

Faculty senate questions cost of metropolitan university



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the free press

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Programs slated for elimination finalized

Board of trustees votes unanimously to cut proposed degrees

Emma James
News Editor

The three programs slated for elimination, American and New England Studies, geosciences and arts and humanities at the Lewiston-Auburn Campus were approved for elimination by the board of trustees last Monday in Fort Kent.

After no discussion, with the exception of the citizen comment period, the board's vote was unanimous.

"We do have to face the dire circumstances that are before us," said Samuel Collins, chair of the BoT. "The structural gap isn't going away."

“ People somehow seem to have this idea that this is elective, what we’re doing. But it’s not. We have no choice.”

David Flanagan,
USM President

President David Flanagan admits that the programs eliminated only account for 3% of the target USM has to make, even though the university will realize some \$500,000 in savings.

Rose Cleary, an associate professor of arts and humanities, found the lack of discussion by the board "disheartening."

"They didn't take seriously other options than eliminating programs. They should be looking at ways to invest rather than cutting," said Cleary. "I was quite disappointed with the lack of deliberation."

Kent Ryden, director and professor of American and New England studies, was not surprised by the unanimous vote.

The program eliminations were part of a consent vote, which entails several items on the agenda of the meeting being bundled together for an up or down vote.

"That struck me as a way to avoid having conversations, by not having it on the agenda as a separate item, but bundled in with unrelated things," said Ryden. "Perhaps they were trying to avoid the possibility of discussion, and they had probably made up their minds already."



Sam Hill / Editor-in-Chief

President David Flanagan reports his plan for USM to the board of trustees last week in Fort Kent. Flanagan explains the necessity for a financially stable budget in order to move forward and sustain high quality education opportunities.

Cleary explained that, though the vote at the board was the last procedural step to eliminating the programs, it's not yet finalized because the Associate Faculties of

the University of Maine, AFUM, has filed a grievance about the multiple contract violations over the procedures that have been followed.

According to Cleary, the grievances have been validated, so they are now entering into a preface of arbitration.

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Student senate treasurer denounces senate leadership

Senate chair, parliamentarian could be removed for withholding pay

Alex Huber
Contributor

The student senate went into executive session last week to discuss the potential of taking disciplinary actions against the senate chair and parliamentarian.

Jason Blanco, the senate treasurer, decided to address leadership concerns in the senate after he went to pick up his stipend check last week to discover his pay was being withheld.

Joshua Dodge, the senate chair, and Joshua Tharpe, the parliamentarian asked employees in the Student Government Business Office to put Blanco's paycheck on hold after one unexcused absence without consulting the rest of the senate.

"I have lost all confidence in both the parliamentarian and the chair," said treasurer Jason Blanco at Friday's Student Senate meeting. "It

is my recommendation to the senate to have a vote, to remove them from those positions."

The constitution of the senate states that after three absences a senator is automatically removed. Blanco has been absent from senate meetings this year for work purposes, but all but one absence was excused by the senate. He was not removed from the senate, but his pay was withheld, an action that proved to be unconstitutional in the senate after further investigation.

Stipends can only be altered by the Personnel Review Board of the senate, not the chair or parliamentarian.

That board is headed by the Kyle Frazier, the student body president, who told Blanco that the senate was in violation when Blanco approached him about it. Blanco then asked the Judson Cease, the senate vice chair for a violation inquiry committee but said he received no

response and no committee was convened as the executive board did not feel it was necessary.

"If that's the kind of senate we're going to run, where two individuals can make their own rules... this senate is going to fail," Blanco said.

The senate has been facing attendance issues since the beginning of the year and Blanco is not the only senator with multiple absences. In their previous meeting, the senate didn't have the correct amount of senators present to make quorum and vote. Blanco said that with his 12 years of experience in the Marine Corp, he believes that there is a fault in leadership.

Blanco motioned for a vote of no confidence in Dodge and Tharpe.

Following the motion, the senate went into an executive session, meaning that all non-senate members had to leave while they discussed the issue.

A week must pass before the sen-



Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

Student senate continues to face attendance issues, with conflicting

ate can proceed to vote. In order to remove the two individuals from the senate a two-thirds majority is required of a quorum of the senate. During the vote the two parties will have to recuse themselves from the executive board due to conflict of

interest.

Dodge and Frazier declined to comment on the meeting.

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Nationwide campuses join fight to end abuse

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

In this country at least four women are murdered by abusive partners daily and 25% of female college students have reported a violent rape, according to a crime victimization survey done by the National Institute of Justice.

With an estimated one in five college women attacked, USM's faculty and students are working to spread awareness about the disturbing prevalence of domestic violence in Maine and in the rest of the country.

Last Monday a film titled "Private Violence," which chronicled the lives of two survivors and their attempts to leave their abusers, was shown in Hannaford Hall supported by the USM efforts from the Campus Safety Project and the Women and Gender Studies department. SPACE Gallery, the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Family Crisis Services also helped to co-present the documentary film.

"It's a very powerful film," said Amy Taylor who is on the board of directors of Family Crisis Services. "It's emotional, daunting and really tastefully done."

"The people who hurt you the most often can be the ones you love," said Taylor, who dealt with an abusive father in her childhood.

The film brought to light that the most dangerous place for a woman in America is her own home, by telling the dramatic tales of two survivors: Kit Gruelle and Deanna Walters. Kit Gruelle has 25 years of experience advocating for battered women and remains dedicated to shattering the harmful stereotypes that surround domestic violence and its survivors.

Gruelle said that one stereotype is the notion that only poor and uneducated women are being abused, when in fact domestic violence can happen in any household, regardless of any differences. For Gruelle, looking past isolated incidents and examining our patriarchal society as a whole may be the key to ending violence against females. She explained that we have to take a hard look all over the world, at how different communities interact, and



“**FEAR**
IS VERY POWERFUL, USUALLY
GETS US AT OUR WEAKEST AND
— SUCKS US AWAY...
BUT NOT THIS TIME.”

Source: The 10th Report of the Maine Domestic Homicide Review Panel, April 2014

Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky / Design Assistant

how the criminal justice system is responding or not responding to these acts of violence.

"The issue is about privilege and a sense of entitlement that some men have," said Gruelle. "It's an issue where men think they are masters of the castle and get to call the shots. Men are violent to women because they believe they have the right to be violent and society gives them that right." She posed the question: "Why do men feel like they can control, harass and intimidate women?"

According to Gruelle, some people wait until a woman has a visible injury like a black eye or a broken nose to speak up, and even then they try to find ways to justify it.

Gruelle said that the typical response among people when asked about solutions to domestic violence is, "Why doesn't she just leave?"

According to Sarah Holmes, the assistant director of student and university life for diversity, it's not that simple. She said that for some, leaving might result in some women losing their money, children, pets or possessions. Holmes encouraged to log on to Twitter and search #whyistayed to see all of the diverse and deeply personal reasons women choose to remain a part of an abusive relationship.

"Everyone has their own com-

plicated and important reasons for not leaving an abusive relationship," said Holmes.

Matthew Perry was the first male employee in the state to work for the Family Crisis Service hotline and has been working

next to them."

"It's a product of human conditioning," said Kelsey Michaud, a sophomore theater major and women and gender studies minor. Michaud said that she unfortunately does know individuals

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY THE NUMBERS	
5,593 reports of domestic violence in 2012	73 percent of domestic violence are female
368 reported rapes in 2012	13,258 people were affected by domestic violence in 2013
24 homicides in Maine in 2012, 11 of which were from domestic violence	359 reported rapes in 2013
<i>Source: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence Service Data</i>	

to end violence against women since 1999. Perry said that apart from all the financial and social reasons women choose to stay, the majority of women stay because they don't want to be killed. According to him women are 75% more likely to be murdered if they try to leave an abusive relationship.

"Men have yet to listen to women when they've been pleading for thousands of years, 'don't kill us, don't rape us,'" said Perry. "I don't speak for women; I speak

affected by what she called "a bigger problem than most people realize."

