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## [Fueling Functional Foods](#)



Associate Professor Mingruo Guo has UVM on the cutting edge of the rapidly expanding functional foods market. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Visions of buffalo milk, oagurt, whey-based environmentally safe wood finish, flavored tofu, and deicer are preventing Mingruo Guo from sleeping. But morning will come soon and the researcher will be at his carrigan lab where he will turn his dreams into reality.

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[Lane Series Offers Food, Wine and Song](#)

## [Student Monitors Azerbaijan Election](#)

As an international monitor for the presidential election in Azerbaijan, political science student Angela Sherwood doled out some attitude along with the rules.

## [Trustees Discuss Budget, Construction, Advising](#)

Highlights among the topics discussed at meetings of the board of trustees Feb. 6 and 7 included a financial feasibility study of President Fogel's proposals to grow the university – a work-in-progress; a design/cost update on the University Commons and proposed parking garage; survey results on and plans for improved academic advising; expected increases in the hiring of persons of color; and mixed news about the FY'05 budget.

## THE WEEK IN VIEW

**Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m. Concert: UVM Lane Series presents "Orlando Consort: Food, Wine, and Song" with a repast of music on the subject of food and feasting in renaissance Europe. UVM Recital Hall. Information: [Lane Series](#)**

**Feb. 11, 9 p.m. Event: Spend an evening of laughs with comedian Owen Smith of LOL Comedy Series. North Lounge, Billings. Information: 656-2060.**

**Feb. 12, 3 p.m. Trustees: Nominating Committee, conference call. Waterman Building, Room 351. Information: 656-7898 or [Trustees](#)**

**Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Speaker: Spend a Friday with John Zaffis, a real life ghost buster with 29 years of experience investigating the paranormal. CC Theater, Billings Student Center. [events](#)**

**Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Film: Catch a Valentine's Day showing of the romantic comedy "Love Actually." CC Theater, Billings Student Center. Information: 656-2060.**

**Feb. 15, 7 p.m. Concert: "Winter Warmer II: A Tribute to Composer and UVM Professor Thomas Read" with the**

[Asian Art Exhibition Showcases Recent Fleming Gifts](#)

[Rally Cat Becomes New Face of UVM Athletics](#)

[New Center Aims to Smooth Students' Administrative Moves](#)

.....  
[ARCHIVE ▶](#)

**Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble. Unitarian Church, Montpelier. Information: 229-9408.**

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## NEWS BRIEFS

**rising applications**

The goal of the university to bring the undergraduate student population to 10,000 by 2008 was bolstered by a near-record number of fall applicants (11,236) for a 59 percent increase since 1997. *(Photo: Bob Handelman)*

**Applications Increase to Near Record Levels**

According to a preliminary analysis, applications to the University of Vermont for the fall 2004 semester are up sharply over 2003 to a near record level.

As of Feb. 6, total applications numbered 11,236, a 9.3 percent increase over last year. The total is the third highest in university history, surpassed only in 1987 (11,953) and 1988 (11,303), the peak years of the university's "public ivy" era. Additional applications entering the system in the coming week should push the number even higher.

Total applications have risen 59 percent since 1997 and 42 percent since 2000.

The quality of the applicant pool also appears to be up, according to the preliminary analysis, with average SAT scores rising approximately four points over 2003.

UVM's strong performance comes within a challenging demographic context. The projected growth in the number of graduating high school seniors in the Northeast this spring is only 1.7 percent.

"This is one more step on a very positive trajectory we've seen over the past several years," said Don Honeman, UVM's director of admissions and financial aid. "A combination of factors is driving our success: the investments we're making on campus, effective

**Plaut Investigates Gravity-Mammary Link for NASA**

NASA's new push to establish a human presence on the moon by 2020 and proceed from there on a long mission to Mars raises anew fundamental questions about the effects of gravity (or the lack thereof) on humans. Karen Plaut, professor and chair of animal science, is in the midst of a grant project that hopes to answer some of them by offering insight into the developmental biology of living tissue subjected to various gravitational conditions.

Plaut is the primary investigator for a new three-year, \$949,000 NASA grant to study the effects of changing gravitational forces on rat mammary development, and particularly the role of the hormone prolactin in regulating mammary metabolism. The UVM portion of the grant, on which Plaut is collaborating with outside scientists, comes to about \$320,000 over the next three years.

The connection between mammary development and lactation and the effects of gravity on the metabolism of space travelers isn't immediately apparent to neophytes, but Plaut has a clear explanation of NASA's interest.

"Mammary tissue is one of the few tissues that experiences significant growth after birth in all mammals," she says. "That makes it a very good subject for research on gravity's effects on metabolic processes, which of course is of interest to NASA in terms of the implications for astronaut health and well being."

