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UVM HOMEPAGE

Eat Well, Feel Good

By Thomas Weaver

Article published March 22, 2007

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Serving up Happiness: Laura Cui, Kaitlin Reese and Taryn Ross prepare sandwiches on the ground floor of Billings. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

The corridor through the ground floor of Billings has long led to hotbeds of student creative energy. From the Cynic offices, past WRUV's studio where a bass beat inevitably thumps behind the sticker-plastered door, and on to the busy network of Student Government Association offices.

Tuesday and Friday afternoons, that scene expands to include an unusual blend of the culinary arts and philanthropy when the student volunteers of the Feel Good organization plug in their trusty Foremans to grill cheese sandwiches.

It would be tough to find a more potent combination of thrift and social conscience, gustatory pleasure and sound nutrition than the four-dollar grilled cheese served up by the student volunteers of UVM's Feel Good. Working with bread from Klinger's Bakery and 25 pounds of Shelburne Farms' cheddar donated every week, the group gives all of its profit — \$10,000 last semester alone — to The Hunger Project and Millennium Promise.

Apologies to the big guys at Sodexo and the little guys out in the trucks on University Place, but Feel Good is one of the best campus lunch deals going. This isn't your white bread and Velveeta grilled cheese, but a sandwich with gourmet aspirations from the top-notch bread and cheese to a bevy of embellishments — your choice of garlic, salsa, onions, tomatoes, mushrooms, peppers and spinach. May we suggest the "Cheesus Loves Me"?

Feel Good is a national effort with roots at the University of Texas, where it was started by a circle of cross-country runners and their friends. In 2005, they began spreading the "ending world hunger one grilled cheese at a time" concept to other universities, and there are now 11 chapters nationwide — Columbia to Illinois to Colorado to UC-Santa Barbara. When

UVM Feel Good VP Leah Grossman is asked why this particular method for fighting hunger, her eyes widen a little at the slow-pitch softball question. “Everyone loves grilled cheese,” she says. “It’s simple, delicious, students love it.”

In its philanthropy and educational efforts, Feel Good emphasizes a self-reliant, grassroots model of development – with high priority placed on the empowerment of women. That philosophy is explained at the [organization's website](#): “We believe that conventional, top-down planning is not the answer; it is part of the problem. Top-down, service-delivery approaches are not only too inefficient and inflexible to make a dent in world hunger, they actually undermine the most important resource – the creativity and self-reliance of hungry people themselves.”

Illustrating the concept, UVM student Grossman suggests a variation on the familiar “Give a man a fish or teach a man to fish” wisdom. “These people know how to fish, but the lake is dry or it is surrounded with barbed wire,” she says. “One of the most important things we can do is help remove obstacles that keep people from being able to help themselves.”

With an old-school marketing approach heavily invested in sidewalk chalk, UVM Feel Good has built itself into the leading fundraising chapter in the organization. The Vermont students typically sell in the neighborhood of 100 sandwiches each day during the two afternoons a week they’re open for business in the Billings basement, Feel Good President Taryn Ross says. They also set up at special events, such as SpringFest or February’s Transgender Identity Conference on campus.

Next fall, Feel Good members will move into the Davis Center, where they’ll set up their sandwich-making assembly line in 81 square-feet of deli/kiosk space. It will be a tight squeeze, but the students are used to doing great works with humble things. Archimedes can keep his lever; give these UVM students a Foreman and they can move the world.

Find articles on similar topics: [Service Students](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Music to Their Ears

Schneider's classes score with students

By Jon Reidel

Article published April 4, 2007
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Wayne Schneider, associate professor of music, plays the piano in class and the organ at church on the weekend to liven up his classes and stay sharp. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Wayne Schneider, associate professor of music, considers himself a teacher of the old school variety. He's been working at his craft for more than three decades and jokes of eventually succumbing to 'white lung' from all the chalk dust he stirs up at the blackboard during one of his music

history courses. Despite his self-view, it's apparent that the Kroepsch-Maurice Award winner is as contemporary as he is traditional.

Sure, he'd dominate a game of "Name that Tune" (he's old enough to remember the 1950s game show) if it featured music from the Renaissance, Baroque and Classical periods, but he's currently listening to Dolly Parton, Hank Williams Sr. and whatever hip hop or alternative music his students thrust at him to hear and critique.

