

# MEEOA CON

*Seeing the Future in 20/20*

January 8-10, 2020

Atlantic Oceanside  
Bar Harbor, ME



**MAINE EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION  
38TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Welcome to MEEOA CON 20/20!

A year ago we came home from the MEEOA Conference, excited to re-envision it for the new decade. We know the adage "hindsight is always 20/20" but what if we approached the future that way too? Armed with knowledge and intention, we may have a chance at making the future a more equitable place for the students we serve. Our vision for this conference is one of bringing together people in Maine who do the good work that TRIO represents. It is through this (re)connection that we hope you will be inspired and fortified in your resolve to continue to support and advocate for students who are low-income, first-generation, or have disabilities.

We also want to thank those who have supported us this year to make this conference possible. Alan Parks was helpful in numerous ways from lending his Island knowledge, to securing auction items. Casey Henderson, for website and registration help, as well as onsite technical support. Shelbie Ross, for her work on the auction. Kate Walsh, for registration. Nik Lallemond, for the professional photo booth. Jen Rudolph and COE for facilitating the Disparities Conversation. Bridget Mullen for her help securing the location for the pre-con reception. And the Executive Committee for agreeing to almost all of our ideas!

Additionally, we thank our Event Sponsors, University of Maine at Augusta and Machias Savings Bank, as well as our Coffee Break Sponsors, Gene and Stacey Wypyski. Our conference is enriched by their generous donations.

It is our sincere hope that you spend the next few days reminded of how important the work you do is on many levels: nationally, locally, and individually. Conferences like this afford you the opportunity to pause, listen, and refocus on your important work. We hope you laugh with one another, learn something new, make a plan, celebrate the successes of our alumni achievers, think about how you will make change in 2020, eat well, and enjoy the view.

Here's to 2020!

Mary, Eric, and Elyse

LEARN MORE ABOUT MEEOA AT:

[www.meeoa.org](http://www.meeoa.org)

