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Valerie Esposito (L) and Robin Smith conduct an interview for their documentary on sustainable business. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

The co-directors of the new Summer Integrated Media Studies Institute have a definitive answer for those wondering how the university's fledgling program can carve out a niche among the more than 600 film and media-related courses currently offered at colleges and universities across the country.

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

June 30, 5 p.m. Film: Free viewing of documentaries made by students in the Summer Integrated Media Studies Institute. Billings, North Lounge. Information: 656-2085.

July 1, 7:30 p.m. Concert: Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival. Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 students. Information: 656-7767 or [music festival](#)

July 8, 3:30 p.m. Lecture: Donald Rheem, former White House correspondent, talks about cutting edge communication tools for leaders. Waterman, Room 427. Information: 656-4033 or [VBC](#)

July 9, 6 p.m. Music and film: "The Starline Rhythm Boys" perform and George Lucas' classic film "American Graffiti" will be shown. Redstone Campus, Pine Grove. Information: 656-4455 or [Lane Series](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

New Class for New Media

Innovative class trains students to find the right media for messages Hollywood largely ignores

By Jon Reidel

Article published Jun 29, 2005



Valerie Esposito (L) and Robin Smith conduct an interview for their documentary on sustainable business. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

The co-directors of the new Summer Integrated Media Studies Institute have a definitive answer for those wondering how the university's fledgling program can carve out a niche among the more than 600 film and media-related courses currently offered at colleges and universities across the country.

"We can't compete with UCLA, USC and NYU, so if you want to make it in big-time Hollywood then you should probably go

to one of those places," says Tom Streeter, associate professor of sociology. "We're interested in showing students how to get useful information out to people in a meaningful way that can make a difference."

The intense national interest in courses focusing on "new media," a term referring to electronic communication tools like Web sites, streaming audio and video, chat rooms and digital video, became evident to SIMSI organizers when they had to turn back applicants and limit the course to 32 students. Those taking the 9-credit, five-week course are required to complete a documentary. The student works will premiere in a free, public screening on June 30 at 5 p. m. in Billings North Lounge.

"No matter what you're passionate about, communicating in an audiovisual way is critical in today's climate. I think we're unique because of our interdisciplinary approach," adds co-director Andrea Grayson, an adjunct professor with more than 20 years of writing, producing and documentary filmmaking experience.

Message is the medium

The overriding goal of SIMSI is to create the next generation of communicators with the skills to deliver an effective message in the most appropriate medium for the intended audience. In order for that occur, students are exposed to documentary production in the digital environment, video news and computer-related media. Ultimately, Streeter hopes students will create innovative ways to communicate as they enter the workforce.

The student documentaries focus on a wide range of social issues including alcoholism and youth homelessness; alternative fuel sources; urban sprawl; sustainable agriculture; and how media influences the perception of America abroad. The diversity of topics is due in part to the majors of the students, which include political science, business, environmental studies, community development and applied economics, the university's new film major and others.

Students give different reasons for taking the course, but share one common

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objective: getting their message out powerfully. Robin Smith, an environmental studies major, took the class so she could learn how to make a documentary for her upcoming senior thesis. "I would not have been able to do it without this course."

Fellow student Malachi McCaulley wanted to learn production from beginning to end. "I definitely think everyone has their own goals and reason for taking the class. What we're learning today, for example, while specific to the documentary, is applicable to all forms of media," he says.

Time for partnership

Some of the impetus for SIMSI came from a trip to Los Angeles by Michael Monte, director of the City of Burlington's Community & Economic Development Office, Ed Antczak, an economic development specialist with CEDO, and Bob Costanza, professor and director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics. The initial purpose of the trip was to meet with three individuals who were considering starting a media-based company in Burlington.

The company, Earth Network, an informational web and video channel, seemed like a natural fit for Burlington where information-based businesses are fast giving the area a reputation as a creative economy hub. Once the three principals of Earth Network agreed to locate here, the discussion turned to ways the company could partner with the university.

"We love these kind of public-private partnerships," says Antczak. "There's a vested interest on the part of the city because this particular partnership has potential long-term effects to the community, especially if some of these students stay in the area after graduation."

Back at UVM, the timing couldn't have been more perfect given the approval of a new major in film and television studies this year and considerable existing interest in offering more new media production courses. Continuing Education enthusiastically embraced the SIMSI concept and put the entire venture together in less than six months, assembling a team of professors with backgrounds in film, culture and media, including Sarah Nilsen, assistant professor in English and film studies, and Hilary Neroni, assistant professor of English and film studies.

Part of the attraction to SIMSI is the lineup of guest speakers, which includes industry insiders and prominent filmmakers like Sundance Award winner Eugene Jarecki and Vermont's Jay Craven. "These are people that PR firms pay thousands of dollars a day to listen to their unique advice, and our students are hearing the exact same information," says Streeter.

The connection with Earth Network also paid off in this area as its three principal owners Seth Zimmerman, founder of Evolutionary Enterprise Group, Ltd., a consultant firm specializing in media penetration and product placement; Ron Schneider, former manager of the Beatles and Rolling Stones; and Todd Stevens, producer of the television sitcom "Joey." Dewey Reid, former creative director for Microsoft and a partner in Earth Network, also spoke to students.

The institute's partnership with the company will pay dividends in other ways. The network has agreed to air the best student documentaries from SIMSI, raising the stakes for students. Zimmerman says that commitment reflects the group's belief in the students' potential.

"The new media is starting to change how people get information," he says. "It's the new FM. Some of these kids who are inspired could create new forms of communication. This course is being taught by some of the best on the planet, so these kids are getting a big jump. We don't need more right spin or left spin, we need truth spin, and some of these students are good enough to create it."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

INTERview: Hilary Neroni***The author of *The Violent Woman* discusses film and fury***

By Amanda Waite

Article published Jun 23, 2005

Fatal femmes: Professor Hilary Neroni's new book examines the psychological perplexities of murderous women in mainstream film. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

*Hilary Neroni, professor of film and television studies, met with the view on June 17 to discuss her new book, *The Violent Woman: Femininity, Narrative, and Violence in Contemporary American Cinema* (SUNY Press), which explores the recent emergence of violent female characters in mainstream productions. Previously confined to particular genres and historical situations, the violent woman can now be found across genres in*

*contemporary film. The trend began with the release of *Thelma and Louise*, the 1991 film about two women who run from the law after killing a man who tries to rape one of them. The film sparked a public debate about violent women — a reaction, Neroni says, that mirrors the hysterical public response to real female murderers like Lizzie Borden and Susan Smith. In her book, Neroni explores the disruptive quality of the violent woman, paying particular attention to how the narrative of the film itself is affected by the presence of these traumatic characters.*

the view: How did you come to write *The Violent Woman* and get it published?

