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## After-Class Connections



Major Jackson recites, Alex Toth's trumpet ignites: Faculty and students meld in multiple mediums in JazzLit.com. (Photo: Andy Duback)

Don't bother surfing for "JazzLit.com." It's not a Web address but a loose band, a group of jazz musicians and writers who've combined their art forms into sold-out performances at Burlington's annual jazz festival, with encore stops at Nectar's. The members are a mix of UVM professors, students and alumni.

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[Diverse Research](#) A strong showing in the current round of DEPSCoR research awards will support three UVM researchers as they pursue projects including a novel way to neutralize mustard gas.

## THE WEEK IN VIEW

*April 19, 7:30 p.m. Film:* "The Take" focuses on South American workers who have begun to take over their factories for the simple right to work, shown in celebration of International Women's Day. Campus Center Theatre I10. Information: 656-2060.

*April 19, 11:30 a.m. Event:* 13th Annual Sugar-on-Snow Party. Bailey/Howe Library Portico. Information: 656-4389.

*April 19-22, 7 p.m. Play:* Members of the class of 2006 will present their senior directing projects at a Festival of One Acts. Royall Tyler Theatre. Information: 656-2094.

*April 20, 4 p.m. Lecture:* "Why Is There a Universe at All, Rather Than Just Nothing" with Adolf Grünbaum, Andrew Mellon Professor of Philosophy of Science, research professor of psychiatry, and chair of the Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh. Memorial Lounge, Waterman. Information: 656-8937.

*April 23, 8 a.m. Symposium:* The Center for Holocaust Studies presents the Miller Symposium on "Jewish Life in Nazi Germany." Campus Center Theatre, I101. Information: 656-1492.

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## After-Class Connections

*When professors share their passions outside the classroom, theory and practice merge and students learn lasting lessons*

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published Apr 19, 2006



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Don't bother surfing for "JazzLit.com." It's not a Web address but a loose band, a group of jazz musicians and writers who've combined their art forms into sold-out performances at Burlington's annual jazz festival, with encore stops at Nectar's. The members are a mix of

UVM professors, students and alumni.

The idea hit acclaimed poet and associate professor of English Major Jackson when he was asked to give a gallery reading of his work on jazz. He could stand and read, or he could set his words to the live pulse of the music his writing celebrates. Jackson took a chance that not only paid off artistically (the group is gearing up for their third consecutive jazz festival), but has opened an expansive and creative space for faculty and students to collaborate.

"I try to be as versatile as possible," says senior Alex Toth, who plays trumpet for Jackson as well as UVM's jazz ensemble. "Since working with Major I have written a slew of poetry and initiated my own projects fusing various media."

When faculty like Jackson invite students into their larger worlds — modeling rich, intellectually engaged, fun lives and offering privileged access to celebrated people and places — they create an unforgettable academic environment. And at UVM, out-of-class connections with students are part of the culture.

"This place is really quite unusual," says John Gennari, director of ALANA Studies and percussionist in JazzLit.com. "The faculty here, compared to

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other places I've taught, are much more interested in creating these kinds of co-curricular enrichment opportunities."

Gennari has hosted an end-of-semester cannoli and Sinatra party for his course on the Italian American family; he screens films with students and has them to dinner as a way to deepen conversations going on in class; he's invited students to hang out and have pizza with jazz saxophonist Oliver Lake. Connecting with students informally, Gennari says, is not so much about breaking barriers as changing the dynamic for a different kind of learning.

"Students don't want you to completely abdicate your authority or expertise," he says, "but many of them, the better students, really do want the opportunity to get to know you in ways that aren't possible within the confines of the classroom... A little mixing outside of class can go a long way in (helping students think) of themselves as the kind of person who can take chances and think outside of conventional received structures."

### **Raising the curtains**

Helping students develop a greater sense of what's possible is why Jackson took his "Poetry and the Visual Arts" seminar to Provincetown last spring. A 2000-2001 fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center for emerging visual artists and writers, Jackson wanted his class to experience the intense exchange that occurs among working artists there.

He also arranged for an informal talk at the home of painter and sculptor Jim Peters. "His house was stunning," says Jackson. "And he had works in progress so he talked about what was going on in the paintings. The students were enraptured."

Back at the Fine Arts Work Center they heard talks and readings and took a studio walk to view the visual art. The students were even invited to a party given by one of the fellows.

"There's kind of an approach to the world that makes it easy for us to call (artists) eccentrics," Jackson says. "They're more like thinkers and I just wanted to validate that, to have (students) see that the stereotypes of artists just don't hold when you meet them... the gift is getting close to the process and being able to talk to artists about their work. You can't do that when you go to a museum."

One student who went on that trip, Dominic Mattos, who has now graduated, calls it amazing. "Even as students, whether we're pursuing writing or art as a career, he made us feel like we have the opportunity to be in those circles..." he says "He opened up that whole world to me and drew the curtains from a lot of the stuff."