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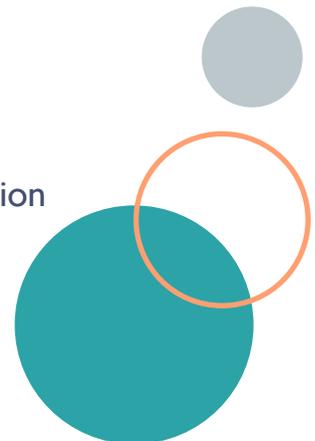
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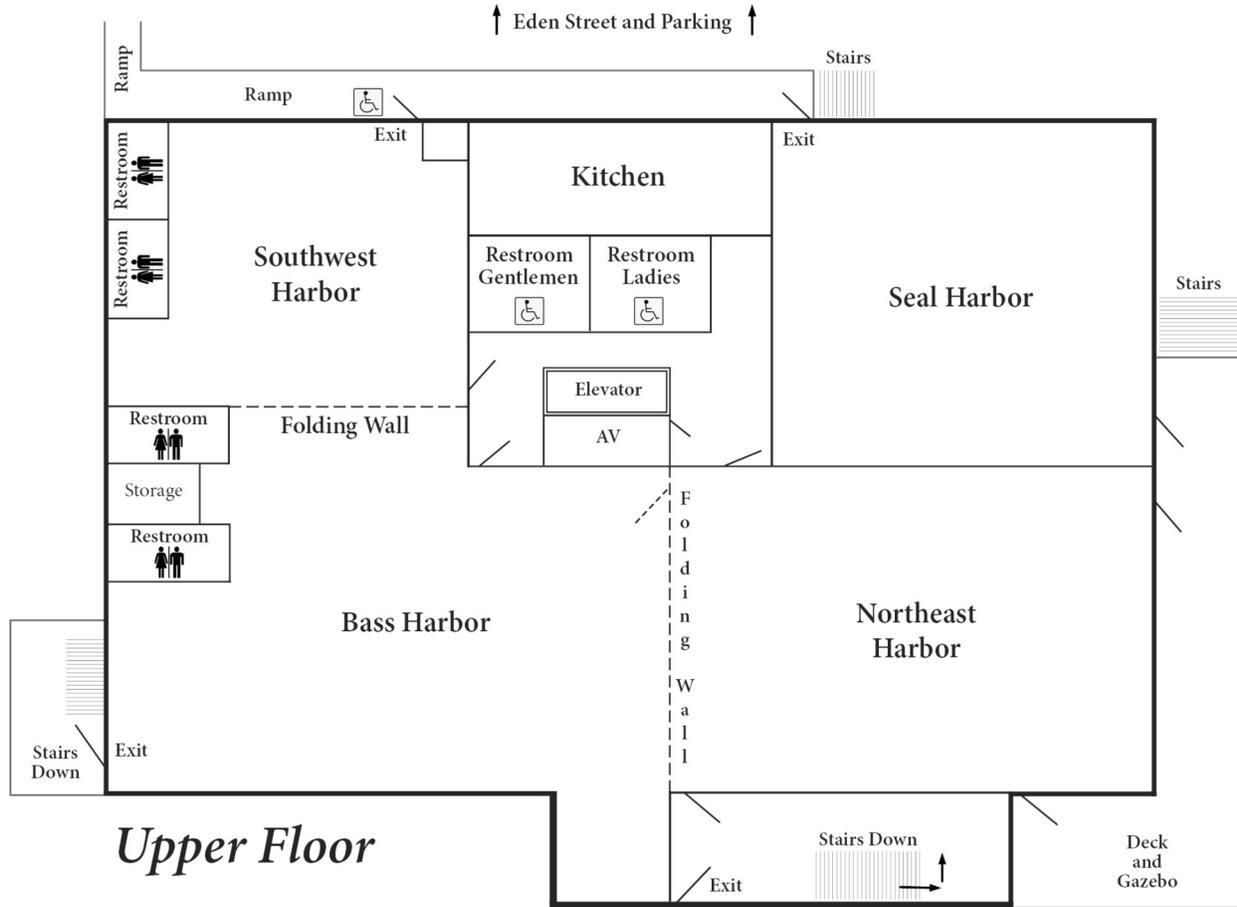
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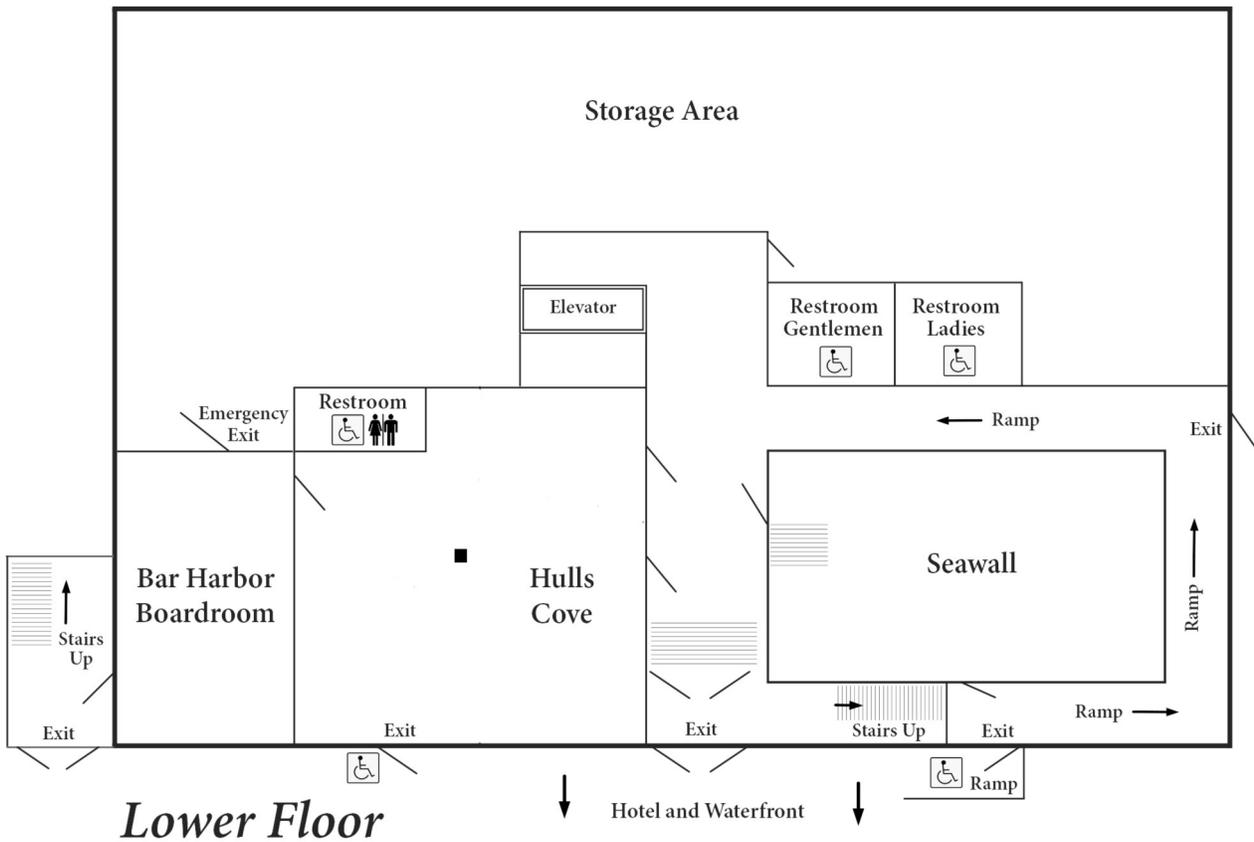
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# Atlantic Oceanside Event Center - Floor Plans



