoulder pad for McGregor Sports. "I wouldn't take back any of it," said the ever jovial Sullivan, though he does express disappointment at the lack of a health and fitness major at USM.

Sullivan plans to remain active in some way in the field of health and fitness. And he also intends to "spend more time with my wife and family. This place has been my life."

Celebrate Writers!

The English Department will again host a week of public readings and lectures by faculty and guest authors. "Celebrate Writers" presents afternoon and evening events, Monday, April 15 through Saturday, April 20.

This year's guest writers are Robert Cording, recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship for 1991 and the author of two collections of poetry; Elaine Ford, University of Maine professor and author of four novels; Lois Rosenthal, journalist and editor of *Story* magazine; Belle Waring, poet and teacher in the Vermont College M.F.A. program; Bruce Weigl, poet and past president of the Associated Writing Programs; and Tobias Wolff, author of the memoir *"This Boy's Life,"* the short novel *"The Barracks Thief,"* which won the 1985 PEN/Faulkner Award, and two collections of short stories.

Faculty writers include Dianne Benedict, Thomas Carper, Deborah DeNicola, Mary Lee Fowler, Jacquie Fuller, Dennis Gilbert, Barbara Hope, John Pijewski, Kenneth Rosen, Betsy Sholl and Monica Wood.

Barbara Hope is festival coordinator. For more information, call her at 780-4320.



USM students in "And a Nightingale Sang," the poignant and often funny story of the homefront struggles of one English family during World War II. The well-crafted play by C.P. Taylor, described by Clive Barnes as "a story of wit and passion" when it opened in New York, was originally performed in London in 1979. The USM production is directed by Tom Power, associate professor of theatre, and can be seen in the Russell Hall Theatre, Gorham, at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, and Thursday through Saturday, April 25, 26 and 27. There will be 5 p.m. matinees on April 21 and 28. Tickets are \$7; discount tickets are \$6 for seniors and \$4 for students. For information/reservations, call 780-5483. Dratch photo

What We're Doing

GREGORY P. BAZINET, assistant professor of technology and coordinator of vocational education, presented a session titled "Cooperative Learning...The Enabling Method of Student Achievement and Communication Development" at the annual Maine Vocational Association Convention in Rockport. Also at the convention, Bazinet presented "Cooperative Education—Learning How to Navigate Through Life-Long Learning" to the Maine Association for Cooperative Education.

MARYANN BENSON, coordinator of placement and academic internships, counseling and career services, received the 1991 American Business Women's Association (Port of Maine Chapter) "Woman of the Year" award, on March 19.

ARDIS CAMERON, assistant professor of New England studies, has been appointed to the editorial board of the Lowell Industrial History Conference. Cameron recently spoke on "Radicals of the Worst Sort: Women in the Labor Movement," at the second annual Trade Union Women's Conference sponsored by the Maine AFL-CIO.

DAVID DeGRANDPRE, farm superintendent, Wolfe's Neck Farm, recently gave a talk on producing organic beef at the January 22 Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association's Maine Agricultural Trades Show in Augusta.

WILLIAM R. DILL, director of Office of Global Enterprise and adjunct professor of business administration, will receive an honorary degree from Babson College, where he served as president, on May 18.

EILEEN M. EAGAN, assistant professor of history, and **REBECCA BRYANT LOCKRIDGE**, associate professor of communication, are project scholars for the University of Maine at Farmington exhibition of "The Photographs of Chansonetta Stanley Emmons, 1858-1937: Enlarging the Perspective." They provided essays for the exhibition and participated in a panel discussion on April 2 in Farmington.

JOEL W. EASTMAN, professor of history, led a group of pre-school students from Waynflete School on a tour of Fort Preble.

