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Eggsact Science



Scrambled Eggs: Engineering student Kyle Cram launches a middle-schooler's "egg-ship" from the top of Williams Hall. (Photo: Josh Brown)

NASA used heat shields, a parachute, and rockets to safely land Pathfinder on the rocky surface of Mars. The fire escape outside Williams Hall isn't Mars, but for 200 middle school students trying to safely transport an egg from its fifth-floor landing to the surface of our planet was just as daunting.

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

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Generation Given

the pitched tents inside

and outside of Billings,

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gorp table, visitors to

Orientation could be

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recruitment event for

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David Todd San

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Diego to Burlington in

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Officer. David Todd did

both in January, leaving

behind the University of San Diego to become

brand new university

job title with the all-

Chief Information

UVM's first CIO.

the Outing Club.

they'd wandered into a

The Next

Feb. 22, 7 p.m. Talk: Tony Magistrale, professor of English, will deliver a talk and sign his new book, Abject Terrors: Surveying the Modern and Postmodern Horror Film. Barnes and Noble.

Feb. 23, 3 p.m.
Forum: Uday
Sukhatme, dean of
the college of arts
and sciences and
professor of physics
at State University of
New York at Buffalo,
will host an open
forum as part of the
interview process for
the provost position.
Billings, North
Lounge. Information:
provost search

Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.
Lecture: Lisa Gilman,
professor of English,
University of Oregon,
will speak on
"Gender and Cultural
Hybridity in
Contemporary
Malawian Politics" as
part of the Living/
Learning Center
Speaker Series.
Living/Learning
Center, 216
Commons.

Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.
The Lane Series
presents, "The
Twelfth Annual Van
Cliburn International
Piano Competition
Gold Medalist,"
featuring the medal
winners of the
world's most
prestigious piano
competition. Music
Building, Recital Hall.
Information: 6564455

Feb. 27, 4:15 p.m. Seminar: Don Baker, professor of earth



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UVM HOMEPAGE

Eggsact Science

By Joshua Brown Article published Feb 21, 2006



Scrambled Eggs: Engineering student Kyle Cram launches a middle-schooler's "egg-ship" from the top of Williams Hall. (*Photo: Josh Brown*)

At 17,000 miles-perhour, Pathfinder plunged toward Mars. Using heat shields, a parachute, and rockets, NASA engineers slowed the spaceship as it angled toward the rocky surface of the planet. Its landing was cushioned by airbags that sent the craft bouncing four stories like a superball. Its cargo, the Mars Rover, chugged out from inside —unharmed.

The fire escape on Williams Hall is not

Mars. But 12-year-old Kaitlin Boudah, a 7th grader from Colchester Middle School, hopes that her cardboard craft will carry an egg safely from the fifth-floor landing down to the surface of our planet. She's one of more than two hundred children from across the state in this year's Egg Drop contest, part of National Engineer's Week events on February 16, sponsored by UVM's College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

"It's got a big metal weight at the end for speed," she says, holding up a tube that looks like a silo painted six colors. "There's newspaper in there to crumple when it hits. And the egg goes inside this foam football that we cut in half." She stands in a huddle of fellow students around Kyle Cram '06, an electrical engineering major and the key student organizer of "E-week" activities. He's sent elementary and high school students across campus to crush pasta bridges, shoot off bottle rockets, and assemble edible cars. Now he's handing out the eggs.

"The main purpose of this event is to get kids excited about math and science," Cram says. "Pathfinder endured crashing into the planet. Engineers learn how to solve problems." Boudah gingerly nestles her egg inside the football and hands it back to Cram, who heads up the fire escape with an armload of other soon-to-descend vehicles made from pipe cleaners, foam packaging, duct tape, and hope. "I'm testing flour in mine," says Huy Truong, another middle-schooler from Colchester.

Data from the National Center for Education Statistics show that average science scores for US eighth graders improved between 1995 and 2003 and rose in the international rankings too. Still, many high school graduates' grasp of science is woefully weak—and not enough young people, especially girls and minorities, are going into science, engineering, and technology fields (sometimes called "SET") to meet the nation's growing need.

"America is abandoning engineering," says Bhagwat Mangla, a senior engineer at IBM in Essex Junction, who volunteered to help out with the day-long event. "I don't know why, but it's dangerous."

"One solution to the problems of too few qualified SET workers and the lack of science and technology literacy," writes Domenico Grasso, dean of UVM's engineering school, in a 2003 paper he co-authored for Insight, "is to engage

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INTERview: H. David Todd

children in the excitement of science and technology through discovery and play." Take Kaitlin Boudah and her classmates.

