

## **UNH National Security Education Program (NSEP) scholarship winner for 2009-2010**

University New Hampshire freshman **Jeanna Diorio** has been awarded a National Security Education Program (NSEP) Boren Scholarship for study in Egypt during the 2009-10 academic year. She was selected as one of 130 students to receive an award from a pool of 896.

A resident of Kingston, NH, Ms. Diorio is a dual major in international affairs and political science with a minor in history and a focus on the Middle East. Ms. Diorio first became interested in the Middle East while participating in the Model United Nations program in high school. She has continued her involvement with the organization at UNH, recently participating in the international Model UN competition in New York City for which the UNH Palestine delegation received an Honorable Mention.



Diorio has also served as a tutor for autistic children and coordinator for a summer field hockey camp. Based on her exceptional academic performance and commitment to leadership and service, Diorio was named a UNH Hamel Scholar, designating her as one of the top seven incoming New Hampshire freshmen.

While in Egypt, Ms. Diorio will begin to build a proficiency in Arabic language that will complement her course work at UNH and lay the groundwork for advanced Arabic language study following UNH graduation. Ultimately, Ms. Diorio would like to pursue graduate work in Arab/Islamic studies and to apply her academic and public service interests to a career with the federal government. Concerning her academic plans and goals, Ms. Diorio says, “I am determined to become a part of the international effort to promote a peaceful and prosperous Middle East by promoting education, democracy and political reform throughout the region.”

### **NSEP Alternate**

UNH junior Eva Jacobson from West Hartford, CT, was named an alternate for study in China.

### **About NSEP**

*Each year, NSEP awards scholarships to exceptional undergraduate and graduate students from all over the U.S, who have interests in less commonly-studied languages and cultures, and whose goal it is to work for the federal government’s Department of Defense, State or Homeland Security or in the Intelligence Community.*

*The next competition is scheduled for spring 2010 and will provide scholarships for study abroad in summer and fall 2010 and spring 2011. The **campus deadline is December 15, 2009.** Interested students should begin work with NSEP/Boren advisor Sheila McCurdy, Hood House 224, by October 2009.*