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Letter from the President

Dear UVM Family and Friends,

Over two centuries ago, the University of Vermont was established by an inspired community in the same year that Vermont became a state, 1791. The people of Burlington built the very first academic building on campus, and when it burned down in 1824, they worked together to establish its replacement, Old Mill, which still stands today at the center of campus. That same strong sense of shared purpose and united commitment to education continues to invigorate our vibrant campus.

UVM is still strengthened by the community it serves. This productive reciprocal relationship has created a uniquely engaging learning environment that fosters discovery and the creative arts and provides valuable public service in fields such as health care and the environment. The members of the UVM family, faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and friends, continue to achieve great success by working together to make this University a distinguished institution of higher education.

This year the collaborative efforts of the UVM community once again have brought the University national acclaim and recognition for innovation, creativity, and public service. Our students were recognized with prestigious national awards for their excellence in diverse fields across the disciplines from creative writing to microbiology and business, including seven Fulbright Scholarships, two Goldwater Scholarships, and three National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. Our students and alumni are ranked nationally for their participation in the Peace Corps. They continue to attract attention in national print media for their enthusiastic volunteerism. The faculty again garnered competitive national grants to support their research and received distinguished awards at the national and state level, including Fulbright Research Grants. This year, for the first time, the University recognized six exemplary staff members with awards for their extraordinary contributions to the University, contributions that make our teaching, scholarly and service endeavors possible. Meanwhile, the generosity of our alumni and the leadership of the UVM Foundation continue to support the mission of the University and enhance the culture of giving that shapes the future success of this beloved institution.

At our annual May Commencement on The Green, we celebrate the accomplishments of our community. We share with our graduates, alumni, and friends the pride, the success, and the dynamic energy of this University. We are all members of the UVM family. As committed stewards of this 223-year venerable institution, I know with our determination, our creativity, and our combined strength, together, we can move mountains.

With Appreciation and Best Wishes,

[Signature]

2014 PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT
FACULTY AWARDS

Chris Koliba, Director of the Master of Public Administration Degree Program and Assistant Professor of Community Development and Applied Economics, received a Fulbright to conduct research on community resiliency and climate change in the Zoology Department at Colombo University in Sri Lanka. Eleanor Miller, Professor of Sociology and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, was awarded a Fulbright research grant to study the shift from criminalizing drug use to treatment programs for addicts in Portugal.

Lewis First, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the College of Medicine and Chief of Pediatrics at Fletcher Allen Health Care received the 2013 Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Award from the Federation of Pediatric Organizations. Mark Bouton, the Robert B. Lawson Green and Gold Professor of Psychology, was the 24th Recipient of the QUAD-L Lecture Award given by the Psychology Department at the University of New Mexico in honor of his outstanding research and contributions to the field of learning, memory, and cognition. Betty Rambur, Professor of Health Policy and Nursing, won the 2013 Sloan Consortium Excellence in Online Teaching Award. She was nominated for her ability to empower her students and to create a sense of community in her courses.

David Conner, Assistant Professor of Community Development and Applied Economics, and Kate Woodruff, Lecturer of Community Development and Applied Economics, won the Vermont Campus Compact Engaged Educator Award for 2014. Teresa Mares, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, was named the first Frank M. Bryan Vermont Scholar for her research project entitled “La Otra Frontera (The Other Border): Exploring Latino/a Migrant Foodways.” The Summer Research Award honors UVM Professor Emeritus of Political Science Frank Bryan and supports scholars conducting Vermont-based research.

Moustapha Diouf, Associate Professor of Sociology, was appointed Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Senegal and president of the Millennium Challenge Account, a $540 million foreign development project funded by the U.S. for spurring economic development in his native Senegal in December 2013.

Rachel Johnson, Robert L. Bickford Jr. Green and Gold Professor of Nutrition, was invited by First Lady Michelle Obama to participate in a Convening on Food Marketing to Children in September. Professor Johnson is also a member of President Barak Obama’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition. Josh Bongard, Associate Professor of Computer Science and pioneer of evolutionary developmental robotics, was featured in Smithsonian magazine for designing robots that can continuously learn, adapt and redesign themselves.

Robert E. Manning was named the first Steven Rubenstein Professor in September 2013. The professorship is a three-year appointment established as part of a $15 million gift commitment to the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources in 2003; it will enable Professor Manning to write a book on the National Parks to mark the centennial of the National Parks Service in 2016 and conduct research on student engagement.
Each year the University recognizes members of the faculty with a variety of awards for significant contributions to their fields and to our institution. Four faculty members, two from the basic and applied sciences and two from the social sciences and humanities, have been named University Scholars for their sustained excellence in research and scholarly activities. The 2014–2015 University Scholars are Dennis Clougherty, Professor of Physics; Sylvie Doublé, Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Lokangaka Losambe, Professor of English; and Thomas Streeter, Professor of Sociology.