"Here it comes," one of them screams, jumping up and down, as Boudah's egg begins its inexorable fall. Clicking a stopwatch, Elizabeth Brosseau '06—an engineering major now applying to graduate school in biomedical engineering—times the fall of each vehicle. She recalls an event in high school called "Design TASC" that was "definitely the moment," she says, when she knew she wanted to be an engineer.

At the bottom of the fire escape an arc of shattered Pringles cans, pennies used for weight, and, yes, long yellow eggy smears, tells a tale of designs failed. But some eggs make it—and perhaps, amidst trial and error, Brosseau thinks, another engineer is being made too.

She and Cram will help judge each entry, completed by a team of 2-4 students, based on how fast it falls (unlike Pathfinder, faster is better), as well as creativity in design, and, of course, the fate of its cargo. The basic rules prohibit vehicles over 15 pounds, liquids, gases, explosives, radioactive material, and "nothing living or dead." Except, of course, the egg. Cracked eggs are in one category and surviving eggs another; broken containers are in one category and surviving containers another. Trophies await.

Boudah's ship slams into the ground with a thud, bounces end over end, and rolls away down the bus access road. She and her teammates give chase across the pavement. Prying open the rounded end of their bruised but intact vessel, they pull out the foam football and peer in. Victory.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Career Services: The Next Generation

By Jeffrey Wakefield Article published Feb 22, 2006



Job Hunting: Students at Senior Orientation got more than just resume writing tips during the inaugural event sponsored by Career Services. (Photo: Andy Duback) Given the pitched tents – one outside Billings and another inside the front door – the compass imagery on signs and flyers, and the make-your-own gorp table, visitors to last week's Senior Orientation in Marsh Lounge could be forgiven for thinking they'd wandered into a recruitment event for the Outing Club.

If the backcountry feel created some momentary confusion, that was just fine with UVM Career Services

staff, who designed the event to draw in curious passers-by, then prompt a mind-shift about life after graduation (it's about getting oriented, not knowing all the answers) and, gulp, the search for a career.

According to Pamela K. Gardner, director of Career Services, the office wanted to create a fun and engaging outreach event "because we know there are students out there who are so worried, it's hard for them to take the first step of getting to know us. Once they make a human connection, and stop seeing us as a remote department, they realize they're going to be fine."

For the more than 100 students who dropped in, mixing fun at the spin art table and tattoo tent with serious discussions about resumé writing and fellowship opportunities, the event was just what the doctor ordered.

"I have no idea what I'm going to do, but I keep getting asked," says Kelly Pulawski, a senior psychology major from Burlington who'd been studying in Billings and was drawn to the event out of curiosity. "It's very daunting, what comes next. Now I know about Career Services; they have information I need."

Same old same old?

Critics could dismiss Senior Orientation as a gimmicky event varnishing the same old services with a shiny new veneer. In reality, it's emblematic of an across-the-board transformation in the way Career Services does business – one that is starting to yield results.

In the early 2000s, several factors prompted Career Services to rethink itself. A series of books on the so-called Millennial Generation – a post-Gen X group of high-pressured, altruistic, demanding young people, who began arriving at college in 2000 – got staff questioning whether they were in step with the times. At the same time, staff were seeing a major drop-off in the number of students responding to job postings. And there was the statistical reality: only about half of UVM's undergraduates typically had contact with the office over their four-year college career.

"We wondered if our image was too buttoned-down and stodgy to deal with

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this new generation, if our appointments-only policy was turning off students who wanted to come when the mood struck them, and/or if students didn't like the jobs they saw posted," says Gardner.

Further motivated by the arrival of President Dan Fogel in 2002 and his call for upping the university's "competitive metabolism," the office decided to attack everything at once.

Pretty in pink and magenta

The décor of the center, located in Building E of the Living/Learning Center, had featured a dispiriting beige and gray color scheme, replete with dreary standard-issue office furniture. After a redecoration that was completed last month, magenta and pink now rule the day. Students roll between work stations on upholstered chairs with coasters, over a checkerboard floor. And funky, Jetsons-esque circular tables are nestled in a private nook and next to a cozy couch.

The center also shifted to a walk-in, no-appointment-necessary mode, promoted itself aggressively, and had exterior signs installed around Building F

Perhaps most important, Career Center staff took a long hard look at the jobs they were posting. "Our job postings are one of our faces for students," says Gardner. "We asked, 'Who are the employers students want to work with and how were we going to attract them?'"