The UVM research team – Plaut; undergraduates Kathlyn Coughlan, Carrie Hanover, Tanay Mulvey and Gina Roberts; postdoctoral student Ela Zakrewska; graduate student Laura Lintault; and research assistant Rhonda Maple – spent two weeks in at the NASA Ames Research Center in California last summer working with the massive centrifuge that produces the controlled gravitational environments needed for the study. Their preliminary conclusion? Mammary metabolism is greatest in the microgravity environment of space and decreases proportionally with increasing gravity loads.

Prolactin's role in the process is of particular interest, Plaut says, because of its potential implications for the way other hormones might be involved in changes that the human body goes through during space flight – cardiovascular function, loss of muscle mass, weakening of the immune system, for example. "Down the line, if we continue to send people into space for longer and longer periods, we need a better understanding of these physiological processes,"

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communication of our strengths, good word of mouth in high schools, and the inherent appeal of UVM itself, which blends the resources of a research university with the intimacy of a liberal arts college and offers a strong academic experience in a terrific location."

Diversity in the applicant pool is up dramatically this year, with a nearly 30 percent increase in the number of applicants identifying themselves as African American, Asian American, Latino, or Native American. At about 50, applications from Christopher Columbus High School in the Bronx, with whom UVM has a partnership arrangement, reached their highest total since the program was created in 1999. But despite their strength, Columbus applications accounted for only a relatively small percentage of the diversity surge.

"Our reputation for being a welcoming community where students of color can thrive grows each year," Honeman said. "Diversity adds a rich element to the life of our community, so that's good news for everyone."

A preliminary count of applications from Vermont students was up slightly over 2003 to 1,620, the third highest total since 1990. That number likely will rise over the next two weeks, as final tallies are made.

Applications from Vermont students are up 28 percent since 1997 and 21 percent since 2000.

### **Study Tests Effects of Soy on Heart Disease Risk**

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the number-one killer of women and the leading complication and cause of death among diabetes patients. Now, a new UVM study is examining whether or not adding soy to the diets of postmenopausal women at risk for diabetes will reduce their risk of developing heart disease.

The loss of estrogen as women age might contribute to the higher risk of heart disease following menopause, the AHA reports. In addition, postmenopausal women who are overweight are at a substantially higher risk of developing diabetes, because their muscles often become resistant and unable to use the insulin produced by the body. Diabetes patients have a higher heart disease risk due to insulin resistance, which is associated with imbalances in cholesterol.

The new randomized, placebo-controlled study, led by Dr. Cynthia Sites, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, will investigate if adding soy to the diet of postmenopausal women at risk of developing diabetes affects their risk of heart disease. To date, several clinical studies have shown that consuming soy protein is safe and effective in reducing low-density lipoprotein or LDL, the bad cholesterol linked to heart disease, in patients with a high LDL count.

"Our hope is this study will show that soy increases the muscles' ability to absorb insulin

Plaut says. "If we were to find, for example, that a specific hormone acts to stimulate the immune system, that would have huge implications."

Plaut has collaborated closely with NASA on developmental biology work since 1995, when she sent an experiment into orbit on the Space Shuttle. More recently, she took a leave of absence to serve as lead scientist on the Biological Research Project for the International Space Station. She returned to UVM in 2000.

The effect of NASA's shifting priorities on the agency's future funding of basic research is uncertain, but Plaut thinks the mandate to send astronauts onto the moon and into space for long periods of time makes her and her colleagues' work more, rather than less important.

### **Student Art By and About Women Coming in March**

The Women's Center is reviving an old tradition, the Women's Herstory Month Student Art Show. Student artwork is solicited in any medium, but should be by a woman or explore themes related to Women's Herstory and/or gender equity. The center will display selected artwork throughout March.

To submit a proposal (sooner rather than later, as space is limited), submit your name; the title, medium, dimensions and a brief description of your work; and a half-page autobiography to Timothy Shiner or Natasha Kubis at the Women's Center, 34 So. Williams St.

Information: 656-7892 or [women@uvm.edu](mailto:women@uvm.edu) .

### **University Names New Trustees**

Dr. James Betts, Anne Dodge, and John Snow have been appointed to six-year terms on the board of trustees, replacing Milt Goggans, Bruce Lisman, and Pam McDermott. Also joining the board are student trustees Colin Robinson and Christine Hertz for one-year and two-year terms respectively.

Betts '69, College of Medicine '73, one of the foremost pediatric surgeons and trauma physicians in the country, currently is surgeon-in-chief and senior vice-president for surgical services at Children's Hospital in Oakland, Calif. A 1993 television movie, *Miracle on I-880*, was based on his heroic and successful efforts to treat and help free a brother and sister trapped on the collapsed Nimitz Freeway in the 1989 San Francisco earthquake.

Betts, who was born and raised in Bennington, Vt., has served on numerous university committees, including current stints on the Medical Dean's Council and the National Campaign Steering Committee. He received the A. Bradley Soule Award from the College of Medicine in 2003.

Dodge, a UVM parent, has been an administrator and a board member for independent schools for



and sugar, so the pancreas will not make as much, which would prevent the development of diabetes and the correlated heart disease risk," Sites said.

