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Making an Imprint



Bill Davison (left) reviews student Abbie Bowker's work. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Standing in the center of the Coburn Gallery, with harsh winter light pouring in through the corner windows and shadowing five walls containing 160 student prints collected over decades of teaching, retiring art Professor Bill Davison is asked to reflect on the artwork and his career.

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Skating Circle I write this story at great personal risk. Spreading the good word about ice skaters' noon-hour nirvana at Gutterson Arena is liable to earn me a blind-side check those who glory in one of the better lunchtime diversions going on campus.

Honoring Rev. King

An impassioned plea from Professor Emeritus H. Lawrence McCrorey asking listeners to help make Vermont "a model in raising America to a new level of social justice" marked one of the most moving campus services in recent years.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

Jan. 23 12:30 p.m.
Lecture: Robert Costanza, Gund Institute for Ecological Economics.
Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building.

Jan. 23 7 p.m.
Performance: Anna Deavere Smith in "Race in America."
Ira Allen Chapel. Free to UVM staff, students and faculty.

Jan. 24 9 a.m.
Ergonomic workshop to prevent repetitive strain injuries.
109 S. Prospect St. Reservations required: 656-3242

Jan. 24 8 p.m. Flynn performance: "When Sorrow Turns to Joy: A Musical Tribute to Paul Robeson." 2-for-1 ticket vouchers for UVM affiliates.
Information: 656-8818

Jan. 25 1 p.m. Men's basketball faces Hartford. Patrick Gym. **Information: UVM Athletics**

Jan. 28 12 p.m.
Seminar: "Making Sense of Scents: Mammalian Olfaction," with Stuart Firestein of Columbia. Stafford 101. **Information: 656-2164**

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Bill Averyt, an associate professor of business, led a team of MBA students to a top finish in an international business case competition. (File photo: Bill DiLillo)

MBA Students Excel in International Challenge

Juggling studies, jobs and, for some, family needs this fall, five MBA students in Professor Bill Averyt's business policy class became living proof of the maxim: If you want something done, give it to a busy person.

They received no extra credit for the months of preparation that culminated in seven days of grueling competition against the best of their peers, but Team UVM members say they would gladly do it again. Competing in the Concordia University John Molson School of Business MBA International Case competition in Montreal – the oldest and largest challenge of its kind – left them exhausted but exhilarated. "It wears a bit on personal life," says Thad Omand, who is the controller at Hallam Associates, "but it was a phenomenal experience."

Four students formed the team that faced top MBA students from 29 other competing universities from around the world: Neil Chartier, a full-time student working three jobs; Teresa Montemayor, a marketing manager at IBM; Philipp von Schickfus, a full-time, scholarship student from Germany; and Omand. A fifth, Agam Sheth, a project engineer with pharmaceutical firm Mylan Technologies, was the alternate with the full-time job of coaching the group during the Jan. 6-11 business bout.

For five preliminary rounds of case presentations, the UVM team impressed judges with their abilities and team work and came out first each time, topping fine teams from Sweden, Finland, Germany, New Zealand and Canada.

New Office Aims to Strengthen Clinical Research

Clinical researchers devote their lives to unlocking some of medicine's most complex questions. The effort is both a quest for knowledge and an essential part of an enormous industry characterized by complex regulations and fierce competition for federal and industry dollars.

To help investigators with the business aspects of clinical research, making it easier for them to balance their diverse responsibilities and attracting more of this important work to the university, the College of Medicine recently established the Office of Clinical Trials and named Tesheia Johnson as assistant dean for clinical trials research.

"We are committed to being a strong research institution that can compete for research dollars with the best academic medical centers in the country," says Dr. Joseph B. Warshaw, dean of the college. "The transfer of technology, including critical translational research, will help to shorten the distance from the laboratory bench to the patient's bedside."

Johnson, who performed similar duties at the Yale and University of Wisconsin medical schools, has a track record of success in establishing external relationships and leveraging internal resources to attract incremental research dollars. At UVM she is charged with setting up an office that will provide a variety of administrative and clinical infrastructure support services for both the college and its teaching hospital, Fletcher Allen Health Care.