According to the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence (MCEVDV), over 37,000 hotline calls were placed in the first six months of last year. Of all assaults in the state of Maine last year 47.4% were attributed to domestic violence and 5,593 arrests were made for that crime.

"Domestic violence is a big problem in Maine," said Holmes. "A lot of people are impacted by

this kind of abuse, but it's not just individuals who are affected; it's also their friends, family and peers."

Holmes said that there are victims of relationship-related violence on USM's campus, and she's done a lot of work over the past four to five years making sure there is help and resources available to them. Some aid includes talking to a counselor or an advisor as well as calling an anonymous hotline that's posted in campus bathrooms.

"We can combat this problem through education," said Holmes. "We all know someone who's been a victim of domestic violence."

Perry agrees.

"If you can give information and talk about it [domestic violence] early, that's prevention," said Perry. "I firmly believe it's every person's role in the community to help end the abuse."

Students from the women and gender studies department frequently discuss gender based violence and its impact on communities, according to Kate Zema, a student in that major.

"We've been talking about issues in current events like the Ray Rice incident," said Zema. "I've been focusing specifically on sexual assault and consent education."

"We do learn about domestic violence and discuss it on a regular basis," said Michaud.

On a national scale, the number of women killed from domestic violence since 2001 is 11,766, more deaths than those killed in terrorist attacks and battles in Iraq and Afghanistan. President Obama recently stated that these statistics are "totally unacceptable," and launched a new, star-studded online campaign called "It's On Us," which urges viewers to stop being bystanders to the problem and become part of the solution. USM is committed to this cause.

For students on campus that may be affected by this national problem, aid and counsel are available through an anonymous hotline at 1-866-834-4357.

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From **PROGRAMS** on page 1

"Depending on the outcome of that, the vote of the board of trustees could become invalidated, if it's found that the procedures administration followed violated contracts," said Cleary. "They'd have to redo the process and the board would have to vote again."

According to Jerry LaSala, chair of the faculty senate and professor of physics, the proposals before the board were much more detailed than the proposals presented to the faculty senate earlier in the year.

"The idea that this did not require full review by the faculty senate is very difficult to understand," said LaSala. "There is lots of new information, some of which we'd challenge is inaccurate. The requirements of the board of trustees manual have not been met."

LaSala also claimed that public comment was minimized by the fact that the meeting was moved to

Fort Kent.

Susan Feiner, professor of economics and professor of women and gender studies, attended the meeting.

"I talked with trustee Moody before the vote and he told me that he was prepared to vote against the program eliminations. He was sort of blind-sided by the process," said Feiner. "He thought that there would be another step in deliberations."

Though the vote was unanimous, regardless of confusion among board members, Flanagan explained that more cuts need to happen to fill the gap.

"People somehow seem to have this idea that this is elective, what we're doing. But it's not. We have no choice," said Flanagan. "We cannot run a deficit. We have to pay people. We have to pay our bills."

According to Flanagan, the arts and humanities program is already covered completely by other pro-

grams, and the other programs will be taught out, so students are still given the opportunity to graduate.

Clearly disagreed, noting that the rationale to eliminate the program was because it duplicated another, but explained that that was not true.

"Arts and humanities was redesigned to be an applied program that had community engagement as a critical component of the new curriculum," said Cleary. "That's supposed to be what characterizes a metro university. It doesn't make sense to me to eliminate the program."

Flanagan explained that some faculty in the affected programs will be given the option to stay to help students finish their degrees, unless they elect not to.

"This isn't like some guillotine dropping down and ending people's professional lives," said Flanagan. "I think some people are trying to create concerns where they need not exist."

Flanagan also explained that faculty are some of the most protected employees in the country, and cuts that will be made outside of program eliminations will be based solely on a contractual basis.

"We cannot fire people at will," said Flanagan. "What you can do is eliminate programs where you can't financially support them, or where they don't fit in with the university vision. At the end of the day, there does come a time when, if you don't have money you can't pay people, and that's the situation that we're in."

Contractual basis is a matter of seniority.

Regardless of the cuts, students may elect to take legal action. The questions there, according to Ryden, is the status of the university catalog as a legal document.

"When a student matriculates into a program, language and requirements for the degree program as of the date of their matriculation are listed in the catalog and are the

ones that apply to them throughout their course of study, even if the requirements change," said Ryden. "The argument is that, basically, a promise has been broken."

According to Ryden, though, students would have to initiate an action like that.

"Probably all it would take would be one student," Ryden said.

Flanagan explained that he has continuously acknowledged the reciprocal need for cutting and investing in USM.

"We have to offer new courses and new interdisciplinary majors. We have to be more innovative and relevant in what we offer. I'm here to bring the university into a new era when it will be financially sustainable, affordable, accessible, quality and relevant," said Flanagan. "That's my job."

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Faculty concerned about metropolitan university's \$2 million price tag

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Last month the Metropolitan University Steering Group released their interim report, outlining what the university can do to transform into a highly-engaged institution with strong ties to the community and a focus on service learning.

The report, which lists suggestions for administrative responsibilities, leadership roles and how to centralize engaged learning efforts, estimates that the cost of implementing the plan over the next five years would cost around \$2 million in funds to complete.

The dollar amount raised concerns and questions at last week's Faculty Senate meeting, where faculty members discussed the cost and specifics of the report.

"If this committee is proposing something with a \$2 million price tag, we've just upped our budget deficit to \$18 million, and I can't imagine that we want to do that right now," said Jeannine Uzzi, a professor of classics. "It just seems so wrong-headed."

Libby Bischof, a professor of history and member of the MUSG, reminded the senate that the interim

report was a working document and that they were willing to take suggestions for revisions.

"We're looking for feedback, we're looking to improve this," said Bischof.

Some faculty questioned the plausibility of the report's goals in USM's current economic situation, and Bischof told the senate that MUSG was charged with a strategic focus and that figuring out how to implement that strategy would come later.

When Richard Barringer, chair of MUSG and research professor, spoke with the Free Press earlier in the month, he said that the financial plausibility of the plan was the responsibility of the administration.

Wayne Cowart, a professor of linguistics, openly wondered if the metropolitan university plan was distracting administrative and faculty efforts from this year's budget deficit.

"There's obviously a major bloodletting coming, we may very well attract national attention for the scale of that bloodletting," said Cowart. "This is going to be damaging to the reputation of the institution and, as far as I'm seeing, the only thing that looks like a re-



Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

At last week's Faculty Senate meeting, concerns were raised regarding the MUSG's interim report. (Above) Nancy Gish addresses the report's 'abstract' goals and her questions about its language.

sponse, has been this metropolitan university idea."

The senate considered passing a resolution stating that any funding for this project should be taken from a system-wide fund to avoid widening USM's structural gap, but decided against it because the report isn't finalized.

After the meeting, Bischof explained that the costs were estimates based on other metropolitan universities that the group has been studying, including Rutgers University, the University of Massachusetts in Boston and the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, among others.

Nancy Gish, a professor of Eng-

lish and women and gender studies, voiced concerns about the language in the report.

"This [the report] is to a large extent completely abstract, so it depends entirely on how you interpret things," said Gish. "When I look at engaged, I think 'what do you mean by engaged and who's going to decide whether it's engaged or not.' What I see as a serious problem is that it can be read to shift all of the decision making into an administrative structure."

Bischof said that the group has been having similar concerns and questions in their own meeting and that it was good to hear similar voic-

es in the senate. She said that the group hopes to make revisions and have a final report by December.

Despite concerns raised in the meeting, a lot of faculty members still noted that the idea of a metropolitan university was appealing.

"This is a very difficult time for all of us and I think that even though it may not be the best time to put forward something that's going to cost \$2 million, the idea helps," said Rachel Bouvier, a professor of economics. "I think that it's at least a glimmer of hope."

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From BDN

LePage's BoT nomination rejected by Democrats

Christopher Cousins
Bangor Daily News Staff

AUGUSTA, Maine — Democrats on the Legislature's Education Committee voted unanimously to reject Gov. Paul LePage's nomination of Susan Dench to the University of Maine System board of trustees after a contentious hearing on Friday.

