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Politics and Poetry



Huck Gutman, professor of English, has turned his political avocation into a (temporary) vocation. (Photo: Jeff Wakefield)

It was at the first meeting of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in a drab room in the Dirksen Senate Office Building that it dawned on Huck Gutman, UVM English professor turned staffer for Sen. Bernie Sanders, just how far he'd come from the homey confines of Burlington, Vermont.

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[Climate Change](#) As an undergraduate, Wanda Heading-Grant sought people who looked like her, without much success. She's still working on that mission, now as the interim associate vice provost for multicultural affairs.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

April 12, 2 p.m. Lecture: Fred Magdoff, professor of plant and soil science, will speak on "Conventional Wisdom vs. Reality: Experiences from Soil Science to Agricultural Development," as part of the Vogelmann Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship Lecture. Stafford, 101.

April 12, 6 p.m. Lecture: Egyptologist Pat Remler will speak on "Napoleon in Egypt: The Birth of Egyptology." Fleming Museum. Free for UVM affiliates. Others: students and seniors \$3, adults \$5 and families \$10. Information: 656-2090

April 13, 7:30 p.m. Concert: The Lane Series presents vocal trio "The Roche Sisters." Ira Allen Chapel. Tickets \$25. Information: 656-4455

April 15, 3 p.m. Lecture: Artist Ambreen Butt will give a talk titled, "I Need a Hero," in conjunction with her exhibit. Fleming Museum. Information: 656-2090

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Politics and Poetry

Gutman finds a little poetry helps the meetings go down

By Jeffrey Wakefield

Article published April 3, 2007



Huck Gutman, professor of English, has turned his political avocation into a (temporary) vocation. (Photo: Jeff Wakefield)

It was at the first meeting of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in a drab room in the Dirksen Senate Office Building that it dawned on Huck Gutman, UVM English professor turned staffer for Sen. Bernie Sanders, just how far he'd come from the homey confines of

Burlington, Vermont.

"Sen. Kennedy was 10 feet in front of me, Sen. Obama was 12 feet to my left and Sen. Clinton was 12 feet to my right," he says. "This is the big time," Gutman recalls thinking to himself. "It's not the Faculty Senate."

It was January in Washington, and Gutman was adjusting to a new life in a new city on the strength of a 35-year working friendship with Sanders. The two met in 1971, when a student informed Gutman there was a person in Burlington who "thinks just like you." Gutman has been a friend and regular advisor ever since, primarily researching economic issues for Bernie, the mayor, then Bernie the congressman.

The decision to expand Gutman's role was one the friends made jointly. They touched on it briefly several months before the election, and then cemented the deal in late November. His family was supportive, and the university offered him a leave of absence, so Gutman, who has loved literature and politics equally "his entire life," found himself joining the ranks of the long-distance, commuter class.

Blackberry for your thoughts?

A recent visitor found Gutman holed up in a small office on the third floor of Dirksen Office building readying himself for an afternoon presentation to the Eastern Association of Financial Aid Administrators. A stack of note-filled, yellow legal pads swayed on his desk; books and magazines were



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[Climate Change](#)

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arranged in a few neat piles on the floor; and a copy of the *Hofstra Law Review* lay on a table.

With 11-hour workdays, endless emails and non-stop hearings and meetings with constituent groups, Gutman — who covers education, families, community and foreign affairs for the senator — could not have traveled farther from the placid world of academe. “The academic world is based on thinking and analyzing,” Gutman says. “Here everything is oriented to getting things done.”

To adjust to the harried pace, Gutman has even strapped on a Blackberry — to his amazement, he loves it — which keeps him current with email, prints out his chock-a-block schedule and once told him a meeting had been canceled when he was en route to it.

Voicing Bernie

Gutman shrinks from the idea that he is doing anything so grand as fashioning national policy. “I’m working on the technical details” of writing legislation, he says.

