



## The Loss of Liberal Arts

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## Maine's first shadow play



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# the free press

University of Southern Maine Student Newspaper

Vol. 46,  
Issue No. 20  
April. 13, 2015

[usmfreepress.org](http://usmfreepress.org)

## Rebecca Tanous wins elections



Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

Current student body vice president Rebecca Tanous will move on to lead the presidency next fall.

**For details on the rest of the election, see our story on page 3.**

## Million dollars spent on ads

**Francis Flisiuk**  
Managing Editor

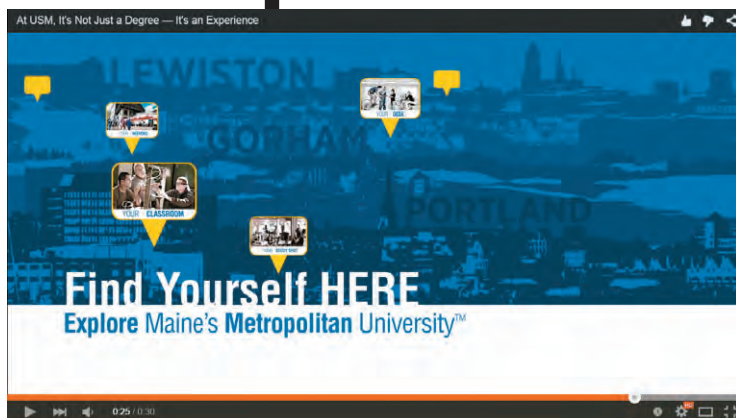
A one million dollar ad campaign was launched in February encouraging prospective students to “find themselves at USM,” but the effectiveness it’s had on boosting enrollment is unclear at this time.

Two weeks ago the Portland Press Herald reported that despite the numerous television and radio ads, undergraduate applications are down ten percent from last year and new enrollment for 2015 is down 41 percent. So far the admissions office has seen 3,809 applications compared to 4,249 from last year. But according to Christopher Quint, it’s too early for a final headcount for the fall and the 41 percent decline in enrollment reported by the Press Herald, is completely irrelevant.

“It’s not even close to being true,” said Quint. “There was no context, it was a snapshot in time, when there’s so much upward trajectory happening at USM.”

USM has seen a 13 percent drop in enrollment since fall 2010. Enrollment for last fall was down 5.5 percent with 8,428 students.

Last month at a board of trustees meeting, president David Flanagan



Screenshot from a USM advertisement on Youtube

said that in reality he expects enrollment to be down despite new advertising and scholarship money.

But according to Quint some of the positive momentum he’s seen includes increased traffic on USM’s website and more applications coming in from transfer and undergraduate students.

“People are clicking on our ads and inquiring about our programs,” said Quint. “We’re seeing upticks in applications across the board. It hasn’t fixed everything, but the ad campaign is having a positive impact.”

Quint said that the one million dollars used to pay for the ads came from savings in the budget that were a result of last fall’s faculty and staff retrenchments.

“We generated savings from having staff and some faculty, off the books if you will,” said Quint. “We were able to use those savings and put it towards something positive; getting more students here, so we don’t have to do this again. If you lay off someone, and don’t fill that position, that money is still in your budget. You can use it for something else. We made the decision to turn our enrollment around.”

In a comment written on social media, Susan Feiner a professor of economics and women and gender studies, criticized the money spent on the ad campaign and wrote that the savings won’t kick in until next

See ADS on page 5

## Eliot Cutler to lead new business school



Gabor Degre / BDN

Former gubernatorial candidate Eliot Cutler (left) and University of Maine System Chancellor James Page.

**Krysteana Scribner**  
News Editor

Former gubernatorial candidate Eliot Cutler was recently appointed by the University of Maine System to develop the blueprints and take the reigns of leadership in the establishment of a new graduate business and law school in Portland.

The center will be located in Portland and is planned to combine the graduate business programs at the University of Maine in Orono and USM with the University of Maine School of Law to better develop programs for students in the community.

Cutler, who ran for governor in Maine as an independent candidate in 2014, explained that the investment for this project is funded through the Harold Alfond Foundation. According to Dan Demeritt, the UMaine system director of public affairs, the program has given an estimated \$1.75 million toward the initiative.

“This new graduate school is about finding ways to leverage the programs we have at USM and UMaine through collaboration,” said Demeritt. “This is an exciting example of the type of investment we can draw to the university when we have innovative ideas in plan for our future.”

Cutler explained that because there is no model or plan that has already been put in place, he is the one who will have to develop a plan with the dean and the president over the course of the next year and a half. Assuming the board of trustees approve his plans, he explained that the program will become a collaborative project to

give students the chance to obtain more skills for today’s job market.

With courses set to start in the fall, Cutler said that this will give students the opportunity to try things out and give him the opportunity to see how the program initiative works out. He believes that what will measure the school’s success will be the number of student participants.

When asked about whether or not the decision to begin a financially dependant project in a time when USM has been faced with financial crisis, Cutler said the effort being made to develop this new approach for graduate education is entirely funded, and therefore no money is being taken out of the system. He also explained that USM is simply going through a turnaround that requires big changes to occur.

“I’ve done a lot of turnarounds before. You need to remember that at the same time you’re eliminating costs that you can no longer afford to occur, you also need to make investments in the future,” said Cutler. “You are trying to build something better that is more responsive to what the market wants.”

James Suleiman, an associate professor of management information systems said that all of this can become a reality if as a community we can work together to seek out funding for this effort and build a top notch program to accomplish it.

“If it’s adequately funded I think this graduate school will be a success,” said Suleiman. “There are a lot of different measurements of whether or not it will fully succeed, such as whether or not it will get adequate enrollment.”

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# Study ranks Maine schools by affordability

Sam Hill  
Editor-in-Chief

A recent study by financial data and technology company, SmartAsset, explored which Maine colleges provide students with the best deal financially and USM was ranked fourth.

USM finished below Colby College, UMO and Husson University, and just above the University of New England. SmartAsset considered five factors in their study: tuition, student living costs, average scholarships and grant offerings, retention rate and starting salaries of graduates.

According to the study, USM generally provides \$5,337 in scholarships or grants to cover its \$7,776 tuition and that the average starting salary of a graduate is \$41,500 annually.

“With rising college costs and reliance on student loans, many people wonder if higher education is still worth it,” wrote AJ Smith, vice president of content strategy and managing editor at SmartAsset, in an email to the Free Press. “We wanted to look at a more complete picture of the costs (not just the sticker price) and also consider what graduates get in return. We’re looking at the bang students get for their buck in our study on the best value schools.”

Smith said the company only took financial data into account when researching the universities, so qualitative data such as the quality of education, campus living or classroom environment was not a factor.