The 8-5 party-line vote goes to the full Senate on Tuesday.

Dench, of Falmouth, is a marketing professional and former conservative blogger for the Bangor Daily News. She was heavily criticized during Friday's hearing for her conservative views on gender roles.

In addition to criticism of Dench's ideology, an English professor from the University of Southern Maine presented evidence she said proved Dench plagiarized a column she wrote for the BDN in November 2013.

Jane Kuenz, who chairs USM's English department, argued that the column "copied the train of thought" of a 2003 piece published in the Free Republic, which drew heavily from a 17th century essay by William Bradford, who was the governor of Plymouth Colony at the time. The gist of Dench's article was that the Pilgrims were communists.

"I don't accuse people lightly about plagiarism and in this case it's actually not difficult to spot or decide," said Kuenz. "I've taught English a long time and I've seen this before. ... Someone who doesn't

understand the core values of the university has no business on the board of trustees."

Matthew Stone, the BDN's opinion page editor, said he had not heard the plagiarism allegations before Friday and that he has inspected the column, which cited Bradford.

"Susan Dench was not the first to make the argument that the Pilgrims were communists, but her BDN column on the subject was properly sourced, and the writing was her own," said Stone.

Dench's final column for the BDN was in July.

Several UMaine instructors took issue with the content of many of Dench's writings.

"Susan Dench routinely claims in her blogs that universities and colleges around the country have been attacking conservatives for years," said Lucinda Cole, USM's director of women and gender studies and associate English professor. "Ironically, her own treatment of other viewpoints boils down to little more than name-calling."

Danna Hayes, director of public policy for the Maine Women's Lobby, also objected to some of Dench's writings, including a January 2014 blog post for the BDN, in which Dench wrote, in part, "[women] want a confident, respectful man who isn't going to turn into your girlfriend, exercises authority (not control), is strong, is a provider, who protects us, makes decisions, [and] is assertive (not aggressive)."

Hayes said attitudes like that per-

petuate faulty and damaging male dominance notions.

"She also makes references to the 'feminine' values of 'socialization and cooperation,' claiming that expecting boys to act as the weaker sex is untrue to their nature," said Hayes. "We propose that caring and cooperation are not feminine values as much as they are human values."

Someone who doesn't understand the core values of the university has no business on the board of trustees.

Jane Kuenz, English department chair

Dench also was criticized for her opinion that all public school students ought to be taught in English.

"If you want to get ahead in this country, you have to speak English," she told the committee in response. "I do think that children should be taught in English because that's the language of success. ... I'm not going to be bullied into not sharing my personal views. I have detractors but I also have a lot of people who agree with the way I think."

Dench, whose resume includes decades of marketing and program manager experience with numerous large companies, argued that academia is the most important place for divergent opinions to be respected and that her personal views are irrelevant. She said her skills in marketing and management would be valuable to the UMaine sys-

tem, which is struggling to attract more students and retain them once they've enrolled.

"I've worked on collaborative teams for my whole life ... and the focus has always been how do we get together to make things work," she said. "That's what the board of trustees is. It's a collaborative team and it really doesn't matter what

those members' views are."

Dench told the BDN that the hearing "felt like a barbecue and I was the chicken."

"It felt like they put partisanship over the interests of our kids and I think that's really unfortunate," she said.

Rep. Victoria Kornfield, D-Bangor, said partisanship had nothing to do with her vote Friday against Dench's nomination. In addition to Dench's positions on gender roles, Kornfield said she was concerned about the plagiarism allegations.

"I take that very seriously," she said. "It's a matter of integrity."

Republicans said after the hearing that the vote was politically motivated against Dench, whose husband, Lewiston-based attorney Bryan Dench, is the LePage re-election campaign's treasurer.

LePage campaign spokesman Alex Willette said Friday that there is no connection between Bryan Dench and LePage's nomination of his wife to the university system's board of trustees, and that the governor's vetting of Susan Dench started before her husband joined the campaign during the summer.

"It's too bad," said Rep. Michael McClellan, R-Raymond, after the vote. "If this weren't an election year this never would have happened."

Dench's nomination was one of three LePage nominations to the University System board of trustees that were considered by the Education Committee Friday. The committee unanimously endorsed Samuel Collins of Caribou, the trustees' current chairman, and newcomer James O. Donnelly of Brewer.

Dench's was the only one of 22 LePage nominations rejected by the Education Committee on Friday. According to research by the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library, Friday's vote marked the first time the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee has rejected a gubernatorial nomination to the University of Maine board of trustees dating to at least the 108th Legislature in 1977.

Those nominations, along with a long list of others, go to the Senate on Tuesday. A two-thirds vote is required to overturn the committee's recommendation against Dench.

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Professor returns from Scottish referendum

Nancy Gish will speak about the importance of the historic vote

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

In light of Scotland rejecting independence from the U.K. by a vote of 55 to 44 percent during a recent referendum, USM is hosting a free panel discussion to determine the impact and educational value of such a monumental political event.

The panel discussion will feature three experts: Donnie Jack, a Scottish Affairs counselor for the Americas, Owen Traylor, a former diplomat and Nancy Gish, a professor in the English department who has just returned from Scotland having witnessed the climate of the country during this “major time of change.” According to Gish, it’s important for all of us to understand the ramifications of this referendum, even if we’re half a world away.

On Sept. 19 Scotland had the chance to end a 307-year-old union with the rest of the United Kingdom but decided against it, which will result in the tabling of this issue for at least another generation. Still the country remains divided in political opinion with the Scottish National Party spearheading the initial movement for independence. According to Gish, who spent time in the country with supporters from both sides, Scotland is distinctly different than the rest of the U.K., with its own set of values. “Independence supporters were very upset with the results,” said Gish. “If I was Scottish, I would of voted yes.”

According to Gish, the movement for independence started two years ago and was led by politician Alec Salmond, but there’s been a longing for Scottish autonomy since the 13th century. Gish said that Scottish interests are and have been predominantly liberal, and the largely conservative British parliament, led by prime minister David Cameron, do not grant Scotland enough political representation.

Nationalists on the “Yes, Scotland” side wanted independence because of concerns of being exploited by the British for their resources like oil as well as the nuclear facilities which store British weapons on Scottish soil.

The opposition to the independence movement, led by the “better together” campaign argued that most of the Scottish budget relies on oil revenue which is a quickly diminishing, finite resource. Scotland breaking away from the union would have also resulted in it having an even more diminished voice in international affairs because the country would have to start the European Union membership process all over again. Unionist parties have promised to give more power to Scots in Parliament if they voted no. Time will tell if that will happen and Salmond issued a warning saying that the British must “make good” on that pledge.

According to Gish, a lot of people showed up to vote, with over a 90% turnout in some big towns like Glasgow and Edinburgh, showing that people do care to vote on big issues. Gish said that the outcome was interesting because “no thanks” voters were dominated by older retirees and women, the two groups that are the most cautious about financial and domestic issues.

Gish said that the result of the referendum showed that when prompting people with a binary question, most of the population will stick with the status quo.

“When asked for a yes or no vote, undecided people will usually go with cutting their losses instead of making a gain,” said Gish.

Ellen Skeritt, a junior linguistics major, studying abroad at the University of Winchester in England, said that she believes the majority of Scottish people think there is nothing wrong with the country’s current relationship with Parliament and there’s no need to change it.



Photo courtesy of Nancy Gish

Alan Riach (left) and Alexander Moffat (center), two authors of *Paintings as Arguments: Five Decades of Cultural and Political Change in Scotland*, sit with Alan Riach a composer, during an exhibition that Nancy Gish attended. There Gish learned a lot of interesting perspectives on the suppression of Scottish culture.

“The United Kingdom would not be the same without Scotland,” said Skeritt. “This may be a stupid reason but I like our connection with the royal family.”

According to Gish, discussing these legal and diplomatic issues along with their implications, links real world events with lessons learned by students in the history and political science departments at USM.