HILARY NERONI: The idea for the book came to me in graduate school in a class at the University of Southern California. It was a class on gender and representation, and it was one of those really great classes where everything connected, everything gelled. At that time there was this trend that I talk about in the book of an explosion of these violent heroines across genres in mainstream cinema. I was fascinated by them, so I wrote this paper on it in that class. I got an incredible reaction... people were excited about it. I couldn't stop thinking about it, so I actually wrote my dissertation on a similar topic. Since then, I've basically written a new, different book on the same topic. I sent it to SUNY Press and other presses. One of the reasons that it's at SUNY is because they are supportive of psychoanalytic theory, so it was a nice fit there.

What is it about violent women in film that inspires you to study the phenomenon?

I think that the reason I was drawn to talking about the violent woman is because she's an extreme of the strong woman. You could do a similar study of strong, dramatic, women characters in film, but I think that the physicality of violence makes a nice extreme example that shines a very bright light on all these machinations of the ideological workings of masculinity and femininity and how very strongly ideology and Hollywood needs (masculinity and femininity) to be complimentary... Also, I was very fascinated how historically, until this moment, the violent woman had been confined to particular genres and was linked to historical moments of crisis and tension between genders

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that have been very well documented by theorists and historians, like after World War II or during and after the suffragette movement in the teens.

In your book, you discuss violent women as traumatic and show how films depicting violent women frequently attempt to heal that trauma by forcing women back into more familiar gender roles or by splitting the woman's violence from her femininity. What do you think this reveals about the status of women in society today?

I tend to look at Hollywood films as the workings of contemporary ideology. There are trends going on socially, and Hollywood is reacting to those trends. Because it's mainstream and it's part of ideology, it at times works to contain those trends. But sometimes, by accident or not, it ends up celebrating a trend. I think that it's not always a one-to-one indication of exactly what's going on, but it's an interesting indication of tension and angst. These days, it would be hard to imagine an action film in which a woman doesn't do something to help the hero, whereas in the 80s, even the first *Terminator* film, it was very common to have the woman just along; she's not someone who would help out. Today, I think every audience member starts to be frustrated if a woman is just hanging out — if someone's in trouble and there's a gun lying there and she doesn't pick it up. It's interesting to see how our expectations have changed. I think film is an important place to look at in terms of what's happening in society. Gender roles are changing, and the movies are dealing with it in their own way.

Your book offers analyses of the violent female characters in *Thelma and Louise*, *The Long Kiss Goodnight*, *G.I. Jane*, *Courage Under Fire* and *Tomorrow Never Dies*, among other films. Are there any films that have been released since you sent the book to press that you would have liked to have written about?

Well, *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* just came out, and that would have been a great one to talk about...and then there's *Kill Bill*, which I have in a couple of footnotes in the book, but I would have liked to talk about that further. *Million Dollar Baby*, which I was kind of mad at. Three quarters of the way through the film — one of the only mainstream, big blockbuster films with a woman boxer in it — she becomes a complete quadriplegic! You've got to be kidding me! Those films would have been fun to talk about, but that's one of the things about a book like this one when it's on a topic that clearly keeps going; the films keep going.

It must be rewarding to see that your work is still relevant...

I just keep waiting for mainstream Hollywood to prove me wrong! But it doesn't.

Moving from the specific to the general, why do you think it is important to study film?

We walk around in our day, and everything presents on a screen. Our computer screens, our iPods, our telephones often, and then we watch television or go see a movie. Our days are so drenched in screens, so I think it's essential for students to study film and television and be able to analyze video games and internet and film and television as texts and be analytical about the way in which ideology and society is working within these texts rather than just consuming them as entertainment. I think it's the essential thing to study. It's our contemporary existence.

The last time you spoke with *the view* in 2001, you talked about your hopes of developing a film major at UVM. The film and television studies major will be launched in the fall. How do you think this will affect the way you teach?

First of all, I'm incredibly excited about it. For me, creating the major was about allowing something to be official that existed underground anyway. We had these minors who were taking sometimes three times as many courses as they needed for a minor and hanging out outside my door 24 hours a day. They all wanted to do individually designed majors, and now there's someplace for them to live — in the film and television studies major. I don't think all of the sudden I'll see all of these more enthusiastic students, because I can't

imagine how I can have more enthusiastic students than already exist here. For me, having the film and television studies major will make everything run more smoothly. When students come and ask me, "How can I take more film?", I can just say, "Do the major." The nice thing about the way we set up the courses is that it's pretty rigorous, which is my preference, but we can also teach courses toward our interests. I think it will just make everyone's life a lot easier.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Forestry Moves Forward

By Cheryl Dorschner

Article published Jun 29, 2005



Veteran forester David Brynn is leading a major prong of the Rubenstein's effort to rethink forestry education. (Photo: Cheryl Dorschner)

Intending to lead forestry in a revolutionary new direction, both in Vermont and nationally, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources has been making some quiet, but bold, moves. But with the recent hiring of David Brynn, who was Addison County's forester for 28 years, to lead a newly launched forestry education program, those moves are less quiet.

"At the Rubenstein School we've been asking ourselves and other opinion leaders, 'what is a forester in the 21st Century?'" forestry program chair John Shane told an audience when he announced Brynn's new position at a reception in May. "The answer just joined our staff as director of the Rubenstein School's Green Forestry Initiative. A UVM graduate who started a community-based, nonprofit forestry program, David Brynn embodies the can-do style of a Rubenstein School grad, and he practices the whole-system forestry approach that we will become known for."

With a gift pledge of \$230,000 over three years from an anonymous donor, the Green Forestry Education Initiative is poised to transform Jericho Research Forest into the hub of UVM's sustainable forestry program. As part of this pledge, the donor has created a matching component intended to expand this seed gift, challenging school to raise an additional \$52,000 that will be matched dollar-for-dollar. A recent \$25,000 grant from the Henry David Thoreau Foundation marked a significant contribution to help meet this challenge.