| MAINE UNIVERSITY RANKINGS |  |                                       |  | WHERE YOU CAN GET A GOOD EDUCATION FOR A GOOD PRICE |  |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1                         | COLBY COLLEGE<br>WATERVILLE, ME            |                                       |  | 2   | UNIVERSITY OF MAINE<br>ORONO, ME             |
| COLLEGE TUITION           |  | COLLEGE EDUCATION AFFORDABILITY INDEX |  | COLLEGE TUITION                                     |  |
| \$44,320                  |  | 70.57                                 |  | \$10,594  |  |
| STUDENT LIVING COSTS      |  | AVERAGE GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS         |  | \$12,848  |  |
| \$14,348                  |  | \$34,071                              |  | \$7,632   |  |
| STUDENT RETENTION RATE    |  | AVERAGE STARTING SALARY               |  | STUDENT RETENTION RATE                              |  |
| 93%                       |  | \$49,000                              |  | 81%   |  |
|                           |  |                                       |  | \$41,400  |  |
| 3                         | HUSSON UNIVERSITY<br>BANGOR, ME            |                                       |  | 4   | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE<br>PORTLAND, ME |
| COLLEGE TUITION           |  | COLLEGE EDUCATION AFFORDABILITY INDEX |  | COLLEGE TUITION                                     |  |
| \$14,540                  |  | 59.54                                 |  | \$7,776   |  |
| STUDENT LIVING COSTS      |  | AVERAGE GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS         |  | \$15,140  |  |
| \$13,450                  |  | \$15,472                              |  | \$5,337   |  |
| STUDENT RETENTION RATE    |  | AVERAGE STARTING SALARY               |  | STUDENT RETENTION RATE                              |  |
| 72%                       |  | \$40,700                              |  | 67%   |  |
|                           |  |                                       |  | \$41,500  |  |
| 5                         | UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND<br>BIDDEFORD, ME |                                       |  | 6   | UNIVERSITY OF MAINE - AUGUSTA<br>AUGUSTA, ME |
| COLLEGE TUITION           |  | COLLEGE EDUCATION AFFORDABILITY INDEX |  | COLLEGE TUITION                                     |  |
| \$31,870                  |  | 40.67                                 |  | \$7,448   |  |
| STUDENT LIVING COSTS      |  | AVERAGE GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS         |  | \$9,972   |  |
| \$14,750                  |  | \$16,994                              |  | \$4,876   |  |
| STUDENT RETENTION RATE    |  | AVERAGE STARTING SALARY               |  | STUDENT RETENTION RATE                              |  |
| 74%                       |  | \$45,600                              |  | 53%   |  |
|                           |  |                                       |  | \$32,900  |  |

Data from SmartAsset Study

“It’s important to get a full picture of what a particular university will cost to attend. This includes tuition, room and board, books, transportation and other personal expenses,” wrote Smith. “But some schools also have more

generous aid in the form of scholarships and grants, so it’s also a good idea to factor that into your decision.”

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Hannah Lyon / Design Assistant

# Student advocacy program launches



Troy Bennett / BDN Staff Writer

File photo of the statehouse in Augusta.

Sam Hill  
Editor-In-Chief

Toward the end of March, students from six of the UMaine system’s seven universities took a trip to Augusta to spend a day at the statehouse.

The visit was the pilot event for a new pilot program being developed at the system level. The goal of the program is to bring student advocates from all UMS campuses together in Augusta to meet government officials, sit in on meetings and talk about issues that college students in the state are facing.

“I think students have been asking for this kind of opportunity for a long time,” said Laura Cyr, a postgraduate fellow in finance and administration, in an interview last month. “Students have been looking to learn about the decision making process, not only at their university but in their state government as well.”

This time around, the hot topic issue is how Governor Paul LePage’s proposed state budget affects Maine’s public universities.

According to a summary of LePage’s 2016-2017 budget, his plan includes a 3.64 percent increase — roughly \$14.2 million — for the University of Maine system.

“I think this year, we’re handed an issue on a plate,” said Cyr, “but we’re excited that, in future years, students will be able to bring their own issues to the table.”

Four students attended the trip on March 24, along with students from other campuses. The University of Maine at Machias was the only school that did not send representatives.

Overall, student attendees said the day was a success.

“We’re here to really get an idea of what happens at the statehouse, to be student advocates for the UMS system and to really get our bearings in Augusta,” said Rachel Cormier, a non-traditional student who served on the Metropolitan University Steering Group earlier this year.

Cormier says that spending a day watching legislators work and getting a chance to speak with some of them erased the ‘intimidation factor’ some students might face when it comes to state politics.

“They were very communicative with us on levels that I didn’t expect,” said Cormier. “We have

to remember that they’re just people and that we shouldn’t be afraid of reaching out to them.”

John Jackson, a student senator double majoring in political science and business administration, enjoyed his experience as well. Jackson said his interest in the program sparked because of the cuts to faculty and staff that occurred last fall.

“Getting a chance to meet legislators is important in getting this budget passed,” he said.

Jackson said he has hoped to have more of an opportunity to speak with legislators, specifically those who might be on the fence with their vote on the budget.

“They’re going to be very busy on those days when they’re in sessions, so I know it’s difficult,” he said.

Jackson said he feels the state contribution to UMS funding is on the low-side and that it needs to be changed in order for the university to succeed financially.

“Hearing student voices is very important. Having students show up, especially from all campuses, is worth a lot more than an administrator or faculty member speaking out,” said Jackson.

“I don’t think students need to necessarily join the program with an agenda,” said Cormier, who didn’t mention any specific issues she was looking to address during her trip. “I think it’s better to just speak and get to know your local legislators.”

Cormier says that if students realize they have access to their government officials and learn to speak with them, it will be easier for them to recognize student voices.

“I feel like it’s easy for anyone who doesn’t have regular contact with students to assume we’re all just spoiled, young teens, but that isn’t true,” said Cormier. “A lot of people at USM are a little older and should reach out to legislators to say, I can be a resource, what do you need from me?”

Both Cormier and Jackson aspire to become legislators at some capacity in their future.

“I think this program is only going to open more doors for students,” said Cormier. “I hope that more students are able to go next year.”

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# SGA elections turnout lower than last year

Zachary Searles  
Free Press Staff

Late Monday afternoon, the re-sults from this years student gov-ernment elections were sent out by email, naming Rebecca Tanous for student body president and Mat-thew Creisher as vice president, winning by a margin of just 26 votes.

now I'm a USM student so I'm re-ally passionate about what is hap-pening." According to Tanous her first order of business is to train other student leaders.

"First and foremost, we have these student leaders who are here to serve us and we need to use them more," said Tanous.

According to the pamphlets laid out last week on the tables in

**"I'm really passionate about actually seeing changes and actually seeing action happen."**

Rebecca Tanouse, student body president

The newly elected Tanous ex-pressed how excited and eager she was to get started.

"I'm really passionate about ac-tually seeing changes and actually seeing action happen," she said.

Tanous has been involved with student government for two and a half years and is currently serving as vice president until she is sworn in as president later this month.

"This is where I can have the most impact," said Tanous. "It's kind of just been a natural progres-sion and this was my next step."

Despite her leadership position at the SGA, Tanous said that she has no interest in pursuing politics after her college career.

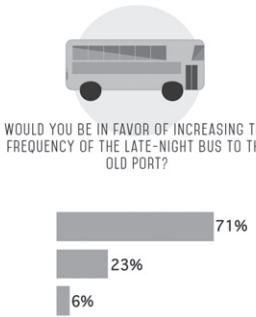
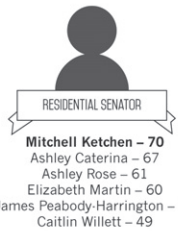
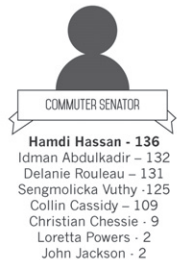
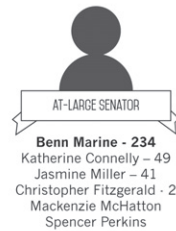
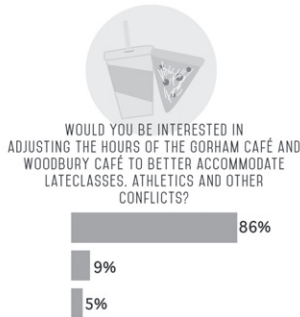
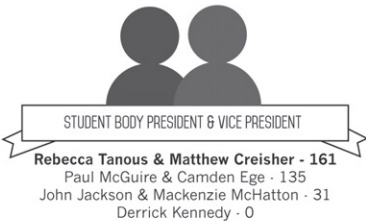
"I'm not a politician," said Ta-nous. "I'm really passionate about what I am involved in and right

the Brooks Center on the Gorham campus,Tanous wants to accom-plish a lot. Tanous wants to look at the legislative side of the UMaine system and see what is most nega-tively affecting USM's fiscal situa-tion.

