



## Anne Huot Stepping Down As Keene State College President

**June 26, 2017** - Keene State College's Anne Huot announced today she will be leaving her position as President of Keene State College, effective July 31, 2017 citing personal and professional reasons. President Huot will spend the coming academic year on an unpaid leave of absence preparing to return to her faculty position as a full professor in the Biology Department.

"After much deliberation, I have decided it is time for me to step down as President of Keene State College," stated President Huot. "It has been a privilege to serve this great college. Together we have achieved much including national recognition for environmental sustainability, national recognition for the employability of our graduates, significant gains in giving to the College, a renewed relationship with the City of Keene, addressing workforce needs through the business partners program, the construction of the Living Learning Commons, and with a laser focus on the student experience the purposeful integration of students' academic and co-curricular experiences. My partner Dr. Joanne Cepelak and I are deeply appreciative of the relationships we have developed with the students, faculty, staff and community. We look forward to fostering and growing those as I return to the classroom and pursue my scholarly interests. I have been considering this for some time, but wanted to wait until the academic and fiscal year concluded and in advance of the arrival of the Class of 2021. I would like to thank Joanne for opening our residence to the community, hosting hundreds of students for dinner and volunteering tirelessly on several important initiatives."

"The University System Board of Trustees joins me in thanking President Huot for her service to Keene State College," stated board chair John Small. "President Huot's leadership has strengthened the College's brand and raised the College's profile. Keene State remains a critical part of the state's economy and a prominently recognized liberal arts college in the Northeast. The Board is committed to ensuring that Keene remains a vital part of the community and the state."

Over the coming weeks, an interim President will be appointed to work with Chancellor Todd Leach, the Board of Trustees and the existing leadership at Keene State as the campus prepares for the upcoming academic year. The board of trustees will begin immediately assessing the long-term leadership needs for Keene and determine the appropriate process to find a new president.

### About USNH

The University System of New Hampshire enrolls 34,000 students, and consists of four public institutions: Granite State College, Keene State College, Plymouth State University and the University of New Hampshire. USNH strives to ensure the availability of appropriate and accessible higher educational opportunities throughout New Hampshire, as well as address critical state workforce needs. A 29-member Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the University System.

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