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Catching the Political Bug



Senior Lakshmi Barot is taking 30 credits of coursework and coordinating a major poverty conference as part of her work with Democracy for America. (Photo: Bill Dilillo)

Senior Lakshmi Barot has been given increasingly large amounts responsibility since her freshman year as a volunteer on the Dean for America campaign. Her latest task: coordinate a major conference on poverty featuring John Edwards, former senator from North Carolina and vice presidential candidate, as keynote speaker.

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Leaders in Another

Burlington The presidents of both of Greater Burlington, North Carolina's higher education institutions spent graduate school years in Burlington, Vermont, where they earned master's degrees in UVM's highly regarded Higher Education and Student Affairs Program.

Education in the Kingdom

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

Feb. 2, 7 p.m. Talk: Students for Peace and Global Justice host a discussion about Coca Cola's alleged abuses in Colombia. Williams, 301. Information: 264-5416.

Feb. 2, 12:30 p.m. Lecture: The School of Natural Resources presents "Scenarios of a Sustainable and Desirable Future" with Rik Leemans, professor, Wageningen University. Aiken Center, 116. Information: 656-2675

Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m. Concert: The Lane Series presents "Jazz String Quartet San Francisco." Music Building Recital Hall. Information: [Lane Series](#) or 656-4455.

Feb. 4, 2-10 p.m. Film Festival: The Outing Club presents the Banff Mountain Film Festival. Campus Center Theatre, 1101. Information: 656-7729.

Feb. 4, 4 p.m. Talk: William Jones, associate professor of history at the University of Wisconsin, will give a lecture on "The Tribe of Black Ulysses: African American Lumber Workers in the Jim Crow South" as part of Black History Month. Billings, North Lounge. Information: 656-3166

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By Jon Reidel

Article published Feb 01, 2006



Senior Lakshmi Barot is taking 30 credits of coursework and coordinating a major poverty conference as part of her work with Democracy for America. (Photo: Bill Dilillo)

The amount of campaign experience that senior Lakshmi Barot has gained during her four years at the university is best measured by the amount of responsibility she's been given since her foray into competitive politics as a freshman on the Dean for America presidential campaign. The most recent task given to her by Tom Hughes '91, executive director of Democracy for America: coordinate a major conference on poverty featuring John Edwards,

former senator from North Carolina and vice presidential candidate, as keynote speaker.

"I love working on campaigns," says Barot, who got her first taste of working on a political campaign as a volunteer for Al Gore's 2000 presidential run and for John Corzine's U.S. Senate campaign in her home state of New Jersey. "As a 20-year-old, I've been surrounded by people who have worked on a number of presidential campaigns. It's been an incredible experience, and I've learned so much."

The fact that Hughes asked Barot to put together the "United Against Poverty Conference," on Feb. 8 at Ira Allen Chapel, isn't surprising given what she's done for him in the past as a volunteer, intern and staff member for DFA starting in the summer of 2004. She also worked for Hughes when he was a major player in the 2004 Dean for America campaign as field program director in New Hampshire during the primary. He later sent Barot, who took a semester off in 2004 to work for Hughes, to represent DFA in Washington during Dean's DNC election by managing logistics for a staff of 15 and a volunteer committee of several hundred.

The all-day conference [Poverty Conference](#), which is geared toward nonprofits but open to other organizations and individuals, starts at 9:30 a.m. with opening remarks from Burlington Mayor Peter Clavelle. A number of local and national speakers, including Con Hogan, a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Social Policy and former secretary of Vermont's Agency of Human Services; Jane Knitzer, director of the Center for Children in Poverty; and David Murphy, senior policy analyst for the Vermont Agency of Human Services.

Cordinating a conference with a cause

Coordinating the poverty conference means communicating regularly with university officials, the City of Burlington, DFA, Edwards and State Sen. Matt Dunne (D-Windsor), who is credited with creating the conference and landing Edwards. The keynote address by Edwards, whose "One America" campaign and current organization focuses on helping people out of poverty, is free and open to the public. Edwards is scheduled to appear later that evening at a fundraising reception for the Vermont Democratic House and Senate campaigns at Union Station.

