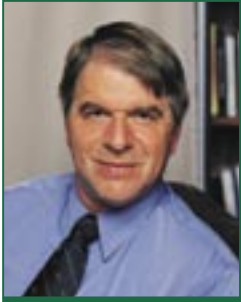


# Inside Vermont



*We have come a long way and have much yet to accomplish.*

As we begin the new academic year, I am pleased to report that the state of Vermont's university is extraordinarily good. Not only has the vision for UVM rapidly become a reality, but we are now, individually and collectively, building on that new reality with an intense focus on quality, value, and high dividends for Vermont and the world.

Our invest-and-grow strategy is yielding impressive returns — not the least of which is the swelling reservoir of pride in the University of Vermont among colleagues, students, alumni, parents, and friends for the quality and value of all we are doing here. Nothing feels better to Rachel and me and to all of us at the University than those sincere expressions of enthusiasm for UVM resounding in so many quarters.

Among the very substantive recognitions of the caliber of the University is the award of \$16 million in the most recent federal transportation bill for a National University Transportation Center under the sponsorship of Senator Jeffords, a watershed in the history of the institution.

We have made exceptional progress in a host of initiatives ranging across the “active landscape” that defines us as an academic community — our focus on the student experience, curricular innovation, economic development, enrollment management, campus master planning, an unprecedented investment in building and renovation, an ongoing and successful comprehensive campaign, and administrative efficiencies that enable us to deploy our resources as wisely and effectively as we can.

A recent Cornell University survey suggests that our ambitious aspiration to establish UVM as the nation's premier environmental university is well within our capability. The Peer Campus Sustainability Survey of 28 leading institutions (including all of the ivies, Stanford, Duke, and top public research universities), notes that “The case study institutions, University of Colorado at Boulder, Duke University,

Harvard University, University of Michigan, and University of Vermont, have emerged as strong leaders in the field, with very effective campus sustainability programs.” In response to the question, “What institutions do you look to as leaders in the environmental field,” the University of Vermont ranked second, behind only Harvard, on a list of thirty-five institutions mentioned at least once by survey respondents.

The Cornell survey is not the only one placing UVM among the nation's leading institutions of higher learning. This spring, *U.S. News and World Report* placed the UVM College of Medicine ninth among the nation's 125 medical schools in primary care. In June, the *Princeton Review* published a book featuring UVM as one of the nation's most socially committed campuses, *Colleges with a Conscience: 81 Great Schools with Outstanding Community Involvement*. And the annual *Newsweek Kaplan College Guide* hottest schools list placed UVM in the top 25 — among some 2,400 four-year colleges and universities nationwide — of the schools that are “creating buzz” nationwide and “preparing students well for a complex world.”

These are but a few highlights from a much more extensive list of institutional accomplishments all made possible through the work of our entire University community.

We have come a long way and have much yet to accomplish. Our University enters the new academic year committed to ensuring that UVM remains an outstanding place to work and grow for faculty and staff and an environment that offers the richest and most rewarding possible collegiate experience for students.

**Daniel Mark Fogel**  
*President*



## Starting Anew: Convocation 2005–2006

The University of Vermont formally observed the beginning of a new academic year during its annual Convocation on Thursday, September 1, in the Ira Allen Chapel.

Drawing on the inspirational words of her immigrant mother, speaker Madeleine M. Kunin told the largest incoming class in the 214-year history of the University that she still believes anything is possible in America as long as students aren't afraid to take chances in pursuit of their dreams.

"My mother gave us a great gift: the ability to believe that dreams can come true in America," said Kunin, addressing the class of 2009 and a large contingent of faculty. She described college as "a safe place to practice making mistakes" and urged the incoming students to discover the "thrills of learning" and to "push yourself to the very edge of what you know . . . be conscious of the causes of pessimism, but dwell in the land of optimism."

Kunin said her own introduction to political activism came when as a young homemaker and mother she successfully advocated for flashing red warning lights next to the railroad tracks her children passed on their daily walk to and from school. The experience taught her that it's possible to effect change in political life, and she spoke of "the satisfaction of seeing justice done" when she facilitated the return of Swiss bank account funds to Holocaust survivors as Ambassador to Switzerland. Kunin currently serves as president of the board of the Institute for Sustainable Communities in Vermont and as distinguished visiting professor at UVM and Saint Michael's College.

In keeping with Convocation's theme, "the active landscape," Governor Jim Douglas urged students to get involved in as many aspects of college life as possible. He challenged students to be "involved and dynamic citizens" as members of a university that has "raised its collective metabolism" to unprecedented levels in pursuit of its ten-year vision. "The people of Vermont take enormous pride in UVM," he said.