The UVM Alumni Association honored Donna Rizzo, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, with the 2014 George Kidder Outstanding Faculty Award.

This year the James Marsh Professor-at-Large Program welcomed 12 distinguished scholars and artists for one to two week residencies to supplement the intellectual and cultural life of the University.

American cartoonist Alison Bechdel and former governor of Vermont Howard Dean gave lectures in the fall and spring. Timothy H. Breen, William Smith Mason Professor of American History at Northwestern University, Steven Polasky, Fesler Lampert Professor of Ecological/Environmental Economics at University of Minnesota, and Sture Hansson, Professor of Ecology at Stockholm University, gave lectures and visited classes this fall. Additionally, Claudio Sillero, Deputy Director of the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit at the University of Oxford, visited the Rubenstein School, and David Christian, Professor of History at Macquarie University in Australia, visited the History Department.

Kevin Chiang, Professor of Real Estate/Finance, teaches in Kalkin Hall.

This spring, fresh from fieldwork on lions in Tanzania, Amy Dickman, Kaplan Senior Research Fellow in Felid Conservation at the University of Oxford, gave a lecture and visited classes. In April, J. Lorand Matory, Lawrence Richardson Professor of Cultural Anthropology and Director of the Center for African and African American Research at Duke University, brought Yoruba Priestess Talabi Adedoyin Faniyi and Vodou Priestess Marie Maude Evans to UVM to participate in a series of events on African and African-American Religion.

Several Marsh Professors also worked closely on collaborative projects with students and faculty: Stuart Vaughan, three time Tony Award winner, gave a workshop to theater students on auditioning; David Richardson, Professor of Botany and Zoology at Stellenbosch University, participated in a faculty and student workshop on how complex systems can help in the study of plant invasions; and master percussionist Srinivas Venkatakrishnan rehearsed and performed a concert with the UVM Concert Choir and the University Catamount Singers.

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RECORD SETTING APPLICATIONS

The University received 24,170 applications for the fall of 2014, which is a historic high and a record 9% increase over last year. In spite of the declining number of high school graduates, UVM saw significant increases in parts of the country from which fewer applications previously have been received. Additionally, UVM had a 56% increase of first-year international applicants and an 18% increase of ALANA applicants from 2013.

GLOBAL GATEWAY PROGRAM

In January, the University welcomed the first cohort of 40 students from around the world when it launched the Global Gateway Program, part of the Enrollment Management Plan that seeks to increase international undergraduate enrollment by 7%. The program offers international students a two-term curriculum designed to improve their English skills and provide academic preparation; if they succeed, they matriculate as sophomores.

UVM’S PEACE CORPS LEGACY

UVM students continue to be nationally recognized in various ways this year for their high level of engagement in volunteer activities. In 2013, Vermont ranked first in the nation for the highest per capita number of Peace Corps volunteers, with 49 Vermonters currently serving as Peace Corps volunteers. The Burlington-South Burlington metro area ranked second per capita nationally for volunteer production, with 23 area residents serving overseas. Earlier rankings of volunteer-producing colleges and universities showed that UVM continues to hold 5th place among prestigious schools in our cohort. Over 840 UVM alumni have been Peace Corps volunteers.

CATAMOUNT EDUCATIONAL FARM

A new farming program at the Catamount Educational Farm in South Burlington will give students the opportunity to learn about sustainable farm practices, learn farm management skills, and support the research needs of the University. The program will offer an extensive hands-on farm experience for post-traditional, undergraduate, and high school students. Produce grown at the farm will be sold to select outlets within the UVM community. The new farm will further strengthen UVM’s leadership as a forerunner in the study of sustainable practices and food systems.

REDESIGNING THE BURLINGTON WATERFRONT

UVM students have a huge impact on Burlington and now they are directly involved in shaping the future of our city. Erick Crockenberg ’14 and Tad Cooke ’14 proposed to revamp the waterfront Moran Building to include farm-to-table eateries, a greenhouse, and a clean energy system. Earlier this year Burlington City Council put their ambitious proposal for the Moran Building on the March Ballot, and it was approved on Burlington Town Meeting Day.
STUDENT AWARDS

The Beckman Foundation has selected UVM for the prestigious 2014 Beckman Scholars Program award; the program will award scholarships to five outstanding undergraduate research students in chemistry and biological sciences.

Seven UVM students were named Fulbright Scholars this year: **Matthew Andrews ’13**, a History major, will study in Germany; **Marlenee Blas ’14**, a Higher Education and Student Affairs major, will study in Brazil; **Anders Christiansen ’14**, a Political Science major, will study in Mexico; **Joe Friedman ’14**, an Anthropology major, will study in Mexico; **Sydney Healey ’14**, a Global Studies major, will study in Brazil; **Daniel Rosenblum ’14**, an Anthropology major, will study in India; and **Brian Vedder ’14**, a Secondary Education major, will study in Thailand.

