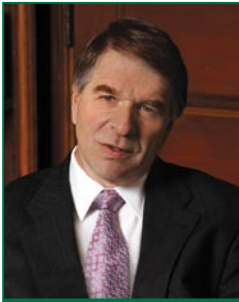


# Inside Vermont



*...I believe with  
all my intellect  
and all my heart  
that UVM belongs  
in the forefront...*

Our University has seen very good days over the course of the last six years, building academic quality, enhancing its value for all members of the UVM family and for the citizens of Vermont, and rising by many measures in visibility and reputation among the nation's institutions of higher learning. Even so, the unanswered question through all of the good years has been whether UVM could and would continue to advance when times were not so good, when things did not go so smoothly on campus and in the larger world.

**M**y answer to the question is this: we can and we will sustain our advance. I also offer, however, this cautionary note: while our invest-and-grow strategy has served us well, the circumstances in which we are now operating call for moving forward more deliberately, conserving precious resources, containing costs wherever possible, and focusing effort and resources intensively on programs and initiatives that will unquestionably enhance academic quality and the experience of students, faculty, and staff; that will make UVM a more competitive and attractive environment for learning, for discovery, and for academic, professional, and personal growth; and that will effectively and efficiently support scholarship and service, including service to the State of Vermont.

We must thus prepare ourselves to make difficult decisions among many appealing and seemingly pressing options, with recognition that our human and financial resources are limited. In short, only through the exercise of a strategically concentrated resolve will we be able to preserve and consolidate the gains we have made to date and lay a secure foundation for the next phase of UVM's advance.

The revised fiscal 2009 budget approved by the Board of Trustees in September embodies this urgent imperative for focus and discipline. This budget, along with the measures we have taken to fortify and expand internal controls over all commitments and expenditures, represents an effort to tighten management practices and accountability throughout the organization with respect to the allocation and spending of our limited capital.

We surely face internal challenges and significant adverse external economic and demographic trends. Despite these obstacles, we nonetheless find ourselves at a high water mark in UVM's history. We face a Dickensian paradox: this is simultaneously the best and the worst of times. What a joy it was at this year's inspiring Convocation to greet the most talented, diverse class in UVM's history, born of what was by far our largest applicant pool. How heartening it is to see faculty research and scholarship resurgent in a funding environment more competitive than ever before. And how important it has been to see UVM advance during the last few months in ranking after ranking, including high marks for our academic quality, for a variety of programs and initiatives, and for the stellar success of our graduates.

In his recent book *The Post-American World*, Fareed Zakaria writes that "Higher education is America's best industry." America's colleges and universities are indeed widely acknowledged to be the best in the world. External validation tells us that UVM now stands — by a variety of measures — among the best of the best. Despite the challenges that lie before us, I believe with all my intellect and all my heart that UVM belongs in the forefront; that the quality, the value, and the position we have attained are sustainable; and that with focus, discipline, and the continuing talent, energy, enthusiasm, commitment, and hard work of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, friends, and the Board of Trustees, we will strengthen the solid foundations underlying our efforts today.

**Daniel Mark Fogel**  
*President*

## UVM Welcomes the Most Talented, Diverse Entering Class Ever

The entering Class of 2012 is the most talented and diverse group of first-year students in University of Vermont history. The approximately 2,450 first-year students, from 38 states and 10 countries, have an average combined SAT score, in reading, math, and writing, of 1,775 — 18 points higher than last year and a UVM record. The combined reading and math score, corresponding to the earlier SAT format, is also a record. The approximated size of the class is identical to last year's entering class, the largest in UVM history.

ALANA (Asian-American, Latino, African-American, Native American, and multi-racial) students account for eight percent of the incoming class, the highest percentage ever at UVM. The incoming class includes about 630 Vermonters, approximately the same number as 2007.