"We just had big cuts, we had a lot of student activism last year but that's really tapered off," said Tanous. "However, that doesn't mean that we don't still have the issue that UMO is getting around 50 percent of the funding equation and we're only getting 20 percent. That still makes no sense in my mind."

While Tanous believes that sys-tem level decisions played a key role in bringing USM's budget to the state that it's in, she also ex-pressed that this was just part of the problem. The other negative factor is that system administrators might

## STUDENT ELECTIONS & REFERENDUM QUESTIONS RESULTS



Abigail Ruscansky / Design Assistant

be siphoning too much money.

"There's this other percent that is taken off the top and goes to people in offices that are working for our students but are already getting paid from other funds, so why are they taking some of our tuition dol-lars?" asked Tanous.

Tanous said she doesn't agree with that mentality and thinks that it's not indicative of an institution that put students first.

Tanous expressed that she would be very interested to see an audit to find out just how much is being taken out by the UMaine system.

"I think that is almost a bigger is-sue than the funding equation," said Tanous.

In this year's election there was a grand total of 345 ballots casted out

of almost seven thousand students, so less than 5% of the student body participated in this year's election. The voting numbers were even down from last year, when 452 stu-dents casted ballots.

Both Tanous and the director of student & university life Jason Saucier expressed their concern with how low voter turnout has been. "One of the biggest challeng-es is getting on student's radar," said Saucier.

There were some new strategies implemented this year to try and encourage students to get online and cast their vote. Email alerts were sent to all students, reminding them when the polls opened. A key factor in fostering student involve-ment was changing the day of the

candidate debate from a Friday, when the Woodbury Campus cen-ter is virtually empty, to a Monday when it would be more busy. An increase in foot traffic and more convenient timing resulted in the candidates being exposed to more people.

"This year the voting process was not up to par," said Tanous. "We had less people working on elections than usual, so we were re-ally stretched thin."

Tanous expressed desire not only to boost the voting numbers but to get students more interested and knowledgeable with all student government activities, projects and elections.

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# The loss of liberal arts education

## USM professors discuss ‘a blow to student success’

Brian Gordon  
Free Press Staff

On Wednesday night, the Criminology Student Association hosted a panel of five professors who gave a talk titled “Deforming the System: The Loss of Liberal Arts as a Blow to Student Success.” About 40 students attended along with a few faculty members. The professors laid out their vision of a potential future where education becomes a commodity that only the middle and upper class students can afford, thus leaving most USM students with a deformed education.

The first person to speak was professor James Messerschmidt, chair of criminology, who said the tide has turned for public funding, “It’s a user-pay system, [students] are now expected to pay the lion’s share of tuition. There’s been a dramatic shift in the funding of public universities like USM.”

“Public universities are now defined, I believe, as a business. Education is understood as a product and students are increasingly recognized simply as customers,” he said.

In 1986 students paid 35 percent of the total tuition. The state paid 62 percent and 3 percent came from “other revenue”. Today, it’s the exact opposite: Students are expected to pay 59 percent of the total tuition cost, state appropriations represent 35 percent and “other revenue” make up the last 6 percent.

“The legislators view USM not as a necessary social service for the common good but as a discretionary for optional investment,” Messerschmidt said. “If we are a business, then we simply can’t compete.”

Ronald Schmidt, professor of political science said, “The state has made a choice about what higher education is, it’s a private choice. You can choose to buy it or not to buy it. I don’t agree with it, but that’s the decision they’ve made.”

According to Messerschmidt, retrenchments like the ones last year at USM, which saw 51 faculty, five academic programs and 100 staff expunged from the university, aren’t happening at private colleges. Retrenchments also often don’t happen outside liberal arts departments.

“Given that the vast majority of students at USM are working class, while their peers attending private colleges are middle and upper class, what we have happening is an aggravation or worsening of social class inequality of higher education,” said Messerschmidt.

Among the attendees of the lecture speaking on the importance of liberal art degrees was Katie Grenier, a sophomore criminology major who likes USM but is uncertain of its future. She’s looking to transfer out of state because she doesn’t know if her program will be around much longer.

“I’m kind of nervous about the future of the criminology program at USM so I don’t really have a whole lot of choice but to transfer in the fall,” said Grenier, a Winslow native.

USM’s criminology program is the only one north of Massachusetts.

Grenier is attempting to transfer to George Mason University in Virginia. It will be more expensive, but for Grenier, it’s worth it.

The criminology department has been halved from a peak of six full time professors ten years ago to three today. Students have struggled to find enough classes to work towards their major.

Grenier is taking a research methods class online with “a random professor from California,” and said she’s missing out big time on the classic classroom experience.

Jillian Harrington, a senior criminology major felt relieved she was graduating in May, as she was able to finish her degree largely without being affected by the cuts. However, Harrington still expressed curiosity concerning the value of her degree, in a market of employers that have read the bad press surrounding USM.

“I wonder what my degree is going to mean in the next ten years,” said Harrington. “If I’m going to a job interview, I wonder whether I’ll get it over someone who was at a private school.”

English professor Lorraine Carroll chided students to read the university’s constitution and get involved.

“The conversation has to be informed, not deformed,” said Carroll.

Her long-winded and passionate diatribe complaining of “transient administrators that haven’t been here long enough to make informed decisions,” was aimed largely at a man sitting three seats to her left, president David Flanagan.

Flanagan interrupted the presentation, coming in ten minutes late, and asked if he could take a place on the panel as defender of the recent cuts to liberal arts at USM.

“I am transient, I’m only here for a year but I am familiar with the issues of USM,” said Flanagan.

Flanagan served for 10 years on the board of trustees, two of which he held the title of chairman.

“We do have a problem in this country of not supporting universities enough, and that’s not a successful society,” Flanagan said. “Colby, Bates and Bowdoin, the elite, continue to be very high quality but for everyone else the quality is at risk of moving to a lower level. I think that’s a legitimate concern.”

“I think more money in public higher education should be a higher priority for our society,” said Flanagan.



Francis Flisiuk / Managing Editor

Faculty members from departments that offer liberal arts degrees spoke on a panel last week to discuss the decline of liberal arts programs and the affect on students.

Flanagan then outlined his vision of how a metropolitan university looks, operates and functions through partnerships with people and businesses in the community. Flanagan said he doesn’t think we should just stick out our hands and ask for money, but instead show the legislature real results.

A student who’s already putting his forthcoming bachelor’s degree to work is political science major, Joshua Dodge. For the past semester he’s been working in Manhattan for the State Department as a liaison to the United Nations. According to Dodge, he helps diplomats live in NYC by, for example, taking care of their parking tickets or getting them safely from the airport.

Dodge credits USM hugely for his success and Professor Francis

Vassallo of the political science department for getting him into this internship.

Dodge doesn’t think USM is ‘under attack’ but does wonder about the value of his degree.

“I would be lying if I said that I never worried about my program being on the chopping block. We all have,” said Dodge. “It’s no longer guaranteed anymore that we will have a job when we graduate from college, especially one in our chosen field of study.”

Kathy Bouchard, a senior criminology major is just glad to be graduating this May before nothing is left of her program. Both Bouchard and Harrington plan to return to their native Massachusetts to look for work and attend graduate school.

Bouchard thought the cuts were unfounded and said, “Is that the

goal of USM to make this an efficient education? If you cut liberal arts you cut programs that cause us to think.”

Professor of criminology Dušan I. Bjelić who’s been at USM for 25 years and is a native of Serbia thought it was ridiculous that he went to university for free in a “much, much, much poorer country,” while in America we get burdened with debt for our education.

“I don’t understand how we have so much wealth [in America] and productivity yet so little money to share,” said Bjelić. “I just don’t buy it.”

