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**Currents, Vol.3, No.19 (Jul.29, 1985)**

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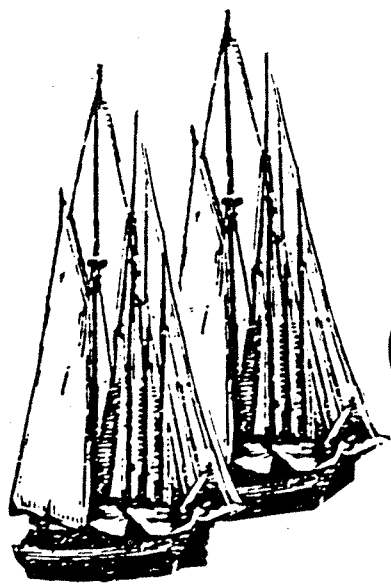
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# University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 3, Number 19

July 29, 1985

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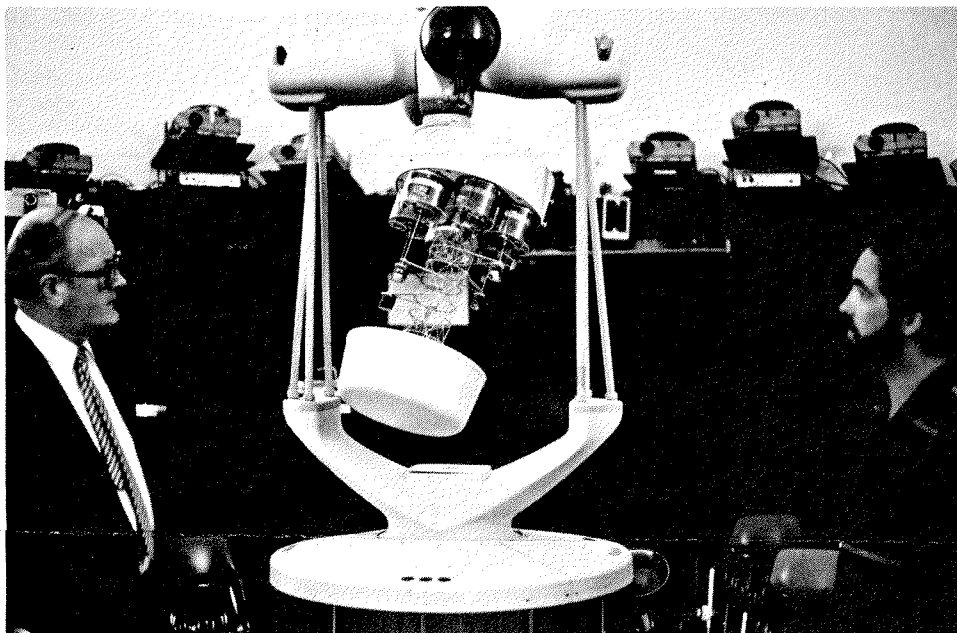
## What's Inside

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A Unit of the University of Maine

## USM Gets Grant to Strengthen Irish Ties



President Colm O hEocha (left) of University College Galway learned about the Southworth Planetarium from George Gautreau, planetarium office manager. (Kuntz photo)

USM was the recipient recently of a federal grant to further develop existing ties with the University College Galway in the Republic of Ireland. The three-year, \$50,000 grant, awarded by the United States Information Agency, will underwrite faculty exchanges to develop programs in the following areas: constitutional law, rural education delivery, and rural development and sociology.

UCG President Colm O hEocha was on campus last week to discuss the joint venture with President Woodbury, Chancellor Patrick E. McCarthy, deans and faculty. O hEocha, a man with an imposing presence and affable manner, remarked on the similarities between the two institutions.

