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DURHAM, N.H. -- C. Peter Magrath (pronounced Magraw), president of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) and a 1955 graduate of the University of New Hampshire, is the keynote speaker at UNH's Inauguration Academic Convocation Thursday, Nov. 21.

His address is titled, "UNH: A Research University in the 21st Century." It will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Strafford Room of the Memorial Union Building.

Free and open to the public, the talk is part of a two-day inauguration Nov. 21 and 22, to celebrate the university and honor its 18th president, Ann Weaver Hart.

Magrath assumed the presidency of NASULGC in 1992. As CEO of the nation's oldest higher education association, he represents state universities and land-grant colleges on issues of national importance to the higher education community.

Following Magrath's address, a panel of three UNH faculty members will respond to his remarks.

Participants include Lawrence Hamilton, chair of the Department of Sociology and recipient of UNH's 2000 Excellence in Research Award; P.T. Vasudevan, professor of chemical engineering and recipient of UNH's 2000 Award for Excellence in International Engagement; and Barbara Krysiak, associate professor of education, chair of the UNH Faculty Senate, and board member of the Children's Alliance of New
Hampshire.

The academic convocation is one of several public events being held to celebrate Hart's inauguration. A student celebration will be held at the Memorial Union Building from 12 to 2:30 p.m. the same day, where gifts will be presented to Hart that symbolize student organizations and serve as an example of the diversity within the community.

On Friday, Nov. 22, Hart's installation ceremony takes place. It begins with a procession, with participants gathering at noon on the Thompson Hall lawn. At 12:30 p.m. the ROTC Color Guard and UNH Marching Band will lead the procession of robed faculty, delegates, academic leaders and others from the UNH community to the Whittemore Center. The installation ceremony begins at 1 p.m., followed by a reception.

For more information, contact the UNH Office of Public Programs and Events at 1-888-UNH-AnnHart, or visit the Web site http://www.unh.edu/ppe/inauguration.

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