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From ADS on page 1

year because the faculty that were fired are still paid their salary for 18 months.

However Quint explained that the severance pay is a cost being borne by the UMaine system.

Both Quint and the new president Harvey Kesselman said that boosting enrollment is the key to USM’s success.

“It’s our number one priority right now,” said Quint. “If we don’t boost enrollment, we’re going to continue to see a slide.”

The recent campaign ran advertisements on television, radio, Hulu and various websites promoting new scholarship money and USM’s new metropolitan vision. The ads themselves did not have any live action shots of people or footage from campuses, but instead featured blue and gold typography with a voiceover saying that USM is a “game changer.”

“Whenever I hear, ‘there’s never been a time like now to attend USM,’ in the ads I laugh because that is so true, but not in a good way,” said Annie Stevens, 2013 USM graduate, now Maine Law student. “There has never been a time when USM was doing so terrible and no one wanted to be there.”

Kate Ginn, a political science alumnus said that she lives 10 min-

utes away from USM, but will be attending another school for her master’s degree because she’s lost confidence in USM.

“I feel confident that the university I’ll be attending intends to preserve its academic programs and continue to grow as needed,” said Ginn. “Maybe the new ads will attract students and parents who don’t realize what has changed.”

Criticism swirls around on social media, with local Portlanders who have been following the situation at USM closely like Cecile Thornton posing the question: “how can you expect students to come to your institution when they’ve seen the rug pulled out from under so many enrollees.” The general opinion of critics, like Nancy Young a graduate at the University of Maine at Farmington, is that high school students will be leery to apply to USM because they can’t be sure that their major will survive the time it takes for them to graduate.

Some community members such as Portlander and Rutgers graduate Mark Usinger are more lenient and said that even Rome wasn’t built in a day and to cut the new guy some slack.

Martin Conte, a senior English major, said that it’s a fallacy to tell people to not go to USM if you care about the school’s future.

“Boosting enrollment won’t solve our severe issues with mis-

management but they will help with heaps of other things, and there’s no reason to oppose these attempts to do so,” said Conte.

For now, USM’s administration under Kesselman remains as optimistic as ever and is, will be and has been focusing on boosting enrollment in other ways besides targeted advertising.

“The ad campaign is done, but we’re not done,” said Quint. “We’ve been aggressively recruiting and placing phone calls to prospective students encouraging them to enroll.”

Last Friday, Kesselman drove nine hours from New Jersey to welcome 357 students and their families at Gorham’s accepted student day, and ultimately inspire them to take the final step toward enrolling. Kesselman said that he wants to be as visible as possible during his time as USM’s president.

“I think that many of the moves that we are making are helping to generate more excitement about our university; it plays a role in people choosing to come here,” said Kesselman. “Our university has experienced some difficulties, but now it’s rejuvenating and it’s incredibly satisfying to be a part of that process.”

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@FrancisFlisiuk

Free Press News

Free Press wins national award

In March, seven Free Press staff members attended the College Media Association in New York City and took home an apple award for best print advertisement design.

The Free Press attends this convention every year to learn more about the media industry, learning

from high-profile media professionals and other student media organizations from around the country.

New editor-in-chief named for Fall ‘15

Last month, the Free Press executive board and the Student Communications Board approved a motion to make Krysteana

Scribner, the paper’s current news editor, the editor-in-chief for the ‘15-’16 school year.

Scribner is a junior English major and has been with the Free Press for two semesters.

Dora Thompson, a sophomore communications major, will be taking over Scribner’s position in the arts section. Thompson has worked for the Free Press for two semesters as well.

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Police Beat

Selections from the USM  
Department of Public  
Safety police log March 6  
to March 15

Monday, March 16

Liar. Liar Pants on Fire

7:52 a.m. - Fire alarm activation by contractors working in the building.  
Central Heat Plant Unit - 25 Durham St.

Tuesday, March 17

Reefer Madness

2:55 a.m. - Marijuana Odor / Viola Summons Issued.  
Summons for a useable amount of Marijuana issued  
To Shanidin V. Shay, 21 of Gorham  
G12 Parking Lot, 19 Campus Ave.

Wednesday, March 18

How Did You Pass Drivers Ed?

1:47 a.m. - Warning for wrong way on a one way issued to operator.  
G8 Parking Lot - 24 University Way

Taste Of Your Own Medicine

8:05 p.m. - Initiated - Parking Enforcement Vehicle Towed  
G2B Parking Lot, 25 Husky Dr.

Winter Night Shower Fight

8:49 p.m. - SUMMONS for Assault issued to Hannah E. Wardwell, 19 of Gorham. Also issued paperwork to same subject.  
GC3 Anderson Hall - 40 Campus Ave.

Thursday, March 19

Look At Me Mom, I Can Multi-task

1:43 a.m. - Warning to operator for texting while driving.  
University Way

Friday, March 20

We(ed) Didn't Know It Was Wrong

12:19 a.m. - Summons issued to Nicholas Emmons 18, of Gorham for Possession of Marijuna  
G11 Parking Lot - 52 University Way

But Officer, This Isn't A Bong It's an Inhaler

12:40 a.m. - Summons issued to Travis J. King, 20 of Gorham for Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia, summons to Emma M. Anderson, 18 of Gorham for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and summons issued to Alexander C. Caponigro for Possession of a useable amount of Marijuana  
Robie Andrews Hall - 29 University Way

At Least I Didn't Fail A Test

11:00 a.m. - Carly M. Festervan arrested on Failure to Appear Warrant.  
Robie Andrews Hall - 39 University Way

Friday, March 20

I'm Lost But Now I Am Found

11:00 a.m. - Jai S. Allen, 38 of Portland arrested for Criminal Trespass. Suspects handled by Officers.  
Glickman Library - 314 Forest Ave.

Double Trouble

5:38 p.m. - Summons for Insurance Violation and warning for stop sign violation issued to Julia B. Finkle, 23 of Porter, ME.  
Falmouth St.

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at [usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log](http://usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log).



# Arts & Culture

## USM puts on Maine's first shadow play

Dora Thompson  
Arts & Culture Editor

Starting on the April 17, Shakespeare is making a visit to USM's main stage in his sharp-witted stage comedy, *As You Like It*. The show will feature all the hallmarks of The Bard, with its traditional costumes, period music and gender confusion. Thanks to director Assunta Kent, this play will be Shakespeare like you've never seen him before. Every performance will have American sign language interpreters accompanying the actors, making this the first shadow play to ever be performed in Maine.

Kent has had this idea in her head since 1985, when she did a version of *Romeo and Juliet* with some interpreters. Now that the ASL program is mature at USM, it is the perfect time to tackle a project like this. Doing a shadow play also engages the large and active deaf community in Portland. The integration of the ASL and the-

performance at the same time. Kent would like to change this.

"For deaf audience members, watching theatre with one interpreter in the corner is like going to see a foreign film, but the subtitles are in a completely different place than the screen," explained Kent.

She also wanted to make sure that interpreters acted while they weren't signing. She layered shadows and speakers on different levels throughout the stage to create depth and integrate their different methods of storytelling. Shadows act behind, beside, and around the speaking actors, making for a dynamic performance.

"The positioning of the actors has been fluid and ever changing. You need to find a place where the shadows can be seen and the speakers can be nonintrusive," said junior marketing major Josh Cohen, who plays one of the male leads, Oliver.

"As our director likes to say, 'if you aren't seen as a shadow you aren't heard as a shadow'."

**A new wave of deaf theater and interpreting is becoming big. USM is the first theater in the state to do a signed performance. It's spreading.**

Zac Stearns, junior theatre major

atre department started three years ago, thanks to junior theatre major Zac Stearns, who plays the speaking role of leading man Orlando. Stearns wanted his mother, who is deaf, to be able to attend his first USM play. Now one show out of every play is interpreted in ASL, with more deaf people attending each year.