Each has the same "faculties," and like-sized student populations. In addition, the Irish government recently earmarked his university to develop studies in biotechnology for industry, a course akin to our about-to-be-launched graduate program in applied immunology. O hEocha's institution is also charged with delivering educational services to a scattered rural population, a great percentage of whom speak Gaelic as their primary language (just as 10 percent of Maine's population speaks French). For this reason our Instructional Television particularly interested him.

Faculty exchanges will begin as two-week "reconnaissance" sessions and expand to two-month stays, eventually becoming full semester exchanges, explained Steven J. Reno, associate provost. Reno further elaborated on plans for UCG to join BITNET, an international computer consortium of universities. This will make document transfer between the institutions much easier. It will also serve as an electronic mail delivery system between the two universities.

After leaving USM, O hEocha, who is also vice chancellor of the National University of Ireland (of which UCG is part), headed to Los Angeles for a meeting of the International Association of Universities.

### Editor's Note

This issue is the final Currents to be published in the summer of 1985. The first issue of the 1985-1986 academic year is scheduled to appear Monday, September 16. As always, Currents will be published every other Monday when fall and spring semester classes are in session. Enjoy the final month of summer.

Karen Kievitt and Bob Caswell, editors

## Campus Mourns Two Staffers

The campus community was saddened to learn about the deaths this month of two staff members within the Division of Educational Services.

Dexter A. Huntoon, coordinator of career planning and handicapped student services, died Friday, July 19, in a local hospital following a history of heart illness.

Jewell Mundy, a nurse in our Gorham Student Health Center, was fatally injured Monday, July 8, in a four-vehicle accident on Route 302, Naples.

Long active in campus affairs, Dexter counseled students in personal as well as career matters, and was responsible for handicapped student services. He worked closely with local agencies in support of the handicapped and was instrumental in establishing many of our handicapped services, including the van for the handicapped. In addition, Dexter also taught human resource courses and supervised the counselor training of students.

Dexter joined the office of Counseling and Career Development in 1979, and served as acting director during the 1983-1984 academic year.

"Despite the burden [of his illness] Dexter was extraordinarily giving and dedicated to his work," said Ira H. Hymoff, director of counseling and career development. "He was very courageous and never let his illness interfere with his successful attempts to be helpful to other people."

Dexter is survived by his wife, Gloria Nadeau Huntoon, a daughter, Janice A. Schwarz, and a son, Scott E. Huntoon, all of South Portland. Contributions may be made in his memory to the Maine Heart Association, 20 Winter Street, Augusta, Me. 04330, or to the Kidney Foundation of Maine, P.O. Box 1134, Portland, Me. 04104.

Plans are underway to establish a suitable memorial program for Dexter on campus. For information, please call Ira Hymoff at 780-4050.

Jewell had served as a nurse at USM since September of 1984. Marilyn C. Crosby, coordinator of Gorham student health services, praised Jewell for her dedication to the nursing profession. She had taken courses at USM and had only recently passed the emergency medical technician state exam. "She was empathetic, caring and generated a real special kind of warmth

for students and her colleagues," said Crosby.

Surviving are her husband, Gerald A. Mundy, a son, David G. Mundy, and a daughter, Lisa E. Mundy, all of South Casco.

An educational fund has been established for her children. Anyone wishing to contribute may send their contributions to Marilyn Crosby, at the Student Health Center, Gorham.

## Pay Raises Now in Effect

Paychecks for all members of the University community are larger because of salary increases effective July 1. Currents received the following summary of the pay raises from George F. Hackett, director, Labor Relations.

Non-represented classified staff received a seven percent increase across the board. Service and maintenance workers as well as police also received a seven percent increase. However, some adjustments were made between steps at all wage bands to achieve more balance. These workers will have no further step increases during the two-year life of the contract.

The wage schedule for C.O.L.T. has been increased by four percent. On the "Merit Review Date," employees will be advanced to the next step. For some 50 percent of C.O.L.T. this date was reached July 1. Members on the top step received a one-time payment of \$250, if they were at that step for three consecutive years.