Because they met with students every day, staff knew who the target companies were and began a massive outreach campaign to nearly 650 new employers with ties to recreation, the environment, adventure, the outdoors, and health. Over the last year, 569 new jobs have been posted, bringing the total number to 1,465, compared with 792 last year.

These efforts, along with a revamped Web site that is more student-friendly, have begun to pay dividends. Web activity has doubled over last year. The center has seen 360 walk-in visits in 2005/2006, compared with 83 appointments made over a similar period last year. And two weeks into the spring semester, its busiest, the center has already had contact with over 4,000 students, compared with 4,003 during all of last year.

Events like the Senior Orientation are playing a role, too. "My mom keeps bothering me to go to the career center," says Elaine Alden, a senior anthropology major from Ann Arbor, Michigan as she munches on gorp. "But this is a much better way to go. I don't know what I want to do, but I feel like I have a path now."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

INTERview: H. David Todd

By Tom Weaver Article published Feb 21, 2006



One of David Todd's first tasks as new chief information officer has been planning the relocation of the IT machine room, currently in Waterman, to an off-campus location. (Photo: Tom Weaver)

San Diego to Burlington in midwinter is a bold move. The same might be said for taking on a brand new university job title with the allencompassing sound of Chief Information Officer. David Todd did both in January, leaving behind the University of San Diego to become UVM's first CIO. He says he knows cold from years in Bozeman, Montana, and being the inaugural CIO is also a familiar environment for Todd. This is the fourth time he's been in the role. His initial interest and expertise in

information technology started as Todd studied for his doctorate in theoretical chemistry at Johns Hopkins University. Chemistry and computers were both part of Todd's first job at Wesleyan University, but information technology grew to become his main focus in subsequent positions at Montana State and USD. At UVM, Todd is responsible for managing CIT and providing central leadership for information technology across academic and administrative units.

the view: You've been on the job just a bit more than a month. Have you started to get a sense of initial priorities?

DAVID TODD: Yes, actually, I had that well before I got started. I've done a lot of consulting and been in the role of being the first CIO several times before. So, I've become reasonably quick at going into an institution, asking a bunch of questions, looking around and figuring out, here's where we are and here's what needs to be done. Of course, there are always surprises.

One of the things that has surprised me is that many of the elements of the technology infrastructure at UVM are really state of the art. They are really as good as you will find in any other institution. What is lacking is some sense of coherence. There's a need to organize better and present ourselves better. I've also been pleasantly surprised by the high level of expertise on our staff. I didn't know that before I came.

I understand you've been having one-on-one meetings with all of the staff in CIT.

I'm doing that for a couple of reasons. If you really want to know what people are doing, what the problems are, and where the opportunities are, you need to talk to the staff. A lot of the staff are very close to the customers and have a good sense of what needs to be done. So, these meetings help me figure out where there are other opportunities.

More subtly, it shows where there is resonance. If the staff have a sense of something and I've had the same sense, it can establish a resonance, the ability to say, "Yes, I hear you," and move in the same direction. Basically, it

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helps build a sense of team and it gives me additional information. It's very important, I think, that the staff knows me and I know the staff. The conversations range all over the place from experiences in Connecticut to experiences in San Diego to dogs to whatever.

I'm interested in your leap, or perhaps evolution, from theoretical chemistry to the IT world.

Well, it was a long evolution, not really a leap. It started in my second year at Johns Hopkins when a job came up in the computer center to do, essentially, programming support as a research assistantship. I sat down and read all the manuals, got fairly knowledgeable about the systems. Since I was a chemist, chemistry faculty and students would come in for help. I was pretty knowledgeable about science applications, in particular, so I suggested to the director setting up a similar program to help scientists in other disciplines, such as sociology or biology. Then I managed that program.

When it came time to look for jobs, I got a post-doc offer in chemistry, I got offers in computing management, then I got an offer that was both chemistry and computers. So I chose that one. Over the time I was at Wesleyan, I developed more and more of a computing concentration and became very involved in professional organizations, professional development. I got more and more interested in places where I could make a difference. The chemistry stuff was fairly static and the computing stuff was very dynamic.

How does your background as a chemist still inform what you do?

Well, there are two aspects to that. As a scientist, I deal with facts. I prefer to do fact-based decision making, get the data together and do the analysis. As a faculty member, I've had the experience of working as a researcher. That gives me a different perspective than having been strictly an administrator my entire career.