### **Making change**

Veterinarian Patricia Erickson, a lecturer in animal sciences, treats students to a less rarified world, but one that has deep meaning for her

and for them. With her husband, Jon Erickson, associate professor of ecological economics, she team-teaches a travel study class in the Dominican Republic, which gives students the opportunity to participate in an HIV/AIDS education and community development project. Students work 15-hour days during the course, and students who have completed the course regularly hold fundraisers on campus to raise money for the project.

The course exposes students to some of the greatest poverty in the western hemisphere; there is no safe water, no place to shower. "In many ways you're there for the experience," Erickson says, "and the experience leaves you profoundly changed."

Teaching her advanced zoo course on exotic and endangered species this spring, Erickson holds class in her home (and often provides dinner, including an on-deck taco dinner this week), then the group travels on the weekends. Their trips have taken them to a wolf sanctuary in Vermont, to Cornell University to see the state-of-the-art in veterinary medicine, to an exclusive tour at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in western New York. This weekend they'll be in Connecticut to sit in a room of 25 or 30 students and have a conversation with Jane Goodall.

"One of the reasons why we do it at my house," says Erickson, "is that students change when they get out of the university and out of the classroom... they relax and they really blossom in these classes."

Like so many faculty who offer their students this kind of time, Erickson is replicating what her professors did for her, the kinds of collegiate experiences that meant the most, that got her excited about the world of academics.

"It just changes the whole class dynamic," she says. "In some ways it's dangerous because it can be a lot like fun... It's hard to strike a balance between fun and hard work but when you do it can be very successful. If you love your job, working hard is fun. I'm trying to help (students) understand that work can be incredibly fulfilling and, yes, fun."

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## Talk to Him

By Kevin Foley

*Article published Apr 19, 2006*

Kroepsch-Maurice award-winner Juan Maura in, what else, conversation. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Whether you know 501 Spanish verbs or 50, Juan Maura's goal in language classes is the same: He wants you to open your mouth and speak.

"There will always be someone hiding in a corner, but Juan has a way of drawing them out," says senior Tim

Calabro. "If someone doesn't speak well, he never makes a big issue out of it. He just engages them."

Maura, an associate professor of romance languages, is convinced that the way to learn a language is to speak and experience it, so over his 17 years of teaching Spanish language and history at UVM, he has become adept at luring students out of figurative or literal corners and into the conversational circle. The Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award winner's secret is simple — if you can manage a Maura-style mix of authority, approachability and humor, anyway.

"I don't know if there are any tricks," says Maura, explaining how he strives to get broad, enthusiastic participation in his language classes. "You need to be truly interested in what they are telling you."

Students and colleagues describing Maura's teaching often land on the same words, sometimes repeatedly (one suspects the professor might push for varying the adjectives a bit): warm, approachable, funny. "He's just a great guy," says Tina Escaja, associate professor and chair of romance languages. "He has charisma, and he challenges students. He's very fresh, especially considering that he's been here for many years."

Being relaxed is as crucial as enthusiasm in making his classes work, Maura says.

"That's one of the biggest challenges of teaching, creating an atmosphere for the shyest people to talk," he explains. "If they feel

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threatened, or overshadowed by the students who have been abroad and speak very well, I tell them that they are in the class to learn, that the main thing is practice. Mistakes are understandable. I came from Spain to here, and my English is not the best, so I understand what they are facing very well."

### **Something to argue about**

Most of Maura's courses deal with Spanish language, but he also teaches Spanish civilization, history and literature, especially in the context of Spain's 15th century conquest of the Americas. "This is," he says, "a polemical subject."

And he embraces the controversy, if not the polemical tone, jousting with colleagues at conferences over the so-called "black legend," a blanket vilification of virtually all Spanish activities in the Americas that he argues was fueled by England's political rivalry with Spain — but also critiquing Spanish nationalists and apologists for the conquistadors. In class, he says, he is never happier than when students begin hashing out the issues among themselves, so he leavens his lectures with discussions and even language classes often incorporate provocative excerpts from the conquest narratives he studies.

Those texts are alive for Maura. He has worked since graduate school translating the account of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca, a Spaniard who was the first European to enter the American West, walking through what is now Texas and into northern Mexico. Cabeza de Vaca's account of his travels portrays him as an unlikely conquistador, respectful to indigenous people. This self-portrait, Maura has found, was not entirely accurate.

"Juan is very serious about his research," Escaja says. "He's not working with quotes-of-quotes-of-quotes, he goes directly to primary sources, which are sometimes incredibly obscure, and performs very close historical readings of them."

Maura says that presenting and participating in his field's professional meetings feeds all of his teaching. Escaja agrees. "His research is controversial, and when he takes it to classes, students have to think and reconcile their values, and they are riveted," she says.