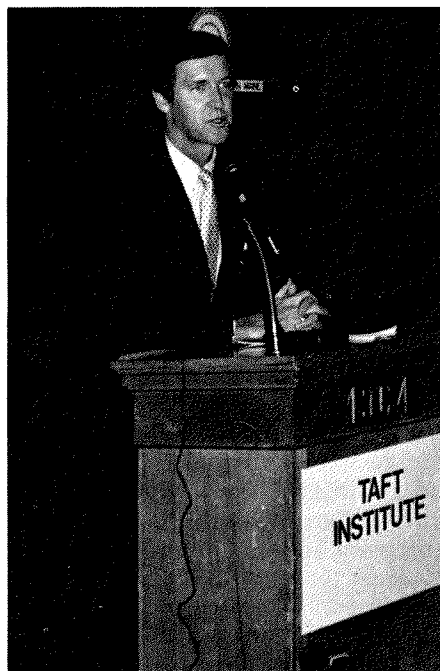
Represented faculty received a four percent across-the-board increase this year, with another four percent increase scheduled for next year. In addition, departments will receive a two percent pool based on unit members' base salaries to be allocated by the University. This agreement is basically the same for non-represented faculty with guidelines for distribution of the two percent pool recommended by the campus and approved by the Chancellor's Office. Both groups will

(Cont. on p.3)



More than 60 energetic campers are participating in our first summer Developmental Day Camp. Between field trips to Wolfe's Neck Farm, non-competitive games and a variety of other activities, the children find time for aerobics to get the blood pumping. (Kuntz photo)

## Cohen Calls for Bipartisanship



Senator Cohen (Kuntz photo)

Senator William Cohen, in an address to teachers participating in our Robert A. Taft Institute of Government, called for bipartisan cooperation in order to stave off consequences of an unchecked federal deficit.

The senator warned of a worldwide recession if Congress does not act to curb federal spending. But, he told the educators, legislators usually don't act until "they're terrified."

The institute, which offers graduate credits, is open to elementary/secondary government teachers, administrators and librarians. "The whole point is to help educators broaden their understanding of our political system and make politics come alive in their classrooms," said USM Professor Irving D. Fisher, institute director.

This is the fourth time that USM has been selected as one of 25 U.S. colleges to offer the summer program. The Taft Institute for Two Party Government, a non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization founded in 1961 as a memorial to Ohio's U.S. Senator Robert A. Taft, is sponsor.

## Conditioning for College Success

The 1985 fall semester doesn't get underway until Tuesday, September 3, but 12 students scheduled to start classes on that date have opted to spend six weeks of their summer vacation in our classrooms getting a jump on their college careers.

The students are enrolled in our first Early Start Program, a six-week series of classes and workshops designed to give them a chance to get a head start on meeting academic requirements before their first full semester at USM.

The 18 and 19-year-olds, all of whom have been conditionally admitted, have deficiencies in math and/or English yet also have the potential to successfully complete a college-level program.

To help them meet that goal, academic counselors in the Advising and Information Department registered the students for such Early Start courses as beginning algebra and developmental writing. In addition, the students have attended workshops on study skills, time management, career development and library research, among others. "The program is a way of reaching out to capable students who've gotten lost along the line," said Phyllis Bernay the program's developer.

AID is sponsor of the Early Start Program.

*Currents, a newsletter for faculty and members of the professional and classified staffs, is published every other Monday by the Office of Media Relations, University of Southern Maine, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland, Me. 04103. Material should be submitted to 601 CRAS, Portland, no later than Thursday noon, 11 days prior to publication date. Robert S. Caswell and Karen A. Kievitt, editors, and Marjorie E. Dittmer, administrative secretary, editorial assistance.*



Children create masks as an exercise in sculpture.