Gish said that tuning into and conversing about the political atmosphere of the U.K. and the effects of self determination on the Scottish people, helps contribute to USM’s vision of becoming a “metropolitan university,” and teaches students how real world problems are solved.

Francesca Vassallo, a political science and history professor and an organizer of the panel discussion, said that it’s so rare that a real

world event, like the Scottish move for independence, matched issues that she teaches from her curriculum.

“I helped bring this discussion to campus because I thought it would be useful for students to see self determination in action,” said Vassallo. “It helps us connect our local community with the international community and helps us understand how to solve big societal problems.”

Vassallo also mentioned that students knowledgeable about current events like this are much more likely to be taken seriously when looking for a career.

Gish, who is also a fellow of the Association of Scottish Literary Studies, plans on offering the perspective of a person who has observed a stifled culture under a union with Britain and Wales as well as first hand accounts on what

the voting process was like. Gish traveled with a poet, a painter and a composer on her journey and said that her focus will be a cultural argument. Most of the people heavily involved in the Scottish arts community were “Yes” supporters.

“Culture in Scotland has always been suppressed,” said Gish. “I have personal experience with that.”

Gish extends the invitation to the seventh floor of the Glickman Library on Thursday to hear about those experiences during these dramatic and trying political times, even if only to broaden one’s own knowledge.

Gish said, “No American really knows anything about Scottish culture, history or politics, except for what they’ve seen in *Braveheart*.”

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In Brief...

Students receive sizable scholarship

Three students were selected by Patriot Insurance Company to receive a sizable scholarship worth \$26,000. Matthew Swan, Benjamin Martin, and Dana Hayward all shared in the prize.

Martin said,“Patriot Insurance wants to support kids and keep them local.”

He also noted there are a lot of older people in the insurance field who are set to retire. This grant is a way to keep Maine students in the state rather than looking for work farther afield when they graduate.

Martin chose USM because it was the only school in state to offer Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) track in the School of Business. He wanted to send thanks along to Dana Kerr who is the accounting and finance department chair and associate professor of risk management and insurance.

Martin said that Kerr was instrumental in helping with his application for the scholarship and getting his future resume ready.

Besides working for the insurance company Horace Mann in South Portland, and attending class fulltime, Martin also works nights delivering pies for Otto’s pizza. He’s set to graduate this December, and said the scholarship will certainly take some financial strain off his last semester at USM, as he looks to the future in the insurance field.

Reports show students face a mountain of debt

A new report authored by the Alliance for a Just Society and released by the Maine People’s Alliance evaluates the scope and consequences of rapidly increasing student debt in Maine and provides a window into the lives of Maine students and alumni facing large amounts of debt. Graduating students in Maine now face an average debt load of \$29,352. The debt to median income ratio for Maine students is the 11th highest in the nation.

“Having such a heavy debt load narrows my options and increases my stress,” said Jocylin Egan, nursing student facing \$55,000 in debt upon graduation, speaking at a press conference held at USM. “My passion is working with populations that have less access to health care but it’s going to be difficult to pursue the kind of work within the health care field I desire. It limits our futures and the future of Maine.”

In addition to an analysis of the financial and policy land scape of student debt in Maine, the report also contains survey results from students and recent alumni and personal interviews with Mainers facing large student debt loads. Eighty percent of participants who reported that they had student debt in a voluntary online survey of 127 Mainers noted that it affected their housing situation, with 16 percent living with their parents for financial reasons.

“This mountain of student loan debt blocks the path for prosperity for too many Maine graduates, especially those from low and middle income working families,” explained Christy Dagget, a policy analyst for the Maine Center for

Economic Policy. “Debt forces Maine graduates to defer goals their parents took for granted: a home of their own, investments for their kids’ future, and a nest egg for their own retirement.”

According to Maine People’s Alliance Campus Outreach Co-ordinator Julia Legler, debt has been a motivating factor prompting students to register to vote and become more involved in the political process.

“It is vital that Maine students participate in this conversation, as student loans have such a monumental impact on their lives,” said Legler.

Former USM student turned political candidate ignored by GOP leadership

According to a blog post by Bangor Daily News reporter Mario Moretto, former USM student Republican Party’s candidate in the southern 1st Congressional District Issac Misiuk was snubbed by Republican leaders and not invited to a fundraiser last week.

U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio was in Portland for an event, joining Bruce Poliquin, the GOP candidate in the northern 2nd Congressional District from Bangor, but Misiuk was ignored.

“I personally, found it odd that i wasn’t invited,” Misiuk said. “I understand it’s not my fundraiser, but I think it’s odd that I didn’t get a phone call letting me know it’s going on.”




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Police Beat

*Selections from the
USM Department of
Public Safety police
log September 18 to
September 23*

Thursday, September 18

Stay away
11:17 p.m. - Summons issued to Kaylee E. Ayers, 19, of South Portland for illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor. - Upton-Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Friday, September 18

Drinking games
12:26 a.m. - Liquor law violation. Subject transported to hospital following medical emergency. - Upton-Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Stop! In the name of the law
4:20 p.m. - Warnings to operator for stop sign violation and failure to update address. - Bedford Street

Do you smell what I smell?
7:46 p.m. - Reported odor of marijuana. Unable to locate source. - Upton-Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Saturday, September 20

Break it up
1:08 a.m. - Report of large group. Gone on arrival of the officer. - Philippi Hall, 19 Campus Ave.

Proof of insurance, please
5:50 a.m. - Summons for failure to provide evidence of insurance issued to Whitney L. Murray, 18, of Gorham. Warning for stop sign violation. - Campus Ave.

Not on school property
9:05 p.m. - Summons issued to Zared S. Wilburn, 18, of South Portland for a usable amount of marijuana. - Robie Andrews Hall, 39 University Way

Sunday, September 21

Get out
1:16 a.m. -Report of disturbance. One subject warned not to return. - Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Drive

Monday, September 22

To the big house
8:40 a.m. - Akena W. Otunnu, 23, of Portland arrested for theft, possession of burglar tools and trespassed from all university property. - Parking Lot P8, 21 Falmouth Street

Move along
10:48 a.m. - Checked on an individual. Contact made, but subject moved along. - Glickman Library, 314 Forest Ave

Tuesday, September 23

Crash course
10:18 a.m. -Traffic accident report taken. - G4 parking lot, 51 College Ave

Words, not fists
9:31 p.m. - Verbal altercation. Subjects left. - Glickman Library, 314 Forest Ave.

Arts & Culture

Raunchy play sends out sexy radio waves



Photo courtesy of Erin Bartoletti

Left to right: Aileen Andrews, Mary Kate Ganza, Owen Carten and Hannah Perry perform at their last rehearsal.

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

This past weekend, *The Well of Horniness*, written by Holly Hughes, made its debut at Russell Hall, located on Gorham campus. Unlike other shows here on campus, this is a radio play, which is a staged show where actors and actresses line up and perform from the same spot on the stage the entire time. It includes mature subject matter and has a variety of foley effects that surprised audiences and left them begging for more.

The *Well of Horniness* tells the

story of a woman named Vicki who escapes from an evil lesbian sorority called the Tridelta Tribadism. She soon hooks up with Rod, a carpet salesman who is as dumb as the shag he sells. When Rod introduces Vicki to his sister Georgette at dinner, Vicki falls for Georgette. When Georgette is mysteriously murdered, Vicki goes on a search for evidence with the help of a glamorous lady detective, a crusty cop and a nefarious bar-girl.

Sarah Kennedy, a senior theatre major, is cast as Georgette. According to Kennedy, the subject matter of *The Well of Horniness* is

both sexually-charged and full of funny commentary.

"It's very quirky, over the top and super raunchy. So, in that retrospect, it's essentially an hour and 15 minutes of lesbian puns," said Kennedy.

Rhiannon Vonder Harr, a junior vocal performance major, plays the role of Garnet McClit. She says that by talking about these touchy subjects, the play holds a deeper meaning than others she has participated in.

