October 31, 2013

To the UVM Community:

It is with deep sadness that we write to inform the University Community of the tragic and untimely death of a respected member of the UVM family, Kathleen M. Cook, in a fire last night at her University-owned residence on the Redstone Campus.

Kathy held B.A. and M.Ed degrees from The University of Vermont, and her current position was Associate Director of Residential Life. She was a dedicated Student Affairs staff member for 16 years at the University. A devoted educator, mentor, colleague, and friend, Kathy touched the lives of many students, staff, and faculty. Her absence will be felt profoundly across the University. We extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to Kathy’s family, friends, and colleagues.

Arrangements in memory of Kathy Cook will be announced at a later time.

State and local fire investigators have determined that no foul play or accidental causes are involved, and have assured us that there is no ongoing threat to our community.

As is the case when any member of our community passes away, we are bound to feel a profound sense of loss, and reactions are felt in a variety of ways. If you or someone you know is in need of additional support please do not hesitate to contact UVM’s Counseling and Psychiatry Services at (802) 656-3340 (for students) or the Wellness Corporation at 1-800-361-5527 (for employee assistance).

In sympathy,

Annie Stevens
Vice Provost for Student Affairs

Tom Sullivan
President