Wesleyan, Montana State, USD – you mention that you've been in this sort of role before. What feels different about the job ahead at UVM?

I won't say different, I would say similar to USD. I loved Montana, but one of the things that lured me to San Diego was a sense in the administration of opportunity. It was a sense of opportunity, excitement, a community that really did want to pick up and move. I've gotten that overwhelming sense here also.

That board meeting on Friday absolutely convinced me that I was in the right place. Some people think student protests are a bad thing. I think it's a sign of life for the university. The statements from the representatives of the students and faculty, President Fogel and the board chair's response—it was a good discourse. There were different perspectives, but a willingness to talk about things. I thought, this is the place to be. This is an exciting place.

What I saw was an intellectually active faculty and student body, which is something that is important to me. It's a place where there are opportunities to step out and make a difference.

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School of Business Wins Microsoft Research Grant Feb 22, 2006

The School of Business Administration and the School of Engineering have been awarded a two-year grant by Microsoft Research to further incorporate and evaluate the contribution of tablet PCs to the learning outcomes of students in business and engineering.

University Looks to Improve Position in RecycleMania Contest

Feb 14, 2006

After one week of RecycleMania, an event that pits 80 colleges and universities against each other to see which one is the best at recycling, UVM is well behind it 8thplace finish of 2005.

College of Medicine Appoints First Associate Dean for Faculty and Staff Development and Diversity

Feb 15, 2006

College of Medicine Dean John Evans has announced the appointment of Karen Richardson-Nassif, as the College's first associate dean for faculty and staff development and diversity, effective immediately.

Experts Debate Whether Student-Athletes Should be Paid Feb 13, 2006

Boyce Watkins, a finance professor from Syracuse University, and Robert Corran, UVM's director of athletics, engaged in a friendly, but impassioned debate on Feb. 8 in Stafford Hall over the controversial issue of whether student-athletes should be paid.

University Shatters Applications Record

Feb 14, 2006

Applications to the University of Vermont have risen 36.7 percent over last year's record level, setting a new high of 17,616 to date. Last year at this time, 12,890 applications had been received. Before last year, the record was 11,953, set in 1987 at the height of UVM's public ivy era. Applications have more than doubled since 2001.

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The \$100,000 grant, one of 11 to receive funding out of 165 applicants, is expected to set the stage for further support and research, according to Rocki-Lee DeWitt, dean of the School of Business. Jim Kraushaar, associate professor of business who helped secure the grant, said the PCs will give students the ability to utilize a "digitized pen" technology to take handwritten notes, sketch diagrams or edit existing documents directly on their PC screen. "We're hoping they get used to using the pen to the point where the technology fades into the background," said Kraushaar, who added that monitoring and evaluating progress of the students is part of the grant.

Kraushaar worked with David Novak, assistant professor of business; Jeff Frolik, assistant professor of electrical and chemical engineering; IT professional Thomas Chittenden; and Nicole Chittenden, BSAD IT Manager to secure the grant.

This grant follows a string of recent successes by the MIS team, including an invited presentation at the Midwest Business School Deans' meeting on the use of tablet PCs, and the acceptance of a paper for presentation at the upcoming NERCOMP meetings.

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Top Cats Plan Harmonious Reunion

Feb 21, 2006

As the alumni of the UVM Top Cats prepared for their 25th anniversary concert, there may have been a few trips to the tailor to let out the tux. Understandable, it's been more than a couple of decades since some of these guys last harmonized on the Ira Allen Chapel stage.

Burack Lecturer to Discuss Oil Economics

Feb 22, 2006

Richard Heinberg, a core faculty member at the New College of California, will speak on "Peak Oil: Challenges and Opportunities at the End of Cheap Oil" on March 2 in Ira Allen Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Full Slate of Events Planned Around Fleming Exhibit Feb 22, 2006

A number of events are scheduled to coincide with The Fleming Museum's exhibition of "The Inferno of Dante" by Michael Mazur, featuring 41 black-and-white prints illustrating the most famous section of Dante Alighieri's "The Divine Comedy."

Events Celebrate Final Week of Black History Month Feb 22, 2006

The Harlem Gospel Choir will perform in a torch passing ceremony on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel marking the end of Black History Month and the beginning of Womyn's Herstory Month.