"We are grateful for these significant and generous donations. They not only provide support for our efforts, they are signs of confidence in our new direction," RSENR Dean Donald DeHayes says. "Our approach to forestry education will emphasize the importance of real-world, hands-on, forest-based practices for students and will promote an understanding that the success of any forest practice will depend on its links to local communities, businesses, and public and private organizations, while sustaining the health and productive capacity of the forest."

The lay of the land

Brynn spent a portion of his first three weeks on the job getting to know the nearly 500-acre university-owned forest that will continue as a research site but also become a classroom and forest conservation center for the Green Forestry Education Initiative.

"Jericho Forest will be about application of all the things that students learn in the campus classroom," said Brynn. "It will also be a place where Vermonters can come to focus on the elements of forestry, to take workshops and compare notes."

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Brynn hesitates to spell out how the Green Forestry Education Initiative will look by the end of this three-year gift. That's what he calls "phase three."

"We will come up with a basic master plan by April 2006 based on the health of the forest, the whole system and what would be appropriate uses and the impacts of those uses," he says. "This fall, students will be actively inventorying the forest, looking at existing uses. Several courses will be applied to this forest setting."

This summer's goals are a bit smaller. In a plain, one-story clapboard workshop, already Brynn has eked out enough space for small classes or meetings. Just outside the door sits a large dumpster and recycle bins filled nearly to the brim.

"The first step is to get rid of what doesn't work or does harm," he says. "We'll be switching to biodiesel fuel, bio chainsaw fuel and oil and wood heat," he adds with a nod toward the stacks of firewood and the forest beyond.

In between rain showers, Brynn walked the land wearing a slicker, polo shirt, khakis, socks and sandals. He leaped over a puddle in the two-track road. In another spot he pointed to rivulets that had formed in the sandy soil during just one rainy week. "The next step is to stabilize erosion," he says.

Forestry old and new

In 1946, UVM bought this property off Tarbox Road that had been the Violet and Thomas Reeves Farm and pasture. Adjacent property was added in subsequent years. As a research site, the complex was planted with Douglas fir, Japanese larch, ponderosa pine and other exotic species. Now it is a mix of hard- and soft-woods.

"What's unsustainable about what we have?" Brynn asks rhetorically about all forests while stepping over a thicket of trunks and branches probably felled by storm and insect damage. "We've altered the hydrology. We've depleted calcium in the soils. We've introduced pests. We've created acid rain."

"Old forestry, defined by Gifford Pinchot in the 1890s, was about trees ripe and ready for the axe," says Brynn. "Old forestry's goal was to protect the forest from fire, insects and thieves."

Sustainable forestry is based on the [Montreal Process](#), a set of seven guidelines for developed in the 1990s. The Rubenstein School uses these as criteria for curriculum development. For more background on the school's evolving and innovative approach to forestry, see this [2003 article](#).

For Brynn, though, the crux of the issue is one clear principle.

"The forest takes care of itself; our job is to manage our demands on the forest," he says.

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(Re)orientation

New expectations and competition inspire changes to venerable summer admissions ritual

By Jon Reidel

Article published Jun 28, 2005



An orientation staffer with outstanding skills in, ahem, parent management receives a red-ball award at a recent ceremony. (Photo: Jordan Silverman)

than students; first-year students choose their classes online in the summer instead of waiting anxiously in fall lines; making new friends is done online as well as off; and students attend three or four orientations to see which school they like best before committing.

"It's a market-driven society," says Comey, "Parents are more involved and they expect more from us. Some students double-deposit and attend two or three orientations. They are shoppers comparing goods. It's kind of like test-driving a car instead of just looking at it on the showroom floor. I think we've done a good job at meeting the new demands. Of the students that come to orientation, we lose only three percent to 'summer melt.'"

With an average nationwide "summer melt" (a term referring to students who pay enrollment deposits to a school but choose not to matriculate there at some point after high-school graduation) of around six percent, there's plenty at stake for the university during summer orientation. Although most students attending the June 2005 orientation sessions said they couldn't wait to start school in the fall, some indicated they were less certain.

"It's not over at orientation," says Lauck Parke, vice president for undergraduate education. "The experience a student has at summer orientation could make the difference between them deciding to come here or not."

In an effort to improve that experience, the university has made several improvements to its summer orientation program for this year's session. The most noticeable change is the way students sign up for classes. With the university having moved to block scheduling, students now have three classes chosen for them based on their major requirements. Not so long ago, students signed up for courses by filling in bubbles with No. 2 pencils and didn't know for sure which classes they got into until fall.

Registrar Keith Williams is responsible for making sure enough seats are available for a near-record incoming class of about 2,300 students. "See how

Dani Comey, director of orientation and parent relations, uses terms like parent bouncers, millennials and double-depositing when describing the difference between the first summer orientation she directed in 1993 and the way the event works now.

The new orientation-speak is just one example of how the process of being introduced to college life isn't what it used to be. At orientation 2005, more parents attend

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calm they are," says Williams at a recent June course registration session. "The new system makes it much less stressful on them." A nearby incoming first-year engineering student calls the process "easy," adding that all he has to do is find two electives or general education requirement courses. The College of Arts and Sciences uses a slightly different process. During the two-day orientation session, students sit down at a computer with an academic advisor who helps them choose courses.

Independence and friendship

Comey says this is when "parent bouncers," trained orientation workers assigned to keep parents involved in other activities while their children make key decisions independently, are most needed. The most effective "parent bouncer" is awarded a ball at the end of orientation by Comey based on how they deal with hovering parents — the so-called "helicopter parents" of the current generation of "millennials" described in several influential books of popular demography. (For more on millennials at UVM, see [this story](#).)

"It's good that they are more involved in their children's education, but sometimes we need to let the students make their own decisions," says Comey, who notes that for the first time more parents attended some summer orientation sessions than students. "Some parents can't stand to not help their children pick courses, and some even get a little mad. But most see the value in letting their children make their own decisions. It can be hard for them to let go."

Despite the many changes in technology and other societal factors over the years, the main concerns cited by students heading into college remain the same. "They want to know how they're going to meet people," says Comey, who notes that the most popular part of the two-day sessions is a talk about multiculturalism by educational consultant and motivational speaker Maura Cullen. "Making friends is still the biggest concern."

Like most everything else at orientation, even the process of meeting lifelong college friends has been affected by technology. Many students log onto national or local online college communities like [The Facebook](#) so they can meet fellow students before arriving on campus.

