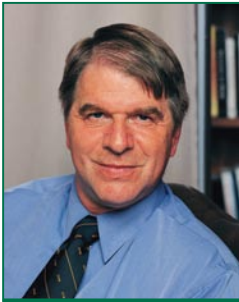


Inside Vermont



I am confident that what will emerge from this process will be an even stronger institution.

In early April, I circulated to the campus “Continuing UVM’s Advance: Contexts for a Refocused Strategic Plan,” an essay explaining what I see as UVM’s current programmatic and operational imperatives in recognition of significant demographic and economic challenges.

Those imperatives include enhancement of the student experience, intensified investment in faculty research and scholarship, and focusing of resources on a limited number of doctoral programs in order to build national distinction. They also include reduction of spending in areas less important to educational quality and student priorities along with intensified cost reduction and cost avoidance efforts in every domain.

As we pursue those imperatives, the University of Vermont is well positioned. Our General Fund Budget is growing by 7.1 percent in FY 2009 at a time when many other public flagships are facing substantial cuts in public funding offset by massive hikes in tuition. We are very grateful to the political leadership of Vermont — most especially our legislative trustees and Governor Douglas — that in some measure our comparatively strong position among public research universities derives from their successful effort in the recently concluded legislative session. Our commitment to Vermont, in turn, is expressed in a myriad of ways, including our efforts in technology transfer and enterprise creation (of 12 licenses of UVM intellectual property in the last year, 9 went to Vermont firms), our significant investment in the Land Grant mission to support Vermont agriculture and rural communities (of which the groundbreaking in May for James M. Jeffords Hall serves as a powerful emblem), and our new scholarship program closing the gaps to cover the full cost of tuition and fees for all Vermont students eligible for federal Pell Grants.

Our successes mount in many other domains: the increasing recognition of the academic quality of the University, as reflected in measures like the ranking of our College of Medicine as fifth in the nation in **Primary Care** by *U.S. News & World Report*; the recent

listing of two of our alumnae on the *Wall Street Journal* list of “**Fifty Women to Watch**”; faculty recognitions like John Todd’s recent receipt of the \$100,000 Buckminster Fuller Award; student recognitions like the Goldwater Scholarship garnered this year by Dan Koenemann (the second consecutive year that UVM students have netted one of these prestigious national fellowships); and strong national press for the University, including, on March 9th, the latest in a string of front-page *New York Times* stories associating UVM with the nation’s elite independent colleges and universities.

Kudos are due, too, to the enrollment management team and to faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents and friends whose collective efforts are bringing us, this fall, the most highly qualified and diverse class in our history, on track with overall enrollment deposits at 101% of our target, ALANA deposits up 34%, from 162 to a record high of 217, and every quality indicator up significantly as well.

To be sure, we face challenges. This spring we learned of significant financial commitments having been made in a manner that requires us to examine with focused due diligence the efficacy of our internal controls, intra-institutional checks-and-balances, organizational culture, and the vigilance of our continuing oversight. We will be assisted in that critical work by independent examiners who will report to the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees. I am confident that what will emerge from this process will be an even stronger institution.

Thus, I thank our University community — the Board, our faculty, students, staff, my colleagues in administration, our alums, parents, donors, and my beloved wife — for support past, present, and future as we advance together on the next stage of our journey.

Daniel Mark Fogel
President



Commencement 2008

Celebrated novelist, poet and writer-in-residence at Middlebury College Julia Alvarez began her address to the Class of 2008 at UVM commencement activities on May 18 with a prayer. The prayer — borrowed from Mayan weavers — is one she recites every day of her writing life: “Grant me the intelligence and patience to find the true pattern.”

In a speech punctuated by the poetry of Robert Frost, Czeslaw Milosz and Seamus Heaney, delivered to a capacity crowd in the Athletic Complex Multipurpose Facility, Alvarez shared stories from her early childhood in the Dominican Republic and from her relationship with her immigrant father, each revealing how she had struggled to find the true pattern of her own life.

Most important, the author concluded, is how you use what you learn about yourself. “We find our true pattern, we connect with our richness and our power, in order to give back, to serve our human family.”