*Upper Floor*



*Lower Floor*

## 2020 MEEOA CON AT A GLANCE

| Time                        | Session   | Location                    |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday, January 8</b> |   |                             |
| 5:00-6:00pm                 | Check In, Dinner on own   | Atlantic Oceanside Lobby    |
| 8:00-9:30pm                 | Night at the Museum– Drinks and Desserts  | Dorr Museum, College of the |
| <b>Thursday, January 9</b>  |   |                             |
| 8:15-9:15am                 | Check in and MEEOA Board Meeting  | Seal Harbor                 |
| 9:15-9:30am                 | Welcome and Who's in the Room   | Bass Harbor                 |
| 9:15am-7:30pm               | Chance Auction  | Bass Harbor                 |
| 9:30-10:30am                | Keynote ~ <i>Rep. Allison Hepler, Maine Legislator</i>  | Bass Harbor                 |
| <b>Workshops Session #1</b> | The UMA/UM Foundations Program: A Win-Win for Students ~ <i>Jonathan Henry, Brandy Fink, Lena Michaud</i>           | Hulls Cove                  |
|                             | Seeing the FAFSA is 20-20 ~ <i>Mila Tappan</i>  | Seawall                     |
|                             | Supporting Maine's Students: Meet Them Where They Are— and Often! ~ <i>Kim Gustafson and James Patefield</i>        | Southwest Harbor            |
|                             | Mentoring, Access, Persistence: Transition Support for Island Students ~ <i>Yvonne Thomas and Christa Thorpe</i>    | Bass Harbor                 |
|                             | Workroom for SSS Grant Writers  | Bar Harbor Board            |
| 11:45am-12:30pm             | Lunch   | Bass Harbor                 |
| 1:00-4:00pm                 | Understanding Major Disparities in College Opportunity ~ <i>COE Rep. Jen Rudolph and Commissioner of Education,</i> | Bass Harbor                 |
| 2:30-2:45pm                 | Coffee Break, <i>Sponsored by Gene and Stacey Wypyski</i>   | Bass Harbor                 |
| 4:00pm                      | Hotel Check In  | Atlantic Oceanside Lobby    |
| 5:30-6:00pm                 | Newcomer's Reception, President's Welcome, Vendor Tables, and Professional Headshot Photo Booth                     | Seal Harbor                 |
| 6:00-7:30pm                 | Banquet and Awards ~ <i>MEEOA ACHIEVER AWARDS</i>   | Bass Harbor                 |
| 7:30-9:30pm                 | Live Auction ~ <i>Hosted by auctioneer Jerry Miller</i>   | Bass Harbor                 |
| 9:30-11:00pm                | Hospitality ~ <i>Theme: What You Wore in Your 20's</i>  | Bistro                      |

## 2020 MEEOA CON AT A GLANCE

| Time   | Session  | Location              |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Friday, January 10</b>                                    |  |                       |
| 6:00-8:30am  | Breakfast for Hotel Guests   | Cadillac              |
| 8:30am-9:30am  | COE and NEOA Updates   | Bass Harbor           |
| <b>9:30-10:30am</b><br><b>Workshops</b><br><b>Session #2</b> | Equity, Access, and Opportunity: Early College Opportunities in the UMaine System ~ <i>Christy Alley</i>   | Hulls Cove            |
|  | Helping Rural, First Generation Maine Students Transition from High School to College with Particular Attention to "Summer Melt" ~ <i>Mary Freeman, Brittany Rumery, and Chris Young</i> | Seawall               |
|  | Support Student Mental Health and College Success~ <i>Frank L. Wang</i>  | Bass Harbor           |
|  | Workroom for SSS Grant Writers   | Bar Harbor Board Room |
| 10:30-10:45am  | Checkout and Coffee Break  | Bass Harbor           |
| 10:45am-12:00pm  | MEEOA Business Meeting   | Bass Harbor           |
| 12:00-12:45pm  | Lunch  | Bass Harbor           |
| 12:45-2:15pm   | Hot Topics and Incubation Tables   | Breakout Rooms        |
| 2:15-2:30pm  | Closing  | Bass Harbor           |

MEEOA is always looking for people to serve on the Executive Board or Committees. Serving in this capacity is a great way to build professional development skills and network with many different people. Currently, there is an opening for Conference (Co-)Chair(s) for the 2021 MEEOA Conference. Additionally, TRIO Day 2021 will be held in Portland, Maine, and will need lots of people to help in the planning.

For more information, please see Steve Visco, Mary Kate Barbosa, the 2020 Conference Co-Chairs, or any member of the Executive Board.

REPRESENTATIVE  
ALLISON HEPLER  
MAINE LEGISLATOR  
UMF PROFESSOR  
OF HISTORY



KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
Thursday, 9:30-10:30AM

Rep. Allison Hepler is serving her first term in the Maine House of Representatives. She is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

Rep. Hepler teaches history at the University of Maine at Farmington and is the author of "McCarthyism in the Suburbs: Quakers, Communists and the Children's Librarian." Rep. Hepler has also worked as a printer, a retail store and office coordinator, a magazine production assistant and a steelworker. She is part-owner of her husband's wooden boat building and repair business in Small Point, Phippsburg.

Allison has lived in Woolwich for nearly four decades and is serving her third term on the Woolwich Selectboard. She believes we can build and maintain a sustainable environment that doesn't sacrifice jobs.

