

Institute for Child and Family Policy Named in Honor of Catherine E. Cutler

The Muskie School's Institute for Child and Family Policy has been named in honor of Catherine E. Cutler, a woman who dedicated her life to advocating for improved family services and mental health care reform throughout Maine. As of July 1, the institute will be named the Catherine E. Cutler Institute for Child and Family Policy in recognition of a \$500,000 gift from members of the Cutler family and friends to support construction of a new home for the Muskie School.

"We are pleased to have this opportunity to honor my mother's lifelong commitment to improving the lives of Maine's children and families by associating her name with an institute that has earned a national reputation for programs in support of those she cared about so deeply," said Eliot R. Cutler, chair of the School's Board of Visitors.

Catherine E. Cutler of Bangor, Hancock Point and Portland died in February of 2003. A graduate of Wellesley College and a trained economist, Cutler was a leader in persuading the Maine Legislature to improve the delivery of mental health care by moving mental health services from the Bureau of Prisons to a separate agency. She was president of Family and Child Services of Bangor and the founding president of the Eastern Maine Guidance Center. In the mid 1960s, she received a federal grant to establish the Women's Information and Advisory Service in Bangor to provide career counseling to



(L to R) Joshua, Eliot and Joel Cutler with USM President Richard Pattenauode and photo of their mother Catherine Cutler.

women resuming or starting new careers. Cutler later helped found Spruce Run in Bangor, a shelter and agency for victims of domestic violence.

"The institute's mission is to improve the quality of programs that strengthen families and promote family well-being," said USM Muskie School Dean Karl Braithwaite. "To link the institute with the legacy of Catherine Cutler sends a powerful message about the importance of our work and commitment to academic and professional excellence."

The Muskie School fundraising is part of the University's \$25-million capital campaign, "Transforming USM." The campaign's centerpiece is University Commons, a redevelopment of University-owned land on the Portland campus that will be the building site for the USM Muskie School of Public Service and other university buildings.

University Expands Research and Services for Maine's Tourism Industry

Earlier this year, the University of Maine System approved the creation of the Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) -- the first institutional commitment by the university to research and services for Maine's tourism industry. CenTRO will be a collaboration between the University of Maine and USM's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER). Professor Kevin Boyle from the University of Maine's Department of Resource Economics and Policy will be the director while Professor Charlie Colgan from the Muskie School will serve as Associate Director.

"As one of Maine's leading industries, it's time to focus research and resources on developing ways to

maximize its contributions to our economy," said Colgan. As of July 1, CenTRO will support the state's tourism industry by providing marketing research, developing industry-related academic programs, and improving the economic contributions of tourism to Maine communities. For more information about CenTRO, contact Professor Boyle (kboyle@maine.edu) or Professor Colgan (colgan@maine.edu).

CBER is a joint center of the USM School of Business and the Muskie School. The Center provides applied research and technical assistance to Maine's public and private sectors. More information is available at www.usm.maine.edu/cber.

Upcoming Events

Fri Jul 8

**Student Capstone
Presentation**

"End of Life Quality of Care
Evaluation Tool Suitable
for Use in Nursing Facilities:
A Reliability Assessment"

Tammy Rolfe
Third Floor Library,
509 Forest Avenue
12:00 p.m.

Mon Aug 30

**Fall Semester
Begins**

**Thu - Fri,
Oct 6 - 7**

National Training Course

"Resolving Land Disputes"
presented by the
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
and the Consensus
Building Institute

USM Stone House
Conference Center



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

CBEP Launches New Meadows Lake Tidal Restoration Feasibility Study

On Monday, June 27, the Casco Bay Estuary Project (CBEP) held a public forum in Brunswick,



Aerial view of river divided by Bath/Brunswick road

Maine to introduce the New Meadows Lake Tidal Restoration Feasibility Study. In partnership with the New Meadows River Watershed Project Steering Committee and with input from local residents, CBEP will conduct a feasibility study on possible options for increasing tidal flow from Casco Bay into the New Meadows Lake. It is hoped that increasing tidal flow to the Lake, which is currently restricted by a series of causeways connecting Brunswick and Bath, will improve water quality and restore estuarine habitat. Using a collaborative process, CBEP will work with stakeholders at forums held later this year to consider various options and potential impacts on nearby communities. For more information on this project, contact Matt Craig at 228-8359.