For the past 13 years, Schneider has been teaching music history courses at UVM. He's managed to keep it fresh, in part by playing the keyboard or piano and CDs in class to illustrate his points. He requires students to buy and listen to CDs; they'll be asked to name composers from musical snippets played during exams. A surprising number of students — the same ones who say his courses are very challenging — call Schneider the best teacher they've ever had at UVM. "The real strength of the course was the professor," writes one student. "He seemed to truly enjoy teaching and had such a command of the subject that we were never confused. He made class fun."

As far as Schneider is concerned, he's succeeded if he's broadened students' musical horizons and helped them to "listen with different ears." "I feel like my job is done when my students tell me that they'll listen to anything," he says. "Students come here with a different set of musical suitcases today. But their passion about music is still high. The

music, the text as it were, is always at the center of what I teach. Music is a living tradition, and I want them to become part of that heritage.”

The magic of music in the classroom

Not one to talk about his teaching style, which was honed in various positions at Harvard, Cornell, Brown and Colby prior to arriving at UVM in 1993, Schneider lights up when he plays the piano. When he lectures, he often jogs over to the keyboard or piano to enhance a point, then “goes back to lecturing like a nerdy professor,” as he puts it. “I really like students to hear music,” he says. “There’s something magical that occurs when I play in class. There really is something special that occurs in a classroom that can’t happen online or anywhere else.”

Schneider has played music since he took up the piano at age eight in Cedar Falls, Iowa. He started playing the organ at local churches by age 16 and hasn’t stopped since. He was the organist at the Essex Congregational Church for many years and is currently organist at the Middlebury Congregational Church. He’s also served as the university organist.

Schneider brings recent graduates back to class to give students a feel for what it’s like to try and make it in the music world. Versatility is one of the things he preaches. “Sending out students who are narrow is bad,” he says. “They’ve got to be able to get work in a variety of places whether it’s at a club, on Broadway or doing commercials.”

Former student Monika Heidemann ’99, whose self-released album, “Bright,” is being hailed as one of the top contemporary jazz albums of 2007, says Schneider’s teaching style was infectious. “I remember him as an extremely dynamic and enthusiastic teacher who loves music so much and loves teaching,” she says. “His charmingly quirky teaching style and personality make him stand out from other teachers, and he is extremely approachable, which is why students love him so much.”

Scholarship and solitude

Students who have taken Schneider’s more advanced courses such as “Music History and Literature” or “Mahler and *Fin-de-siecle* Vienna,” tend to appreciate his extensive knowledge even more than their non-music-major counterparts. He encourages all questions and hasn’t become jaded or condescending when asked the same question for the 1,000th time: “I love Wayne Schneider,” writes one student. “This is the third class I’ve taken with him, and they all have been stimulating.”

The effects of his class can be equally powerful with non-majors, however, as Schneider recalls a star basketball player who acquired an appreciation for classical music. “He told me that he used to listen to rap, but that it got him too hyped up and he made too many mistakes. He said he played better after he started listening to Vivaldi and that it had just the right effect.”

Over the years, Schneider has moved from teaching later periods of music

history such as rock and roll, musical theater and Gershwin, to all periods of history. He admits to feeling like he's teaching on the defensive at times struggling to maintain relevance to the older music. In those early years, he attempted to win over every student to the music, measuring his success by his number of converts. Not so anymore, he says. "You can't chain students to a desk and make them listen to something. "I just want them to develop an appreciation for the history of music."

Schneider, who loves scholarship and solitude, has published a number of articles and books, including *The Gershwin Style* by Oxford University Press (1999). But, it's always been the teaching of the music that he's enjoyed the most. "Teaching is the soul of a university," he says. "I'm frankly honored by this award, but there are a lot of very good teachers here."

Find articles on similar topics: [Teaching Kroepsch Music](#)

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INTERview: Jerome Ringo

By Joshua Brown

Article published March 27, 2007
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Jerome Ringo, president of the Apollo Alliance and chairman of the National Wildlife Federation, will keynote the Spring Aiken Lecture Series.

