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Yakovakis Is Named UNH Foundation's Volunteer of the Year

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Sept. 23, 2003

DURHAM, N.H. — University of New Hampshire alumnus James S. (Jim) Yakovakis has been named as recipient of the UNH Foundation's Volunteer of the Year Award. The award was established in 2000 by the foundation board of directors and its emeriti directors to recognize exemplary service to the university and the foundation.

"Jim Yakovakis is the ideal recipient of this award," Young Dawkins III, president of the UNH Foundation says. "As a University System of New Hampshire trustee, and chair of the board, Jim also sat on our UNH Foundation Board. His great strength comes from his knowledge of the state from his years as an attorney and his long experience with the university system. He is a tireless and passionate advocate for the university."

A 1957 graduate of UNH, Yakovakis received his J.D. degree from New York University School of Law and his LL.M. from Boston University Law school. He joined the Manchester law firm of Wadleigh, Starr, Peters, Dunn & Kohls after graduation, and later opened his own practice in 1982 in Manchester. He now is retired.

Yakovakis received the UNH Profile of Service Award in June 2002. He was a member of the UNH Foundation Board of Directors from 1993-99; a member of the Next Horizon Campaign National Volunteer Leadership Committee; a member of the University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees from 1986-93; served as chair of the University System of New Hampshire from 1990-93; received the UNH Alumni Meritorious Award in June 1993; and was chair of the UNH Presidential Search Committee in 1989.

During the UNH Foundation's Next Horizon campaign, Yakovakis met with business leaders and individuals to raise funds for the UNH Manchester library.

In a long career that has been distinguished by service, Yakovakis also was chair of the board of directors of Amoskeag Bank, the director of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of New Hampshire, director of the New Hampshire Lung Association and trustee of the Ann deNicola Charitable Trust.

Yakovakis and his wife, Dorothy Lane Graves Yakovakis, live in York, Maine.