"UVM is positioned for success with incredible investigators, first-rate facilities and a strong reputation," says Johnson. "Our office will create an infrastructure to facilitate interaction, economy and efficiency that will help us attract additional clinical research funding."

The new infrastructure and support provided by the office will help free investigators to focus on their research, clinical, and educational responsibilities.

"It is our goal to increase the efficiency of the clinical research efforts across the academic medical center," says Dr. John R. Brumsted, senior associate dean for clinical affairs and Fletcher Allen chief medical officer. "With a dedicated office focused on paperwork, facilities, regulatory issues and marketing, our investigators will have more time for research and patient care."

"The biggest challenge," Sheth says, "was probably overcoming the fear of the unknown. ... We did not realize our potential going into the competition, (but) after winning the first three rounds unanimously ... we knew we could win the whole thing."

By the end of semi-finals, it looked like they might. UVM's was the only American team in the final round, where contest rankings become meaningless. You might enter as the Serena Williams of MBA-land, but you could well be surprised by spoiler Jennifer Capriati on a very good day.

The point of the competition, according to Molson's dean Jerry Tomberlin, is "to bridge the gap between corporate and academic worlds," benefiting both students and executives. Senior business execs judge each round, assessing teams on "creativity, insight and real work applicability of their presentations." The final case study was real – an Irish bank that had too quickly expanded globally and then retreated was seeking to define its competitive advantage and position in a global market. UVM placed third, behind the University of Laval and York University, both in Canada.

Proud of their week's work, von Schickfus offers his analysis of the final outcome: "After a hard week, with up to eight hours preparations and presentations per day, we were so eager to win the final that we were less willing to take risks in our approach. Therefore, our recommendation in the final, in my opinion, was too conservative." All the students agreed that exhaustion played a role, too. The intensity of the contest "may be artificial," Chartier says, "but it mirrors the fast paced atmosphere in most of the business world." He adds, that it also "allows the students to connect the dots from all of their classroom experiences into a coherent solution to the cases presented."

Montemayor agrees and says that such competitions, also expose students "to different approaches to the same problem that they may not encounter in their program." She and the others rate highly the new relationships built with students and faculty from other countries. Sheth says, "This competition was a major way to network across borders."

UVM, United Academics Reach Tentative Contract Deal

University and United Academics negotiators reached a tentative three-year contract agreement on Jan. 17, ending more than a year of negotiations if the arrangement is ratified by the faculty union's membership during a Feb. 6 meeting.

Because the contract requires assent by the union's membership, university officials have declined to comment on the specifics of the proposed deal until it is officially approved.

One priority will be promoting UVM and Fletcher Allen as the ideal location for clinical trials by aggressively marketing their joint strengths to industry and government groups who have research dollars to spend. Johnson will be showcasing UVM to the more than 8,000 attendees at the Drug Information Association annual conference in June, and is also planning to launch a website.

"Research funding generated by the College of Medicine has doubled in the past five years, and combined with Fletcher Allen clinical research funds totaled over \$85 million in fiscal year 2002," notes John N. Evans, senior advisor to the dean of the college. "With a renewed focus on attracting clinical research dollars, we can grow this number even more."

The new office will not only help facilitate external contact, but also streamline internal collaboration. Eventually, the plan is to staff the office with clinical trials administrators who can help investigators with everything from preparing recruitment advertising to complying with regulatory guidelines to finding dry ice.

UVM Shines in National Media

National media spotlights captured by UVM in December included *USA Today*, the *Boston Globe*, NPR and BBC Television, as well as numerous reports in local and regional outlets.

An Associated Press story, carried in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Washington Post*, *Minneapolis Star* and *Boston Globe*, examined the campus's commitment to environmentalism, quoted **Stephanie Kaza**, professor of environmental studies, and **Scott Gordon**, assistant professor of inorganic chemistry. It also included a photo of junior **John Orr** pouring bio-fuel into his car. Read the article at [Chicago Tribune](#).

