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# Hart Chosen To Succeed Leitzel At UNH

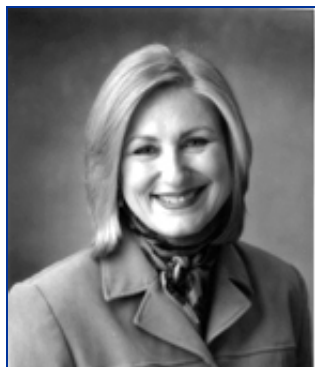
By [Jim Rivers](#)

University System of New Hampshire  
603-862-0914

April 15, 2002

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Durham, N.H. -- Ann Weaver Hart, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at California's Claremont Graduate University, is the choice to succeed Joan Leitzel as the 18th President of the University of New Hampshire.



**Ann Weaver Hart**

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Chancellor Stephen Reno made the selection following a meeting with the presidential search committee at which time the finalists' names were presented for his consideration.

"With thanks to the Search Committee, and to all who expressed their interests and impressions during the course of this process, I am pleased to bring forward, for approval by the Board of Trustees, a recommendation that Dr. Ann Weaver Hart be appointed as the next president of the University of New Hampshire," said the chancellor.

"Dr. Hart brings a combination of skills and experience, as well as a commitment to public higher education that will serve her well in her role as leader of an excellent team, of an institution that is clearly on a trajectory of national and international recognition. Dr. Hart appreciates that the University is a treasured resource for the people of New Hampshire and will work tirelessly, I know, in service of that special trust," added Dr. Reno.

Dr. Hart has served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Claremont since 1998. Her responsibilities included all academic schools, programs, centers and institutes; student affairs; research administration; faculty affairs, governance, and administration; institutional research; and information technology at the university and for the overall operations of the university, including budget development and planning; legal affairs; grievance processes; and academic personnel.

"The University of New Hampshire is one of the gems of American higher education, combining first rate liberal arts undergraduate education with vibrant and burgeoning research, graduate, and professional programs," said Hart. "The university is a fantastic economic, cultural, and intellectual resource, and I cannot think of any place I would rather work. I am honored to join this great team of students, faculty, and staff and to be a part of the university in service to the people of New Hampshire."

Dr. Hart earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Utah. She received a B.S. in History in 1970, an M.A. in History in 1981, and a Ph.D. in Educational Administration in 1983. Prior to joining Claremont Graduate University, Dr. Hart served as the Dean of the Graduate School at Utah from 1993-1998.

USNH Board Chairman John Lynch praised the work of the 18-member presidential search committee. "On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank the committee, as well as the many other constituencies throughout the state who shared their input and help to make this an extremely fair and open process," said Lynch. "I know that the committee remained dedicated to finding the right candidate to succeed Dr. Leitzel, one that would result in a smooth transition on the UNH campus. I am confident that in finding Dr. Ann Hart they have succeeded in their mission," added Lynch.

The Board of Trustees informally gave its stamp of approval and enthusiastic recommendation during a morning telephone conference today. The formal vote on the confirmation of Ann Weaver Hart will take place during a special meeting on a date still to be determined.

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