As a leader in creating innovative research and providing K-12 students and teachers across New Hampshire with exciting opportunities to explore STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), UNH is extremely proud to welcome you to the 2015 FIRST Robotics district competition at our beautiful campus in Durham.

Last year was the first time UNH hosted FIRST, and it was thrilling to experience the high-energy action and to talk with students and about their robot designs, construction processes and team strategies. When I visited the competition, the cheering was every bit as loud and enthusiastic as it is on game day for the UNH Wildcats.

Your participation also sends a strong, positive message that our FIRST district teaches and inspires some of the brightest young minds in the nation.

UNH is proud to graduate more than half of New Hampshire’s baccalaureate and graduate degrees in the fields of engineering, engineering technology, computer science and information technology—all of which are in high demand and short supply. Perhaps you will join us as UNH students one day, and pursue dynamic research and participate in STEM-related student groups such as the LunaCats robotics team and the FSAE Precision Racing Team.

We anticipate nearly 2,000 FIRST participants this year, and the UNH College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (CEPS) faculty, students and staff, as well as our business and community partners, look forward to working with you. In addition to the competition, I hope you enjoy a chance to meet with other teams, tour our campus and imagine the bright future that lies ahead for you.

Best regards,

Mark W. Huddleston,
President