Thomas J. Gustafson

VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS & ADMINISTRATION

Biography

Thomas J. Gustafson has served as Vice President for University Relations and Administration since July 2013, when he assumed oversight of Administrative and Facilities Services, Capital Planning and Management, University Relations and Enterprise Risk in addition to his existing responsibilities. Prior to this he served as Vice President for Student and Campus Life, his position since 2003. He also served concurrently as Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations during the 2005-2006 academic year. He has held several positions at UVM since 1978, including Vice President for University Relations and Operations, Director of Public Relations, Special Assistant to the President, Assistant to the Senior Vice President, and Residential Life Area Coordinator. He is also a Lecturer in the College of Education and Social Services. From 1976 to 1978, he was the Residence Hall Director at State University College at Oswego, New York and from 1975 to 1976 he was the Assistant Complex Coordinator at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Gustafson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from State University of New York at Geneseo, New York in 1975. In 1976, he received his Master of Arts in College Student Personnel at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. In 1991, he received his Doctor of Education degree from the University of Vermont. He is married to Ann V. Arcovitch and has three daughters: Claire, Jessie, and Eve.

Division Statement of Purpose

The Division of University Relations & Administration is the University’s largest administrative unit, employing over 650 staff members in providing a broad range of institution-wide services that support the teaching, learning, research, scholarship, recreation and service of the University’s students, faculty and staff. Whether we’re planning construction of LEED-certified buildings or taking care of the physical plant, managing eighteen varsity sports or overseeing campus recreational offerings, maintaining communications and relationships with a broad range of key University constituencies or preparing the annual Enterprise Risk Management report our focus is on providing quality services and superior resource stewardship in support of the University’s strategic goals.

Authority and Responsibilities

As a member of the President’s Senior Leadership team, Vice President Gustafson is responsible for developing communications, public relations, and media strategies for the institution and its leadership. He plays a key role in crisis management situations when they arise, as well as communicating with numerous key constituencies in the public and private sector.
In addition, he is responsible for overseeing the units that maintain the University’s buildings and land, as well as those who plan the construction of new facilities and infrastructure. Vice President Gustafson also oversees Administrative and Facilities Services, which is the University’s largest service group, Campus Recreation and Athletics, as well as Enterprise Risk Management.

**Reporting Structure**

The Vice President for University Relations and Administration reports to the President. Reporting to him are: Athletics, University Communication, University Relations, Capital Planning and Management, Administration and Facilities Services and Enterprise Risk Management. Within these units are significant departments such as, Intercollegiate Athletics, Davis Student Center, Custodial Services, Conference and Event Services, Facilities Design and Construction, government relations functions, and the Web Team.

**Department Reporting Units and Directors:**

Federal and State Relations, Wendy Koenig
Community Relations, Joe Speidel
Athletics, Robert Corran
University Communications, Enrique Corredera
Administration and Facilities Services, William Ballard
Capital Planning and Management, Robert Vaughan
Enterprise Risk Management, Al Turgeon

**Role in Strategic Policy Matters**

Vice President Gustafson serves on the President’s Senior Leadership team, and is involved in virtually every policy discussion and decision at UVM.

Strategic issues arising out of this division that may require Board attention or Board action include:

- Construction of a multipurpose events center
- Construction of a recreation center
- Housing/residence hall construction/renovation and master plan
- Reviewing NCAA Audits
- Federal, State, and local relations
- Policies affecting the out-of classroom lives of students
- Board communications to key constituencies
Interface with Internal and External Constituents

Dr. Gustafson is often the primary media contact and spokesperson for the University, as well as interacting with governmental, business, alumni, neighbors, parents and other outside constituencies on matters of mutual concern.

Relevant Websites Links:

- Athletics: http://uvmathletics.com/
- Campus Recreation: http://www.uvm.edu/~recspts/
- University Relations: http://www.uvm.edu/~urel/
- University Communications: http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmpri
- Administrative and Facilities Services: http://www.uvm.edu/~afsdept/
- Capital Planning and Management: http://www.uvm.edu/~cpm/
- Campus Planning Services: http://www.uvm.edu/~plan/
- Enterprise Risk Management: http://www.uvm.edu/~erm/
- Facilities and Design Construction: http://www.uvm.edu/~arch/
- Emergency Management: http://www.uvm.edu/~emergency/
- Office of Sustainability: http://www.uvm.edu/sustain/
- Conference and Event Services: http://www.uvm.edu/conferences/
- Transportation and Parking Services: http://www.uvm.edu/~tpswww/
- Police Services: http://www.uvm.edu/police/
- Vermont Quarterly: http://alumni.uvm.edu/vq/
- Davis Student Center: http://www.uvm.edu/~davis/
- Custodial Services Department: http://www.uvm.edu/custodial/
- University Web Team: http://www.uvm.edu/webguide/
- UVM Bookstore: http://uvmbookstore.uvm.edu/