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UVM HOMEPAGE

## INTERview: Jill Holm-Denoma



Jill Holm-Denoma, assistant professor of psychology, has been in demand to give talks on diagnosing and addressing eating disorders and to provide clinical treatment since arriving from Florida State University. (Photo: Sally McCay)

Though she's barely settled in her Dewey Hall office, Jill Holm-Denoma's phone rings frequently with requests to give talks on diagnosing and addressing eating disorders or to provide clinical treatment. She's surprised by how many people — care providers, concerned loved ones, patients themselves — have discovered so quickly that she's here, but not surprised by the need.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

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### Commencement 2008

Author and teacher Julia Alvarez, whose novels, poetry and non-fiction have garnered critical praise and prestigious awards, will deliver the commencement address and receive an honorary degree from the university next spring.

**Student Politics** The cost was an extended debate on a cold New Hampshire porch, but for junior Harry Mallory, the reward was sweet: another vote for John McCain. Presidential primaries and caucuses are in full swing, and Mallory and dozens of other UVM students spent the break phone-banking, canvassing and sign-waving.

### THE WEEK IN VIEW

*Dec. 6, 4 p.m.* Speaker/Workshop: Critically acclaimed author and musician Daniel Hecht will host a reading/writer's workshop. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. Information: 656-4047

*Dec. 6, 3:30 p.m.* Panel Discussion: UTC hosts a discussion on critical transportation issues with Neale Lunderville, VTrans Secretary; Cindy Burbank of the Federal Highway Administration; and Tom Adler, president of the Resource Systems Group. Chittenden Room, Davis Center. Information: [University Transportation Center](#).

*Dec. 9, 4 p.m.* Recital: Bassoonist and UVM music instructor Rachael Elliott and pianist Cynthia Huard of Middlebury College present an afternoon recital of new music influenced by the rhythms and harmonies of rock and jazz. UVM Recital Hall. Information: 656-3040.

*Dec. 11, 8:30 a.m.* Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Conference featuring Nancy Gioia, director of sustainable mobility technologies and hybrid vehicle programs for Ford Motor Company. Davis Center. Information: [University Transportation Center](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

**INTERview: Jill Holm-Denoma***Eating disorder expert and new assistant professor of psychology is bringing provocative research, and highly needed skills, to UVM and local community*

By Lee Ann Cox

*Article published January 16, 2008*

Jill Holm-Denoma, assistant professor of psychology, has been in demand to give talks on diagnosing and addressing eating disorders and to provide clinical treatment since arriving from Florida State University. (Photo: Sally McCay)

*Though she's barely settled in her Dewey Hall office, Jill Holm-Denoma's phone rings frequently with requests to give talks on diagnosing and addressing eating disorders or to provide clinical treatment. The assistant professor of psychology, who comes to UVM from Florida State*

*University, says she's surprised by how many people — care providers, concerned loved ones, patients themselves — have discovered so quickly that she's here, but not surprised by the need.*

*Approximately one percent of adolescent and young adult females suffer from anorexia and about twice as many have bulimia. Both anorexia and bulimia are also associated with high rates of mood, anxiety, substance use and personality disorders. A third category of eating disorder, binge eating, afflicts up to four percent of the population, and affects men and women equally. The combined effects take a huge toll. Anorexia, in fact, has the highest mortality rate of any psychiatric disorder.*

*The view sat down with Holm-Denoma to learn more about the causes and consequences of eating disorders and the work she's doing to address them.*

*the view:* Eating disorders are usually associated with young, white, middle- to upper-middle class females but you've said the numbers among other ethnic groups and older women are increasing. What do you think accounts for these changes?

**JILL HOLM-DENOMA:** If you look at it from a media perspective, it's been

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[Student Politics](#)

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empirically supported that people with eating disorders internalize the ideal that they need to be thin. Until fairly recently most media targets were teenagers and young adult women, the message being that you should be really thin and beautiful. But we have this new wave of TV shows, Hollywood actresses, anti-aging beauty products, all these new things on the market that are saying now it's not enough to be 20 and looking young and gorgeous. Now, if you're 50, you have to look 25. And one of the things I think has contributed to the increases among racial and ethnic minorities is acculturation to mainstream values. Part of fitting in, unfortunately, might be buying into that thin-as-good ideal. And we're starting to see more ethnic minorities portrayed in mainstream media as thin, young-looking-forever role models, things that white women have been more exposed to previously.

**What characteristics distinguish whether a person is likely to suffer from bulimia or anorexia? And how does the individual experience the illness?**

There are certain clusters of personalities in those two groups. There are some overlaps, of course, but people with restrictive behaviors like anorexia are more likely to be perfectionists, obsessive in nature, very controlling and rigid – not just in regards to food, but across the board. They have a hard time being flexible. It's a generalization, but I would say a lot of people with anorexia feel proud of what they're accomplishing. They feel they're working towards their goal. They feel strong because they have controlled their behavior in a way that other people can't. It's a superhuman sort of thing, really, that they can overcome hunger pains and starvation.

People with bulimia tend to have impulsive tendencies, low self-esteem. So part of it could be personality that might lead people down one path or the other. There are also some family links. There are a lot of individual differences in experience, but those with bulimia will often say they feel ashamed and disgusted that they are purging. They feel like a failure because they can't control what they're eating and how quickly they're eating it; so they feel awful about themselves after a binge and purge episode. On the other hand, they do feel in control of their weight. So there's a little ambiguity, but I think there's a lot more shame from the behaviors.

