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### **UMS TRUSTEES TO MEET IN BANGOR ON JANUARY 23**

BANGOR—Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System will meet at the System Office headquarters in downtown Bangor on Monday, January 23.

Several items will be reviewed and considered by Trustees, including:

- Creation of two new lab spaces in a currently vacant part of USM's Bioscience Research Center. This would expand the Wise Lab of Environmental & Genetic Toxicology and related programs for undergraduate research and high school outreach. The project would be funded by the Maine Economic Improvement Fund.
- A project to demolish up to ten outdated apartment buildings and make improvements at the remaining twenty-six buildings—including installation of a sprinkler system—at UMaine's University Park.
- Establishment of a Master of Laws one-year professional degree program at the University of Maine School of Law in Portland.
- A policy limiting most undergraduate degrees to 121 credit hours to make it easier for students to earn degrees in four years.

Trustees will also review a new series of goals and actions brought forth by the board's Trustee Affairs Committee which direct System and University leadership to move forward in key areas of program and workforce development, cost control, and student success.

Trustees will receive updates and reports from:

- An education specialist from the Finance Authority of Maine will present tools and resources available to help improve financial literacy of Maine students and families and outline the ways universities can play a role in financial education and debt management.
- Members of the UMS Distance Learning Steering Committee will provide an update to the BOT of progress made in expanding the System's online educational offerings.
- An expert from Sightlines, LLC, will provide an annual update on a variety of facility and capital information including capital improvements and outstanding capital needs.

The complete agenda for the January UMS Board of Trustees meeting may be viewed at:  
[www.maine.edu/pdf/committeescheduleandagendaBOTmtgJan232012.pdf](http://www.maine.edu/pdf/committeescheduleandagendaBOTmtgJan232012.pdf).

Established in 1968, the University of Maine System is the state's largest educational enterprise. It has an annual enrollment of nearly 41,000 students and serves over 500,000 individuals annually through

educational and cultural offerings. Two-thirds of its alumni—approximately 120,000 people—live in Maine. The University of Maine System features seven universities—some with multiple campuses—located across the state, as well as nine University College outreach centers, a law school, and an additional 75 interactive distance learning sites. For more information, visit [www.maine.edu](http://www.maine.edu).

All Board meetings are open to the public. Persons with disabilities who need accommodations to attend should call Chip Gavin, director of facilities management and general services, at 973-3335 (voice) or 973-3262 (TDD/TDY) or by e-mail at [chip.gavin@maine.edu](mailto:chip.gavin@maine.edu).