48th Student Government Association Leadership Awards
Student Development Board

Leadership Awards
Student Organization Leadership Recognition

All-Greek Council
Jenny Stevens & Megan McKnight, *Co-Chair*

Board of Student Organizations
Kyle Long, *President*

Commuter Student Association
Michael Perez, *Chair*

Free Press
Alyson Peabody, *Editor-in-Chief*

Gorham Campus Activities Board
Jon Thompson, *Chair*

Outdoor Adventures Board
Hailey Janelle, *Chairs*

Leadership Development Board
Elizabeth Bernier, *Chair*

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Katie Howe, *Chair*

Student Communications Board
Bri Hoyt, *Chair*

Student Senate
Alex Holderith, Elizabeth Bertrand, David Reed,
Tyler Soucy, Caleb Howell

Student Body President
Averi Varney

Student Body Vice President
Melissa Shepard

Undergrad Rep. to UMS Board of Trustees
Nathan Carlow

USM Student Leadership Awards
CONTRIBUTION TO CAMPUS DIVERSITY AWARD

An award to recognize an individual and/or a group that has:

- Worked to impact campus climate around issues of discrimination
- Worked to understand and confront oppression
- Served as a role model to peers and colleagues
- Awards will be given to students who have committed themselves to advocacy in areas involving disability, sexual identity, gender identity, cultural identity, race, and more.
- Multiple students can be accepted for this award and nominees can have experience in advocacy for one or multiple groups.

Award Winners:

- Suheir Alaskari
- Damaris Duarte

Nominees:

Suheir Alaskari, Shelley Friedman, Jesse Everett, Damaris Duarte, Hussein Maow, and the Native American Student Alliance

USM Student Leadership Awards
CONTRIBUTION TO CAMPUS LIFE AWARD

An award to recognize an individual and/or a group that has:

- Worked to make USM a better place for students
- Been involved on campus and in the community
- Showed a commitment to academic success
- Made a significant impact on campus life for their peers and colleagues
- Demonstrated an exceptional passion for USM
- Exemplified the spirit of the University both on-campus and in the community
- Committed themselves to scholarship, service, and involvement at USM

Award Winner:

- Sammy Kohn-Levitt

Nominees:

Erin Farley, Tracy Edwards, Abigail Powell, Bradley Lester, Kyle Long, and Sammy Kohn-Levitt

USM Student Leadership Awards
EMERGING LEADER AWARD

An award to recognize an individual that has:

- Demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities within a student organization or other University capacity
- Recently joined the student organization or department for which they are being recognized (within one calendar year)
- Displayed the potential and capacity for significant leadership opportunities at USM and beyond

Award Winners:

- Keenan Hendricks
- Hussein Maow

Nominees:

Tyler Worcester, Kahla Jusell, Deepak Kandel, Keenan Hendricks, Natalie Ben-Ami, Emily Braze, and Hussein Maow
Event of the Year Award

An award for a USM sponsored event that has:

- Been held on or off campus with students as its primary target audience
- Fostered community building amongst students
- Encouraged involvement of students through planning and participation
- Had success in meeting its desired outcomes

Award Winner:

- USM Students Without Boarders: Xposure

Nominees:

- USM SWBA: Xposure; SAAC: Knockout the Stigma; GCAB” Spring Fling Concert

USM Student Leadership Awards
Outstanding New Student Organization Award

An award to recognize a USM organization that has:

- Been newly created this academic year
- Ventured into membership recruitment, event planning, and fundraising
- Embodied the values of teamwork, service and being inclusive

Award Winner:

- Graduate Student Board & Network

Nominees:

- Graduate Student Board & Network and Social Work Student Organization

USM Student Leadership Awards
Outstanding Student Organization Advisor

An award to recognize a faculty or staff advisor for a USM student organization who has:

- Been employed at USM this academic year
- Advised an active and recognized student organization on campus during the 2019-20 academic year
- Demonstrated an exceptional dedication to their role as advisor
- Closely supported the organization's efforts, leadership development, and programming initiatives

Award Winner:

- **Samantha Allen**

Nominees:

- Samantha Allen, Mindy Butler

USM Student Leadership Awards
CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

An award to recognize an individual and/or group that has:

- Made a commitment to service in the community
- Volunteered for the benefit of others
- Demonstrated leadership in creating a culture of service at USM

Award Winner:

- **Blaise Goodman**

Nominees:

- Kappa Delta Phi NAS Kappa Iota, Daniel Hutchings, Amanda Ricci, Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Blaise Goodman, Bradley Lester, Sam Perry, Katie Tewksbury, Hanna Lima, and Isha Kasai
STUDENT-FOCUSED STAFF AWARD