Research by **James Petersen**, associate professor and chair of anthropology, was featured in the documentary program "Horizon" Dec. 19 on the BBC. Titled "The Secret of El Dorado," the episode featured the mystery of fertile soil called terra preta in the Brazilian rainforest. The documentary might air later this year on U.S. television. Petersen also was interviewed on "Earth and Sky," a nationally syndicated science radio program.

Garrison Nelson, professor of political science, was featured in a Dec. 29 *Boston Globe* article about the recent publication of a four-volume set of congressional committee assignments that he co-authored. Nelson devoted 27 years to the project, which covers committee assignments from 1789 to 1992. Locally, the story ran on the *Associated Press* wire and appeared Dec. 30 in most Vermont dailies. In a related story, Nelson's comments about New England's Republican governors were featured in a Dec. 18 *Providence Journal* editorial. Read the *Globe* article at [Boston Globe](#). Read the *Providence Journal* editorial at [Journal](#)

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Sex, design, and rock and roll: Concert posters from 1960's San Francisco are now on display at the Fleming. For more, see the story below. *(Publicity photo.)*

S.F. Poster Show: Neon, Bubbles and the Grateful Dead

San Francisco in the mid-1960's rocked – both musically and in design. A new Fleming Museum show celebrates the point where those two creative explosions overlapped: The bright, bubbly posters advertising rock concerts produced by Bill Graham and the Fillmore West and Avalon Ballroom.

The bands featured in the posters' instantly recognizable type treatments include the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, The Mothers of Invention, the Velvet Underground and many others.

Dr. Stephen Cohen, who collected the posters during a rotating internship in San Francisco in 1966-67, donated the poster collection to the museum. When Cohen moved to the Bay Area, he was immediately struck by the graphic impact of the designs. The posters were included with the purchase of tickets to the shows at the Fillmore West and Avalon Ballroom, or were available for a few dollars at the famous City Lights and other bookstores in San Francisco.

The poster collection is on display in the Fleming's Wilbur Room now through April 13. To protect the fragile pieces from light, another set of posters from the collection will go on display from April 15 through July 13.

Costanza Talk to Kick Off Ecological Economics Lecture Series

Robert Costanza, professor of natural resources

Photographing Daily Life in Burlington and Nicaragua

Dan Higgins, photographer and emeritus professor of art, will discuss his "sister cities" project on Jan. 23 at 5 p.m. at 104 Allen House.

The series of photographs, which are on display at Allen House through Feb. 8, juxtapose depictions of daily life in Burlington and its sister city, Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua.

"My plan from the start was to ask the same questions of both Burlington and Puerto Cabezas and to produce a series of photographic pairs revealing equivalent categories of social life in these two communities," Higgins has said of the project.

For background on the exhibit, including how to order a book of the photographs, see [Sister Cities Project](#).

Copyright Chat with Paul Robeson Tribute Composer

Composer and award-winning flutist James Newton will speak out about copyright infringement at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, in the UVM Recital Hall. His talk is titled, "James Newton Fights for His Rights Against the Beastie Boys." Newton is currently embroiled in a copyright infringement case with the popular hip-hop band for their sampling of his copyrighted original music without permission.

The case is currently under appeal and an amicus brief has been filed by Newton with many of the biggest names in classical and jazz music signed on. Alex Stewart, assistant professor of music, who currently is working as an expert witness to analyze recordings to assess possible copyright infringement, will provide a brief explanation of copyright law at this brown bag luncheon event.

Newton and San Francisco-based pianist-composer Jon Jang created "When Sorrow Turns to Joy: A Musical Tribute to Paul Robeson," which will be presented at the Flynn Center on Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. Two-for-one vouchers for the performance are available to university affiliates on a first-come, first-served basis and may be obtained at the Center for Cultural Pluralism or the ALANA Student Center.

The performance marks a series of collaborative events between UVM and Flynn to foster life-long learning, explore arts and humanities and examine diverse perspectives and cultures. Each event in the trilogy "China: Ancient and Modern"

and director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, will deliver the first talk in a semester-long lecture series on his discipline on Jan. 23 at 12:30 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium, Given.

Costanza's talk is titled, "Ecological Economics: Reintegrating the Study of Humans and the Rest of Nature." His speech is the first of 12 from leaders in the field that will introduce the emerging discipline during the spring 2003 School of Natural Resources Lecture Series.

