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Eurotheatre

Students learn the emerging theatrical art of stilt walking while in Paris over the summer. *(Photo: Stephanie Pollock)*

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FULL STORY ▶

Cherry Conditioning

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Stopping Stormwater (with trees and flowers)

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

June 18-August 27, **Exhibition: Ongoing. *Immortal Likeness: Portraits from the Permanent Collection*. Robert Hull Fleming Museum. $5 adults, $10 family, $3 students and seniors. Information: 656-8582 or Fleming Museum**

July 8, 15, 22, 29, **7 p.m. Film and Music on a Summer Night: Four evenings of outdoor entertainment. Redstone pine grove. Information: 656-4487 or Lane Series**

July 20, **5:30 p.m. Opening Reception: *Colors of the Amazon: Featherworks from the Nalin and Petersen Collections*. Marble Court, Robert Hull Fleming Museum. Information: 656-0750 or Fleming Museum**

CURRENT NEWS BRIEFS AND EVENTS

Eurotheatre

By Jon Reidel
Article published Jul 05, 2006

Students learn the emerging theatrical art of stilt walking while in Paris over the summer. *(Photo: Stephanie Pollock)*

By the end of her junior year, Stephanie Pollock had some definitive ideas about the content of her required senior year one-act play. That was before she had blood splattered on her during a performance of *Titus Andronicus* at the Globe Theater in London; before she started hanging out with Romeo's buddy Mercutio at the legendary Dirty Duck pub in Stratford-Upon-Avon; and before she learned to walk on stilts like the new age performers she watched in the streets of Paris.

Experiences like these had a dramatic impact on the way Pollock and many of the 20 other students in associate professor Lynn Greeley's summer Eurotheatre course thought about most aspects of theater. After spending 18 days in Paris, Stratford-Upon-Avon and London on the June 2006 trip, one student wrote in her journal that she was skeptical of the course having the impact claimed by students in 2002 and 2004 classes, but that it ened up "changing her life."

"It really affected me," says Pollock. "I was awestruck to see theatre presented in a way that I'd never seen or even imagined. Theatre is getting more creative all the time and we need to find new ways to entertain people. This trip showed me that you don't have to have a large budget to make great theatre. We all started thinking about how we could incorporate parts of what we saw into our one-act plays. The experience changed everything."

Greeley, who was accompanied by Jeff Modereger, associate professor and chair of the theatre department; Sarah Carleton, associate professor of theatre; and assistant professor John Forbes, hoped to expose students to a number of theatrical genres. With this goal in mind, the trip was divided up into two segments: one week in Paris at the Friches Théâtre Urbain, a well regarded company specializing in street theatre, followed

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by a second week at the Shakespeare Centre where students attended performances by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

In Paris, students spent eight-hour days with Sarah Harper, an actress and director from London, and Pascal Laurent, an internationally acclaimed stilt walker and solo performer, both graduates of the famous International Lecoq Theatre School, on street theatre. Laurent put students through intense physical training on stilts and on the trapeze much like the actors and actresses that perform in the streets of Paris. "It was strenuous," says Modereger. "Students really had to work hard at something they had never been exposed to before."

Street theatre performances are often held in a marketplace and can move down a street to another section of town during a performance, forcing audience members to follow the play. Friches Théâtre Urbain has developed a unique performance style described on its Web site as "manipulating the urban environment by transforming city landscapes — streets, squares, parks, and facades of buildings — into open-air theatrical spaces and by using images that clash with the expected, everyday sights. The goal is to "blur the lines between art and life by embedding the performance into the daily life of the people."

Greeley describes this type of theatre as visual rather than oral. "It's body-centered, rather than word-centered. It's a radical new kind of theatre that was absolutely mind-boggling to our students." Students were asked to turn their bodies into things like fire, rage, water and air. Harper's advice on how to accomplish these difficult tasks: "I don't give a damn what you're feeling — just do it."

After the week in Paris where students went to a number of plays, galleries and famous landmarks, they traveled to Stratford-Upon-Avon where they were exposed to the more traditional forms of acting at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. But even in England, students conceptions of the classics were challenged with controiversial interpretations of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* — a total of nine plays in 16 days.