An award to recognize a USM Staff member who has:

- Been employed at USM this academic year
- Provided a positive influence on student achievement
- Demonstrated an exceptionally student-focused approach to their work
- Gone above and beyond their campus role to enhance the overall student experience

Award Winner:

- **Kim Turner**

Nominees:

- Kelly Fitzgerald, Kim Turner, Erika Lamarre, Kimberly Warren, Christina Cracolici, Ezra Briggs, Christopher Corson, David Lewis, and Erica Sawyer
**STUDENT-FOCUSED FACULTY AWARD**

An award to recognize a USM Faculty member who has:

- Been employed at USM this academic year
- Provided a positive influence on student achievement
- Demonstrated an exceptionally student-focused approach to their work
- Gone above and beyond their campus role to enhance the overall student experience

**Award Winner:**

- **Sara Needleman**

**Nominees:**

Dr. Rebecca Nisetich, Dr. Rikki Miller, Dr. Vaishali Mamgain, Dr. Lucille Benedict, and Sara Needleman

USM Student Leadership Awards
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS AWARD

An award to recognize an individual and/or group that has:

- Made a significant impact within their field of study
- Demonstrated passion for their area of study
- Regularly interacted with classmates, faculty, or staff to develop their own understanding of course materials or to help others learn
- These nominations should not be determined by grades alone but, rather, be indicative of student involvement within their major and its corresponding department

Award Winners:

- Margaret Matte
- Emily Brazee

Nominees:

Margaret Matte and Emily Brazee

USM Student Leadership Awards
Senior Husky Achievement Award

An award to recognize a graduating senior who has:

- Demonstrated pride in USM
- Served in a variety of leadership roles on campus and encouraged others to become involved in campus life
- Made a significant impact in the campus community throughout their college career
- Gone above and beyond to enhance the experience of their fellow students
- Demonstrated a commitment to academic success
- Served as a role model for their peers

Award Winner:

- Maria Escobar

Nominees:

Jackie Luckhardt, Tracy Edwards, Damaris Duarte, Johnny Kyte, and Maria Escobar

USM Student Leadership Awards
An award to recognize an individual that has:

- Worked in a campus office this academic year
- Demonstrated leadership and professionalism
- Taken initiative in job responsibilities
- Created new programs and/or provided supervision for others

Award Winner:

- Tammy Koch

Nominees:

Brooke Connolly, Johnny Kyte, Bridget Rowley, Tammy Koch, Mackenzie Whittaker, Josh Smith, Nora Ibrahim, Tobias Adams, Skye Danler, Damaris Duarte, Olivia Libby, and Kristen Cates
Graduate Student Employee of the Year

An award to recognize a graduate student who has:

- Worked in a campus office this academic year
- Demonstrated leadership and professionalism
- Taken initiative in job responsibilities
- Created new programs and/or provided supervision for others

Award Winner:

- Madeleine Lutts

Nominees:

- Erik Eisele, Alison Nolan, Zack Glenn, Madeleine Lutts, and Eleanor Mair

USM Student Leadership Awards
Student Organization of the Year

An award to recognize a student organization that has:

- Made a significant impact on campus life and the greater community
- Had its members serve as leaders on campus
- Embodied the values of teamwork, service and being inclusive

Award Winner:

- Husky Veterans Student Group

Nominees:

- USM Gaming Club
- Commuter Student Association
- Outdoor Adventure Board
- Gorham Campus Activities Board
- Husky Veterans Student Group
- Students Without Boarders
- Men’s Club Volleyball

USM Student Leadership Awards
Outstanding Student Leader Award

An award to recognize a student leader who has:

- Demonstrated leadership at USM
- Been involved on campus & in the community
- Showed a commitment to academic success
- Served as a role model for their peers
- Practiced ethical leadership
- Fostered inclusion and collaboration

Award Winner:

- Kathleen Rattazzi

Nominees:

- Thomas Dolloff, Emma Quinn, Sierra Steinhagen, James Fagan, Ezri Donnangelo, Kathleen Rattazzi, Emily Lescatre, Jesse Everett, Shelley Friedman, Justin Gross, Blaise Goodman, Bradley Lester, Nate Twombley, Kevin Hill, Averi Varney, Sammy Kohn-Levitt, Tran Truong, Rebekah Hall, and Jon Thompson
Housing & Residential Life Leadership Awards
Residential Life Awards

Residential Lifetime Achievement Award: Tracy Edwards

An RA or AM who during their time with The Office of Residential Life, has made contributions of outstanding significance to the work that Residential Life strives to do.

