

[UNH  
Institute for  
the Study of  
Earth,  
Oceans, and  
Space](#)

[UNH  
College of  
Engineering  
and  
Physical  
Sciences](#)

[American  
Geophysical  
Union](#)

## UNH Faculty Members Named American Geophysical Union Fellows

By [Sharon Keeler](#)  
603-862-1566  
UNH News Bureau

March 28, 2002

---

DURHAM, N.H. -- Two University of New Hampshire professors have been named Fellows of the American Geophysical Union (AGU).

Karen Von Damm and Joseph Hollweg, both faculty members in UNH's Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space and College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, were recently elected as fellows, an honor which distinguishes them as scientists who have "attained acknowledged eminence in the geophysical sciences."

Von Damm, UNH professor of earth sciences, has been on the UNH faculty since 1992 and was named the university's Outstanding Associate Professor in 1996. Her research interests are water-rock interactions and the controls these, and other processes, exert on the chemistry of natural waters. A particular research area in which she is quite active is the chemistry of "black smoker" hot springs on the sea floor and their fluxes into the ocean.

Von Damm recently lead a team of 23 researchers on an undersea voyage in the eastern Pacific to explore a mountain range of active volcanoes erupting lava that forms new ocean floor. These deep-sea explorations are rare due to the extreme challenges of bringing people and machines down far beneath the sea surface. Her voyage can be followed at the Web site <http://divediscover.sr.unh.edu>.

Hollweg, UNH professor of space physics, directs UNH's Solar Terrestrial Theory Group, one of only three space theory groups nationwide that have received

continuous funding from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Sun-Earth Connections Theory Program since its inception in 1980. The group's research uses theoretical plasma physics to understand energetic phenomena on the Sun and in space. These phenomena include solar flares and mass ejections, the Sun's superheated corona and its continuously outflowing solar wind, and the origin of energetic cosmic rays at the Sun and throughout the solar system.

Hollweg was awarded the 1992 James Arthur Prize for Solar Physics by the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, and has been teaching at UNH since 1980.

AGU, a nonprofit scientific organization comprised of scientists and students worldwide, was established in 1919 to promote the scientific study of Earth and its environment in space and to disseminate the results to the public.

[Back to UNH News Bureau](#)