"Theatres usually think of doing this without request. We have the opportunity to see live theatre, which deaf people don't get that often," Stearns said.

This benefits both the interpreters and the theater. This Spring's *As You Like It* is the biggest ASL undertaking yet.

This Shakespeare comedy still has all of its original appeal. It tells the tale of two warring brothers who fall for two regal cousins, placed with other eccentric and ridiculous love stories. All end happily in one large wedding, after a confusing and clever cross dressing rose, a few wrestling matches, and some lovely live music. However, Shakespeare and his company would have had a run for his money if he witnessed this interpretation of the show.

Each speaking actor also has a shadow, interpreting their lines into ASL, making this already large play have double the normal cast. Most shows that accommodate the deaf community have an interpreter off to the side of the stage, making it difficult for hearing the impaired people attending to watch to the interpreter and the

Audience members may find themselves watching both pairs of actors to provide a deeper understanding of Shakespeare.

Speakers and their shadows also have to act with each other, making sure not to go too slow or fast with their lines so the other can keep up.

"This has been one of the more challenging pieces I've worked on because I have to be conscious of what my shadow is doing without letting my attention focus on him. I have to be aware of how he is acting while I am acting," said Cohen.

Darleen Hutchin, a resident of South Portland and teacher at a private school, plays the shadow of leading lady Rosalind. She is one of the two deaf interpreters in the cast. She explained that she can't even describe how she is aware of timing of the speaking Rosalind.

One of the most difficult parts of the show was having to translate Shakespearean language into ASL. The actors met for long hours to break down the meaning of lines in modern English, and then the shadow actors worked to convert that into ASL.

"All the shadows knew the ASL, but translating a translation was pretty rough," said Alex Schofield, a junior linguistics major with a concentration in speech science. He play leading man Oliver's shadow interpreter.

Sometimes it's hard when the meaning behind the sentence and the grammar behind the signs will conflict, so you have to choose or



Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff

Shadow interpreters and Speaking actors in the cast of *As You Like It* rehearse on USM's main stage

flow them together."

Hutchin talked about the translation process.

"It's a very simplistic language. People think its dumbed down, but its not. It's very rich, we just simplify it as much as we can, to make it more understandable and clear."

Shadow interpreting is not just some passing fad either.

"A new wave of deaf theatre and interpreting is becoming big," declared Stearns. "USM is the first theatre in the state to do a signed performance, and now other theatres in maine are doing it. It's

spreading, its a bigger deal."

So come to USM's main stage April 17th, and see that "All the world's a stage" for all the sorts of people in it.

dora@usmfreepress.org  
@USMFreePress





# A&C Listings

## Monday, April 13

The Stuart Hall Project  
Space Gallery  
538 Congress St.  
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, April 14

Women's History: Voting Down Rose  
Longfellow House  
489 Congress St.  
Starts: 12:00 p.m. / Ends: 1:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, April 15

Traci Molloy Opening Reception  
University of Southern Maine  
35 Bedford St.  
Starts: 4:00 p.m. / Ends: 6:00 p.m.

Music: Shakey Graves  
State Theatre  
609 Congress St.  
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

## Thursday, April 16

Music: Cuddle Magic  
Space Gallery  
538 Congress St.  
Starts: 8:30 p.m.

## Friday, April 17

As You Like It Theater Performance  
University of Southern Maine  
37 College Ave.  
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Language Exchange Open House  
Language Exchange  
80 Exchange St.  
Starts: 7:30 a.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

Film showing: White God  
Space Gallery  
539 Congress St.  
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

## Saturday, April 18

The Mafia Kills Only In Summer  
Portland Museum of Art  
7 Congress Sq.  
Starts: 2:00 p.m.

Music: Between The Buried And Me  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Portland Pirates vs. Providence Bruins  
Cross Insurance Arena  
45 Spring St.  
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

## Sunday, April 19

WMPG 11th Annual Fashion Show  
Port City Music Hall  
504 Congress St.  
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

# Artist explores adolescent trauma

Krysteana Scribner  
News Editor

Brooklyn-based artist Traci Molloy identifies as an education activist, creating art that tackles difficult topics of adolescent violence, suicide and loss in a variety of media. A reception and discussion will be held on April 15, where people can learn about her project and ask any questions they may have.

In Gorham, Molloy currently teaches classes and creates art with students. She also works in Portland, collaborating with The Center for Grieving Children. Where she works with refugee and displaced adolescents from Sudan, Iraq, and Somalia who have experienced trauma.

Her more recent work will be discussed on Wednesday's event, a collaborative project titled "I Am, I Will, I'm Afraid" that shows what it is like to be a young displaced adolescent in the Portland community.

Molloy photographed 17 participants each in the same location. She was able to create an art piece that morphed all the photos together to create one individual. Text written at the top of the banner is written by the participants. They write on the topic of, "I am, I will, I'm afraid" and these words hover over the painted portrait. The individual depicted in this portrait is not real, but rather a symbolic representation of the misplaced individual in the community.

"My recent project was a collaborative success because of the help of middle school youth from the Portland community," said Molloy. "USM has given me the privilege to work a partnership with the Center for Grieving Children Multi-cultural Center."

USM media studies students have been filming a documentary over the project that will be shown at the event this Wednesday. The purpose of this short educational film it to show the process that went into the collaborative work of students and Molloy.

Carolyn Eyler, director of Exhibitions and Programs explained that the event will allow students to obtain a better insight into Molloy's work, which explores the notions of identity, race politics, class politics, gender and the aftermath of trauma



Photo courtesy of Erin Bartoletti

Artist Traci Molloy works on her project "I Am, I Will, I'm Afraid" with participating students.

and violence.

Molloy explained that there is a lot of excitement around this work because it's a project that has engaged the community.

She believes this event will not only serve as an educational outlet to people but as a way for people to come together. She hopes to show individuals just how important a role collaboration played in the success of this project.

"The teamwork that goes into this project is like a massive machine with lots of moving parts," said Molloy. "You need all the parts to be working to get a successful outcome - and I know that's what we did here."

Anyone is welcome to attend the discussion and reception on Wednesday in

the area gallery of Woodbury campus and the event will be free and open to the public. The reception will be at 4:00 p.m. and Molloy will speak at 5:00 p.m. USM's President Flanagan is scheduled to speak along with Caroline Eyler and a variety of other individuals who participated in making this project a reality.

"If students are interested in hands-on experiences, then this is something they should attend. I collaborated with students and taught at USM," said Molloy. "This project wouldn't have worked without their help. In order to make this project a reality, I needed the help."

krysteana@usmfreepress.org  
@Krysteana2016

## HEAVY ROTATION | WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS OF OUR STAFF THIS WEEK



Self-Released Album

**Talking Dreams: Bright**

The first time I heard this song I couldn't believe it was sung by Echosmith. This song rings with a country feel and every time I hear it I think it's a Taylor Swift creation. This song has a melancholy yet sweet sound to it that I am constantly humming in my head throughout the day.

- Krysteana Scribner  
News Editor



Universal Productions

**Nelly  
Hot in Here**

It's finally spring time and things are starting to heat up - literally. Please blast this sexy, Top 40 anthem to the weather gods and meteorologists in your area so they don't dump anymore snow down on our poor state. Let's hope the temperatures here will be closer to those in the dirty south.

- Sam Hill  
Editor-in-Chief



John Madden

**The Second Best Exotic  
Marigold Hotel**

As a follow-up movie to its predecessor, this second installment carries all the personal charm the first movie offered. A star-studded cast presents tales of love, sadness, frustration, joy and hopes to expand the hotel's wings to bigger and better locations. Definitely a must-see, as well as a must-listen for the soundtrack.

