

For Immediate Release

#R012-030

UMaine Farmington “Symposium Day” Wednesday, April 10 to Showcase Scholarly Presentations and Creative Works

FARMINGTON, MAINE (April 5, 2002) -- Instead of going to class on **Wednesday, April 10**, University of Maine at Farmington students Chris Mason of Wilton, Steven Akeley of Westbrook and Jason Mitchell of Waterville will discuss their research findings on how people and events from western and northern Maine impacted not only Maine history, but U.S. history, as well in a presentation entitled “Divas, Depots and Development: Maine History as U.S. History.”

Instead of going into the science lab, students Patricia Boutin Townsend, Mass., Jennifer Ireland of Norridgewock and Deena Bean of Rangeley will present their research findings on whether sterilization is an effective method of controlling fruit fly populations.

Instead of taking an exam, students Megan Lane of Franklin, Jenna Smith of Portland, Erin Rogers of Farmington and Sue LeDoux of Wilton will give a discussion/information session and role-playing scenario focusing on recognizing and preventing youth depression and suicide.

Instead of teaching that day, UMaine Farmington Professor of special Education Ray Glass, along with his UMF students Corrine Downs of Andover, Colleen Frame of Woodbridge, N.J., Ester Franklin of Skowhegan, Lori Lee of Wilton and Julia Malek of Norridgewock will discuss their experiences working at a bilingual school in Cuernavaca, Mexico this past February while their classmates went on spring break.

These presentations and more will be part of the University of Maine at Farmington’s annual “Symposium Day 2002,” a unique annual event in which the University cancels all scheduled classes and replaces them with an entire day set aside to highlight the scholarly and creative works by UMF students and faculty. This year’s day-long Symposium Day will be held **Wednesday, April 10 beginning at 9:00 A.M.**, at various locations across the Farmington campus. The public is invited to attend all presentations.

7 Hours, 18 Venues, 104 Different Presentations

First held in 1999, UMF Symposium Day was proposed by the University’s Faculty Senate to offer the campus

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and local community the opportunity to showcase the diversity of scholarly and creative works achieved at the Farmington campus. The day-long event, consisting of student and faculty research findings, presentations, readings, performances, art displays, and more has been expanded this year to include more venues, more presentations, and more participants than the previous three Symposium Days.

Presentations run the academic and creative gamut: a study on the warbling call of the black-capped chickadee; a discussion of a unique girl's mentoring program with Kingfield Elementary School children; a demonstration of how to build a personal computer; a presentation on benefits -- and potential harm -- of using anti-bacterial products; a discussion of "cyber ethics;" a performance by the UMF Wind Ensemble; and much more.

A complete schedule of presentations is available online at the UMF Web site: <http://faculty.umf.maine.edu/~stanciof/> or by contacting the event's coordinator, UMF Associate Professor of Physics Paul Stancioff, pauls@maine.edu or 778-7371

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NOTE TO REPORTERS:

We welcome your coverage of any of the day's events. Enclosed is a schedule of the day's events and a synopsis of each presentation. If there is anything I can help you with, please let me know. -- Tom Donaghue, UMF Dir. Public Information, 778-7081.

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