"The show deals a lot with religion, sexuality and racism. These are topics that are often too difficult to talk about, and can make

people feel uncomfortable. Yet these are things that need to be talked about, they are not just going to go away," said Vonder Harr.

The cast of 12 individuals were given their scripts at the end of May, and during the first week of August, they finally got together to do some table work and rehearse.

Meghan Brody, a theatre professor and the director of *The Well of Horniness*, talked about the amount of work that went into preparing for this radio play.

"Most USM theatre productions include at least 100 hours of rehearsals. That makes for an intensive hands-on educational experience for students," said Brody.

David Bliss, a junior theatre major, said that the best part about participating in this radio play is the opportunity to make foley effects, which are sounds such as doorbells and gunshots that are made by the performers.

For Kennedy, the most difficult part was having to create certain sound effects that were uncomfortable to perform.

"It's uncomfortable in the sex scenes. You have to be able to look at your best friend and pretend to have sex with one another. It's difficult because you have to become comfortable with yourself and the other person, as well as the entire audience watching you perform," said Kennedy.

Brody understands how difficult this kind of radio play can be, and she also understands that almost half of the cast members are making their mainstage debuts.

"These students have been learning how to approach comic material that could prove offensive to some audience members. That's a valuable lesson for them. This is

the ideal place to experiment, grow and learn about ourselves and others," said Brody.

All of the cast members agreed that the most difficult part of performing a play like this is being able to keep sound effects timed with the acting.

"The timing has to be perfect. For example, at one point I have to watch my friend Ryan Biggs as he looks through a newspaper. In response to flipping his pages, I have to make whooshing noises for what he is doing, and it has to be perfectly timed in order to work," said Bliss.

"It takes a lot of concentration and focus to make the sound effects and react to them at the right time. It's easy for people to lose their concentration and miss their cues," said Kennedy.

This radio play is the first of its kind to appear on campus. Both Kennedy and Vonder Harr agree that its uniqueness sets it apart from other plays.

"It's different from other plays because there is no blocking or set piece. Instead, everyone is lined up on the stage. However, there is still interaction," said Kennedy.

"It's not something you'd see at a usual theatre. It's seeing a live action radio show that you don't often get to see performed. It's definitely worth seeing," remarks Vonder Harr.

Brody wants all of the cast members to know how impressed she is by their talent and commitment to the theatre, saying, "Overall, I appreciate their energy, enthusiasm and professionalism."

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Kil-Robics takes exercise to a new level

Dora Thompson
Contributor

On Monday and Wednesday at 8 a.m., an aerobics exercise group called "Kil-Robics" takes place in the Costello Sports Complex on USM's Gorham campus. This class is free to anyone who would like to attend, and is creatively named after the group's instructor, Wil Kilroy, a theatre professor and major advising coordinator.

Kilroy has taught theatre and directed shows all over the U.S. as well as in London and Greece. He has been in several stage performances and has also graced the world of television.

Over the years, Kilroy has directed several plays and was the recipient of USM's Outstanding Teacher Award. Kilroy is also a certified fitness instructor, which influenced the creation of Kil-Robics.

The Kil-Robics regimen has students perform a variety of exercises. The workout is a mix of dance steps, kickboxing and working with physiol-balls. Kilroy started this class 20 years ago, before the

Costello Fitness Center was built. It started in the dance room in Russell Hall. Now, Kil-Robics is an official part of USM's fitness program that is attended and enjoyed by many students each semester.

"This sort of aerobics class works your body in every way that stage would need to be worked. It starts out with general cardio and then we do some minor strength

of them don't realize how fit they need to be," said Kilroy.

Kil-Robics is especially helpful to musical theatre majors because it teaches rhythm and choreography. Some students even attend to fulfill the exercise requirement needed for Kilroy's theatre classes, which gives them the opportunity to job-shadow Kilroy for a few classes then perhaps teach the class

“ Hopefully I’m doing a service for these performers because some of them don’t realize how fit they need to be. ”

Wil Kilroy, Kil-Robics instructor and theatre professor

training to work on our abs and back," said Matthew Laberge, a junior theatre major who has been coming to Kil-Robics on and off since freshman year.

According to Kilroy, he gets to jump around to music with great people, which keeps him fit in a fun way.

"Hopefully I'm doing a service for these performers because some

themselves.

"If I don't exercise, I can't perform," said David Bliss, a junior theatre major, who started Kil-Robics his freshman year, and hasn't missed a class since. "It keeps you awake and keeps your body in shape."

However, it is not just students that attend Kil-Robics. Rob Sanford, an environmental science



Dora Thompson / Contributor

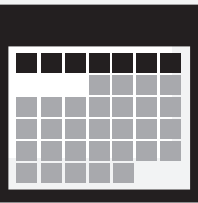
These students in Kil-Robics are doing workout of dance steps together.

professor, has kept up with the rest of them every Monday and Wednesday morning for the past 11 years. According to Sanford, this aerobics class gives him more energy and a more positive outlook on the day.

Students can start their Monday

mornings off with a refreshing aerobics exercise, and they will have their mood lifted by the happiness, motivation and theatre flair that this exercise class has to offer.

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A&C Listings

Monday, September 29

Spirits Alive Summer Tour
Eastern Cemetery
224 Congress St.
Starts: 1:30 p.m. / Ends: 2:30 p.m.

“REEL ROCK 9” Film Tour
Portland Stage
25 Forest Ave.
Starts: 8:00 p.m. / Ends: 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 30

Five Finger Death Punch
Cross Insurance Arena
1 Civic Center Square
Starts: 6:00 p.m.

Strangled Darlings Live
Andy’s Old Port Pub
94 Commercial St.
Starts: 7:30 p.m. / Ends: 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 1

POP! An Auction Benefit
Portland Company
58 Fore St.
Starts: 5:30 p.m. / Ends: 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 2

Jeff Bye Opening Art Reception
Greenhut Galleries
146 Middle St.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

Live Acoustic Music Nightly
Andy’s Old Port Pub
94 Commercial St.
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 3

\$2 First Friday Entrance Fee
Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine
142 Free St.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 8:00 p.m.

Free Bhangra (Indian Dance) Lesson
First Friday Artwalk Event
539 Congress St.
Starts: 5:30 p.m. / Ends: 7:30 p.m.

Friends of Willow’s Third Annual
Dessert Fundraiser
Bull Feeney’s, Second Floor
375 Fore St.
Starts: 6:00 p.m. / Ends: 8:00 p.m.

Flea Bites!
Portland Flea-for-All
125 Kennebec St.
Starts: 6:30 p.m. / Ends: 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 4

Avenue Q
Lyric Music Theater
176 Sawyer St.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Musica Fall Festival
Woodford Congregational Church
202 Woodford St.
Starts: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 5

Historical Walking Tours of Portland
Maine Historical Society
489 Congress St.
Starts: 1:30 p.m. / Ends: 3:00 p.m.

Album Review

Maroon 5’s new album is just like old times



Interscope

Sydney Donovan
Free Press Staff

Famous for their pop rock genre albums, Maroon 5 is back with their fifth studio album aptly titled *V*. This album is a throwback to their earlier album titled *Songs about Jane*. It acts as a very vocally-charged album that showcases lead singer Adam Levine. Its very catchy rhythms and melodies make this album a perfect listen for long car rides, while doing homework or relaxing after a long day at school.

The record opens with the hit single “Maps.” You may have heard this song during the summer when it was first released. The premise of this song is about trying to find the path to a girl’s heart: “Where were you / When all the roads you took came back to me / So I’m following the map that leads to you.”

Another song on their new album, “My Heart is Open,” is a duet between Gwen Stefani and Adam Levine. This track is a piano ballad that tells the story about how people should be willing to take chances on someone and say yes when the opportunity for love arises. “I know you’re scared / I can feel it / It’s in the air / I know you feel that too / But take a chance on me / You won’t regret it.”