- Sergey Miller  
Free Press Staff

**Want to submit an event?**  
**arts@usmfreepress.org**

What caught your eyes and ears this week? Let us know! [arts@usmfreepress.org](mailto:arts@usmfreepress.org)



# Perspectives

## Our Opinion

### The pros and cons of USM's advertising campaign

Nowadays it's hard to watch a Hulu show or listen to a Spotify playlist without being interrupted by an advertisement encouraging you to "find yourself," at Maine's metropolitan university.

However we're worried that where the money came from to pay for the ads, is fueling enough negative criticism to potentially render the entire ad campaign ineffective.

Many critics in the USM community are referring to the \$1 million dollars spent on ads as "blood money," because the money came from savings in the budget in light of last years faculty and staff retrenchments. Right now a portion of the population believes that using money from fired staff and faculty to pay for advertisements is an insensitive and poorly constructed strategy. A number of current students, graduates and community members think that the damage is done and no matter how many times a voice over tells us that "USM is a game changer" in an ad, it won't inspire confidence that the administration can turn the school's fiscal situation around. There has never been a time to come to USM, but for students worried about more condemned majors, it might be for different reasons that the voice-over on the ads suggests.

To the critics of the advertisements we say this: we understand your concern but can you blame the administration for trying? Marketing campaigns are part of any universities enrollment strategy. Regarding retrenchments, what's done is done, so it's not

fair to blame the administration for using that money to try and boost enrollment. According to public affairs director Chris Quint, if the money wasn't used this year, it would have just been sucked up by the system anyway. Boosting enrollment is critical to USM's success right now, so we shouldn't oppose those attempts to do so.

At the same time, we empathize with those that were affected by the cuts, or follow the news at USM closely, because it's understandable that the ads are leaving a bad taste in their mouths. As of now, it's not clear if the ads are doing their job. Both current president David Flanagan and incoming president Harvey Kesselman have stated that they don't think that fall enrollment will see an increase. So far the admissions office has seen 3,809 applications compared to 4,249 from last year. Quint thinks we're gaining some positive momentum because there's been some increased traffic on the website, but unfortunately we can't know for sure if that translates to students actually enrolling. It's irritating that money's being spent on trying to convert prospective students into Huskies and we're continuing to see a decline in applications; but let's give it some time.

There's still plenty of time for Kesselman's enthusiasm to inspire excitement about joining USM, so let's save our disgruntledness over the potential ineffectiveness of the advertisements for the fall, when the administration releases a final headcount.

minority of Maine voters? RCV will reinvigorate our democracy through choice and increased participation, and will do so in such a manner to ensure that those who are elected are beholden to all - not to some.

Yet despite its appeal, RCV faces welcome opposition.

Citing a North Carolina special election in 2010, some critics claim that RCV ballots impose an undue burden on voters and election officials, causing both confusion and delayed results.

However, the use of RCV in that case was limited to filling judicial vacancies that occurred between primary and general elections, raising reasonable doubts as to whether there was adequate voter education and preparation prior to its implementation. Furthermore, the State Board of Elections made a deliberate choice to "handle recounts and challenges in other races" before addressing RCV ballots, a deliberate choice to delay results.

Closer to home, some critics cite two isolated statements made in an MPBN article in order to drum up a



## Letters & Comments:

*Dear President Kesselman,*

No, this is not YOUR home. This is OUR university, which you were hired to manage. Managing means keeping it alive. I don't know what universe you come from, but hopefully it isn't the one that whatshisface, the last president came from. You say we only

need to retain 400 students. Well, in this universe, cutting programs doesn't do much for retention.

That is all,  
Whitfield Palmer  
majoring in art history.

like what you see?

hate what you see?



let us know!

editor@usmfreepress.org

## Maine can lead the nation with Ranked Choice reform

**Marpheen Chann-Berry**  
Contributor

When the status quo has been unacceptable, Maine has taken to pioneering change. Indeed, our motto *Dirigo*, or "I lead", and our fiercely politically independent electorate bolsters that proposition. Through ranked choice voting (RCV), Mainers in November of 2016 can further this ideal by enacting a timely and necessary reform aimed toward strengthening our democracy.

Why do we need reform? For far too long we have tolerated a process that runs counter to a key bedrock of democracy: that government through majority rule serves the common good. In the past 40 years, 9 out of 11 governors (Democrats, Republicans, and Independents) were elected with less than a majority. If we wonder why Maine has become so increasingly partisan, if we wonder why we have not shed our title of "poorest state in the northeast," can we not blame it on a system that allows a governor to be elected, i.e. behold only by a

broader conclusion that Portland's implementation "proved either too confusing or superfluous" for voters. In doing so, critics neglected to bring under consideration an exit poll conducted by a nonpartisan organization that proves otherwise. In fact, 94 percent of surveyed voters reported that they fully understood the voting instructions and ballot design, disproving the claim that ranked choice is "too complex" for the average voter.

In other instances, critics raise questions as to whether the reform "rewards mediocrity" or influences a "pandering campaign style." On the contrary, when both voters and candidates are free from the fear of "spoilers," as RCV has been proven to do, it fundamentally transforms and opens up our current debate to a wide range of policy concerns and issues by encouraging more candidates and more voters to participate.

Another concern offered by critics is that RCV is "easily gamed". These critics are suspicious that ranked choice voting is a partisan reform that would help elect more pro-

gressive candidates. Yet as professor Emeritus Richard Maiman points out, ranked choice voting does not systematically advantage or disadvantage either of the two major parties. It does, however, return power to the voters, who would have more freedom to fully express their range of preference among the candidates.

The current process of plurality voting is suitable for elections with two-way races for public office, but two-way races are rare in Maine. If we want to move forward, we must enact electoral reform to keep pace with the ever-expanding marketplace of ideas and hotly-contested three- and four-way races for public office.

Once again, Maine has an opportunity to be a pioneer, this time for better elections. If we reform and fine tune our democratic process to accommodate real debate and accountable candidates, we can move one step closer to achieving the common good of all Mainers.

*Marpheen S. Chann-Berry*  
USM graduate and Maine Law student



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# Sustainability and ME

## Are you paying too much for free water?

Louis Spafford  
Contributor

Bottled water is one of the biggest marketing gimmicks to date, and it works. Last year alone Americans wasted over \$11 billion buying bottled water. Not only is the industry selling you something that should be free, but they are destroying the environment in the process. The entire life cycle of bottled water is detrimental to the environment. It includes robbing local communities and ecosystems of their water source, using millions of gallons worth of fossil fuel to transport, package and distribute the water, then polluting the oceans and the environment further when the bottles are irresponsibly thrown away.

One of the biggest reasons we drink bottled water is because we have been told that our tap water is not clean and we should drink bottled water for our own health and safety, when in fact the ones telling us that our tap water isn't safe are the water bottle companies themselves. But where is the bottled water actually coming from? Most of the water is the same stuff you get from your tap. It may be run through a filter or "purified," but it's essentially the exact same water. The industry is not required to disclose the source of the water and there are virtually no federal regulations, quality standards or tests. For instance, the original Poland Spring was pumped dry in the late 1960s. Where does Poland Spring get its water from now? Only about one third to one half of the water is from springs in Maine and the rest is from undisclosed sources (tap water). Poland Spring water is coming out of the ground in Maine. Our tap water is coming



out of Sebago Lake which is fed by natural springs exactly like the ones Poland Spring uses.

Now let's talk about the price tag. Most of you reading this article are college students riddled with debt (myself included). We are paying taxes and tuition to the government with the assumption that they will provide adequate public services like clean drinking water. And they do. Municipal water sources are highly regulated and controlled, especially here in the Portland area where the water comes from Sebago Lake, receives minimal treatments, and is very clean and safe to drink (and it tastes good!). In the United States, tap water costs less than one penny per gallon. While the average price of single-serve water bottles runs about \$7.50 per gallon. That means bottled water costs about 2000 times more than tap water. That's like paying \$10,000 for a hamburger or \$6,000 for a gallon of gasoline. Bottled water is more expensive than gasoline and it's priced like a luxury good, but it's just water. Tap water is es-

entially free yet the bottled water industry continues to grow every year. In fact, assuming we drink eight glasses of water per day, it costs less than 50 cents a year to drink tap water. That amount of bottled water would cost upwards of \$1,400.