Even so, the test-drive still seems like the best way to make new friends. "I've already met some people at orientation that I plan to hang out with in the fall," says one student. "I feel a lot more comfortable after having gone through this process."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

VCET Formally Opens, Announces New \$1 Million Grant

By Jeff Wakefield

Article published Jun 28, 2005



Sen. Patrick Leahy and UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel chat at an event marking the formal opening of VCET, a high-tech business incubator located on UVM's Trinity Campus. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

The Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies formally opened its doors June 27 with a ribbon cutting ceremony and remarks by Senator Patrick Leahy, University of Vermont president Daniel Mark Fogel and L. Fred Hackett, chair of the VCET board.

Senator Leahy announced that he has secured more than \$1 million to expand the center, Fogel pointed out the many connections between VCET and UVM and

Hackett unveiled VCET's first client companies, ElectroCell Technologies and Apollo SRI.

Located in Farrell Hall on UVM's Trinity College campus, VCET is an independent nonprofit small business development program affiliated with UVM and other entities around the state that is designed to foster the success of new high-growth, high technology firms in Vermont. The initiative is designed to leverage UVM technology and specialty laboratory facilities and equipment; link client companies to key faculty, staff, and student interns from UVM and other academic institutions; and connect clients to an extensive network of private sector mentors and advisors and private investment capital resources.

"Vermont faces many challenges in the 21st century, but none may rival the need to maintain our leadership in innovation and advanced technology," said Leahy. "It will be a major factor in growing our economy. VCET will tap the deep reservoir of innovation that we have in Vermont and transform that into high-tech jobs."

"The formal opening of VCET, and the announcement of its first tenants, are a watershed moment for UVM and the part it can play in helping drive economic development in our state," said UVM president Daniel Mark Fogel. "We owe a debt of gratitude to Senator Leahy for his role in helping launch VCET and, now, in promoting its continued expansion."

The 4,000 sq. ft. facility that opened is an extensive renovation of what had been library space. It contains eight offices for client companies, four labs, administrative offices, conference rooms and shared office equipment.

The new grants that Senator Leahy announced, \$300,000 through the Small Business Administration and \$750,000 through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, will be used for operating expenses and to develop a second-phase component of VCET, which will include additional office, laboratory, and light production space.

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Last year, Senator Leahy secured an appropriation of \$994,000 through the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help develop the center. The state of Vermont contributed \$100,000 to the launch, and UVM donated the Farrell Hall space.

ElectroCell Technologies, Inc. has developed a proprietary agricultural technology for treating animal waste that destroys pathogens and reduces nutrient levels thereby reducing farm odor, improving animal and farmer health, and greatly reducing the environmental impacts resulting from waste water run-off pollution. Apollo SRI is an early stage company commercializing a UVM-developed technology using nano materials for filtering pharmaceutical products for high levels of purity.

VCET has also been working with two "affiliate clients," Draker Solar Design and Lansky Consulting. As affiliates, these fast growing, early stage firms do not require VCET space but have already been using the full range of business development services offered by the program.

VCET is fielding calls and screening a dozen prospective clients and will select another slate of client companies in July and anticipates filling the first-phase space by early fall.

[\(Re\)orientation](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

War of 1812 Dig Yields Surprises for UVM Archaeologists

By Jon Reidel

Article published Jun 24, 2005



University archaeologists painstakingly unearthed remains of War of 1812 soldiers during a recent Burlington dig. (Photo: Jon Reidel)

During the painstaking process of scraping away dirt off of an eroded wooden coffin in which a soldier from the War of 1812 was presumably buried, researchers from the university's Consulting Archaeology Program discovered something they hadn't planned on: another soldier.

The state-funded project located just off North Street near Battery Park involved the removal of the

remains of two 19th-century soldiers. About 5,000 troops were stationed in the area during the war of 1812, and about 700 died there of war-related injuries and disease. The remains of eight soldiers were removed in 2004, while four others were taken in 2002 from the Mermaid Building across from Burlington College.

The discovery of a third soldier on June 14 about a week into the excavation wasn't a complete shock given the number of soldiers who died there, but its location within the confines of the established dig site — an area researchers can't venture beyond due to funding and regulatory restrictions — was extremely fortuitous. Had it been located even an inch outside the funded site, university archaeologists would not have been able to touch it until more grant money was secured.

"We're lucky that the third soldier was just 75 centimeters from the other one, which indicates that there this was a military-style cemetery," says Kathleen Kenney, CAP historian, who is unaware of any other burial sites from the War of 1812 located in the United States. "There could be as many as 25-30 soldiers buried in this backyard alone."

Kenney described the condition of the remains of the first soldier as "pretty intact" and expected at least one other to be in better condition. Dozens of residents watched the weeklong excavation and seemed particularly intrigued with the dusting off of a skull by CAP archaeologist Cullen Black. A small, gold earring was found on one of the skeletons, indicating that the man may have been a sailor — seamen of the era were known for wearing similar earrings to cover the cost of a Christian burial in case their bodies washed up on shore

The remains will be taken back to the lab on campus, catalogued, cleaned, analyzed and if possible identified by name. None of the previous 12 soldiers has been identified; records from the era are incomplete, and the remains are often damaged by construction work and other disturbances.

Charles Knight, assistant director of the consulting archaeology program, says the odds of identifying the soldiers are slim, but newer identification processes such as mitochondrial DNA testing and the creation of such agencies as the

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Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command have increased the chances for a match. If a soldier is identified, surviving relations could decide to re-inter them with full military honors, possibly even at Arlington National Cemetery.

Staff Sgt. Erica Rothman, a public affairs officer with JPAC, says the organization is continually improving at its mission to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing in combat.

"We have an incredibly high success rate. It's a daunting task; there are about 78,000 veterans still unaccounted for in World War II, but DNA testing and other advancements have helped tremendously. We have identified soldiers from the Civil War, so doing the same for a soldier from the War of 1812 is definitely possible," she says.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

A Diary of Mississippi Justice

By Howard Ball

Article published Jun 29, 2005

Howard Ball, professor emeritus of political science, returned to Mississippi in June to follow the trial of Edgar Ray "Preacher" Killen for the murder of three young civil rights workers in 1964. Ball, a long-time civil rights activist and author of a [2004 book](#) about the case, *Murder in Mississippi: U.S. v. Price and the Struggle for Civil Rights*, wrote impassioned dispatches about the trial that appeared in the *Burlington Free Press*. Following are some excerpts from his narrative in diary format:

June 15: Big case, small courtroom

The trial of Edgar Ray "Preacher" Killen has begun in the Neshoba County Court House, in tiny Philadelphia, Mississippi.... There are already clear signs that the trial is taking place in a very surreal setting, one that would make Rod Serling smile. For one thing, the Circuit Court Judge, Marcus Gordon, is from the same small hamlet as the defendant Killen: Union, Mississippi. And, in 1965, "Preacher" Killen presided over the funerals of Gordon's parents...