One of the key ways he approaches his work is to find legislation in the making “where Bernie’s voice is necessary.” One such pending bill was the reauthorization of Head Start, the pre-school program for low-income families, whose funding has been growing at less than the rate of inflation for years. Gutman did his homework, speaking with nearly a dozen Head Start directors in Vermont about their concerns, and persuaded the 20 or so other staffers on the HELP committee to ask for a significantly higher authorization than they had planned. “For the most part, people are bright and willing to listen,” he says. The bill successfully passed out of the HELP committee, without amendment. It should come to the floor of the Senate later this month.

Poetic license

As acclimated as Gutman has become to Capitol Hill, a lifetime of teaching literature is impossible to repress. Gutman sometimes kicks off meetings with a benediction of sorts — in the form of a mini-poetry recitation. He launched the Head Start meeting by reciting Wordsworth’s lyric poem “My Heart Leaps Up,” which includes the highly apropos line, “the child is father to the man.”

“Having a poetry professor in the room definitely helps in the mix,” says Michael Yudin, a staffer for New Mexico Democrat Jeff Bingaman. And, he adds, “Everyone likes working with Huck. He’s a reflection of his boss. He inserts a very significant progressive compass into the Democratic caucus.”

Gutman has altruistic goals for his work in Washington, to be sure — “I love the sense that we might actually change the world” for the better, he says — but more personal forces are also at work. While many of the colleagues he began teaching with are winding down, Gutman is not remotely ready for retirement.

"This is a chance to grow, to move onward with your life," he says. With any luck, he'll return to teaching in a year or two "more vibrant, with a renewed sense of how wonderful" being a college professor can be. To make his point, he paraphrases a favorite line from Normal Mailer: "A law of life is that we all have to grow or pay more for staying the same."

Gutman has no intention of staying the same. He grabs a yellow pad, with a rough outline of his financial aid talk, and heads out the door.

It's a strange thought — amplifying Vermont's favorite Brooklyn accent with the words from the language's greatest lyric poets — but, striding down Dirksen's expansive hallways with Gutman, you get the feeling anything is possible.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Earth Is Taking Messages

Environmental art class marks Earth Week with exhibit on the Green

By Lee Griffin

Article published April 9, 2007



Cami Davis, lecturer in art, and her student, Audrey Rotax, prepare cloth strips that will hang from trees on the Green, April 14-20, as part of Davis' class in environmental art. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

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listen and to act more personally. Cami Davis, lecturer in art, is among them.

An artist whose avocations once included ski racing (until she "blew out" her knee), she was torn between majoring in environmental studies or art. Choosing the latter, Davis (a 1976 UVM graduate) never saw a division between her two passions. That insight has led to her teaching a variety of classes in environmental art for the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources as well as painting courses in Arts and Sciences.

"Artists have always been inspired by nature," Davis says. Her own work looks at her relationship to nature, and has shifted in recent years. Davis calls it "a whole-system aesthetic, seeing landscape as us, us embedded in the landscape." She loves equally the collaborations that such thinking invites and which her classes reflect. Her current class, Environmental Art Lecture Series and Studio Seminar, ENVS 195, asks students to make art in answer to one question: "If Earth could hear you now, what would you say?"

The collaboration in the class goes beyond two academic disciplines, drawing on a partnership with Burlington City Arts and the Firehouse Gallery, where classes are held and guest artists lecture. And, beyond that, students engage members of the UVM and Burlington communities, seeking personal answers to that big question that will guide their art

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projects, one of which will be a large-scale, alfresco group project.

Davis conceived the course as a continuation of the "Human=Nature" summer 2006 exhibit at the Firehouse Gallery. That show, she says, "explored emerging areas within the environmental art movement," including ecoventions (see [Green Museum](#)); sense of place; and "understanding human ventures within the larger living web of life." From there, she and her students explored the sacred and secular uses of cloth among many cultures, as prelude to the group project.

"Participants will write messages on simple scraps of cloth (in answer to the 'If Earth could hear you' question)," Davis says. "The concept has roots in the many ancient and contemporary traditions of hanging strips of cloth as invocations or symbolic statements — from sacred wells throughout Ireland and the United Kingdom, to trees outside Japanese temples ... to Tibetan prayer flags and the secular use of ribbons representing messages of solidarity," she explains.

