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UNH Media Relations

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UNH Alumni Association Program
Wins National Award

By Maggie Paine
UNH Alumni Association

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire Alumni Association has been elected to the
Associations Advance America Honor Roll, a national
awards competition sponsored by the American Society
of Association Executives, according to Ernie Gale,
alumni association executive director.

The alumni association received the award for its UNH
Advocates for Higher Education program, designed to
raise public awareness about the important role higher
education plays in the state's future. The advocates
network provides a way for graduates of the university
to help increase state support for their alma mater. UNH
President Joan Leitzel cites their efforts as one of the
keys to the 4.7 percent increase approved by the
legislature last summer.

"I'm delighted to see the program receive this kind of
recognition in its first year of operation," Gale says. "It
clearly demonstrates the organization and dedication of
the program's director and the many volunteers who
made it a success."

Sponsored by the UNH Alumni and Parents
Associations, membership is open to anyone who cares
about higher education in New Hampshire, according to
Maggie Morrison, program director.

"From time to time, members are asked to write or call
their local legislators and let them know about the
university's position on a legislative issue," Morrison
explains. "Alumni and parents know first-hand that
UNH is an asset to the state in preparing well-educated
and trained citizens to meet the demands of New
Hampshire's economy."

Now in its ninth year, the Associations Advance
America Awards recognizes associations that move the
nation forward through innovative projects in
education, skills training, standards-setting, business
and social innovation, knowledge creation, citizenship
and community service.

For more information on the UNH Advocates for
Higher Education, contact Morrison at (603) 862-2499
or check the alumni association's website at www.unh.edu/alumni/programs.html.

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