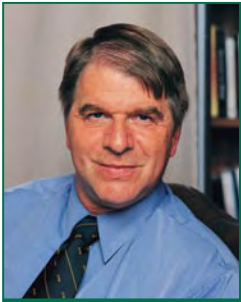


Inside Vermont



I have every confidence that we can sustain our progress, even in the face of the challenges that lie before us.

Just a few weeks into what promises to be a truly remarkable academic year, our University of Vermont community has much for which to be thankful. The University's rising success and high potential have not only brought us into record territory in terms of applications and undergraduate and doctoral enrollment, but have also helped us to attract extraordinarily talented faculty and staff.

Among them are Dr. Frederick Morin, joining us as the Dean of a College of Medicine ranked seventh in the nation this spring in primary care by *U. S. News & World Report*. Chris Lucier joins us as Vice President for Enrollment Management in an institution where remarkable gains in the size and quality of applicant pools have put us into two recent front-page stories in *The New York Times*. And Marcus Diamond, who joins us as Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, now leads the team that has just taken us handsomely over the top by some \$28 million above the goal in our Campaign for the University of Vermont.

There are countless individuals to whom thanks are owed for their work in building exceptional value at UVM — faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends, community and state leaders, service personnel, student affairs professionals, the deans, department chairs, and our generous donors. Their collective efforts have garnered UVM recognition in the national media and set high expectations of UVM that we must continue to meet.

Special thanks is due our exceptionally effective Board of Trustees, both current members and the emeriti trustees, who have led UVM to adopt a collective vision for academic excellence centered in liberal education, health, and the environment, and premised on core values of service,

diversity, and social justice. Their decisions have enabled the University to develop the programs and policies that are milestones on the path of the University's advance, from the founding of the Honors College to the Sudan divestiture, from our Green Building program to the six-credit diversity requirement and new interdisciplinary graduate programs. With their direction, UVM has developed sound financial planning tools, including the Strategic Financial Plan and its adjunct, the Strategic Capital Plan, designed to guide us all in our work as prudent fiduciaries of the University and as stewards of its excellence.

I have every confidence that we can sustain our progress, even in the face of the challenges that lie before us — some general to higher education, such as the coming national and even sharper regional decline in the college-age population, and others specific to UVM at this time in its development, including current institutional debt parameters that we must revisit in view of the objectives of our invest-and-grow strategy.

Here at the outset of another academic year, brimming with a shared sense of pride and promise, the University of Vermont community is building the cohesive, shared understanding of institutional vision, mission, and distinctiveness that will sustain our dramatic advance in the years ahead.

Daniel Mark Fogel
President

Convocation Opens the Academic Year

More than 4,000 members of the UVM community filled the bleachers and floor of Patrick Gym on Sunday, August 26, to celebrate the new academic year and hear an address by Ishmael Beah, author of *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.

The leadership of UVM's Student Government Association selected Beah's harrowing personal story of his life as a boy soldier in Sierra Leone as the foundation for UVM's summer reading program. The program is designed to provide a shared intellectual experience for new students and opportunities for discussion on various levels across campus during the first semester.

In addition to reading two passages from his book aloud, Beah shared his thoughts on the purpose and fundamental goals of education. He encouraged students to avoid going through the motions of college simply because it is what is expected of them or purely as training for a career.

"I want to change your minds," Beah said. "For me, education is a way to discover yourself and your place in the world." He urged students to question their own values and morals, respect perspectives that differ from their own, and develop the ability to compromise. He also spoke to the importance of learning about other countries and cultures. "You don't need to wait for a crisis to know that other people exist," Beah said.



Ishmael Beah at UVM Convocation 2007

The young author described his own personal educational journey during his years at Oberlin College, recalling his uncertainty at his freshman convocation ceremony, wondering if he would last even a semester. Beah entered Oberlin with thoughts that he should be a doctor or an accountant, but he followed his interests to a major in political science and discovered his gifts as a writer. "Whatever you learn, also learn how to apply it to your life, to changing your community, to changing yourself, to finding what it means to be part of a greater humanity," he said in closing.