According to Costanza, ecological economics differs from traditional economics in essential ways. While traditional economics treats the economy as a self-contained system, ecological economics recognizes that the economy is a subsystem wholly contained and sustained by the global ecosystem, and like any subsystem, is dependent on the system that contains it. Ecological economics focuses on issues at the interface of the human system and the ecological system, with three interdependent goals of sustainable scale, fair distribution and efficient allocation. Such issues cannot be understood from within the framework of any single discipline and require a transdisciplinary approach.

The Thursday lecture series will feature talks from experts from Dartmouth, Stanford, McGill, Oxford, Boston University and several of Costanza's colleagues at UVM's Gund Institute. For a complete listing, see [SNR Seminar Series Schedule](#).

All of the lectures in the series are free and open to the public.

celebrates China's great traditional arts heritage and serves as a reminder that, since ancient times, live performance has been a powerful force in creating community and illuminating the transcendent commonality of the human experience.

"When Sorrow Turns to Joy" is a vocal/instrumental exploration of the emotional power of African-American jazz, traditional Chinese folk songs and the spiritual links between them. Peter Seybolt, director of Asian Studies, and Geoffrey Reynolds, assistant professor of music, will give a free pre-performance lecture on "Paul Robeson and Mei Lanfang: Artists & Revolutionaries" Jan. 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Flynn's Amy E. Tarrant Gallery.

Later this year the "China: Ancient and Modern" series will continue with the Peking Opera and the Living Dance Studio's "Report on the Body" as well as related lectures and workshops.

For information on ticket vouchers for these performances, call 656-8818. To learn more about Flynn performances go to [Flynn Center.org](http://Flynn.Center.org).

theview

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Awards and Honors

Sederick Rice, a doctoral student in the department of pediatrics and an adjunct faculty member of Race and Culture, is featured in the February 2003 issue of *Ebony Magazine* as a recipient of the Ebony Young Leaders Award. Each year, the magazine selects 30 individuals who have reached an outstanding level of achievement at or before 30 years of age. Rice came to Vermont in 1996 and joined the laboratory of his mentor Dr. Barry Finette, professor of pediatrics. His doctoral research is focused on the genetic effects of chemotherapy in children treated for acute lymphocytic leukemia.

The American Medical Equestrian Association recently recognized **Betsy Greene**, associate professor of animal science, with an Executive Director's Award for dedicated service and support. She serves on the AMEA board of directors and as the technical editor of the *AMEA News*. The award was presented at the United States Eventing Association annual meeting in December, where she presented an invited talk, "Is Your Barn Really Safe for Horses and Clientele?"

Publications and Presentations

Dan Baker, lecturer in Community Development and Applied Economics, returned from a trip with students to Honduras saying, "CDAE/UVM is getting to be a household name." He was interviewed three times for radio and television about the GIS project he and student **Dave Chappelle** are working on.

An article by **Anne Geroski**, assistant professor of education, has been selected outstanding article for 2002 by the editorial board of the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*. The article was published in June 2002. The award will be presented at a conference March 25 in Anaheim, Calif.

Jan. 15 - Jan. 21

Publications and Presentations

Will Miller, assistant professor of philosophy, attended the 5th Biannual Radical Philosophy Association – the conference title was "Activism, Ideology and Radical Philosophy" – at Brown University, Nov. 7-10, 2002. He chaired and was a discussant on a panel titled, "Examining Political and Religious Discourse," and helped develop the conference web page at www.uvm.edu/~radphil/rpa2002.htm.

Brian Reed, associate professor of physical therapy and associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the First International Physical Therapy Congress in Fortaleza, Brazil, April 10-13. He will be speaking on "Advances in the Clinical Use of Modalities and Physical Agents."

Wolfgang Mieder, professor and chair of the Department of German and Russian, has published the chapter on "*Sprichwort*" (Proverb) in a volume edited by Hannes Fricke, *Kleine literarische Formen*. The book contains chapters on such so-called "simple forms" as anecdotes, aphorisms, emblems, parables, riddles, jokes and proverbs. Mieder's chapter deals with the definition, form, origin, dissemination, history, use and function of proverbs.

