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UNH Statement On Hanging Of American Flag

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UNH Media Relations

Oct. 15, 2009

DURHAM, N.H. –The University of New Hampshire Housing Department has a long-standing policy that prohibits the hanging of any objects outside of residence hall room windows or anywhere on the exterior of the building or adjacent ground. This policy is similar to ones in place at many institutions, including the University of Connecticut, University of Vermont and University of Massachusetts.

A first-year student in Hubbard Hall was recently asked to remove an American flag flying from his window in compliance with this policy.

“This policy is in no way intended to restrict free speech,” said Scott Chesney, director of residential life at UNH. “Students are free to display what they wish within the confines of their private rooms and we encourage personal expression. University Housing reviews policies each spring in coordination with the Student Senate, and I encouraged the student to make his case to the Senate, which can make a recommendation in the form of a resolution if it agrees with him.”

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 more than 12,200 undergraduate and 2,200 graduate students.