### **Practice, practice**

Maura savors these conversations, and his fondest hope is that the spirited classroom exchanges help get students hooked on Spanish language and culture. "The best thing I can hear after a class is that students found it important and plan to continue their studies," he says. "The worst thing is if they simply didn't find it interesting."

To inspire students to progress, Maura doesn't just practice what he preaches — he, well, preaches practice. His interviewer's brief early mention of an undistinguished career in secondary-school Spanish prompts his final words of the conversation. Maura's parting phrase, one suspects, has also concluded hundreds of his classes and student meetings

over the last 17 years. It echoes in the Waterman hallway: *Practicar más*.

There is only one response to that kind, earnest message. *Claro*.

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## Defense Grants Drive Diverse Research

By Joshua Brown

*Article published Apr 19, 2006*

Chemist Chris Landry mixes porous silica, a key part of his experimental system to deactivate chemical weapons like mustard gas. (Photo: Joshua Brown)

Wilfred Owen, a World War I poet, might have liked the work of UVM chemist Chris Landry.

On the front lines in France, Owen wrote the twentieth century's defining poem about chemical warfare, describing "froth-corrupted lungs, Obscene as cancer," and

"incurable sores on innocent tongues..." Later in the war, Owen was horrified when the Germans and then others started attacking with a new weapon, an oily liquid that came to be called mustard gas.

Nearly 90 years later, Landry, an associate professor of chemistry, has received a \$360,000 grant from the US Department of Defense to work on a process that could be used on the battlefield to neutralize mustard gas and other chemical-warfare agents.

Landry's award is one of three Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) grants announced March 28 that will provide more than \$1.2 million to UVM researchers. Darren Hitt, associate professor of mechanical engineering, and Christian Skalka, assistant professor of computer science, also received funding.

"There is an annual competition to make awards for projects that forward the defense mission," notes Judith Van Houten, state director of the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, the umbrella organization for the state's DEPSCoR program.

### Toxic legacy

Eliminating mustard gas is part of the current US defense mission — not a relic of bygone war tactics. Iraq deployed mustard gas against its Kurdish minority in the 1980s, and Landry says the gas continues to present a potent threat in the hands of terrorists. Equally urgent, the US's own defunct arsenal of mustard gas must be eliminated under the Chemical

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Weapons Convention ratified by the Senate in 1997.

"There are these problems with decomposing stockpiles from before 1970," Landry says. "They are sitting around different Army depots in rusting containers." Treaties require the U.S. to dispose of their stores, but the deadlines are unrealistic under the current disposal method: incineration.

Landry's expertise in porous solids, especially silica, may point to a solution to the problems that mustard gas presents both on the battlefield and the storage yard.

"Suppose you're in a forward battle area and you have equipment, like a computer and keyboard, that has been contaminated with mustard gas by a terrorist organization," he says, holding up a thin steel column attached to rubber tubing. Using a fluorinated solvent that doesn't react with the electronics, it would be relatively easy to wash off the toxic agent. But then what do you with the contaminated solvent? Send it through Landry's filter.

Inside the steel tube, a column of porous silica pellets, treated with various metals and metal oxides, catalyze the mustard gas and render it nontoxic. And out the other end comes clean, reusable solvent. A "fire extinguisher's worth" would be enough for many combat situations, Landry believes — If he can make it simple to use.

With previous DEPSCoR grants, Landry began to look at how this system might work. Now he has set himself the task of refining it to work at room temperature with nothing more than the oxygen available in the air. "What we're doing in my lab is the first stage in the Army's process that goes from basic research up to being ready for use by soldiers," he says. His preliminary data look promising for creating a flexible, practical process for cleaning up the gas.

#### **Computer security and nano-sats**

UVM's two other DEPSCoR grant winners are also working on basic research projects that could lead to new security technologies. Computer scientist Christian Skalka is developing mathematically rigorous methods for testing and improving computer software security. Mechanical engineer Darren Hitt continues his work on propulsion for a [new generation of tiny satellites](#) that could be used for a range of homeland security, military and scientific applications.

"Vermont was awarded three of the five proposals we're allowed to send to the Department of Defense," says Lillian Gamache, UVM's EPSCoR project manager. "This is fantastic news for the university and the state. Our congressional delegation has been wonderfully helpful. Vermont and Oklahoma, a much bigger state, were the only two of the 17 eligible states to receive three DEPSCoR awards."

EPSCoR, funded by the National Science Foundation, and DEPSCoR,

funded by the Department of Defense, limit their competitions to states that receive less grant funding than powerhouses like California and New York. “The idea is to provide more geographic distribution and diversity so that talent in states that are rural or have smaller populations can develop science, math, technology and engineering infrastructure,” Van Houten explains. “The nation can benefit from talent and innovations in these jurisdictions.”

