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DURHAM, N.H. – Many businesses make pressing decisions every day as the moment demands, often without a clear sense of where they want to be in the future and how they are going to get there.

To help address this common issue, the University of New Hampshire Center for Family Business will host the forum “Strategic Planning -- Realizing Your Vision,” Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2005, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Winnipesaukee Exposition Center, 48 Elm St., Laconia.

The program will give business leaders an opportunity to develop a picture of a company’s future, starting with a visioning process facilitated by Stephen Fink, professor emeritus of Whittemore School of Business and Economics and an expert in organizational behavior. Business leaders will be asked to imagine what the company will look like in five years if it were to become everything they want it to be. Next participants will lay out a strategy and year-by-year steps as part of a planning process to realize the vision. The program will be interactive with opportunities for participants to share ideas.

Michelle Dupont, owner and general manager of the Lake Opechee Inn, will provide examples of how she successfully planned and realized her vision for the inn. Other graduates of the leadership development program will share their experiences in both the visioning and planning process.

Following lunch participants are invited to tour the Boissoneau family’s new inn and spa next door.

There is a special one-time fee of $75 per person for this event. The registration deadline is Nov. 2. To register, or for more information, call Barbara Draper at (603) 862-1107, or visit http://www.familybusiness.unh.edu.

The center, under UNH’s Whittemore School of Business and Economics and the UNH Graduate School, is sponsored by Mass Mutual Financial Group, Genus Resources, Baker Newman & Noyes, Pierce Atwood, MPI Management Planning, Inc., and Ocean National Bank. It is a membership program to provide owners and managers of entrepreneurial businesses with an opportunity to exchange ideas and information and to discuss business challenges, concerns, and solutions.