## **Consortium Agreement Guidance**

If you are currently a degree-seeking student at a college or university and are using federal aid and/or loans to pay for school, you may be able to use a consortium agreement to transfer that aid to JIRP to pay for your course. To find out if this option is available:

- Call your school's financial aid office and ask if they do "consortium agreements."
  Consortiums are allowed by federal regulation, but your school is not required to provide them.
- 2. Go to your academic advisor with the <u>UMaine/JIRP Syllabus</u> to see if the credits you'll earn at JIRP will transfer to your home school.
- 3. Once the credits are approved, tell the financial aid office you'll be doing a consortium agreement with JIRP (not UMaine). This is to use your aid/loans to pay the field fees that go to JIRP, as opposed to the credit tuition that goes directly to UMaine. If you'd prefer to use the money for your UMaine credit tuition, you may of course go that route instead.
- 4. Fill out your portion of the agreement and send it along to JIRP Director of Operations Annie Boucher. We will finish the agreement and arrange for the transfer of funds with your home school.
- 5. If your funds will not be available by the tuition due date, JIRP will require written verification from your home school's financial aid office confirming the total aid you have available, and when it will be transferred to JIRP. You will be responsible for any portion of your course that is not covered by your financial aid or loans.