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"We rely on her enthusiasm, her organizational prowess, her sense of humor and her countless hours to get our job done," says Hughes, who credits Barot with playing a key role in Dean's DNC Chair campaign by building and managing the contact database that he calls "one of the cornerstones of that effort." Hughes also says Barot was instrumental in the elections of 2004 by helping DFA "build a national network of fiscally responsible, socially progressive candidates."

Barot's biggest challenge may be trying to find the time to work on the logistics of the conference in between studying for the 30 credits worth of courses she's taking this semester after receiving a waiver from the university in an effort to graduate in May. She had been planning to attend law school after that, but that could depend on who's running for president in 2008.

"If you had told me when I was a freshman that I would take time off from school or not go directly to law school to work on a campaign, I would have laughed in your face," she says. "I absolutely want to work on a presidential campaign in 2008. There's a lot of time until then, but who knows, DFA may need someone in their D.C. office."

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Leaders in Another Burlington

By Thomas Weaver

Article published Jan 30, 2006



Looking Presidential: Martin Nadelman (L), president of Alamance Community College, and Leo Lambert, president of Elon University, have been successful at advancing the very different missions of their respective institutions.

There's an old story about how Burlington, North Carolina came by its name. Yes, it has a whiff of myth, but it serves our purpose, so let's just suspend disbelief for a moment. In the early days of the city, located in the north central part of the state, a well-traveled renegade bull — purportedly escaped from a Burlington, Vermont farm — roamed the burgeoning village.

Eponymous bull, maybe, but there's no doubt about a tangible

connection between the two Burlingtons over the past seven years. The presidents of both of Greater Burlington, North Carolina's higher education institutions spent graduate school years in Burlington, Vermont, where they earned master's degrees in UVM's highly regarded Higher Education and Student Affairs Program.

Leo Lambert G'78 is president of Elon University, a 4,400-student private institution that has enjoyed a remarkable renaissance over the past 30 years. Martin Nadelman G'72 heads up operations at a very different school, Alamance Community College, which has grown dramatically as hard economic reality shuts down the region's textile mills and drives workers back to the classroom to finish high school degrees or refocus job skills.

Transforming a college

When Leo Lambert took the presidency at Elon in 1999, he stepped into the large shoes of Fred Young, a 25-year president who guided Elon's rise from a local institution to a national exemplar for student-centered education and service. In his book *Transforming a College: The Story of a Little-Known College's Strategic Climb to National Distinction*, higher education scholar George Keller uses Elon as a case study of effective change. Soaring application rates, a beautiful campus that has seen nearly 30 new buildings over the past two decades, high notices in the media and college ratings books — Keller effuses and writes, "Elon is the little engine that could."

During Lambert's tenure the pace of progress has remained swift. His focus has been upon building the school's intellectual life and rigor (he tripled the library budget and added more than 60 new faculty), strengthening athletics, focusing on building the endowment, and adding a law school. Not to mention a couple of significant name changes — from Elon College to Elon University and from the Fighting Christians to The Phoenix. Likening Elon's appeal to UVM's, Lambert says, "You get out of your car and sigh, and say, 'I'm home.'"

UVM's Living/Learning was home to Lambert, and his wife, Laurene, during their first years of marriage. When the director went on sabbatical, Lambert was put in the acting director's role at L/L at age 23. He has fond memories of the place and the early on-the-job training it provided. Elon's "Academic

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Village" is built on a very similar model to UVM's Living/Learning, Lambert adds.

As president, Lambert lists the chance to interact with students as a key reward of his job and it's something he's vigilant about clearing room for on his schedule. "Watching these incredible young people blossom before your eyes — the process of being turned on to science, theater, medicine, or law — it's a wonder to behold and you never get tired of it."

Creating new paths

Located just miles apart, Elon University and Alamance Community College are worlds away from one another in their missions and the students they serve. Alamance, located just off the Interstate in Graham, North Carolina, serves some 16,000 students. President Martin Nadelman describes it as a typical community college, listing off some of the course offerings in technical professions, automotive, welding. Typical, and very busy. Enrollments are up 55 percent over the past five years. If a plant closes in the area, Nadelman says, ACC anticipates they'll see at least 40 percent of the laid-off workers. In North Carolina, community colleges administer the state's adult learning programs.