A few days before the exhibition (April 14-20), "hundreds of volunteers will hang the collected messages on the UVM Green, in honor of Earth Day and Week and the global climate change action begun by Bill McKibben, [Step It Up 2007](#)," Davis says. The volunteers aren't counted yet, but Davis is nothing if not confident about taking large leaps of faith and action. In one of her previous collaborations, with local artist Sally Linder, Davis co-created the community arts event "For Love of Earth, A Celebration of the Earth Charter" and the "Temenos Books Project," which continues to travel the world in the [Ark of Hope](#)

Students working on the current project are gathering the scraps (only used cloth is eligible), cutting them into lengths varying between two and four feet long and one to two inches wide and dyeing some. The class — about equally divided between art and environmental majors — will decide on a dominant color as well as the how, where and pattern of the installation. Their exhibit will be one of more than a thousand gatherings nationally for Step It Up's global climate change action.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help install or uninstall the exhibit should contact Davis at cdavis@uvm.edu. Volunteers will gather at the UVM fountain on Friday, April 13, at noon or anytime during the afternoon. Removal help will be needed on Friday, April 20. To contribute a message, contact Sumner Fletcher at Sumner.Fletcher@uvm.edu

This summer, Davis will teach Environmental Art: Transportation Responses. "We'll explore transdisciplinary responses to the alternative transportation systems of the Burlington area," she says. "The goal is that these aesthetic responses might inform the wider dialogue on transportation solutions."



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UVM HOMEPAGE

Climate Change

Heading-Grant builds campus diversity in new role

By Thomas Weaver

Article published April 2, 2007



Wanda Heading-Grant, undergraduate and graduate alumna and currently interim associate vice provost for multicultural affairs, is a driving force behind the implementation of new diversity course requirements. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

In 1983, Wanda Heading applied to UVM because she “wanted to be different.” The Trenton, N.J., teenager didn’t want Rutgers, Seton Hall, Fairleigh Dickinson or the southern schools that were drawing her classmates. Her guidance counselor, who graduated from St. Mike’s but had

hoped to attend UVM, said, “You want to be different? We’re going to get you into the University of Vermont.”

Looking back, Wanda Heading-Grant, now interim associate vice provost for multicultural affairs, laughs that she clearly hadn’t done her geography homework. Weighing UVM against the University of Pittsburgh, she ruled out the latter due to memories of her father and brothers glued to televised NFL games during the heyday of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Those December playoffs at Three Rivers Stadium appeared to be held in the coldest city on the planet, she thought. It is perhaps the sole instance in which Vermont’s lack of a National Football League franchise played a role in student recruitment. Sight unseen, she enrolled at UVM.

Garden State to Green Mountains

It was warm when Heading-Grant first set foot on campus to take part in the Summer Enrichment Scholarship Program, an initiative that introduces students of color and first-generation college students from rural Vermont to college life. Although Heading-Grant was the only female African American student at the time, she found common ground and built friendships. Several other programs drew students of color to UVM that summer, creating a more diverse feel to the campus, she says.

It was a different story when she returned to start the academic year. “Well, the carpet was pulled from under me when I came back for the

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fall," she says. "I really had a hard time my first year." She can recall in detail the early September day when she walked across campus to visit her friend Jim Fong, whom she'd met in the summer program. "Oh, my god, I haven't seen anybody who looks like me," she remembers thinking. "I haven't seen anybody who isn't white." When she got to Fong's dorm room only to find he was out, it was a difficult moment. "I just needed to see someone familiar."

It got better. Heading-Grant began to find her way academically when she switched majors from business to social work. She connected with faculty and staff across campus, among them Leo Trusclair at the ALANA Student Center, English professor Mary Jane Dickerson, social work professor Phyllis Paolucci-Whitcomb and Nobi Emmanuel in the dean of students' office. Her comfort level grew significantly when she met her future husband, Jarvis, who introduced her to a close network of friends in the local African American community.

Not Alone

Over time, Heading-Grant has come to see her undergrad experience differently. "It used to be when somebody asked me about my years in school, I would say they were bittersweet. Now I'd say, 'Yes, I had some bumpy roads, but the sweet part really outweighed the bitter.'"