Service to the community and to the world was a theme touched on in remarks made by a number of speakers during the ceremony, including President Daniel Mark Fogel. “You have become a part of the fabric and history of this university,” Fogel said. “It is now your time to build the life you have imagined. To go out into the world and make it a better place.”

Fogel conferred degrees on an estimated 2,596 graduates, including the first full class to graduate from the Honors College. In all, 2,069 bachelor's, 360 master's, 85 doctoral, and 82 M.D. degrees were awarded, in addition to 20 post-baccalaureate certificates. Among degree recipients were students from 46 states — including 1,095 Vermonters — and 18 countries. The graduating class included 167 ALANA (African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American) and bi/multi-racial students.

The UVM Alumni Association honored Lynne Bond, professor of psychology, with the George V. Kidder Outstanding Faculty Award. In accepting the award, Bond shared with graduates her hope that they live “a lifetime full of wonder,” that they “take the time to wonder what could be and act.”

The ceremony concluded with remarks by John Gennari, associate professor of English and director of ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies, on the importance of diversity in achieving excellence. Using the Red Sox's notorious history as a model for the necessity of a diverse organization, Gennari spoke about UVM's commitment to promoting diversity as part of its quest for academic excellence.

\$1 Million Gift Is the Largest Ever to the UVM Morgan Horse Farm

The University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge, Vermont, has received a pledge of \$1 million from the Amy E. Tarrant Foundation. The gift, the largest ever to the historic facility, will be used to create an Amy E. Tarrant Endowed Fund for the Morgan Horse Farm, with \$800,000 to establish the endowment and \$200,000 designated for current operating needs. Earnings on the endowment will provide funding for the farm in perpetuity.

“We are so very grateful to Amy Tarrant for her gift,” said UVM president Daniel Mark Fogel. “The Morgan Horse Farm is an important part of the history and culture of the University of Vermont and indeed the entire state and region. This endowment will give the farm a margin of comfort it’s never had in meeting its annual operating expenses and investing in the maintenance of its historic buildings.”

The Morgan Horse Farm was given to the University of Vermont in 1951 by the federal government, which had operated the Morgan breeding program since receiving the farm from publisher and philanthropist Joseph Battell in 1907. Battell had begun breeding Morgans on the farm in the late 1870s. Today, the UVM “government” line of Morgan Horse is considered one of the best in the world. In addition to operating a commercial-scale breeding program, the farm serves as a laboratory resource for UVM’s equine science students to learn about foaling, breeding, and animal care.

“The Morgan Horse Farm is one of Vermont’s treasures, and I’m very pleased to be able to help ensure that it’s preserved and maintained for future generations,” said Amy Tarrant.

Stephen Davis, long-time director of the UVM Morgan Horse Farm said, “Through her incredible generosity, Amy Tarrant is helping to insure the legacy of the UVM

Morgans and the one-of-a-kind home of our state animal.”

Three of Tarrant’s five children are UVM alumni — Jerry ’89, Richard ’90, and Brian ’93. Her past support of UVM has included funding for the Ellen A. Hardacre Equine Center at UVM, named after her mother, and for the renovation of the remount barn at the Morgan Horse Farm.

“Words cannot adequately convey our gratitude to Amy Tarrant for this gift,” said Rachel Johnson, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. “Our students, the visiting public, and those beautiful Morgan horses will benefit from her philanthropy for generations to come.”

College of Medicine Ranks Fifth for Primary Care in U.S. News Graduate School Guide

The University of Vermont College of Medicine ranked fifth for primary care among the nation’s 126 medical schools according to the U.S. News & World Report 2009 “America’s Best Graduate Schools.” The University of Vermont moved up from seventh last year, and has consistently ranked in the top 15 percent of all medical schools in Primary Care.

“We’re proud to be recognized as a national leader in providing top-quality medical education and training for primary care physicians,” said UVM College of Medicine Dean Frederick C. Morin, III, M.D. “Primary care is an integral part of the health care system in our state and across the nation, and our curriculum provides wonderful opportunities for medical students to understand the critical role of the primary care physician, gain experience in a range of clinical settings, and build a solid foundation for lifetime learning across all disciplines.”