President Daniel Mark Fogel spoke of UVM as "especially distinguished by the fierce and sustained determination of generations of UVMers to make a difference in the

world" and of "our unusual institutional commitment to social justice and equity and to environmental and community leadership." He expressed the University community's anguish over "the unspeakable tragedy that has befallen our fellow citizens as a result of the horrific devastation of Hurricane Katrina," and announced that the University is exploring ways to help those suffering from the disaster. The University has accepted two displaced Tulane students and is reaching out to students and faculty at Dillard and Xavier Universities, two of the nation's leading historically black colleges, to determine what assistance UVM can provide until their campuses re-open. Fogel said Michael Lomax, 2004 UVM honorary degree recipient, former president of Dillard, and current president of the United Negro College Fund, is facilitating UVM's outreach proposals to Dillard and Xavier.

Fogel took the occasion for a public signing of a new Green Building policy, a commitment that new buildings at UVM will, at a minimum, attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. The policy also recommends that the University purchase Vermont goods and services whenever "possible and financially feasible."

Fogel also drew attention to a potential six-credit diversity requirement under review by the Faculty Senate and deans that comes on the heels of a policy adopted in May protecting students and employees from discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression. "Talking about diversity is one thing — walking the walk is another," he said.

"Together let us embrace with joy and a high sense of urgency the challenges that lie before us as the most engaged of all public universities, as a community that chooses with passion and intelligence to make a difference in the world," he said. "To each and every member of this community, we offer best wishes for a stimulating, productive, and deeply rewarding academic year.

Other speakers included Provost John Bramley; Carl Lisman, chair of the Board of Trustees; Justin M. Joffe, professor of psychology; SGA president Sarah Poirier; and senior Claire Ankuda, whose emotion-filled speech about her experience while at UVM and around the world drew a standing ovation.

## UVM Welcomes a Record Class

The University of Vermont welcomed an estimated 2,350 first-year students to campus — a nearly 20-percent increase from last year — for the start of its 204th academic year.

Approximately 8,800 undergraduates, 1,325 graduate and certificate students, and 400 medical students, including 375 transfer students, are attending the University this year. New choices of study include the Film and Television Studies major and minor and the Environmental Sciences Program, a course of study now integrated across the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Arts and Sciences, and The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Honors College, now in its second year, has begun accepting sophomores into the program and has reached an enrollment of 300 students.

Entering undergraduate ALANA students have increased in number by nearly 12 percent this year. Additionally, approximately 70 new faculty members began this fall, along with two new deans, Eleanor Miller in the College of Arts and Sciences and Fayneese Miller in the College of Education and Social Services.

Undergraduate enrollment will reach 9,395 by 2013, according to the University's 10-year Strategic Financial Plan. To accommodate the increasing size of the student body, multiple construction projects are now underway including the Dudley H. Davis Center, a \$70 million student center, which broke ground over the summer.

University Heights North Residence Hall will be ready for students in January 2006, providing an additional 400 beds for on-campus students. An estimated 4,498 students will live on campus this year. The University Heights South Residence Hall will open in August, 2006.

The Medical Education Center, which physically links the College of Medicine with Fletcher Allen Health Care,

opened in August for the arrival of the first-year medical students. The building is home to the Dana Medical Library and Medical Education Pavilion containing 17 state-of-the-art classrooms. A public open house was held September 17 for the Medical Education Center



and the new Ambulatory Care Center, opening to patients this fall.

The Gutterson Garage, a new parking garage east of the Athletic Complex, opened August 24, as did New University Heights Road, which connects Main Street to the existing shuttle road between Patrick Gymnasium and Redstone Campus.

Additions and renovations are underway elsewhere on campus, including Marsh Life Sciences, Wing/Davis/Wilks, and the Living/Learning Center, among other locations. For more information about construction on campus, visit the campus construction updates website at [www.uvm.edu/~arch/?Page=construction.html](http://www.uvm.edu/~arch/?Page=construction.html)

## Catamounts Take America East Academic Cup

The University of Vermont is the recipient of the America East Academic Cup for the 2004–05 season. Vermont student-athletes posted a 3.14 grade-point average, the highest GPA in the ten-year history of the award, breaking the mark of 3.12 set by the University of Maine in 2003–04.

The America East Academic Cup is presented to the institution whose student-athletes post the highest grade-point averages during that academic year. The grade-point averages of all student-athletes who compete in the 22 championship sports sponsored by America East are averaged to determine the winner.