**We're all exposed to media – and you've said that some 75 to 80 percent of women in this country are dissatisfied with their bodies, often leading to a breakdown in feelings of self-worth – yet only a small subgroup develop an eating disorder. How do you tease out biological, psychological and cultural factors?**

It's complicated, and we're trying to get a better understanding of that, but I conceptualize this as a vulnerability risk range based on biology and genes. Some people might be at higher risk based on family factors, some people might be relatively well protected based on their biology, so you get a range, and then environmental experiences fuel that range. So

somebody with a high vulnerability isn't going to need a lot of things, such as having peers who diet a lot or consuming media targeting them to be thin, to bump them into a really high risk range. Whereas for people who have a low biological vulnerability, it might take a lot more environmental influence to put them at risk.

**On a less tragic, highly familiar topic, you have another study in publication questioning the “freshman fifteen” weight gain that first-year college students are said to experience. What did you find?**

First we wanted to see if (the freshman fifteen) is real or just legend. What we found is that people — both men and women — do, on average, gain more weight their freshman year of college than they do at any other period in their life. But it's nowhere near 15 pounds, it's more like three to four pounds, on average. And, although that doesn't sound like a ton, average adults, across their lifespan (and other similar-age adults who are not in college) gain about 0.9 pounds a year. So it's three or four times what people normally gain. So the study determined, yes, this is a high-risk time period for substantial weight gain.

Then we looked at predictors of what causes certain people to gain weight versus others. Having troubled relationships with parents caused weight gain in men, whereas having good relationships with parents caused weight gain in women. Eating junk food didn't predict weight gain in this study. Healthy eating didn't predict weight gain or loss. So some of these things that we thought for sure would be related to weight changes weren't.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Author Julia Alvarez to Speak at 2008 Commencement

By The View Staff

Article published January 15, 2008



Noted writer Julia Alvarez, author of *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, *In the Time of the Butterflies* and other works of fiction and essay, will deliver the commencement address to UVM's Class of 2008 on May 18. (Photo courtesy of Julia Alvarez)

Author and teacher Julia Alvarez, whose novels, poetry and non-fiction have garnered critical praise and prestigious awards, will deliver the commencement address and receive an honorary degree from the university next spring. Graduates will gather on the University Green on Sunday, May 18, for

UVM's 204th commencement ceremony.

Though she was born in New York, Julia Alvarez spent her early years in her parents' home country, the Dominican Republic, where she became immersed in their homeland's oral tradition. She returned to New York at age 10, where her struggles with English constituted "a watershed experience," she says. "I had to pay close attention to each word — great training for a writer." Alvarez coupled a long career in teaching with a prolific literary output, including *How The Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *Before We Were Free*, *The Woman I Kept To Myself*, *Saving the World*, and *A Gift of Gracias: The Legend of Altigracia*. She is writer-in-residence at Middlebury College.

The university will present honorary degrees to six other individuals, listed below, in recognition of their achievement and service to the nation, state or university.

**Carole Burack** has devoted innumerable hours of volunteer service in support of the arts and education. She has been on the board of the Harrison, N.Y., library for 25 years, and the board of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival for 15 years. She worked many years at the Metropolitan Opera House, overseeing 400 volunteers, and currently serves on the board of the Fleming Museum. At UVM, she and her husband, Dan Burack, established the Dan and Carole Burack President's Distinguished Lecture

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Series, as well as a scholarship fund for students in teacher education.

**Daniel A. Burack**, UVM Class of 1955, has combined successful business savvy with an extraordinary volunteer and philanthropic spirit. A commercial real estate management specialist, he is chairman of Burack Investments, partner in Altman/Burack Partners, and part owner of Cranwell Resort Spa and Golf Club in Lenox, Mass. A loyal alumnus and fan of UVM, he has served in numerous volunteer roles, including fundraiser for Reunion 2005 — his 50th reunion — and member, along with his wife, Carole, of the National Campaign Steering Committee. He remains active with his fraternity, Phi Sigma Delta, and has worked in their fundraising efforts as well.

**Eric Lipton**, UVM Class of 1987, published his first news story in the *Vermont Cynic* in 1984 and has been in print ever since. *The New York Times* Washington Bureau reporter stepped lively into a profession he calls “a rare privilege” and credits his Cynic experience and training in analytical thinking as a philosophy and history major for that grace. His Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism in 1992 (at the *Hartford Courant*) for stories co-written about the flaw in the Hubble telescope opened journalistic doors. He has written for the *Times* and, previously, the *Washington Post* on issues ranging from life after Katrina to the World Trade Center attacks. He and colleague James Glanz wrote the highly praised book, *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center*.

Sister **Janice Ryan** entered the Sisters of Mercy religious order in 1954, drawn by its focus on education. It was an auspicious partnership, in which the young farm girl from Fairfield, Vt., absorbed the scholarship and the mission and melded it with a drive and intellect that made people in all areas of life heed her opinions and follow her lead. In addition to teaching and leading Trinity College as president for 17 years, she has worked on projects to ban land mines and eliminate the death penalty, lobbied for mainstreaming special needs children, and served as Vermont’s deputy commissioner of corrections. Not ready to retire, she says her next contribution “will be wherever the spirit leads me.”

**Gladys Severance**, UVM Class of 1949, left the university with a degree in chemistry and mathematics and a love for Vermont (and a Vermonter) that would keep her tethered to the state for life. Following graduate work at Cornell, she and the Vermonter, Malcolm Severance, married and eventually returned, spending their first six years in Converse Hall dormitory, where Gladys was head resident and their three children had adoring babysitters. Later, Gladys became Colchester’s delinquent tax collector, a role she approached as a counselor rather than enforcer. She and Malcolm have partnered for many years in planning an ambitious development on former family land, Severance Corners. An active volunteer for many causes, Gladys Severance co-founded Burlington’s Meals-on-Wheels program in 1972 and initiated Colchester’s first Girl Scouts program in the 1960s.