Study participants enroll in the study for three months, undergoing five outpatient visits and two overnight inpatient visits at the UVM General Clinical Research Center, where they consume either a soy or placebo supplement and then undergo a series of physiological tests.

The study, titled "Soy Phytoestrogens and Metabolic Cardiovascular Risk," is funded by the American Heart Association's Northeast Affiliate. Co-investigators include Michael Toth, assistant professor of medicine, and Jean Harvey-Berino, associate professor and interim chair of nutrition and food sciences.

For more information about the study, contact Penny Fairhurst, clinical research coordinator in the department of obstetrics and gynecology, at 802-847-0985.

### **Classicist Nagy to Deliver President's Lecture**

Gregory Nagy, Francis Jones professor of classical Greek literature and professor of comparative literature at Harvard University, will discuss "The Poetics of Ancient Greek Festivals," as part of the President's Distinguished Lecture Series. Nagy, one of the preeminent classicists in the world today, will speak on Thursday, Feb. 19 at 5 p.m. in Billings North Lounge.

Nagy has published dozens of books and hundreds of articles on Greek mythology and poetry. His work on the orality of ancient Greek poetry and its performance traditions draws on various disciplines beyond the fields of historical linguistics and anthropology, in particular.

He is also a leader in using information technology to disseminate scholarly writings. His online, virtual classroom experiment, "Homer's Poetic Justice," made an exclusive Harvard University course available to the general public and attracted much attention in academia as a model of its kind. And as director of the prestigious Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C., Nagy is pioneering a multi-scholar, hypertext, online commentary on the Greek text of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. His books include: *The Poetics of the Panathenaic Festival in Classical Athens*, *Poetry As Performance: Homer and Beyond*, and *The Homeric Question*.

The lecture series, established by President Daniel Mark Fogel in October 2002, brings top researchers to enhance the academic experience; showcase faculty, students and programs; and bring the campus community together.

Information on Nagy's lecture: Mark Usher, associate professor of classics and program host, 656-4431.

more than 25 years. She has been especially active in the Brookwood School in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass., which her three children attended. She also served on the Parents Council at Milton Academy in Milton, Mass.; on the board of trustees at Proctor Academy in Andover, Mass.; and on the board of the Middlesex School in Concord, Mass. She currently co-chairs the capital campaign at St. Johns Church in Beverly Farms, Mass.

Dodge has been a member of the External Board of Advisors at UVM's College of Arts and Sciences for the past two years. She and her husband, Steve, live in Manchester-by-the-Sea and have a farm in South Pomfret, Vt.

Snow, a 1974 graduate of UVM, owns and chairs Bristol Tours, Inc., a charter bus and tour operator in Bristol, Vt., and Orlando, Fla. He is a member of the global advisory board of Millennium Associates, a Swiss-based specialist investment banking firm.

Snow retired in 2003 as vice chairman of State Street Global Advisors, chairman of State Street Global Alliance, LLC; and executive vice president of State Street Corp., all in Boston.

He served on the UVM Boston Regional Board and the Alumni Council, representing alumni on the board of trustees' investment committee.

Snow and his wife, Carol '74, live in Charlotte, Vt.

First-year student Hertz majors in early childhood education with a pre-law concentration in the College of Education and Social Services. Before beginning college, she traveled and then worked in a third-grade classroom in rural Vermont. She participates in Alternative Spring Break and is both a Community Service Scholar and a Vermont Scholar.

She graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Robinson is a sophomore anthropology major with an African studies minor in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is a member of the John Dewey Honors Program and Students for Peace and Global Justice. He is the Ward 1 representative to the Burlington Progressive Party Community Council and was Congressman Bernie Sanders' campus campaign coordinator in 2002.

Robinson is a Vermont Scholar and graduate of Brattleboro Union High School.

## EVENTS



The Fleming Museum is celebrating several years of significant growth in its Asian art holdings with the exhibition, "Arts of Asia: Recent Acquisitions from the Nalin, Duke, and Pickens Collections," which opened on Feb. 8.

### Concerts to Honor Longtime Composer-Professor

The Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble will present a tribute to UVM Professor Thomas Read, "Winter Warmer II," in concerts in Montpelier and Burlington Feb. 14-15

Read, a critically acclaimed composer, conductor, violinist and educator, has been a member of the ensemble since its inception. The special concerts, under the artistic direction of Steven Klimowski, present four of Read's works, written from 1983 to 2002, three of which are premieres.

The Montpelier concert is on Feb. 14 at 8:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 130 Main Street. The Burlington concert is on Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the FlynnSpace, 153 Main Street. A pre-concert lecture begins 45 minutes before show time at each event.

The program will include the following works representative of Dr. Read's enormous range in compositional style: "Christmas Variations for Clarinet and Cello" (1983); "Eclogues Among the Ruins for Solo Violin" (2001, premiere); "Four Whitman Songs for Mezzo Soprano and Piano" (1990, premiere); and "Chamber Concerto for Clarinet, Cello, Piano and Percussion" (2002, premiere).