Second Candidate for Provost Position to Host Open Forum Feb 22, 2006

Uday Sukhatme, dean of the college of arts and sciences and professor of physics at State University of New York at Buffalo since 2002, will speak at an open forum on Feb. 24.

Student Life Accepting Nominations for Senior Awards Feb 14, 2006

The Department of Student Life is accepting nominations for the 2006 Senior Awards and is in the process of planning its annual Leadership Recognition Ceremony scheduled for May 4 at noon.

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The Top Cats have bridged musical eras from early eighties big-hair bands to hip-hop. Though the songs on the charts have changed, the Top Cats' a cappella style on covers from James Taylor to Marvin Gaye is timeless. More than 100 UVM students have been Top Cats since the group first formed in 1981 and approximately 50 of them plan to return for the anniversary concert.

The multi-generational Top Cats will perform at Ira Allen Chapel on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 8 p.m. Concert tickets are \$5 for current students and children 12 and under, and \$10 for UVM alumni, parents and friends. Visit the Top Cats' website for tickets or call 1-888-458-8691. The group will also release a 25th anniversary CD, "No Shoes, No Problem," on Feb. 25. See the group's website for details.

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By The View Staff
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Richard Heinberg, a core faculty member at the New College of California, will speak on "Peak Oil: Challenges and Opportunities at the End of Cheap Oil" on March 2 in Ira Allen Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Heinberg is author of *The Party's Over: Oil, War and the Fate of Industrial Societies*, and *Powerdown: Options and Actions for a Postcarbon World*, books widely credited with alerting America to the imminence of fossil fuel peaking and the implications energy shortages will have for economies, governments and lifestyles.

In addition to lecturing widely and authoring numerous articles on resource depletion and cultural ecology, Heinberg has been featured on National Public Radio and Television and in the award-winning film *The End of Suburbia*.

His talk is sponsored by the Burack President's Distinguished Lecture Series and the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. A reception will immediately follow in Billings.

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Full Slate of Events Planned Around Fleming Exhibit

By The View Staff
Article published Feb 22, 2006

A number of events are scheduled in conjunction with The Fleming Museum's exhibition of "The Inferno of Dante" by Michael Mazur, featuring 41 black-and-white prints illustrating the most famous section of Dante Alighieri's "The Divine Comedy." The exhibit will be on display until May 14, 2006.

In 1993, Mazur, one of America's most distinguished printmakers, was commissioned to create a suite of prints to accompany American Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky's acclaimed translation of this classic Italian poem. Since 2000, the complete suite of prints have been exhibited in both Europe and America, including their premiere showing at the Museo di Castelvecchio in Rome as part of the 700th anniversary celebration of Dante's landmark poem.

The following events are planned to coincide with the exhibit's arrival at the Fleming and will be held at the museum, unless otherwise noted:

- Feb. 26, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Film: Giuseppe de Liguroro's L'Inferno, the first full-length Italian feature film ever made in 1911, explores Dante's Inferno.
- March 2, 7 to 8:15 p.m. Town Meeting Poetry Reading of Dante's Inferno at Fletcher Free Library. Burlington artists, writers, politicians, students, and scholars read their favorite cantos from Dante's Inferno. Hosted by Professor William Stephany and Major Jackson. Confirmed readers include: Mayor Peter Clavelle, UVM Professor Antonella Borra, VPR DJ George Thomas, Secretary of State Deb Markowitz, poet and former State Auditor Elizabeth Ready, and distinguished guests.
- March 8, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Noontime Discussion: "Dante Translated in Word & Image" with Tom Simone, associate professor of English.
- March 9, 12 to 1:30 p.m. Discussion with Michael Mazur and former Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky.
- March 9, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Poetry Reading with Robert Pinsky at the UVM Music Recital Hall.
- April 2, 3 to 4 p.m. Gallery Talk: "The Inferno of Dante" with Evelyn C. Hankins, curator of collections and exhibitions.

Note: Support for this exhibition and affiliated programs has been provided by the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Fund; UVM's Buckham Fund; and the Dan and Carole Burack President's Distinguished Lecture Series through the English Department, the Honors College, the Provost's Office, the Vermont Humanities Council, and the Fletcher Free Library.

Eggsact Science

NASA used heat shields, a parachute, and rockets to safely land Pathfinder on the rocky surface of Mars. The fire escape outside Williams Hall isn't Mars, but for 200 middle school students trying to safely transport an egg from its fifth-floor landing to the surface of our planet was just as daunting.