On Monday, the first day of voir dire proceedings (choosing the jury and the alternates for the trial), J.J. Harper, from Cordele, Georgia, the Imperial Wizard of the American White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, greeted Killen when the defendant entered the Courthouse in a wheelchair... However, it is a very small courtroom. This ... makes for strange neighbors. For example, Harper was seated next to Ben Chaney, the younger brother of one of the three murdered young men! And... seated in front of Harper were Schwerner's widow, Rita Schwerner Bender, and her husband.

June 16: A crucial ruling

The court announced that the jury consists of 9 whites and 3 blacks, although no one will know until the case is given to the jury who the jurors are and who are the alternates. At the beginning of the second day of the trial, Judge Gordon made a most important, though expected, ruling. The defense counsel argued that documents and testimony from the 1967 federal trial, including three confessions by Klan members identifying Killen as the "mastermind" behind the three murders, not be admitted into evidence at this trial. This morning Judge Gordon ruled that prosecutors would be allowed to use transcripts from the 1967 trial...

June 20-21: Guilty

The courtroom was filled to capacity... Jim Hood, the Attorney General of Mississippi, began. Hood is a small man, no more than five foot seven and with 1950's "Elvis" style pompadour.... Killen "was the main man" in the Klan conspiracy to murder the three young civil rights workers. ...Showing the pictures of the murdered men, he turned dramatically and pointed at Killen. "He is a murderer and we have shown you the central role he played as the Klan organizer." Killen sneered and said... just above a whisper, "you'll get yours, you son of a bitch!"

It was the defense's turn and the venerable 72-year-old advocate, James McIntyre, took the podium. ..."I'm an old country lawyer trying to earn a living," the former Klansman said to the jurors. He admitted that a "terrible thing, a grotesque thing," happened to these young civil rights workers 41 years ago, but, "pointing his hand to the jurors, the prosecution "did not meet the burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Killen had been the organizer."

(After the arguments, the jury began deliberations.) At 5:30, with the jury divided, the judge recessed the court...

At 8:30 the following morning, June 21, 2005, eerily the 41st anniversary of


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the disappearance of these three civil rights workers, the court convened and the judge sent the jurors back for further deliberations. ...At 11:18, less than three hours later, we were all ushered back into the courtroom. The jurors had arrived at a unanimous verdict. With a few minutes, the room was packed

...Gordon warns the audience not to demonstrate in any manner. "We are in a court of justice," he said to the silent, nervous throng. "However imperfect the jury system, it has worked," he remarked, and, "it will work again today." With that, the clerk ushered the jurors into the courtroom. Killen was white; an oxygen tank was providing him with pure air. He looked straight ahead — his eyes on the judge, a man from his tiny hometown.

The 12 formed another semi-circle facing the judge. The forewoman gave the sheet of paper containing their judgment to the judge. He looked at it — carefully, slowly, deliberately. Killen, along with over 200 pairs of other eyes, was staring at the paper, trying to read the jurors' verdict. ...

Killen was found guilty of three counts of manslaughter. As he hears the first count read, he slumps in his wheelchair... Killen's white-haired wife, suffering from a virulent and unchecked type of cancer, begins sobbing uncontrollably. While crying she rushes to her husband and comforts him. His face is now beet red; he is angry...

Outside the courtroom, Killen is wheeled past the television cameras and sound booms. He viciously knocks down two of the booms, curses, and then pushes a cameraman down. He and his wife are driven away; but they will be back... It could have been much worse; he could have been acquitted.

June 23: Maximum sentence

Judge Marcus Gordon is... (a) white-maned, former all-star basketball player for Ole Miss... He talks barely above a whisper but the rulings are heard instantly by all. He seems severe, yet the man comes down from the bench at recesses, takes off his robe and coat in chambers, and saunters into the courtroom to talk with onlookers, including reporters. But today there was no recess; there were no sidebars between the judge and others attending the trial. It was sentencing time...

The judge looked at Killen.... And began... a ten-minute oration. "Those who have never been judges do not know the difficulties a sensitive judge faces when sentencing a person." You're not taught "how to do it," and so "you do the best you can, based on the facts, and the law." Gordon (eventually) asked: "Is sixty years (the maximum penalty) an excessive sentence for this convicted killer? Should age and health be factors in determining the length of the sentence?"

He quickly answered these questions. ...He then called for Killen to be wheeled around the defense table in order to face the judge. "Three men's deaths and missing lives have been taken into consideration and have borne most directly on the sentence I now pronounce: Count one, 20 years; Count two, 20 years; count three, 20 years. Sentences to run consecutively." Gordon then asked the defendant if he had anything to say. "No sir," the Preacher responded. Gordon then ordered the sheriff to take Killen back to the Philadelphia jail.

It was over.

I and everyone in the courtroom sat in stunned astonishment... No one had expected the maximum, a sentence of 60 years, in the case. Rita Schwerner Bender, for the first time since the trial began, broke into an enormous smile and hugged her husband and then the many friends she had made, black and white, in Philadelphia.

After the court recessed, I met with Judge Gordon in chambers. He had already taken off his coat and was about ready to remove his tie. I had many questions I wanted to ask him but now was not the time. "It's goin' to be a pleasure to pull off this tie," he said with the broadest smile. We talked briefly about our grandchildren and then I said, after hearing his comments in court today, I only had one question: "What were the factors that prepared you to make the kind of judgment you made today?" Quickly, he said: "My good parents taught me to recognize the difference between right and wrong. The more you put into practice the values associated with judging — guilt, facts,

(Re)orientation

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the law, religious values — the easier it is to make these sentencing judgments Killen got what he deserved!"