The performers include ensemble members Steven Klimowski on clarinet; Bonnie Thurber-Klimowski on cello; Thomas Read, on violin and conducting; Jill Hallet Levis, mezzo soprano; Elaine Greenfield, piano; Paula Ennis, piano; and

### Lane Series Swings Jazz on Valentine's Day

The Lane Series presents an evening of classic swingtime jazz from the 1930s and '40s with Susie Arioli, a singer/snare-drummer known as Montreal's Miss Swing. Arioli and her band will perform on Feb. 14 at the UVM Recital Hall at 7:30 pm. A reception featuring chocolate truffles and other treats for St. Valentine's Day will follow.

The Susie Arioli Swing Band plays swing music from the height of the American popular songwriting period. Their music comes from small bands (Maxine Sullivan, Jack Teagarden), big bands (Count Basie, Benny Goodman), blues swing bands (Memphis Slim, Jimmy Rushing), Western swing bands (Bob Wills), and the great composers (Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, George Gershwin).

The band started to make a national name for itself in July of 1998 when their flawless set at the Montreal Jazz festival garnered it an invitation to open for Ray Charles. Arioli is known for her ability to evoke an earlier sound with her pure, lyrical and heartfelt voice. Her covers of classics like "Night and Day" and "What is this Thing Called Love?" evoke the romance of a bygone era.

Peter Goddard, of the *Toronto Star*, says Arioli is "unerringly right in what she chooses to sing, and she is unrivaled in how she sings it."

Tickets: The Flynn Center Box office, 863-5966, or online at [Lane Series](#).

### Poet and Essayist to Read in Writer's Workshop

Poet Baron Wormser and poet/essayist John D'Agata will read from their work on Feb. 17 at 5:30 p.m. in John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. The reading is sponsored by the English department's Writer's Workshop.

Wormser has served as Maine's State Poet since 2000 and is director of the annual Conference on Poetry and Teaching at the Frost Place, in Franconia, N.H. The author of five books of poetry, his collection of loose sonnets, *Subject Matter*, will be released soon by Sarabande Books.

D'Agata is author of *Halls of Fame*, and editor of *The Next American Essay*, an anthology of experimental personal essays. He teaches writing at the California Institute of the Arts.

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guest artist Brian Messier, percussion.

Information: 656-4047

Thomas Read was born in 1938 in Erie, Pa., and studied with such noted musicians as Andor Toth, Daniel Majeske, Leon Fleischer, Benjamin Lees and Bernhard Paumgartner. As a violinist, he has been a member of the Erie Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony, the Boston Symphony and the Saratoga Festival of Baroque Music. Read has composed music for small ensembles, full orchestra, solo voice, chorus and musical theater.

## **Engineers' Week Begins February 12**

Approximately 450 students from elementary, middle and high schools in Vermont and nearby will kick off Engineers' Week Thursday, Feb. 12, with events beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m.

Tickets for the Burlington concert: Flynn box office ,86-FLYNN. Tickets for the Montpelier concert: Onion River Arts Council, 229-9408. Information: [Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble](#)

Dean Roberts Jenkins of the College of Engineering and Mathematics, will welcome the students prior to the first event, "Frying Pickles with Electricity," in North Lounge, Billings.

## **Poetry Slam Set for Feb. 18**

The People's Republic of Vermont Slam Team and other area versifiers will present their poetry on Feb. 18 at 9 p.m. in the Living/Learning Fireplace Lounge.

Between 10:15 a.m. and noon, four events will be held: the Edible car Competition, in Billings Great Hall; the Pasta Bridge contest, in North Lounge, Billings; the Bottle Rocket competition, in Votey/Kalkin courtyard; and the Egg Drop contest, from Williams Hall fire escape.

The event, which is open to the public and a part of a series of UVM poetry slams, will feature music by DJ Token, free tea and coffee, and prizes for the top three poets. Individuals interested in reciting their work should sign up in advance via the e-mail address below.

After a lunch break, the students will compete in the annual Rube Goldberg competition, in Billings' Marsh Lounge.

Information and sign-ups: [choaq@uvm.edu](mailto:choaq@uvm.edu)

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## NOTABLES

Feb. 11, 2004

### Awards and Honors

The Class of 2006 in the College of Medicine has announced that **Bruce Fonda**, lecturer in anatomy and neurobiology, received the American Medical Students Association Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching.

**Randall Headrick**, assistant professor of physics, recently was awarded a five-year, \$610,000 career grant from the National Science Foundation. He will use the grant to develop a leading research and education activity in the area of metal/semiconductor growth and self-organized pattern formation on surfaces. The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program recognizes and supports the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who are most likely to become the academic leaders of the 21st century. CAREER awardees will be selected on the basis of creative, career-development plans that effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their institution.