PENDER MAKIN  
MAINE COMMISSIONER  
OF EDUCATION



UNDERSTANDING  
MAJOR DISPARITIES  
IN EDUCATION  
Thursday, 1:00-4:00pm

Commissioner Makin, in collaboration with educators, schools, districts and communities Statewide, leads state efforts to provide all Maine students access to educational experiences, PreK through adult, that lead to their success in life and career. Across her more than 20-year career, Makin has devoted herself to the mission of public education. From 1997 to 2003, she served as a classroom teacher at Fred C. Wescott Junior High School in Westbrook. She went on to become principal at The REAL (Regional Education Alternative Learning) School on Mackworth Island in Falmouth, a position she held for more than a decade from 2003 to 2015. As principal at The REAL School – an alternative and service-based high school for students who have struggled in traditional school settings – Makin and her team supported high risk students from 28 sending school districts through innovative academic and experiential programming. Prior to becoming Commissioner, Makin served as the Assistant Superintendent of the Brunswick School Department.

JEN RUDOLPH  
COE REPRESENTATIVE



UNDERSTANDING  
DISPARITIES  
Thursday, 1:00-4:00pm  
COE UPDATE  
Thursday, 9:10-9:20am

Jen Rudolph has worked with TRIO programs as a summer Upward Bound staff, Talent Search Coordinator, and Upward Bound / Opportunity Program Director and other programs designed to inspire youth for over 20 years. Currently she is the Director of Outreach for the Cornell Speech and Debate Program, and serves as a consultant for The Council for Opportunity in Education. She has a B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies from Indiana University, and an M.Ed. in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

RICK WILLIAMS  
NEOA PRESIDENT



NEOA UPDATE  
Thursday, 9:10-9:20am

Rick Williams is the director of the Lyndon Upward Bound program at Northern Vermont University. He graduated from Keene State College in 1987 and began his teaching career in Northern New Hampshire and later in Kittery Maine. He started with the TRIO Upward Bound program at Lyndon State College in 1985 first as a tutor counselor, then Bridge Coordinator and then Assistant Director in 1995. Rick became the Director of the program in 2004 – the same year that his son was born. Rick completed his Masters in Teaching and Counseling in 2000 from Lyndon State College.

Rick has been an active member of both the Vermont Educational Opportunity Programs (VEOP) and the New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA), serving as VEOP President, NEOA Achiever Chair, NEOA TRIO Day Chair, Policy Seminar Team Leader, Classroom At Sea Coordinator and Newsletter Editor. Additionally, he has co-coordinated the New England Student Leadership Conference, Vermont's Sophomore Summit, and the Green Mountain Scholars Bowl. Rick is also a first generation, low-income student, who is dedicated to providing opportunities to all TRIO and GEAR UP eligible students.

Rick is married to VSAC GEAR UP counselor Angie Ryan and lives in Wheelock, Vermont with their son Gavin.

## MEEOA ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Thursday, 6:00-7:30PM

### KRISTIN GUERRETTE MEEOA ACHIEVER

Maine Educational Talent Search  
Nominated by  
Velma Murphy Graham

Kristin knew from a young age she wanted to become a doctor, and she had the support of her family at home. They provided her with examples of hard work and helped her chase her dreams. Kristin was an active participant in her school and community. She participated in athletics and was a member of the National Honor Society. When it came to applying to college, neither of Kristin's parents attended and she was approaching the process without much help. Coming from the small, rural town of Van Buren, college seemed far away. Kristin credits Maine Educational Talent Search with assisting her while she applied to college and sought financial aid and scholarships.



After high school, Kristin went to Saint Joseph's College and then the University of New England where she received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Kristin finished her residency in Bangor at Eastern Maine Medical Center and returned to The County to practice medicine. She is currently employed at the Northern Light A.R. Gould Hospital, practicing in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Family Medicine. Kristin belongs to several professional medical societies. She teaches as an adjunct faculty member at UNE and has taught at Eastern Maine Medical Center's Residency program.

When Jason Judd arrived at the Upward Bound program at the University of Maine at Farmington, he found acceptance and a place of belonging. At his high school he found it difficult to fit in, even though he was very capable and excelled in his classes. Upward Bound was a place where he could open his mind to new options, envision himself as a college student, and take the academic and social risks that would lay a foundation for future civic involvement. At Upward Bound, Jason learned the skills to be able to navigate the transition to a new setting, which he employed when he transferred to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, and then in his college experiences. Jason went on to attend UMF and received his degree in Secondary Education. He later graduated from the University of Southern Maine with a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and then completed his Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership Studies at Northeastern University.

Jason has worked in a variety of educational roles, including as a teacher, dorm parent, college and career counselor, Director of Studies, and Dean of Academics at MCI. Eleven years at MCI allowed him to have a direct impact on his students in the classroom and the 200 students in his caseload as a college and career counselor. As a Dean, he was able to widen his reach to the faculty and staff. He started at Educate Maine as the Director for Project>Login, leading the organization's initiative to increase the number of professionals in technology careers in Maine. He was recently promoted to Executive Director of Educate Maine. The work he does for Educate Maine greatly impacts the state as a whole, as well as learners of all ages through curriculum design, teacher preparation, and workforce development.