**Malcolm Severance**, UVM Class of 1949, likely holds the record for UVM titles: student, alumnus, faculty member, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, creator of the business school, first chair and first dean of business, parent of two alumni, trustee, reunion chair and member of innumerable committees. He was one of the founders of the Freshman Summer Orientation program, and he established the Office of Institutional Research and was its first director. He also has been a state legislator and director of the Northern New England School of Banking. In addition to his work with his wife, Gladys, on the Severance Corners project, he and Dean Rocki-Lee DeWitt are writing a history of the UVM School of Business Administration.

Information: [UVM Commencement](#) or Leslie Logan, 656-1266.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Porches and the Odd Shotgun

*Student campaign volunteers experience the full spectrum of American political life*

By Jon Reidel

Article published January 14, 2008



Junior Harry Mallory, shown here with South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, spent his summer and winter breaks working for John McCain's presidential campaign.

The cost was an extended debate on a cold New Hampshire porch, but for junior Harry Mallory, the reward was sweet: another vote for John McCain.

Presidential primaries and caucuses are in full swing, and Mallory and dozens of other UVM students spent

the break (and, often, beyond) phone-banking, canvassing and sign-waving for their preferred candidates. Many of them are political science majors, a fact that pleases Professor John Burke, who enjoys hearing from students like Mallory who have launched themselves into the process.

"(The voter) liked Giuliani, but after about 30 minutes of debate he said he'd vote for McCain," Mallory recounts. "Those are the interactions you remember most because about 50 percent of the people you approach don't really want to talk to you. Some of them flat-out yell at you, but you can't really blame them because they've been approached by all the campaigns."

To make all those vital personal appeals, student volunteers bring enthusiasm and a ready reservoir of labor to candidates — not to mention a certain brashness. After turning the vote, Mallory got in touch with his friend and fellow UVM junior Sumeet Sharma, a Giuliani volunteer.

"I got an e-mail later that night from him telling me all about it," says Sharma, a Queens native who helped collect more than 1,000 signatures to get Giuliani on the March 4 primary ballot in Vermont. "He made sure I heard about it."

"I think that one of the most gratifying aspects of teaching political

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science — and I think all my colleagues would agree — is enlivening student interest in politics whether it is through our departmental internship program or just encouraging them to take an interest in a variety of political developments,” says Burke. “I really enjoy teaching the sections of my courses that deal with electoral politics, and I am pleased to hear that students took something away from their classes that increased their interest in what’s happening this year.”

With campaigns eager to harness youthful energy, opportunities were easy to find. Almost every candidate attracted at least some student support, though most UVM College Democrats signed up to work for Barack Obama’s campaign. One of them, sophomore Alex Robbins of Virginia, state director of Vermont Students for Obama, saw the Illinois senator speak in 2005 while working on a gubernatorial campaign.

“Obama blew me away,” says Robbins. “It was one of those moments you knew you’d never forget. He’s truly in a league of his own.”

Robbins joined up soon after and has worked for Obama’s campaign ever since. His work focused on helping UVM students from New Hampshire vote absentee and canvassing door-to-door.

While New Hampshire is the natural destination for UVM volunteers and observers, at least one student hit the Iowa caucuses as well. Sophomore Jennifer Heins of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, attended speeches by Clinton and Edwards while home on break. “It’s a really big deal for our state,” she says. “I can remember as a child my parents and grandparents going to the caucuses. Every four years it’s all we talk about.”

#### **Tales from the trail**

Despite the low or non-existent pay, most students said the experience of working for a campaign was well worth it. Senior Neil Connors received six credits for working as an unpaid summer intern for Obama in Manchester, N.H., where he slept on an air mattress on the floor of an attic. He moved to the candidate’s Peterborough field office and was eventually offered a full-time field position.

Connors says dealing with voters annoyed at the pre-primary bombardment is part of the job. He captured some of these interactions in a 55-page journal he kept as part of his college credit requirement. Fortunately for Connors, he had experience facing angry citizens while working for Bernie Sanders’ 2006 Senate campaign.

“I literally had a guy chase me off his porch with a shotgun while calling me a communist,” Connors says. “So having someone in New Hampshire tell me they didn’t want to talk to me wasn’t a big deal.”

But for at least one student, the Granite State grind was enough to rethink pursuing a career in politics. Giuliani-backer Sharma is now leaning toward pursuing a career in policy, perhaps with a think tank or in the state department.

“New Hampshire may have sealed my fate,” he says. “I learned a lot and really had to understand the issues to talk intelligently about Giuliani, but there’s not much security in it. If your candidate doesn’t win there’s nowhere to go.”

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## UVM Celebrates Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published January 9, 2008

A speech by artist and humanitarian Harry Belafonte. Provocative discussions on the biology of race and the violence of prejudice. A birthday party complete with cake and opportunities to carry on the civil rights leader's drive for justice.

UVM is honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. with a full slate of events intended to embrace and celebrate his legacy. The university's King program was developed by the Office of the Associate Provost for Multicultural Affairs and Academic Initiatives in collaboration with students and other offices dedicated to social justice and equity.