Meeting the needs, both urgent and highly practical, of that student population appealed to Nadelman early in his higher education career. The UVM alumnus helped start up a brand new community college in Maryland, Wor-Wic Tech, and eventually became acting president of the school. Before joining Alamance in 1999, he was president of Martin Community College in Williamston, North Carolina, for eight years. "At a community college, 95 percent of the students know exactly what they want to do — they want the skills to get a better job," Nadelman says.

As more and more area residents seek those skills at Alamance, Nadelman's hands-on management style is put to the test. The 88-acre campus is maxed with classes seven days a week, meeting in every room available on campus. "Finding space is the toughest thing right now," Nadelman says and adds a quip about the parking crunch, seemingly universal to every campus — "I swear we've got students who drive two cars here."

Looking back on his year in UVM's master's program, Nadelman recalls practicums in the dean of students office and financial aid as key learning experiences. He currently advises North Carolina State University doctoral students on their dissertations, and Nadelman says an increased focus on teaching, passing on lessons to the next generation of higher education leaders, is something he may pursue down the line.

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By Jon Reidel

Article published Feb 01, 2006



The inaugural cohort of 18 students in the university's doctoral program in educational leadership and policy studies in Lyndonville is made up of principals, superintendents and educational consultants. (Photo: Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program)

The odds of Rick Hilton finishing the doctoral degree he started at the University of Pennsylvania dropped dramatically when he moved to the Northeast Kingdom. There was no place within 100 miles that offered a degree in higher education, and, as the busy headmaster of Lyndon Institute, Hilton had little extra time to devote to a degree.

Realistically, Hilton's chances of getting his Ed.D were about as good as a university with a doctoral program in higher education

deciding to hold classes at his work place, located in one of the most rural areas of the second least populated state in the nation. Oddly enough, that's basically what happened when the University of Vermont approached Hilton about hosting a doctoral program in educational leadership and policy studies (Ed.D.) at Lyndon Institute.

Hilton and Lyndon State College President Carol Moore both agreed to partner with the university and host the NEK/UVM Doctoral Cohort program at their respective institutions. The program, designed to address the unique challenges of rural education and human services, was launched in the summer of 2005 with an inaugural class of 18 students with backgrounds in higher education, public education, and human services. Like Hilton, the majority of students are from the Northeast Kingdom, although some are from neighboring counties and northern New Hampshire.

"Hosting the UVM doctoral program is consistent with Lyndon Institute's mission as a community school," says Hilton. "It is one more way that we can support education in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, helping to improve all school in the region – public and independent, primary and secondary and higher education. For me, personally, it is an opportunity to complete the doctoral work I began at Penn before moving to Vermont, an opportunity the Northeast Kingdom's location would have made virtually impossible were it not for this program."

Bringing it to the people

Judith Aiken, associate dean in the College of Education & Social Services, says the university had been working for two years to launch the five-year Doctoral Cohort after identifying a need for it in the area. "The interest expressed by the local community was tremendous," says Carol Moore, president of Lyndon State College. "Having the program here is a real benefit for all of those professionals looking to advance their education and career."

Professors take turns driving to Lyndonville to teach courses, which are offered to members of the cohort throughout the year. Faculty will eventually help students, who pay \$20,000 for the entire program, with their dissertations

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after they finish their core courses and required research seminars, which span a three-year period and provide a strong inquiry and research base in quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Laptops provide access to many of the same resources available to students in Burlington, including library services.

"We never felt like we had the resources before," says Aiken. "We also had some logistical issues to work out, but this time, Fran Carr (vice president of Research and Graduate Studies) and Dave Dummit (associate vice president for Research and Graduate Education) helped us work through a lot of these issues."

Developing local leaders

The launching of the program was timely in many regards, especially given the growing shortage of principals and superintendents in that region of the state. Aiken says that she, Susan Hasazi, professor in CESS, and other faculty members favored the cohort model because of its ability to bring educational leaders in the area together to share knowledge and information about current issues facing rural educational settings.

Hilton agrees, adding that the diverse mix of working professionals, which includes superintendents, college administrators, principles and educational consultants, allows people to see issues from varied perspectives. "The collegiality of our Northeast Kingdom cohort is one of the chief benefits of the program," says Hilton. "Our discussions are animated and varied, bringing to the table the practical experiences of seasoned professionals as well as more theoretical perspectives."

