Food for Thought Lecture
Lewiston – Auburn Senior College

Newell Augur

"A View inside the Maine State Legislature"

With the November elections behind us, Newell Augur, an attorney in Augusta, who has worked for nearly 15 years in the fields of law and government relations, will give "A View inside the Maine State Legislature" at the December 12 Food for Thought 11:30 luncheon sponsored by USM's Lewiston Auburn Senior College. The public is cordially invited.

Newell will give an in-depth view of just how the Legislature works. He will focus on how ideas are drafted and introduced as a bill, how those legislative bills are discussed, debated and amended by the joint standing committees, how those bills are reviewed and ratified by the full legislature and how they eventually become law. The roles of the various participants in that process--State Legislators and staff, the Governor and the executive branch, lobbyists and advocates, the general public, among others, will be evaluated.

The Lecture will also include a brief review of the results of the 2014 statewide election and the prospective issues that are likely to be introduced in the upcoming legislative session, set to get underway in January.

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Presenter: Newell Augur

A Portland native, Newell started his own law and government relations practice a decade ago. His current practice represents a broad array of individuals, not for profits and businesses on matters before the Maine Legislature and a variety of administrative agencies. He has been an active participant in statewide public policy discussions on issues related to child protection, solid waste management, government efficiency and business development. He was the campaign manager for two successful statewide initiatives in 2008 and 2009.

From 2001 to 2005, Newell served as the director of legislative and public affairs for Maine's Department of Health and Human Services where he was the organization's principal spokesman and coordinated legislative strategy related to a wide range of human services programs. Prior to that, he practiced at a New York City law firm where he was responsible for all aspects of civil and criminal cases, and worked as the business manager for a newly formed charter school in Harlem.

Newell is a graduate of Deering High School, Georgetown University, Boston College Law School and the Tau Class (2012) of Leadership Maine. He currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Maine Children's Growth Council and on the Maine Bar Association's Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection. In private life, his three pre-teen children keep him busy.

Senior College, now in its 17th year, presents the monthly 11:30 luncheon program, open to the public, in the Function Room 170 at USM LAC, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. The cost, which includes lunch, is $7 with advance reservation or $8 at the door. Reservations must be made by noon on Thursday, December 11, by calling 753-6510. Any late callers will be considered "at the door."