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Lori Wright  
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Media Contact: [Lori Wright](#)

603-862-0574

UNH Media Relations

April 30, 2008

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Justin O'Brien, professor of corporate governance at Australian National University in Canberra, will discuss how the subprime mortgage crisis in the United States is affecting global financial markets in a lecture at the University of New Hampshire Monday, May 5, 2008.

"When the Music Stops: Subprime Loans, Sovereign Wealth Funds and the Realignment of Global Financial Markets" will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the McConnell Hall Reading Room, first floor. The lecture is free and open to the public.

O'Brien's talk will focus on the current turmoil in the world's financial markets, known in the United States as the subprime crisis. O'Brien puts recent developments in the broader context of expanded global markets, the deregulation of banking and investment in the United States and abroad, and the emergence of private equity as a major force in global financial markets. He will give special attention to the rise and power of sovereign wealth funds, and the considerable influence they wield as a growing number of major investment banks and countries turn to them for infusions of capital.

A former BBC investigative reporter and producer, O'Brien researches corporate governance, private equity, and financial market regulation. His books include "Wall Street on Trial: A Corrupted State?" (2003) and "Redesigning Financial Regulation: The Politics of Enforcement" (2007). In addition he has authored three books on Irish politics and the Troubles in Northern Ireland "Killing Finucane: Murder in Defence of the Realm" (2005), "The Modern Prince: Charles J. Haughey and the Quest for Power" (2002), and "The Arms Trial" (2000).

O'Brien is professor of corporate governance at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics at the Australian National University and a member of the faculty of business at Charles Sturt University. He also holds a visiting professorship appointment at the University of Glasgow, and adjunct appointment at Queen's University Belfast, and is an affiliate professor of political science at UNH.

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