Students celebrated the beginning of the academic year at the University's Convocation Ceremony on Monday, September 1, in Patrick Gymnasium. The featured speaker was bestselling author Ron Suskind. His talk was based on his 1998 work, *A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League*, the true story of a talented African American teenager and his determination to escape the ghetto and achieve a top college education. The book is based on a *Wall Street Journal* series that won Suskind a Pulitzer Prize for feature writing.

Following Convocation, which also included remarks from campus leadership, participants processed down Main Street to a candlelight induction ceremony for first-year students on the Campus Green. The induction ceremony is just one of the events students participated in over Opening Weekend, an annual program that helps acquaint new students to college life.

Several new majors and programs also started this fall. The "Writing in the Disciplines" program, directed by new faculty member Susan Marie Harrington, will offer workshops and personalized consultations for



*Candlelight induction ceremony for first-year students*

faculty in academic departments across the University for teaching writing. The program "will assist faculty in (re)designing courses and assignments, helping them think about ways they teach writing and the ways writing can help demonstrate what students are learning," Harrington said.

Majors in Chinese and Japanese languages are also offered this year for the first time.

A number of groundbreaking and renovations occurred over the summer. Ground was broken on the James M. Jeffords Hall in early August. The 97,000 square foot, \$55.7 million building, to be completed in March of 2010, will house programs in the departments of Plant Biology and Plant & Soil Science of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and will provide teaching labs to be used by students in life science disciplines across the University. A \$5.7 million renovation of the Colchester Research Facility was completed this summer, along with a \$4 million phase I renovation of the Harris Millis Residential Complex.

In addition, the following buildings underwent exterior or full renovation this summer: Williams Hall, Billings Center, Royal Tyler Theatre Plaza, Terrill Hall, and Rowell Hall. The process of installing hardwired carbon monoxide detection systems in all of the residence halls (15 complexes) and rental housing was also completed over the summer.

## Sierra: UVM Third “Coolest School” in Country

*Sierra* has ranked the University of Vermont third in the country in its annual Green College Guide, published as the cover story in the magazine’s September/October issue, for the number and quality of the University’s environmental initiatives.

In a feature titled “10 Coolest Schools,” the magazine highlights UVM’s Eco-Reps program, which trains students to offer “green guidance” to their peers, and its local food policy. The University buys 35 percent of its food from local growers.

The magazine’s website notes other UVM green practices: 60 percent of the campus’s power needs are supplied with renewable energy; 20 tons of the University’s food waste are composted each month; and the campus transportation system features alternative fuel buses.

Schools were scored in 10 categories: policies for building, energy, food, investment, procurement, and transportation; curriculum; environmental activism; waste management; and overall commitment to sustainability. A perfect score in every area would give a school 100 points. UVM scored a 91.5.

“Although there’s still much to do, it’s gratifying to be recognized for the important progress we have made,” said Gioia Thompson, director of UVM’s Office of Sustainability. “I’m especially pleased for our student leaders. They’re not only making programs like Eco-Reps possible, they’ve also taken an active role in launching many other initiatives, such as our new Clean Energy Fund and this year’s Focus the Nation events. Their energy and vision make campus sustainability a cool topic for fellow students, and they are enthusiastically supported by the University’s leadership, faculty, and staff.”

UVM has received several other accolades for its green campus and practices in recent months. The Sustainable Endowments Institute selected it as one of the nation’s six greenest schools in its 2007 Annual Report Card; *Forbes* magazine included the University in its “10 Greenest Colleges and Universities” list; and the 2009 Kaplan College Guide named it one of the country’s “Top 25 Most Environmentally Responsible Schools.”

## Professor Wins Prestigious Psychology Award

On August 15 Rex Forehand, Heinz and Rowena Ansbacher Professor of Psychology and director of the University’s clinical training program, was honored by the American Psychology Association’s 2008 Award for Distinguished Career Contributions to Education and Training. Forehand has taught more than 50 graduate students and mentored countless colleagues throughout more than three decades contributing to the growth and development of the field of clinical child and adolescent psychology. His nomination for the award was due to the collective accolades of several former students who are now influencing the field through their own academic accomplishments.