June 27: 'Chutzpah' and motions

Convicted killer Edgar Ray "Preacher" Killen was in court today. He wore his yellow Neshoba County Jail jump suit. ... The courtroom was nearly empty; only a few reporters and television cameramen were present... For the next forty minutes, the two defense lawyers, McIntyre and Moran, urged the judge to order a new trial for Killen. The Judge instantly denied the motion... "There is nothing in your motion that is valid," he said to defense counsel.

So now the case will enter the appeal process... the primary arguments of the defense are the state's violation of Killen's "due process" ...This argument, of course, reminds me of the classic definition of the Yiddish term "chutzpah": A man brutally and with premeditation kills his parents but then throws himself on the mercy of the Court because he is an orphan! Here is a Klansman who plotted the cold-blooded murders of three young men. In that, there was, of course, no due process except that which came out of the barrel of the pistols used to kill Schwerner, Chaney, and Goodman. And now we have the spectacle of Killen and his lawyers arguing that he was denied due process by the state. Chutzpah indeed!

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Free Outdoor Film and Concert Series Hits Redstone in July

By the view Staff

Article published Jun 23, 2005

On four Saturdays in July, UVM's new "Film + Music on a Summer Night" program will transform Redstone campus into a giant outdoor theater and concert hall. The free, public concerts and movie screenings will take place in the pine grove between the UVM Recital Hall and the Gutterson Fieldhouse.

State-of-the-art equipment will project the movies onto a giant screen hung from the back of the UVM Recital Hall. The screenings will begin after dark, about 9:00 p.m., and will be preceded by a live musical event linked to the genre of the film at 7:00 p.m. The grounds will open for picnicking at 6:00 p.m. The series is alcohol-free and family friendly.

"Outdoor film series are growing in popularity around the country," says Natalie Neuert, manager of the UVM Lane Series, which is sponsoring the program in partnership with the university's Continuing Education division and Summer University. "We hope to make 'Film + Music on a Summer Night' a Vermont institution."

The schedule of films and concerts follows: July 9, *American Graffiti*, with the Starline Rhythm Boys opening; July 16, *Into the West*, with the Irish band Dervish; July 23, *The Sting*, preceded by jazz, ragtime and folk music with the duo of Guy Van Duser and Billy Novik; July 30, *Young Frankenstein*, with music by Black Sea Quartet.

In the event of rain, the show will move indoors to the Recital Hall, with the first 320 attendees admitted.

Information: 656-4455 or visit [UVM Lane Series](#)



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New Arts and Sciences Dean Appointed

By University Communications

Article published Jun 28, 2005

Eleanor Miller, a nationally distinguished academic in the sociology and criminology fields at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, was appointed as the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences on June 21.

Miller, who developed her academic reputation in part for her research on the plight of female street hustlers and her study of the work of German philosopher and sociologist Georg Simmel, is professor of sociology and associate dean for the social sciences in the College of Letters & Science at UWM.

"I am delighted to have been selected to lead the College of Arts and Sciences and welcome the challenge of expanding the faculty, enriching the college research agenda, and broadening and deepening college programs," said Miller. "I am most honored to become an integral part of such a distinguished and dedicated faculty. I look forward to teaching UVM students, exploring every nook and cranny of the physical plant and getting to know every member of the college faculty and academic and administrative staffs. Finally, I cannot express how happy I am to be returning to my New England roots."

President Daniel Mark Fogel, who made the appointment at the conclusion of a highly competitive national search, said "the university can be thought of as a cluster of outstanding professional schools around a central College of Arts and Sciences. It is clear that our high aspiration of establishing UVM as the nation's premier small public research university can only be realized with an extraordinary academic leader at the helm of Arts and Sciences. I believe we have found such a leader in Eleanor Miller."

Senior Vice President and Provost John Bramley, who as the institution's chief academic officer will work closely with Miller, said, "Dr. Eleanor Miller combines an outstanding academic record with very substantial administrative experience. It became very clear that she is a very effective and respected administrator. She is a good listener but also a leader who can make, justify and implement difficult decisions."

In addition, Bramley said, "Dr. Miller understands the mission of a College of Arts and Sciences in a research university, has an academic record that commands respect of her peers, and the experience and track record to facilitate the dialogue and teamwork necessary to take the college to an even higher level."

Miller's scholarly interests include sociological theory, feminist social and political theory, criminology/deviant behavior and qualitative methods in sociology. She has authored numerous books, articles, reports and book reviews and has been prominent in professional societies including the American Sociological Association and the American Society for Criminology.

In addition to her scholarly record, Miller is an award-winning teacher, has served on numerous university and faculty committees, and been a valued contributor to community activities and task forces. She is widely recognized on her campus as instrumental in improving the climate for women and families, such that *Milwaukee Magazine* chose it a year ago as one of the best places in the metropolitan area for women to work and, in 1993, Miller was chosen by the Milwaukee Women's Fund as Woman of the Year.

She has served in various administrative leadership roles at UVM, including as chair of the Department of Sociology, director of the Center for Women's Studies, director of Urban Studies Programs, and associate chancellor for


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affirmative action. She assumed her current position as associate dean in 2001.

In addition to her long career at the University of Wisconsin, Miller spent two years as a faculty member of City University of New York, Queens College. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Emmanuel College, and master's and doctorate degrees in sociology from the University of Chicago.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Recent Grad Named Fulbright Scholar

By Cheryl Dorschner

Article published Jun 28, 2005

Dorinne Dorfman, who earned an Ed.D. in Educational and Leadership Studies in 2004, was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholarship. Dorfman will receive the Fulbright's 2005 junior research award, an honor primarily awarded to recent Ph.D.s and others who are early in their careers.

It is a first for UVM's College of Education and perhaps only the second time at UVM a new doctoral graduate has earned this award.

"Dorinne is a dedicated practitioner and scholar who has been able to incorporate what she has learned from her work — developing creative service-learning opportunities for high school students passionate about the arts — into a research agenda that is international in scope," said Susan Hasazi, UVM's Stafford Distinguished Professor of Leadership and Special Education.

Dorfman is currently director of the Career Academy of the Arts, a program for juniors and seniors passionate about the arts, within the Peoples Academy public high school in Morrisville, Vermont.

During her 10-month fellowship at the Technical University of Berlin in Germany, which begins in September, Dorfman will build on the research she began at UVM.

The Fulbright awards process "is very competitive, and I feel extremely lucky," said Dorfman. "When I applied, they told me it's rare that someone who teaches in a public high school receives a Fulbright — usually recipients are tenure-track professors. I think that what made the difference is that I've brought over a million dollars in grants to the school." Among them, Dorfman recently landed a \$750,000 21st Century Learning Grant to supplement the high school's after-school programs.

