

# By the Numbers

A quick look at UNH alumni in politics

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Tuesday, December 8, 2015

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# BY THE NUMBERS



## A quick look at UNH alumni in politics

From New Hampshire to the nation's capital to the West Coast, there are hundreds of UNH alums with political careers. Some of them knew they wanted to pursue a life of public service before they went to college; others were shaped by a pivotal professor or on-campus event; still others found their way by happenstance. Here are just a couple of the better-known names—as well as a few up-and-coming stars.



Linda Deschambault '84

An environmental scientist with the EPA, Deschambault served as mayor of Moraga, California, from 2004-2008 as a member of the Green Party.



Tim Ryan '06

In 2003, Ryan 29, became the youngest Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Now, the UNH Law grad and The Ohio Congressman is currently serving his fifth term.



Dawn Zimmer '90

Best known for her leadership following Superstorm Sandy in 2012, Zimmer has been mayor of Hoboken, N.J., since 2009. She is the city's first female mayor.



Donna Edwards '89

When she was elected to the U.S. Congress in 2008, UNH Law grad Edwards became the first African American woman to represent Maryland. She's now aiming at another first: a successful 2016 run for U.S. Senate.

Are you an alum who works in public service? We'd love to connect with you! Share your story at [unh.edu/unhtales/alumni-tales](http://unh.edu/unhtales/alumni-tales) or send us an email at [alumni.editor@unh.edu](mailto:alumni.editor@unh.edu).





Stephen Merrill '69

Twice selected as "the most fiscally responsible governor in America" and coinor of the phrase "the New Hampshire Advantage," Merrill served the state for two terms, from 1992-1996.



John Lynch '74

Widely regarded as the most popular governor in New Hampshire's history and one of the most popular governors in the U.S., Lynch served a state-record four terms, from 2004-2012.



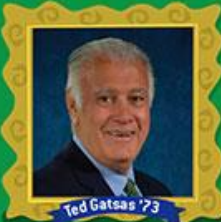
Carol Shea-Porter '75, '79

Two-time alum Shea-Porter served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and was the first woman in New Hampshire to be elected to Congress.



Frank Guinta '00

Currently in his second non-consecutive term as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, UNH Law-grad Guinta earlier served two terms as the mayor of Manchester.



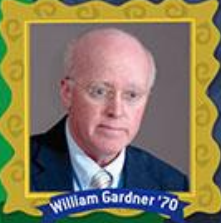
Ted Gatsas '73

Gatsas has been Manchester's mayor since 2009, but his ties with the city go back to Central high school and UNH Manchester. He's been pivotal in recent years in strengthening ties between his city and his alma mater.



Joseph Sweeney '16

Salem native Sweeney has been a state rep as long as he's been a student — the UNH senior was elected to represent his town in 2012. He's also active in campus politics and served as student body president.



William Gardner '70

Elected in 1976, Gardner became the first Democrat to hold New Hampshire's secretary of state post since 1923. Now in his 20th term, he is the longest-serving secretary of state in the U.S.

What is it about UNH that inspires such a love of public service? A survey of the university's records yields an impressive — and no doubt incomplete — list of graduates serving in a range of elected and appointed roles:

**4** NH Governors  
John Lynch '74  
Steven Merrill '69  
Walter Peterson '46, '69H  
Wesley Powell '38

**11** Mayors  
**8** Members of US Congress

**42** State Senators

**418** State Representatives

**3** White House Staff Members  
Scott Dullea '89, White House National Security Council  
Bill Cameron '80, US Secret Service  
Kristie Mark '96, Executive Office

**6** Foreign Service Officers  
**8** Press Secretaries

**500+**  
Lobbyists • Aides • Liaisons •  
Legal Counselors • Communica-  
tions Specialists • Consultants •  
Campaign Managers

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Originally published in *UNH Magazine*—[Fall 2015 Issue](#)

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UNH MAGAZINE FALL 2015, U. AND THE N.H. PRIMARY



University of New Hampshire

UNH Today is produced for the UNH community and for friends of UNH.  
The stories are written by the staff of [UNH Communications and Public Affairs](#).  
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