Maroons 5’s cover of “Sex and Candy” opens up with a catchy drumbeat and an inviting bluesy organ. Their adaption of Marcy’s Playground original song is refreshing. It adds a bluesy pop feel to the original composition. The laid back feeling in this song draws listeners

in and has Adam Levine singing in a different style than we normally hear from him.

The synthesizer and guitar is switched out with acoustic drums and an organ for many of the songs, which makes for a nice change from what the Maroon 5 fans are used to. Counter to the relaxed rhythms and harmonies that the music presents, the lyrics describe a deviant ex-lover following the woman who left him: “I smell sex and candy / Who’s that loungin’ in my chair? / Who’s that castin’ devious stares in my direction? / Mama this surely is a dream.”

Overall, Maroon 5’s new album is an unexpected surprise compared to their previous album titled *Overexposed*. For anyone who appreciates older Maroon 5, I recommend that you go buy this record today. It’s a return to their more rock-influenced roots which is refreshing in today’s music scene.

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Film Review

The Maze Runner wows audiences with effects



Delacorte Press

Sergey Miller
Free Press Staff

The new blockbuster hit “The Maze Runner” directed by Wes Ball, tells the story of a young man named Thomas, who wakes up on a lift with no memory of how he got there, and he’s not alone. He finds himself surrounded by a gigantic moving maze, and it is here that he discovers that he resides in what is known as the Glade. Just like Thomas, the other individuals in the Glade have no idea as to how they ended up there. All they know is that every morning the maze

opens, and every evening it closes. It is at the opening scene of this movie where the acting and character development is at its strongest.

The center section of the maze houses a community of boys that have designed their society into a hierarchy of farmers, workers, healers, leaders and maze runners. It is also the place where no monsters, known as Grievers, can enter. The beginning of this film is imaginative and incorporates the viewer right into the mystery of it all.

As the film progresses, Thomas takes a chance and decides to run through the maze with hopes of escaping. It is at this point that the cinematography and special effects are at its best. The movie itself paints a world of hostility and courage, allowing its audience a suspenseful adventure through a maze they may never get out of alive. The first half of this film is creative, suspenseful and overall exciting to watch. However, it becomes obvious that the first half of the film largely makes up for the lack of creativity in the second half of the film.

As this film passes its halfway point, it begins to focus on setting up the many challenges to which the characters have to face. Some of these barriers include some power structure problems and too much

focus on minor characters that tend to annoy the audience rather than meaningfully entertain. The second part of the movie is burdened with bad acting and too many unexplained plot twists. These types of problems tend to make watching the movie a bit difficult, especially if the audience has no sense of why certain elements of the story are going on.

The film itself is told in a manner that creatively mixes the dystopian society of “The Hunger Games” with William Golding’s book “The Lord of the Flies.” As Thomas progresses throughout the movie and learns more about his environment, so does the audience.

This movie has received high reviews for its excellent quality of acting, its good pacing, appropriate suspense and plot twists. The special effects, imaginative cinematography and dystopian sense of mystery is something not to be missed. The movie leaves its viewers with gnawing questions that are unshakable. Luckily, more of these unexplained plot twists will be revealed in a follow-up film titled, “The Scorch Trials” which will be released in theaters on September 18, 2015.

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Perspectives

Our opinion: Admins need to connect with average students

Last week, Dean Joy Pufhal emailed 18 student leaders and invited them to a meeting with President David Flanagan and Provost Joseph McDonnell to discuss the criteria for potential upcoming program eliminations and faculty retrenchments, but only five students attended.

We hope the administration does not consider five students adequate student input on the issues facing our community.

Those students who did attend are fully engaged in USM's budgetary and structural problems and were able to give the president and provost valuable feedback, but we think that if there's more pizza in a room than people, it's time to find a better way to reach out.

The administration needs to find a way to get in touch with the average USM student to accurately gauge how students feel about their actions. The average student is not a representative to the board of trustees, a member of the student senate or even the leader of a student organization. The average USM student is too busy with a full-time job, an above average academic schedule or a family to be heavily involved.

They might even be balancing all three of those activities.

Emailing a handful of hyper-involved students should not be the extent of the administration's outreach. The university should have a designated employee to gather student input on the direction the institution is headed and a 'on a scale of one to five' survey doesn't count.

The administration needs to know what the student body wants to make any decisions to alter the student experience here. Student input should include conversations with student from all walks of life. We have a diverse student body, but only a select few are chosen to speak with anyone in a position to make any changes. The administration should be asking students why they're at USM, what they want from USM and what they need from USM. No matter what the university is referred to as, whether we call ourselves a urban metropolitan university or a community college, we need to know why students come here and why they stay.

Our Opinion is written and reviewed by the Free Press editorial board.

From the President

USM will meet its challenges

The following letter was emailed to students on Friday afternoon.

Dear USM Student:

USM is in the process of restructuring itself to ensure that it is a strong and capable competitor in the changing higher education environment that is now emerging. That means we will have to change and adapt. We need to be more efficient and student focused, and to reduce our costs to be as affordable as possible, without compromising quality. It's a tall order, but in meeting these challenges USM will have a brighter future.

Earlier this week the University of Maine System Board of Trustees voted to approve the recommendation made last spring to eliminate three programs at USM - American and New England studies, geosciences and arts and humanities at LAC. As you know, USM is facing a \$16 million deficit in the next fiscal year - starting July 1, 2015. There are no easy solutions to deal with this deficit and we regret having to eliminate good programs like the ones above. However, in order to assure that we provide a robust set of ma-

jors we must focus our resources more than we have in the past, and set strategic priorities that maximize the benefits to students.

As with other public higher education institutions across Maine and the country, USM is rethinking how we educate our students in more creative and cost-effective ways and better serve the changing needs of our current, and future, students. We will build on the opportunities that come from being located in Maine's most important economic centers and put our intellectual capital, our facilities and the energy and curiosity of our students, faculty, staff and alumni to work building a stronger community and university.

Over the coming weeks we will be digging into our academic offerings and putting together a plan that will both scale back the number of degrees we offer and deliver our courses and majors more efficiently and conveniently, with the optimal faculty and administrative staff to carry out the vision of becoming Maine's Metropolitan University. As of now, no decisions on program eliminations have been made, beyond

the decision of the Trustees on the three programs mentioned above. I can assure you that transparency and communication are important and we will act fairly, openly, collaboratively and civilly, in the best Maine tradition, as we build a more financially sustainable public university. Furthermore, once decisions about program eliminations are made, we are committed to work with all affected students to ensure a seamless path to graduation from USM.

Maine people depend on USM. As Maine's Metropolitan University, we will be the birthplace for new careers; an incubator for applied research and economic development; a training ground for public service; and the ultimate accessible, affordable source of life-changing college education for you, our current students, and for our future students.

Thank you to all of USM's students, present and future, who will help us lead our university forward.

David Flanagan
President
University of Southern Maine



INVEST IN USM

A weekly forum for USM voices to identify opportunities to join together, think creatively, reorganize our priorities, and help USM and the entire UMaine System prosper and grow stronger to serve all Mainers and their communities.

We all can help USM's future

Lydia Savage
Contributor

What should the University of Southern Maine be? The USM Board of Visitors concluded in 2000, after an extensive survey of the community, that "the University of Southern Maine must become one of the top-ranked public, regional, comprehensive universities in the United States in the quality, breadth and the accessibility of its academic programs. The people of this region and the businesses and institutions that must compete in the knowledge-based, global economy of the 21st century require and deserve nothing less than such an educational resource." (A Southern Maine Imperative [2000]).

The USM envisioned by our own Board of Visitors is "a high quality, first-choice institution" able both to "significantly expand academic programs [that are] needed regionally in science and technology as well as in graduate and professional fields" and to "enhance its broad range of liberal arts and humanities programs [that are] central to a solid undergraduate education and the intellectual needs of the region's learners."

The USM budget situation may since have changed, but the local situation has only improved. The Board of Visitors reiterated in A Southern Maine Imperative II (2009) that Greater Portland is increasingly

attractive to business investors and requires a primary educational institution that will sustain its major role within the Maine economy. How do we ensure that USM becomes that asset?