Forehand joined the faculty at UVM after a long and distinguished tenure as Regents Professor at the University of Georgia and as director of Georgia’s Institute for Behavior Research. He also started the ongoing Parenting Research Program in the 1970s. Forehand has spent his career researching the role of parenting in promoting children’s psychosocial adjustment. He has co-authored more than 350 journal articles and book chapters with current and former graduate students, as well as three books for clinicians and the lay public on families and children, including the popular self-help book *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child*.



**BusinessWeek:****UVM a Top School for High-Salary Grads**

The University of Vermont is ranked 40th on a list published August 7 on BusinessWeek.com of the 50 U.S. colleges whose bachelor's degree graduates earn the highest salaries. UVM is the seventh ranked public university on the list.

Yale, Dartmouth, and Harvard head the list. UVM finished ahead of such well-known schools as UCLA, Emory, Boston University, and the University of Texas at Austin. There are more than 4,000 colleges and universities in the United States.

UVM's high ranking was based on the salaries of the upper tier, those at the 90th percentile, of "mid-career" alumni with 10 or more years of experience in their career or field. UVM alumni in that category earn \$194,000.

In addition to mid-career professionals — UVM alumni in this group earn \$82,700 at the median level — the survey also tracked "starting employees," those with 5.5 years or less of experience. UVM alumni in that category earn \$44,800 at the median.

To create the ranking, *BusinessWeek* used data compiled by PayScale.com, a private company that gathers salary information in a variety of fields. Data used to produce the study were collected from employees who successfully completed PayScale's employee survey.

---

**UVM's Fourth Consecutive  
America East Academic Cup**

The University of Vermont has been awarded the America East Academic Cup for the fourth consecutive year and becomes the first institution in conference history to win the award five times (1996, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008).

UVM student-athletes boasted a 3.14 cumulative grade-point average during the 2007–08 season. The 3.14 GPA ties the record for the top GPA in the 12-year history of the award, set by UVM when it won the Academic Cup in 2005 and 2006.

"We are more than thrilled to receive the conference's highest academic award for the fourth consecutive year," said Athletic Director Robert Corran. "This is an honor earned by our exceptional student-athletes and shared by the many faculty and staff who support their efforts in the classroom and in their respective sports. It is also

a reflection of the fine efforts of the student-athlete academic center staff."

The Academic Cup, established by the America East Board of Directors in 1995, is presented to the institution whose student-athletes post the highest grade-point averages during that academic year.

---

**Senior Lands Top International  
Study Fellowship**

Student Nathan Harrison has spent the last three years studying and exploring the origins of traditional folk music, such as bluegrass and Appalachian mountain music. An accomplished musician, he started a music club that supports itself through performance, hosts an old-time radio show on WRUV, UVM's student-run radio station, and is producing an NPR-like program on the history of traditional music in Vermont.

The UVM senior will have the opportunity to take his musical endeavors one step further after being named a 2008–2009 Killam Fellow by the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America. The Killam Fellowship Program, designed to provide exceptional undergraduate students in Canada and the U.S. with the opportunity to spend a semester or full academic year as an exchange student, will allow Harrison to study ethnomusicology, the study of social and cultural aspects of music and dance in local and global contexts, at Cape Breton University in Nova Scotia.

Harrison is the latest in a growing number of UVM students who have won prestigious and highly competitive awards, including Fulbright, Truman, Goldwater, Madison, and Udall Scholarships. The Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America is also responsible for administering the prestigious Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program.

Harrison also hosts a radio show on WRUV called "The Musical Hay Wagon" featuring bluegrass, Appalachian, and other forms of folk music. He plans to produce a series of programs on traditional music in Vermont for his show. Harrison credits Jonathan Leonard, a senior lecturer in Community Development and Applied Economics and accomplished bluegrass guitarist, pianist, and Appalachian mountain dulcimer player, with introducing him to sessions with local musicians that have deepened his skill as a musician and interest in traditional music.