### Publications and Presentations

**Gayle Belin**, clinical assistant professor of communication sciences, presented a lecture titled "Cleft Lip and Palate Management" at the Feb. 7 annual conference of the Vermont Society of Radiologic Technologists.

**Frank Bryan**, professor of political science, will discuss Vermont town meetings and his new book, *Real Democracy: the New England Town Meeting and How It Works*, on the Vermont Public Television program, "Profile." The interview will air Monday, Feb. 16. at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 18 at 5 p.m. and Feb 22 at 1:30 pm.

**Mark Fung**, assistant professor of pathology, has published the article, "Leukoreduction in the setting of open -heart surgery: a prospective cohort-controlled study," in the January issue of *Transfusion*. The study examined the effect of using leukoreduced blood vs. non-leukoreduced blood on various clinical outcomes of open-heart surgery patients.

February 4, 2004

### Awards and Honors

Senior **Kristal Kostiew**, who is majoring in professional physical education in the College of Education and Social Services, was selected as one of two Vermont Outstanding Future Professionals by the Vermont Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The award recognizes students who demonstrate their promise as future leaders in the profession.

**Russell Hovey**, assistant professor of animal science, has been awarded two research grants for his work on breast cancer and mammary gland development. One is a two-year new investigator grant from the USDA National Research Initiative Program in Animal Growth to investigate "Endocrine Regulation of Porcine Mammary Gland Development and Morphogenesis." The other is a three-year idea grant from the US Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program to develop "A New and Authentic Animal Model for Human Breast Development and Breast Cancer."

**Chyi-lyi (Kathleen) Liang**, assistant professor of community development and applied economics, was named a Coleman Entrepreneurship Scholar for 2004 by the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship

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and received a scholarship to attend the group's annual conference.

### **Publications and Presentations**

**Jane Okech**, assistant professor of integrated professional studies, and her colleague **Anne Geroski**, an associate professor, will both give presentations at the April 1-4 conference of the American Counseling Association in Kansas City.

**Trina Magi**, library assistant professor, recently had an article published in the journal portal *Libraries and the Academy*. Titled "What's Best for Students? Comparing the Effectiveness of a Traditional Print Pathfinder and a Web-based Research Tool," the article reports the results of a study comparing two approaches to library instruction in a course of first-year business students at University of Vermont. Magi was also profiled in the January/February issue of *Mother Jones* magazine for her work in speaking out against the threats to privacy posed by the USA PATRIOT Act.

**Chyi-lyi (Kathleen) Liang**, assistant professor of community development and applied economics, presented a paper at the 2004 United States Small Business and Entrepreneurship Conference held Jan. 15-18. The title of the article, which was co-written with Paul Dunn, was "Demographics and Other Business Characteristics Influence on Couples' Willingness to Start Again." Liang and Dunn also presented a workshop at the conference, "Not Enough Support or Too Much Support? Comparative Experiences of Entrepreneurship Support Organizations."

### **In Memoriam**

**William John Walls V**, a second-year student majoring in English, passed away Jan. 29 as a result of heart failure.

*January 28, 2004*

### **Awards and Honors**

The College of Medicine Class of 2006 announced their teaching awards in December. Winners were Dr. **Sharon Mount**, professor of pathology, American Medical Women's Association Gender Equity Award; Dr. **Masatoshi Kida**, associate professor of pathology and Sharon Mount, "cameo teaching" (outstanding teachers who gave seven or fewer lectures); **Gerald Silverstein**, lecturer in microbiology and molecular genetics, basic science teacher of the year; and the **Department of Pathology**, as the basic science department of the year.

### **Publications and Presentations**

**Lyndon Carew**, professor of animal science and nutrition and food sciences, along with John McMurtry of the USDA Growth Biology Laboratory in Beltsville, MD and **Frances Alster** of UVM, published an article, "The effects of Methionine Deficiencies on Plasma Levels of Thyroid Hormones, Insulin-like Growth Factor-I and -II, Liver and Body Weights, and Feed Intake in Growing Chickens" in the journal *Poultry Science*. This research is part of a series establishing the metabolic effects of minimal levels of essential amino acids in diets for chickens when formulated to maximize amino acid balance and minimize environmental nitrogen losses.

**Judith Cohen**, associate professor of nursing, had a manuscript, "The Mirror as a Metaphor for the Reflective Practitioner," accepted for publication in the *Annual Review of Nursing Education*.

**Sharon Henry**, associate professor of physical therapy, will be presenting two papers at an early February American Physical Therapy Association meeting in Nashville. The titles are: "Specific Trunk Exercises Do Not Preferentially Improve Function, Pain or Disability in Subjects With Recurrent Low Back Pain: A Pilot Study" (co-authored by Stephanie Jones and JY Bunn); and "Altered Postural Responses with Episodic, Recurrent Low Back Pain" (co-authored by Juvena Hitt, Stephanie Jones and JY Bunn).

**Patricia Julien**, assistant professor of music, recently gave an invited lecture at the Sorbonne in Paris. The talk was titled, "Harmonic Relations in Wayne Shorter's Early Compositions: An Analysis of 'Suspended Sentence'."