Full event schedule:

*Tuesday, Jan. 22, 4 p.m.* Harry Belafonte Speech. Ira Allen Chapel. Belafonte, the first recipient of the Nelson Mandela Courage Award, among many other honors for his work fighting for human rights worldwide, will speak on the subjects of social justice and equity. Tickets are free and distributed on a first come first serve basis at the Hoffman Information Desk on the first floor of the Davis Center from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. UVM faculty, staff, and students can pick up tickets Jan. 14-17 (one per UVM ID). Tickets will be available to the general public Jan. 18-22.

*Wednesday, Jan. 23. All day.* Dudley H. Davis Student Center Social Justice and Equity Day. Why is the café named for George Washington Henderson? How did the "Waterman takeover" 20 years ago change views about diversity on campus? Learn how the Davis Center fulfills its mission for social justice through celebrations and displays on site throughout the day.

*Jan. 23, 12 p.m.* Panel Discussion: "The Jena 6 Case - What is it Telling Us?", Sugar Maple Ballroom, 4th floor, Davis Center. A provocative, intellectual discourse on recent events surrounding six black teenagers charged with beating a white teenager in Jena, Louisiana, following a number of unrelated racially charged incidents. As recently as September, 2007, thousands went to Jena in protest. Fayneese Miller, dean of the College of Education and Social Services, will lead a discussion drawn from her talk at Brown University in October, "From Little Rock to Jena: Stumbles on the Road to a Colorblind Society." Analyzing the issues from multidisciplinary viewpoints, the panel includes Alec Ewald, UVM assistant professor of political science; Lucy Singer,

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senior associate counsel at UVM; and Traci Griffith Gomez, assistant professor of journalism and mass communications at Saint Michael's College.

*Thursday, Jan. 24*, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community Connection: Sign up for Service at sign-up tables located in the Living & Learning Fireplace Lounge, the Davis Center atrium, Waterman (near College St. entrance) and the Rowell/Given common entrance at the College of Medicine. UVM faculty, staff and students, as well as the wider community, are invited to sign up for one of the following events being organized for spring.

- April 12, Relay for Life – a national fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society, sponsored by Greek Life. For more information or to sign-up directly contact Kimberlee Monteaux at [Kimberlee.Monteaux@uvm.edu](mailto:Kimberlee.Monteaux@uvm.edu).
- April 19, Community Works Day – spend a day helping out a local nonprofit. For more information contact Sarah Hoffert at [Sarah.Hoffert@uvm.edu](mailto:Sarah.Hoffert@uvm.edu).
- May 3, Burlington Green Up Day

*Jan. 24*, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residential Learning Community Social Justice and Equity Fair, Living & Learning Fireplace Lounge. Each of UVM's learning communities will display linkages between their field and social justice, from healthcare to environmental communities. Diversity and equity communities, clubs and organizations will also participate. Music and themed food will be on hand as well.

*Jan. 24*, 6 p.m. (reception; Hoehl Gallery, Given) and 7 p.m. (presentation, Carpenter Auditorium). Talk: "Is Race Real: Fact or Illusion?" A powerful presentation by award-winning author and University of North Carolina at Charlotte anthropology professor Jonathan Marks on the origins of race, exploring the facts and myths through a biological lens. Hosted by the College of Medicine.

Marks is the author of *Human Biodiversity* and *What It Means to Be 98% Chimpanzee*, which was awarded the W.W. Howells prize in Biological Anthropology from the American Anthropological Association. In 2006 he was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was a 2007 distinguished visiting fellow of the ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum in Edinburgh.

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Throwdown with Bobby Flay should offer, well, rich entertainment.">

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Cooking Show Taped at UVM Airs Jan. 20

By The View Staff

Article published January 14, 2008

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Sudden 'Throwdown': Local chef Mark Bove '90 (right) was stunned when celebrity chef Bobby Flay suddenly appeared for an on-campus battle of lasagnas. (Photo: Raj Chawla)

See more photos from the day on [the view's Flickr page](#).

Passion, intensity, repeated chants of "We want lasagna!" — the Sunday, Jan. 20 UVM-shot episode of *Throwdown with Bobby Flay* should offer, well, rich entertainment.

Featuring the New York celebrity chef Flay, local favorite Mark Bove '90 of Bove's Restaurant and their dueling lasagnas, the show was shot in

Billings last October and features a loud and enthusiastic crowd of UVM undergraduates. It will debut at 10:30 p.m. on the Food Network.

For more on how the popular cable program came to Burlington and UVM, see our article [Layers of Intrigue](#).

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## UVM Among Top 25 Peace Corps Producers

By The View Staff

Article published January 16, 2008

This year, the University of Vermont ranks among the top 25 mid-sized colleges and universities with alumni currently serving in the Peace Corps. With 25 volunteers in the field, UVM is 15th among colleges and universities with 5,001-15,000 undergraduates.

"I have the easiest job," says current UVM Peace Corps recruiter Amanda Richardson, a graduate student in Community Development and Applied Economics. "I'm more of a representative than a recruiter because there are so many students who are interested."

Since 1961, more than 700 UVM graduates have joined the Peace Corps. Currently, UVM alumni are serving in Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Guinea, Morocco, Niger, Ukraine and other locations on projects ranging from HIV/AIDS education to business advising and teaching English.

The university's excellent Peace Corps placement is right at home in Vermont. In 2007, the state held the title of second highest resident volunteers per capita.

Joining UVM on the list of mid-sized schools are Cornell, Boston College, Yale, Northwestern and the University of Virginia. For the full list, see "[Top Peace Corps Universities and Colleges \(PDF\)](#)" on the Peace Corps website.

