12-17-1999

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UNH's Thompson School Chosen for National 'Local Legacies' Project

By Sharon Keeler
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) has announced the University of New Hampshire's Thompson School of Applied Science will represent Durham in the national "Local Legacies" project of the U.S. Library of Congress Bicentennial Celebration.

Working through Congressional offices, the Local Legacies initiative seeks to chronicle aspects of our nation's diverse cultural heritage from all 50 states, U.S. trusts and territories. A selection of documentary material will be assembled at the Library of Congress to ensure that future generations will have access to important cultural "snapshots" of American tradition, folklore and everyday life.

University System of New Hampshire Trustee Stephen Taylor, state Commissioner of Agriculture, nominated the Thompson School for inclusion in this national project.

Regina Smick-Attisano, director of the Thompson School; Davis Burbank, assistant director; and Emily Creighton, admissions director, will gather visual, audio and written information to preserve the school's history on the national level. This information will educate others on the role the school has played in the changing face of New Hampshire agriculture over the past 100 years, and provide a glimpse of where it's going in the next century.

"The Thompson School of Applied Science is quite honored to be selected as a Local Legacy from the state of New Hampshire. The school has a long history connecting the needs of business and industry with those of the citizens of the state in the education of their sons and daughters in the agricultural sciences," says Smick-Attisano.

"This legacy has been what makes the Thompson School a unique choice for individuals seeking education beyond high school," she adds. "As the school continues in its second century, our focus will continue to be providing students quality education in their respective disciplines. In this way they will be
ready to begin their careers in the promising economy in New Hampshire."

The Local Legacies will be celebrated during a special event at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., in May 2000. Selected Local Legacy materials will later be added to the library's collections and made available on the World Wide Web.

The Thompson School of Applied Science is a division of UNH's College of Life Sciences and Agriculture and offers the associate in applied science degree. A combination of science-based education, professional preparation and practical experience qualifies graduates for careers in applied animal science, applied business management, civil technology, food services management, forest technology and horticultural technology.

The Library of Congress, celebrating its Bicentennial in 2000, has been "gathering knowledge of the nation's good," in the words of Librarian of Congress James Billington, since 1800. For more information on the Library's Bicentennial, visit the web site at [www.loc.gov/bicentennial](http://www.loc.gov/bicentennial), or call the Bicentennial Program Office at (202) 707-2000 or toll-free at (800) 707-7145.

*December 17, 1999*