Investors of all kinds are putting their money into the Greater Portland and Southern Maine region — businesses, hotels, restaurants, performance venues for music and theater — at the same time that USM is being reduced in size and scope. Magazine after magazine has identified Greater Portland as one of the top 10 places to live in the nation, with its robust economy and enviable quality of life.

USM has contributed significantly to this growth. How much more would it contribute if the university was made more accessible and attractive to local students and those students from away, if investments were made in USM, out-of-state and international tuition rates were reduced, more scholarships were offered, and a wide range of academic programs and opportunities were available?

All of us at USM are deeply concerned about the impact that budget cuts will have. While the rest of the University of Maine System faces similar issues, USM will be especially hard hit and is looking at unprecedented cuts that will fundamentally alter the university.

As a state senator recently wrote to me, "The challenge seems to be

transcending the budget imbalances of the present without sacrificing the vision of future possibilities." USM's future "has to be based on a vision of where we want to end up that is both inspiring and financially sustainable."

With so much at stake, we strongly believe that the time is now for our USM community of educators, staff, scholars, alumni and students to join together with business and community leaders, elected officials, innovators, entrepreneurs — a broad range of stakeholders — to discuss and find opportunities for investments in USM.

We are building a coalition — invest in USM. This USM movement already comprises a significant number of community members, alumni, students, staff and faculty from across Southern Maine. We are collaborating on this vital initiative to invest and grow for success, reflecting the energy and momentum of the cities and the communities where USM is located.

We must all invest in USM if it is to grow and thrive and further fuel the engine of economic and societal growth in our region. Investment can mean so many important things aside from financial support — time, energy, ideas, experience, opportunities — so we all have a chance to contribute to Invest in USM.

Lydia Savage is a professor of geography at USM.

the free press

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Conte and Crumpets

Tower of London art exhibition remembers fallen WWI soldiers

Trip to the capital blends modern and medieval

Martin Conte
Free Press Staff

Let's take a walk through London: we start at Buckingham Palace. On one side of a massive square is a fountain, dominated by mermen and white marble. At the other side of the gates, the high fence, and across a cobble yard as barren as an empty parking lot, the little figures of the Queen's Guard stand with their bright red uniforms and admittedly funny hats. The palace itself is massive but surprisingly indistinct: it is rather like a large block, a rock rectangle jutting from the ground. It bears little ornateness, and is unexciting as buildings go. But somewhere inside, a woman who represents the last dying notions of a thousand year hierarchal system sits down to her tea.

Next is the gardens, a similar layout to Central park in Manhattan, spanning proudly the length of the city. Along the way we see the Queen's royal cavalry showing off their well polished silver helmets, and a neatly arranged knoll covered

with lawn chairs, courtesy of the city. From the Park we pop out in the center of governance; on one side, we have the chambers of the Supreme Court, and dominating the far end of our view, Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. We stop with our tour guide under a rather surprising statue (in little more than 30 minutes, we've already seen at least a dozen dark, old metal statues). Abraham Lincoln stands in solitary eminence outside the courts; a reminder, according to our guide, of his staunch belief in the American system of judicial courts.

Now across the street, a moment was spent to try and crane your neck up the side of Big Ben. We've now reached the river Thames, which runs the length of the city, and bordering it, the London Eye: a massive ferris wheel which gives one a truly encompassing view of the whole of the city. From here, we launch our way through various squares, around areas of government, history, art and preservation. In a simple walk down the block,

it's easy to see as many statues as people. History is aggressively a part of every aspect of the city's life. One cannot separate the city of London in the 21st century from the city of London in the 14th. Our tour guide concludes our tour in Piccadilly Square, a sort of mini Times Square completely equipped with street-performing break dancers. He says we have three hours until we're to return to the bus. See you in a bit! It's time to find some bangers and mash before we go exploring!

One of the single most remarkable parts of my time in the city was visiting the Tower of London. While I haven't yet had an opportunity to go inside (I surely will on my next trip), just being outside the building, standing witness to it, was revelation enough. I'm reminded of a discussion in my first Chaucer class, in which our professor asks us what medieval means in our colloquial understanding of the term. As an American, I describe our historical perspective of the period as being almost fantastical; we can look upon the period as almost separate

from our understanding of history, as almost a construct, an invented culture. Yet here, medieval stands side-by-side with the modern. Along the shores of the Thames, we can turn in one direction and look through arrow-slit windows into the interiors of the fortress. Do a 180, and you're looking at skyscrapers built of modern steel and glass.

Another aspect of the tower that entranced me was the current exhibit being constructed. By November, 888,246 red ceramic poppies will be "planted" around the tower's dry moat. Each one of these handmade flowers represents a fallen British or Colonial soldier from WWI. The sheer immensity of the project, which even now is unfinished, is staggering. The flowers, like blood, pour from the fortress' windows and line the walls like a red tide. It's sublimely tragic, as my eye condenses the flowers into one single mass. So too does my remembrance of WWI tend to condense, and not recognize the tragic losses as individuals. The flowers insist that, now closing in on the 100th anniversary of the

great war, we maintain a dignified respect for the fallen. Just as modern warfare launched a new dehumanizing force in the act of war, so too can our digital age create new acts of remembrance and memorial that will survive for centuries.

Let's hop back on the bus, compare our afternoons and slyly slip our shoes off in our seats. Let's look back to our own shores, to the United States, a country younger than many of the gravestones in the neighboring cemetery. Let's remember our own wars, and perhaps, after looking at the relics of an empire a millennial older than our own, we might consider how many fallen we already are forced to memorialize. As England remembers its 888,246 fallen soldiers from a war haunting us from the past, let us hope that our own nation does not have to sacrifice so many to potential wars in our future.

Martin Conte is a senior English major currently studying abroad at the University of Winchester and loving it.



Martin Conte / Free Press Staff

A field of fake red poppies spread out across the Tower of London symbolize all the British casualties in WWI in an exhibit called "Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red." Over 800,000 Brits died in the international conflict.

Corrections:

On page 10, the photos were attributed to Bruce Raymond when they were taken by Baylie Szymanski.

On page 15, a photo was attributed to Bruce Raymond when it was taken by Sam Hill.

On page 9, the graphics weren't attributed to Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky

On page 7, the graphics weren't attributed to Ellen Spahn.

like what you see?

hate what you see?



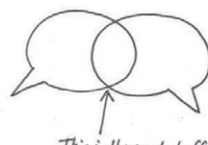

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TUESDAY
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Refreshments & Networking

» **8:00am-10:00am**
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Crossword

- Across
1. Front yard
5. Parasitic type
10. In ____: in trouble
14. "Syncratic" prefix
15. Perspective
16. Honor with a roast, say
17. London Underground warning equivalent to 'Watch your step'
19. Russian emperor
20. How to sing, ideally
21. Furtively
23. Chimps and orangutans
26. What cable TV renders unnecessary
27. Special occasion
32. Alpine stream
33. Japanese beer named for a city
34. "Ally McBeal" actress Portia de ____
38. Little demon
40. TV host Stewart
42. Tass country: Abbr.
43. Inner
45. Lagoon enclosure
47. ____-la-la
48. Lion, by tradition
51. British essayist Sir Richard
54. Don't pass
55. One feuding with the McCoy's
58. Twisting the truth
62. For grades 1 to 12
63. One way to ride a horse
66. Distance above sea level: Abbr.
67. "A Tale ____ Cities"
68. L.A. Angel, e.g.
69. Ernie or Gomer
70. Hard- ____ (tough)
71. Grist for the operagoer

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20								21			22			
			23		24	25			26					
27	28	29						30	31					
32				33						34		35	36	37
38			39		40				41		42			
43				44		45				46		47		
			48		49						50			
51	52	53						54						
55						56	57			58		59	60	61
62					63			64	65					
66					67						68			
69					70						71			

