This spring we launched a new tradition. Along with Maine Day, we included an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to take a moment to thank you—our generous donors—in a very public way. Students enjoyed the opportunity to utilize social media to express their gratitude for all that you do. We heard about the critical support provided through scholarship dollars, special opportunities like study abroad programs, new and enhanced learning facilities like the continued on page 2

UMaine President Susan J. Hunter Installed

The installation of UMaine’s 20th president was held in the Collins Center for the Arts on March 26. Highlighting the ceremony was a keynote address, “Leading with a Cause,” by Nancy Zimpher, chancellor of the State University of New York System.

Dr. Susan J. Hunter was named President of the University of Maine, effective July 7, 2014. She began her full-time career at the University of Maine in September 1991. Prior to starting her two-year appointment as UMaine’s first woman president, President Hunter served as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the University of Maine System, a position she assumed in September 2013. Hunter served five years as the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of Maine. At UMaine, she also has held the positions of Associate Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education; Assistant Director in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture; and a faculty member and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences.

In honor of Hunter’s installation, the University of Maine Foundation has established the President Susan J. Hunter Fund in 2015.

“I am particularly proud to be named as the University’s first woman president and I feel strongly about supporting the ideals that this fund will advance.”

Susan J. Hunter, Ph.D. President, University of Maine

Distributions from this endowed fund will be made at the discretion of UMaine’s ADVANCE Rising Tide Center. umaine.edu/advancerisingtide/
Darling Marine Center Reaches 50th Anniversary Milestone

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center (DMC) will host an Open House on August 8, 2015, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The public is invited to tour the waterfront facility and learn about lobster ecology, fisheries management, shellfish aquaculture, remote sensing, coastal food webs, and ocean acidification. There will be fun activities for all ages!

The University of Maine's Darling Marine Center (DMC) was founded in 1965 with the donation of a 127-acre saltwater farm by Ira C. Darling. Working with the University of Maine Foundation, Darling, a retired insurance executive from Chicago, Illinois, not only gifted the property with the intent of establishing a marine laboratory, but also created one of the largest funds in UMaine history to help maintain and improve the property. The Foundation also helped Darling create two chaired professorships in memory of his wives Clare and Agatha. Mr. Darling's vision and generosity enabled the University of Maine to launch a graduate program in oceanography in 1969.

Today the DMC is a world renowned research and educational facility occupying 170 acres on the shores of the Damariscotta River estuary in Walpole, ME, and serving the marine interests of UMaine faculty, staff and students. The DMC is part of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture; faculty and students at the Center are members of the School of Marine Sciences.

For more information on the center or the 50th Anniversary Celebration, visit dmc.umaine.edu.

Celebrating Scholarships

Student Allison Sherman is the 2015 recipient of the Katherine Musgrave Award. Thanks to the opportunity presented by the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, Allison and Katherine were able to meet and enjoy a wonderful dinner together at the annual NSFA Scholarship Recognition Banquet in April.

Nearly 500 students, faculty, parents and staff along with President Susan Hunter and Dean Ed Ashworth celebrated academic awards and scholarships at the event held in Alfond Arena.
Professor Gives Back

Professor Ed Grew has invested in his discipline in many ways. Grew has been at the University of Maine since 1984 as a research scientist and an educator and mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students.

In November 2014, he established two funds for the benefit of the department to which he has devoted his life’s work. The Edward Sturgis Grew Earth Sciences Endowment will be used to support the educational and research activities of students in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences. Funds will be available for educational field trips, field experiences and field camp, research, internships and networking events. The Edward Sturgis Grew Professorship in Petrology and Mineralogy will support a new tenure-eligible faculty position in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences.

Grew describes the motivation for his gift: “I would like to keep up the tradition of mineralogy and petrology at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences for which the School is renowned. The School has excellent and well-maintained analytical instrumentation for studying minerals such as the electron microprobe and scanning electron microscope, which are available to students and faculty alike. In addition, supporting a professorship is a family tradition since I have common ancestors with both founders of the Sturgis Hooper Professorship of Geology at Harvard University. I hope to set a precedent to other faculty in the School to come forward and donate funds to further the internationally recognized research within the School.”