UVM students continue to receive some of the most competitive national scholarships and awards. This year **Chris Kenseth ’15**, a Chemistry major, and **Katie Bashant ’15**, a Microbiology major, were awarded 2014 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. Two UVM students received the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarships, which are given annually to accomplished students who wish to study abroad: **Kevin Santamaria ’15**, an Economics major, is currently studying in Morocco, and **Alexandra Cerretani ’14**, an Animal Science major, is studying in Namibia. Additionally, **Alexandria Hall ’15**, a junior majoring in English, received $34,000 Beinecke Scholarship to pursue graduate studies.

Three doctoral candidates at UVM were awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships in April: **Katie Miller**, a Ph.D. student in Biology, **Stephanie Juice**, a Ph.D. student in Natural Resources, and **Leigh Ann Holterman**, a Ph.D. student in Psychology.

UVM School of Business Administration students **Kristen Caron ’15** and **Greg Van Kleeck ’14** won first place in the Ethics Division at the Inter-Collegiate Business Competition held at the Queen’s School of Business in Kingston, Ontario in January. The competition is one of the oldest and most prestigious undergraduate business competitions in the world. Additionally, a team of four students from the School of Business Administration, comprised of **James Holtman ’16**, **Amelia Traynor ’15**, **Will Nedds ’15**, and **Corey Bois ’15**, won first place in the 2014 Business & Public Policy Student Video Competition held at Saint Michael’s College in Burlington.

Jeanelle Achee, ’14, a Truman Scholar and Nursing major, was crowned Miss Vermont in June. Achee plans to use her winnings to help pay for graduate school and to travel the state advocating for the survivors of sexual violence.

UVM students have a huge impact on Burlington and now they are directly involved in shaping the future of our City.
MAJOR GRANTS

Stephen Higgins, Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology, with his colleagues at the Vermont Center on Behavior and Health (VCBH), received $34.7 million in funding for behavior and health-related research projects in one week. On September 16, 2013, Professor Higgins with Philip Ades, Professor of Cardiology, announced a $11.5 million grant from the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence at the National Institutes of Health to support development at the VCBH. Days later, the FDA with the NIH announced that the UVM would receive a $19.5 million Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science Award for the VCBH. Additionally, Professor Higgins received a $3.7 million NIH award to study smoking cessation incentives for disadvantaged pregnant women. The Center will conduct research on causes and prevention of unhealthy personal behaviors and serve as a foundation for the transdisciplinary Neuroscience, Behavior, and Health Initiative at UVM.

Judith Van Houten, Professor of Biology and elected Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), continued her leadership of the Vermont Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) by securing over $6 million in 2013. The grants are focused on UVM-led investments in Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) with higher education partners throughout the state and region as well as the establishment of a new, collaborative water research program, the North East Water Resources Network (NEWRnet). Focused on studies of water quality in a dynamic and changing climate, the NEWRnet grant at UVM will support the deployment of high-tech, underwater sensors throughout Vermont watersheds for real-time data during storms, droughts, and seasonal changes. “You can liken it to taking the pulse of the watershed,” says UVM Professor of Geology Andrew Schroth, a collaborator on the project.

Ken Mann, Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry, secured a five-year, $23.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to support a multi-center, multidisciplinary study on a deadly bleeding syndrome called coagulopathy that occurs without warning in some trauma patients. The TACTIC (Trans-Agency Consortium for Trauma-Induced Coagulopathy) study is a cooperative effort funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute that establishes a unique collaboration between the NIH and the Department of Defense. Faculty representing five departments at UVM will lead projects for the grant. Trauma is the major cause of death in people less than 34 years old and the third leading cause of mortality in the U.S., with uncontrollable hemorrhage representing the major cause of preventable deaths, according to the NIH.

Vern Grubinger, Professor of Extension and vegetable and berry specialist, led the successful UVM proposal to continue hosting the USDA’s Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program, bringing in over $3.8 million in 2013 that will be distributed to researchers, educators, and farmers across the 12 northeastern states. SARE supports the UVM land-grant mission for research, education, and innovation translated to local farms and communities, testing new methods of land stewardship, market diversification and profitability, and sustainability. Field trials, on-farm R&D, and graduate research will also be supported.
The Food Systems Journal & Summit

As a leader in the nascent transdisciplinary field of food systems, UVM has joined with three other leading North American universities with programs in food systems to underwrite the Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development. The Journal is published four times a year online by the Center for Transformative Action, a nonprofit organization affiliated with Cornell University. UVM will also host the second annual UVM Food Systems Summit and Breakthrough Leaders in Sustainable Food Systems professional certificate program in the summer of 2014. The Summit and Breakthrough Leaders programs bring national and international scholars, practitioners, and food systems leaders to the UVM campus to debate and discuss pressing food systems issues, design creative solutions, and develop next generation food systems leaders through innovative coursework and experiential learning.

