

# UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE



February 12, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I am aware, as all of you are, of the staff unionization efforts that are under way at UNH. The information provided in this brochure is intended to help you make an informed choice. While I have always firmly believed that there are places and circumstances where unions are essential in the fight for decent wages and safe working conditions, I also firmly believe that this is not one of them. For years, members of the UNH community—administration, PATs and operating staff—have worked together effectively and harmoniously.

Is life perfect at UNH? No. But as I have said repeatedly, a key goal for me as president is to work to make this institution an employer of choice. That means that I am committed not only to ensuring that we pay all of our people fairly and competitively, but also to creating and sustaining a climate of trust and goodwill in employer-employee relations at UNH. The interjection of a union between an employer and its employees necessarily makes the relationship less consultative and often makes it adversarial.

I am only asking you to consider, as the administration needs to consider, how our good work would be changed without that sense of shared governance, without the shared commitment to make UNH a better place for everyone at UNH. My choice would always be to work with directly with each of you and your colleagues, and not through a negotiating team.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Mark Huddleston  
President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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