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## UVM Students Lead National “Teach-in” On Climate Change

By Joshua Brown

Article published January 16, 2008

Focus the Nation, on January 31, 2008, promises to be the largest “teach-in” in US history. So far, it has mobilized students at more than 1300 colleges in 50 states to plan classes and workshops exploring solutions to global warming.

Students at the University of Vermont, with support from many faculty and staff, have developed one of the country’s most ambitious agendas for the event. They’ve expanded their program beyond the one-day national teach-in to include dozens of events over six days.

“We’re standing up to say to the whole nation, ‘Now is the time for action; climate change is the issue of our generation—and we can solve it,’” said Valerie Esposito, a UVM graduate student and one of organizers, “We can’t afford to wait.”

From January 27 until February 1, classes, a film festival, a city-wide green design workshop, art displays, an interactive webcast, concerts, and trainings are planned to bring attention to the latest scientific findings and new ideas for action on how to slow climate change.

The UVM program involves some 40 campus groups, 30 community organizations and businesses, and numerous UVM faculty members who are offering climate change discussions and lectures during their regular classes.

“We have more than 70 faculty signed up—they’ll each draw attention to climate change through their own disciplines, from English to physics,” said Samir Doshi, a Ph.D. student and another of the event organizers, “but we want many more. We’re confident we can have at least 100 faculty on board soon. We just need them to go to our [Website](#).”

“Our students and faculty have a proud history of leadership in promoting environmental well-being, and I heartily support the efforts underway through Focus the Nation,” said UVM president Daniel Mark Fogel. “I encourage people from across UVM and Vermont to participate. This is a powerful example of how the University of Vermont fosters a creative community of scholars seeking solutions to the most pressing problems of our age.”

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All events are free and open to the public.

In addition to the “teach-in” happening in regularly scheduled classes, highlights of the week include:

**Sunday, January 27**

An evening primer, “Climate Change 101,” will be followed by a climate change film festival including “How Cuba Survived Peak Oil.”

**Monday, January 28**

The fast-changing world of carbon markets will be the topic of a panel hosted by UVM forest ecologist Bill Keeton, with panelists from across UVM and from several international organizations. The panel will be followed by a “carbon farming” workshop.

**Tuesday, January 29**

UVM professor Jon Erickson will lead a symposium on ecological economics and climate change. Later in the day a panel will explore the connections between biofuels and climate change in Vermont. The day concludes with a concert by Junkman (aka Donald Knack) jamming on reclaimed trash.

**Wednesday, January 30**

The “Sustainable Burlington Design Charrette” is a five-hour public meeting to help imagine and sketch new environmentally-sound practices for the City of Burlington; it’s sponsored by Mayor Bob Kiss and many others. In the afternoon, tours will be offered of UVM’s state-of-the-art central heating and cooling plant. An “Emerging Green Technologies” plenary is planned for the afternoon.

The national teach-in will kick off the night of January 30 with a web-cast at four on-campus locations of “2% Solution,” co-produced by the National Wildlife Federation and aired by the Earth Day Network. Panelists will include Stanford climate scientist Steve Schneider, Hunter Lovins from Natural Capitalism, and environmental justice leader Van Jones.

**Thursday, January 31**

Julia “Judy” Bonds, director of Coal River Mountain Watch, will give a keynote lecture on her organization’s fight against the coal mining practice of mountaintop removal that is ravaging many regions of the Appalachians. She is also featured in “Black Diamonds: Mountaintop Removal and the fight for Coalfield Justice,” a film being aired as part of the Focus the Nation film festival on campus.

In the evening UVM’s Rubenstein School offers a Town Hall Meeting on climate change followed a performance of “The Boycott,” an acclaimed one-woman play by Kathryn Blume.

**Friday, February 1**

Several workshops on advocacy, climate policy and outreach culminate in

a “Focus the Nation Speak Out” that concludes the week’s activities

This speak-out and rally will begin at 3 p.m., in UVM’s Davis Center.

Speakers will include UVM provost John Hughes and John Isham, a national organizer of Focus the Nation and professor at Middlebury College. Other potential speakers include writer Bill McKibben and Eban Goodstein, a professor from Lewis and Clark who first conceived Focus the Nation and has been the lead national organizer.

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## Holocaust Studies Brings Two Historians to Campus

By The View Staff

Article published January 9, 2008

The Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies is sponsoring two January lectures. The first, on Wednesday, Jan. 23, features Richard Steigmann-Gall, associate professor of history and director of the Jewish Studies Program at Kent State University. On Monday, Jan. 28, the center presents a lecture by Alan Steinweis, professor of history and Judaic studies at the University of Nebraska.

Steigmann-Gall's lecture is titled "Neither Aryan nor Semite: Mutability and Identity in the Third Reich." He will speak Jan. 23 at 3 p.m. in John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. Steigmann-Gall earned degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Toronto. His academic interests concern the cultural and religious dimensions of German National Socialism, specifically the cohort of Nazis who believed in "positive Christianity" and the struggles they waged with Nazism's neo-pagans for religious dominance in the Third Reich. His articles have appeared in many journals, and his book, *The Holy Reich: Nazi Conceptions of Christianity, 1919-1945*, was published in 2003 by Cambridge University Press.