Student Research Conference

This spring at UVM, 338 undergraduate, graduate, and medical students participated in the annual UVM Student Research Conference, an increasingly popular event showcasing the research, scholarship, creative works, and innovations of the UVM student community. The annual event gives UVM students an introduction to the professional skills necessary for a national or international conference: poster and oral presentation preparation, design and layout, and speaking skills. The event celebrates the dedication of UVM students to their studies and the unique engagement they have with their faculty advisors and the programs supporting their research processes.

New Summer Lake Research Program

This summer the University will launch a 10-week research program for undergraduates to study the ecosystem of Lake Champlain; the program is funded by a $310,000 grant from the National Science Foundation and is seeking applicants from across the country. The program will encourage collaboration across the disciplines and include fisheries biologists, water specialists, economists, modeling experts, hydrological engineers, social scientists and others from UVM and Saint Michael’s College.

Research on the Cutting Edge

Abby van den Berg, Research Assistant Professor of Plant Biology, and Tim Perkins, Research Professor of Plant Biology, have discovered a new highly efficient way to produce maple syrup by cutting the tops off of chest-high saplings planted close together and drawing their sap through a vacuum system. This plantation method will allow farmers to make a great deal of syrup without purchasing more land, because the saplings actually produce more sap than mature trees.

Peter Spector, Professor of Medicine and Director of Electrophysiology at Fletcher Allen Health Care, with Jason Bates, Professor of Medicine and engineer, have co-developed a three-dimensional computational model of a human heart called the Visible EP. The model mimics the behavior of the heart and features the ability to provide unpredictable responses; by studying the model, they gain a better understanding of how to cure the most common abnormal heart rhythm, atrial fibrillation.

Jeff Frolik, Associate Professor of Engineering, Paul Hines, Assistant Professor of Engineering, and Pooya Rezaei, a doctoral candidate in Engineering, have created an invention to allow the continually increasing numbers of electric cars on the road to charge simultaneously without crashing the grid or raising rates. Their method prevents the grid from becoming overloaded by dividing the power requests into small packets, which the new network of “smart meters” distributes over a period of time.

Stephen Higgins, Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology, with his colleagues at the Vermont Center on Behavior and Health, received $34.7 million in funding for behavior and health-related research projects.

Abby van den Berg, Research Assistant Professor of Plant Biology, at Proctor Maple Research Center with a maple sapling.
As a land grant University that serves as the research flagship of the State, UVM plays a critical role in building the State’s knowledge economy, contributing to sustainable economic growth in Vermont, and providing its students with the information and attributes that will prepare them to be effective leaders in an increasingly complex world. As part of its educational mission, the University seeks to address the Grand Challenges identified by the National Academies: the environment, human health, food systems, and global quality of life. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines are essential to creating solutions to the Grand Challenges.

The new STEM facility at UVM therefore has become a priority to serve the State, to prepare our students for today’s opportunities and challenges, to maintain our competitive edge, and to grow our foundational strength in the physical sciences and engineering. The STEM facility currently in the last phases of the design will bring national and international talent to UVM and provide students and faculty with world class teaching, learning, and research environments. It is only by attracting and retaining outstanding faculty and students that UVM can help to build the economic future of Vermont, graduate students with the interests, skills, and preparation to create new technologies and businesses, and create new jobs for Vermonter.
Building a Future in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

THE STEM COMPLEX

The University has completed the programming, concept design, and schematic design for the $100 million STEM Complex, which is the largest capital project in UVM history. The Complex will consist of three buildings: a classroom and office building that will replace the Cook Physical Sciences Building, a new integrated teaching and research laboratory building, and a selectively renovated Votey Hall. All three structures will be connected physically and programmatically and will house the departments of Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics, and the School of Engineering.

CONNECTIONS AND COLLABORATION

The Complex will create a new physical and intellectual nexus at UVM that links all corners of central campus. Located between existing arts, humanities, and social sciences facilities and the health sciences branch of campus, the Complex will encourage communication across a broad range of disciplines. The design of the STEM Complex will foster research collaboration, and the entire complex will be intentionally interdisciplinary. Teaching, learning, and research conducted in the Complex will be informed and complemented by the University’s existing strength in liberal education. Our STEM graduates will have the advantages of a remarkable facility and the technical proficiency it affords in addition to foundations in analytical and communication skills, critical thinking, humanistic and scientific inquiry, global citizenship, and an appreciation of different cultures.