“It is both a privilege and a responsibility to train the next generation of primary care physicians in today’s dynamic health care environment,” said Melinda Estes, M.D., president and chief executive officer of Fletcher Allen Health Care. “Here in Vermont, we take that responsibility very seriously, and it is nice to be recognized for doing this well in a rural environment.”

Each year, U.S. News ranks professional-school programs in business, education, engineering, law, and medicine. These rankings are based on two types of data: peer ranking data from medical and osteopathic school leadership and residency program directors about program quality; and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school’s faculty, students and research activity. Visit “America’s Best Graduate Schools 2009” at www.usnews.com.

Photo: Jane Kennedy O’Neil



Pell-Eligible Vermonters to Receive Full Tuition Scholarships, Beginning with Incoming Class

The University of Vermont will offer grants and scholarships covering all tuition and fees to Vermont undergraduates eligible for Federal Pell Grants, beginning with the 2008 entering fall class. The Pell Grant program offers need-based grants to students with the greatest financial need, determined by a federally-regulated financial formula. Eligibility for the program is restricted to the dependent children of Vermont families.

The program will be implemented over the next four years to cover all Pell-eligible Vermont undergraduates attending UVM. When fully implemented, the new initiative will represent an approximately \$750,000 investment over and above the \$12 million in institutional grants and scholarships for Vermont undergraduates with financial need the university is already spending, a 92 percent increase since 2001.

After analyzing its financial impact, the university decided to launch the program this spring in response to the downturn in the economy and to strive to maintain access for all Vermonters.

“As a public institution with a land grant mission, UVM prides itself on its accessibility,” said President Daniel Mark Fogel. “This new program is another element of our commitment to investing in Vermont’s future, in this case by making sure UVM is accessible to Vermonters who have significant financial need.”

Forbes.com Names UVM One of America's 10 Greenest Universities

The University of Vermont has been named one of “America’s 10 Greenest Colleges and Universities” by **Forbes.com**. The list relies heavily on data from the Sustainable Endowments Institute and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In the article, America’s Greenest Colleges, written by Brian Wingfield, Washington Correspondent for Forbes.com, UVM is cited for its commitment to ensuring that all new construction meets Green Building Council certifications and for its use of biodiesel shuttles.

UVM is joined on the list by Harvard, Dartmouth, Carleton College, College of the Atlantic, University of Pennsylvania, New York University, Middlebury College, University of California-Santa Cruz, and the University of Washington. Six of these schools, including UVM, were given the highest ranking by the Sustainable Endowments Institute’s recent annual College

Sustainability Report Card,” which grades the 200 schools with the largest endowments in the U.S. and Canada on a variety of factors, including the administration’s commitment to sustainability, the school’s energy-related policies, and its investment priorities.

John Todd Wins \$100,000 Buckminster Fuller Award

In the quest for coal, over a million and a half acres of Appalachia have been strip-mined, whole mountains removed, trillions of gallons of toxic slurry left behind, and communities devastated. Not exactly a promising place for a new green economy to arise.

But for his startling and bold proposal, Comprehensive Design for a Carbon Neutral World: The Challenge of Appalachia, John Todd, research professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, was selected as the winner of the first annual Buckminster Fuller Challenge.



Photo: Karen Duncan

The \$100,000 prize from the Buckminster Fuller Institute was given in a ceremony in New York City in June.

“Dr. Todd’s proposal sets forth a profound vision to heal the environmental and economic scars of the Appalachian region and a detailed strategy to build a dynamic sustainable economic basis for lasting renewal,” wrote the award jury in picking his submission out of entries from around the world.

To develop his proposal, Todd — who was named a “Hero of the Earth,” by *Time Magazine* in 1999 — drew on the concept of ecological succession. Over time, damaged land can rebuild soils, support pioneer plants and grasses, then shrubs, fast-growing trees, and finally, a mature forest. Todd has taken this classic idea of ecology and applied to the human economy.

“Deep in Nature’s operating instructions is a model of future economic development,” he said, “and these instructions can guide us as we seek new ways of living,” in the mountainous coal-laced region that extends from Pennsylvania to Alabama.