Steinweis will discuss "A German Pogrom: The *Kristallnacht* in History and Memory" on Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. in John Dewey Lounge. Steinweis received his doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he worked under the distinguished historian Gerhard L. Weinberg. He specializes in the history of the Holocaust and Nazi Germany, and teaches courses on those subjects in addition to courses on European history, Jewish history and historical methodology. He is the author of *Art, Ideology, and Economics in Nazi Germany: The Reich Chambers of Music, Theater, and the Visual Arts* (University of North Carolina Press, 1993; paperback 1996), and *Studying the Jew: Scholarly Antisemitism in Nazi Germany* (Harvard University Press, 2006; paperback 2008.) He is currently writing a book on the November 1938 "Kristallnacht" pogrom in Germany and Austria that will be published by Harvard.

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## Jazz Great, Faculty Pianist to Perform in January

By The View Staff

Article published January 10, 2008

World-renowned jazz artist and trumpeter Ray Vega will perform with members of the university's jazz faculty at a free concert on Wednesday, Jan. 23 in the UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus.

Two days later, internationally recognized pianist Paul Orgel, who is an artist teacher in the music department, will give a free faculty recital on Friday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. Orgel will play works by Janacek, Scriabin, Chopin and Schubert.

Vega, a native of the South Bronx, has performed and recorded with many of the greatest names in jazz and Latin music including Tito Puente, Mario Bauza, Joe Henderson, Ray Barretto, Mongo Santamaria, Chico O'Farrill, Andy Gonzalez, and the Lincoln Center Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra. Joining him during his performance will be UVM jazz faculty Alex Stewart (saxophone); Tom Cleary (piano); John Rivers (bass); Jeff Salisbury (drums); and Steve Ferraris (percussion).

Information: 656-7776.

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## Longer Hours, New Exhibitions Debut at Fleming

By Chris Dissinger

Article published January 11, 2008

This spring, the Fleming Museum is presenting two artist's projects: *Michael Light: 100 Suns* and *Between Soft Machines and Hard Science: The Interstitial Art of W. David Powell*. Both focus on a specific subject through an artistic perspective: in Light's case, America's nuclear age, and in Powell's case, the history of science. In the Wolcott Gallery, the museum presents its collection of Sri Lankan masks.

Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 16, the museum will stay "Open Late to 8" on Wednesday nights. To inaugurate these new extended hours, the museum will present a series of [Poetry Readings](#) with music in the Fleming's coffee lounge, organized by poet Major Jackson, associate professor of English, and co-sponsored by the Department of English.

Descriptions of new exhibits currently open or coming soon follow:

- [Between Soft Machines and Hard Science: The Interstitial Art of W. David Powell](#): Both artists and scientists have portrayed and mapped the human body and sought levels of meaning in those images. Artist W. David Powell's installation of his digital prints alongside historic scientific instruments reflects his fascination with the human mind and body and our own relationships with science and healing. Powell's prints play off the scientific beliefs of both the Eastern and Western worlds, from phrenology, a theory that claimed to determine character based on the shape of the skull, to the use of electrical currents to cure disease. Incorporating charts and devices from both obsolete and contemporary scientific sources, Powell's installation invites us to re-evaluate our understanding of how the human body and mind interact, and the ways that art and science can clarify or confuse that understanding.
- [Actors and Exorcists: Masks of Sri Lanka](#): In the exorcism dance rituals and folk plays of Sri Lanka, devils, animals and humans are represented by elaborately carved and painted masks. Southern Sri Lanka's rich cultural heritage includes two dances that use masks: the *thovil*, or exorcism dances, in which masked demons drive illness and misfortune away, and the *kolam* folk drama, a community entertainment performed traditionally for centuries. The masks in the museum's collection were acquired in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and include animals, village characters and supernatural beings.

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- [Michael Light: 100 Suns](#) (opens Thursday, Jan. 31): “Brighter than the light of a thousand suns, now I am become death, the destroyer.” Robert Oppenheimer, “father” of the atomic bomb, recited these lines from the ancient Hindu text of the *Bhagavad Gita* upon seeing the first nuclear detonation in 1945. In *100 Suns*, San Francisco photographer Michael Light has brought together photographs of atomic explosions carried out by the United States in the 1950s and 1960s over Nevada and in the Pacific Ocean.

All of the images in this exhibition were originally taken by anonymous government photographers, many of whom belonged to the 1352nd Photographic Group of the U.S. Air Force, which was based at the Lookout Mountain Air Force Station in Hollywood, Calif. By re-photographing and presenting these images in exhibition format, Light sets out to explore the cultural context of the photographs and to examine the nuclear landscape and its profound effect on both our past and our future.

These exhibitions are generously supported by the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund, the 1675 Foundation and the Walter Cerf Exhibitions Fund. Admission to the Fleming Museum is free to the university community. Hours and information: [Fleming Museum](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Kunin Asks, 'Are We Ready for a Woman President?'

By Jon Reidel

Article published January 15, 2008

Former Governor Madeleine Kunin's James Marsh Professor-at-Large lecture, which will take place Monday, Jan. 28 at 4 p.m. in the Livak Grand Ballroom, Dudley H. Davis Student Center, is well timed.

With Hillary Rodham Clinton in the thick of a hotly contested Democratic primary that is expected to remain competitive at least through Super Tuesday on Feb. 5, Kunin's topic, "Are We Ready for a Woman President?", seems more relevant than ever. Kunin, distinguished visiting professor of political science and former U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland, has written and spoken extensively on the subject since being elected Vermont's first female governor in 1984.

More recently, Kunin has been researching the current state of women in politics and found herself wondering why so few of them have entered the field. Her findings are included in her upcoming book [Pearls, Politics and Power: How Women Can Win and Lead](#) (Chelsea Green Publishing) to be released in mid-March. Kunin interviewed Clinton and dozens of other women in local, state and federally elected positions for the book.

