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Three UNH Students Awarded Space Grant Fellowships

By *Sharon Keeler*
UNH News Bureau

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Three University of New Hampshire students have been awarded Space Grant Graduate Fellowships by the New Hampshire Space Grant Consortium (NHSGC).

Recipients of the 2000-2001 awards are Linsey DeBell of Redwood City, Calif., Douglas Flanders of Plymouth, and Amy Frappier of Harrisville, R.I.

DeBell is working on atmospheric chemical modeling, as part of the university's AIRMAP (Atmospheric Investigation, Regional Modeling, Analysis and Prediction) project. An earth sciences graduate student, DeBell is advised by Robert Talbot, research professor in UNH's Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS).

Flanders is researching the control systems of small satellites. He is studying for his master's degree in mechanical engineering, under adviser May-Win Thein, UNH assistant professor of mechanical engineering.

Frappier is working toward her master's degree in earth sciences, specializing in geochemical systems, climate and environmental change. Her research involves the study of caves in Jamaica to determine if deposits can be used to detect previous hurricanes and tropical storm events. Frappier is advised by Dork Sahagian, research associate professor in EOS.

Space Grant Graduate Fellowships form the core of the nationwide Space Grant program, supporting postgraduate students studying space-related topics, including astronomy, astrophysics, global earth science, engineering and other relevant fields.

"The goal is to keep a pipeline of outstanding aerospace professionals flowing into NASA, industry, and academia," says EOS Associate Director David Bartlett, director of the New Hampshire Space Grant Consortium. "Our emphasis at UNH is on selecting students of outstanding promise, while encouraging women and members of other underrepresented groups to enter these fields through Space Grant support."

The fellowships at UNH provide 12 months of tuition, stipend, and a travel/research allowance, allowing students to pursue their degrees through course work and research with faculty mentors. Selections are based on academic performance, personal statements of goals and recommendations from faculty.

Established by Congress in 1989 and funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program contributes to the nation's science and technology enterprise by funding research, education and public service projects through a national network of 52 university-based Space Grant consortia, representing every state, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

The NHSGC is headquartered at UNH's Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space, and includes Dartmouth College, the N.H. Community Technical College System, Plymouth State College, the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium, and FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Place, a program founded by New Hampshire inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen.

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