



# Deborah Morton Society

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND • PORTLAND CAMPUS

716 Stevens Ave, Portland, ME 04103 | (207) 221-4199 | [www.une.edu/deborahmorton](http://www.une.edu/deborahmorton)  
[deborahmortonsociety@une.edu](mailto:deborahmortonsociety@une.edu)

## 2015 Deborah Morton Convocation & Awards Ceremony

At the 54th Convocation and Awards Ceremony the Society will honor:

M. Michelle Hood  
 Barbara M. Trafton  
 Patricia E. Ryan

**Tuesday, September 22, 2015**

University of New England | Portland Campus

### Convocation Ceremony

11 a.m. Eleanor DeWolfe Ludcke '26 Auditorium

### Luncheon

Immediately following in the College of Pharmacy

"The Deborah Morton Award is widely acknowledged to be the most prestigious award given to women in Maine."

- **Merle Nelson**, 2001 Awardee

"Everyone came from somewhere and many people carry that spirit of place throughout life. And that spirit inspires them to serve. Deborah Morton is the perfect example. Being raised in a small nurturing community where family and community were important. Graduating valedictorian, she must have lived and breathed academia at Westbrook College influencing the rest of her life."

- **Nancy Thibodeau**, 2008 Awardee

## What is the mission of the Deborah Morton Society?

The mission of the Deborah Morton Society is to honor and recognize outstanding women with strong ties to Maine who have demonstrated high distinction in their careers, public service or volunteer leadership; and to promote education and foster leadership of future generations of Maine women by awarding scholarships from the Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship Fund scholarships are awarded annually to entering members of the undergraduate senior class with proven need who have manifested outstanding qualities of character, leadership and academic ability.

The scholarships are awarded to women students who are Maine residents enrolled in the Westbrook College of Health Professions programs on the Portland Campus.

## A Letter to the Deborah Morton Society Members

The generosity of the Deborah Morton Society enabled me to complete my undergraduate education. Much more importantly, however, it gave me the confidence I needed to seek further education. After the completion of my undergraduate degree, I went on to graduate school and completed a Master of Arts in Educational Administration. Then I went on to a wonderful career in college administration and actually became the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid at Green Mountain College in Vermont at the age of 25. I spent almost 18 years in higher education, but had always dreamed of being a family doctor. I could not get this thought out of my mind and I went back to school to complete my requirements for medical school. I went to medical school at the age of 40! So, here I am now on the 12th year anniversary of practicing medicine. I am a family doctor in Lincolnville, Maine, where I grew up, and am also the hospice medical director for Waldo County. And I do make house calls. So, I have fulfilled my dream and I have had a couple of wonderful careers, all thanks to the Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship getting me off to the right start.

Thank you so much!

**Deborah J. Peabody '77, M.D.**

1976 Deborah Morton Scholarship Recipient



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## The 2015 Deborah Morton Society Awardees

Three distinguished Maine women will be honored at the 54th Annual Deborah Morton Society Convocation Ceremony. These women have not only achieved high distinction in their careers, but also have a history of exceptional public service or volunteer leadership in civic, cultural or social causes.

This year's award recipients are: **Patricia E. Ryan**, retired executive director of the Maine Human Rights Commission; **M. Michelle Hood**, FACHE, president and CEO of Eastern Maine Health Systems (EMHS); and **Barbara M. Trafton**, broker for The Maine Real Estate Network.



*Patricia E. Ryan*

### Patricia E. Ryan

Patricia Ryan served as the executive director of the Maine Human Rights Commission from 1979 – 2011, during which time she was also a member of the Joint Standing Committee to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She is currently a board member and treasurer of the Maine

Women's Lobby and Maine Women's Policy Center.

Ryan has served as chair of the Maine State Personnel Board and the Maine Commission for Women, co-chair of the EEOC/Fair Employment Practices Agencies State & Local Programs Re-Engineering Committee, co-chair of the (Maine) State Immigrant and Refugee Resettlement Task Force, was a member of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies, was a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's State Agency Advisory Board, and was a founding director of the Maine Women's Lobby and the Maine Women's Political Caucus.

Ryan was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 2014, and was the recipient of the Roger Baldwin Award presented by the Civil Liberties Union of Maine in October 2014.