ADAPTABLE INTER-DISCIPLINARY LEARNING SPACES

Classrooms of the 21st century must have the ability to change quickly. The STEM Complex provides us with the rare opportunity to contemplate emerging and impactful pedagogical platforms. Learning spaces within the Complex will be easily reconfigurable and highly and rapidly adaptable. When exciting new possibilities, projects, or partnerships present themselves, spaces will change quickly to bring people, technology, and discourse together in an environment that facilitates interdisciplinary and experiential learning and engagement. These learning spaces will benefit students well beyond the STEM disciplines by substantially enhancing the University’s inventory of technology-enhanced, integrative, and creative pedagogical spaces available to a broad cross-section of students and classes.
The UVM Foundation, now headed into its third year under the leadership of board chairman John A. Hilton, Jr. ’68 and President and CEO O. Richard Bundy, has finished a second straight year of record fundraising activity. Pledges, new gifts and estate commitments reached nearly $45 million for the 2013 fiscal year. Cash receipts from more than 20,000 donors totaled $37 million — an all-time high. The Foundation anticipates a vigorous and robust coming year, during which it will continue to nurture private support for the benefit of the University of Vermont.

Michele Cohen ’72 and her husband Martin have given $2 million in support of renovating the Taft School on South Williams Street in Burlington. Once the transfer of the School from the City is complete, the building will house the University’s Art and Art History Department and provide studio space for faculty and students.

David Blittersdorf, President and CEO of AllEarth Renewables, Inc., of Williston, Vermont and 1981 graduate of UVM, established the David Blittersdorf Professorship in Sustainability Science and Policy at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources with a $1 million gift commitment. This endowed professorship will advance the study of climate change, fossil fuel depletion, and renewable energy at UVM in collaboration with the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

The family of Henry H. Carse donated 225 acres in Hinesburg, including the town’s largest wetlands complex, to the University of Vermont. Carse was a dedicated public servant who served as a state legislator, town moderator, and town school director; his family wanted to conserve the land and provide public access and educational opportunities through their donation. The donation will ensure that the property will remain a haven for plant diversity and wildlife; the University also will use the land for research and education.

A grateful patient of Dr. Frank P. Ittleman, Professor of Surgery in the College of Medicine and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Fletcher Allen Health Care, donated $1 million to establish a professorship in his name at the UVM College of Medicine.

Additionally, the surgical faculty at the College donated $4.5 million to fund 14 Green and Gold Professorships in the Department of Surgery and add another $1 million to the Frank Ittleman Professorship endowment. These professorships will allow the College to continue attracting and retaining exceptional faculty members. The surgery faculty hopes this gift will foster the culture of giving in the Department and the College.

Arthur J. Perelman, M.D. ’52, his sons Robert, Jon, and Carl, and their children gave $1 million to establish the Charlotte E. Perelman Cancer Research Fund in honor of their late wife, mother, and grandmother, who was a strong advocate for the Vermont Cancer Center. The endowed fund will support research, education, and advocacy at the Vermont Cancer Center at UVM and Fletcher Allen Health Care.

The generosity of alumni and their families continue to enhance the beauty of the campus and improve its facilities. After his graduation last May, the family of Andrew Lewis ’13 wanted to show their gratitude to the University and to honor his late father, who strongly believed...
in philanthropic support of educational institutions. Their gift was an important contribution that made the new Gateway sign possible at UVM.

Donald Kidder ’57, has committed $500,000 to name the Donald and Barbara Kidder entry and foyer of the recently designed Alumni House Pavilion. Kidder has many family ties to UVM. His grandfather Joseph Benjamin Kidder and his father Allan Kidder graduated from UVM, and his uncle George Kidder ’22, was an influential dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UVM. The Pavilion will be adjacent to the Alumni House, which is currently being restored, and serve as a venue for gatherings and conferences.

ENDOWMENT

The University’s “Long-Term Pool” endowment has had strong performance this fiscal year with growth of 12% since July 1, 2013. The Board of Trustees Investment Subcommittee meets with UVM staff and the University’s investment advisors, Cambridge Associates, eight times per year to interview financial managers and make decisions about how the $427 million (as of February 28, 2014) in endowment assets should be invested. The endowment currently generates about $14 million per year for spending on student scholarships, professorships, and operations associated with an array of critical academic programs. Endowment spending amounts to 4.5% of the average value of the endowment over the previous thirteen quarters.

