

UNH Faculty Senate
Motion # IX-M18
Land Grant Resolution

1. Sponsoring committee: Agenda Committee
2. Date of Faculty Senate discussion: May 2, 2005
3. Motion:

UNH Faculty Senate Resolution for Continued Congressional Funding
for Land Grant College Research and Teaching

The University of New Hampshire is the Land Grant University for our state and carries, as a key component of its program, the responsibility to train the next generation of agronomists, farmers, and educators. The university has a responsibility as well to ensure that New Hampshire has the capacity to develop new knowledge that will support the state's agricultural economy as it makes the transition to 21st century agriculture. Research, teaching and service to the food production and marketing industry in the state is carried out by the College of Life Science and Agriculture's faculty, students and extensionists. The funding to support their work is the result of a federal-state partnership, funded on the federal side by grants under the McIntire-Stennis and Hatch acts. With the establishment of the Land Grant Universities some 150 years ago, the federal government undertook the critically important role of investing in the future to ensure the long term productivity of our soil and water resources and to support the production of food and fiber so essential for a healthy population and economy, both statewide and nationally. New Hampshire is a small state, not dominated by industrial farming systems. We need to invest public resources to ensure that family farms, small-scale food production, and our forest products systems will be able to remain significant components of the local and regional economies. The present cost-sharing federal-state partnership has resulted in \$1,687,967 of federal dollars being matched by the state's \$4,983,473. This match is very likely to be lost if the federal funds do not continue. Such a reduction would cripple UNH's mission as a Land Grant institution, as it would result in the loss of more than 50 faculty and staff positions along with at least 35 graduate students. This social capital represents the leadership needed to carry us forward to a sustainable future.

Therefore, be it resolved that the University of New Hampshire's Faculty Senate, which represents the faculty who deliver those academic programs and research initiatives comprising the university's investment in agricultural education and research, urges you to support continued investment at the current level to fund agricultural research and education under the McIntyre-Stennis and Hatch Acts' budget lines. We ask that you, as members of New Hampshire's Congressional Delegation, support your own state's welfare and future economic health and thus vote to continue to fund these critical programs.

4. Faculty Senate action: passed, on May 2, 2005

Vote: unanimous

Faculty Senate chair's signature: 

Forwarded to: Representative Charles Bass, on May 4, 2005

Forwarded to: Representative Jeb Bradley, on May 4, 2005

Forwarded to: Senator Judd Gregg, on May 4, 2005

Forwarded to: Senator John Sununu, on May 4, 2005