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By Sharon Keeler
UNH News Bureau

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DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire seeks high school students with an interest in science and math to participate in its 10th annual summer institute, Project SMART (Science and Mathematics Achievement Research Training).

The four-week residential program will be held this year at UNH, July 9 through August 3, and will offer high school students a comprehensive course on science, scientific thinking and problem solving. Areas of study will include biotechnology, freshwater and marine biology, environmental science and space science.

The purpose of Project SMART is to provide an advanced course of study that challenges, educates and motivates talented high school students. Participants will study advanced topics in selected areas of science, mathematics and computers in an integrated way through lectures, demonstrations, hands-on laboratory experience and field trips with UNH faculty and graduate students.

"It will be an intensive live-in experience where participants will learn the excitements of modern sciences and develop an historical and philosophical perspective for understanding the social and ethical issues raised by recent developments," says Subhash Minocha, professor of plant biology and Project SMART director.

The program is open on a competitive basis to selected students from New Hampshire and neighboring states who are currently enrolled in the 10th or 11th grade. The criteria for selection include performance in
science and mathematics classes, two letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors, and a brief essay written by the student. While there is no tuition fee, all students are required to pay $1,150 to cover the cost of boarding, lodging and field trips.

The Project SMART Summer Institute is co-sponsored by UNH and the N.H. Space Grant Consortium. Additional support is provided by UNH's College of Life Sciences and Agriculture and Sea Grant Program. Numerous biotechnology companies provide generous donations of chemicals and equipment.

For more information, contact UNH Professor Subhash Minocha at 603-862-2100, or by email at sminocha@christa.unh.edu. Application deadline is April 16.

This information, as well as all application materials and details about each of the study areas, can be found on the Internet at www.smart.unh.edu.

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