**David Kerr**, assistant professor of animal science, was awarded a three-year, \$300,000 USDA grant titled, "Transgenic Approach to Prevent Bovine Mastitis."

**Wolfgang Mieder**, chair of the Department of German and Russian, is the author of the book *Die großen Fische fressen die kleinen": Ein Sprichwort über die menschliche Natur in Literatur, Medien und Karikaturen*. The book traces the origin, history, meaning, and international dissemination of the classical proverb "Big fish eat little fish." It includes interdisciplinary and comparative chapters on the iconography of the proverb, its use in literature, in the mass media, advertisements, caricatures, and cartoons. Artists and writers like Bosch, Bruegel, Shakespeare, Brecht and many others have employed this wisdom about rapacity in their pictures and writings.

**Patricia Prelock**, professor of communication sciences, was invited to Kean University in Newark, NJ to present a two-day conference for 150 students, faculty and community professionals on Jan. 8-9. Prelock discussed strategies for helping children with autism spectrum disorders communicate.

### **In Memoriam**

A memorial service for **John Burchard**, professor of psychology, will be held at 1 p.m. on Jan. 31 at the First Congregational Church in Burlington. A community gathering will take place at the Wyndham Hotel (formerly the Radisson) immediately after the service. Burchard, who was well known for his social and mental health work in the community, passed away on Jan. 18.

*January 21-27, 2004*

### **Awards and Honors**

Dr. **Virginia Hood**, professor of medicine, has received the Vermont Chapter of the American College of Physicians Laureate Award. Laureate Award winners are longstanding and loyal supporters of the ACP who have rendered distinguished service to their chapters and community and have upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which their organization is known.

Pfizer Corporation published an advertisement in the Nov. 28, 2003 issue of the journal *Science* titled "We Recognize Academic Excellence," listing institutions like the University of Vermont that were successful in the competition for the company's undergraduate summer research fellowships. The company made 68 awards, and UVM was one of eight institutions to win more than one award. The winners here were **Anya Guschin**, who worked with **Greg Friestad**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **Rachel Humphrey**, who worked with **Jim Vigoreaux**, associate professor of biology.

Eight faculty members have been selected as service-learning fellows for the spring semester and each will receive \$1,000 to help them give students more opportunities to reflect on meaningful community participation and how it connects to their academic experience. This semester's fellows are: **Chester Parsons**, UVM Extension; **Susan Kasser**, education; **Christopher Leskiw**, political science; **Hendrika Maltby**, nursing; **Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux**, geography; **Tracy McLaughlin-Volpe**, psychology; **Barbara Burrington**, integrated professional studies; and **Efleda Tolentino**, integrated professional studies.

Dr. **Thomas Peterson**, professor of family practice, was honored by the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians as the 2003 "Family Physician of the Year" at the group's annual meeting. Dr. Peterson was recognized as a key contributor to clinical and educational programs at UVM and Fletcher Allen Health Care and for serving for 10 years as Program Director of the Family Practice Residency Program.

## Fueling Functional Foods

By Jon Reidel



Associate Professor Mingruo Guo has UVM on the cutting edge of the rapidly expanding functional foods market. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

It's late at night and Mingruo Guo can't sleep. Visions of buffalo milk, whey-based environmentally safe wood finish, flavored tofu, and deicers are dancing in his head, preventing him from getting his eight hours.

Morning comes and Guo, an associate professor and researcher in the department of nutrition and food sciences, heads sleepily to his lab in the Carrigan Dairy Sciences

building with a list of ideas from the previous night. It's here where he will attempt to turn his dreams into actual products.

"I think a lot in the middle of the night," Guo says. "I get a lot of good ideas then. I'm not a patient guy. I think too fast, but I'm starting to get older and a little slower."

Guo has proven more than just a dreamer. An expert in the area of functional foods – foods with physiological benefits that reduce the risk of chronic disease beyond basic nutritional functions – Guo has sold patents through UVM to a number of companies who in turn give a small percentage of sales back to the university. His research has brought millions of USDA grants to UVM, primarily through the help of U.S. Sen. Jim Jeffords, I-Vt. including \$750,000 for 2004.

### A potential cash cow

The potential market for functional foods is massive. In 2002, the functional foods market was a \$20.2 billion business with an anticipated growth rate of 7-10 percent a year. Guo says in 20 years, 85 percent of all food will be functional, primarily due to the increased awareness by consumers of the benefits of healthier foods that also help prevent disease such as tomatoes, grapes, tea, seafood, olive oil, low fat milk and enriched bread. Guo has also created soy-based products and expects that market to reach 7.3 billion by 2007.

Guo and his team of scientists have developed a number of functional food products that include antioxidants, prebiotics and probiotics. In addition to enhancing the immune system and helping to prevent cancer, these live microbial food supplements have a number of other health benefits. Guo created oagurt, (oats and yogurt), buffalo yogurt, tofu skin, and is working on infant formula, a nutritional supplement for pregnant women, and a smoothie-like drink.

