



MAINE COMPACT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Maine's Economic Imperative - Building a Globally Competitive Workforce

The Maine Symposium on Higher Education

Thursday
August 9, 2007

Abromson Center
University of Southern Maine

Agenda*

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

9:30 **Welcome and Introductions**

- **Joseph Foley**, Senior Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer, Unum; and
Chair of the Compact's Board of Directors
- **Joseph Wood**, Interim President, University of Southern Maine

9:35 **The Business Challenge**

CEOs discuss the critical importance of a highly educated workforce to enable Maine businesses to compete in the 21st century global economy.

Panel: **Joseph Boulos**, Chairman, CBRE/The Boulos Company
Michelle Hood, President & CEO, Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems
Thomas R. Watjen, President & Chief Executive Officer

11:00 **From the Workplace to College –Educating Maine's Workers**

Concurrent workshops on two of the Compact's strategies, and actions business people and employers can take to increase workers' educational attainment.

- a. Maine Employers Initiative
 - **Steve Howe**, Communications Manager, Pratt & Whitney
 - **Barbara Woodlee**, President, Kennebec Valley Community College
- b. College Transitions Program
 - **Betty Gundersdorf**, Director, Lewiston Adult Education
 - **Larinda Meade**, Program Coordinator, Maine College Transitions Program
 - **Cathy Newell**, Director, Maine Adult Education Association

12:00 noon **Lunch**

12:45 p.m. **From High School to College – Removing Barriers for Maine Students**

Presentation of the Mitchell Institute's *Barriers 2* report, which analyzes college enrollment trends; social/cultural, academic, and financial barriers to college; and promising practices.

Presenters: **Colleen Quint**, Executive Director, Mitchell Institute
Lisa Plimpton, Director of Research, Mitchell Institute

2:15 **The Education Challenge**

Education leaders discuss the capacity of our systems to achieve the Compact's goal of 40,000 more workers with degrees, above projections, by 2020.

Moderator: **Glenn Cummings**, Speaker, Maine House of Representatives

Panel: **John Fitzsimmons**, President, Maine Community College System
Susan Gendron, Commissioner, Dept. of Education
Richard Pattenau, Chancellor, University of Maine System
Danielle Ripich, President, University of New England

3:30 **Reception - Sponsored by TD Banknorth**

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



* All speakers confirmed.