All endowment spending supports the academic priorities of the University. One of the foremost goals of the University’s Strategic Action Plan is to promote affordability, financial access, and academic support for qualified students, and 45% of endowment spending supports scholarships (see graph below). In FY 2013 scholarships and fellowships totaled over $100 million.
THE PRESIDENT’S OUR COMMON GROUND STAFF AWARD

This year, President Tom Sullivan established the President’s Our Common Ground Staff Award to honor the extraordinary contributions of staff members to the University. The award annually recognizes six staff members who exemplify the qualities of the University’s Our Common Ground, the statement of aspirations and shared values for the UVM community: Respect, Integrity, Innovation, Openness, Justice, and Responsibility. The President’s Our Common Ground award recipients for 2014 are: Patrick Brown, Director of Student Life, Division of Student Affairs; Jeff Bukowski, Staff Council Administrator, Staff Council; Rodman Cory, Constituent Relations Team Lead, Division of Human Resources, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs; Annie Cressey, Health Educator, Division of Student Affairs; Leslye Kornegay, Director of Custodial Services, Division of University Relations and Administration; and William Valiere, Research Specialist Park Studies Laboratory, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

In July, Dr. Nancy E. Mathews will become Dean of the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. Dr. Mathews was the Director of the Moggridge Center for Public Service and Professor of Environmental Studies at the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Mathews is a nationally recognized wildlife biologist and has published widely, including 58 refereed papers published or in press in the leading environmental publications. She has been the single principal investigator or co-principal investigator on over 52 research projects with a total funding of over $8 million. She is an experienced academic leader. She was a recent fellow in the Committee for Institutional Cooperation Academic Leadership Program, chaired the Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development graduate program at the Nelson Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and directed the University of Wisconsin-Madison reaccreditation process.

In April, Dr. Abu Rizvi announced that he would be stepping down as Dean of the Honors College, a position that he has held since 2007. He will be a Visiting Fellow at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education next year and will complete a book on Higher Education. He plans to return to the Department of Economics as a faculty member in academic year 2015-16. During his term as dean, he doubled the size of the Honors College while increasing its diversity. Lisa Schnell, Associate Professor of English and Associate Dean of the Honors College, has agreed to serve as interim Dean. An experienced administrator, she has led the college through significant curricular revision, developed many co-extensive opportunities for faculty development, and served as a trusted advisor to many students in the college.

Additionally, in April Christopher Lucier accepted the position of Vice President for Enrollment Management at the University of Delaware. As Vice President for Enrollment Management at UVM, he brought experience and energy to the University’s leadership
team. John Ryan, Director of the Office of Institutional Research (OIR), will be serving as Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management. In his role as Director of OIR, Dr. Ryan has worked closely with the Division of Enrollment Management and other divisions of the University. The University is launching a national search for the position of Vice President for Enrollment Management. Associate Provost Gayle Nunley will chair this important search.

CAREER+EXPERIENCE HUB

In September the Career+Experience Hub, a key component of UVM’s Career Success Action Plan to enhance undergraduate career preparation, opened on the first floor of the Davis Center. In a February article highlighting UVM’s commitment to helping graduates develop their careers, USA Today calls the Hub’s central location “a piece of prime real estate” that “signals a new priority on campus.” The Hub serves students who want experiential learning opportunities and career-oriented advice and helps them become better prepared to pursue a career or graduate school after graduation. The Hub complements the Four-Year Career Success Plan, another new element of UVM’s career preparation program. This plan engages students in a sequence of semester-specific activities that, according to recent studies, will increase their chances of post-graduation success.

SUMMER UNIVERSITY OFFERINGS

This year the Summer University at UVM has a rich variety of offerings on campus and online from organic chemistry to a Latin Jazz intensive course and from a Business Savvy course on business fundamentals to the Breakthrough Leaders Professional Certificate Program for Sustainable Food Systems. There are over 500 courses offered and over 550 academic sections, including 15 faculty-led study abroad programs. These courses allow students to balance work, volunteering, internships, and athletics with their academic commitments. The smaller class size provides a student-focused teaching and learning environment at a lower cost to students. Students will see a 30% reduction on tuition this summer, which is double the savings of last year’s program.

AIKEN CENTER

The George D. Aiken Center earned a U.S. Green Building Council LEED Platinum Certification, the group’s highest honor. The project was especially noteworthy because it renovated an existing structure to make it more energy efficient. This exceptional building features 17 solar trackers that offset over 30% of the energy costs, a wastewater treatment system, and green roof.

FLEMING MUSEUM

This year the Fleming Museum was honored to present the exhibition “Dorothy and Herb: Fifty Works for Fifty States” in fall 2013 and “Dorothy and Herb Vogel: On Drawing” this spring based on Dorothy and Herb Vogel’s private collection. This extraordinary collection spans 40 years and includes over 4,000 works by conceptual, minimalist, and post-minimalist artists. With the assistance of the National Gallery of Art, the Vogels planned to distribute fifty objects to a single art institution in each state. These exhibits present the Vogel’s donation to the Fleming Museum, the Vermont recipient of their generous gift.

