Michael Vlacich ’95

Michael Vlacich exemplifies the way an outstanding educational experience at our state university can benefit both the alumnus and the state itself. Vlacich has distinguished himself as a public servant in work for both Governors Shaheen and Lynch, and now for Senator Shaheen, who he serves as state director. As director of economic development at the Department of Resources and Economic Development, Vlacich worked to bring new industry to the state and assisted New Hampshire businesses that were looking for resources or wanted to expand. He also served as deputy chief of staff and policy director for Governor Lynch.

During his time in the Governor’s Office, Vlacich worked with the legislature to create the Coos County Tax Credit at a time when an economic stimulus was needed for the North Country, and he demonstrated his ability to deal with complex problems when he worked with the legislature to solve the education funding problem. Today, his work with Senator Shaheen enables him to address issues that concern New Hampshire citizens.

Vlacich is also a vocal advocate for legislative support of the university system, and serves the university as a member of the Pettee Medal Selection Committee. He has also been a member of the USNH board of trustees. He regularly speaks to both business and political science classes and serves as a mentor for UNH students who want to intern in congressional offices.