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Making an Imprint

By Kevin Foley



Bill Davison (left) reviews student Abbie Bowker's work. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Standing in the center of the Coburn Gallery, with harsh winter light pouring in through the corner windows and shadowing five walls containing 160 student prints collected over decades of teaching, retiring art Professor Bill Davison is asked to reflect on the artwork and his career.

"Well, I'm not getting all teary eyed about it," growls the famously hard-

nosed printmaker. He pauses. "But there's a certain kind of wonderful nostalgia that standing in here looking around brings. I'm very proud."

Davison will teach a course this summer, but this is his 35th and last spring semester at the university. He is retiring in May to, he says, "devote himself to having uninterrupted time to make art." Last fall, the Fleming devoted gallery space to his work (another show of Davison's work opens at Burlington's Firehouse Gallery in late April), this semester he wanted to show off his students. So he spent three or four days vetting the 1,100 or so pieces he has collected over the years as he reviewed his printmaking students' final projects. There wasn't a lot of consideration involved, just inspiration.

"I went by my gut," he says. "It's a student show, and it's uneven. Some of the pieces are genuinely provocative, and some of them just show a certain bravado of technique or subject."

Compiled together in the gallery, they are a testimonial to the variability of major printing techniques, decades of student interests, changing art fashions, and a teacher with an appreciation for wit and verve.

The theater of teaching

The thing to know about teaching printmaking is this: The equipment is expensive and fragile, the chemicals potentially dangerous. Making a decent print – really, any print at all – requires a reasonably high level of technical facility as well as some kind of artistic vision. So when Davison instructs his students, he's often demonstrating a subtle technique with his hands while simultaneously explaining the process.

"It's like Julia Child on TV – you're talking and using your hands," he says. "Except I can't throw around and spill stuff like she did. I've got to handle dangerous chemicals and try to be entertaining with 18 people staring at me."

The theater of teaching, the improvisation of it, similar in its mysteries and thousands of tiny adjustments to the process of making art, is something Davison says he will miss when he is no longer teaching.

"It's the first week of classes, and I've already taught six times already," he says. "I'd say four of those classes were pretty good, one was brilliant, and one



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was just awful."

As his frank self-evaluation indicates, Davison didn't organize the exhibit as an exercise in self-promotion. "I'm not trying to present myself as some kind of wonderful artist and fantastic teacher," he says. The exhibit is intended to be more fun than anything else, a tour of interesting student work. But some colleagues and former students have nonetheless taken it as an occasion to weigh in on a productive, successful career.

Ed Owre, an art professor who started at UVM in the same year as Davison, respects his colleague's ability to change his approach to fit the needs of a particular class or a particular student. "Bill teaches a lot of technique, and he's very direct about it. He calls it as he sees it," he says. "But teaching art is a kind of psychology, and he has a great feeling for the individual."

Tim Grannis, a Burlington jewelry artisan who studied with Davison in the mid-1970s, praises Davison's ability to describe what he saw to students. "He had such a good eye," Grannis says. "He could just look at a piece, pick something out, and nail it. It was inspiring how articulate he could be about what he saw."

"The payoff"

Shuffling through the gallery, pointing out the walls of monotypes and woodcuts and lithographs, Davison, as promised, does not become teary. But as he looks at student work inspired and less so, he becomes reflective about the end of an important phase of his career.

"It is wonderful to watch students humming along making pictures that I feel are inspired, even on the verge of some kind of major invention," he says. "That's what it's all about, that's the payoff. I'll miss that."

The student print show continues at the Coburn Gallery through Jan. 31. It is open to visitors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Davison's solo show of recent work at the Firehouse Gallery runs from April 25 to June 1.

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Skating Circle

By Tom Weaver



Michelle Josselyn (right), a retired UVM staffer, and Xu Zhou, research assistant professor of mechanical engineering, are two regulars at one of the campus's least-known lunchtime diversions. (Photo: Sally McCay)

I write this story at great personal risk. Spreading the good word about ice skaters' noon-hour nirvana at Gutterson Arena – ice that is free of charge and crowds – is liable to earn me a blind-side check from one of the regulars, the few who glory in one of the better lunchtime diversions going on campus. Revealing a "best kept secret" is hardly a way to win friends.

