Dear UVM Community:

The extensive fire last Thursday at UVM’s historic Torrey Hall was a very unfortunate event. The fact that the impact was not much worse in terms of extent of damage and injuries was nothing short of miraculous. All of the first responders who fought the blaze and coordinated the comprehensive response and coordination performed in spectacular fashion. The fact that there were no serious injuries was a great relief. The firefighters who responded were heroic and showed great bravery in the face of a dangerous situation. In addition, the valuable collections in the building survived largely intact — an amazing outcome in light of the extent of the fire. At this time, it appears that only a very small amount of the collection cannot be saved.

We are deeply grateful, proud, and impressed with the professionalism, cooperation, and courage of all involved in this incident. The University of Vermont is fortunate to be a part of such an extraordinary community.

On behalf of a grateful University, many, many thanks to all.

Sincerely,

Tom Sullivan, President