

Message from the Acting Dean



September marks a fresh start at the Muskie School in many ways. In addition to our returning students, we welcome 47 new students to our master's and doctoral programs and 17 to our professional certificate programs. In total, over 200 students are taking classes this fall.

There are also several changes in leadership. Welcome to Barbara Fraumeni, the new chair of our Ph.D. program in public policy. We are very fortunate to have someone with her expertise join our faculty. Thanks to Charlie Colgan who served as Ph.D. chair during the search. Congratulations to Paul Saucier who has assumed the position of director of the Muskie School's Institute for Public Sector Innovation. Paul brings a terrific background in state policy having served as staff in the Maine Legislature, a policy analyst with the National Academy for State Health Policy, and most recently, the director of the Muskie School's Institute for Health Policy's Chronic Illness, Disability and Aging Program. He replaces Freda Bernatovicz who

continues as a senior research associate, devoting her time to work on child welfare recruitment and retention.

As most of you know, Karl Braithwaite stepped down in August as dean of the Muskie School to take a new position with Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Following a thoughtful process involving the entire school, USM Provost Joe Wood has forwarded a recommendation for an interim dean to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees. The trustees will consider the appointment at their next meeting on Monday, September 26, after which we will make an announcement to the school, university and general public.

We continue to make great progress on our new building and hope many of you will engage in the design process over the next few months. We will be developing a website where we can post the plan and a comments page within the next few weeks.

New faces and a new home speak to positive developments and the School's promising future. It's an exciting time to be at the Muskie School.

-- Andy Coburn, Acting Dean

New IPSI Director Appointed to Blue Ribbon Commission

Soon after assuming his new role as the director of the Muskie School's Institute for Public Sector Innovation (IPSI) on September 6, Paul Saucier received notice that he had been appointed by Speaker John Richardson of the Maine House of Representatives to the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of MaineCare to study the program and make recommendations for improvements.

While an analyst at the Muskie School's Institute for Health Policy, Saucier oversaw and participated in state, regional and national projects focused primarily on Medicaid, Medicare and other public programs for older persons and persons with disabilities.

At the National Academy for State Health Policy, he led national demonstration and policy activities to improve services for dually eligible (Medicare/Medicaid) beneficiaries. He also spent five years as a Legislative Analyst in the Maine Legislature's non-partisan Office of Policy and Legal Analysis.



In 2002, Paul was awarded an Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy to study New Zealand's disability

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Upcoming Events

Wed Oct 5

**An Evening with
the Muskie Fellows**

Corneliu Bolbocean
Maria Creciun
Nozir Solijonov

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Room 506, Law School Building
USM Portland campus

**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

**Mon - Tue
Oct 17 - 18**

**USM Muskie School's
1st Annual Forum for
Health Care Leaders**

"Health Care Quality
and Performance ...
Everyone's Watching"

USM Stone House
Conference Center

see reverse for details
of these events



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and aging systems. He and his family lived in New Zealand for eight months while Paul conducted research and prepared recommendations for the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

He is currently on the National Advisory Committee of the Better Jobs/Better Care Program, an initiative funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Atlantic Philanthropies to improve recruitment and retention of front line workers. In 2003 he was appointed by Governor John Baldacci to Maine's Advisory Council on Restructuring and Unification of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services, and in 2004 he was a member of the Commissioner's Implementation Advisory Team, convened by DHHS Commissioner John Nicholas.

Chief Economist from Dept. of Commerce Joins Faculty

Barbara Fraumeni, former Chief Economist of the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the U.S. Department of Commerce, has joined the faculty at the USM Muskie School of Public Service to chair the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy, USM's first doctoral degree.



"Dr. Fraumeni is a national and international leader in economic analysis," said Joe Wood, USM Provost. "She will make a tremendous contribution to the Muskie School, USM and the University of Maine System." Dr. Fraumeni specializes in economic accounting systems and the measurement of productivity and physical capital for use in public policy decision-making.

Fraumeni served as Chief Economist at the Bureau from January 1999 until July 2005. She has a 1972 B.A. from Wellesley College and a 1980 Ph.D. from Boston College, both in economics. After graduation from Wellesley, she became a Research Assistant for Dale W. Jorgenson of the Department of Economics and the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University, beginning a research collaboration that continues to the present. From 1982 through 1998, Dr. Fraumeni was a Professor of Economics at Northeastern University. From 1988 through 1998, she was also a Research Fellow of the Program on Technology and Economic Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School.

Muskie Professor Named Walter Russell Chair

Professor Charlie Colgan, acting chair of the Muskie School's Community Planning and Development program, has been named USM's Walter E. Russell Chair in Philosophy and Education for 2005 – 2007 along with Professor Lynne Miller from the Department of Professional Education.

As Russell Chair, Professor Colgan will give a series of lectures on the study of public policy and its origins in economics, political science, and history.

This endowed chair is named after Walter E. Russell, a faculty member at Western Maine Normal School (a USM predecessor institution). Qualifications include a distinguished record of service at USM and evidence of significant achievement in scholarship, university service and public service.

Event News

On **October 5**, the Muskie School will host "An Evening with the Muskie Fellows," where students from Moldova and Tajikistan will give presentations on their countries and professional experiences. The event will be held from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Room 506 of the Law School Building on the USM Portland campus. This event is free and open to the public.

The Muskie Fellows are participants in the Edmund S. Muskie/FREEDOM Support Act (FSA) Graduate Fellowship Program, funded by the U.S. government, which focuses on supporting democracy and economic development in Eurasia. It provides opportunities for outstanding young professionals to study at the master's degree level in the United States.

The Muskie School is also hosting a Maine offering of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and Consensus Building Institute's national course on "Resolving Land Use Disputes." The two-day training will be held **October 6 - 7** at USM's Stone House Conference Center in Freeport, Maine. FMI, contact Professor Jack Kartez at (207) 780-5389.

The Muskie School is hosting its First Annual Forum For Health Care Leaders, "Health Care Quality and Performance...Everyone's Watching" on **October 17 - 18** at USM's Stone House Conference Center in Freeport, Maine. Attendance is limited to 75. FMI, contact Norma Charrette, (207) 780-5892, normaj@usm.maine.edu.

Staff News

This fall, **Professor David Hartley** from the Muskie School's Health Policy and Management program, is delivering several lectures on rural health as part of his sabbatical year in Scotland. For example, he recently presented findings from a national survey of mental health encounters in emergency rooms for the School of Clinical Sciences and Community Health at the University of Edinburgh. In late September, he will travel to Norway for a 3-day rural health conference, where he will lead a workshop on the role of community hospitals.

In response to the disaster brought on by Hurricane Katrina last month, **Professor Jack Kartez** wrote a September 7 article in the Maine Voices column of the Portland Press Herald about the need to learn from research that has been conducted on past natural disasters. Professor Kartez was then quoted in a September 11 front-page article in the Maine Sunday Telegram on Maine's preparedness for a natural disaster. A PDF of Professor Kartez's article will be available in the News & Media section on the Muskie School Web site.

Professor Michel Lahti will be presenting a study from the Child Care Research Partnership with DHHS and presenting a forum on data quality at the Annual Canadian/American Evaluation Association Conference in Toronto in October.