(Bickford photo)

## Teachers Benefit, Too

Each summer for the past several years, USM has offered the Children's Art Workshop. The brainchild of Jo-Anna J. Moore, assistant professor of art education, the CAW was created so that students with families could attend summer classes. But, the workshop also benefits the 17 youngsters aged 7 to 11 enrolled in it, and the teachers themselves.

The CAW, which ran from June 24-July 19, is an intensive studio program. The students worked for three hours each morning on a variety of art projects including drawing, watercolors, printmaking, fabric design and quilt making. They also explored sculpture using cardboard, wire, plaster, fabric and found objects. Field trips provided the inspirational impetus for many of the projects including original designs for T-shirts.

This year, as in the past, the University hired two graduates from our own arts education program. These beginning teachers developed the program in the direction that suited their own interests using Maine as the theme. According to Becky C. Christie, who along with Debra Bickford led the CAW, "This is a freedom we will probably not see in any other teaching position."



No, this is not a picture of the new food service crew for the Portland Campus Center! These friendly-looking, impeccably groomed folk are the muleteers and Aldonza, characters in the Russell Square Summer Theatre production, "Man of La Mancha." Pictured left to right are: John McGinn, Fred Bernier, Deborah Hall and Larry Lee Van Horne. The musical comedy, based on "Don Quixote" by Cervantes, opened at Russell Theatre, Gorham, July 19. It will conclude its run on Saturday, August 17. Remember to ask for special faculty/staff rates. To make reservations, call the Box Office at 780-5483.

(Paul Luise photo)



# A Matter of Courage

by Karen Kievitt

It has to do with courage. Funny, they didn't look particularly courageous sitting on the grassy knoll behind Russell Hall that sunny July afternoon. None of them — Don Jellerson, Lorna Littleway, Rhonda Martin or Sam Rossi (see sidebar for biographies) — appears mythically proportioned. Yet, each of them possesses a special kind of courage, the brand most often used by playwrights (which they are) and fiction writers. They have dared to expose a part of themselves to an audience: giving voice to characters from within and opening themselves to criticism.

During a rehearsal break from "Man of La Mancha," the quartet met with Currents and shared some thoughts on the playwriting process: the difficulty encountered in balancing form and feeling, developing characters and fine-tuning a play before its first performance. What is this like for them? The writing? The rehearsing? The performance? The criticism?

## WHERE DOES A PLAY BEGIN?

Each of the four experienced a different kind of starting point. For Don Jellerson's "Roof Scene," it was a metaphor about death and loss. For Rhonda Martin, ancestral letters provided the impetus for "Letters to Em," while Lorna Littleway's "For Love or Freedom" was sparked by obscure historical references to two black women who returned from Europe to slavery in the U.S. Henrik Ibsen had already created the characters for Sam Rossi's "Gynt," so for him it was a matter of infusing them with 20th century manners and music.

To write a play takes a long time, "time to let it settle into you — its rhythm, and its music," explains Jellerson. "At some point you begin to hear the characters, you get to know them intimately."

Martin's characters revealed their own rhythm and music through the letters which her cousin discovered in an attic trunk. "The characters were with me constantly," she confesses. "It was so eerie at times, as if I were living with ghosts." In structuring "Letters to Em," Martin dealt with emotional progression. She had to discern where to peak. Her greatest challenge, then, was to strike a balance between form and feeling, a challenge faced by all playwrights. "The greatest playwrights," interjects Jellerson, "become one in form and feeling."

Littleway, who believes in reincarnation, relates that one person, Phyllis Wheatley, triggered "For Love or Freedom." She had to "go back and get in touch with the central character." Then the others played off her. "The characters live in me intensely until revision and final draft," she says.

It is during this arduous process of revising and rewriting that Littleway separates emotionally from her characters, thus striking the balance between form and feeling. That's when she makes the play "more rounded, more balanced, more producible."

History does not record the motive which impelled Wheatley and her friend Sally Hemmings to return to American slavery, so Littleway had to find the "why," enabling her to end the play.