Grew received a B.A. degree from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. degree from Harvard University. He served in post-doctoral positions at the U.S. Geological Survey, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of California at Los Angeles before joining the research faculty of the University of Maine in 1984. The Edward Sturgis Grew Earth Sciences Endowment is held at the University of Maine Foundation and the Edward Sturgis Grew Professorship in Petrology and Mineralogy is administered by the Dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

“Dr. Grew’s gift is another fine example of UMaine's faculty giving back to support and enhance ongoing learning for students,” says Foundation President/CEO Jeff Mills. “Along with the financial support, it is a tribute to the scholarship at the University of Maine.”

INVESTMENT NEWS

Global Equity markets generally rose in the first quarter with international equities outperforming U.S. equities for the first time in a while. U.S. equities (S&P 500) were up +1.0% for the quarter while developed non-U.S. equities (MSCI EAFE) were up +4.9% and emerging market equities (MSCI Emerging Markets) were up +2.3%. Market movements in the first quarter were driven by the European Central Bank’s announcement of quantitative easing, falling oil prices and the strengthening U.S. dollar. Despite the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank announcing intentions to raise interest rates at some point in 2015, treasury yields declined with the ten-year U.S. Treasury yielding 1.94% at the end of the quarter. A drop in yields results in a positive return.

The Foundation’s General Endowment Fund stood at $185.9 million as of March 31, 2015. For the quarter, the Fund returned +1.4% (net of all fees), underperforming the policy benchmark return of +2.0%, but outperforming the S&P 500 Index return of +1.0%. The Fund was led by developed equity markets, hedge funds, and fixed income markets posting positive returns. The U.S. Equity allocation was up (+1.8%) due to U.S. equity managers Independent Franchise Partners (+2.6%) and Bangor Savings Bank (+2.6%). Additionally, from the hedge fund program, Roystone Capital returned +10.1% for the quarter, resulting from strong stock selection. UMF’s portfolio was negatively impacted by underperformance in the Emerging Markets Equity allocation where each of the managers underperformed their benchmarks. The Emerging Markets allocation returned -1.2% for the quarter, lagging its benchmark return of +2.3%.

The General Endowment paid out over $6 million in support to the University of Maine this school year. Thank you to the many friends and alumni who have established an endowment in support of the University. If someone you know is interested in supporting students, academics, or athletics at the University, there are many ways this can be accomplished. Please contact us for more information.

Pictured: A group of 2015 Chemistry Department scholarship recipients.
I recently received a copy of a University of Maine student’s thank you letter to the family of the donor who had created a scholarship fund through her will. The letter states, in part:

“To receive this level of help from a stranger has been overwhelming to say the least. The scholarship funds will go a long way in easing the financial burden on me so that I can concentrate on my studies. More so than that, though, is the intangible support you have given to me. Your gift has shown me that there are other people out there, who believe my personal goal to be a worthy one. That truly means the world to me, especially at a time when I am far from my family and friends trying to make a home and a better future for myself in a new place.”

Letters like this one remind me of the difference that bequests can make in the lives of students. Many students would not be able to graduate without the assistance that comes from the planned gifts that have been endowed with the University of Maine Foundation. Scholarship support is crucial.

Many of our supporters like you have chosen to create a legacy through a bequest, charitable gift annuity or charitable trust to help students to attain their degrees. Our planned giving staff is ready to help you and your advisors to craft language that will create a legacy for you while helping students to achieve their goals in perpetuity. We exist to assure that our donors’ wishes are adhered to and we have a great deal of experience in protecting our donors’ privacy. Contact us today to explore how planned gifts can help both you and University of Maine students to achieve your goals.

For more information on planned and deferred gifts, or Legacy Society membership, contact our Planned Giving staff at 207.581.5100 or 207.253.5172.