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Media Relations

April 02, 2014

John Pike to Retire From UNH Cooperative Extension



John Pike Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension and I can't think of a better place to have worked," Pike said. "It has been a privilege for me to serve the people of New Hampshire."

DURHAM, N.H. – John Pike will retire as dean and director of University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension after nearly 40 years with the organization that has served the people, businesses, and communities of the Granite State for a century. His retirement is effective June 30, 2014.

"John is an inspiration to everyone who believes in the state's land-grant mission," said UNH President Mark Huddleston. "As Cooperative Extension celebrates its 100th anniversary, he leaves a successful organization that is well positioned to continue to bring the research, talent and resources of the university directly to people across the Granite State."

Pike served as extension's dean and director for the past 16 years. A Cooperative Extension staff member for 37 years, he has also held the positions of extension educator, state program leader, and associate director.

"I am truly passionate about UNH and the mission of Cooperative Extension in serving the people of the state, and I can't think of a better place to have worked," Pike said. "It has been a privilege for me to serve the people of New Hampshire."

A lifelong resident of New Hampshire, Pike has been associated with UNH since he entered the school as a freshman in 1971. He went on to earn a master's degree in public administration as well as a Ph.D. in educational administration from UNH.

"John truly epitomizes the qualities of a dean and team leader," said UNH Provost Lisa MacFarlane. "He ensured the stability of Cooperative Extension through its reorganization three years ago as we faced budget deficits and has provided outstanding leadership throughout his career."

Pike will stay on as a part-time advisor while a national search is conducted for a new dean and director. A farewell reception will be held on campus June 11, 2014, from 3:30-5 p.m.

Image to download: John Pike Dean and Director of University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension <http://www.unh.edu/news/releases/2014/04/images/johnpike2013-4428.jpg>

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