Rossi says he had fun with his characters. He took Ibsen's characters and "re-created them the way I saw them. I made some of them into composites," he says.

## PEER INFLUENCE

The next step for Littleway, Martin and Rossi was to trust their plays to other actors in a workshop setting. It is here that the plays are read and given human voice for the first time, where according to Rossi "your ideas come to life through the cooperative efforts of the cast." These ideas, bouncing off many nimble minds, "open you to

changes," adds Littleway.

In this setting, surrounded by people whose viewpoints they trust, the playwrights ask themselves the question, "Does it work?" But again, as in the original writing, the authors agree they must strike a balance — this time between the suggestions from others and their own integrity.

Quoting Voltaire, Martin calls this type of collaboration, "the best of all possible worlds," but adds the caveat, "if it is positive and amiable." Littleway agrees strongly. "If it [the criticism] violates the original instinct, I won't go against it [the instinct]."

## THE PROOF OF PERFORMANCE

When "Roof Scene" went into rehearsal, its author was involved as an actor with the production of "Letters to Em." So Jellerson turned the script over to director Craig Foley with the instruction to "give it life." "It was fascinating to me to see what he did with my idea," Jellerson says. "It completely startled me."

The story, about a young man's struggle to maintain his sense of idealism through the death of his brother in the midst of a decaying city, is a "confrontational, modern theatre piece" in the manner of Berthold Brecht. According to Jellerson, when Foley got hold of that, it resulted in the audience being deeply moved, some of them negatively. "It was shocking even to me," admits the playwright.

Rossi has yet to see a production of "Gynt" with which he has not been involved. So, for him, the finished product is "not as goose-pimply." But Martin feels that the performance of a play has certain confines. In retrospect of the freewheeling aspects of the writing, the workshops and the rehearsals, the performance is restrictive. Its success rests squarely on the shoulders of its creator. "It's wonderful to call the shots," she admits, "but you're the one responsible if something doesn't work."

Living with that knowledge also takes a certain amount of courage.

## PHONE 4054

Advanced technology and USM's growth have combined forces to make the once simple act of making a phone call much more complicated. To serve the University community better, there is now a separate Department of Telecommunications. Curtis Sweet has been named coordinator of the office, once part of Administrative Services. The telephone number for the Department of Telecommunications is 780-4054.

Administrative Services continues under the watchful eye of Cay A. Laffin. In addition to managing the Printing Center, Central Supply and Mail Services, Laffin is also responsible for USM's fire, automobile and liability insurance. Her number remains 780-4024.



USM playwrights (from left to right): Sam Rossi, Lorna Littleway, Don Jellerson and Rhonda Martin. (Kievitt photo)

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

**Don Jellerson**, current USM theatre junior and publicity director for Russell Square Summer Theatre. Don was recently accepted into New York University's graduate program in playwriting on the strength of his one-act play "Roof Scene." This play premiered here last semester and was published in a recent issue of Portland Review of the Arts.

**Lorna Littleway**, USM theatre graduate, class of '76 with two M.F.A.s, one in playwriting and one in directing. Lorna has returned to her alma mater to act as stage manager for RSST. Her play "For Love or Freedom" will debut next winter off-off-Broadway in New York. It will be part of a weeklong theatre marathon between Christmas and New Year's. The event is heavily reviewed.

**Rhonda Martin**, instructor in our Music Department, flutist and conductor. Rhonda is music director for RSST this summer. Her "Letters to Em" premiered here last fall and will be produced as part of a bicentennial celebration in Franklin County, Virginia, setting of the musical theatre piece.

**Sam Rossi**, USM theatre graduate, class of '77. Sam teaches courses in the Theatre Department and is managing director of RSST. He and fellow USM alumnus Flash Allen co-authored the rock musical "Gynt" which premiered last semester here. "Gynt" will be performed in a special concert version at the Maine Festival on the Bowdoin College campus in August.