Many colleges have completely banned the sale of bottled water on their campuses. Here at USM we have started a Take Back The Tap campaign. The goal of this campaign is to decrease the sale and use of bottled water at USM, get more filtered water refill stations available around campus, and make refillable water bottles available to students, faculty and staff. If you are interested in learning more or supporting the cause then check out our Facebook page: Take Back The Tap USM.

*Louis is a third year international business student at USM; he loves the great outdoors and is highly interested in sustainability.*

### Simple Science

## What makes sticky things so sticky

Donald Szlosek  
Contributor

Have you ever wondered what makes tape so sticky? Why paint sticks to walls?

The function of adhesives is to hold things together. Adhesives come in many forms, including glue, tape and sealant, and are used in a variety of everyday applications. In addition, natural substances can act as adhesives, such as soda, and caramel. The stickiness of the adhesive is caused by molecular bonds, and its strength depends on how much stress is needed to pull those bonds apart.

Most adhesives, including tape, are viscoelastic material- that means it has the properties of a solid and a liquid. When a viscoelastic material is left untouched, it behaves like a solid, relatively

unmoving. But when pressure is applied, the material behaves like a liquid, filling any cracks or holes in any surface it touches. The same pressure that makes the tape act like a liquid is also responsible for the tape to form bonds called van der Waals between it and the molecules surrounding it. Van der Waal's forces were discovered by Dutch physicist Johannes Diderik van der Waal in 1880 and is the inherent attraction two neutral molecules feel towards each other when they are close enough together. Thus when you press tape against a surface, it behaves like a small magnet and when you rip the tape off, you break those van der waal bonds.

But what about examples in nature?

Geckos have millions of small hair follicles on their feet which are each one tenth the size of hu-

man hair. Even more so each one of the these follicles has billions of split ends which can interact with any surface they touch. Alone, these van der waals forces amount to nothing, but when billions upon billions of these bonds are formed the added strength can allow a gecko to climb vertically up a wall with ease. In fact, if a gecko's foot was the size of an index card, it could hold 700 lbs on a smooth surface, such glass. So the next time you find yourself in a sticky situation, think about that van der waal bonds you can break.

*Donald Szlosek is a USM graduate who majored in human biology and minored in physics.*

### Back to School

## Break is never long enough, but appreciate it

Joie Grandbois-Gallup  
Contributor

By the time this column is put into print and distributed around the campus, spring break will be over. We will all be looking ahead towards the last five weeks of the semester. Many of us will be wondering how we are going to get everything done before the semester comes to a close. At the end of those remaining weeks more than a few of us will be receiving our diplomas. All of us will start thinking about our plans for the summer.

But I'm getting ahead of myself.

One of the things I have come to love since starting school is the breaks. It isn't that I don't like my classes. I do, and filling my brain up with knowledge brings me to my happy place. It's just that I have come to have a serious appreciation for having any amount of down time.

Every day this week I've been asked by my fellow students what I am doing for spring break. I have no plans to travel and, as I live in Portland, I won't be making any special trips to a place called "back home." In fact my response has usually been that I'll be working, catching up on homework and attempting to have a social life. In other words, not a lot will change, except that I will suddenly have about 15+ hours in my week that won't involve going

to or from class, sitting in class taking notes, preparing lunches and snacks for the day, staying up late to put the final touches on an assignment or finishing a chapter of reading.

I feel like I've been given a huge gift. When I think about how to spend those 15 or so hours, I have fantasies of reading the next chapter in a book of the non-text-book variety that I started to read during the February break. I think of taking a long walk around the city counting all of the signs of spring that are beginning to appear. I ponder the possibility of spending an evening out on the town without worry of catching up on lost homework time the next day. I imagine myself waking up, glancing at my alarm clock on a Monday or Tuesday morning and thinking of how I didn't set it because I don't have to be up early (okay, that last one really is a fantasy, I still have to get up for work).

I know that by the time the break is over it will feel like it passed far too quickly. I will wonder where the time went and how I didn't get as much done as I'd hoped. At the same time, I'll be thinking about the people I managed to finally spend some time with, the quiet moments of doing nothing at all, and how, hopefully, I finally feel rested enough to take on the remainder of the semester.

So welcome back everyone, the end is in sight!

### Have your own opinion?

The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from the USM community. Letters to the editor may not exceed 400 words and op-eds may not exceed 700 words without prior approval from the Editor-in-Chief. Any content must be submitted electronically and must include the author's full name, school year or relationship to USM. We reserve the right to edit or refuse all materials submitted or solicited for publication. Columns do not reflect the opinions of The Free Press or its staff. We have a gender-neutral language policy. Deadline for submissions is the Wednesday before publication. Send submissions to [editor@usmfreepress.org](mailto:editor@usmfreepress.org).

## WMPG 2015 FASHIONSHOW

Sunday April 19 - Port City Music Hall  
Doors 7pm -- Show 8pm  
Tickets \$10 advance  
All ages welcome!

Presented by WMPG  
Southern Maine Community Radio

Tickets: [portcitymusic hall.com](http://portcitymusic hall.com)

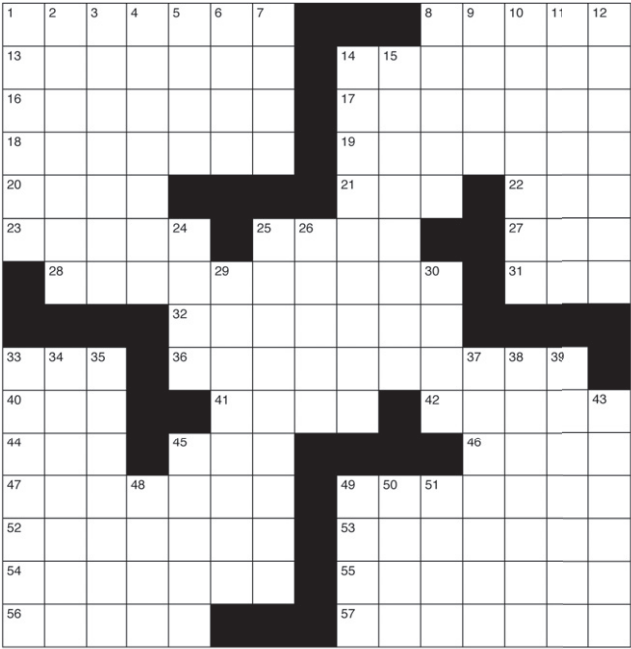
Celebrating Local Fashion Designers!  
Dark Follies - Lexi GoGo - The Moodiest  
More Info - [WMPG.org](http://WMPG.org)