I'd seek the safety of a federal writer's

protection program if it wasn't for the fact that the Gutterson noontime crowdlet is a friendly group. (Maybe it's the brisk air and endorphins.) They are diverse in their skating skills, fast and silky to slow and tottering, as well as diverse in their UVM roles, finding their ways to Gutterson from all corners of the campus.

Cutting a figure

Almost invariably, Michelle Josselyn skates gracefully at center-ice, the figure skaters' domain. She has sartorial style too, wearing a red beret and matching gloves, and seems to be testing the muscle memory of moves learned for childhood competitions. Actually, the retired 14-year staffer of UVM's International Student Office is a poster child for adult learners. "The proof's in the pudding, an old dog can learn new tricks," says Josselyn, who began her skating career at age 42 during a lunch break visit to Gutterson.

Now she shares her wealth of knowledge. Newcomers like Marta Ceroni, a faculty member with the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, and Xu Zhou, a research assistant professor in mechanical engineering, are among the many novice skaters who quickly find Josselyn's wing.

"I see them struggle, and I go to them and ask, 'Would you like to learn to skate?'" Josselyn, a Montreal native, says with her soft Quebecois inflection.

She points toward Zhou with pride more than a bit motherly. "Two weeks ago she couldn't even move. Now look at her doing her cross-overs." Zhou skates toward her, then has the panicked expression of every new skater who has learned how to go, but not how to stop. "Use your T-stop," Josselyn counsels.

Keeping up with the kids

You'll find as many tentative T-stops as get-a-load-of-me hockey stops going down at Gutterson. With January, many New Year's resolutions step onto the ice. Extension staffers Wendy Sorrell and Jeanne Keefe wear pristine white skates that give them away. Dedicated noon-hour walkers, they're on skates for the first time in years. They circle a few laps together, then take a seat on the hockey bench to give their ankles a rest before having at it again.



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John Sama, Living/Learning program manager, has a few days experience on them. It's his third time here, inspired to get some exercise and polish up his long-idle skills for future outings with his young nieces and nephews. "I don't know if I'm doing it right, and I do know that it isn't pretty," says Sama, lacing up a new pair of CCMs, "but I get around."

Kids are a familiar refrain when Gutterson skaters consider what has gotten them back into the sport. Linda Thatcher, financial manager in the College of Medicine Dean's Office, grew up skating on frozen ponds in Connecticut. Her son's passion for skating and hockey got her back on the ice years ago, then she soon suffered the fate of most parents, being unable to keep up. Thatcher's son now plays high school hockey, and she is dedicated to her half-hour, four-days-a-week routine. "This is the only way I can get some regular exercise in," she says.

Away from the fray

Bruce Fonda, lecturer in anatomy and neurobiology, skates fast laps, frontwards and backwards, darting with hockey-player quickness. The self-defined "old fart" on the medical students' intramural hockey team, Fonda has worked up a good sweat and says with a smile, "I'm not ready to hang it up yet."

Though he's just six days into his ice-skating career, Ryan Vandrey also skates with thoughts of mixing it up in a hockey game. The doctoral student in psychology is a longtime hockey fan who has found his first opportunity to learn to skate at UVM. Under Josselyn's tutelage he's already starting to feel steady moving backwards, as his mind's eye looks forward to some future game of pick-up hockey.

Bob Low, professor in molecular physiology and biophysics and former provost, has a love for skating that dates back to his own college hockey days. Through the years he's often carved out the time for some essential daily exercise at the rink. "There almost always are interesting people here," he says. "It's a good way to meet students and UVM friends away from the fray."

If you're interested in sharpening up your own blades, here are a few unspoken rules to know. The first person on the ice decides which direction to circle, all others follow, until 12:30 when an alpha skater in the pack reverses the direction and all others follow. When the Zamboni machine fires up at 1 p.m., that's the sign that you'd better get back to work. It's that simple.

Oh, yeah, and don't tell anyone I sent you.