Perhaps it's the stacks of new scientific reports; perhaps it's the drowning polar bears; perhaps it's Al Gore — for whatever reason, global warming has leapt outside the environmental movement and hit the front pages. And if the atmospheric models are right, this

attention couldn't be coming too soon. There's not much more than a 10-year window to dramatically reduce our output of greenhouse gases or face a "point of no return," NASA climate scientist James Hansen recently claimed.

Taking up this urgent theme, UVM's Spring Aiken Lectures, "Global Climate Change — No Time to Waste," will bring two internationally renowned problem-solvers to campus, Jerome Ringo and Lawrence Susskind.

The lead speaker, Jerome Ringo, is president of the Apollo Alliance, which promotes alternative energy and job creation. In 2005, he was selected as chairman of the National Wildlife Federation, the first African American to lead a major conservation organization. the view spoke with Ringo from New Haven, Conn., where he is a visiting fellow at Yale University.

THE VIEW: Around the world, global warming is now drawing attention in a way it wasn't a few years ago. Why do think this is?

JEROME RINGO: The rising temperature of the Earth is increasingly obvious to people all over the world. On the Serengeti in Africa, people see that the animals that provide their food have stopped migrating like they normally would. Those who fly over Greenland — as I have done recently — see the meltdown. The permafrost in Alaska is melting. Those of us who live along the Gulf Coast — I am an evacuee of Hurricane Rita —

see that "the intensities of hurricanes is an impact of the warming of our oceans."

Oklahoma Sen. James Inhofe and other doubters express skepticism about climate change. Do you have a response to that perspective?

We in Louisiana are suffering from category five hurricanes, and people like Inhofe are suffering from category five denial. They need to wake up. The science is overwhelming. This is the real deal.

In your role with the Apollo Alliance, what kinds of specific policies are you seeking to slow or stop this global climate change problem?

The Apollo Alliance promotes investment into the research and development of alternative energy. If people around the world would focus more on hybrid cars, solar energy, wind energy, and conservation, as well as biofuels, we could reduce our dependency on those fossil fuels that contribute carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. But we're also advocating a real economic advantage for this country by reducing our dependency on foreign oil and promoting research and development of alternatives that stimulate the American economy and create good jobs.

It's a common observation that African American communities have been on the losing end of many environmental problems — and yet environmental activism has not been strongly developed in those same communities. As an African American conservation leader, what are you hoping to accomplish?

As an African American, I've always been concerned about the serious lack of involvement of the African American community in the organized conservation movement. I believe that the global warming issue can be the glue that connects the dots. It can bring people from all walks of life to the table. It is clear that poor people and people of color are going to suffer a disproportionate impact from global warming.

The 10 hottest years in recorded history have occurred since 1991, and 2005 broke the record as the hottest year. Who have less access to air conditioning? The poor. Who have less access to healthcare to deal with the diseases that are going to occur as a result of these climate swings? The poor. There is a message that I am taking to the poor and of-color community: We have a real stake in global warming.

You spent 20 years working with the petrochemical industry. How does that inform your work now as the chairman of the National Wildlife Federation and other projects you're involved in?

Because I was on both sides of the fence, I have a unique perspective and an opportunity to realize that there is a lot more that can be done by the industry to reduce the impact on communities — and there is a lot more that can be done in the community to reduce that impact.

The Spring Aiken Lecture Series will be held at the Music Building Recital Hall, Thursday, April 5, at 4 p.m. Information: [Aiken Lectures](#)

Find articles on similar topics: [Environment INTERview](#)

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College of Medicine Ranked Seventh in Nation for Primary Care

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By Carole Whitaker
Article published April 3, 2007

The College of Medicine ranks seventh for primary care among the nation's 125 medical schools according to the [U.S. News & World Report 2008 America's Best Graduate Schools](#), on newsstands April 2. The college, which moved up from 14th last year, has consistently ranked in the top 15 percent of all medical schools in primary care.

"We're proud to be recognized as providing top-quality medical education and training for primary care physicians," says interim Dean John Fogarty. "Our curriculum provides wonderful opportunities for medical students to understand the critical role of the primary care physician as well as gain experience in a range of clinical settings."

