RYAN LOW NAMED UMS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

BANGOR—Chancellor Richard L. Pattenaude has appointed former Maine state official Ryan Low as Executive Director of Governmental & External Affairs for the University of Maine System.

"Ryan Low brings significant expertise in and knowledge of Maine state government," Pattenaude noted. "In addition, his outstanding work has been broadly acknowledged by people across the political spectrum. Ryan will be a superb addition to the System’s senior management team."

Pattenaude added that Low will begin work at the System Office as of January 1, 2012, for the upcoming legislative session. Low will step into a role held by John Lisnik, of Presque Isle, who is retiring after twenty-one years as the government relations liaison for the University System. In addition to government relations, Low will also oversee the System’s public and media relations efforts.

Low has worked at the University of Maine at Farmington as Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer since July 2010. Recently he also served as a key member of Governor LePage’s Streamlining Commission.

Prior to his appointment at UMF, Low served as the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services for Governor Baldacci’s Administration, where he oversaw 9 bureaus and over 1000 employees serving the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches, all State agencies and the general public.

Among the many capacities he’s held in State government, Low also served as Governor Baldacci’s Deputy Chief of Staff, State Budget Officer, and Associate Commissioner for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Low is a graduate of the University of Maine at Farmington. He resides in Winthrop, Maine, with his wife and two daughters.

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.

-30-

[NOTE TO EDITORS: A photo of Ryan Low is attached to this news release.]