



Jan Nisbet, Director Of Institute On Disability, Receives UNH Alumni Association's Highest Honor

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DURHAM, N.H. — The University of New Hampshire Alumni Association will present its most prestigious award — the Pettee Medal — for extraordinary achievement and distinguished service to the state, the nation, and the world, to Jan Nisbet, director of the UNH Institute on Disability, on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in the 5th floor Reading Room in Dimond Library. A reception will follow.

Nisbet was chosen to receive the Pettee Medal as a result of her commitment, achievement and leadership in the field of disability services. The Institute on Disability's projects span an immense spectrum, from autism to inclusive education, community living for adults to technology, health care and public policy to leadership training. Under Nisbet's guidance, the institute has set as its vision a world where all people, including those living with disabilities, are fully engaged members of their communities and where support is available to help individuals and families achieve independence, productivity and a satisfying quality of life.

In addition to her position as director of the Institute on Disability, Nisbet is a tenured associate professor in the Department of Education at UNH. She has conducted research and writing for the past 20 years on topics related to school restructuring and reform, transition from school to adult life, supported employment, self-determination, inclusive adult lives and aging.

Nisbet also is past president of the Executive Board of Directors of The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH), a national organization focused on improving the lives of persons with severe disabilities and their families through research, training, and advocacy. She has published extensively in the field of severe disabilities, serves on numerous editorial advisory boards, and presents nationally and internationally. She is principal investigator on numerous state and nationally funded projects related to the community integration of children and adults with severe disabilities.

The Pettee Medal was established by the UNH Alumni Association in 1940 to recognize individuals who exhibit the rare devotion to service expressed by the life of the Charles Holmes Pettee, who served the university for 62 years as professor and dean until his death in 1938.

To attend the 2007 Pettee Medal Award ceremony, RSVP no later than October 19, 2007 by

contacting the UNH Alumni Association at 603.862.2040 or 800.891.1195 or by e-mail at alumni@unh.edu.

Photograph available to download: <http://unh.edu/news/img/05L6750.jpg>

Caption: Jan Nisbet, director of the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire, will receive the Pettee Medal from the UNH Alumni Association. The medal, the Alumni Association's highest honor, recognizes extraordinary achievement and distinguished service to the state, the nation, and the world.

Credit: Lisa Nugent, UNH Photo Services.