Already involved in a number of educational collaboratives, Hilton sees the Doctoral Cohort program as an important addition to a financially-challenged region that needs to share resources as much as possible.

"School and college partnerships are essential if we are to provide the greatest educational benefits in a region rich in natural resources but relatively poor in financial resources," he says. "Although we are an independent school, we already sponsor dual-enrollment programs with Vermont public elementary schools and with Vermont state colleges. Working with UVM to make the doctoral program possible is a natural next step for us."

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[College of Medicine Honors Students in White Coat Ceremony](#)

Jan 31, 2006

Universally associated with medical professionalism, the white coat provides a visual representation of a physician's commitment to providing compassionate patient care and maintaining scientific proficiency. On Friday, January 13, the University of Vermont College of Medicine Class of 2009 made that commitment as they participated in the White Coat Ceremony.

[Labow Family Pledges \\$5 Million Gift to UVM Surgery](#)

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Retired surgeon Dr. Samuel Labow and his wife Michelle, a retired registered nurse, have pledged current and estate gifts estimated at over \$5 million to the Department of Surgery at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

[Med Students Present Public Health Projects](#)

Jan 31, 2006

Nearly 100 second-year students from the College of Medicine presented 14 public health projects on Vermont's most critical health issues on Jan. 24 at the Health Science Research Facility.

[Faculty Union Seeks Applicants for Student Scholarships](#)

Jan 24, 2006

United Academics, UVM's faculty union, invites students to apply for its annual scholarship in honor of an early 19th-century black Vermonter, Jeffrey Brace. The United Academics Jeffrey Brace Book Award will provide up to three awards of \$500 each in the academic year 2006-2007 to be used for books and supplies by students who exemplify not only academic excellence but also an active commitment to achieving social justice.

[Mexican Human Rights Leader to Speak at 2006 UVM Commencement](#)

Jan 24, 2006

Gustavo Esteva, a passionate advocate for education, human rights, democracy and economic justice for Mexico's poor, will deliver the graduation address at the 2006 Commencement on Sunday, May 21. The ceremony will again be held on the University Green, a tradition that was re-established in 2004, the commencement of UVM's 200th graduating class.

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Hosted by College of Medicine Dean John Evans, the event took place in the East Pavilion Atrium of the Ambulatory Care Center at Fletcher Allen Health Care. Dr. Melinda Estes, President and Chief Executive Officer of Fletcher Allen Health Care, delivered the keynote address.

Among this year's class of white coat recipients are two students who understand the power of a uniform – a former Navy Seal and Vermont star athlete. Each possesses a strong understanding of the importance of working towards a goal, working with a team and achieving excellence.

Middlebury, Vt., native Rebecca Brakeley, an All-American varsity field hockey and lacrosse player and captain at Middlebury College, brought home two National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships, received a National Lacrosse award from College Sports Television and received the NCAA Woman of the Year Award for Vermont during her college athletic career. Interested in medicine, the neuroscience major spent a summer in rural Scotland studying with a general practitioner and spent a month at UVM/ Fletcher Allen shadowing doctors in Vermont Children's Hospital before she graduated.

After graduation, she coached junior varsity women's basketball and lacrosse and worked in admissions at Middlebury before applying to medical school. "Now that I have completed my first semester of medical school, I can't imagine being anywhere else," says Brakeley. "I am very excited and ready to begin the clinical aspect of my medical education."

Kenneth Needham got his first taste of medicine as a Navy SEAL corpsman specializing in jumping, diving, shooting, and working around explosives on a daily basis. A SEAL for 15 years, it was his experience as a medic that prompted him to work towards getting his white coat. The native of Lancaster, Pa., made it through the Navy SEAL's toughest course and served on numerous overseas deployments with excellence.

After leaving the Navy, Needham earned a Bachelor of Science degree from George Washington University and completed pre-medicine requirements at Penn State University before enrolling at UVM. Needham, who is married and has two sons, says "Receiving the white coat is important to me because it is a uniform representative of service to others, and a constant reminder of my duty to provide my best."