Click here for [Current Ice Rink Hours](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

"Righteous" King Remembrance Stirs Passion, Hope

By Lynda Majarian



After a moving Jan. 15 observance of Martin Luther King's birthday, participants filed out of Ira Allen Chapel to light candles and sing. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

An impassioned plea from Professor Emeritus H. Lawrence McCrorey asking listeners to "look inside yourselves for your hidden Trent Lott," and to help make Vermont "a model in raising America to a new level of social justice" marked one of the most moving and significant campus services in recent years to honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Held Jan. 15, in Ira Allen Chapel, the gathering of

students, staff, faculty and community members fell on the day of Dr. King's birth and 35 years after his assassination.

McCrorey, whom President Daniel Mark Fogel described as "righteous," is a former professor of molecular physiology and biophysics and former dean of the School of Allied Health. He was one of only two African American faculty members when he joined UVM in 1966. Throughout his professional career he worked to increase the number and influence of African Americans on campus and to abolish racism in the community.

McCrorey recalled growing up feeling powerless, of "huddling around the radio to hear the outcome of a Joe Louis boxing match ... and getting a little taste of manhood when he won." King's famous March on Washington, he said, was a landmark occasion "when millions of black people stood tall, perhaps for the first time in our lives." King "awakened a spirit and forged a force that dared to overcome," he said, a force made stronger by the many students who "poured out of universities" to join in King's mission to achieve peace and equality for all individuals.

While King "focused energy like a laser beam on the walls of segregation," McCrorey reminded the enraptured audience of some of his predecessors in the struggle against racism: Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Medgar Evers "and mothers who threw their babies off of slave ships rather than send them into slavery."

Vermont has "a high ratio of people of goodwill," McCrorey said, but he noted that the state and the nation need to do more to eradicate racist attitudes, racial profiling and resegregation in schools as well as universal inequalities unrelated to race. "Two thirds of the people living in this nation in poverty are not black," he said.

Issuing a charge to the community, McCrorey said "I can almost hear Martin's voice telling us to 'Get on board the Freedom Train, it's ready to roll.' " Listeners leapt to their feet as McCrorey concluded his remarks.

Senior Annie Willis and junior Michael Merrigan shared their experiences during



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Making an Imprint

Standing in the center of the Coburn Gallery, with harsh winter light pouring in through the corner windows and shadowing five walls containing 160 student prints collected over decades of teaching, retiring art Professor Bill Davison is asked to reflect on the artwork and his career.

Skating Circle

I write this story at great personal risk. Spreading the good word about ice skaters' noon-hour nirvana at Gutterson Arena is liable to earn me a blind-side check those who glory in one of the better lunchtime diversions going on campus.

Alternative Summer Break, when, with six other students and two UVM staff, they followed the path of the Civil Rights Movement through Birmingham and Selma, Alabama and Atlanta, Georgia. Visiting sites including King's birthplace and grave, "connected students to a movement that changed a nation, and helped us to sense the energy that embodied the Civil Rights Movement," said Willis.

Merrigan, who recalled signing up for the eight-day trip "to test his comfort level" about racism, found a kernel of himself in King's speeches about "moderate white people like me who believe in civil rights but do nothing to further the cause." Merrigan urged other students to start their own pilgrimage.

A common thread in remarks by McCrorey and Fogel was to reflect on the progress, or lack of progress, we have made as a nation in carrying forward King's legacy. "We have fallen short," Fogel said, while McCrorey surmised that King would be upset at "the wolf pack mentality" of our government as it prepares to invade another country.

Sweeter notes were voiced from the balcony by the UVM Catamount Singers, directed by David Neiweem, professor and chair of music. Geoffrey Reynolds, assistant professor of music, took the stage for a stirring rendition of "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child."

The service concluded with a moment of silence and a recession accompanied by a recording of King speaking in Washington, D.C. in 1963. Finally, as twilight fell over the campus and light snow sifted down, participants lit candles on the chapel steps and joined in song led by the student a cappella group, the Cat's Meow.

The service was the first in a series of performances, lectures, films and discussion groups to celebrate Black History Month throughout February. For a complete listing of events, go to [Black History Month](#).

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