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UNH English Professor Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

By [Erika Mantz](#)

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UNH News Bureau

May 3, 2002

DURHAM, N.H. -- Charles Simic, professor of English at the University of New Hampshire for nearly 30 years and a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, has been elected a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Joining Simic in this year's class of 177 fellows are U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, former Sen. Warren Rudman, violinist Itzhak Perlman, Academy Award winner Anjelica Huston, author and physician Oliver Sacks, writers Larry McMurtry and Grace Paley, Nobel Prize-winning chemist George Olah, and Lawrence Sullivan, director of the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School. The fellows will be inducted into the academy Oct. 5.

Simic has published more than 20 volumes of poetry, three collections of poems, five books of essays and memoirs, a critical study of the artist Joseph Cornell, and 13 works of translation. In addition, he has contributed hundreds of poems and essays to the most widely read literary journals in the country.

"The academy is pleased to welcome these outstanding and influential individuals to the nation's most illustrious learned society," says academy President Patricia Meyer Spacks. Election to the academy is the result of a highly competitive process that recognizes those who have made preeminent contributions to all scholarly fields and professions.

The academy was founded in 1780 by John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock and other scholar-patriots "to cultivate every art and science which may tend to advance the interest, honor, dignity and

happiness of a free, independent and virtuous people."

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