### JASON JUDD MEEOA ACHIEVER UMF Upward Bound Nominated by Elyse Pratt-Ronco



## MEEOA ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Thursday, 6:00-7:30PM

**AIMEE DEGROAT**  
**MEEOA RISING STAR**  
UMF Upward Bound  
Nominated by  
Elyse Pratt-Ronco



Aimee DeGroat is an alumna of both the University of Maine at Farmington and of the Upward Bound program there. Aimee graduated in 2019 *summa cum laude* from UMF with her BFA in Creative Writing and a minor in International and Global Studies. She was in the Honors Program at UMF and worked full time as the manager at the University Store since 2016. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Creative Writing from Stonecoast in southern Maine. Previously, Aimee served as an Americorps Volunteer, starting an online writing club as part of an after school program. Over the course of her college career, she entered and won several writing contests, culminating with winning the Islandport Magazine Fiction Writing Contest in both 2018 and 2019 with short stories capturing life in rural Maine.

Ms. DeGroat grew up in poverty, and credits Upward Bound with the inspiration to not only embrace her love of learning and books, but the confidence to believe she was capable of going to college. This summer Aimee accepted an invitation to speak to the UMF Upward Bound students. With poise and conviction, she shared with students that Upward Bound was an opportunity she was grateful for and served as a contrast to the world she grew up in. Through her participation in the program, she was able to envision herself as a college student. Although her journey was nontraditional, Aimee represents those individuals who, forever changed by their TRIO experience, show how long the reverberations of an impact will last.

BJ grew up in Canton, ME, a very rural small town in Western Maine. BJ started in GEAR UP as a 7th grader in T. Kelly Middle School in Dixfield. BJ participated in everything GEAR UP offered him. In 7th grade, he was fully engaged in the week-long event held on UMF's campus, and in 8th grade he attended the class trip to the University of Laval in Quebec City, where students stayed in the dorm and toured the historical city of Quebec. BJ learned about all kinds of leadership styles, including the Tim Woods Challenge Program, the FISH program, and Quantum Learning Styles, during the GEAR UP leadership conference held at Dirigo High School each summer. He went on college tours in many states, including UNH, the colleges of the Fenway, and Northeastern. When introduced to unique opportunities, BJ always applied and was accepted to summer programs at Harvard and Georgetown.

BJ went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree in Communications from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. He is currently the Chief of Staff for Rep. Troy Jackson, President of the Maine Senate. BJ has been active in Maine politics for the last ten years, including directing the campaign arm of the Maine Senate democrats in 2018 when they won an overwhelming majority of seats. GEAR UP asked BJ to help with a short video for internal training, and he articulately shared the benefits of the GEAR UP program. He has focused his professional career on finding ways to create opportunities for rural Maine.

**BJ MCCOLLISTER**  
**MEEOA RISING STAR**  
UMF GEAR UP Partnership  
Nominated by  
Dori Fellman



## WORKSHOP SESSION #1

Thursday, 10:45-11:45AM

### UMA/UM Foundation Program: A Win-Win for Students

Jonathan Henry, Brandy Fink, and Lena Michaud

*Hulls Cove*

In Fall 2018, UMaine and UMA entered into a partnership to support students denied by UMaine, by offering them admission to UMA for a reverse associate degree. These UMA students live at UMaine and take their UMA classes on the UMaine campus. Two cohorts have been enrolled, and many lessons learned on how to support and serve these aspiring students.



#### Jonathan Henry, University of Maine Augusta

Jonathan Henry has worked 35 years in university admissions and enrollment management, starting at his alma mater, The University of Vermont, in 1985. He currently serves as the Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing at UMA, and previously served at UMA from 2007-2012 as the Dean of Enrollment Services. Jon, as he prefers to be called, is committed deeply to the public access mission of UMA and the transformational role that higher education plays for all citizens in Maine, regardless of their age, location or career interests.

Jon earned his B.A. in Political Science and M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Vermont.

#### Brandy Fink, University of Maine Augusta

Brandy has worked in higher education admissions for over 10 years and comes to the University of Maine at Augusta from Texas where she previously served as the Director of Admissions & International Programs at the University of Texas Health Science Center. Brandy believes that higher education is the solution to improving socio-economic inequities and is passionate about the UMA public access mission. Brandy earned a BS and MA in Political Science, and a M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction from Texas A&M University. She also holds a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.



#### Lena Michaud University of Maine Augusta

Lena has worked for UMA as Director of Enrollment Services since 2018 and has over 25 years of experience working with student support services, teaching and advising. Her primary focus has been working with high-risk students, in particular, low-income, first-generation and students with disabilities. She earned a Master of Library & Information Science degree from University of South Carolina and a Post-Master's CAS in Adult Learning in Higher Education from University of Southern Maine. Her latest publication co-authored with Dr. Gilbert Michaud in the March 2018 edition of Academic Leader is titled "Academic Advisors Need to Better Comprehend College Readiness to Develop Strategies."

