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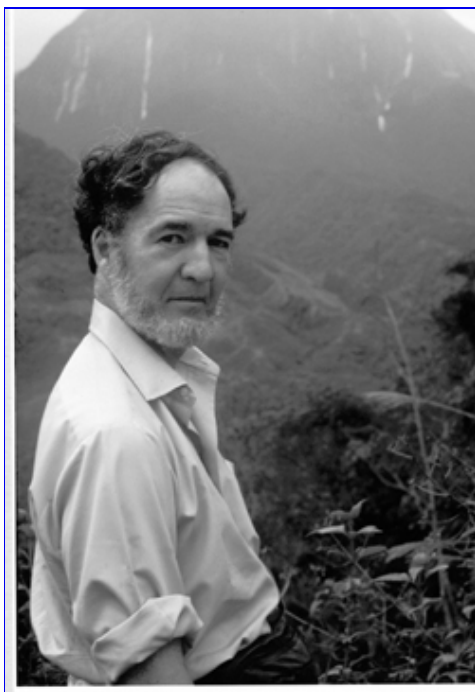
Pulitzer Prize Winning Author Jared Diamond To Speak At UNH's Undergraduate Research Conference April 27

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Editors, News Directors: Jared Diamond may be available for telephone or email interviews in advance of his visit to UNH. Please contact Denise Hart at 603-862-1462 or denise.hart@unh.edu for more information. A downloadable, high-resolution photograph is available at: <http://www.unh.edu/news/img/jareddiamond.jpg>

DURHAM, N.H. – Jared Diamond, professor of geography and physiology at UCLA, will visit the University of New Hampshire April 27, 2005 to discuss his new book *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed* as a featured event of UNH's sixth annual Undergraduate Research Conference.



Jared Diamond

“We are very pleased to host Jared Diamond as our Undergraduate Research Conference keynote speaker and to make what should be a very stimulating presentation available to the larger seacoast community,” says John Aber, vice president for research and public service.

Diamond's talk takes place at 7 p.m. in the Field House on UNH's Durham campus and is free and open to the public, but advance reservations are strongly recommended to ensure seating. Advance registration for tickets is available by calling 862-0405 or online at: <http://www.unh.edu/urc>, which also lists the full schedule of public events for the Undergraduate Research Conference at UNH's Durham and Manchester campuses. Parking is available at nearby A-lot; no parking passes are needed after 6 p.m.

Diamond, whose research interests include integrative and evolutionary physiology, explores environmental and structural factors to understand why societies succeed in the world and what causes various civilizations throughout history to fail. His previous book, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, winner of the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction, explores why Western societies have risen to dominate world affairs. A three-part PBS special television

series based on *Guns, Germs and Steel* will air this year.

Collapse explores the reasons why advanced societies like the Mayans, Easter Islanders and Anasazi seem to suddenly disappear and how grave conflicts like the Rwandan genocide in current societies bring a society to the point of collapse.

These societies carry a message and warning for present-day civilizations that in Diamond's research points to five factors: mismanagement of the ecosystem elements like soil and water that support life; climate change; shifts in trading partners; enemies; and the society's political, economic and social responses to these changes.

A book signing with Diamond immediately follows his address.