The Presentation of Coats ceremony was led by Associate Dean for Student Affairs Scott Waterman. Faculty members assisting with the cloaking included: Dean Evans; Dr. Estes; Richard Pinckney, assistant professor of medicine and 2005 Recipient of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award; Tania Bertsch, associate professor of medicine and director of clerkship programs; and Steven Lidofsky, director of the M.D./Ph.D. program and associate professor of medicine and pharmacology. A closing poem written by former faculty member Diane Magrane, was read by Cynthia Forehand, professor of anatomy and neurobiology and director of the Vermont Integrated Curriculum Foundations course.

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The University of Vermont Medical Alumni Association, Fletcher Allen Health Care, and the UVM College of Medicine Dean's Office provided the white coats and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation provided Humanism in Medicine lapel pins for each student.

Originally, lab coats were beige and worn by scientists; medical professionals chose white when they adopted wearing lab coats in the late 19th century. According to the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the White Coat Ceremony helps establish a psychological contract for the practice of medicine.

Initiated on August 20, 1993 at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, this annual ceremony or a similar rite now takes place at about 90 percent of schools of medicine and osteopathy in the United States.

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"This generous gift is an incredible honor," said Steven R. Shackford, Stanley S. Fieber Professor and Chairman of Surgery. "It is especially meaningful that Sam and Michelle Labow, who are familiar with so many programs around the country, chose to focus their philanthropy here at UVM. They have a strong belief in our missions of education, research, care and community, and working with them has been inspiring."

Neil Hyman, Professor of Surgery and Chief of General Surgery, has been named the first Samuel B. and Michelle D. Labow Green & Gold Professor in Colon & Rectal Surgery. The Labows have high praise for both Drs. Hyman and Shackford.

"Following my retirement from surgery and move to Stowe, I began attending surgical conferences and became involved with teaching UVM medical students at the invitation of Dr. Hyman," said Dr. Labow, who also is a Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery at the UVM College of Medicine. "I was immediately impressed by the superb quality of the education and training of surgical residents under the leadership of Dr. Shackford. Since then, I have become more and more impressed with the quality of the surgical department, which led Michelle and me to devote our resources here."

Dr. and Mrs. Labow retired to Stowe ten years ago after working together more than 20 years in a colon and rectal surgery practice at North Shore University Hospital in New York, where Dr. Labow was also Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery at Weill Medical College at Cornell University. A native of Montreal, Dr. Labow earned his bachelor of science and medical degrees from McGill University. After an internship at Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, he completed residencies in general surgery at Ottawa Civic Hospital, Harvard University-Beth Israel Hospital, and New York University-Bellevue Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery at Muhlenberg Hospital in Plainfield, N.J.

Mrs. Labow was born in New York City and as a registered nurse, pursued a career in the operating room. She joined Dr. Labow's surgical practice and eventually left the operating room to take over the management of the practice. Throughout their careers, they both served in national leadership positions in professional societies, including the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, for which Dr. Labow served as president from 1993 to 1994.

Dr. Hyman, a resident of South Burlington, earned a medical degree from the University of Vermont and completed a surgical internship and residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City, followed by a colon and rectal surgical fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. Since joining the UVM faculty in 1990, Dr. Hyman has earned eight teaching awards.

"I am so grateful to the Labows for their ringing endorsement of the quality of our medical school and especially our Department of Surgery," said College of



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Medicine Dean John N. Evans. "This gift serves as a testimony to the relationship between Drs. Shackford and Hyman and the Labows, who have formed an active partnership that benefits our students, our patients and our community."

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By The View Staff

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The celebration and poster session focused on a number of topics including childhood obesity, hunger and malnutrition; the state's capacity to increase colon cancer screening; and improving health literacy in consumers to ensure patients are partners in their own care and more able to manage chronic conditions such as diabetes.

The Public Health Projects program, a second-year curriculum requirement, is led by Dr. Jan Carney, clinical professor of medicine and associate dean for public health. Students work in groups of six to eight with a faculty mentor and are paired by the United Way of Chittenden County with a local community service agency. One of the primary goals of the program is to provide students with an opportunity to make a significant impact on the health of the community. In working side-by-side with a number of local service providers such as the American Cancer Society, Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger and Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, students learn how to apply the principles and science of public health to the needs of the community.

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Jan 31, 2006

The President's Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Equity will host the LGBT Equity Open Forum on Tuesday, Feb. 7 in Billings, North Lounge.

