

Draft

### Reasons for Retaining the PMG Degree

- Oldest BA in Public Management program in the nation. Established in 1945, by Dr. Edward F. Dow (Harvard Ph.D. and UMaine Professor), and subsequently 100 other university programs were created nationwide!
- UMaine undergraduate degree offers a portal to traditional (and non-traditional) students, who are interested in public service careers.
- Our BA also helps many students become town managers before obtaining their MPA, MPP, or MCP. There are 488 municipalities and sixteen counties in the state and approximately half of them have professional city and town managers.
- The Public Management undergraduate major is essential to the support of our other programs – a minor in public management, concentrations in local government administration, criminal justice administration, and the proposed public management concentration for Business students.
- Over the years, the Maine Town and City Management Association membership has been extremely supportive of our BA and MPA programs (approximately one-third of the managers have degrees from UMaine).
- Differentiates UMaine from the University of Southern Maine (which doesn't offer a Public Management major, but does offer a Masters degree in Public Policy and Management).
- Compared to some other states, entry into the professional field of local government/management is rather difficult in Maine because there are few assistant manager positions. Students explore the field after their required internship and usually first locate jobs in the smaller communities. If they decide to seek employment in larger communities (over 5,000 in population), then they usually work on their Masters degree at Orono, Augusta or Portland.
- The undergraduate degree program, therefore, is very value-added, because the students whom we teach in turn instruct their Department heads, staff, and board of selectmen and council members. The general public also benefits from the transmittal of expertise.
- Some managers also may eventually move into nonprofit management, state government administration, federal government administration, or the private sector.
- If the goal of the current proposal for Business majors is to add student enrollment to the Department and the Maine Business School, it makes little sense to discontinue this BA in Public Management degree. Why? Because our instructors would be teaching both audiences in one larger classroom, which produce higher numbers with the two cohorts.