

## Sen. Gregg honored for commitment to UNH

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**NEW CASTLE** – U.S. Sen. Judd Gregg was honored for his commitment to the University of New Hampshire Monday at the Marine Research Center that now bears his name.

Representatives from the fields of marine science and justice studies spoke to how Gregg's support has helped the university expand programs that are now renowned worldwide, whether it is sea-floor mapping, or stopping the spread of child exploitation through the Internet.

Gregg finishes his third and final term in the Senate this month.

The Judd Gregg Marine Research Complex comprises the Coastal Marine Laboratory, Marine Research Pier and Pier Support Facility in New Castle. Together, they represent a fully integrated educational and research facility with access to the open waters of the Gulf of Maine and a state-of-the-art marine laboratory, university officials said.

"Without the support of Senator Gregg, in my opinion, the United States would be trailing instead of leading in this sea-floor mapping industry," Andy Armstrong, co-director of the NOAA/UNH Joint Hydrographic Center, said.



U.S. Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., and his wife, Kathy, wave from the pier of the Judd Gregg Marine Research Complex in New Castle. (GRETYL MACALASTER)

David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at UNH, said whether it is fish or child molesters, Gregg has been "out to improve the catch."

Some of the \$400 million Gregg secured for university-based programs during his tenure supported leading research in helping law enforcement battle Internet crimes against children, including the establishment of a national reporting system for complaints of child victimization and exploitation and the creation of Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces.

"It was clear that he had a special interest in victimized kids and saw the potential for the kinds of research that we do to make a positive difference in public policy on that issue," Finkelhor said.

"Thank you, Senator Gregg, you did good," Finkelhor said.

Nancy Kinner, co-director of the Coastal Response Research Center, said it was Gregg's vision that led to the creation of a center that could help the nation in the face of a major oil spill, during a time when many thought there was no need.

Kinner said because of this vision, the center was able to assist with the recent spill in the Gulf, the largest in the nation's history.

The Judd and Kathy Gregg Marine Science Scholarship Fund will support UNH graduate students in coastal marine science, engineering, policy or management and honors the Greggs for their sustained commitment to marine research and education at UNH.

Gregg deferred much of the thanks to his wife, Kathy, and to university staff.

"These programs are successful not because Kathy and I were involved with them. It is because of the University of New Hampshire and the talent of the people that are there who make the university successful," Gregg said.