WMPG



Crossword

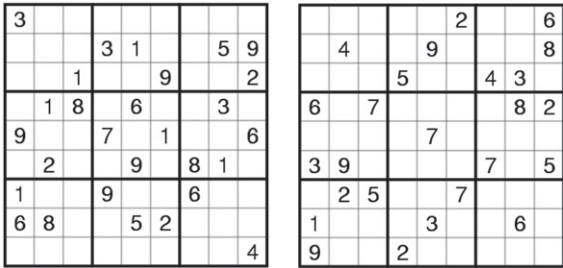
- Across**
- 1. Punjabi beverage
  - 8. Great Barrier Reef makeup
  - 13. "Little Shop of \_\_\_\_"
  - 14. Deposed dictator Manuel
  - 16. "Great Expectations" girl
  - 17. Made manifest
  - 18. Silenced
  - 19. Two days out of seven
  - 20. "\_\_\_\_ pageant to keep us in false gaze" (Othello line)
  - 21. Cent. parts
  - 22. HST successor
  - 23. Viewpoint
  - 25. Adam's grandson
  - 27. Corn serving
  - 28. Strove
  - 31. Serpentine sound
  - 32. Jungle cat, at times
  - 33. "If You Leave" band, for short
  - 36. Out of control
  - 40. Price of admission
  - 41. Dock
  - 42. Clichéd
  - 44. T-\_\_\_\_ (cookware brand)
  - 45. Actress Tyler
  - 46. Dance party
  - 47. Building
  - 49. Grinds, as teeth
  - 52. Token
  - 53. Dealers
  - 54. In a hurry
  - 55. \_\_\_\_ de Saint-Exupéry
  - 56. Menudo's "Si Tu No \_\_\_\_"
  - 57. Frosty ones



- Down**
- 1. Dressers
  - 2. Like some takeovers
  - 3. Craftsperson
  - 4. Cork locale
  - 5. It may be owed on the road
  - 6. Detective story writer \_\_\_\_ Stanley Gardner
  - 7. "Take \_\_\_\_ song and make it better" ("Hey Jude" lyric)
  - 8. Shouts out
  - 9. Wilbur's word
  - 10. Moves back
  - 11. Meeting schedules
  - 12. Fire truck attachments
  - 14. Influential commentary magazine, with "The"
  - 15. Boss
  - 24. New Age musician John
  - 25. With equivocation
  - 26. Nick of "Cape Fear"
  - 29. Not normal
  - 30. Trivial amount
  - 33. Transgression
  - 34. Pastures
  - 35. Set the boundaries of
  - 37. Where to see the latest models
  - 38. Disneyland's locale
  - 39. Shirley's TV roommate
  - 43. Abate
  - 45. Fluffs
  - 48. World Cup org.
  - 49. College stats
  - 50. Berlin singer Terri \_\_\_\_
  - 51. Concerning

Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9–square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 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 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.



Cryptogram

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

OCMS XKQMZ PR CM'Z  
TAKW XS MTMUWJAS,  
WCM CVZJAIS XWAE  
JMLTPMZ, "VMK, P'E  
LAKPWPMB."

And here is your hint:

V = Y

The solution to last issue's crossword



Weekly Horoscope

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

**Aries** ★★★  
March 21-April 19

When people around you are into "looking good," don't get overwhelmed. Actuality is still more important than appearances.

**Taurus** ★★★★★  
April 20-May 20

Change is on your mind--or on your partner's. This could be a small alteration or a major break. Perk up your time together.

**Gemini** ★★  
May 21-June 20

You'll have two kinds of tasks today: some requiring much focus and concentration, while others can be done quickly. Choose wisely.

**Cancer** ★★★  
June 21-July 22

A sudden attraction flares. Your circumstances will dictate whether it is appropriate to act upon or not.

**Leo** ★★  
July 23-August 22

Secrets become more complicated. Be aware of the power of information and think twice about the people with whom you share data.

**Virgo** ★★★  
August 23-September 22

You want to relax and feel good, but also feel driven to explore and dig beneath life's surface. Placidity and probing must be blended.

**Libra** ★★★  
September 23-October 22

Clothes, jewelry, decorating, makeup, candy or ice cream may be splurges today. Enjoy beauty and sugar without overindulging.

**Scorpio** ★★  
October 3-November 21

Today, you prefer life to be secure and predictable. The familiar appeals. Stick to what's safe.

**Sagittarius** ★★★  
November 22-December 21

Assertive action by you can bring financial rewards. Put yourself forward.

**Capricorn** ★★  
December 22-January 19

You have a really enjoyable discussion with a friend and both end up feeling good.

**Aquarius** ★★★★★  
January 20-February 18

Be sure your laid-back attitude does not spill over into languor. Comfort appeals. You're adept at soothing ruffled feathers.

**Pisces** ★★★  
February 19-March 20

Keep communication going even if tempers flare. Irritations can be overcome if you talk things over.

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# Community Spotlight:

## Former Navy SEAL shares transgender experience

David Sanok  
Free Press Staff

Former United States Navy SEAL Kristen Beck spoke at the Wishcamper Center this past Wednesday about her experience as a transgender and the discrimination she has faced.

“I want to share my story with people to raise awareness to the discrimination transgender like me have to endure on a regular basis,” said Beck. “The transgender community does not get the same recognition as the gay community in terms of pushing for equal rights.”

According to Beck, the motivation for travelling around on speaking tours is fueled by a desire to educate people on what being a male to female transgender is like and how her rights have been violated.

Beck said that she faced discrimination from the moment she came out and discussed how her childhood environment fostered attempts to suppress her transgenderism. As a child, Kristen Beck was known as Christopher Beck and grew up on farm in Virginia where she was raised by very conservative Christian parents. As early as the age of five, Beck began to identify more as a girl than a boy.

“As a kid I was drawn to feminine clothes and toys. I would also sometimes wear my sister’s dresses and put her makeup on,” said Beck. “But I had to give that all up when my parents forced me to take on more masculine roles.”

Kristen Beck ultimately had to suppress her sexuality for the rest of her childhood and most of her adulthood. In 1991, Beck joined the Navy Seals and served as part



Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff

of SEAL Team Six where she went on to have a successful military career. Despite her triumphs at the military, Beck did not feel anymore masculine. After retiring from the Navy in 2011, Beck underwent surgery to change her gender and her name from Christopher to Kristen.

“When I came out as transgender by posting a photo of my sex change on LinkedIn, they were all extremely supportive of who I really am and have continued to stand up for me whenever I’m harassed or bullied for being transgender,” said Beck.

Beck provided some words of caution concerning the existing prejudice against transgender people that continues to this day.

“We’ve still got a long way to go in terms of achieving equal rights for trans-

genders,” explained Beck. “Transgenders are still not allowed in the military, and businesses around the United States practice discrimination against us.”

Junior English major at USM, Jul Heald could relate to Beck’s situation. As a lesbian, Jul had to go through the same kind of bullying Beck did.

“When I came out in high school, I had my share of support from friends but also harassment from bullies,” said Heald. “I completely understand where Kristen is coming from and that’s why I came here tonight. I wanted to show up in support and to learn more about what it means to be transsexual.”

news@usmfreepress.org  
@USMFreePress



## Campus Events

### Monday, April 13

Astronomy Cafe: Kepler’s Search  
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Southworth Planetarium

Eric Quinn Senior Trombone Recital  
7:30 p.m.  
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

The Stuart Hall Project  
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Space Gallery, Portland

### Tuesday, April 14

USM Community Wellness Fair 2015  
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sullivan Fitness and Recreation  
Complex Main Gym, Portland

USM Flow Jam  
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sullivan Recreation and Fitness Complex,  
Multipurpose Room, Portland

### Wednesday, April 15

Wellness Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Woodbury Campus Center,  
Room 143a, Portland

Exhibition Reception: Constructing Identity  
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
AREA Gallery, Woodbury  
Campus Center, Portland

Blacklight Zumba  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

### Thursday, April 16

Lightning Talks  
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
10 Bailey Hall, Gorham

Carto-Crafters  
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Osher Map Library, Portland

Words Matter Visiting Poets  
Series with Tony Hoagland  
7:00 p.m.  
Hannaford Hall, Abromson Center, Portland

### Friday, April 17

Dodge Ball Tournament  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Gorham Field House

Open Mic Night  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Opening Reception: 2015  
BFA & BA Exhibition  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Art Gallery, Gorham

For more events:  
www.usm.maine.edu/events

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**Session 1:**

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**Session 2:**

June 29–August 14

### **14-WEEK SESSION**

May 11–August 14



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