## • Pay Raises (cont. from p.1)

benefit from a one percent shift in TIAA-CREFF contributions. From now on, the University will contribute nine percent and the employee five percent to the mandatory retirement plan.

Represented professional and administrative personnel received a five percent across-the-board increase this year and a six percent across-the-board increase next year. There were also additions to the base salary of these employees, based on years of regular, continuous service as of June 30, 1985. Employees with at least three, but not

more than five years service will receive an increase of \$350; those with five to seven, \$400; seven to nine, \$450; and those with nine to 11 years, \$500. Employees with at least 11 years of service will receive an increase in their base of \$600.

Non-represented professional and administrative staff received a six percent across-the-board increase. Like the faculty, they will benefit from the shift in TIAA-CREFF contributions.

Questions? Call Hackett at 780-5260.

## Changing Faces in the Registrar's Office

John F. Keysor, registrar, has been named acting dean of Educational Services for academic year 1985-86, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of Gordon S. Bigelow.

Assuming the position as acting registrar during Keysor's temporary assignment is Steven Rand. Diane Hoyt has been named acting assistant registrar during that period.

"I have every confidence that the Registrar's Office's functions and responsibilities are in good hands," says Keysor. "We are looking forward to a productive and successful year."

## Farewell Reception for Bigelow

Gordon Bigelow has resigned as dean of Educational Services to take another position. He will, however, continue to live in this area and from time-to-time work on USM projects.

John Keysor, his successor, invites the campus community to a reception in Bigelow's honor at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, August 8, in Hastings Lounge, Gorham.

"Bigelow's 14-year tenure has been a significant and positive factor from his arrival during the merger years to his leadership in bringing the Campus Center in Portland to a reality," says Keysor.

## USM Airs Cable Series

I need to brush up on math and English. Is there help? Will someone help me plan a career? Am I eligible for financial aid? How can I juggle family, work and school responsibilities?

That's just a sample of queries that an adult who's thinking of attending college might have. And he or she won't be alone when posing those and other questions. Recent statistics tell us that by the year 1990 more than 50 percent of students in post-secondary institutions will be adults.

Given statistics like that and the fact that USM already delivers the educational and support services that older students need, we have produced the six-part public service TV series "The Adult Learner."

The series, six individual shows of 30 minutes each, was totally produced in-house using the technical expertise of the staff in our Instructional Television system. All on-camera people are USM faculty, staff and students. It was produced by Caroline Hendry of ITV and directed by new staff member Skip Anderson.

The first program in the series features an overview of adult learner issues and interviews with four of our adult students. The second program focuses on our faculty, their backgrounds, teaching methods and thoughts on how the adult learner enriches the classroom experience. The available programs and the costs of attending college are addressed in the third show. Program four and five outline the information and range of student services that adult learners will find at USM. The final segment in the series—program six—tells students about the admissions process and summarizes the previous shows.

The campus community can view the series on Channel 16 on Public Cable and on Channels 2 and 30 on New England Cablevision in York County.

- Programs **one** and **two** will air consecutively Mondays, beginning July 29 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., again from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., and finally from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- Programs **three** and **four** will run on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., again from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., and finally from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- Programs **five** and **six** will air Wednesdays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Then on Thursdays, programs one through six will be run consecutively from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, again from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and finally from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

This Monday through Thursday schedule will be repeated weekly beginning July 29 through the week of August 26.

## FallFest to Celebrate Success

"Celebrating Success" is the theme for this year's FallFest. The second annual ingathering of students and their families, faculty, staff and alumni is scheduled for Saturday, October 5. The day-long event will focus on the undersung achievements of our students, faculty and alumni.