Career Services: The Next Generation

Given the pitched tents inside and outside of Billings, the compass imagery on signs and flyers, and the makeyour-own gorp table, visitors to last week's Senior Orientation could be forgiven for thinking they'd wandered into a recruitment event for the Outing Club.

INTERview: H. David Todd



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Events Celebrate Final Week of Black History Month

By The View Staff Article published Feb 22, 2006

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

The Harlem Gospel Choir will perform in a torch passing ceremony on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel marking the end of Black History Month and the beginning of Womyn's Herstory Month. The event is sponsored by Program Board and the Black Student Union.

Leading up to the event are three weekend gatherings sponsored by the Black Student Union:

- Feb. 24, "The Black Out Party," Southwick Hall, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Feb. 25, "The Ebony Fest Fashion Show," Southwick Hall, 6 p.m. to 9 p.
- Feb. 26, "Soul Food Social Brunch," Fireplace Lounge, Living/Learning Center, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Second Candidate for Provost Position to Present at Open Forum

By The View Staff
Article published Feb 22, 2006

Uday Sukhatme, dean of the college of arts and sciences and professor of physics at State University of New York at Buffalo since 2002, will host an open forum at 3 p.m. on February 23 at Billings, North Lounge.

Sukhatme, who received his doctor of science degree in theoretical physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1971, served as head of the physics department and interim vice provost for academic affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago before coming to Buffalo.

While at UIC, Sukhatme was awarded the UIC Award for Excellence in Teaching. His two main areas of research interest are the phenomenology of high energy hadronic interactions and consequences of supersymmetric quantum mechanics. His research, which has resulted in over 160 publications, has been continuously supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

For more information on the provost search, visit the <u>provost search</u> website.

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FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

February 22, 2006

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Publications and Presentations

Dr. Edward Krawitt, professor of medicine, published a prestigious Medical Progress Review article entitled, "Autoimmune Hepatitis," in the January 5 *New England Journal of Medicine*. A leader in the field of chronic hepatitis research, Krawitt was also lead author of an article entitled, "Peginterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin for treatment-refractory chronic hepatitis C," in the August 2005 *Journal of Hepatology*. In that study, he and his co-authors, which included **Takamura Ashikaga**, director of medical biostatistics and biometry, and **Dr. Nicholas Ferrentino**, associate professor of medicine, found that as many as half of individuals with chronic hepatitis C who did not previously achieve a disease remission with previous treatment, can successfully respond to a regimen that includes a long-acting form of the drug interferon.

Jennifer Lussier, a former UVM psychiatry pre-doctoral fellow, published a paper entitled, "A meta-analysis on voucher-based reinforcement therapy for substance use disorders," in the January issue of *Journal Addictions*. Voucher-based reinforcement therapy was developed at UVM by Stephen Higgins, professor of psychiatry and psychology. In addition to Lussier and Higgins, co-authors on the report include Sarah Heil, research assistant professor of psychiatry and Gary Badger, biostatistician in medical biostatistics and lecturer of mathematics and statistics.

Members of the School of Business Administration's MIS team have been invited to make a presentation on the use of tablet PCs at the Midwest Business School Deans' meeting at the University of Nebraska. Members were also notified of the acceptance of a paper for presentation at the upcoming NERCOMP annual conference in Worcester, Mass., at the DCU Center on March 20-22.

Awards and Honors

Stephen Higgins, professor of psychiatry and psychology, was elected president of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence for 2006-2007. The College on Problems of Drug Dependence is the longest standing scientific organization in the United States dedicated to the study of drug dependence and serves as an interface among governmental, industrial and academic communities maintaining liaisons with regulatory and research agencies, as well as educational, treatment, and prevention facilities in the drug abuse field. It also functions as a collaborating center of the World Health Organization. Higgins pioneered the use of a voucher-based incentive system to help substance abusers remain abstinent. He is the recipient of a MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) Award from the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The MERIT award recognizes outstanding researchers whose work has been successfully reviewed and funded by the NIH for a long period. In 1996, he received the first-ever Dan Anderson Research Award from the renowned Hazelden Foundation in Minnesota. In 1993, he received the Joseph Cochin Award from the College on Problems of Drug Addiction.

February 15, 2006

Publications and Presentations

Jane Okech, assistant professor in integrated professional studies, had an article entitled, "A Qualitative Exploration of Group Co-Leader Relationships," published in the June 2005 issue of the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work* that was selected as the 2005 Outstanding Article by the editorial board of the journal. She will be presented with a plaque at the annual Association for