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[Hitting the Books — er, Brook](#)

Apr 14, 2006

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[New Class of University Scholars Named](#)

Apr 18, 2006

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[Evans Steps Down as Dean of UVM College of Medicine](#)

Apr 19, 2006

John Evans announced on April 19 that he will step down as dean of the College of Medicine effective June 30.

[Grant Supports Effort to Educate Doctors About Drug-Industry Sales Techniques](#)

Apr 19, 2006

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell announced April 13 that researchers at the University of Vermont College of Medicine Area Health Education Centers Program, Dartmouth College and the Vermont Veterans Hospital, will receive almost \$800,000 in grants to provide education to doctors about pharmaceutical company marketing practices and to provide strategies for accessing unbiased sources of information about drugs.

[University-Wide Diversity Curriculum Requirement Passes Faculty Senate](#)

Apr 13, 2006

In a voice vote on April 10, after last-minute debate and more than a year of committee meetings, public hearings, and multiple revisions of the 21-page proposal, the full faculty senate passed a six-hour diversity curriculum requirement for all UVM graduates. The initiative was launched at the request of Provost John Bramley in February 2005 because the university has widely been viewed as out of step with national trends on this issue - until now UVM has been alone among the six New England public land grant universities in having no diversity requirement for all undergraduates.

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Crossing back and forth on logs, about 25 eighth-graders from Edmunds Middle School bash their way up Englesby Brook. "I hope I don't fall in," one of them shouts and then prances across the three-foot-wide current on a rickety board.

These students — under the guidance of UVM watershed specialist Jurij Homziak and science teacher Don Fox — are pioneers in the Urban Watershed Education Project. This effort, started in 2004 by UVM's Watershed Alliance, aims to increase middle schoolers' understanding of watershed science by developing lessons that teachers can apply to their own urban waterways; these students are getting to know Englesby Brook.

You may not have noticed Englesby Brook, nor how its two branches join near the Burlington Country Club, then flow under Route 7, Pine Street, and down to Lake Champlain near Oakledge Park. Until recently, Englesby Brook has been a Cinderella of streams: overlooked and so dirty that few could see beauty beneath.

But you might have seen the signs at Blanchard Beach, where the stream discharges, that read, "Notice: this area not recommended for swimming." Lawn fertilizer, sediment from eroding streambanks, dumped trash — and lots of deposits from Fido and Fluffy — have damaged Englesby Brook for years. This pollution then flowed out to the beach, forcing the city to close it.

Now, Homziak and his colleagues in the Watershed Alliance — a collaboration of UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, UVM Extension, and the Lake Champlain Sea Grant — are, well, seeking a prince or two to love this unlucky brook. Or maybe some science students from Edmunds School.

The alliance's goal: strengthen statewide middle and high school education about watersheds and water quality. The students' goal: work like detectives to find the point where a load of road salt is seeping into the water. Armed with a neighborhood map and plastic vials, they follow the streambed in teams of four, stopping along the way to scoop up water samples for testing.

"This is the fifth house," says Sophie Daigle, looking up the rutted streambank to a house perched near the edge and then back down to her



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map. “No, its our sixth,” says her teammate Ben Osborne. As they debate where they are on the map, Homziak has quickly hiked uphill to a rusty culvert where the stream pours out.

“Look at all this algae here,” says Homziak, and the students peer down to get a closer look at brown fuzz covering rocks in the water. “What’s wrong with this picture?” he asks.

“There must be too much fertilizer in the water,” one student says, drawing on an earlier lesson, “like phosphorous. Maybe a dog, um, left something behind.”

“Exactly,” says Homziak. “You’re doing what the Agency of Natural Resources or Burlington Public Works would do if they were coming upstream, looking for some contamination. They would test along the way and at some point there would be a big jump in the amount. Then, they know they’re close.”

There has been a strong effort to clean up Englesby Brook over the last five years. UVM students and researchers in the Watershed Alliance have joined neighborhood groups, the city government, scientists from the United States Geological Survey, the Lake Champlain Committee, local businesses and others to measure water quality, haul away tires, build stormwater ponds, educate pet owners, plant streamside vegetation and other efforts.

But the brook, like other urban streams in Burlington, remains what scientists call “impaired.” (For more, see [Befriending Urban Waters.](#)) It’s missing certain fish and insects and plants that should be there. The EPA-funded pilot program grew from the realization that most of the surface waters in Chittenden County are in poor condition — and yet the city has no school-based education programs that focus on its own urban streams. Now in its second year, the alliance’s curriculum is being refined and will be tried out with a new group of students next year at Hunt Middle School.

“We want these student to know how to reduce domestic water pollution,” says the Watershed Alliance’s Caitrin Noel, UVM’s coordinator for the Edmunds project. “If you reach people when they’re young, you’ll change behavior for life. So we’re developing lessons that teachers can use in chemistry, physics, biology and human health classes — all with a thread of watershed stewardship.”

