



MAINE COMPACT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Money for College – The Critical Link to Business & Economic Growth

The 4th Annual Maine Symposium on Higher Education

Thursday
August 7, 2008

Abromson Center
University of Southern Maine

Agenda

9:00 a.m. **Registration, continental breakfast**

9:30 **Welcome**

- **Ted Scontras**, Executive Vice President, TD Banknorth & Member, Compact Board of Directors
- **Selma Botman**, President, University of Southern Maine

9:40 **Why is *Money for College* Important to Maine Businesses and the State's Economy?**

The critical need for a highly skilled and educated workforce to enable Maine and its businesses to be competitive, presented by the leader of the organization charged with recruiting businesses to Maine.

- **Matthew Jacobson**, President & CEO, Maine & Company

10:00 **Are Maine Student Financial Needs Being Met?**

Profile of Maine college students and their financial needs, how Maine compares with other states, financial aid available to them, and the gap.

- **Lisa Plimpton**, Director of Research, the Mitchell Institute

10:20 **Break**

10:30 **How are Businesses & Employers Helping Current and Future Workers Afford Higher Education?**

Creative approaches of Maine businesses and employers to increase the educational attainment of their workers, their workers' children, and children in the community.

- **Sally Baughman**, Vice President, Human Resources, Acadia Hospital
- **Alan Burton**, Vice President, Cianbro Corp.
- **Michael Luciano**, Manager of Human Resources, Verso Paper
- **Peter Geiger**, Executive Vice President, Geiger Bros.

11:45 **What's the Role of Philanthropy, Higher Education Institutions, and State Government in Providing Student Financial Aid?**

Student financial aid resources provided by Maine's philanthropic organizations, state government, and our colleges and universities.

- **Henry Schmelzer**, President & CEO, Maine Community Foundation
- **Laura Fortman**, Commissioner, Maine Department of Labor
- **Joyce Hedlund**, President, Eastern Maine Community College

12:30 p.m. **Networking Lunch**

1:30 **Special Briefing: The Harold Alfond College Challenge**

Preview of the bold, new Harold Alfond College Challenge program, which will provide a \$500 grant to every newborn Maine child to establish a college savings plan through FAME's NextGen 529 program.

- **Beth Bordowitz**, Acting CEO, Finance Authority of Maine

2:00 **Congressional Candidate's Forum: the Federal Role**

The Federal Government plays a major role in providing financial support to Maine college students. First District Congressional Candidates will discuss changes in Federal policies and the impact of their on Maine students and families.

- **Chellie Pingree**, First District Congressional Candidate
- **Charlie Summers**, First District Congressional Candidate

3:00 **What is Maine's Action Agenda? What are YOU Going to Do?**

Facilitated discussion and wrap up by a Maine business leader who is a long-time advocate for educational excellence, is one of the original founders and former chair of the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, and is a weekly columnist for the Portland Press Herald/

- **Ronald Bancroft**, President, Bancroft & Company & Member, Compact Board of Directors Executive Committee

3:30 **Reception/Adjourn**

*The Symposium is sponsored, in part,
by the Portland Regional Chamber*

