5-6-2003

UNH Honors Governor with Honorary Degree

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Recommended Citation
https://scholars.unh.edu/news/1916
DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire will present Gov. Craig Benson with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Commencement Saturday, May 24.

"Through his work at Cabletron, Gov. Benson has demonstrated that a spark of creativity and imagination, coupled with determination and dedication, can lead to great accomplishments," says UNH President Ann Weaver Hart. "At UNH, we strive to instill these values in our students so it is only fitting that we present the governor with this honorary degree in recognition of his successes."

In 1983, Benson co-founded Cabletron Systems Inc, a worldwide technology company that manufactured, marketed, installed and supported networking solutions. He served as the company's chairman, COO, CEO, president and director from 1983 to 1999. At its height, the company employed more than 7,000 employees in 130 countries, and had annual sales of $1.6 billion. In 1991, he was named National Entrepreneur of the Year by Inc. Magazine.

Benson, who lives in Rye, will be presented with one of two honorary degrees at Commencement. Keynote speaker Meryl Streep will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Commencement begins at 10 a.m. at Cowell Stadium Field, rain or shine. It is a time for UNH, families and friends to recognize graduates for their achievements. It is expected to last about two hours.

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