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UNH Announces 2009 Granite State Award And Honorary Degree Recipients

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March 12, 2009

DURHAM. N. H. - The Timberland Co. and a former N.H. senator will be honored for outstanding community service during the University of New Hampshire's 139th commencement ceremony Saturday, May 23, 2009.

William Bartlett, Jr., who is also the former director of the Pease Development Authority, and Timberland Co. of Stratham, are this year's Granite State Award recipients. Richard Verney of Monadnock Mills and Dennis Meadows, UNH faculty emeritus, will receive honorary degrees as will commencement speaker Gary Hirshberg, president and CE-Yo of Stonyfield Farm.

Timberland’s commitment to corporate social responsibility is grounded in building and sustaining strong communities through civic engagement, environmental stewardship and global human rights. In 1994, Timberland developed a code of conduct that is written into all its legal agreements to assure the companies they do business with don't use child labor and meet fair, safe, healthy standards for working conditions.

On the civic engagement front, Timberland employees are allowed 40 paid hours a year to volunteer in their local communities. What's more, Timberland has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2010.

William Bartlett, Jr., was a state senator from 1982 to 1990. He volunteered to head up the Pease Development Authority and to chair the committee examining the state retirement system.

Bartlett was also commissioner of the Department of Resources and Economic Development, acting director of the Fish and Game Department and president of New Hampshire Community Technical College.

Richard Verney is chairman and CEO of Monadnock Paper Mills, a family-owned business in Bennington that is the oldest continuously operating paper mill in the United States.

At Monadnock, environmental stewardship is a core belief. All of their printing and packaging papers are manufactured carbon neutral using 100 percent renewable electricity, half of which is produced using their own low-impact hydro-electric power facility.

They also operate a solid waste treatment facility to recycle 100 percent of their solid waste and reprocess it for use as agricultural compost and animal bedding.

Under Verney's leadership, Monadnock has been recognized by leading environmental organizations including the Sierra Club and The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, and has earned the Governors Award for Pollution Prevention as well as the Cornerstone Award from New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility for their environmental efforts.
Dennis Meadows is president of the Laboratory for Interactive Learning at UNH and professor emeritus of systems policy. In 1972, while at MIT, Meadows was lead scientist and co-author of "The Limits to Growth," a publication later voted to be one of the 20th century's 10 most influential environmental books.

"The Limits to Growth" is credited with bringing recognition to the idea that large-scale industrial activities and population growth could destroy the foundations of humanity. "The Limits to Growth" has served as the foundation for "The Global 2000 Report to the President" as well as the UN's Brundlandt Commission.

In 2009, Meadows was awarded the Japan Prize, one of the world's most prestigious awards in science and technology from the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan.

For more information visit http://unh.edu/president/honorary/recipients.html.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.

PHOTOS
Bill Bartlett: http://unh.edu/news/img/awards/BillBartlett.jpg

Dennis Meadows: http://unh.edu/news/img/awards/DennisMeadows.jpg

Gary Hirshberg: http://unh.edu/news/img/awards/GaryHirshberg.jpg


Timberland Store Front: http://unh.edu/news/img/awards/Timberland01.jpg

Timberland workers: http://unh.edu/news/img/awards/Timberland02.jpg

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