Following convocation, first-year students walked through campus and down Main Street to the green for a candlelight induction ceremony. After the induction, the full evening continued at the new Dudley H. Davis Center with a book signing by Ishmael Beah and a "green carpet" premiere giving students a first look at the new building that will be at the core of campus life during their years at UVM.

Dudley H. Davis Center Opens

As the University of Vermont community returned to campus for the start of a new academic year, the Dudley H. Davis Student Center, the \$61 million campus centerpiece more than a decade in the making, celebrated its opening in a "green carpet" premiere — a nod to the building's environmentally friendly design — on Sunday, August 26.

Designed to serve as a much-needed central gathering space for the campus, the 186,000-square-foot Davis Center is home to a variety of student organizations, from the Student Government Association to the student-run newspaper and radio station, *The Cynic* and WRUV; office space for the Department of Student Life; dining options, including local vendor New World Tortilla and music venue Brennan's Pub and Bistro; vendor space for student-run local product vendor Growing Vermont and a full-service Chittenden Bank branch; and meeting rooms, including a student game room and expansive fourth floor ballrooms.

Though the building's 4.3 acres of space, 1,500 tons of structural steel, 280,000 bricks, and 23,000 tons of concrete are a testament to its impressive size, its environmental footprint has been greatly reduced through efforts to obtain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification in green design.

Now that the building is complete, UVM will submit construction documentation for review, and the U.S. Green Building Council will award credits that determine the level of LEED certification obtained. The University is hoping to achieve "silver" certification for the building, which would make the Davis Center the first silver-rated, LEED-certified student center in the United States. Notification of the certification decision is expected by the end of the year.

"Not only is the Davis Center one of the greenest, most environmentally responsible student unions in the nation," says President Daniel Mark Fogel, "it provides a central location on campus for the many formal and informal interactions among students, faculty, staff, alumni, community members, visitors, and others that are central to the college experience."

Law Firm Supports the Honors College

The Burlington, Vermont, law firm Paul Frank + Collins made a charitable contribution of \$15,000 to support the University of Vermont Honors College. The gift, which can be used to support any of the Honors College activities at the discretion of the dean, was made because the firm wanted to support the core academic mission of the University, according to S. Crocker Bennett '72, a director of the firm, who presented the gift to Bob Pepperman Taylor, first Dean of the Honors College, and to S. Abu Turab Rizvi, Professor of Economics and the current Honors College Interim Dean.

At a signing ceremony on July 27, 2007, at the new Honors College residential learning community at University Heights, Bennett noted that there are currently six PF+C attorneys who are UVM alumni, including firm co-founder R. Allan Paul '53.

Bob Pepperman Taylor, Dean of the Honors College during its first three years, said the Honors College is now close to its planned maximum enrollment of 700 students, and the academic profile of those students is "very impressive." He said the gift from PF+C will help students in a number of ways, including travel to academic conferences and applying for prestigious national and international scholarships and post-graduate fellowships such as the Rhodes Scholarship, Fulbright, and Gates Cambridge Scholarship programs.



The Dudley H. Davis Student Center



S. Crocker Bennett '72 (seated), a director of Paul Frank + Collins, presented a \$15,000 gift to the UVM Honors College. Looking on (l. to r.) are associate Peter J. McDougall '98, Bob Pepperman Taylor, first Dean of the Honors College, S. Abu Turab Rizvi, Professor of Economics and the Honors College Interim Dean, and associate Christopher J. Leff '94.

Honors College students have had notable success in applying for these high-profile awards in recent years. In the spring of 2007, Kesha Ram '08 was named a Truman Scholar by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation and Laura Balzer '07 was named a Goldwater Scholar by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program.

Marcus M. Diamond Named VP for Development and Alumni Relations

A career higher education fundraising professional with more than 30 years' experience in university development and public affairs has been named UVM's new Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations.