[Rubenstein's GREEN FORESTRY Education Initiative
Hosting Animal Tracking Clinic](#)

Jan 31, 2006

The GREEN FORESTRY Education Initiative of the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources is hosting, "Identifying, Aging, Trailing, and Understanding Animal Tracks," on Feb. 4 from 1-4 p.m. at UVM's Jericho Forest.

[University of Wisconsin Historian to Speak as Part of Black
History Month](#)

Feb 01, 2006

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[Recital to Mark Organ's 30th Anniversary](#)

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Christa Rakich, chair of the Organ Department at the New England Conservatory in Boston and a prizewinner at international organ competitions, will perform in a recital marking the 30th anniversary of the installation of the C.B. Fisk pipe organ on Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the UVM Recital Hall as part of the Marion B. Coe Organ Recital Series.

[Army Rabbi to Explore 'Faith Under Fire'](#)

Jan 25, 2006

US Army Chaplain Jacob Goldstein will share experiences and insights from Ground Zero, the Middle East and, most recently, post-Katrina Louisiana on Jan 25 at 7 p.m. in L108 Lafayette.

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President's Commission to Host LGBT Equity Open Forum

By The View Staff

Article published Jan 31, 2006

The President's Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Equity will host the LGBT Equity Open Forum on Tuesday, Feb. 7 in Billings, North Lounge.

The forum features two 90-minute sessions starting at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. focusing on current initiatives of the commission. There will also be time reserved for comments and questions about the initiatives as well as any other topics attendees wish to discuss.

For more information contact Nick Negrete, communications chair of the President's Commission on LGBT Equity, at 656-1058.

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Rubenstein's GREEN FORESTRY Education Initiative Hosting Animal Tracking Clinic

By Jon Reidel

Article published Jan 31, 2006

The GREEN FORESTRY Education Initiative of the Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources is hosting, "Identifying, Aging, Trailing, and Understanding Animal Tracks," on February 4 from 1-4 p.m. at UVM's Jericho Forest.

The event, the first in the Rubenstein School's "Saturday Forest Walk & Fire Series," will be led by Matt Kolan, field naturalist and conservationist, skilled tracker and teacher. "Walking the landscape without knowing how to track is like walking through a library without knowing how to read," said Kolan.

The mission of the Green Forestry Education Initiative is to integrate sustainable design, land ethics, and real-world learning in community-based forest conservation. This will be played out in three places: on campus; at the Forest Conservation Center at the UVM Forest at Jericho; and in the community. The UVM Forest at Jericho, currently the primary focus of activities, is located just 20 minutes from the university and is easily accessible to students, landowners and organizational representatives.

The Green Forestry Education Initiative emphasizes undergraduate education and the interaction of undergraduates with the surrounding community via outreach and service-learning activities; research, demonstration and dissemination; and partnerships with educational, community, and governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Directions to the UVM Forest at Jericho: From I-89 take the Richmond exit and head west briefly on Route 2 and bear right on River Road (VT 117). Take an immediate right on Governor Peck Road and go about 1.5 miles, then turn left on Tarbox Road. Go about 1.5 miles and turn left at the Jericho Research Forest sign and drive a few hundred yards to end of road.

For more information contact David Brynn at 656-0719.

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University of Wisconsin Historian to Speak as Part of Black History Month

By The View Staff

Article published Feb 01, 2006

William Jones, associate professor of history at the University of Wisconsin, will give a lecture on "The Tribe of Black Ulysses: African American Lumber Workers in the Jim Crow South" as part of Black History Month on Feb. 9 at 4 p.m. in Billings, North Lounge.

Jones, a 2005-2006 Scholar-in-Residence at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City, will discuss the vibrant, working-class communities that African Americans built in and around the sawmill towns and logging camps of the Jim Crow South.

While other scholars have emphasized the isolation of rural African Americans from the modernizing forces associated with southern industrialization, Jones has found that black lumber workers were the largest group of southern industrial workers, and played a central role in the economic, political, and cultural development of the region. He contrasts this social history with the cultural history of African American "folk" studies.

Jones is author of *The Tribe of Black Ulysses: African American Lumber Workers in the Jim Crow South* (University of Illinois Press, 2005) and has published articles in *Labor History*, *The Journal of Urban History*, and *The Nation*. The talk is sponsored by The College of Arts and Sciences.