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By The View Staff

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The current class of scholars comprises Susan Crockenberg, professor of psychology; John Helzer, professor of psychiatry; Gary Mawe, professor of anatomy and neurobiology; and Ian Stokes, research professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation.

The scholars are selected by a panel of prominent faculty, based upon nominations submitted by their campus colleagues. Each scholar will give a talk based on their work during the 2006-2007 academic year, and the *the view* profiles most winners prior to their presentations.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Evans Steps Down as Dean of UVM College of Medicine

By Carole Whitaker

*Article published Apr 19, 2006*

John Evans announced on April 19 that he will step down as dean of the College of Medicine effective June 30.

Evans was named the 16th dean of the college in January of 2004, after serving as acting dean since June 2003. Previously, he was senior advisor to the Dean of the College of Medicine as well as senior advisor for strategic initiatives to President Daniel Mark Fogel. He served as executive dean of the College of Medicine from 1992 to 2001, and was interim dean during 2000.

"At the end of the three years I agreed to serve as dean, the College of Medicine has never been stronger, and I felt the time was right for me to step down," Evans said. "I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with an incredible team over the last 14 years, and I look forward to continuing those relationships. As many know, I am an entrepreneur at heart, and am excited about building new partnerships and collaborations in the year ahead."

UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel said, "John Evans has accomplished a great deal as dean, particularly in the areas of facilities construction and renovation, curricular restructuring and improvement, and strengthening the relationship between UVM and Fletcher Allen Health Care during some very challenging times. John leaves the College of Medicine in a much stronger position than he found it. I am most grateful to him for his service."

Evans, who joined the UVM College of Medicine faculty in 1976, will return to the faculty after a one-year administrative leave beginning in July. A national search for his replacement will begin immediately and an Interim Dean will be appointed to serve until the national search is completed.

"John stepped into the deanship at a critical time following the untimely death of Dean Warshaw," said UVM Provost John Bramley. "We were fortunate to have his experience and expertise and through his efforts the college is in a good place. I am deeply appreciative of his efforts and John can be proud of his many achievements in the college."

Evans led the efforts that transformed the medical sciences campus through the construction of the Health Sciences Research Facility and the



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Medical Education Center, and played a key role in the formation of Fletcher Allen Health Care. He formalized the technology transfer process for the college, resulting in increased patents and licensing agreements. In the last decade, the college's external funding for research more than tripled, to \$87.1 million in 2005. Along with former Deans John Frymoyer and Joseph Warshaw, Evans initiated and implemented a redesign of the medical curriculum that was launched in fall 2003.

Evans has also played a key role in philanthropy at the university, exceeding the college's campaign goal of \$60 million with more than a year to go, as well as securing support from the Freeman Foundation for medical student scholarships, the single largest gift to the university. As an advisor to Fogel, Evans played a significant role in the acquisition of the Trinity College campus and led the planning for the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies.

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## Grant Supports Effort to Educate Doctors About Drug-Industry Sales Techniques

By Jennifer Nachbur

*Article published Apr 19, 2006*

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell announced April 13 that researchers at the University of Vermont College of Medicine Area Health Education Centers Program, Dartmouth College and the Vermont Veterans Hospital, will receive almost \$800,000 in grants to provide education to doctors about pharmaceutical company marketing practices and to provide strategies for accessing unbiased sources of information about drugs.

The grants to Vermont and New Hampshire researchers are part of an initial selection of 24 grantees for funding by the Attorney General Consumer and Prescriber Education Grant Program. Over \$9,000,000 will be distributed over the next two years to successful grant recipients from respected research, educational and professional institutions nationwide. The Attorney General Consumer and Prescriber Grant Program is funded through the 2004 Attorneys General settlement resolving allegations that Warner Lambert violated state consumer protection laws when promoting Neurontin for off-label uses.

"I am particularly pleased to announce these awards to our local experts who will be able to continue their efforts to assist doctors in becoming more savvy about pharmaceutical company marketing practices," Sorrell said. "Although the amount available through our settlement fund for this purpose is small compared to the amount spent by the industry on an annual basis to influence prescribing decisions, we are hopeful that these grants will demonstrate that doctor education in this area will have a positive impact in reducing prescriptions for expensive pharmaceutical products."

The University of Vermont AHEC Program project will use actors playing the part of drug company representatives as a teaching tool for wise prescribing of drugs. AHEC has been supporting a successful academic detailing program that counteracts the influence of drug company representatives on the prescribing practices of physicians. The \$390,000 grant will allow the program to build on its prior success and extend the audience to include medical students and physicians in Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and New York.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the University of Vermont College of Medicine AHEC Program to work with medical prescribers and students in our communities," said Dr. Richard Pinckney, principal investigator for

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the UVM AHEC Program project. "I hope that the workshops we develop will serve as a forum for my colleagues to discuss strategies to identify the best medication choices for our patients."