"Basically, I asked the question, 'why are there so few women in politics?'" says Kunin. "There's no one answer, but in addition to the idea of getting involved in politics becoming less attractive to everyone, I found that women often don't think they're qualified. In reality, many of them are more than qualified. Part of the reason for this is that women don't look in the mirror and say 'I should run for office.' They often have to be asked to run. The book encourages women to participate in local and state politics in any way they can."

Kunin highlighted some of the book's themes in a Jan. 11 column in the [Washington Post](#). She hypothesizes that the more women a state has in its legislature and in Congress, the more likely that state is to vote for a woman president. "Electing women is contagious. The more you see, the more you get," she writes in the column.

Kunin points out that her theory held true in the first two presidential nominating contests, where Clinton lost in Iowa — one of only two states to have never elected a woman to Congress or the governor's seat and which hovers around the national average (22.7 percent) for women in its state legislature — but won in New Hampshire, which elected a popular female governor three times and has the nation's second-highest

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percentage of women in its legislature (35.8 percent) trailing only Vermont (37.8 percent).

The Marsh Lecture is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception in the Davis Center's Fireplace Lounge.

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## NOTABLES

January 16, 2008

**Publications and Presentations** The Center for Digital Initiatives (CDI) is featured in an article entitled "Drinking Milk with Republicans: Lessons Learned While Building a Center for Digital Initiatives" in the Summer 2007 issue of *Microform and Imaging Review*. The article, authored by Assistant Library Professors Winona Salesky (Digital Initiatives Librarian) and Chris Burns (Manuscripts Curator, Special Collections), provides a detailed behind-the-scenes look at the process of creating the CDI at UVM. The Center for Digital Initiatives was launched in April of 2007 and features a rich, searchable archive of thousands of pages of materials generated by Vermont Congressmen, including such well know figures as George Aiken and Robert Stafford, documenting topics ranging from the abolition of slavery to social life in Washington, D.C. The collection also includes historic photographs of Vermont and Vermonters.

**Birdie MacLennan**, associate library professor, has an article titled "The Library and Its Place in Cultural Memory: The Grande Bibliothèque du Québec in the Construction of Social and Cultural Identity" in a recent issue of the journal *Libraries and the Cultural Record*, Vol. 42, No. 4, 2007. MacLennan's article looks at the eventual creation of a national library in Québec, investigating the role of the Catholic Church as it struggled to control public reading tastes through an Index of prohibited works that included Hugo, Rousseau, Balzac, and Voltaire. "The Library and Its Place in Cultural Memory" is the result of research undertaken during a sabbatical, which compared public library development in the province of Québec and the state of Vermont. The subject is covered in expanded form in Birdie MacLennan's thesis, completed in 2005 for her MA in French from the University of Vermont. UVM affiliates can access the full-text of MacLennan's thesis via the Libraries' catalog.

**Helga Schreckenberger**, professor in the Department of German and Russian, has published a paper entitled "Von Ethnozentrismus zu Multikulturalität. Vladimir Vertlib's 'Zwischenstationen'" in *Schwarz auf Weiss*, Ein transatlantisches Würdigungsbuch für Egon Schwarz (Wien: Czernin, 2007), pp. 60-68. The article investigates Vladimir Vertlib's autobiographical novel *Zwischenstationen* (1999) in which this Russian-Austrian author takes his readers from St. Petersburg to Israel, then to Vienna, Amsterdam, Rome, back to Israel, on to Ostia, Brooklyn, and Boston, and eventually back to Vienna. This odyssey is marked by the feeling of having no home, cultural alienation, exclusion and separation from the surroundings. Even though there is plenty of multiculturalism shown and experienced in this intriguing account, very rigid borders and differences remain regarding national, cultural, ethnic, and social

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configurations. This kind of ethnocentricity is put into question in this novel by exposing the arbitrariness of national and ethnic identities and showing the problems of nationality and ethnicity in the search for a personal identity. The analysis shows that only an intercultural and transnational cooperation will give modern people in the age of globalization the opportunity to develop a positive feeling of identity. Schreckenberge also had an published on "Frauen an der Front: Der Erste Weltkrieg und seine Folgen für weibliches Selbstverständnis" in an essay volume titled *Information Warfare: The Role of the Media in the Representation and Interpretation of War*. The paper deals with women at the war front as depicted in several American, German, and British novels dealing with the First World War and its impact on female (self) consciousness. Schreckenberger analyzes how the daily experiences of women at the war front challenge previously unquestioned notions of patriotism, femininity, sexuality and class. The similarities of the protagonists in these novels underscore the universally destructive nature of war.

**Wolfgang Mieder**, professor and chair of the Department of German and Russian, is the author of three articles. His paper on "Whoever Comes too Late Will Be Punished by Life Itself': From Michail Gorbachev's Statement to the Folk Proverb" appeared in German in the Russian journal *Nauchnyi Vestnik*, an article on "Anti-Proverbs and Mass Communication: The Interplay of Traditional and Innovative Folklore" was published in the Hungarian journal *Acta Ethnographica Hungarica*, and his essay on "Don't Swap Horses in the Middle of the Stream: An Intercultural and Interdisciplinary Study of an International Proverb" is included in a Portuguese essay volume entitled *Estudos sobre Patrimônio Oral*. The three papers look at the cross-cultural use and function of proverbs in politics and the mass media.