Down

1. Prom transport
2. Score immediately before holding serve, perhaps
3. Flirt with an eye
4. "I won't agree to that!"
5. " ____-di-dahl!"
6. Reverse of WSW
7. Top-selling frozen waffle brand
8. Scotsman's family
9. Group of seven
10. Polite words at an entrance
11. Country singer Colter
12. Novel by Chateaubriand
13. Strep of "Out of Africa"
18. Universal donor's blood designation

22. Consider officially, as a judge
24. Old comic strip character Kett
25. W.W. II prison camp
27. "Sticks and Bones" playwright
28. Make in income
29. Mild expletive.
30. Clio relative
31. Abscond (with)
35. Fleet fleet members of old
36. Army drill instructor, often: Abbr.
37. Gershwin and others
39. Directive
41. Actress Jessica of "Dark Angel"

44. Leslie Caron movie
46. Actress Arcieri of "A Perfect Fit"
49. Liam of "Schindler's List"
50. Affirmed's 1978 Triple Crown archival
51. What Bo Peep lost
52. Agree
53. Miss Barrymore
56. Accounting principle, for short
57. Banned insecticides
59. Run in neutral
60. RFK Stadium player, e.g.
61. Former Spice Girl Halliwell
64. Cote dweller
65. Little League field surface, probably

Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 x 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 x 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

			8			5		4
	5			1		2	3	
	1		5					8
4	6		3					
				9				
					4		8	7
2					1		6	
	4	3		5			2	
6		7			2			

	7	1		4		3		
2		3	5				1	9
					3		2	
				7	2	9		
		6	8	5				
	1		4					
3	9				8	5		4
		5		2		1	6	

Cryptogram

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

QTLI D TJIV RKJBZIX
WZ NB BZHIM XZIX
JIV VJHMTWLKX, DW
KLJOOB NJSLX NB SDI
XRKJQO.

And here is your hint:

R = C

The solution to last issue's crossword

A	L	T	S		A	T	P	A	R		T	A	M	P
S	E	R	T		B	R	O	M	O		U	B	E	R
S	H	E	E	T		M	U	S	I	C		R	A	Y
N	I	T	R	E		T	R	O	U	N	C	E	S	
					E	E	O	C		C	L	E	A	R
O	N	G			G	O	L	D	E	N		P	O	N
L	E	O			S	E	L	E	S		A	T	H	O
E	X	A	M		D	I	V	A	S		O	O	L	A
A	T	L	A		N	I	L	L	A		S	E	W	
			J	A	M	E	S	M	A	D	I	S	O	N
S	P	E	E	D	O			S	M	U	G			
O	U	T	S		I	D	E	S		S	U	G	A	R
S	L	A	T		R	E	P	E	N	T	A	N	C	E
A	S	T	I		E	N	E	R	O		N	U	T	S
D	E	S	C		D	Y	E	R	S		A	S	E	T



Weekly Horoscope

- ★★★★★ great
★★★★ good
★★★ average
★★ alright
★ difficult



Aries
March 21-April 19

★★★★★

Fantasy land images prevail in play today. Give yourself permission to "space out" a bit and enjoy the show!



Libra
September 23-October 22

★★★

You flit from one thing to another today. Many options for leisure tug at you. You can't do everything; choose your favorites.



Taurus
April 20-May 20

★★★★★

Your imagination is a source of power today. Pay attention to your impressions and intuition; your actions will be wiser.



Scorpio
October 23-November 21

★★★★★

Beauty moves your sou—in your appearance, attending galleries or museums, creating beautiful things, or listening to music.



Gemini
May 21-June 20

★★

Chores are the first order of business today. Getting things done is important, and clears the decks for fun later.



Sagittarius
November 22-December 21

★★★

Accomplishments are accented. A clear focus on your goals aids your achievements.



Cancer
June 21-July 22

★★★

Objectivity seems less important today than emotional warmth. Feelings win over logic. You communicate with great intensity.



Capricorn
December 22-January 19

★★★

Two by two is the theme for today. Share your time with someone close. Pleasures are doubled by the company you keep.



Leo
July 23-August 22

★★★★★

Communication is a major leisure activity today, be it at a social gathering or a coffee klatch. Light and casual, you may laugh a lot.



Aquarius
January 20-February 18

★★

Work demands compete with relationship needs; keep room for both. Spend time with people who support your drive for success.



Virgo
August 23-September 22

★★

Your attention will be pulled in many directions by life's demands. Remember that you cannot do everything.



Pisces
February 19-March 20

★★★★★

Make plans with a partner and organize for a private getaway later. Today you can be practical and thorough in preparation.

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Sports Spotlight:

Mules out-kick USM for 3-0 win

David Sanok
Free Press Staff

The USM women’s soccer team fell 3-0 to the Colby College Mules, dropping their record to 2-6-1 while the Mules earned their first win of the season, improving their record to 1-2-1.

The first score of the game came 26 minutes into the first half when Mules’ senior Maddie Tight (San Rafael, CA) scored to put the Mules up 1-0. Meanwhile on the defensive side, the Mules limited the Huskies to only five shots on goal with Mules’ goalie senior Emily Brook only having to make two saves the entire game.

Starting at goalie for the Huskies was junior Marissa Temple (Grafton, MA), who, despite allowing three goals, finished the game with 12 saves. Head Coach Lisa Petrucci however, attributed those goals to the lack of offensive production than Temple’s performance.

“Our biggest problem was our offense’s inability to possess the ball,” said Petrucci after the game. “Temple did a great job keeping the Mules out of the net and giving our team a chance to win. The problem was that for most of the game, Colby’s offense was on our side of the field neutralizing our defense. We need to do a better job at possessing the ball offensively in order take pressure off Temple and score goals.”

The closest the Huskies would come



Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff

Junior goalie Marissa Temple dives to save a kick-on-goal from a Colby opponent.

to scoring came 10 minutes 39 seconds into the second half when senior Mariah Cropley (Topsham, ME) got off a shot from 20 yards out. At first it looked as if the Huskies would finally get on the scoreboard, but Cropley’s shot sailed too high and hit the crossbar. “Unfortunately the ball doesn’t always bounce your way no matter how good you aim is,” Petrucci said of the near-goal. “But if we are able to get off more shots on goal, the better chance we’ll have of scoring.”

The Huskies would not get another chance as good as that as seniors Cami

Natora (Bethesda, MD) and Amanda Findlay (Manchester, ME) each added a goal in the second half to close out a 3-0 win for Colby. Despite the loss, Petrucci expressed optimism of a turnaround.

“We’ve still got the rest of September and October to turn our season in the right direction,” she said. “All we need to do is find an offensive rhythm and we’ll be back on track.”

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@USMFreePress



Campus Events

- Monday, September 29
- USM Mindfulness Meditation Group
Multipurpose Room, Sullivan
Fitness Complex, Portland
4:00 p.m.
- Graduate Studies Open House
Hannaford Hall, Portland
6:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 30
- Lavender Lunch on Bisexuality, Pansexuality
and other Nonmonosexualities
Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity,
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Southern Maine Open Mic Night
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 1
- Dinosaurs at Dusk!
Southworth Planetarium, Portland
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Minute to Win it
Brooks Student Center, Gorham
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 2
- GEB presents: Create-A-Critter
Brooks Student Center, Gorham
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 3
- LIFT360 Conference - “Together:
Leading Positive Change”
Abromson Center, Portland
9:00 a.m.
- First Friday Art Walk Bus
Bailey Hall, Gorham
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Eight Planets Omni Dome Show
Southworth Planetarium, Portland
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 4
- Generation Climate Convergence
Luther Bonney Hall: Talbot Auditorium
& Breakout Classrooms, Portland
12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Eight Planets Omni Dome Show
Southworth Planetarium, Portland
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Family and Friends Weekend: Harvest Festival
Brooks Student Center, Gorham
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- For more events:
www.usm.maine.edu/events



Featured Photo:



Bruce Raymond / Multimedia Editor

USM’s Confucius Institute celebrated its one year anniversary last Friday, as well as the international tenth anniversary. Activities included Chinese speaking classes, calligraphy lessons, dragon dancing and a serving of authentic Chinese cuisine and tea.

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