*M. Michelle Hood*

### M. Michelle Hood

Michelle Hood received a B.S. from Purdue University and a M.S. in health care administration from Georgia State University. She joined EMHS in April 2006 after serving as president and CEO of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health Systems, Montana Region, as well as president and CEO of its flagship hospital,

St. Vincent Healthcare.

In her current role, she focuses on healthcare policy and design models at the state and national levels, positioning EMHS to be successful in a rapidly changing healthcare environment. Hood builds partnerships that work for Maine communities, strengthening the economic and educational climate of the state. She is active with the American Hospital Association, is the immediate past chair of the Maine Hospital Association board and serves on several community and national boards, including the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and the VHA New England Board.



*Barbara M. Trafton*

### Barbara M. Trafton

Barbara Trafton received a B.S. from Wellesley College, a M.S. in education from the University of Southern Maine, and a M.B.A. from Northeastern University. She has held the position of Maine State Senator as well as State Representative and



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## The 2015 Deborah Morton Society Awardees

### Barbara M. Trafton *cont.*

is the published author of "Women Winning: How to Run for Office."

Trafton has received numerous awards for her volunteer efforts from organizations including the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce, the Androscoggin United Way and the City of Auburn. In 2002, she was named Auburn's Citizen of the Year by the Auburn Business Association.

Currently, Trafton is a trustee for the Auburn Public Library and is immediate past chair of Maine's Nature Conservancy Board and the Garcelon Society for Bates College, which supports scholarships for local students. She previously served as the chair of Maine Housing and as a board director for the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce. Her past board service includes Maine Maritime Academy, United Way of Androscoggin, Androscoggin Red Cross and Maine Audubon Society.

"Why is it special to be a Deborah Morton lady? The Deborah Morton Society has become a tradition in only thirty-eight years. Perhaps it is the women who have been chosen to the Deborah Morton Ladies. These women have been "movers and shakers and doers" in Maine. Some have waved banners, some have worked without fanfare. All have made enormous differences in their areas."

- **Frances Peabody**, 1989 Awardee

"The Maine women in this "Society" are remarkable women in so many ways, and they truly exemplify the outstanding professional, volunteer, and civic qualities that Deborah Morton demonstrated throughout her life."

- **Mary Pennell Nelson**, 2004 Awardee

## Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship

### 2015-2016 Scholarship Recipients

Each year the Deborah Morton Society awards an endowed scholarship. We are pleased to announce this year's recipients:



"Coming into such a competitive program, I knew standing out was going to be a challenge. Being a part of the group of students that have received the Deborah Morton scholarship is a distinct honor that shows that my hard work is finally paying off. Becoming a nurse is more than just a career, it's a passion, and I can't wait to see where the future takes me. I want to thank everyone who has given

me the opportunity to be part of something so special."

**Melissa C. Brassard '17**

Nursing, Monmouth, ME



"As an aspiring nurse, I am honored to accept this year's Deborah Morton scholarship. In recognizing Ms. Morton's service to the community and to Westbrook College, I aspire to follow a similar lifestyle. This award will allow me to achieve my own dreams, and I hope that my academics and community service will reflect my appreciation."

**Kelli M. Sousa '16**

Nursing, Detroit, ME



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## Report on Philanthropy

### Deborah Morton Endowed Scholarship

June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015

#### Founder Society

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Meg Baxter DMS '07  
 Ruth S. Foster DMS '10  
 Barbara Morris Goodbody DMS '04  
 Bridget D. Healy DMS '06 and Michael T. Healy  
 Mary J. Herman P '13, DMS '99 and  
 The Honorable Angus King, HON '96, P '13  
 Laurie Lachance DMS '09  
 Zareen T. Mirza  
 Dr. Beverly Paigen DMS '01  
 Karen T. Pardue  
 Katherine S. Pope, M.D. P '14, DMS '10, and Christopher M. Harte  
 Alice M. Savage WJC '55, M.D., Ph.D., DMS '03  
 Paula D. Silsby DMS '05

#### Tower Club

\$500 to \$999

Judith Glickman Lauder DMS '96  
 The Honorable Mary Pennell Nelson DMS '04 and Kenneth Nelson  
 Wendy J. Wolf, M.D., M.P.H., DMS '12