Marcus M. Diamond comes to the University of Vermont from Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where he has been Chief Advancement Officer and Secretary of the college since 1999. His career also includes positions as Director of Development and Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, The Johns Hopkins University (1982–1999); Assistant Dean for Development in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago (1979–1982); and Grants Officer and Research and Teaching Associate at Indiana University, Bloomington (1974–1979).

At Bryn Mawr, Diamond oversaw the development and public affairs functions of the college and had overall responsibility for its \$225 million comprehensive fundraising campaign. As a part of that effort, he secured the three largest outright gifts in Bryn Mawr's history, drove a record-breaking annual fund program, and created a new leadership development program. He also negotiated and helped shape the Katharine Houghton Hepburn Center, a major public

relations initiative with important implications for broadening and supporting institutional culture.

At The Johns Hopkins University, Diamond initiated and led the development of the School of Arts and Sciences' fundraising and alumni outreach efforts during two fundraising campaigns. He secured two of the largest gifts ever to the School of Arts and Sciences; participated in the planning and solicitation of a \$50 million gift to name the School of Arts and Sciences; and led the first systematic fundraising effort for athletics.



Marcus M. Diamond

Diamond assumed his new responsibilities in September. "It's an honor to be selected to lead UVM's development and alumni relations program at a moment of both celebration and anticipation," he said. "President Fogel, Rachel Kahn-Fogel, the administrative and volunteer leadership of UVM, and the faculty and staff have accomplished a great deal in the just-completed campaign, and I look forward to working with them, and many others in the broader UVM community, to build on that success."

A native of New York City, Diamond is a 1967 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor of arts degree in English. He was a Thouron Fellow at the University of Edinburgh in 1968 and earned his master's degree in English and American studies at Indiana University in 1974.

Enrollment at Record Levels This Fall

For the third straight year, the University of Vermont began the fall semester with record-breaking total enrollment numbers. Nearly 12,300 students are attending the University this fall, including approximately 9,450 undergraduates, 1,370 graduate students, 410 medical students, and 1,050 non-degree students. Approximately 800 ALANA (Asian-American, Latino, African-American, and Native American) students are enrolled this fall. The first-year class of 2,440 students is also a record high for UVM. First-year students' averaged combined SAT score for reading, math, and writing is 1757 — a ten-point increase over a year ago.

This year's incoming class will be the first to complete the University's new six-credit diversity requirement before graduating. The requirement was created based on a recommendation made by the President's Commission on Racial Diversity.

Vermont Wins Third Straight America East Academic Cup

The University of Vermont has been awarded the America East Academic Cup for the third consecutive season and becomes the first institution in conference history to win the award four times (1996, 2005, 2006, 2007).

For the first time in conference history, two member institutions shared the honor. The Catamounts tied with Maine as both institutions saw their student-athletes maintain 3.07 grade-point averages.

"This is a very special honor for our student-athletes and University. It reflects a firm and ongoing commitment to the mission of the University and the values of educational sport," said Athletic Director Dr. Robert Corran.

Vermont's student-athletes are part of the more than 3,200 student-athletes who competed at nine America East institutions in the 2006–07 season. The conference's student-athletes compiled a grade-point average of 3.01

UVM Makes "Climate Neutral" Pledge

President Daniel Mark Fogel has signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, putting UVM among a vanguard of colleges and universities that have pledged to sharply reduce and eventually eliminate their institutions' global warming emissions and to accelerate research and educational efforts designed to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate.

The pledge commits UVM to developing a comprehensive institutional action plan to make the institution climate neutral. More than 300 American colleges and universities have signed the pledge to date.

The challenge is sponsored by the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Second Nature, and ecoAmerica.

"UVM already has a large number of green practices in place; it only makes sense for us to build on this foundation and challenge ourselves to reach the next level," Fogel said. "Because we serve so many young people at a formative period in their lives, and because we are beacons for societal change in many ways, colleges and universities can have an impact on global warming far beyond our campuses and for years to come. We're privileged to be among those leading the way in this effort."

The Presidents' Climate Commitment is the first such effort by any major sector of society to set climate neutrality — not just a reduction — as its target. More information is available at www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org.