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DURHAM, N.H. -- Sheila McNamee, professor of communication at the University of New Hampshire, has won the 2007 Lindberg Award, given annually to an outstanding teacher and scholar in the College of Liberal Arts.

"I am honored to be named this year's recipient of the Lindberg Award. My scholarship and teaching are very important to me and thus, receiving recognition for both activities from my colleagues is not only supportive, but encouraging and very validating. It is also an honor to join the group of former Lindberg scholars who I have admired over the years for their outstanding academic achievements," said McNamee, a resident of Durham.

Nominated by students and colleagues, McNamee will be honored during the annual Lindberg ceremony Tuesday, May 8, 2007. Following tradition, last year's recipient, J. William Harris, professor of history, will give the Lindberg Address during the event, which begins at 1 p.m.

"Her current and former students write passionately about the influence she has had on their lives. And her colleagues see her as a model to emulate in teaching, research, and contributions to the many communities she serves. The Lindberg is a fitting award for the cumulative success she has achieved," said Marilyn Hoskin, dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

First appointed in 1982 from the doctoral program at the University of Massachusetts, McNamee has become one of the university's most engaged faculty members across all areas of involvement. Under her leadership the Department of Communication developed an impressive core of faculty achievement and innovative curricula for students.

Over the course of her career at UNH McNamee, who studies interpersonal communication, has produced five books and 50 journal articles and book chapters, all while presenting colloquia or workshops in more than 45 international settings. Her work on the intersection of language and social construction has attracted broad acclaim and spawned a range of related work on personal interaction.

"Literally practicing what she preaches, Sheila has collaborated with some of the true pioneers in the fields that interleave with her own, occasioning a host of testimonials to the role her research has played in the development of her field," Hoskin said. "The testimonials from students reveal far greater evidence that her courses transform the way they think and assess their human surrounding. Indeed, many pay her the ultimate compliment of changing them from passive students to passionate learners."