It was at the Globe in London that students saw *Titus Andronicus*, one of Shakespeare's most violent plays, that is filled with rape, amputation, killings, cannibalism, and insanity. Four people fainted during the production watched by students, some of whom were sprayed with blood from a character whose tongue and hands were just cut off. "It was the most provocative play I've ever seen in my life."

It was here that Pollock and other students got to hang out with professional actors at the Dirty Duck. "The list of theatrical greats who have done their time in Warwickshire is a long one, and part of the requirement is drinking at The Dirty Duck, which has been a haunt of the board-treading community for so long that after-show drinks there are as much a part of thespian culture as tantrums, mutual admiration and working in restaurants," claims the *London Times*.

Pollock says some of the best insight into the lives of actors, including the man who played Mercutio, came late night at the Dirty Duck. “His dream was always to perform in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre,” Pollock says of the actor who played Mercutio. “And he was doing it, although his life was pretty difficult. “All of the actors were more than willing to talk to us. They love what they do, but the life of an actor is not easy.”

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Cherry Conditioning

By Jennifer Nachbur
Article published Jul 05, 2006

Research indicates cherry juice is effective in increasing the rate of muscle damage repair. *(Photo: Sally McCay)*

The familiar "no pain, no gain" phrase usually associated with exercise may be a thing of the past if results from a study on cherry juice published in the online version of the *British Journal of Sports Medicine* prove true in future research.

Historically, a number of approaches to prevent exercise-induced muscle pain and damage have been examined, but few have been effective. Declan Connolly, associate professor of education and director of the human performance laboratory at the University of Vermont and colleagues at New York's Nicholas Institute of Sports Medicine and Athletic Trauma and Cornell University, evaluated the efficacy of a fresh, highly-concentrated, specially processed tart cherry juice blend in preventing the symptoms of muscle damage in a randomized, placebo-controlled study in 14 male college students.

"There is definitely a desire among the athletic community for alternatives to drug treatment approaches" for muscle pain, says Connolly, who explains that evidence of COX 1 and 2 inhibitors — well-known anti-inflammatories — in cherries is well-established in the scientific literature.

"The anti-inflammatory properties of cherry juice have been examined before, but the focus of this research was on a new area — muscle damage repair," said Connolly. "Only two species of mammals suffer this type of muscle damage — horses and humans."

The scientific method

The study participants were asked to either drink a bottle of the cherry juice blend twice a day for three days before exercise and for four days afterwards, or to drink a placebo juice containing no cherries. The 12-ounce bottle of juice contained the liquid equivalent of 50 to 60 tart

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cherries blended with commercially available apple juice, a patented process developed through Michigan State University.

The participants of the study, which was funded by Cherrypharm, Inc., performed a type of muscle-damaging exercise — flexing and tensing one arm 20 times — that creates contractions in which the muscle is lengthened. Muscle tenderness, motion, and strength were assessed on each of the days before and after exercise, using standard pieces of equipment designed for the purpose. Study participants rated their muscle soreness on a scale of one to ten. The whole process was repeated all over again two weeks later, with those who had taken the placebo juice taking the cherry juice blend instead, and vice versa. The other arm was also used.

There was a significant difference in the degree of muscle strength loss between those drinking the cherry juice blend and those taking the placebo juice. This fell by 22 percentage points in those drinking the placebo juice, but only by four percentage points in those drinking cherry juice. Muscle strength had slightly improved after 96 hours in those drinking cherry juice. The degree of soreness differed little between the two groups, but the average pain score was significantly less in those drinking cherry juice. Average pain scores came in at 3.2 for those drinking the placebo juice and 2.4 for those drinking cherry juice. Pain also peaked at 24 hours for those drinking cherry juice, but continued to increase for those on the placebo juice for the subsequent 48 hours.

According to Connolly, next steps include identifying funding sources and collaborators to continue study of the cherry juice's effectiveness in muscle damage repair and possibly arthritis, as well as research involving race horses.

"Current anecdotal evidence suggests the drink may be effective in treatment of arthritis and gout, and thus offer a potentially safer alternative than prescription drugs," said Connolly.

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Stopping Stormwater (with trees and flowers)

By Joshua Brown
Article published Jun 29, 2006

Mark Babson '06 plants Black-eyed Susans as part of a new "bioretention" rain garden, installed near the Votey parking lot to help filter toxins and slow stormwater. *(Photo: Joshua Brown)*

Black-eyed Susan, silver maple, grey birch, Indian grass, speckled alder: these may not seem the typical tools of an engineer. But on an overcast Friday afternoon, Maeve McBride, a doctoral candidate in civil and environmental engineering, puts them to elegant use.