Lena is passionate about assisting students in the development of a meaningful educational plan compatible with their life goals and guiding them as they transition towards academic success.



## WORKSHOP SESSION #1

Thursday, 10:45-11:45AM

### Seeing the FAFSA is 20-20

Mila Tappan  
*Seawall*

In this session we'll take a deeper dive into the FAFSA, specifically the areas that cause greater concern, like dependency overrides, special circumstances, and homelessness. The magic of skip logic will also be demonstrated to help explain why different students see different questions, particularly in the income section. We'll also talk a bit about what happens after the FAFSA is filed, including verification, and share tools to help students understand and compare aid notifications. Questions are encouraged so please bring yours!



#### Mila Tappan, Finance Authority of Maine

Mila joined the Finance Authority of Maine in July 2008. She is currently the Manager of College Access and Outreach. Her areas of expertise include FAFSA completion, the financial aid process, and preparing to pay for education after high school. She provides this information and guidance - all with an emphasis on financial literacy - to school counselors, college access professionals, financial aid professionals, students, and families. She also provides outreach and support for NextGen 529 and the Alford Grant Program.

Prior to joining FAME, Mila worked as an Associate Director of Financial Aid at the University of Maine, where she was employed for sixteen years. Before working in financial aid, Mila worked for the Maine State Legislature in the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis as a Research Assistant.

Mila is a graduate of the University of Maine and holds a B.A. in Public Management. Additionally, she has completed extensive master's level coursework in public administration and higher education.

### Supporting Maine's Students: Meet Them Where They Are— And Often!

Kim Gustafson and James Patefield  
*Southwest Harbor*

The Mitchell Institute has developed a "meet Mitchell Scholarship recipients where they are" approach that combines signature events and customizable resources to support Scholar success in college and beyond. Data and experience have confirmed a strong correlation between Scholar engagement with the Institute in relation to their ability to stay on track in and graduate from college. The workshop includes an interactive component focused on identifying strategies to support individual needs of Scholars. Join us to learn about how the Mitchell Institute supports Maine students on the pathway to post-secondary education, and how data-informed collaboration with community partners can enhance your existing strategies.

#### Kim Gustafson, Mitchell Institute

Kim works for the Mitchell Institute, an organization dedicated to strengthening Maine communities by providing Maine students a path to success in college and beyond. She oversees the Mitchell Scholarship application and selection process, and she collaborates with colleagues to support Mitchell Scholars and Alumni wherever they are in their academic, professional, and personal development through a broad array of programs. Kim thrives on facilitating connections between individuals and the resources that best meet their preferences and needs. Prior to joining the Mitchell Institute in 2015, she spent many years with the admission and career development departments at Bates College. Kim graduated from Middlebury College with a Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies and was previously certified as a Global Career Development Facilitator



## WORKSHOP SESSION #1

Thursday, 10:45-11:45AM

### *Supporting Maine's Students: Meet Them Where They Are— And Often! (continued)*

#### James Patefield, Mitchell Institute

James Patefield has worked at the Mitchell Institute for four years, and works at the intersection of research/data analysis, marketing, and development. He has a BA in Theatre and English from Muhlenberg College, and has previously worked in a variety of communications and fundraising roles at non-profit and arts organizations throughout the Northeast. He volunteers with PortFringe Festival and Speak About It, as Director of Audience Services and Board Vice President, respectively. In his spare time you can find him hiking, reading, tutoring, writing, or making weird art around Portland.



### Mentoring, Access, Persistence: Transition Support for Island Students

Yvonne Thomas and Christa Thorpe

*Bass Harbor*

MAP (Mentoring, Access, and Persistence) is a scholarship project of the Island Institute that provides island students with leadership training, monthly webinars, college and scholarship application assistance, and peer mentorship opportunities. The program is available to eligible high school juniors from Maine's unbridged island communities and participation results in financial scholarship support for up to four years of college or vocational training at accredited institutions. This presentation will share stories and lessons learned with the first three program cohorts.

#### Yvonne Thomas, Island Institute

Yvonne Thomas, Education Specialist at the Island Institute, works closely with island and coastal schools and education organizations. She works collaboratively to develop projects, support teacher professional development and strengthen networks to address the educational challenges and opportunities these schools face and help build a strong Maine workforce. Prior to joining the Island Institute staff, she was the school counselor for the Vinalhaven School for 13 years and also served as school counselor for the island schools on North Haven and Matinicus.



#### Christa Thorpe, Island Institute of Maine

Christa Thorpe is a community development officer at the Island Institute in Rockland. She has worked in education since completing her M.A. in Intercultural Studies and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at Wheaton College, Illinois. Prior to joining the Island Institute, she taught adult ESL in Chicago, directed a college bridge program in Bangladesh, and helped develop the ESOL program at her high school alma mater Lincoln Academy in Newcastle, Maine. Her current work focuses on supporting college and career readiness programs for students and adults from Maine's unbridged islands.



