HIGHLIGHTS

USM Ceremony Celebrates Stantec Computer-Aided Design Lab
Representatives of Stantec and USM gathered in the John Mitchell Center to celebrate the completion of a $100,000 pledge from Stantec that supported construction of a computer-aided design lab. The facility, known as the Stantec Computer-Aided Design Laboratory, is used in teaching construction, engineering, and manufacturing design, and for prototyping designs with the latest equipment and techniques.

Martha Skoner’s Bequest Will Benefit USM School of Nursing
The School of Nursing has received a $320,000 bequest from the estate of USM Professor Emerita of Nursing Martha Skoner, who taught at USM from 1987-1999. Funds will be used for scholarships and to support the operation of the School of Nursing. Professor Skoner held a B.S. in nursing education, a master’s of nursing education and a Ph.D. in nursing, all from the University of Pittsburgh in her home state of Pennsylvania. She held academic positions at the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Missouri and finally, the University of Southern Maine.

New Degree Concentration in Community Recreation
The Department of Recreation & Leisure Studies now offers a degree concentration in Community Recreation which enables students wishing to work in settings other than health care the opportunity to develop the knowledge base and skills needed to deliver recreation activities in a myriad of community based work settings. Graduates can find careers in municipal parks and recreation departments, non-profit agencies such as YMCAs, YWCAs, and Boys & Girls Clubs, or other community related agencies at the local, state, or regional level.

Rachel Carson Celebration Planned for April
Rachel Carson was one of the most influential people in the 20th Century and 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of the publication of her path breaking book, *Silent Spring*. Carson was able to change the public policy debate surrounding the urgent need for environmental protection. Part of Carson’s inspirations and perspectives were shaped by her years spent on Southport Island, off the Maine coast, studying and observing the natural environment. In celebrating her connections to Maine and her impact on contemporary society, multiple events are being planned at USM for the spring semester. Visit usm.maine.edu/environmental-science/rachel-carson for more information.

USM Applied Energy Program Gets ‘Dream Home’
USM’s applied energy program, which gives students hands-on experience measuring and testing energy efficiency, has acquired its dream home. The university-owned building at 19 College Avenue in Gorham was built as a private home in the late 19th century. It features poor insulation, a fieldstone foundation and an old, oil-fired burner. Plans for the house include the installation of real-time sensors, probes, and cameras to test and monitor the performance of improvements. All information eventually will be made available through a “Residential Energy House” website.

USM Undergrads To Present Talk At International Meeting On The Evolution Of Language
Two USM undergraduate linguistics majors, Tatiana Romanchishina and Heather Thompson, are the authors of a paper titled “The nature of coordination: Evidence from Russian” that is to be presented at Evolang IX, a major international meeting on the evolution of language. The meeting is in Kyoto, Japan, March 13-16, 2012.
CSTH UPDATE

CSTH PEOPLE

Jennifer Dean, Assistant to the Dean for Communications & External Affairs
Jennifer joined CSTH in January to support the college’s internal and external communications, public relations and marketing activities. Jennifer previously held the position of Marketing and Publicity Manager for the UConn School of Business and has worked extensively with internet technologies. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys exploring her new home state of Maine with her family. She can be reached at 780-4149 or jdean@usm.maine.edu.

Micki Meggison, Scientist/Engineer-in-Residence
Micki has joined the Department of Engineering for the Spring 2012 semester as an ambassador and mentor to faculty, staff and students at USM. During her time here, Micki, who is Director, Technical & Process Improvement of Sappi Fine Paper North America, will explore possible areas of alliance for research, internships and student placement in support of the needs of USM and Sappi. Micki is the first scientist/engineer-in-residence at CSTH.

Chad Seeley, Laboratory Associate: Technology
Chad joined CSTH in January as a laboratory associate, responsible for the effective, safe, and efficient operation of several CSTH teaching and research laboratories. Chad is a Maine native and a mechanical engineering student at USM. In his spare time, Chad enjoys building electric guitars. He can be reached at 780-5754 or cseeley@usm.maine.edu.

Dr. Haig Najarian, Professor of Biology, died on 2 December 2011. Over the course of his remarkable 45 years at USM, Dr. Najarian taught scores of Nursing and Biology students in his microbiology, parasitology, and history of biology courses. His love of his chosen field & dedication to teaching inspired thousands of USM students over the years, many of whom went on to careers in the medical field.

CSTH PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

Monroe Duboise, Associate Professor of Molecular Biology & Microbiology, received a Cooperative Agreement from the Maine Space Grant Consortium in support of the project Scientific Ballooning Year 2.


Alison Hinson, Financial Manager, had her article, “Safeguard Your Business By Paying Attention To Signs Of Employee Theft,” published in the January 9th issue of MaineBiz as part of her regular finance column. Alison also recently passed the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) exam.

Erika Lichter, Assistant Research Professor, Maternal & Child Health, received funding from the ME Department of Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services in support of the project Evaluation of Early Childhood Home Visiting Model Expansion.

Krista Meinersmann, Director, School of Nursing, and Associate Professor, received funding from the ME Department of Health & Human Services, Maine CDC in support of the project Hepatitis 11/12.

REMINDERS

Scholarship Applications due February 15th!
usm.maine.edu/csth/scholarships

USM and CSTH YouTube Videos are available for use on your website at youtube.com/USSouthernMaine

Upcoming Events

AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
February 7, 2 PM
Luther Bonney Hall, Portland
amc.maa.org

CREATEMAINE
February 13, 7 PM
Corthell Hall, Gorham
createmaine.com

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
February 15
usm.maine.edu/csth/scholarships

MAINE STEM SUMMIT
March 20, 8AM - 3:30 PM
Colby College
umaine.edu/epscor/conference.htm

ENGINEERING EXPO
March 3, 9 AM - 2 PM
University of Maine, Orono
Field House
engineeringME.com

MAINE DEAF FILM FESTIVAL
April 12-14
Talbot Auditorium, Portland
mainedeafilmfestival.com

RACHEL CARSON PANEL DISCUSSION
April 19, 5 PM
Hannaford Hall, Portland
Sponsored by the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
usm.maine.edu/environmental-science/rachel-carson

Check out what’s happening at the Planetarium this month @ usm.maine.edu/planet