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UNH's Thompson School Holds Commencement Ceremony May 14

By *Sharon Keeler*
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- Gary Domian, assistant state conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, will deliver the main address at this year's commencement ceremonies of the Thompson School of Applied Sciences. Domian, of Rochester, is a graduate of the Class of 1970.

Approximately 130 students from the associate degree program within the University of New Hampshire will be honored during this year's ceremony Sunday, May 14, beginning at 2 p.m., in Lundholm Gymnasium.

Graduates will have completed a two-year course of study in applied animal science, applied business management, civil technology, food services management, forest technology or horticultural technology.

Domian has spent 30 years with the USDA. His career as a soil scientist has taken him throughout the Northeast and to Indonesia, and he has provided technical assistance to several other countries. He most recently worked in the Dominican Republic, where he helped mitigate damage to natural resources and infrastructure caused by Hurricane Georges.

In addition to holding an associate degree from the Thompson School, Domian holds a B.S. in soil and water sciences.

Garrett Dubois, of Deerfield, will also deliver an address: "Reflections of a Thompson School Student."

Donald Silva, UNH professor and faculty marshal, will lead the commencement procession and open the ceremonies. Scott Walker, of North Conway, is the student marshal for the Class of 2000. The platform party includes UNH President Joan Leitzel, University System of New Hampshire trustees and senior university officials.

Regina Smick-Attisano, director of the Thompson School, assisted by William Mautz, dean of UNH's College of Life Sciences and Agriculture, will

announce the recipients of student awards including the Scholastic Achievement Award, Student Achievement Award, Philip S. Barton Award, Leadership and Scholarship Award, Stacey W. Cole Endowed Scholarship Award and the Director's Non-traditional Student Award.

Melissa Boyce, student representative from Stratham, will present the Outstanding Educator Award to Matthew Chagnon, associate professor of forest technology.

To conclude the ceremony, D. Lance Tillinghast '78, president of the Thompson School Alumni Association, will welcome graduates.

The Invocation and Benediction will be offered by the Rev. Michael Bradley, UNH Episcopal Chaplain. Music will be provided by graduating students Jeremy Almstrom, of Newport, and John Savage, of Acton, Maine.

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