

UNH Recognizes Investment Network as Paul J. Holloway Entrepreneur of the Year

Friday, May 20, 2022



DURHAM, N.H.—[eCoast](#)

[Angels](#), an early-stage, business angel network

founded in New England in 2000, has been named the

University of New

Hampshire's Paul J. Holloway Entrepreneur of the Year.



MEDIA RELATIONS

eCoast Angels was founded by five New Hampshire Seacoast entrepreneurs. From its start, the group had a vision of giving back to the community by investing in, and mentoring, entrepreneurs of early-stage start-up companies who were passionate about their company.

In addition to investing money, the group believed offering entrepreneurs the experience, knowledge, networking capabilities, oversight and interest in mentoring of its members would be just

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as valuable as the money they invested. Since its inception, eCoast has grown to become the largest early-stage investment group in northern New England with more than 40 members and new members joining every month. Since 2021, it has been a goal of eCoast to add more women investors to its membership and to invest in companies led by a diverse management team.

A key element in eCoast's success is a willingness to support companies as they grow and the ability to fund later stage rounds when the capital needs are larger. Since its founding, eCoast members and the regional network of investors it developed have invested more than \$100 million in early-stage companies and are "especially proud" of the numerous jobs that its investments have helped to create. In the past 15 months, eCoast has been the lead investor in 12 deals, raising more than \$17 million for early-stage companies.

The [University of New Hampshire](#) inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top-ranked programs in business, engineering, law, health and human services, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. A Carnegie Classification R1 institution, UNH partners with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, and received \$260 million in competitive external funding in FY21 to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

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