"We're near the forefront on a lot of this," he says. He's sold the rights for some of these products to the Vermont Butter & Cheese Company in Websterville, Liberty Yogurt of Canada, which has a plant in Enosburg Falls, Star Hill Farms in Woodstock, and others.

**Surrounded by ideas**

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Many of the products created by Guo are scattered around his office. Cups of yogurt and a coffee table with a fresh coat of whey-based, environmentally safe wood finish sit near his computer desk. "Feel how smooth that is" he says slowly running his hand across the shiny wooden table. Guo clearly loves what he does and is continuously coming up with new ideas to test in his lab, which used to serve as the UVM dairy bar where people would stop for an ice cream cone in the summer.

"I have so many ideas that you have to choose the ones that are scientifically feasible," Guo says. His idea to use whey protein as a binding material to formulate environmentally friendly wood finish was designed to decrease pollution and benefit the dairy and wood industries. Ethan Allen uses the wood finish on some of its furniture products.

Another of Guo's ideas came to him while driving on the interstate. He noticed the damage to the bridge, the road and nearby plants caused by the use of more than five million tons of salt each winter season. He says he found out later that for every dollar spent on salt, forty more dollars were spent to repair the damage it caused.

Following a trip to the airport where he watched ice being removed from the runway with a deicing machine, Guo started thinking of ways to develop environmentally safe deicers by converting lactose in cheese whey to potassium acetate by using a two-stage fermentation.

The dream of a nation using his environmentally-safe deicer to clear its roadways is well underway at the lab and should be completed soon, assuming Guo can get some sleep.

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## Student Rules in Azerbaijan Election

By Tom Weaver



As an international monitor for the presidential election in Azerbaijan, political science student Angela Sherwood doled out some attitude along with the rules. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Generally speaking, a senior honors thesis in political science wouldn't seem to have big screen potential. But as Angela Sherwood '04 spins the first-person story of a lone 21-year-old international election monitor in a former Soviet Republic -- coping with ruling party bosses, intimidating policemen, and an addled voter declaring himself to be Joseph Stalin and shouting his intention to vote for himself -- it seems worth shopping the concept to a few studios. At the very

least, Sherwood's thesis, an examination of Azerbaijan's transition to democracy, will make for a well-informed read, rich in detail and personal perspective.

Through a summer 2003 internship at the United States embassy in Baku and a return trip to serve as an international monitor for the presidential election last October, Sherwood has been both close observer and active participant in the former Soviet Republic's governmental change.

The UVM senior's powers of observation and a considerable measure of courage were on the line when, together with an interpreter, she was the only Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe official assigned to polling station #2 in Masalli, a small city near Azerbaijan's border with Iran. The Precinct Election Commission, the majority of whose members were from the ruling YAP party, was determined to test the young woman's power, including suggesting that they could just take the ballots to a back room to count. And, she needn't come along.

"Fed up with the tricks and games of the commission members," Sherwood announced that if the voting procedure manual wasn't followed, she would declare the precinct's votes invalid in her report to the OSCE. "Amazingly enough, this captured the attention of the commission, and they immediately started feigning innocence at their past actions, and quickly took out the manual and started following each step in exact detail," Sherwood says.

When the precinct vote count showed the opposition party candidate, Isa Gambar, prevailing over the ruling party candidate, it was more than a little uncomfortable. "Previously the celebrity of the precinct, I suddenly began to receive looks of hatred as the young American girl who would be responsible for them losing their jobs," Sherwood recalls. But once all the votes were counted nationwide, the ruling party candidate, Ilham Aliyev, prevailed.

Throughout her experience in Azerbaijan, Sherwood says she was struck by how the diehard ways of life in an authoritarian state contrasted against a new sense of nationalistic pride and citizens' desire to show off their country's progress as a democracy.

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### [Fueling Functional Foods](#)

Visions of buffalo milk, oagurt, whey-based environmentally safe wood finish, flavored tofu, and deicer are preventing Mingruo Guo from sleeping. But morning will come soon and the researcher will be at his carrigan lab where he will turn his dreams into reality.

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Things might have gone down a little differently at Masalli polling station #2 without Sherwood's presence, and she might not have been there without a little help from a number of funding sources at the university. With a pricey plane ticket between her and Azerbaijan, she sought out help from Honors College Dean Robert Taylor. He helped her find a number of funding sources -- including the Area and International Studies Program, the APLE Scholarship Fund, John Dewey Honors, and the Honors College -- to make the trip happen.

Sherwood's experience in Azerbaijan was her second major academic-related trip abroad. She previously spent seven months studying in southwestern China, and both experiences make her a strong advocate for the growth potential in study abroad.

"There's no better way than foreign travel to find out who you are, what kind of society you live in, and what kind of world you live in beyond that," Sherwood says. "Placed in a different society where there are some things you love and some things you can't stand, everything is uncertain. You transcend the idea of nationality and realize you're part of something greater, and you learn that through friendships and experiences."