"These plants don't mind getting their feet wet; some of them are true wetland species," McBride says, standing in an oval of raw soil about the size of a small swimming pool at the bottom of the Votey parking lot near Colchester Avenue. Above her, an acre of pavement starts to darken with drizzle. Soon, rainwater will start to run across the pavement toward the dirt patch.

Behind her, 12 volunteers plant the saplings and flowers in an earthen berm that forms a small barrier along the edge of the avenue and access road.

"Right now, most of the rain ends up running down this asphalt swale," she says, pointing to a paved trough along the entrance to the parking lot. "But once these plants really take root, we'll dam it off and force the water in here."

If it works, this plot of former lawn will bloom to become a "bio-retention" rain garden, catching the parking lot's runoff: a watery brew that includes sand, oil, heavy metals, and the occasional dog dropping. Divided into two cells, like pools on a gentle waterfall, the garden will filter toxins, trap sediments, and slow stormwater. This mimics what happens in a natural landscape, allowing the water to be reabsorbed by the earth — instead of rushing headlong over impervious pavement, carrying a load of pollution into Lake Champlain.

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A 'marvel' of Ecological efficiency

The maples and grasses and flowers she has selected, simply by being plants, are a marvel of ecological efficiency: they assimilate waste, sponge up water, and hold the soil barrier in place while the rain ponds behind it.

This garden is a small-scale example of ecological engineering—an area of emphasis in UVM's School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, led by Dean Domenico Grasso, who also serves as the editor of the journal Environmental Engineering Science. The basic idea: solve problems using low-cost natural systems near the location where they originate—instead of relying on big, expensive (and often less effective) fixes farther downstream. In this case, downstream is the Winooski River.

"This does reduce the ecological footprint of the university and in a small way protects the lake," McBride says, "but it also is a demonstration project for outreach and education about the problems with stormwater. We'll put a sign up here. I'd like to see more of these gardens across campus."

While there is a detention pond on Riverside Avenue that receives stormwater from a large area, including the Votey and Mansfield lots, it still allows pollution and excess water volume to pass into the lake, especially during big storms. A series of rain gardens could be an important supplement to the existing stormwater system, which in many areas of Burlington is no more than a pipe or stream straight into the harbor.

Students, faculty and staff reap benefits

Designed and lead by McBride, the garden project is an effort of UVM's student chapter of the American Water Resources Association (see http://www.uvm.edu/~awra/projects.html for more information), and her students in CE295, "Water Resources Engineering," plus numerous other supporters and volunteers.

Including Mark Babson '06. "I volunteered yesterday and today to help out," he says, looking up from his task of taking flower plugs out of a tray. As an undergraduate he studied constructed wetlands with professor John Todd, an expert in ecological water systems who teaches in UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. "I did a lot of reading, and now it's great to actually get it going, not just do the design. This is some hands-on, in-the-dirt work that will make a difference," he says—and then starts digging again.

"One of the best things about this project is that it brings together academics and operations," says Gioia Thompson, coordinator of the UVM Environmental Council that provided two small grants to fund a site plan and purchase the plants and materials. "It helps everyone. Operations and grounds get educated along with the students."

One student moving from the theoretical to the practical is Dani

Newcomb, a graduate student in aquatic ecology, who took McBride's water engineering course. "This is a practical application of the things we were learning about in class," she says, spreading mulch around a pale green seedling. "I have no idea what this plant is, but I'll go find out."

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Professor's Work on Display in Showtime's "Brotherhood"

Jun 29, 2006

Jeff Modereger, associate professor and chair of the Department of Theatre, spent last summer in a massive pet-food warehouse in East Providence creating a replica of the rotunda of the Rhode Island Statehouse. His work, which included a number of elaborately designed sets, will be on display in the mafia-inspired series “The Brotherhood” starting with the world premiere on Showtime on July 9 at 10 p.m.

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Jun 29, 2006

A new plant sciences building planned as the next major capital construction project at the University of Vermont is a step closer to reality thanks to a $1 million pledge from the Lintilhac Foundation of Shelburne, Vermont.