Heading-Grant went on to earn her master's in social work from Adelphi University and educational doctorate from UVM. She has worked in a number of different roles at UVM, including eight years as executive director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity. "What feels different is that, quite frankly, there are more students who look like you," she says. "Not a lot, but more. Although as we think about diversity, everything isn't about the numbers, it is so important not to feel alone."

Heading-Grant is helping to push forward another major step, implementing the six-credit diversity requirement that was approved by the trustees last spring. (See: [Faculty Senate](#)). That work has absorbed much of her time since succeeding Willi Coleman and moving into her interim role in the provost's office last year. She's worked closely with Cynthia Forehand, professor of anatomy and neurobiology and chair of the Faculty Senate's curricular affairs committee, on the diversity requirement. Next up are the final steps in forming the diversity curriculum review committee, which will be led by Sondra Solomon, associate professor of psychology, and will include faculty representatives from all of the schools and colleges.

The DCRC will determine what courses are appropriate for fulfilling the diversity requirement, which will go into effect, at a three-credit level, with next fall's entering class. Long range, Heading-Grant envisions continuing to improve the campus climate, possibly through an institute to help UVM faculty build diversity into the curriculum, one that could grow into a resource for educators nationwide.

"To have been a student here and to be a part now of what I feel is a real significant change that will happen to the University of Vermont campus, that feels good," Heading-Grant says. "I'm not here by chance, this was mapped out for me. I feel like I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

No Blood, Guts Or Gore - Forensic Medicine Lecture Surprises

By Jennifer Nachbur

Article published April 11, 2007

Millions of people tune in each week to watch television crime dramas such as "C.S.I." and its spin-off series, so it was no surprise to find Carpenter Auditorium filled to near-capacity for Dr. Steven Shapiro's lecture on "Forensic Medicine in Vermont" on April 10. But instead of violent graphic visuals, the audience was treated to a tour through the death investigation process in Vermont, complete with history, causes-of-death categories and statistics and even a few celebrity case studies, including Abe Lincoln and Christopher Reeve.

Shapiro, the chief medical examiner for the Vermont Department of Health and a clinical assistant professor of pathology and adjunct professor of biology, swiftly supplanted any initial disappointment attendees might have experienced with intriguing information about the role of the forensic pathologist in determining the cause, manner and mechanism of death required to issue a death certificate. His deft injection of humor — slides of blood bags, daredevils and Al Gore — covered the "blood, guts and gore" expectations and was interspersed with liberal doses of reality.

Shapiro painted a true-to-life picture of what he as chief medical examiner sees on a daily basis. In 2006, his office conducted 473 autopsies, of which more than 200 were accidental and only 17 were homicides. Elderly falls accounted for most of the accidental deaths, followed by motor vehicle accidents and drug overdoses. Shapiro's work often uncovers public health issue trends that open the door to the establishment of prevention measures and legal systems to reduce the rate of death attributable to specific causes, such as suicide. Due to overwhelming demand, Shapiro will deliver his lecture a second time in May at a date to be determined.

The Spring Community Medical School lecture series continues through May 22. The schedule includes:

April 17: "Changing Minds: How Psychiatric Drugs Interact with the Brain," by Karen Lounsbury, associate professor of pharmacology; and G. Scott Waterman, associate professor of psychiatry and Fletcher Allen psychiatrist and director of psychopharmacology.

April 24: "Boning Up: New Ways of Looking at Osteoporosis," by Edward Leib, professor of medicine and Fletcher Allen rheumatologist and

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[Climate Change](#)

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director, Osteoporosis Center.

May 1: "Learning from Lyme: The Disease, Arthritis and the Immune System," by Ralph Budd, professor of medicine and director of immunobiology and Fletcher Allen rheumatologist.

May 8: "Back Pain: The Second Most Common Neurological Ailment in the U.S.," by Robert Monsey, associate professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation and Fletcher Allen orthopaedic surgeon.

May 15: "Feeling Fit: How Exercise Keeps You Healthy at Any Age," by Philip Ades, professor of medicine and director of cardiac Rehabilitation and preventive cardiology and Fletcher Allen cardiologist.