BURACK DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

The Dan and Carole Burack Distinguished Lecture Series brought a total of 19 speakers to campus this year. Renowned scholars and acclaimed artists from across the country and around the world covered a broad range of topics from the logistics of humanitarian disaster relief to the documentary film renaissance and conservation in Southeast Asia. These popular lectures attracted faculty, students, and staff from across the disciplines.

In January the exhibition “Anonymous: Contemporary Tibetan Art” opened exploring across a range of mediums changing attitudes toward self-expression, attribution and identity in contemporary Tibetan art. Traditional Tibetan culture placed little emphasis on individuality; however, art as self-expression is becoming vital for Tibetans whose country has now become part of the People’s Republic of China.
UVM IN NATIONAL RANKINGS AND NEWS

Recent rankings demonstrate notable progress and highlight the University’s strong institutional identity as a unique Public Ivy. In the fall, UVM was ranked 14th as an up-and-coming university by U.S. News & World Report on account of “the most promising and innovative changes in the areas of academics, faculty and student life.”

In September Washington Monthly ranked UVM 24th among all colleges and universities in the nation on its “Best Bang for the Buck” list in the magazine’s annual College Guide issue.

Kiplinger Personal Finance Magazine once again ranked UVM among the best value public colleges in the U.S. for the University’s “combination of academic quality and affordability.” Outdoor Magazine ranked UVM in the top ten recommended colleges.

Travel and Leisure ranked Burlington the #1 college town in the United States on account of our abundant arts, music, and food culture in addition to the lakefront and community amenities.

The Atlantic Monthly lauded the culture of volunteerism at UVM in an October article, noting UVM’s identity as a leading Public Ivy and citing “a remarkable symbiosis that enriches the City of Burlington and its colleges and infuses both with a strong sense of community.”

USA Today featured UVM’s Career+Experience Hub in the Davis Center in a February 2014 article. The article cited UVM’s renewed commitment to career development for students that includes a “high profile location” in the “school’s bustling student center,” a 27% increase in the budget for career services, and a host of online courses that focus on job prospects. Students are already enjoying the benefits of the University’s efforts. Students quoted in the piece, who take advantage of the internships and online courses, feel more confident about launching a career after graduation.

GOLD RATING AS A SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS

This spring, UVM was awarded a Gold rating by the Sustainability Teaching, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS). STARS is a voluntary, internal rating framework from The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, the premier national organization for promoting sustainability at colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. UVM was recognized for a broad range of sustainability practices from reduced waste and composting to the Student Sustainability Outreach Campaign and Academic Sustainability Programs.

In September, Washington Monthly ranked UVM 24th among all colleges and universities in the nation on its “Best Bang for the Buck” list.
ALUMNA NAMED ONE OF WORLD’S GREATEST LEADERS

Kathy Giusti, founder and CEO of the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation and a 1980 graduate of the University of Vermont, has been named one of the ‘World’s 50 Greatest Leaders’ by *Fortune Magazine*. Giusti takes her place on the list in the company of such luminaries as Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama, Warren Buffett, Angela Merkel, Bill Clinton, and Gabrielle Giffords.

Also on *Fortune*’s first-ever ‘Greatest Leaders’ list is jazz great Wynton Marsalis, who delivered the Commencement address to UVM’s 2013 graduating class. Both Giusti and Marsalis were awarded honorary doctorates at that ceremony last May.

WHITE HOUSE SUMMIT ON COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY

In January, President Tom Sullivan was invited to the College Opportunity Summit hosted by President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House. Eighty college and university presidents and leaders from 40 non-profit and philanthropic organizations attended. Leaders focused on strategies to increase the number of low-income students who apply to, attend, and graduate on time from college.

This year President Sullivan also became the Chair of the Board of Presidents of the America East Athletic Conference.
Undergraduate General Education Program

Sustainable General Education Requirement

New Master of Public Health Program

New Sustainable Entrepreneurship MBA

The Humanities Center

Envisioning Environment

Incentive Based Budgeting

CHARTING THE FUTURE

UNDERGRADUATE GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The University is developing an undergraduate General Education Program based on desired outcomes for all graduates. The first outcome to be implemented is Writing and Information Literacy. After completing a successful pilot program for first-year students on writing and information literacy in April 2013, the Faculty Senate adopted a writing and information literacy requirement for all entering students beginning in Fall 2014. The second phase of the Writing and Information Literacy plan is called Writing and Information Literacy in the Disciplines (WILD); this program will promote communication skills within students’ academic discipline during years 2-4 of their undergraduate degrees. In November 2013, the University was awarded a $290,000 grant from the Davis Educational Foundation to help support a three-year implementation of WILD across the majority of departments that offer undergraduate degree programs.

SUSTAINABILITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

As part of the University’s development of an undergraduate General Education Program, the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Ad-hoc Senate Committee for Sustainability Learning Outcomes have been working together to outline the goals for a Sustainability General Education Requirement. This spring, the SGA and the Committee approved four Sustainability Learning Outcomes that will become the foundation of a planned Sustainability General Education requirement. These learning outcomes include the knowledge to have an informed conversation about sustainability, the skills to evaluate sustainability using an evidence-based disciplinary approach, and the ability to think critically about sustainability across a diversity of cultural values and across scales of relevance from local to global. The Committee will work with the Sustainability Office to approve fifty-five UVM sustainability-focused courses that meet the sustainability learning outcomes and solicit additional curricula from across the disciplines.

NEW MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

This spring, the University announced a new Master of Public Health Program, a collaborative graduate program involving the College of Medicine, the Graduate College, and Continuing and Distance Education. The 42-credit fully online master’s degree program is designed for medical and graduate students, health professionals in all disciplines, researchers, and others who wish to increase their knowledge in public health. In addition to enhancing careers in public health practice and health professions, the program also prepares graduates for advanced study at the doctoral level.

NEW SUSTAINABLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP MBA

The School of Business Administration has launched a new one-year MBA program in Sustainable Entrepreneurship that prepares students to create profitable and sustainable business opportunities while introducing them to local Vermont sustainable business leaders and international partners across the globe. The multi-disciplinary curriculum includes faculty from the School of Business, the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, the Gund Institute, and Vermont Law School.
THE HUMANITIES CENTER

This year, the University advanced plans to create a new vision for the Humanities Center and to expand its reach. In March, Professors David Jenemann and Luis Vivanco were named co-directors of the UVM Humanities Center. Their leadership roles were established to further the original mission of the Humanities Center in promoting interdisciplinary work in the humanities. The new co-directors will also carry out the new mission of the Center “to become a national model for its impact in increasing awareness about the wide and deep contributions of the arts and humanities toward the betterment of the human condition, society, and the natural world.” Professor Vivanco, an Environmental Anthropologist, and Professor Jenemann, an Associate Professor of English and Film and Television studies, are both experienced and effective campus leaders: Professor Vivanco served as director of the Global and Regional Studies Program from 2007 - 2014, and Professor Jenemann has served as director of Film and Television Studies since 2011. The newly expanded Humanities Center will provide additional support to liberal education, which forms the core of UVM undergraduate studies.

ENVISIONING ENVIRONMENT

The University plans to continue to build on its academic excellence and disciplinary and interdisciplinary breadth in environmental research, teaching, and outreach consistent with the University’s vision statement. Based on the February 2013 report requested by President Tom Sullivan, the work group issued “Envisioning Environment at UVM,” comprised of faculty from across the colleges and schools. This fall, Provost David Rosowsky and the deans established a set of strategic goals, which will be implemented within the next academic year. In January, Provost Rosowsky charged the deans with developing a plan of action that will include the creation of the UVM Institute for Environment, a University-wide institute reporting directly to the Office of the Provost.

INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT

Early plans are underway to launch a new initiative entitled “Institute for Environment.” The Institute for Environment will be the fifth major scholarly initiative at UVM, joining the three Transdisciplinary Research Initiatives (TRI’s) and the Humanities Center. The Institute for Environment will include elements of teaching, research, service, and outreach in its mission and will engage students at all levels and in every college. The Institute will seek to unite natural and physical scientists, engineers, social scientists, natural resources experts, as well as management, education, health and policy experts from across the University. The Institute will also serve to bring scholars from around the world and nation to UVM.

INCENTIVE BASED BUDGETING

This fall, under direction from President Sullivan and with leadership from Provost Rosowsky and Vice President for Finance Richard Cate, the University launched the effort to completely redesign its budget model. The model, a part of President Sullivan’s Strategic Action Plan, is designed to create incentives that will ensure academic quality and financial sustainability and encourage entrepreneurship throughout the University. Additionally, the new budget model will be easy to understand, implement, and operate, and it will provide transparency, clarity, and predictability.

The dedicated members of the UVM community on the Steering Committee have been managing the design process over the course of this very productive academic year. Over 170 nominations were received for the Steering Committee and the Subcommittees. Approximately 66 faculty, staff, and students are participating in the planning to generate truly a university-wide transformative process. Eight subcommittees, each with a specific charge and area of focus, released reports to the campus community in late January 2014. Members of the campus community have been invited to participate in Q & A sessions in February, and discussions based on the reports continued throughout the spring term with leaders across campus. The Steering Committee plans to prepare its final recommendations to the President on the design and overall methodology of a UVM Incentive Based Budget model in June.