The Dartmouth College project, using researchers also located at the Vermont Veterans Administration, will create curriculum to help physicians critically evaluate drug information. The researchers will create "Prescription Drug Fact Boxes" that will give quick evidence-based drug information for physicians to look at when prescribing for patients. The "Drug Facts" boxes are similar to the FDA's "Nutrition Facts" food labels.

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Apr 14, 2006

The second in an annual series of public events celebrating the life of the late Charlie Ross will feature a free, public panel discussion of prominent figures in the public eye. "The Media and the Public Trust: The Making and Breaking of Political Heroes" will take place April 25 at 4 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel.

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A number of campus organizations have events planned to mark the 36th anniversary of Earth Day and Earth Week, which were started in 1970 as a grass-roots initiative by former Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson.

#### [Events Mark Holocaust Remembrance Week](#)

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UVM will commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Week with a variety of events sponsored by UVM Hillel, the Women's Center, STAND, SGA, the Religious Life Council and the UVM Center for Holocaust Studies.

#### [Historian, Author to Offer First-Hand Account of Contra War](#)

Apr 11, 2006

Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, a professor of ethic studies at California State University East Bay, is visiting Burlington April 18-19 to read and discuss her new book *Blood on the Border: A Memoir of the Contra War*.

#### [Speaker Addresses Hype, Hope of Anti-Aging Medicine](#)

Apr 11, 2006

Robert Binstock, professor of aging, health and society at Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine, will deliver the Armin Grams Memorial Lecture for the UVM Forum on Aging on April 20 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building. Binstock's talk is titled "Anti-Aging Medicine and Science: Hype, Hope, and Implications."

#### [Welch, Jackson Featured in Buckham Reading](#)

Apr 12, 2006

Nancy Welch and Major Jackson, both associate professors of English, will read prose and poetry on April 13 at 5 p.m. in the Billings Aspe. The event is part of the Buckham Writer's Workshop reading series.

#### [Rwandan Singer and Dance Troupe to Give Free Concert](#)

Apr 12, 2006

"Drum, Dance and Song of Rwanda," a free, public performance by Jean Paul Samputu & Ingeli, will take place on April 14 at 8 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel.



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## Howard Dean Part Of Second Charlie Ross Tribute Panel

By Jay Goyette

Article published Apr 14, 2006

The second in an annual series of public events celebrating the life of the late Charlie Ross will feature a free, public panel discussion of prominent figures in the public eye. "The Media and the Public Trust: The Making and Breaking of Political Heroes" will take place April 25 at 4 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel.

The moderator will be Norman Ornstein, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Research.

Panelists will include:

- Howard Dean, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, whose run for president in the 2004 national election stands as a signal event in modern presidential campaigns for its innovative use of the Internet in grassroots organizing, and for the role of mainstream media in shaping public perceptions of a candidate's messages and style.
- Howard Fineman, chief political correspondent for Newsweek magazine and contributor of political commentary for national television and radio programs including *Hardball with Chris Matthews*, *The Today Show*, *Dateline NBC* and *Imus in the Morning*.
- Ron Kaufman, for the past 25 years an advisor to Republican presidents, governors, members of Congress, and appointed officials beginning in 1978 with the presidential campaign of George H. W. Bush and later as national political director of the Republican National Committee during the presidency of Ronald Reagan.
- Dotty Lynch, former senior political editor of CBS News and currently fellow at the JFK School of Government at Harvard and a consultant to CBS News.
- Howard Wolfson, a former communications director for senators Hilary Clinton and Charles Schumer and currently a partner at The Glover Park Group, communications consultants.

Admission to the event will be on a first-come, first-served basis. No tickets are required. Parking will be available in the Catamount East parking lot behind the Sheraton Hotel, with shuttle service running between the parking lot and Ira Allen Chapel from 3 to 7 p.m.

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The annual celebration of the life of Charlie Ross is made possible by two of his former students who were inspired by the example of his devotion to public service. Topics for the annual tribute are selected to honor his memory by highlighting public service and the garnering of the public trust as essential to the functioning of a healthy democratic society.

Charlie Ross was one of the most influential and well respected Vermont public servants of his generation, having been appointed to positions of public trust under presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter. He was appointed chairman of the Vermont Public Service Board in 1959, and President John F. Kennedy named him a commissioner on the Federal Power Commission (known today as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) in 1961. In this capacity, Ross earned a reputation as a strong advocate for consumers, environmental protection, and the public interest. President Kennedy also appointed him to the International Joint Commission (Canadian-American) in 1962, a position he held for the next 18 years. His 1965 dissenting opinion in a case involving protection of the Hudson River established a critical legal foundation for the environmental movement. He and his fellow commissioners also began the process of cleaning up the Great Lakes, and he played a pivotal role in ensuring that the waterway of Lake Champlain would remain free-flowing, which is crucial to the ecosystem of the basin.

Ross and his family returned to Vermont in 1968, and he taught public policy at the University of Vermont for two years in the early '70s. He died in April 2003.