May 22: "Genes: How They Work - and Don't Work - in Human Disease," by Nicholas Heintz, professor of pathology and microbiology and molecular genetics.

Community Medical School is sponsored jointly by the College of Medicine and Fletcher Allen Health Care. Free parking is available onsite.

[Registration, information](#): 847-2886.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Students Bring Doctors Without Borders Speaker, Advocate for Access to Medicine

By the view Staff

Article published April 10, 2007

Dr. Buddhima Lokuge of Doctors Without Borders/*Medecins Sans Frontieres* (MSF) will speak on the international campaign for access to life-saving medicines on Wednesday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Theater, Billings.

UVM's Global Health Interest Group has joined Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) in inviting Lokuge as part of a National Day of Action to demand that essential drugs developed in campus laboratories be made available throughout the developing world.

As part of UAEM's National Day of Action, UVM students are joining student groups at Harvard, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of California, Berkeley to advocate for patients around the world who die from preventable diseases. Every five seconds, a child dies because life-saving medications are unaffordable. Many of these drugs are developed at academic centers, according to first-year medical student Jason Halperin.

MSF is a medical humanitarian organization that provides emergency aid in more than 70 countries and advocates for greater access internationally to life-saving medical treatment. The organization won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999.

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EarthWeek Concert to Benefit Gardner-Quinn Foundation

By the view Staff
Article published April 10, 2007

UVM's EarthWeek events will include a benefit concert featuring Jazz Mandolin Project for the environmentally focused nonprofit [Michelle's Earth Foundation](#) to commemorate the Earth and one of its own, Michelle Gardner-Quinn. The benefit concert, Earthfest: A Tribute to Michelle, will be held on Saturday, April 21, on Redstone Campus, beginning at 1 p.m. Donations and profits from food vendors and merchandise will go to the foundation.

The mission of Michelle's Earth Foundation is to advance environmental education for young people and facilitate the role of the community in efforts towards creating a healthy, sustainable habitat for humans and nature.

One of Gardner-Quinn's close friends, Julia Martin '09, helped organize the festival, with assistance from two student organizations, VSTEP and the UVM program board.

Other performers include afrobeat/funk group, The Motet, Burlington Taiko Drumming, Panda Watch and Avi & Celia.

Information on concert: [Bored](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Technology Entrepreneurship Workshop Slated for April 16

By the view Staff

Article published April 10, 2007

The second annual Invention to Venture workshop hosted by the university is scheduled for April 16 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center.

The workshop is an introduction to the process and practice of technology entrepreneurship. The goal of the workshop is to engage a wide range of participants from the university community, including science and technology students and faculty as well as members of the surrounding business community. The event is a co-production of UVM's Technology Transfer Office, the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies and the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance.

The cost of the workshop is \$5 for students, \$25 for faculty and staff and \$50 for members of the business community. Scholarships are available.

Information: (508) 497-2497.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Students Calling for UVM Action on Climate Change Issue

By the view Staff

Article published April 10, 2007

A group of students in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources is holding a forum on "UVM and Climate Change: A Call to Action," Wednesday, April 18, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Billings.

The goal of the forum, which is open to the entire campus community, is to brainstorm and synthesize a set of recommendations to present to UVM's governing bodies. These recommendations will outline the institutional commitments the university should be making as part of the global effort to stem the rise of atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations.

Faculty and staff are especially needed to serve as facilitators for breakout sessions during the forum. To participate, contact one of the following students:

Erin.A.Farrell@uvm.edu

Ashley.Wright@uvm.edu

Caroline.Crofton@uvm.edu



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UVM HOMEPAGE

Street Children Speak: An International Videoconference

By the view Staff

Article published April 10, 2007

On Thursday, April 12, UVM students will have the opportunity to speak to Indian street children living in New Delhi in a live, digital videoconference in room 200 of the Medical Education Center, beginning at 8:15 a.m. A panel of students from Assistant Professor of Anthropology Jonah Steinberg's Street Children course will speak in real time to youth who work and live on the streets of India's capital. There will be 120 seats for a studio audience to watch and participate in the event.