## WORKSHOP SESSION #2

Friday, 9:30-10:30AM

### Equity, Access, and Opportunity: Early College Opportunities in the UMaine System

Christy Alley  
Hulls Cove

This presentation will focus on early college opportunities at the University of Maine at Machias. We will also discuss the evolution of early college in Maine over the last 5 years and the benefits of the program. We will review early college opportunities at the other 6 UMS institutions and review the system's efforts to expand early college offerings and make courses accessible to all Maine high school students.



#### Christy Alley, University of Maine at Machias

Christy Alley is a graduate of Bowdoin College, licensed social worker, and global career development facilitator. She has worked with low-income, first generation high-school and college students continuously for the last 17 years in her roles as METS Advisor with UM, JMG College and Career Specialist at MMHS, and Student Success Coordinator/High School Transitions Advisor at UMM. She is currently employed as the Director of Early College at UMM and is working toward increasing early college participation and access throughout the state of Maine.

### Helping Rural / First Generation Maine Students Transition from High School to College with Particular Attention to "Summer Melt"

Mary Freeman, Brittany Rumery, and Chris Young  
Seawall

GEAR UP Maine Scholar Coaches will provide an interactive workshop that discusses the Maine Scholars Program model. Coaches will share best practices and interventions that assist students in overcoming Summer Melt and help them to persist through their post secondary education. GEAR UP Maine will also share information on a micro credentialing program they are developing which will certify the skills of College Access Professionals.

#### Mary Freeman, GEAR UP Maine

Mary Freeman - As the GEAR UP Maine Scholar Coaches Manager, it is my responsibility to lead the development and implementation of a college access and readiness program that works with 7-12 students, school personnel and faculty and staff at Institutions of Higher Education throughout Maine. From experience, building relationships is the cornerstone to an effective program and being detailed oriented, collaborative, innovative, and a creative problem solver are all traits which allow me to excel in relationship building.



## WORKSHOP SESSION #2

Friday, 9:30-10:30AM

### *Helping Rural / First Generation Maine Students Transition from High School to College with Particular Attention to “Summer Melt” (continued)*



**Brittany Rumer, GEAR UP Maine**

As a Scholar Coach I am improving first-generation and rural student populations access to education. I guide students through barriers that arise in education which helps reduce summer melt, and support students in becoming self advocates starting in their senior year of high school throughout their first year of postsecondary education. When I'm not working directly with students I am collaborating within GEAR UP Maine and across statewide organizations to build lasting relationships, discover student supports, research and design professional development, plan and support student programs, and ensure the goals of the grant are being met. I've spent many years working in education, mainly in Financial Aid but most recently as a classroom teacher. This variety of experiences have allowed me to hone my skills in communication, organization, flexibility, and creativity.

**Chris Young, GEAR UP Maine**

I am currently an interventionist / scholar coach for GEAR UP Maine. A federal 7 year grant awarded to Maine to help improve transition to College. Since my arrival, I have been actively involved with an ongoing research project (Aroostook Scholars) which is actively working with first generation and low income students transitioning to college from six remote Maine High Schools. I have also been working to bring college transition and issues related to the barriers that first generation students face to partners and stakeholders across the state and nation. In my position I carry out daily activities associated with a three year research study into college transition and persistence (data collection, virtual and live interventions, and collaborative problem solving). In addition I am working with GEAR UP Maine on implementing the findings of that work into a large scale program to support students, along with a credentialing program for college access professionals.



### **Support Student Mental Health and College Success**

**Frank L. Wang, Ph.D.**  
*Bass Harbor*

This workshop will focus on developing understanding of common mental health concerns college students encounter, which include anxiety, depression, academic stress, relational issues, trauma, substance use, eating behaviors, etc. The workshop also emphasizes practical ways to recognize students' mental health needs and to provide support. Current data on students' mental health will be presented to stimulate discussion.



**Frank L. Wang, The University of Maine Counseling Center**

Dr. Wang is a staff clinician at the University of Maine Counseling Center. He graduated with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Biola University. Dr. Wang worked in college counseling centers for a number of years and lived on the West Coast (Seattle, Southern California) before moving to Maine. His professional interests include couples therapy, college student adjustment and identity development, multicultural counseling, and positive psychology.



## 2020 MEEOA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Eric Pratt, Elyse Pratt-Ronco, and Mary Sinclair  
Conference Co-Chairs

Casey Henderson, Nik Lallemand, Bridget Mullen, Alan  
Parks, Shelbie Ross, & Kate Walsh

## 2019-2020 MEEOA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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# MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION

## MEMBER PROGRAMS

### **Bowdoin College**

Upward Bound  
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bmullen@bowdoin.edu

### **Central Maine Community College**

Student Support Services  
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### **Eastern Maine Community College**

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### **Southern Maine Community College**

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### **Syntiro**

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### **Thomas College**

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zahayra.razo@thomas.edu

### **University of Maine at Augusta**

Student Support Services  
Sara Flowers  
sara.flowers@maine.edu

### **University of Maine**

Maine Educational Opportunity Center  
Educational Talent Search  
Karen Keim  
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### **University of Maine**

