

Ethnic Politics

A panel discussion on ethnicity and politics in the state of Maine

Professor Christian Potholm

"Franco American Voting Patterns"

Professor Potholm is the DeAlva Stanwood Alexander Professor of Government at Bowdoin College. His books about Maine politics include: *An Insider's Guide to Maine Politics*, *The Delights of Democracy*, *"This Splendid Game": Maine Politics from 1940-2002*, and most recently, *Maine: The Dynamics of Political Development*. Long active on Maine's political scene, Professor Potholm has served as a chief strategist for Congressman and Senator Bill Cohen, Governor Angus King, and most recently Governor John Baldacci. His national polling firm, Command Research, has been involved in more than ninety successful ballot-measure and image-enhancement campaigns all across the U. S. The role of Franco-Americans in Maine politics is one of his primary research interests.

Representative Alan M. Casavant

"Franco Americas in Biddeford Maine"

Representative Casavant is serving his first term in the Legislature. He recently completed his master's degree in American and New England Studies at the University of Southern Maine. He has studied Biddeford politics as well as been active in them, having served nine consecutive terms on the Biddeford City Council. He grew up in Biddeford, is the past treasurer of La Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de Bienfaisance (the Biddeford chapter of this French Canadian patriotic association was founded in 1903), and coordinates an annual exchange for high school students with the Polyvalente de St-Georges each year. He currently teaches at Biddeford High School, where he also coaches ice hockey.

Deputy Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Paul F. Jacques

"Franco Americans in the Maine state government"

Mr. Jacques is currently the Deputy Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the state of Maine. He is a member of the Maine Indian Tribal State Commission, a member of the Kennebec Valley Community College's General Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Waterville Housing Authority, President of the Mt. Saint Joseph's Nursing Home's Advisory Board, and Director of the American Legion's Boy State program. Previously, Deputy Commissioner Jacques was in the Maine House of Representatives and was both House Majority Leader and House Democratic Leader. In 1996, after 18 years of service, he was term-limited out of the House.

Professor James W. Warhola

Professor of Political Science at The University of Maine and author of numerous works on ethnicity and politics, including the monograph *Politicized Ethnicity in the Russian Federation*, Dr. Warhola will offer introductory remarks.

Sponsored by

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3-5pm

The Bumps Room in the Memorial Union

The University of Maine, Orono

Franco American Studies

Department of Political Science

Maine Studies

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For more information, call the Franco American Studies office

207-581-3791