WHEREAS, University of Maine System ("UMS") and Maine Technical College System ("MTCS") have a long history of working together – most notably in the areas of credit transfer, co-located off-campus centers, sharing of library resources, joint scholarship programs and numerous local partnerships; and

WHEREAS, there is an even greater need for coordination because of the growing demand for increased higher education attainment, the evolution of the technical colleges into community colleges, and the increased pressure on limited public resources; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on our public higher education systems in this environment to collaborate with and complement each other to assure the best service possible for Maine students and citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, this University of Maine System and Maine Technical College System Coordinating Advisory Committee is created to provide a forum for ongoing communication among the administrative leadership in the two Systems.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Coordinating Advisory Committee is to assure that Maine’s public higher education systems complement and collaborate with each other through a formal communication structure in order to enhance service to Maine and Maine students.

II. COMPOSITION

This Coordinating Advisory Committee shall consist of six members: three selected from UMS by the UMS Chancellor and three selected from MTCS by the MTCS President. The UMS Chancellor and MTCS President shall each select one co-chair to lead the Committee. Committee members may include College and University presidents, vice presidents or senior administrators; and System officials. The Committee shall be convened at the request of the UMS Chancellor and MTCS President.

III. AREAS OF REVIEW

The Committee agenda shall be developed by the UMS Chancellor and MTCS President, and topics may include:

A. Enhancing transfer opportunities

B. Reviewing priorities and goals of the UMS and MTCS Strategic Plans
C. Aligning UMS and MTCS to support the State’s economic development priorities

D. Reviewing business practices leading to potential cost-efficiencies

E. Reviewing infrastructure and access

F. Exploring shared services and facilities

G. Exploring opportunities for collaborative grant, scholarship and/or endowment proposals

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have signed this Agreement on the dates written below.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

By: ___________________________ Date ______

Joseph W. Westphal
Chancellor, University of Maine System

MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

By: ___________________________ Date ______

John Fitzsimmons
President, Maine Technical College System