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## Sen. Gregg Celebrates Opening of UNH Environmental Technology Building

By [Sharon Keeler](#)  
UNH News Bureau  
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August 21, 2001

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DURHAM, N.H. -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Acting Administrator Scott Gudes today joined University of New Hampshire officials for the formal opening of the campus' new Environmental Technology Building. The facility will aid the university in its efforts to produce innovative solutions to national environmental problems, and serve as a magnet program for the school.

Gregg serves as the ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees funding for NOAA. He was joined at today's dedication by Gudes, UNH President Joan Leitzel, Vice President for Research and Public Service Donald Sundberg, Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET) Co-Director Richard Langan, and University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees Chair John Lynch.

"The opening of this building will further establish UNH's cooperative research program as a national leader on coastal and environmental technology," Gregg stated. "The university will continue to act as a magnet for some of the most cutting-edge and innovative research in the nation, and, while the research will be performed on our seacoast, the results will benefit similar ecosystems across the nation. By discovering new and more effective ways to protect our coasts, recycle waste products and clean our waterways, UNH is providing a service to the nation. I congratulate UNH on the dedication of this magnificent facility. I am pleased to have supported this endeavor from the federal level and look forward to the continued success

of these programs."

The multidisciplinary science and engineering building is home to the NOAA-UNH CICEET program.

"This new facility will serve as a site for cutting-edge technologies that will benefit the entire nation," stated Gudes. "As the home for programs like CICEET, this building will provide researchers with the resources to develop innovative approaches to improve our water quality, restore critical habitats, respond to oil spills and lessen the impact of pollution on our commercially important fisheries. With the cooperative institute based here, we can offer these new technologies to coastal resource managers across the country."

The building also houses UNH's Environmental Research Group and its Recycled Materials Resource Center, Bedrock Bioremediation Center, Water Treatment Technology Center and Contaminated Sediment Research Center; UNH's Office of Intellectual Property Management; the N.H. Industrial Research Center; the N.H. Pollution Prevention Program; the UNH Genome Program; NOAA's Northeast Coastal Ocean Program; and the NASA/NOAA Center for Technology Commercialization.

The \$14 million construction project was aided by two federal awards totaling \$9.5 million secured by Gregg, including an \$8.5 million NOAA award, a private donation of \$3 million, state funding of \$1.15 million, and other UNH resources. UNH's Recycled Materials Resource Center, located in the building, was also launched in 1997 with \$2 million secured by Gregg.

Along with the Jere Chase Ocean Engineering Laboratory that houses the Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping and the Joint Hydrography Center, the Environmental Technology Building will eventually be part of the university's "entrepreneurial campus" which will be focused on private sector/university partnerships.

"The UNH environmental technology center of excellence has gone to a whole new level because of the support of Senator Gregg," said Sundberg. "The new building provides the focus, but the real payoff is in the research programs it has made possible. These include

coastal and estuarine environmental technology, recycled materials, and contaminated sediments research, to name a few. Opportunities for students combine wonderfully with finding better ways to protect and restore our environment."

For additional information, contact Sundberg at (603) 862-1997.

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