Information: 656-3166.

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Recital to Mark Organ's 30th Anniversary

By Amanda Waite

Article published Feb 01, 2006

Christa Rakich, chair of the Organ Department at the New England Conservatory in Boston and a prizewinner at international organ competitions, will perform in a recital marking the thirtieth anniversary of the installation of the C.B. Fisk pipe organ on Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the UVM Recital Hall as part of the Marion B. Coe Organ Recital Series.

The C.B. Fisk pipe organ, created for UVM by C. B. Fisk, Inc. in the French Classical style, is, with the exception of the wind, an acoustic instrument, using only mechanical action, a method of construction that sets it apart from most organs.

"When I was a freshman at Oberlin College in 1971," says David Neiweem, UVM's university organist and professor of music, "Douglas Fenner, one of our organ professors, presented our class with the plans for an instrument to be built by the Charles B. Fisk organ company for the University of Vermont. I had studied the organ before it was even built—it was that important."

Not only did Fisk draft plans for the organ, he also provided UVM with specifications for the UVM Recital Hall, the organ's home, which are meant to enhance the tonal quality of the organ and improve the listener's experience. "The architect and the organ designer worked together; they respected each other's work," says James Chapman, professor emeritus of music, who says there is no other organ like UVM's in the world.

Rakich will be performing works by J.S. Bach as well as the music of several French Baroque composers. The recital is free and open to the public.

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February 1, 2006

Publications and Presentations

Bob Constanza, Gund Professor of Ecological Economics and Director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, and **Matthew Wilson**, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, co-authored the article, "Linking Ecology and Economics for Ecosystem Management" that will appear in an upcoming issue of *BioScience*, the journal of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. The article outlines an approach, based on ecosystem services, for assessing the trade-offs inherent in managing humans embedded in ecological systems. Evaluating these trade-offs requires an understanding of the biophysical magnitudes of the changes in ecosystem services that result from human actions, and of the impact of these changes on human welfare. The article summarizes the state of the art of ecosystem services-based management and the information needs for applying it.

Dr. Peter VanBuren, associate professor of medicine and molecular physiology and biophysics, authored a paper titled "Single-myosin crossbridge interactions with actin filaments regulated by troponin-tropomyosin" in the Nov. 22, 2005 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*. In addition to VanBuren, project contributors include Neil Kad, research associate in molecular physiology and biophysics; Scott Kim, research technician in molecular physiology and biophysics; David Warshaw, professor and chair of molecular physiology and biophysics; and Josh Baker, a former postdoctoral associate who now serves as assistant professor of biochemistry, University of Nevada. This research is one of several related studies funded by a \$9 million, five-year National Institutes of Health multi-investigator Program Project Grant on genetic cardiomyopathies awarded to David Warshaw as the principal investigator.

Research by **Alice Fothergill**, assistant professor of sociology, and Mary Val Palumbo, adjunct associate professor of nursing and director of the Office of Nursing Workforce at UVM, was published in the September/October 2005 issue of the journal *Public Health Nursing*. Titled "The Volunteer Potential of Inactive Nurses for Disaster Preparedness," the article addresses the issue of whether inactive nurses can and are willing to be mobilized in emergency situations.

January 23, 2006

Publications and Presentations

Two Center on Disability and Community Inclusion faculty presented at the annual TASH Conference held in November 2005 in Milwaukee. TASH is an international service organization serving professionals in the Disabilities field, families and individuals with disabilities. **Susan Yuan**, research assistant professor and CDCI associate director presented, with Shelley Dumas of Texas, "It's Gotta Be Good — Two Old Broads Contemplate the Future." She also presented, with John Ming Gon Lian and Christine Gilson, "Hong Kong Perspectives Across Three Decades of Parenting, Inclusion, and Postsecondary Education." She was also elected for a three-year term on the TASH Board of Directors. **Michael Giangreco**, research professor of education, along with Carter Smith of the Williston School District, presented "Collaborative Leadership and Change to Address the Paraprofessional Dilemma in an Inclusive School" at the conference.

Robert Daniels, professor emeritus of history, published a new book, *The Fourth Revolution: Transformations in American Society from the Sixties to the Present*. The book explores Sixties "revolutions" in the context of other sweeping changes in American life beginning with the religious revolution of