Sponsors are the Salaam Baalak Trust, a nonprofit organization founded by noted filmmaker Mira Nair (*Monsoon Wedding*, *Mississippi Masala*, *Salaam Bombay* and *The Namesake*) and the United States Embassy in New Delhi, which will host the event at the American Center. The participating street children are affiliated with the Salaam Baalak Trust. Saleem Ali, associate professor of environmental studies, will provide translation between Hindi-Urdu and English.

There will be an opportunity for audience members to provide questions for student panelists to ask. The dialogue itself will last about 90 minutes, followed by a brief discussion.

Information on the trust and the lives of Indian street children: [Salaam Baalak Trust](#).



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UVM HOMEPAGE

Kunin, Shuman Keynote UVM Colloquium on Local Food

By Joshua Brown

Article published April 11, 2007

You know what carnivores eat, but what about “localvores”? Have you stopped in the produce section and wondered if those California carrots have more frequent flier miles than you do? Do you think Vermont schools should be serving food grown in Vermont? Is there more than nostalgia to a lip-smacking belief in the home-grown tomato?

Questions like these are at the heart of the [GoingLocal](#) colloquium on Wednesday, April 18 and Thursday, April 19.

Madeleine Kunin, former governor of Vermont., will deliver the opening address, “The Nexus Between Sustainability, the Environment, and Local Foods,” on Wednesday, April 18 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman. The event continues in Waterman on Thursday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., featuring panel discussions, lectures, films, displays and taste tests.

Panel discussions will explore the steps needed to find a job in local agriculture; financial and regulatory challenges of bringing local foods to school cafeterias and university dining halls; potential impacts of global warming on the Vermont food system; and how national and state-level policies affect efforts to “go local.”

Starting at 2 p.m., faculty from the Economics Department, School of Business Administration, Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, Center for Sustainable Agriculture and others will take up the controversial question: How realistic and helpful is a local food movement in a global economy? Following the panels, at 3:30 p.m., keynote speaker Michael Shuman, author of *The Small Mart Revolution: How Local Businesses are Beating the Global Competition*, will consider how the local food movement is growing despite the long shadows from giant retailers like Walmart.

Food tastings will occur throughout the day at the free event including pizza from American Flatbread and other delectables from City Market, Healthy Living, Sugar Snap Restaurant, Shelburne Farms and the Vermont FEED project. Cherry Hill Farm's maple black currant syrup over silver dollar pancakes promises to put a gustatory accent on the academic discussions.

Film screenings of *Deconstructing Supper* and *Growing Up Fresh: Vermont*

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Farm to School, among others, will play throughout the day. There also will be an informal Get to Know Your Farmer table with representatives from Lewis Creek Farm, Arethusa Collective Farm and Champlain Orchards as well as other tables from local farm and garden organizations and on-campus groups. A noontime, walking field trip to Edmunds Elementary School will tour a project that youngsters there have developed for composting school food waste.

The event is sponsored by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The colloquium flows from a \$115,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture challenge grant received by CALS to help "prepare the agricultural labor force of tomorrow...." The funds helped support a course by the same name (Going Local), taught by adjunct professor Richard Schramm, which focuses on giving students hands-on experiences in local farming and food systems. "The grant also had a charge to help educate the broader community," said Jennifer Green, which led her and Chris Koliba, both of Community Development and Applied Economics, to develop the colloquium.

"There are so many institutional challenges to going local that I think students are going to have to demand a change," Green said. "And you've got to realize you're going to be eating kale and squash and a lot of it in the wintertime. Going local is great in theory; it's hard in practice," she added. "And yet, that said, it's a key component of living sustainably."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

James Marsh Program Brings Economist to Campus

By the view Staff

Article published April 11, 2007

William Darity, Cary C. Boshamer Professor of Economics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and research professor of public policy studies, African American studies and economics at Duke University, will visit campus Monday, April 16 through Friday, April 20 as a James Marsh Professor at Large.