MAHMUD A. FAKSH, assistant professor of political science, had an article, "U.S. Policy in Gulf is Laden with Contradictions," published in the February issue of the *Duke Dialogue* (Duke University). He gave a pub-

lic lecture, "The Gulf Crisis: Regional and International Security Issues," that was sponsored by the USM Alumni Association. Also, he gave a keynote address, "The Persian Gulf Crisis: A Historical-Geopolitical Analysis," to a Gulf Crisis Forum at Fryeburg Academy. Faksh has accepted a summer appointment as visiting professor of political science at Duke University where he will teach courses in comparative politics and Middle East governments and will do research.

JOEL I. GOLD, associate professor of associate business administration, lectured on "Common Stock Valuation" on March 25 to the inmates and staff at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham.

BHISHAM C. GUPTA, professor of mathematics and statistics, has been invited by the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to collaborate with his former Ph.D. student, Dr. Santiago Carvajal, on some research problems. Gupta and Carvajal have already jointly published various research papers.

WALDECK E. MAINVILLE JR., professor of mathematics, has been named to the 1991 edition of "Who's Who in American Education." Mainville recently gave a workshop "Tiptoeing through History with the Hindu-Arabic Numerals" at the 28th Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England meeting in Durham, N.H.

JO-ANNA J. MOORE, assistant professor of art education, recently attended the 1991 National Art Education Association Conference in Atlanta, Ga. in her capacity as Eastern Region Higher Education Director. She presented a research paper, "William James and Art: Perspective for Art Educators" and served on a panel presentation about "Exemplary Art Curriculum."

ANDREW J. POTTS, professor of accounting, attended the 19th annual conference for Collective Bargaining in Higher Education sponsored by Baruch College, City University of New York, and the University of San Francisco, March 14-15. He was representing the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine System at the conference.

GALE W. RHODES, professor of chemistry, and **ROBERT M. SCHAIBLE**, assistant professor of literature and writing, Lewiston-Auburn College, directed a workshop on "Action Learning in Literature/Science Courses" on February 11 at the winter symposium of The Scientist as Humanist Project, sponsored by Dartmouth College and the New Hampshire State Department

of Education, held at St. Paul's School, Concord, N.H.

MARTHA SKONER, associate professor of nursing and chair of the Graduate Department, School of Nursing, presented a paper titled "Control Management: Women with Urinary Incontinence" at the 50th annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology in Charleston, S.C., March 13-17.

RICHARD STEINMAN, professor emeritus of social work, presented a paper on social work's response to the explosion of anti-ethnic bigotry in Central and Eastern Europe in New Orleans at the annual national conference of the American Council of Social Work Education on March 15.

ALBERT J. SOKAITIS, men's basketball coach and lecturer in physical education, was master of ceremonies and featured speaker at the NCAA Division III Final Four at Springfield, Ohio.

DAVID WAGNER, assistant professor of social work, presented a paper titled, "Acting on Their Own Behalf: A Study of the Political Active Homeless," at the annual conference of the Council of Social Work Education in New Orleans.

L. KINVIN WROTH, professor of law, appeared with former Secretary of State and Senator Edmund S. Muskie before the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee in Washington on March 5, 1991, to support increased appropriations for the Federal Legal Services Corporation. Wroth served as steering committee chair for a report (May, 1990) documenting the extent to which the needs of the poor for legal services are not being met. As representatives of the Commission and the New England Bar Foundation, they presented the position of state legal services providers and bar leaders at the hearing.

DONALD N. ZILLMAN, dean and Godfrey professor, School of Law, had the article he co-authored, "Perspectives on NEPA in the Courts" published in 20 *Environmental Law* 505 (1990). It was originally presented at the national symposium on the 20th anniversary of the passage of the National Environmental Policy Act, sponsored by the Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon. Zillman served as topic coordinator and moderator on the topic, "Public and Private International Law" at the February, 1991 International Resources Law in Denver.



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Office of Media Relations
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Editors and Writers Robert S. Caswell, director;

Susan E. Swain

Sports Information Albert D. Bean Jr.

Editorial Assistance Judie A. O'Malley

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