

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees Meeting

Zoom Meeting  
May 6, 2024

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting**

**Present: Committee Members:** David MacMahon; Chair, Roger Katz, Emily Cain, Barbara Alexander, Trish Riley, Kelly Martin **Other Trustees:** John Moore **Presidents:** Joseph McDonnell, Ray Rice, Jenifer Cushman, Leigh Saufley, Jacqueline Edmonson, Joan Ferrini-Mundy, and Deb Hedeem **Faculty Representatives:** William Otto, Patrick Cheek, Clyde Mitchell, Lisa Leduc, Joseph Staples, Dmitry Bam **Student Representatives:** Katie Ashley, Griffin Goins, Tyler Davis, Camille Alipalo, and Alec Brooks **System Staff:** Chancellor Malloy, Jeffrey St. John, Paul Chan, Carolyn Dorsey, Ryan Low, Heather Ball, Jamie Ballinger, Elizabeth Stickler **Others Present:** John Volin, Joseph Szakas, Kathy Yardley, Megan Walsh, Georita Frierson.

Trustees Absent: Lisa Eames, Pender Makin.

Trustee David MacMahon, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. The Clerk performed a roll call of the Committee members present.

**Student Representative Discussion**

The Board of Trustees Student Representatives brought forward discussion items relevant to their university communities and the University of Maine System with particular focus on the Status of Academic Advising Services on the campuses across the System.

**Faculty Initiated Discussion**

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board invites faculty-rank members of the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Trustees to bring forward discussion items relevant to their university communities and the University of Maine System. The Faculty Representatives, working in conjunction with Chair MacMahon, decided that the May 2024 ASA meeting topic would be Academic Advising.

The floor was opened for discussion with the Faculty Representatives, students and Provosts in attendance regarding Academic Advising across the system.

**New Academic Program Proposal: Master of Arts in Teaching - Whole Child Education, UMA**

(Joseph Szakas)

Whole Child education refers to a wraparound approach to education that incorporates both the content and the climate of learning to create the physiological and psychological conditions for productive learning, taking the whole child's experience into account. UMA's Master of Arts in Teaching - Whole Child Education centers on providing learning opportunities that will support educators in creating relationship-centered learning spaces; creating curricula, instruction, and assessments for deeper learning; offering integrated student support; preparing teachers for Whole Child practice; and encouraging policymaking that supports every child.

On a motion by Trustee Cain, which was seconded by Trustee Riley, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwarded this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, and approves the Master of Arts in Teaching - Whole Child Education at the University of Maine at Augusta.

**New Academic Proposal: Associate of Arts in Social Science, UMA**

The UMA Associate of Arts in Social Science is designed to support the needs of adult degree completion and transfer students by 1) delivering foundational knowledge in Social Science theory and research, 2) providing a credentialing pathway for those students who depart higher education prior to completion of the four-year degree, and 3) serving as a significant marker of accomplishment for students on their way to the B.A. degree. This program also taps into existing UMA faculty expertise in Social Science and strengthens UMA's portfolio of academic offerings.

On a motion by Trustee Alexander, which was seconded by Trustee Cain, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwarded this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and approves the Associate of Arts in Social Science at the University of Maine at Augusta.

**New Academic Proposal: Doctor of Engineering in Engineering Technology, University of Maine**

The UM Doctor of Engineering in Engineering Technology is designed for working professionals seeking advanced training in their field. This 100% online, part-time dissertation program combines research and applied learning, granting students the skills to serve in advanced leadership roles in survey engineering and related fields and qualifying them for postsecondary teaching roles. More than 25 letters of support from industry professionals were submitted in preparing this proposal. This program will fill a unique niche in doctoral education - although several institutions offer on-campus programs in Engineering Technology, no doctoral-level online programs are available in the United States. In addition, this new doctoral program will contribute to MCEC's HAF-supported UMS TRANSFORMS' goal of doubling engineering and computing student enrollments by 2032.

On a motion by Trustee Alexander, which was seconded by Trustee Cain, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwarded this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, and approves the Doctor of Engineering in Engineering Technology at the University of Maine.

## **Informational Item: USM Program Name Change - B.S. in Recreation and Leisure Studies to B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation**

The University of Southern Maine Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Leisure Studies program has requested a program name change to the B.S. In Therapeutic Recreation. Originally, the B.S. in Recreation and Leisure Studies program, which was launched in 1979, had two concentrations: Community Recreation and Therapeutic Recreation. Over time, Therapeutic Recreation became the dominant program choice, and the Community Recreation option was eliminated. The proposed new name, the Bachelor of Arts in Therapeutic Recreation, simplifies the naming convention and is more recognizable in the market. No curricular modifications accompany this name change.

### **Executive Session**

On a motion by Trustee Cain, which was seconded by Trustee Alexander, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee agreed to go into Executive Session under the provisions of:

- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-A to discuss the evaluation of personnel and the consideration and discussion of appointments, evaluations, employment, and duties.

On a motion by Trustee Riley, which was seconded by Trustee Alexander, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee concluded the Executive Session.

### **Tenure at Time of Hire, Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, UM**

The University of Maine has requested that Dr. Gregory Cox be awarded tenure at the rank of Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences within the College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences at the University of Maine, effective January 2, 2024, in accordance with Board of Trustee Policy 310. Dr. Cox's credentials have been reviewed by the faculty of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Maine and received their full support.

On a motion by Trustee Cain, which was seconded by Trustee Martin, and approved by a roll call vote of all Trustees present, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee approved the following resolution to be forwarded for Board of Trustee approval at the May 19-20, 2024, Board Meeting.

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee and approves tenure at time of hire, Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences with tenure to be effective January 2, 2024.

Additional information about the meeting can be found on the Board of Trustees website: <https://www.maine.edu/board-of-trustees/meeting-agendas-materials/academic-and-student-affairs-committee/>

Adjournment,  
Elizabeth Stickler, Clerk