Sherwood is polishing her Russian these days in preparation for possible post-graduation work in Kazakhstan. Thailand and China are also in the running, and further down the many roads she is poised to travel, Sherwood envisions graduate school in international relations.

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## Trustees Discuss Budget, Construction, Advising

By the view Staff

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"Be careful what you wish for" might have been the theme of Feb. 6th's **Committee of the Whole** meeting of the UVM board of trustees.

The board had asked to see a financial feasibility study of the vision President Daniel Mark Fogel articulated a year ago, to make certain its central assumptions – notably that increasing undergraduate enrollment by 2,000 students would provide much of the financial fuel to power the vision – were supportable.

But the board, which expected to see the final report at the February meeting, also asked that the study "stress" the assumptions in the vision with a variety of downbeat scenarios.

The president and his leadership team, in conjunction with consultant PricewaterhouseCoopers, took the request to heart. The outcome is what looks to be a best-practices financial analysis and model, loaded with the kind of sensitivity to scenario-planning trustees asked for – that was unfinished by the February deadline.

After seeing a summary of work done to date, which clearly conveyed the complexity of the job and the motivation of the team to do it well, trustees felt the good far outweighed the bad.

"I'm a little disappointed the work isn't done," said trustee Bruce Lisman, "but this is more complex and intricate than we thought. As this plays out over the next few years, I think this will be one of the most important parts of the platform we've put in place. It's a marvelous piece of work."

Provost John Bramley, who is leading the internal team with Mike Gower, vice president for finance and administration, said the feasibility study will be done and ready to present at the May board meeting.

The **Facilities and Technologies Committee** discussed a number of upcoming building projects that are central to increasing enrollments and advancing the university's strategic plan.

Hank Colker of WTW Architects reported that his firm has received two independent cost estimates on the University Commons in its current design, and the project falls within the \$70 million proposed budget. Changes have been made to the square footage, primarily an increase of 4,000 square feet for the bookstore, and replacement, on the exterior, of a reflecting pool with an outdoor amphitheatre.

The university hopes to break ground on a parking garage at the Gutterson lot on May 24, with an anticipated completion date of January 2005. The structure will add 550 spaces to the current surface lot. A number of factors, storm-water issues to changes in south campus roadways, have increased the project's cost from \$8 million to \$12.5 million. The trustees approved a resolution to use current bonding to cover the increased cost.

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President Fogel informed the board that Gov. Douglas has recommended a \$2.1 million state capital appropriation in support of the proposed life sciences facility. That number falls short of the \$4 million figure UVM requested and the \$3 million that has tended to be the standard capital appropriation in recent years. UVM will work with the governor and the general assembly to increase that number.

Provost John Bramley told trustees at the **Academic and Student Programming Committee** meeting that in surveys of graduates, conducted a year after they leave the university, 45 percent of those who graduated between 1995 and 2001 rated their advising experience as very good or excellent. In another survey, the National Survey of Colleges and Schools, UVM scored about the same as other doctoral institutions. "But that's not good enough," Bramley said.

Measures recently undertaken to improve advising, he said, are a required evaluation at the department level; an online degree audit program; revised advising handbooks and a website. Bramley also noted the need for more programs to guide first-year students, such as the TAP and STEP programs in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Beginnings program in the College of Agriculture.

Fred Curran, director of institutional studies, reported that total student enrollment this term is 10,166, the highest for a spring semester since 1993.

Don Honeman, director of admissions and financial aid, shared preliminary information on applicants for the fall 2004 class. The quality, diversity and number of applications are on the rise, Honeman said. For complete information, see article in News Briefs, "Applications Increase to Near Record Levels."

Honeman also noted that his office is developing a model to invite student participation in the Honors College, with admissions letters to candidates slated for mid-March.

The **Diversity Committee** reviewed the university's policy statements on gender, race, and ethnic diversity in order to align them with President Fogel's initiatives and the recent Supreme Court decision on the University of Michigan's policies.

Vice Provost for Multicultural Affairs Willi Coleman reported that current searches to fill job openings "will net the largest number of persons of color ever and dramatically change the curriculum and the faces on this campus."

Ted Winfield, associate vice president for budget and resource management, reported to the **Finance and Budget Committee** expected FY'05 revenues of \$200 million and expenditures of \$206 million. The shortfall will be filled by payback sources from the Voluntary Separation program and \$3.8 million in other reductions and revenue enhancements.

Michael Gower, vice president of budget and finance, said UVM expects a 2 percent allocation for FY '05 from the state, rather than the 3 percent requested, or \$350,000 less. The contingency fund has \$190,000, with fewer than five months left in the fiscal year, he said.

A Lincoln, Vt., house donated by Oletha '41 and Robert Bickford '43 of Starksboro, will be sold, and the proceeds will establish a faculty fellowship awards fund.