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## MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

|           |                               |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1985-1986 | Ludger Duplessis, Bowdoin UB  | 2005-2006 | Faith Erhardt, UM UB          |
| 1986-1987 | Claire Nelson, UMF SSS        | 2006-2007 | Danette Madore, UMPI UB       |
| 1987-1988 | Dave Megquier, UM EOC and ETS | 2007-2008 | Steve Visco, UM EOC and ETS   |
| 1988-1989 | Scott Bradley, Bowdoin UB     | 2008-2009 | Linda Rottmann, UM SSS        |
| 1989-1990 | Lynn Ploof-Davis, UMF UB      | 2009      | Sarah Sockalexis, UM ETS      |
| 1992-1993 | Jane Kimball-Foley, UM ETS    | 2009-2010 | Laurie Davis, USM SSS and UB  |
| 1994-1995 | Kristi Pierce, UMPI UB        | 2010-2011 | Dori Fellman, UMF GEAR UP     |
| 1995-1996 | Jane Kimball-Foley, UM ETS    | 2011-2012 | Jess Berry, UMF UB            |
| 1996-1997 | Carol Brush                   | 2012-2013 | Shawn Graham, UMFK SSS        |
| 1997-1998 | Judy Look, UM ETS             | 2013-2014 | Chris Turner, USM UB          |
| 1998-1999 | Maureen Ferriter, UM SSS      | 2014-2015 | Kelly Ilseman, UM UBMS        |
| 1999-2000 | Dave Megquier, UM EOC and ETS | 2015-2016 | Teri Mann, UM EOC             |
| 2000-2001 | Johannah Burdin, USM UB       | 2016-2017 | Laurie Davis, USM SSS and UB  |
| 2001-2002 | Michelle Melanson, Bowdoin UB | 2017-2018 | Dori Fellman, Syntiro GEAR UP |
| 2002-2003 | Sara Henry, UM SSS            | 2018-2019 | Mary Kate Barbosa, UMPI SSS   |
| 2003-2004 | Teresa Smith, KVCC SSS        | 2019-2020 | Steve Visco, UM EOC and ETS   |
| 2004-2005 | Ginny Fowles-Ward, Bowdoin UB |           |                               |

*\*If anyone has corrected information regarding dates or names, please email [mary.sinclair@maine.edu](mailto:mary.sinclair@maine.edu)*

## NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION (NEOA) PRESIDENTS FROM MAINE

|             |                  |             |                    |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1984 – 1985 | Doris Vladmiroff | 2005 – 2006 | Dave Megquier      |
| 1992 – 1993 | Jerry Ellis      | 2013 – 2014 | Karen Keim         |
| 1999 – 2000 | Kristi Pierce    | 2017 – 2018 | Jane Kimball Foley |

## THE COUNCIL FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION (COE) CHAIR FROM MAINE

2005 – 2006 Dave Megquier



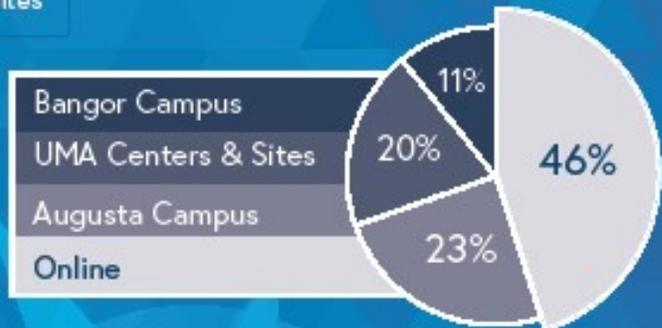
**UMA**  
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
AT AUGUSTA

# QUICK FACTS

## WHERE WE LEARN

**42** Statewide Locations

- Centers
- Course Sites



## WHO WE ARE

**5,515**  
Students

**3rd**  
Largest in the  
University of Maine  
System

**5th**  
Largest Institution in Maine

**248**  
Veterans & Active Military



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**51%**

First Generation Students

# MEEOA

Thank you to the  
conference committee for a  
wonderful conference and  
the executive committee  
for your service!



**UPWARD BOUND**  
AT BOWDOIN

# KVCC

KENNEBEC VALLEY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
M A I N E



#I AM   
TRIO

KV TRIO thanks Karen Normandin and Teresa Smith for their continued dedication to TRIO, to MEEOA, and to educational opportunity at KVCC.

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## WHAT IS FAIR SHARE?

- Fair Share is the Council for Opportunity in Education's (COE) Annual Giving Campaign.
- COE sets goals based on regional numbers of TRIO programs and institutions.

## WHY SHOULD I CARE?

- Fair Share donations to COE go toward the advocacy of all TRIO programs, and helps everyone stay up to date on news regarding funding and legislation. The programs in Maine would literally not be here today without the work done by COE, funded by private donations.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- Commit to becoming a 10 for 10 member-- giving \$10 per month for 10 months!
- Choose to give a one time donation at any time or set up a monthly giving plan.
- Forms will be passed around during the conference. You may fill one out and give immediately, or at any time go to [www.coenet.org](http://www.coenet.org) to give online.

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