Rookie of the Year Award: Sierra Steinhagen

An RA or AM who is new to their position and has excelled in their role, raising the bar of what it means to be an incredible student staff member for Residential Life.

Above & Beyond Award: Brandon Buck & Carter Haid

Recipients of this award are returning staff members who excel inside and outside the classroom, consistently "raise the bar" and serve as role models for the staff and the campus. They are always willing to lend a hand and take initiative and have performed exceptionally well in the administrative duties of their role. They have proven their commitment to the department and the campus community.
RISING STAR AWARD: Sam Perry

Recipients of this award are those who are new to Residential Life and embrace their responsibilities with enthusiasm, working hard not only on the written and unwritten expectations of the position, but also using the experience to grow personally and professionally.

CLARA BURNHAM AWARD: Maria Escobar

Recipients of this award are those who embody the welcoming, supportive, and caring nature of Clara Burnham, that last "dorm mother" at USM. Clara was known to be in the lobby greeting students each morning, wishing them a good day. Nominees are those who create a feeling of home and community for our students.

BIG FISH AWARD: Brandon Hallee

Awarded to staff members who have consistently demonstrated a wonderful attitude even when facing adversity. They role model the Fish Philosophy in their ability to choose their attitude, have fun, be present, and make students' days on a regular basis. They are appropriately realistic, and work hard to provide students with a positive perspective of USM and what it has to offer.
RESIDENTIAL LIFE AWARDS

FISH PHILOSOPHY PLAY Award: EMILY COLBY

An RA or AM who taps into their natural way of being creative, enthusiastic and having fun. Play is the spirit that drives the curious mind, as in “Let’s play with that idea!” This staff member brings this mindset to everything they do.

FISH PHILOSOPHY BE THERE Award: ABBY POWELL

RA or AM who is emotionally present for people. It’s a powerful message of respect that improves communication and strengthens relationships.

FISH PHILOSOPHY MAKE THEIR DAY Award: KYLE LONG & MARYAN ISACK

An RA or AM who finds simple ways to serve or delight people in a meaningful, memorable way. It’s about contributing to someone else’s life—not because you want something, but because that’s the person you want to be.

FISH PHILOSOPHY CHOOSE YOUR ATTITUDE Award: ABBY WHITE & CJ MOODY

An RA or AM who takes responsibility for how they respond to what life throws at them. They know their choice affects others. They ask themselves: Is my attitude helping my team or my residents? Is it helping me to be the person I want to be?
Each year we award a leadership award to a TRIO student or students who have made outstanding contributions to the TRIO Student Support Services program and who have demonstrated exceptional leadership within the TRIO community.

Award Winners:
- Ielaf Khalil
- Patricia Herbert
Student Government Association

Senate Leadership Awards
Student Government Association Awards

Student Club Excellence Award: USM Gaming Club

Award shall be given to a club that has demonstrated exceptional leadership and encouraged student involvement in order to benefit the USM Community.

Rising Star Award: Justin Gross

Award shall be given in recognition of a first-year Senator who has shined within their committee and/or position on the Student Senate. The Rising Star is a Senator who shows promise and potential for future achievements.

Outstanding Entity Head Award: Jon Thompson

Award shall be given to an entity head who has shown outstanding leadership and management skills in their position. The recipient of this award shall be someone who consistently exhibits hard work and dedication to their entity.
Student Government Association Awards

Helpful Husky Award - Student: Marcella Marino

The award shall be given to any member of the SGA who goes above and beyond to lead, support, and encourage fellow Senators, Entities, and Student Groups and doesn’t expect anything in return.

Helpful Husky Award - Staff/Faculty: Dr. Timothy Ruback

The award shall be given to a faculty or staff member who exemplifies what it means to be helpful to students. The Husky Helper is someone who constantly makes efforts to support and encourage students to be their best.

The Glenn Cummings Award: Paul Thiemens; Sodexo

The award shall be given to any member of the University who shows exemplary quality of character and goes out of their way to improve the University community.

Student Senate Commitment Award: David Reed

The award shall be given to any member of the Student Senate who has been actively involved for more than one academic year, and who has positively contributed to the success of the Senate.
CLASS OF 2020
STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

❖ Leyla M. Hashi ‘20

Join the Online Commencement Ceremony
8:45 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2020

usm.maine.edu/commencement

Student Commencement Speaker Recognition
Congratulations to our 2020 award recipients!

Leadership Awards Gala