## August Activities

### Institutes

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Sports Psychology Institute   | August 9-10                                      |
| 2. Teaching Science and Social Studies in the Elementary School: A Site Approach | August 5-9                                       |
| 3. Arts Education Institute  | August 12-17                                     |
| 4. Dance/Movement Education Institute  | August 19-23                                     |
| 5. Symposium for the Adult Learner   | 4 Saturdays (August 10, 17, 24, and September 7) |
| 6. SWISH Basketball Camp (Senior Boys' Camp)                                     | August 4-8                                       |
| (Junior Boys' Camp)  | August 11-16                                     |
| 7. Sailing Institute   | August 4-9                                       |
| 8. DoDDs Science Workshop  | August 6-15                                      |

### Summer Selections

- |                       |  |                   |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| <b>Art</b>            | Maine Photography Biennial   | Through August 29 |
| <b>Lecture</b>        | Irish Education: The Problem of Growth (7:00 p.m. - Moot Court Room)                       | August 1          |
| <b>Films</b>          | One Night of Love (7:00 p.m. 10 Bailey)  | August 14         |
| <b>Birds of Maine</b> | 6:30 a.m. Bailey Hall  | August 5 and 12   |
| <b>Theatre</b>        | "Man of La Mancha"   | August 1-17       |
|                       | "Relatively Speaking"  | August 20-31      |
| <b>Planetarium</b>    | Every Friday and Sunday evening through August. Call 780-4249 for titles and reservations. |                   |

## What We're Doing

PIERS BEIRNE, professor of sociology and legal studies, has been awarded a visiting scholarship at the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University, for part of summer 1985.

DAVID P. CLUCHEY, professor of law and public policy, and MELVYN H. ZARR, professor, School of Law, presented a panel on developments in criminal law and procedure during the 1985 summer meeting of the Maine State Bar Association at The Colony, Kennebunkport.

JACQUELINE D. IRVING, secretary, communication department, spoke on "Stress Management" at the Credit Women International monthly meeting in Westbrook.

RONALD W. LEVERE, director of media services, and WINSTON BARTON, media production specialist, presented a seminar to Maine university librarians entitled "Administrative Applications of Microcomputers" at the University of Maine at Orono.

RICHARD J. MAIMAN, associate professor, political science, DOROTHY D. MOORE, dean, College of Education, and ROBERT F. SEIBEL, associate professor, School of Law, have been appointed to a Commission to Study Alternative Means of Dispute Resolution in Maine established by the Maine State Bar Association. The Commission consists of 21 members representing the Bar, the Judiciary, and other interested organizations, and was formed to study various means of alternate dispute resolution and their applicability and feasibility in Maine.

ROSE MARASCO, assistant professor of art, has been awarded a MacDowell Fellowship by The MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, N.H. The Colony, founded in 1907, offers uninter-

rupted time and seclusion to writers, composers and visual artists for concentrating on their creative talents. Marasco will be at The Colony this fall working on a group of photographs taken this summer while she was visiting England.

DOROTHY D. MOORE, dean, College of Education, and L. KINVIN WROTH, dean, School of Law, are representing the University as members of a Task Force on Law-Related Education established by State Commissioner of Education Robert Eugene Boose. The task force also includes representatives of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Maine State Bar Association, and the Maine Judicial Council. The purposes of the task force are to assess the present state of and need for education about the law for elementary and secondary school students and other members of the public, and to develop a consortium of interested educators to plan and implement law-related education programs in the schools and elsewhere.

RICHARD H. SILKMAN, associate professor of public policy and management, has been appointed a member of the Maine Milk Commission by Governor Joseph E. Brennan. His appointment to the council was effective May 27, 1985.

L. KINVIN WROTH, dean, School of Law, was one of the organizers of a day-long "Legal Year in Review" program presented during the 1985 summer meeting of the Maine State Bar Association at The Colony, Kennebunkport. Wroth acted as moderator for panels on current developments in legislation and court rules.

## JOB OPENINGS

Mathematics Instructor  
Sociology Instructor

Academic Counselor - USM-Sanford Center

For more information, call Employee Relations at 780-5260.