Darity, whose research focuses on inequality due to race, class and ethnicity, will participate in several free, public events during his campus visit including:

- *Monday, April 16*, Panel Discussion: "Wealth Inequality in the USA" with William Darity; Jessica Gordon Nembhard, assistant professor and economist in African American studies, University of Maryland, College Park; Brandon Rhone, UVM senior majoring in economics and business administration and participant in the Moore Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program under the advisement of Darity; Thomas Shapiro, director of the Institute on Assets and Social Policy and Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University; and Edward Wolff, professor of economics, New York University. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. 1:25 p.m.
- *Wednesday, April 18*, Lecture: "Reparations: 40 Acres and a Mule in the 21st Century," with William Darity. Memorial Lounge, Waterman. 3:30 p.m.
- *Thursday, April 19* Panel Discussion and Brown Bag Lunch: "Reparations: Recovering Memory of Unpaid Debts" with William Darity; Alfred Brophy, professor of law, University of Alabama; and Leslie Harris, associate professor of history, Emory University. Marsh Lounge, Billings. Noon.

Information: 656-3186.



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UVM HOMEPAGE

On Latin Day, Young Vermont Scholars Bring Ancient Language to Life

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published April 11, 2007

On Friday, April 13, approximately 1,000 Vermont high school students — togas and translation skills at the ready — will join their peers for a chaotic mix of tough competition and quirky celebration with skits and song, putting their academic passion into action at UVM's 31st annual Latin Day.

This year's theme, *De Agricultura: Farms and Farming in Ancient Italy*, is designed to honor the commonality between contemporary Vermont and ancient Italy, the cultivation of land that lies at the heart of the economies, lifestyles and values of both cultures. Skits will focus on myths or historical vignettes that contain an agricultural motif, and students will display projects exploring Roman agriculture through such lenses as cooking, slavery, animal husbandry and the landscape of the ancient Mediterranean.

State Rep. Will Steven, an organic vegetable farmer from Addison County and member of the House Agriculture Committee, will offer opening remarks; Mark Usher, associate professor and chair of UVM's classics department, will serve as *magister ludorum*.

If such serious (or wacky) pursuit of an arcane language and culture seems frivolous, Usher points out that students who study Latin in high school come to college better prepared to study Latin and every other subject they pursue. He also notes that Ovid, Cicero and Virgil created the works that all the great minds have read for 2,000 years.

Latin Day will be held in UVM's Patrick Gymnasium from 9 a.m. to noon.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

UVM Produces EarthWeek Climate Change Teach-In

By the view Staff

Article published April 11, 2007

River deltas disappearing in India, polar bears drowning, Vermont's maple sugar season evaporating, Greenland's glaciers sloughing off into the sea — the headlines are full of news not about the theory of global warming, but about its real effects.

For EarthWeek, faculty, staff and students are planning a climate change teach-in (see [Climate Change](#) for a complete schedule) — to have their own real effects on reducing the problems and causes of climate change. Here's a preview:

Thursday, April 12

UVM geologist Thomas Neumann kicks-off four days of education on climate change. Neumann will speak on "Glaciers, Ice Sheets and Climate Change," 6 to 9 p.m., in Delahanty Hall. Neumann spends his summers studying glaciers in Greenland and is a fast-rising researcher on the fast-disappearing ice cap there.

Saturday, April 14

Ecological scientist, flood researcher, and small-scale farmer, Roelof Boumans, and his wife will give a tour of their Windy Corners Farm in Charlotte at 9 a.m., demonstrating the numerous steps they are taking to reduce their impact on climate change, from organic gardening to energy efficiency efforts.

Monday, April 16

Seven education events on Monday form the heart of the teach-in:

- Forest ecologist Bill Keeton talks on "Climate Change and Forest Fires."
- Professor Dan Krymkowski speaks on climate change models and then, later in the day, on climate changes disproportionate impact on poor people.
- "Vehicles, Roads, Drivers and Air Quality," with engineering professor Britt Holmen.
- Professor Nancy Brooks will speak on the economics of the European Union's carbon emissions trading program.
- The realities and potential of growing your own energy in Vermont will be the topic of presentation by professor Sid Bosworth and his colleagues from plant and soil science.
- And the day will conclude with a 5 p.m. screening of Al Gore's


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now famous movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*, with a discussion following led by Nadine Unger, professor of atmospheric chemistry.