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## Fleming Museum Open House and Sale

By The View Staff

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The Fleming Museum will host its annual Open House weekend April 21-23. Admission to the permanent collection and current exhibits — including work by Francisco Goya, Michael Mazur and highlights from UVM's collection of artist books — is free to all visitors.

The museum's store is conducting a spring sale, which features gifts, books, notecards, jewelry and educational games and more. Goya's "Los Caprichos" closes May 14; Mazur's "Inferno of Dante" closes June 18.

Information: [Fleming Museum](#)


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By The View Staff

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By The View Staff

*Article published Apr 18, 2006*

West Shell, CEO and president of Healthline and a 1977 School of Business alumnus, returns to campus to deliver the Hoffman Lecture on Business Innovation on April 20 at 5:30 p.m. in B106 Angell.

Prior to joining Healthline, a consumer healthcare search portal, West served as CEO and president of Sapias, a leading provider of mobile workforce management solutions for large enterprise customers. He previously led Netcentives, a large e-commerce company. He currently serves on the boards of California Canoe and Kayak and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.



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## "Festival of One Acts" Runs April 19-22

By The View Staff

Article published Apr 18, 2006

UVM Theatre presents its annual "Festival of One-Acts" April 19-22 at 7 p. m. in the Royall Tyler Theatre. Senior directing students have selected and interpreted favorite one-act plays — by authors ranging from Stoppard to Brecht to Neil Labute — to create wildly eclectic evenings of theater.

The plays for April 19 and 21 are "Punch and Judy" by Aurand Harris, "Triplet" by Kitty Johnson, "After Magritte" by Tom Stoppard, "Time Flies" by David Ives and "The Measures Taken" by Bertold Brecht.

The works for April 20 and 22 are "Closer" by Patrick Marber, "Wasp" by Steve Martin, "Fatpig" by Neil Labute, "A Marriage Proposal" by Anton Chekhov, and "Chamber Music" by Arthur Kopit.

Tickets are \$5, free to subscribers. Information: [UVM Theatre](#)

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Fogel, the Charles R. Walgreen Distinguished Service Professor of American Institutions at the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business, will discuss "Why China Is Likely To Achieve Its Growth Objectives" on April 24 at 3:30 p.m. in Davis Auditorium, Fletcher Allen Health Care. A reception will follow his talk in the gallery of the Health Science Research Facility.

Fogel won the Alfred Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science in 1993. He was president of the American Economic Association in 1998. His research areas include socioeconomic and biomedical predictors at early ages of morbidity, mortality, and labor force participation at mid-adult and late ages; business ethics; forecasting pension and health care costs; and strategic marketing forecasting. He is author of *Without Consent or Contract: The Rise and Fall of American Slavery* (four volumes), *The Slavery Debates, 1952-1990: A Retrospective* and, most recently *The Escape from Hunger and Premature Death, 1700-2100: Europe, America, and the Third World* among other books.

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By The View Staff

Article published Apr 19, 2006

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The global celebration of the environmental movement is scheduled for April 14-22 and includes the following events:

- *April 19, 8 p.m.* Performers will share poetry, prose and songs during "Environmental/Social Justice Open Mic." Slade Hall, Redstone.
- *April 20, 12:30 p.m.* Panel: "A Look at Farm Policy," with Thiendou Niang, West African agricultural expert and local farmers. Billings North Lounge.
- *April 20, 6 p.m.* Senior Achier Mou will give a personal narrative about his escape from Southern Sudan and spending 17 years of his life in refugee camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. Photojournalist Ryan Spencer Reed will also share pictures from his travels in Sudan, Kenya and Chad.
- *April 21, 11 a.m.* Sustainability Fair: Join local businesses, UVM classes and clubs for an afternoon of information, free food and music. Walkway between L/L buildings.
- *April 22, 4-7 p.m.* Benefit concert for Students for a Free Tibet with music by Avia and Celia and others. Redstone Quad.

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## Events Mark Holocaust Remembrance Week

By The View Staff

Article published Apr 19, 2006

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- April 21-27, all day. The Field of Flags: A powerful and visually moving memorial, the field consists of 2400 flags, each representing 5,000 people who perished at the hands of the Nazis. Seven colors that represent different groups of people, each color corresponding to the color of the patch prisoners were forced to wear in concentration camps. (For background on the display, see [Field of Flags](#). UVM Green.
- April 23, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. UVM Center for Holocaust Studies Miller symposium. The symposium will explore facets of Jewish life in Nazi Germany, both prior to and during the Holocaust. Speakers include Avraham Barkai, Michael Brenner, Marion Kaplan, Jurgen Matthaus, Beate Meyer, and Konrad Kwiet. Registration is required; events take place in Billings. Information: [Miller Symposium Brochure \(PDF download\)](#)
- April 24-25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Litany of the martyrs. A reading of the names of people killed in the Holocaust. For two days, names are read continuously to stress the severity of the actions of the Nazis. Community members can sign up for 15 minute increments and read names of the people who have perished. Outside the UVM bookstore.
- April 25, 7 p.m. Lecture by Holocaust survivor Manya Friedman. She will speak about growing up in Nazi Europe and her experience in various concentration camps until being rescued by the Swedish Red Cross. Friedman connects her story to the suffering in Darfur and our responsibility to speak out against genocide. Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building. After her speech, a candlelight vigil will be held at the field of flags. There will also be a brief, optional service.

