

The University of Maine Honors College is pleased to accept applications for the Dr. Bernard Lown '42 Honors College Teaching Professorship (pending final approval by the Board of Trustees).

The Lown Professorship is made possible by a gift from Naomi Lown, Anne Lown, and Fredric Lown in memory of their father, Bernard Lown. Dr. Lown immigrated to the U.S. from Lithuania at age 14 in 1935, graduated from the University of Maine with a B.A. in Zoology in 1942, and completed a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1945 from Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Lown invented the first effective cardiac defibrillator in 1961; that same year, he was part of a passionate group who gathered to address the risk of nuclear war and formed Physicians for Social Responsibility. Out of this gathering emerged the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, a group Dr. Lown co-founded with a Soviet cardiologist and on whose behalf he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985. In 2024, the U.S. Mint honored Dr. Lown with the American Innovation coin for the state of Maine. A truly extraordinary physician and humanitarian, Dr. Lown often credited the Honors program at the University of Maine for sparking his passion for research and life-long learning. More information about Dr. Lown and his relationship to UMaine can be found [here](#).

Awarded biennially for a two-year term, the Lown Professorship recognizes UMaine faculty members with established records of teaching innovation and research/creative excellence whose commitment to advancing the causes of peace, social justice, human health, and the health of the planet align with those of Dr. Lown. The purpose of the Professorship is to both foster the careers of such faculty members and enable them to bring their expertise, passions, and practices to the Honors College community. Any regularly-appointed full-time faculty member at any rank at the University of Maine is eligible to apply.

The Lown professorship will be awarded over a 2-year cycle (est. Fall 2025-Spring 2027) and will include:

- a faculty stipend of \$6,000 per year, \$12,000 total (+ \$5,244 mandatory benefit rate = \$17,244)
- professional development funds; \$2,000 total (to be used for such expenditures as travel, research support/assistance, etc.)

Faculty will be paid the stipend in equal monthly installments and may use the professional development funds anytime during the 2-year cycle.

Each year of the professorship, the holder will be expected to teach at least one course in the Honors College on a topic related to their research/scholarly interests; the holder will also deliver the Bernard Lown Memorial Lecture in the second year of the professorship. The number and nature of the courses taught will be determined in consultation with the faculty member's unit leader and the Honors College dean and curriculum committee; the course(s) should be taught in load, with the Honors College providing an amount equivalent to the

overload rate stipulated in the AFUM contract to the home unit to assist with replacement costs.

To apply for the Dr. Bernard Lown '42 Honors College Teaching Professorship, please complete the application form [linked here](#) by March 17, 2025.

Please contact honors@maine.edu with any questions.