Tuesday, April 17

The teach-in concludes with a discussion about the health implications of global warming led by Drs. Patti O'Brien and Chuck Hulse.

The "Climate Change Teach-In" was organized by Alan McIntosh, professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, and several of his students.

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April 11, 2007

Publications and Presentations

Dr. **Mark Plante**, associate professor of surgery and director of urologic research, is lead author of a paper titled "Phase I/II examination of transurethral ethanol ablation of the prostate for the treatment of symptomatic benign prostatic hyperplasia" in the March 2007 *Journal of Urology*. Plante also was featured in a *Reuters Health* article on the study on March 20.

Deborah O'Rourke, assistant professor of rehabilitation and movement sciences, **Michele Barnier** of the department of pediatrics, and **Peggy Owen Sands**, clinical assistant professor in the Vermont Interdisciplinary Leadership Education for Health Professionals program, presented a poster on "The prevalence and management of lower extremity contractures in children with cerebral palsy: a survey of Vermont physical therapists" at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting February 14-18 in Boston. O'Rourke also delivered an invited presentation as part of the meeting's Section on Pediatrics Practice Forum on the topic of pediatric pain. O'Rourke recently received a UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences Blue Cross Blue Shield Research Incentive Grant award of \$15,000 for her proposal titled "Health-related quality of life in Vermont children with cerebral palsy."

Robert Ross, research assistant professor of medical laboratory and radiation sciences, will present a workshop titled "Vermont Worksite Wellness Project" at the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association 2007 Spring Distinctively Blue and Focus on Providers Conference in Chicago on April 17. Funded by a grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and launched in May 2005, UVM's Vermont Worksite Wellness Project is run in partnership with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont. The study aims to evaluate several types of workplace wellness programs in Vermont companies with between 51 and 249 employees, to identify which model yields the best health outcomes and is most cost-effective.

Jeanine Carr, associate professor of nursing, and **Anne O'Brien**, extension instructor in continuing education, will present a paper titled "Shaping the Future of Vermont's Nursing Workforce" at the Nurse Leadership Summit on April 25-26 at the Killington Grand Hotel in Killington. The conference is sponsored by the Vermont Organization of Nurse Leaders and the Vermont Nurse Internship Partnership.

Awards and Honors

Burton Wilcke, professor and chair of medical laboratory and radiation sciences, was nominated and served on the Institute of Medicine group that released the report of its congressionally-mandated charge of evaluating the status of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) on March 30. PEPFAR is the single largest U.S. foreign aid program targeting a single disease in history. Wilcke was the only medical laboratory scientist working with IOM on this effort. He served with Dr. **Charles Carpenter**, who recently came to UVM as a Marsh Visiting Professor, on the treatment subcommittee.

Dr. **Ralph Budd**, professor of medicine and director of immunobiology, has been appointed chair of the National Institutes of Health's Immunity and Host Defense Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, for the term beginning June 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2009. NIH study section members are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of their research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors. According to the NIH, the skill and leadership offered by the chairperson determine to a significant extent the effectiveness and efficiency of the review group.

April 4, 2007

Publications and Presentations

John Gennari, associate professor of English, had his new book "Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics" (University of Chicago Press, (2006), chosen by the American Culture Association as its winner of the 2007 John G. Cawelti Award for the Outstanding Book in American Culture Studies.

David Jones, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, will be presenting two papers at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management in August of 2007 where he will also serve as the Discussant for a symposium on corporate social responsibility. One paper, co-authored by Martin Martens (John Molson School of Business, Concordia University), titled "Fairness heuristic theory: Do overall fairness and trust certainty mediate and moderate justice effects?" was chosen for inclusion in the best paper proceedings. They found considerable support for recent theory about how employees evaluate and respond to fairness in the workplace across two samples (1,340 members of a blue-collar union and 881 professionals from an international transportation company). Jones' second paper, titled "Corporate volunteer programs and employee responses: How serving the community also serves the company," results showed that the company-funded volunteerism program at Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (GMCR) was associated with employee attitudes and behaviors that benefit the company (e.g., cooperative work behavior) and its employees (e.g., job satisfaction, organizational pride). Based on this study, David and Mike Dupee (vice