To: UVM Community

From: Tom Sullivan

RE: Welcome Back Spring Semester 2017

Welcome to the start of spring semester! I hope you have arrived back to campus refreshed and ready for the intellectual discovery and cultural and social engagement of this new semester.

There is an exciting lineup of lectures planned for the semester. January highlights include Jonathan Patz, who will deliver the Burack Lecture on *Confronting the Global Climate Crisis* (January 26th), and former Governor Madeleine Kunin, who will moderate a panel discussion on *Our Future in the Trump Administration* (January 30th), to name a few. The annual Winterfest celebration is just around the corner, promising lots of social and creative fun.

We’re also excited about this year’s programming for the Martin Luther King Celebration, Education, and Learning Events. Information about the two weeks of programs is available on the [MLK Celebration](#) webpage, including details about how to obtain free tickets to a keynote presentation on January 24th by civil rights leader Sheyann Webb-Christburg, the youngest participant in the 1965 “Bloody Sunday” civil rights march.

As the weather continues to vacillate between high temperatures and low, springtime thaws and winter snows, I hope you’ll enjoy the many outdoor and indoor activities that winter in Vermont offers to us all. Check out a play on campus, or a concert downtown. Come to a game and cheer on your Catamounts. Take the Penguin Plunge! There is no shortage of discoveries to be made and connections to enjoy.

I look forward to seeing you on campus in these next weeks and months.