Dorfman's dissertation compared the disciplinary systems in traditional and democratic high schools. "My findings were about how everything that goes on in schools informs what goes on in discipline," she says, crediting the concept to Dean of Education at McGill University, Roger Slee. "School is the microcosm of society — in a democratic high school, discipline is collaboration among the students, teachers, administration and parents."

In Germany she will only be researching democratic schools but, she says, she will be able to compare U.S. and German schools and "with the falling of the Berlin Wall, I can look at both East and West German Schools," she says. "Ultimately it's to test this theory — what is it that democratic schools do to impart discipline?"

Dorfman lived in Germany as the Wall was coming down, from 1989 to 1992. She speaks fluent German. Her spouse, Oliver Dorfman, is a native of Potsdam, Germany. He and her children Rosalee, 15, and Amadeus, 13, will be joining her during the fellowship.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Each year, the traditional Fulbright Scholar Program sends some 800 U.S. faculty and professionals to 140 countries to lecture, do research or participate in seminars, and some 800 foreign faculty come to the U.S.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Fleming Explores 'New Turf'

By the view Staff

Article published Jun 28, 2005

With works ranging from penciled layouts of big-box retailers to aerial photographs of environmentally impaired sites to rigorous formal paintings and beyond, a Fleming Museum show opening July 6 aims to upend conventional notions about the means by which artists represent the landscape.

The "New Turf" exhibition, which runs through Oct. 30, brings together 15 artists from Vermont and across the nation who draw inspiration from the rural, urban and suburban environments around them. Some of the artists featured are Anne Appleby, Louise Belcourt, David Maisel, Sam Prekop, Lordy Rodriguez and Gail Salzman.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a 48-page catalogue that features an essay by curator Evelyn Hankins, as well as biographical information about the artists and color reproductions of selected works. The catalogue will be available for sale at the museum when the exhibition opens.

Information: www.flemingmuseum.org

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UVM HOMEPAGE

UVM Joins Food Systems Leadership Training Consortium

By Cheryl Dorschner

Article published Jun 29, 2005

UVM, Ohio State University and the University of North Carolina system have launched the Food Systems Leadership Institute, a program dedicated to developing individual and institutional leadership for a 21st century food system.

The FSLI is a two-year program for highly motivated individuals with demonstrated leadership ability. The FSLI experience will prepare them for upper-level roles in higher education, government and industry and for broader leadership responsibilities within their organizations.

During the sessions, participants will learn about the interconnected economic, social, cultural and technological aspects surrounding food. They will study a whole range of food-system dynamics, from production to consumption, through live interaction and case studies. In addition, they will become grounded in leadership theory and practice.

"Understanding the complexities and problems of our global food system is one of the most important challenges we face," said UVM president Daniel Mark Fogel. "I'm proud that UVM will be taking a leadership role in this area and pleased to cooperate with a consortium of prestigious land-grant universities to create this institute."

UVM will contribute leadership and food systems expertise to the FSLI curriculum. UVM's principal investigator is Rachel Johnson, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Cynthia Belliveau, co-director of Continuing Education, is co-investigator; Jill Tarule, dean of the College of Education and Social Services is a collaborator; and Nutrition and Food Sciences Research Assistant Carol Frary is UVM's project coordinator.

"Our aim is to bring to the table leaders who already understand America's food system and give them further training and a network to help them reach the highest levels of responsibility in higher education, government and the food industry," said Johnson, a registered dietician.

Douglas Lantagne, interim director of University of Vermont Extension was selected this month as UVM's first FSLI scholar. He will join 20 others for the first session Oct. 2-7 at UNC and another session at Ohio State Jan. 22-28. UVM will host the institute June 4-9, 2006 in partnership with Shelburne Farms.

FSLI is a program of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges funded by a \$1.1 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Information: www.fsl.org

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Preparations Continue for Banner First-Year Class

By Jon Reidel

Article published Jun 29, 2005

Soon after the University of Vermont's 2003 announcement that it would seek to add 2,000 students over the next decade, faculty and staff began preparing the campus to accommodate the new students. At the same time, the university increased its recruitment efforts to meet the ambitious goal.

The work paid off. With a near-record number of more than 2,500 paid admitted students in the incoming Class of 2009 as of June, those early preparations and continued efforts have made it possible for UVM to handle an expected incoming class of about 2,300 students. Not bad given that original projections anticipated 2,070 first-year students for the fall.

"I'm pleasantly pleased, but I'm not really surprised," says Lauck Parke, vice president for undergraduate education. "We've been getting a lot of good national press and have been aggressive in our marketing efforts. But to me, the real story has been the pulling together of the university to make sure the students have the best possible experience. Everyone has been rolling up their sleeves to make sure the students have a first-class experience."

The university will be able to comfortably accommodate the class (which, while somewhat larger than projections and recent incoming classes, is well in line with past enrollment levels) through a variety of housing options, including the addition of 300 new bed spaces. The remaining required beds will be created by a reconfiguration of current rooms from large singles to doubles and by adding some triples. Approximately 400 new residence hall beds will be available to students beginning in January 2006 when the first phase of the University Heights Students Residential Learning Complex is completed. Mercy Hall at Trinity Campus could also be ready to house 176 more students.

As for classroom accommodations, the Board of Trustees recently approved spending \$3.1 million over the next three years to renovate and modernize university classrooms with new chairs, paint, carpet and technology. The work begins this summer, with \$400,000 going into a first phase of the project focused on 24 classrooms.

University Registrar Keith Williams has been freeing up classroom space thanks in part to a move to central scheduling two years ago. More than 1,300 additional seats are being made available in high-demand courses without increasing the average class size. "We are continuing to work on generating course capacity at the first-year level and have been engaged in trying to identify where this would make the biggest difference," Williams says.

The Strategic Financial Plan also calls for the hiring of 80 new tenure track professors by 2013. Some of these hires have already taken place with more expected this year. They will teach an incoming class with an average combined SAT score of 1,168 — up 12 points from the same time last year. If this average score remains similar when the class matriculates, they would match the Class of 1986 as the highest average of any entering class on record.