**Kevin C. H. Chiang**, associate professor of business administration, co-authored an article with Ming-Long Lee and Ming-Te Lee that was published in the February, 2008 issue of the *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*. The article is titled "Real Estate Risk Exposure of Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts." The study examines the linkage between equity real estate investment trust (REIT) returns and the private real estate factor. The results reveal a tighter connection between REIT and the private real estate market starting from 1993. In addition, large-cap REITs seem to behave more like real estate than do small-cap REITs. Overall, the results are consistent with three notions: (1) that institutional investors provide information-gathering services, (2) that a more sophisticated investor base improves information flow, and (3) that a high degree of participation from institutional investors strengthens the linkage between REIT returns and the underlying real estate factor.

**Jamie Shaw**, lecturer in the Department of Animal Science, recently published a book, *Dog to Dog Communication: The Right Way to Socialize Your Dog*. She is also being featured in upcoming issues of *Business People Vermont* magazine and *Woman's World Magazine*. Shaw has a new

training center in Williston and teaches the very popular UVM course, "Dog Training and Behavior."

### Awards and Honors

President **Daniel Mark Fogel** was named 2007 "Vermont of the Year" by the *Burlington Free Press* in an editorial published in the Jan. 1, 2008 edition of the newspaper. The editorial applauds Fogel's work to make UVM an engine of environmentally themed economic development in the state. By promoting "sustainability research" at the university, which should spawn a variety of entrepreneurial green businesses in the state, the paper says, Fogel is tapping into the rising awareness at the state and national levels of the threat global climate change poses -- and is helping Vermont become a leader in finding solutions to global warming.

Dr. **Omar A. Khan**, a 2003 College of Medicine alumnus and clinical assistant professor of family medicine, and Dr. **Rebecca Winokur**, clinical instructor of family medicine and a 2000 College of Medicine graduate, are among an exclusive group of physicians who were recently honored by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation for their commitment to education in the field of family medicine. Kahn and Winokur were each selected to receive a 2007 Pfizer Teacher Development Award based on scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and dedication to family medicine.

Dean **Fayneese Miller** of the College of Education and Social Services will be given an honorary Dr. Martin Luther King Award at the annual program at Burlington City Hall on Sunday, Jan. 20 at 3:00 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Stedman Graham, an author, entrepreneur and companion to Oprah Winfrey.

**Julie Smith**, assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science, received the 2007 Peggy R. Williams Emerging Professional Award given by the Vermont Women in Higher Education an affiliation of the Office of Women in Higher Education at the American Council on Education. The award is given annually to a woman who demonstrates excellence in professional contributions to students, colleagues and/or educational institutions; who contributes in one or more areas of outstanding service, innovative programs, publications, teaching, professional activities or research; and who shows promise and potential for future contributions to her profession.

### In Memoriam

**Herman C. Herrlich**, a research associate at the College of Medicine from the late 1950s through the 1970s, died at age 93 on Jan. 5, 2008. Herrlich, a heart researcher, earned his doctorate at Northwestern University. An unusually vigorous and energetic man, Herrlich maintained a hobby farm for many years as he worked at UVM and continued a vegetable garden into his 90s. (He downhill skied into his 80s.) He was an active community volunteer after his retirement, and is survived by a



large number of devoted friends and family.

Dec. 5, 2007

### Publications and Presentations

**Robert J. Kelm, Jr.**, assistant professor of medicine and biochemistry, **Anna M. Knapp** and **Jon E. Ramsey**, pre-doctoral fellows in biochemistry, and **Shu-Xia Wang**, laboratory research technician in biochemistry, co-authored an article titled "Structure-Function Analysis of Mouse Pur B II: Conformation Altering Mutations Disrupt Single-Stranded DNA and Protein Interactions Crucial to Smooth Muscle  $\alpha$ -Actin Gene Repression" in the Dec. 7 issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

**Rick Vanden Bergh**, associate professor of business administration, co-authored an article with Guy Holburn of the University of Western Ontario in *Business & Politics* titled "Targeting Corporate Political Strategy: Theory and Evidence from the U.S. Accounting Industry." The article analyzes the interaction between a firm and multiple government institutions to develop predictions about how firms target their political strategies at different branches of government when seeking favorable public policies. Vanden Bergh and Holburn develop a hypothesis that firms will target their resources at the institution that is "pivotal" in the policy-making process. They find empirical support for their thesis in an analysis of how U.S. accounting firms shifted their political campaign contributions between the House and Senate in response to the threat of new regulations governing auditor independence during the 1990s.

**Masha Ivanova**, research assistant professor of psychiatry, and **Thomas M. Achenbach**, professor of psychiatry and psychology, recently co-authored six peer-reviewed articles that report comparisons of the level and patterning of behavioral and emotional problems reported by parents, teachers and children in dozens of societies around the world. The papers include "Testing the 8-syndrome structure of the Child Behavior Checklist in 30 societies" in the *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*; "Testing the Teacher's Report Form syndromes in 20 societies" in the *School Psychology Review*; "The generalizability of the Youth Self-Report syndrome structure in 23 societies" in the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*; "Behavioral and emotional problems reported by parents of children ages 6 to 16 in 31 societies" in the *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*; "Consistency of teacher-reported problems for students in 21 countries" in the *School Psychology Review*; and "Epidemiological comparisons of problems and positive qualities reported by adolescents in 24 countries" in the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*.

**Richard Kast**, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry, co-authored a paper in the April 19, 2007 *New England Journal of Medicine* titled "Dopamine agonists and valvular heart disease." Kast was also a co-author on the following articles: "Using blood brain barrier disruption by methamphetamine for drug delivery" in the October 2007 *Journal of*