Each year, *U.S. News and World Report* ranks professional-school programs in business, education, engineering, law and medicine. These rankings are based on two types of data — peer-rankings from medical and osteopathic school leadership and residency program directors about program quality, and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, students and research activity.

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UA Speaker Series Features Mark Stoler

By the view Staff

Article published April 3, 2007

History Professor Mark Stoler will speak on "The Corporatization of Higher Education: A Historical and Personal Perspective," Thursday, April 12, at 4 p.m. in Williams Hall, room 301. The talk, free and open to all, is part of the United Academics (AFT/AAUP) Speaker Series.

Information or accommodations requests (by April 5): 656-4215

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John Dewey Honors Program Announces April Lectures

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By the view Staff

Article published April 3, 2007

The John Dewey Honors Program will sponsor three lectures by two guest speakers in April. On Thursday, April 12, the program's Carol G. Simon Speaker Series will present George Loewenstein, Herbert A. Simon Professor of Economics and Psychology at Carnegie Mellon University. His address, "The Heat of the Moment: Affective Influences on Decision Making," will begin at 4:30 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building.

On Friday, April 13, Lowenstein will speak on "The Scarecrow and the Tin Man: The Vicissitudes of Human Sympathy and Helping Behavior," at 3:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Theater, Billings Student Center.

The John Dewey Honors Program's Zeltzman Visiting Lecture Series will present V.S. Ramachandran, director of the Center for Brain and Cognition and professor in the neurosciences program and psychology department at the University of California, San Diego,. Ramachandran also is adjunct professor of biology at the Salk Institute. His address, "The Neurology of Human Nature," will be given on Tuesday, April 17, at 4 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building.

Information: 656-4464

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Vermont Campus Compact Recognizes UVM for Civic Engagement

By the view Staff

Article published April 4, 2007

Mary Watzin, professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources and director of the Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory, was named the 2007 Vermont Campus Compact Campus Engaged Scholar Award. The award honors one faculty member in Vermont for making community engagement an integral part of their teaching and research and recognizes the innovative or important use of knowledge for the public good.

Watzin has worked extensively with community organizations to advocate for informed management of Lake Champlain through her service and research. Her current research seeks answers to the causes and impacts of blue-green algae blooms in Lake Champlain. Instead of deploying teams of graduate students to collect data, Watzin formed an innovative, citizen-monitoring program to collect data for the study.

The VCC also recognized Carrie Williams Howe, associate director of the UVM office of Community-University Partnerships and Service-Learning, who was the statewide winner of the Campus Leadership for Civic Engagement Award. Williams Howe helped to expand service-learning course offerings and establish the Faculty Fellows program. She also created the service-learning Teaching Assistant Program.

UVM student Nathaniel Moore received the TD Banknorth Commitment to Service and Engagement Award. As student director of the Alternative Spring Break program at UVM, he helped facilitate 19 spring break trips, in which 190 people served over 6,650 hours.

Bonnie Acker and Abbie Nelson were named Engaged Partner Award winners for their work developing and sustaining a lasting partnership with local schools transforming their food education programs and engaging UVM faculty, students, and staff in this mission.

At the March 29 award ceremony, Gov. Jim Douglas presented a special award to Marc vanderHeyden, retiring Saint Michael's College president, in honor of his years of service to Vermont, and UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel was introduced as the new chair of Vermont Campus Compact.

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Men's Basketball Coach Signs Contract Extension

By The View Staff

Article published April 4, 2007

Men's basketball coach Mike Lonergan agreed to a new contract on March 3 that runs through the 2011-12 season and increases Lonergan's base salary to \$150,000 starting July 1.

"In his tenure as men's basketball head coach, Mike Lonergan has provided exceptional leadership and vision," said Athletic Director Robert Corran. "Our program and student-athletes have thrived under his mentorship, pointing to a very bright future. We are all the more excited knowing that Mike and his family will continue as members of the Catamount family for at least the next five years."

A 1988 graduate of Catholic University, Lonergan has guided the Catamounts to a record of 38-25 in his first two years on campus and is 289-115 all-time in 14 years as a head coach. This past season he guided Vermont to a mark of 25-8 overall and won the America East Regular Season Championship with a 15-1 league mark. The Catamounts tied the school record for wins in a season and advanced to the post-season National Invitational Tournament for the first time in school history. Vermont also tied for the national lead in road/neutral victories with 16 on the season, which included winning 13 straight.