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Don't bother surfing for "JazzLit.com." It's not a Web address but a loose band, a group of jazz musicians and writers who've combined their art forms into sold-out performances at Burlington's annual jazz festival, with encore stops at Nectar's. The members are a mix of UVM professors, students and alumni.

### [Talk to Him](#)

Whether you know 501 Spanish verbs or just 50, Juan Maura's goal is the same: He wants you to open your mouth and speak.

### [Defense Grants Drive Diverse Research](#)

A strong showing in the current round of DEPSCoR research awards will support three UVM researchers as they pursue projects including a novel way to neutralize mustard gas.

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## NOTABLES

April 19, 2006

### Awards and Honors

**David Jones**, assistant professor of business administration, had a co-authored paper chosen by the Academy of Management as one of four finalists for the best human resources article published in 2005. In their paper, published in the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, they used path analysis to analyze relationships among meta-analytically derived population estimates to assess models about how various recruiting practices and recruiter characteristics relate to applicants' attraction to jobs/organizations and job choice outcomes.

**Susan Maude**, assistant professor of Integrated Professional Studies, was recently elected to the president series (vice-president, president-elect, president, and past president) of the Division for Early Childhood. The Division for Early Childhood is one of 17 divisions of the Council for Exceptional Children — the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities and/or the gifted. The Division for Early Childhood promotes policies and advances evidence-based practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of young children, birth through age eight, who have or are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities. It has approximately 5,000 members from a wide variety of fields.

The **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**, under the direction of **Deborah Worthley** in Continuing Education, recently received a fourth year grant award of \$100,000 from the Bernard Osher Foundation in San Francisco. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UVM has developed a statewide network of eight community based institutes in Vermont, providing intellectually engaging programming for over 500 older Vermonters. The Institute also established a summer Osher Institute at Killington Resort in 2005, providing programs for out-of-state retirees who reside at Killington Resort during the summer months. UVM is one of more than 73 colleges and universities who have received funding from the foundation to support lifelong learning programs.

### Publications and Presentations

**Emina Burak**, coordinator of the UVM Faculty and Staff Health Promotion Services, presented a workshop, "How can you Help Your Employees Live Better and Live Longer?" on April 11 at the Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility spring conference in Burlington. Burack featured UVM's

comprehensive wellness program and outlined seven basic steps which drive the entire process of building a "well workplace" for large and small businesses.

**David Jones** and co-authors had an article accepted for publication in the June issue of the *International Journal of Selection and Assessment*. The article was titled, "Recruiting Through Job Advertisements: The Effects of Cognitive Elaboration on Decision Making." Their study showed that potential job applicants are influenced not only by the messages contained in job ads but also by the appearance of the ads (e.g., the use of graphics, white space).

**Chun Zhang**, assistant professor of business administration, and her co-authors at the Michigan State University, had an article accepted to the *Journal of International Marketing*. The article, titled "The Litigated Dissolution of International Distribution Relationships: A Process Framework and Propositions," employs a systematic analysis of legal cases over the period of 1985-2005 to address an under-researched issue in managing international distribution relationships. They find that litigated relationship dissolutions in international distribution channels can be classified into two types: proactive and reactive. Furthermore, these two types of relationship dissolutions have unique triggers and outcomes, suggestive of differences in theoretical models and managerial actions of relationship management in international distribution channels.

*April 12, 2006*

### **Awards and Honors**

The **College of Medicine** is one of seven medical schools to be named a Regional Medicine-Public Health Education Center and receive a \$50,000 planning grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. UVM's proposal, which outlined a plan to collaborate with the public health community toward the full integration of population health into the school's curriculum, was selected from 46 medical school applications. Dr. **Jan Carney**, associate dean for public health and research professor of medicine, will lead the project. Other medical schools who received this award include Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine; Harvard Medical School; Stanford University School of Medicine; The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University; University of California, Davis School of Medicine; and the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

**United Academics**, the faculty union, has awarded the third annual scholarship for students at UVM in honor of an early 19th-century black Vermonter, Jeffrey Brace. Each year, the union provides \$500 awards to be used for books and supplies by students who exemplify not only academic excellence but also an active commitment to achieving social justice. This year's winners are: **Margaret Hodder**, a junior social work major from Wolfeboro, N.H.; **Megan Johnson**, a first-year student in the