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NOTABLES

June 29, 2005

Awards and Honors

Dr. **Abrar Khan**, assistant professor of surgery and Fletcher Allen chief of transplantation surgery and immunology, and colleagues from the hospital's federally designated organ procurement organization, received a medal of honor for successfully achieving an outstanding 100 percent conversion rate in organ donation at a ceremony hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Pittsburgh on May 19. The ceremony was part of the first annual Organ Donation National Learning Congress, a program designed to honor hospitals across the nation that achieved an annual conversion rate of 75 percent or higher. The conversion rate is the percentage of people who actually become organ donors out of all the potential organ donors in a hospital.

Dr. **Stephen Leffler**, associate professor of surgery, and Dr. **Andrew Bushnell**, assistant professor of surgery, were recently named president and vice president respectively of the Vermont chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. ACEP is a national emergency medicine specialty society with more than 23,000 members and is committed to improving the quality of emergency care through continuing education, research and public education. Headquartered in Dallas, ACEP has 53 chapters representing each state, as well as Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

Dr. **Theodore Marcy**, professor of medicine, received the "Advocate of the Year" Award from the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Vermont for his work in testifying on the health consequences of second-hand smoke at city council meetings, select board meetings, and before Vermont House and Senate committees this past year. Vermont recently passed a Clean Air Bill that closes the bar/private club loophole for smoke-free workplaces. Marcy is a member of the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board and chair of the education committee of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Vermont.

Len Tashman, professor emeritus of business administration, is the founding editor of *FORESIGHT: The International Journal of Applied Forecasting*, a new peer-reviewed journal published by the International Institute of Forecasters.

Annie Viets, lecturer of business administration, has been elected to the board of directors of the Vermont Mediators Association. The VMA is a professional organization that establishes standards for the practice of mediation in Vermont and promotes the use of mediation and alternative dispute resolution to address conflicts in both the private and public sectors.

Publications and Presentations

Professor **Mary Watzin** and graduate student Amy Mahar, both of the Rubenstein School for Environment and Natural Resources, are the authors of the lead article in the July 2005 issue of the journal *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*. Their article, "Effects of Metal and Organophosphate Mixtures on *Ceriodaphnia dubia* Survival and Reproduction," is part of the Burlington Bay Project.

Professor Emeritus **Thomas Bloom** and his wife Barbara Bloom were recently recognized by the Bruce Organization for their volunteer work in Trujillo, Peru.

Appointments

Jacob Diaz will become assistant dean for policy, climate, and conduct within

the Dean of Students Office, a new position. Diaz most recently served as the Director of our Center for Student Ethics and Standards, where he has gained valuable experience in student conduct, university policies, and UVM's diversity initiatives. Prior to that position he received his master's and doctorate from UVM in Higher Education Student Affairs Administration.

Vivian Garay will take the new position of assistant dean for student retention and assessment. Her primary responsibilities will be coordinating the case management for students at risk, coordinating the Students at Risk Team and Alcohol and Drug Task Force, assisting with enrollment management initiatives and overseeing key research/assessment projects for the division.

Thomas McFadden has accepted the position of chair of the Department of Animal Science. McFadden arrived on campus in 1999 and is an associate professor in the department. His research focuses on identifying key genes that regulate mammary development and milk production in dairy cows.

May 23, 2005

Awards and Honors

Laura Azzarito, assistant professor of physical education, won Louisiana State University's outstanding doctoral dissertation award. Azzarito's thesis is titled "Students' Construction of the Body in Physical Education." This study is a sociological evaluation of the way in which students perceive their bodies and how these perceptions influence their participation in physical education. Azzarito recently traveled to LSU to accept the award.

Four of the **College of Agriculture and Life Sciences's** top awards were presented at its 12th annual alumni and friends dinner April 30 at the Inn at Essex. Three alumni received the 2005 Bickford Keystone Award: **Catherine Donnelly** ('78), **Christopher Smart** ('05) and **Tyler Curran** ('06). New graduate **John Pigott** took home the Lawrence K. Forcier Outstanding Senior Award and **Willow Smart** ('92) received the New Achiever Alumni Award. Three alums were named outstanding this year: **David Abbott** ('73), **Steven Briggs** ('76) and **Tammy Fesche** ('79).

More than 100 faculty, staff and friends of the **Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources** turned out at the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center for the school's Community Celebration on May 4. Receiving awards at this event: The Holcomb Natural Resources Prize to **Nathaniel Burr Morse**, Lola Aiken Award in Natural Resources to **Stephen Russell Midway** and **Alicia Turner**; Graduate Student Award for Outstanding Service to **Daniel Laven**; Graduate Student Award for Outstanding Research and Scholarship to **Emilian Geczi** and **Robert Long**; Kate Svitek Memorial Award to **Gwendolyn Lyons** and **Matthew Getz**; Alan W. McIntosh Scholarship to **Kristen Simard**; Marcia Caldwell Award to **Jon Erickson** and New England Outdoor Writers Association Award to **Chris Jager**. Several other awards were presented in the field concentrations.

Many UVM students and faculty were recognized at the annual dinner and induction into the Sigma Xi international honor society for scientific research on April 28 at St. Michael's College. Civil and environmental engineering students **Alaina Dickason**, **Jennifer Gagnon**, **Brendan Kennedy** and **Tracy Owen**; physics majors **Jonathon Bessette**, **Carrie Black**, **Stephen Redman**, **Cameron Rodriguez** and **Zuzana Srostlik**; mathematics and statistics major **Ryan Keane** and electrical and computer engineering student **Jane Zurn** were among 28 new members inducted into the Vermont Chapter of Sigma Xi by Professor Emeritus Fred Evering, Jr. UVM faculty inducted into the society were **Donna Rizzo**, **Brian Mitchell** and **Daniel Savin**.

Senior medical students majoring in surgery presented scholarly projects and were recognized for their work on May 5 at the Department of Surgery's 35th Annual Surgery Senior Major Scientific Program at the College of Medicine. **Zechariah Gardner** received first prize for his manuscript, titled "Evaluation of a Protocol for Tight Blood Glucose Control in Critically Ill Patients." **Christopher Lee** received second prize for his manuscript, titled "Pilot Design of Reproducible Graded Traumatic Aortic Injury in a Porcine Model." **Jacob Lilly** and **Nathan Richardson** tied for third prize for their manuscripts, respectively titled "Pressure-Induced Changes in Matrix Metalloproteinase and Tissue Inhibitor of Matrix Metalloproteinase Ratios in Coronary Artery Bypass