UMA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Financial
- FY15 budgeted credit hours are 2.4% less than FY14 budget and flat with the FY14 actual.
- No tuition or mandatory fees increases.
- UMA’s proposed budget addresses a structural gap of $2.7 million due to primarily no growth in credit hour enrollments combined with static rates for tuition, fees, and appropriation as well as inflationary pressures, including increased labor costs.
- UMA’s budget is balanced and also reflects meeting the increased depreciation funding target of 90%. UMA is not seeking University of Maine System funding to bridge transitional organizational challenges.
- When the economy improves, some students return to the workforce and UMA’s enrollments fall. This phenomenon, combined with increased competition for the non-traditional adult student is reflected in UMA’s flat credit hour projection in FY15.

Strategic
- Expand and refine UMA’s unique “brand”.
- Utilize Academic Program Discontinuance Committee (“APDC”) findings to phase out “stand-alone” associate degrees and strengthen baccalaureate mission.
- Explore selected online graduate degree offerings.
- Pursue new and enhance existing academic/business partnerships (for example: Maine Instrument Flight, Maine General Health, Snow Pond Music Camp and Harlow Art Gallery).
- Form new collaborative relationships with other University of Maine System campuses (“1+3” Bachelors in Nursing program with the University of Maine at Fort Kent).

Challenges
- Increased focus by other University of Maine System institutions and proprietary organizations on adult, non-traditional & online students which had historically been serviced by UMA.
- Scarcity of appropriate housing options in Augusta for traditional students (e.g. Architecture and Aviation).
- Need for continued strategic reinvestment in technology to support UMA’s historical core competence in online and distance education.