Scientific Team to Census Gulf of Maine Marine Life

The Gulf of Maine Area Program, housed at the Muskie School and the USM Bioscience Research Institute of Southern Maine, is bringing together a team of more than a dozen scientists to determine the use of the Gulf of Maine's offshore banks and ledges by seabirds, marine mammals and large fish. Developing a better understanding of how natural changes in this environment affect marine life usage patterns will help future management of the Gulf of Maine and its resources. Using a 48-foot lobster-type research vessel, the RV *Galatea*, the team will make as many as 10 trips in July to Platts Bank and Three Dory Ridge off the coast of Cape Elizabeth to research and record the conditions of the bank and ridge when these creatures are present and when they are absent. For more information, contact Suzy Ryan at 780-4826.

Training Helps Communities Across Nation End Violence

The Technical Assistance Collaborative Addressing Domestic Violence and Child Custody, a project within the Muskie School's Cutler Institute for Child and Family Policy and funded by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), is holding four training institutes over the next two years for recipients of three OVW grants; Legal Assistance to Victims Grant Program; Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Exchange Grant Program, and the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program. The institutes provide expert information on innovative practices and the latest research pertaining to divorce, custody, and visitation when domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking are present. The first institute, held May 12 and 13, in Boston brought together grantees and their partners to collaborate on efforts to end violence against women and children in their communities. Due to overwhelming interest, enrollment for the institute grew beyond the 100 expected to over 170 participants from 33 states.

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The Technical Assistance Collaborative is administered by the Cutler Institute in partnership with the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law, the National Center for State Courts, and the National Network to End Domestic Violence and provides technical assistance to advocates, attorneys, judges, and other key decision makers. For more information, contact Gail Sweat, Policy Associate, at 207-780-5852.

Faculty and Staff News

Elise Bolda, professor in the School's Health Policy & Management program and director of Community Partnerships for Older Adults, has co-authored the article "Community Partnerships for Older Adults: A Case Study" that has been accepted for a special issue of *Families in Society*.

Erika King, Coordinator, Institute for Public Sector Innovation, traveled to Oklahoma in June to deliver a training session that she developed with the National Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse and the state. The training supports an emerging cross-systems approach to working with drug and alcohol involved families who are also working with public and child welfare systems.

On May 25, Professor **Michel Lahti** and **Teresa Hubley** from the Institute for Public Sector Innovation presented at the 8th Annual National Human Services Training Evaluation Symposium sponsored by the American Humane Association and the California Association of Social Workers in Child Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley.

On June 10, Distinguished Professor **Mark Lapping** was featured on National Public Radio's Morning Edition in a story by Howard Berkes entitled "Rural Maine Towns Give Up on Self-Government."

Stephénie Loux, research analyst at the Institute for Health Policy, has been selected to take part in the year-long Rural Voices Program, a program of the federal Office of Rural Health Policy that provides leadership development for potential rural health leaders and new rural health researchers.

Helen Ward and **Angela Herrick** from the Cutler Institute of Child and Family Policy gave a presentation at the "2005 Spring Forum to Improve the Educational Outcomes of Children in the Child Welfare and DYC Systems" in Denver, Colorado on June 13-14. They spoke about the curriculum and manual they are writing to help caseworkers advocate for the educational needs of children in the child welfare system.

National Land Use Training Offered This Fall

This fall, the Muskie School will again be hosting the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Consensus Building Institute's national course on "Resolving Land Use Disputes." The two-day training, which attracted participants from four states and Canada in 2004, will be held October 6-7 at USM's Stone House Conference Center in Freeport. More information will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, if interested, please contact Professor Jack Kartez at 780-5389.