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By Jennifer Vento  
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DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire will honor more than 1,800 undergraduates for academic scholarship at its annual Honors Convocation on Sunday, May 6, at 2 p.m. This year's guest speaker will be Dr. David Watters, professor of English and James H. Hayes and Claire Short Hayes Chair in Humanities.

Watters, co-editor of the Encyclopedia of New England Culture, teaches courses in New England history, politics and culture with an emphasis on the colonial period. His publications include books and articles on early American literature, gravestone art and authors Jonathan Edwards, Louisa May Alcott, Emily Dickinson and Nathaniel Hawthorne. His keynote address is entitled "A Yankee Tradition: Declining Honors and Accepting Responsibilities."

The Honors Convocation is the second largest academic ceremony at the university, next to commencement. It recognizes juniors and seniors with a 3.2 cumulative GPA as University Honors Students, and those with a 3.7 cumulative GPA as Presidential Scholars.

The 2001 Honors Convocation will recognize 1,555 University Honors Students and 248 Presidential Scholars.

The ceremony will also include recognition of University Student Awards for community service and leadership. Musical selections will be performed by the UNH Wind Symphony and the UNH Chamber Singers.
A reception on Thompson Hall lawn with UNH President Joan Letizel will follow the ceremony. Tickets are not required for either event. For information, call the Office of Public Programs and Events at (603) 862-1461.

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