

UNH Family Business Program Salutes Leadership Grads

By [Janet Lathrop](#)
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DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire's Center for Family Business recently celebrated the success of 12 graduates from its Leadership Development Program.

Barbara Draper, center director, applauds those who completed the course, noting that this third graduating class represents eight New Hampshire and Maine businesses. "We now have a total of 40 graduates representing 25 companies," she adds.

Most participants are from family-owned businesses and often represent their company's future generation of leaders. They meet for eight full days in Durham throughout the academic year to learn about developing strong leadership skills, recognizing others' leadership styles, managing organizational change and to assess their own talents and abilities. Discussion in the small groups is centered around "real life issues," said Draper.

One of this year's grads, Mike Donati from Beswick Engineering in Greenland, said of his experience, "I've often thought that the term 'leadership' is overused, but I have found and the class reinforces that inspired leadership is critical to successful organizations."

The program's UNH faculty adviser, Stephen Fink, associate dean of the Whittemore School, offered his congratulations to graduates at the event.

This year's New Hampshire graduates are Michael Donati and Michelle Primavera, Beswick Engineering Co., Greenland; Angela Cullen, Crystal Dry Cleaners and Laundry, Manchester; Duane Dunn, Dunn Industries, Manchester; Shane Drolet, General Linen Service, Somersworth; Cynthia and Victoria Makris,

NASWA Resort, Laconia; Christopher and Shelby Holka, Omni Components, Hudson, and Tony Greene and Eric LaRoche, Secure Care Products, Inc., Concord. From Wells, Maine, Meg Spenlinhauer of Spencer Press, Inc. also graduated.

The next leadership development class starts Wednesday, Jan. 31. For further information or to talk with previous participants, call Barbara Draper at (603) 862-1107.

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