

For Immediate Release

#R034-030

UMaine Farmington “Symposium Day,” April 14, to Showcase Student Research and Creativity — Public Invited

FARMINGTON, MAINE (April 9, 2004) — One special day each spring, the University of Maine at Farmington community enjoys the opportunity to teach, learn, and “show off their learning,” outside the usual classroom format.

It’s all part of the University of Maine at Farmington’s “Symposium Day 2004,” an annual event in which the University cancels classes and replaces them with an entire day set aside to recognize the scholarly and creative works by UMF students and faculty. **Symposium Day will be held Wednesday, April 14, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at various locations across the Farmington campus. The public is invited to attend.**

This year, UMF students, faculty, staff, administrators, and people from the area community will see student and faculty presentations on subjects such as cloning, drug and alcohol abuse, global climate change, and much more. Attendees can follow an area of interest from venue to venue, or stay in one room and learn about a wide range of topics, such as Maine’s responses to the atomic bomb and McCarthyism. Even NASCAR and World Wrestling Entertainment are subjects of this year’s presentations.

In addition to academic and research projects, Symposium Day also features cultural presentations, including graduating seniors’ works on display the UMF Art Gallery — where gallery goers will also have the opportunity to talk with the artists about their work. In UMF’s Olsen Student Center, attendees can hear students read their original writing compositions. There’s even a presentation of the works of Shakespeare — as interpreted by Jerry Springer!

7 Hours, 15 Venues, Nearly 100 Presentations, Exhibits and Performances

Each year, Symposium Day showcases a diversity of topics, subject matter, presentations and exhibits from across UMaine Farmington’s broad liberal arts spectrum: the arts, education, research, social science, rehabilitation services, service-learning, and more. Below is just a sample of the day’s presentations by UMF students in a wide range of academic disciplines:

(more)

UMF students Tara Faiola of Foster, R.I.; Hilary Kurlanska of Saco; and Wendy Pond of New Sharon present “Healthy Choices,” a discussion of a service-learning project in their Health Education Planning class where UMF students assisted the school nurse at Phillips (Maine) Elementary School in developing a health education curriculum for grades 7 and 8, focusing on content areas of reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, and substance abuse. (11:00 a.m., Room 217, Ricker Addition Building.)

UMF students Amanda Coffin of Strong and Chelsea Goulart of East Falmouth, Mass. present “Archie Bunker’s Neighborhood: Is This Your Neighborhood?” an interactive discussion of rural poverty. (1:00 p.m., Room 202, Ricker Addition Building.)

UMF students Michael Crowe of Braintree, Mass.; Amanda Lewis of Bowdoinham; and Andrew Marble of Farmington present “Transmission of Antibiotic Resistance Markers in Genetically Modified Food,” a discussion of the connection between antibiotic resistance and genetically modified foods. (1:45 p.m., Thomas Auditorium, Ricker/Preble Hall.)

UMF student James Malley of Westbrook discusses “Class Implications of Genetic Engineering,” a presentation of the social class implications of genetic enhancements in children. (1:15 p.m., Room 101, Roberts Learning Center.)

UMF student photographers Jamie Beam of Levant; Shauna Brittell of Lyndonville, VT; Jessica Ellingwood of Wilton; Holly Haywood of Vassalboro; Lacey Hebert of Bethel; Laura Kennie of North Yarmouth; Debbie Knutson of Warren; Dan Manson of South Portland; Kristen Slefinger of Readfield; and Rebekah Swierk of Turner present an all-day photo exhibit of their 2003 May Term trip to England and Scotland. The trip included visits to Stonehenge, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick Castle, Salisbury, Oxford, Bath, York, Edinburgh, London and Northumberland’s Alnwick Castle — where some of the scenes in the “Harry Potter” movies were filmed. (9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., Room 123, Olsen Student Center.)

About Symposium Day

First held in 1999, UMF Symposium Day offers the campus and area community the opportunity to showcase the diversity of scholarly and creative works achieved at the Farmington campus. The complete schedule of presentations is available online at <http://faculty.umf.maine.edu/~stanciof/> and printed programs (which include times and locations of events) will be available Monday, April 12, at the UMF mailroom, located near the front entrance of UMF’s Olsen Student Center.

UMF Symposium Day is sponsored by the UMF President’s Office and the Provost’s Office. For more information contact the Symposium Day coordinator, UMF Assistant Professor of Economics Wendy Harper at wharper@maine.edu or 778-7438.