"My family and I are very happy and appreciative of the long-term commitment that Dr. Corran and UVM have made to us," Lonergan said. "We are very excited about the future of UVM under the tremendous leadership of President Fogel. This is truly a special place, and we look forward to being a part of the UVM community for a long time."

Lonergan guided Vermont to its first victory over a ranked opponent in the regular season as the Catamounts shocked #14 Boston College 77-63 on Nov. 13. Following the season, he was named the America East Coach of the Year, the NABC District I Coach of the Year, CollegeInsider.com America East Coach of the Year and was a finalist for the Hugh Durham Mid-Major Coach of the Year.

"We love the state of Vermont and think it is the perfect place to raise our children," Lonergan said. "We have the greatest fans in the country, and I know they share our excitement about the future of not only the men's basketball team, but all of our teams under Dr. Corran's guidance. We feel extremely blessed to be a part of the Catamount family."

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Loneragan led Vermont to the conference title game in his first season as coach with the least-experienced team in the nation in 2005-06, as the Catamounts became the first six seed in league history to reach the finals. With Vermont heading back to the championship game this past season, he is the first coach in the America East since Karl Fogel of Northeastern in 1986-87 to take his team to back-to-back title game appearances in his first two years with a school.

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New VQ Spotlights Emeriti Faculty

By The View Staff

Article published April 4, 2007

Larry McCrorey, a pillar for years as professor and dean in allied health, graces the cover of the spring issue of *Vermont Quarterly* magazine, due to hit the mail next week. McCrorey is one of a number of emeriti featured in an article that touches base with faculty retirees Toby Fulwiler, Ron Savitt, Barbara Zucker, Charles Houston and others for a glimpse of where life beyond UVM has taken them.

"The Old Man I Want to Be," an essay by Northeast Kingdom author Garret Keizer, who received his master's in English from UVM in 1978, is a companion piece to the retiree story. Keizer is a frequent contributor to *Harper's Magazine* and, with the help of a Guggenheim Fellowship, is currently at work on a book about noise.

"Deep Roots," a historic and contemporary look at UVM research and teaching in the plant sciences, rounds out the features.

Also of interest, student writer Alice Neiley chips in with a humorous tale from the road documenting her journey from Burlington to Provincetown for a reading by her literary hero Mary Oliver.

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Rambur Named ACE Fellow

By Jeffrey Wakefield

Article published April 4, 2007

Betty A. Rambur, dean of the University of Vermont College of Nursing and Health Sciences, has been named an ACE Fellow for academic year 2007-08 by the American Council on Education.

The ACE Fellows Program is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing promising senior faculty and administrators for responsible positions in university administration. Thirty-nine fellows, nominated by senior leadership of their institutions, were selected this year in a national competition.

Rambur was nominated by UVM provost John Hughes. "Dean Rambur is a valued and insightful member of the Council of Deans at UVM," Hughes said, "and I am pleased that her leadership is recognized by a national organization such as ACE. I'm proud that such leaders at UVM are recognized for the leadership they bring to higher education."

Rambur will focus on a yet to be identified issue of strategic importance to the university, while spending the next academic year working with a university president and other senior officers at a host institution.

The ACE Fellows Program combines seminars, interactive learning opportunities, campus visits and placement at another higher education institution to condense years of on-the-job experience and skills development into a single year. The Fellows are included in the highest level of decision making while participating in administrative activities and learning about an issue to benefit the nominating institution.

After her fellowship, Rambur plans to return to UVM in her role as dean. "I was very pleased to be nominated for this prestigious program because it gives me an opportunity to expand my skills and abilities to better serve both the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the University of Vermont," Rambur said.

Rambur was appointed dean of what was then the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences at the University of Vermont on June 1, 2000. She has been an academic administrator for over two decades and is professor of nursing, as well as a dean, at the college. Rambur received her M.S. and Ph.D. in nursing from Rush University in Chicago and has published widely on rural health issues, healthcare policy and finance and the nursing workforce. She is currently the principal investigator in

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