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UVM Alumnus Contributes $5 Million to Center for Holocaust Studies

Jun 29, 2006

A University of Vermont alumnus celebrating his 55th class reunion has announced a $5 million gift to support the university's Center for Holocaust Studies.

Seven Rules for Building a *New* New Orleans

Jun 29, 2006

Hurricane Katrina was the largest natural disaster ever to strike the United States. The US government has pledged over $100 billion to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast after this predictable tragedy. The question is: how should it be rebuilt?

Endowed Faculty Position Honors Legacy of Radiology Leaders

Jun 29, 2006

A new endowed faculty position has been established by the Department of Radiology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, honoring the legacy of two medical alumni and past Chairs of Radiology: Dr. A. Bradley Soule, a 1928 medical graduate, and Dr. John P. Tampas, a 1954 medical graduate.

Old Mill Statue Alive and Well

Jun 29, 2006

Members of the John Purple Howard Fan Club, rest easy. The bust of the 19th-century philanthropist has not gone mysteriously missing in the way of various local icons — Big Boys to Chickenbone Cafe roosters. Shirley Fortier of Campus Planning Services and a member of the ad hoc Sculpture Committee reports that J.P. Howard is safe from pranksters and enjoying an off-campus summer sabbatical for cleaning and refinishing.

Library Professor Recognized for Impact On Patriot Act

Jul 03, 2006

Trina Magi, library associate professor, was awarded the prestigious 2006 Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award by The American Library Association on June 27 at its annual conference in New Orleans.

VCHIP Guides Will Spread Prenatal Care Knowledge

May 18, 2006

The Vermont Child Health Improvement Program and the State of Vermont worked with prenatal care providers statewide over the course of 15 months to improve pregnancy outcomes by implementing updated, evidence-based prenatal care practices and developing improved office systems. The results of that collaborative process are now packaged in two new documents designed to widely disseminate the findings.

Professor's Work on Display in Showtime's "Brotherhood"

By Jon Reidel
Article published Jun 29, 2006

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The Providence-based series, which is being compared to "The Sopranos," revolves around two brothers, one who is possibly involved in the mafia, played by Jason Isaacs ("Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets"), and one who is a senator, played by Jason Clarke ("Rabbit-Proof Fence"). The storyline, although not officially billed as such, runs closely to the true-life saga of Boston's Bulger brothers: on-the-lam South Boston mobster James "Whitey" Bulger and his brother William M. Bulger, former president of both the Massachusetts State Senate and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Modereger, a longtime play and film scene designer, became involved in the project when friend and work associate Bill Weithers called to see if he would tackle the daunting task of recreating the statehouse rotunda and other scenes from around Providence. The two had collaborated on a number of other films including the "The Pelican Brief," "School Ties," "One Crazy Summer," as well as other projects such as an exhibit for the National Holocaust Museum in Washington.

By mid-summer (2005), Modereger was working 12-hour days painting sets and props inside a 60,000-square-foot former pet-food warehouse where his crew had built a replica of the rotunda, a central open area located directly below the dome with stairs leading to legislative chambers. The construction required 10 professional carpenters, seven painters and dozens of other craftsmen.

Modereger, who is currently working on a Disney film in Rhode Island, treated and touched up photos to make them look like the aged paintings in the actual capitol. He also painted window trim, doors and stairs, and aged wallpaper using a tinted coloring glazing system. Other work included full-size conference rooms within the statehouse; tenement apartment rooms and homes, including a living room with magazines spread across a coffee table, family portraits on the wall, softly lit lamps, and books on a shelf, seemingly ready for someone to sit down in after a

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long day of work. When completed, the set was virtually impossible to distinguish from the actual statehouse on Smith Hill in Providence.

One of Modereger's more unique creations is prominently displayed in the opening scene of the fifth episode, slated for July 12, when a mobster uses a chisel to brutally knock out the teeth of his unlucky victim. Nobody got hurt, of course--the foam and plaster prop was another example of the professor's craftsmanship. "I always learn something new working on projects like these," said Modereger. "These are skills I will take back to UVM and share with our students and faculty."

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Lintilhac Foundation Gives $1 Million for Plant Science Building

By Jay Goyette
Article published Jun 29, 2006

A new plant sciences building planned as the next major capital construction project at the University of Vermont is a step closer to reality thanks to a $1 million pledge from the Lintilhac Foundation of Shelburne, Vermont.