Recipient of the inaugural America East Academic Cup in 1995–96, UVM joins New Hampshire and Binghamton as the only two-time winners of the coveted award. The Catamounts finished second in the academic cup standings in each of the prior three seasons.

The award “reflects both the commitment of our student-athletes to their academic responsibilities and the support and encouragement which they receive from our faculty and staff,” said Dr. Robert Corran, director of athletics.

Vermont fielded teams in 16 of the 22 sports sponsored by America East during 2004–2005, and 14 of those teams posted grade-point averages of 3.0 or better. The Catamounts had six sports leaders, including women's cross country, whose 3.52 grade-point average was the highest of any of the 175 conference teams. The three-time America East Men's Basketball Champions led that sport with a 3.04 grade-point average. Other team winners for Vermont were women's basketball (3.20), men's lacrosse (2.84), women's swimming and diving (3.32), and men's indoor track and field (3.05).

Vermont's men's basketball and Maine's men's cross country teams (3.37 GPA) were the only two teams to

win an America East Championship and post the highest grade-point average among the conference teams.

A total of 190 Vermont student-athletes were named to the fall or winter/spring America East Academic Honor Rolls in 2004–2005, and the Catamounts collectively posted a grade-point average of 3.0 or better for the fifth straight semester. Junior Amy Cochran (Keene, NH) was named America East Women's Scholar-Athlete for 2004–2005.

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### Jeffords Secures \$16 Million to Establish National University Transportation Center at UVM

U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords, I-Vt., announced that the University of Vermont will receive \$16 million in federal funding for transportation research and development. Jeffords secured the funding as part of the federal highway bill recently signed into law by President Bush.

As the ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Jeffords worked for more than three years to pass the highway legislation, which will bring over \$1 billion to Vermont through 2009.

The legislation provides funding to UVM to establish one of ten National University Transportation Centers to study transportation issues, particularly those affecting northern and rural areas, in an effort to promote and develop more efficient transportation policies. The Center will also explore environmental issues as they relate to transportation policy.

The highway bill also included \$1 million for research at UVM on hydrogen and renewable fuels in the transportation sector.

"We must develop more efficient and environmentally friendly transportation policies at a state and federal level," said Jeffords. "I cannot think of a better place than the University of Vermont to study these critically important issues. UVM's reputation for academic excellence and cutting-edge research directly contributed to its designation as a National University Transportation Center."

UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel said the designation recognizes the University of Vermont as one of the nation's premier research institutions. "Equally exciting is the opportunity to direct funds to nurture the engineers, planners, and other professionals who will become our nation's transportation leaders, through the hands-on research involving undergraduate and graduate students that the transportation center will sponsor," Fogel said. "We are extremely grateful for Senator Jeffords' vision."

### UVM a Kaplan/Newsweek "Hot School"

The University of Vermont is one of 25 "hot schools" profiled in the 2006 edition of the *Kaplan/Newsweek College Guide*.



"All 25 colleges on the Kaplan/Newsweek Hot List have one attribute in common," the guide reads. "They're creating buzz among students, school officials and longtime observers of the admissions process."

UVM is profiled under the category, "Hottest for Cold Weather." The profile makes note of the 80 new tenure-track faculty the school is in the process of hiring, the \$300 million in capital investments UVM is making, and the 65-percent increase in applications the University has seen since 2000.

The full list and full UVM profile can be viewed on line at [www.msnbc.msn.com/id/8987172/site/newsweek/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/8987172/site/newsweek/)

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### Entering UVM Student Among Top in Nation

Matthew Brown, a first-year UVM student from Richmond, Vermont, has been singled out by the College Board as one of the nation's five most outstanding students for his high scores on the SATs and his impressive high school career. Brown was flown to Washington, D.C., August 30 to attend the College Board's annual College-Bound Seniors press conference.

Brown graduated from the Vermont Commons School, a small private school in South Burlington, where he received the school's first Naturalist Certification.

Passionate about the environment, Brown plans to major in biology. Over the past two summers he has worked as a counselor at a local camp, teaching kids about organic farming and caring for animals, as well as leading hiking and canoeing trips.

During his last year of high school, he worked with his biology teacher, Peter Goff, to design and teach a course for seventh through twelfth graders revolving around "living machines," a type of natural water purification system invented by John Todd, research professor in UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

"What really convinced me to attend UVM," Brown says, "was being invited to join the Honors College," a program, now in its second year, that provides an intensely focused, academically challenging environment for some of the University's most outstanding undergraduate students.