



Varley Named UNH Hospitality Alumnus Of The Year

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UNH Media Relations

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DURHAM, N.H. - Thomas Varley, '80, has been named the 2009 University of New Hampshire Hospitality Alumnus of the Year. Varley, vice president of operations at Ocean Properties, will be presented with his award Saturday, April 18, 2009, at the Whittemore School Department of Hospitality Management's Gourmet Dinner "Americana."

"Tom has been a tireless supporter of the Whittemore School's Hospitality Management Program for many years. In 2005, he was a founding member of the International Hospitality Alumni Advisory Board. He was instrumental in securing major support from Ocean Properties early in the hospitality program's endowment campaign," said Dan Innis, dean of the Whittemore School.

The Gourmet Dinner and presentation of the 2009 University of New Hampshire Hospitality Alumnus of the Year award begins at 6 p.m.

The seven-course menu highlights cuisine inspired by regions in America, and includes tequila-poached shrimp, gazpacho, smoked pork shoulder, and spice rubbed bison sirloin. To view the entire menu, meet the students behind the scenes, or to purchase tickets, visit www.unhgourmetdinners.com. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person. The students also will present the Gourmet Dinner Friday, April 17, at 6 p.m. For more information on the Gourmet Dinners, contact Donna Stickney at donna.stickney@unh.edu or 603-862-3303.

Varley, of North Hampton, joined Hyatt Hotels as management trainee following his graduation from UNH in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in hotel administration (now hospitality management). He worked at the Hyatt Orlando and on the management team rooms division for the opening of the Hyatt Grand Cypress in Orlando.

In 1984, he joined Ocean Properties as general manager of what is now the Marriott Delray Beach. In 1986, he was promoted to regional manager for Ocean Properties, then to vice president of operations in 1990. Ocean Properties is the third-largest hospitality management company in the United States.

Previous UNH Hospitality Alumnus of the Year recipients are Lynn Ross Dougherty, '78, (2008) and Anthony Marshall, '66, (2007).

The UNH Hospitality Management Program ranks fourth nationally among hospitality management programs in schools of business accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The UNH Whittemore School of Business and Economics has been recognized as one of the best business schools in the nation by *The Princeton Review*, one of the Top 25 Most Entrepreneurial Colleges by *The Princeton Review* and *Forbes.com*, and one of the top 100 graduate business schools in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

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.

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