#### Westbrook Society

\$250 to \$499

Susan A. Carlisle DMS '12 and David Carlisle  
 Patricia McGuigan Collins DMS '95  
 Kaye Flanagan DMS '11 and David Flanagan  
 Meredith H. Jones DMS '09 and Dana P. Murch  
 Esther Nettles Rauch, Ph.D., DMS '08  
 Barbara Vereault, D.O. DMS '13

#### Century Club

\$100 to \$249

Eleanor M. Baker DMS '13 and Thomas Saturley  
 Rosalynne Bernstein DMS '73  
 David M. Biondi, D.O. '85 and Lucia M. Biondi  
 Helen P. Blewett P '86  
 Donna Litchfield Cheney WJC '62, DMS '12  
 Jean M. Deighan DMS '01  
 Josephine Detmer, HON '06, DMS '09  
 Kris Doody DMS '07  
 Helen S. Dudman DMS '94  
 Sandra Featherman, Ph.D., HA '98, '04, DMS '09 and  
 Bernard Featherman, HA '01, '05  
 James B. Hanley, D.M.D.\*  
 Katherine Heer WC '90, D.M.D.  
 Sherry F. Huber DMS '91  
 Deborah Carey Johnson, R.N., M.S., DMS '10  
 Anne Lynch DMS '13  
 Maine Community Foundation  
 Robert E. McAfee, M.D., HON '94 and Doris McAfee  
 Eleanor Manning Morrell WJC '49 and Richard Morrell, HA '96  
 Peggy L. Osher DMS '94 and Harold Osher  
 Geraldean Donahue Paterson WJC '68, DMS '02  
 Anne B. Pringle DMS '98 and Harry R. Pringle  
 Alice H. Rand DMS '80 and Peter W. Rand  
 Sally Wallace Rand DMS '96  
 Lois Galgay Reckitt DMS '13  
 Joan Benoit Samuelson, HON '06, DMS '86  
 The Honorable Leigh Ingalls Saufley DMS '08  
 Nancy A. Thibodeau DMS '08  
 Widgey Thomas, Jr., HA '88



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## Report on Philanthropy *cont.*

### Contributors

#### Up to \$99

Wilma Additon Bradford WJC '39, DMS '81  
 Gayle A. Brazeau, Ph.D. and Daniel A. Brazeau, Ph.D.  
 Martha Tod Dudman DMS '08  
 Vincent E. Furey, Jr., HON '05  
 Bettsanne Holmes, HON '02, DMS '94\*  
 Dahlov Ipcar DMS '78  
 Colleen Khoury DMS '02 and David Karraker  
 Marilynn L. Morel SFC '78 and Michael A. Morel  
 H. Rebecca Ness WC '76  
 Elizabeth Oliver Shorr DMS '02  
 The Honorable Gerald E. Talbot  
 Roberta C. Gray, HA '00  
 Jean T. Wilkinson DMS '10

\* *deceased*

## Society Member News

### Share your news!

We'd love to hear from you and share your news with other members of the Deborah Morton Society. Let us know about your recent activities, achievements, hobbies, pleasures, disappointments and hopes so that we can include them in our next Annual Newsletter.

Please send your information to Leta Bilodeau at [lbilodeau@une.edu](mailto:lbilodeau@une.edu) or you can mail your news to Leta at  
 University of New England  
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 Portland, ME 04103

## Greetings from Meg Baxter

It's been a long time since the Deborah Morton Society published a newsletter. So long, in fact, that the last one was sent by snail mail! Times have changed (hence the PDF on-line format for this current publication) and so has the Society. Our Guidelines are re-invigorated, and so is our membership, all of whom continue to excel and lead in our great State of Maine.

We hope to publish a newsletter at least once a year in order to keep everyone up to date on Society news, as well as personal and professional milestones. So please let Leta, (207) 221-4199, [lbilodeau@une.edu](mailto:lbilodeau@une.edu) or Joan, (207) 221-4598, [jfischer4@une.edu](mailto:jfischer4@une.edu), know of anything that you'd like to share in the next installment.

See you at Convocation!

Meg

## In Memoriam

Bettsanne Holmes, HON '02, DMS '94  
 Jane S. Moody, HA '85, DMS '75  
 Wilma Parker Redman '41, HON '92, '02, DMS '81