The building is a top university priority for new academic space to replace outmoded laboratories and classrooms in the Departments of Plant Biology and Plant & Soil Science. Currently on the drawing boards is a $40 million, 83,000-square-foot building to be sited on the eastern edge of campus north of Main Street. To date, a total of $8 million in state capital appropriations has been earmarked for the project, and the remainder will be funded through bonding and fundraising.

"We are deeply grateful to the Lintilhacs for their support of this essential project," said Rachel K. Johnson, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "I am convinced that a new era of scholarship in plant biology at the University of Vermont is imminent given the caliber of our scientists and the possibilities presented by this new facility."

A new home for Plant Biology and Plant & Soil Science has long been championed by John Bramley, who retired this month as senior vice president and provost to return to his faculty position in the Department of Animal Sciences. "A new plant science building has been a major goal of mine both as dean of the college of agriculture and life sciences and as provost," Bramley said." It is urgently needed to support our teaching and research and to further advance our position as the environmental university. The wonderful generosity of the Lintilhacs in providing this gift will prove a critical step in ensuring a facility worthy of our students and colleagues."

Crea and Philip Lintilhac are both graduates of the University of Vermont, and Philip Lintilhac has been a member of the UVM botany faculty for three decades. "It's important that the university have a strong presence in basic plant science," said Philip Lintilhac. "UVM already has one of the strongest plant biology programs of its size in the country, and we hope this gift will help to create a facility that builds further on that strength."

Tom Vogelmann, chair of the Department of Plant Biology, said the

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Lintilhac gift comes at a critical time. "This jumpstarts the entire momentum for this project," he said. "The modern classrooms and laboratories in this facility are going to affect everything we do in plant science at this university for decades to come. We're totally thrilled."

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Computer-Based Phone System Aims to Treat Alcohol Dependence

By Jennifer Nachbur
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Considered unfriendly and annoying, computer-based phone systems are widely used by for-profit and non-profit businesses alike. But if you're alcohol-dependent, you might just find a silver lining hidden in this often frustrating technology.

Based on years of research, Dr. John Helzer, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Vermont (UVM) College of Medicine, and colleagues have evidence that reporting drinking each day via Interactive Voice Response (IVR) – a computer-based telephone system that enables users to respond with the telephone keypad to a recorded voice asking scripted questions – results in a reduction of alcohol consumption among heavy drinkers. They have also found that feedback from daily IVR reports improves the positive effect of brief intervention delivered by primary care providers to hazardous drinkers.

Now Helzer and his team are launching a new, low-cost intervention for alcohol dependence that can be accessed remotely. Called "Therapeutic" IVR (TIVR), the system is designed to be used as a relapse prevention supplement to traditional cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), a form of psychotherapy, which involves identifying negative patterns of thinking and reacting and modifying or replacing them with more helpful behavior patterns.

In addition to making daily reports, patients can use the TIVR to review and/or rehearse coping skills they learned in CBT and get personalized feedback about their progress. "The University of Vermont is a pioneer in the development of automated telephone technology for patient self-directed treatment," said Helzer. "This is an especially important area of research in the alcohol treatment field, especially since a majority of recovered drinkers do not participate in medically-based treatment programs, so their recovery rates are not typically measured and evaluated."

To gauge whether the new system enhances the therapeutic effect of CBT for alcohol dependence, study participants who have completed 12 sessions of cognitive behavioral coping skills training for alcohol dependence will be randomly assigned to two treatment groups, one which receives CBT only and one which receives CBT plus four months of TIVR. The research team will measure alcohol consumption and alcohol-related symptoms, self-efficacy, situational confidence, use of coping

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skills, and coping behavior effectiveness at various intervals including: immediately before and after CBT, during and immediately after four months of TIVR, and eight months later.

For more information about the study, call the UVM Health Behavior Research Center at 802-847-6860.

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The Textbook is Dead. Long Live the Textbook.

By Joshua Brown
Article published Jun 29, 2006

In 1970, let's say, you were a freshman in college. You wrote your papers on a typewriter after consulting journals in the library, you completed your calculus homework with a slide rule, you called your mother from the payphone in the hall, and your biology textbook was a 5-pound, 1000-page encyclopedia.

In 2006, your daughter is a first-year student in college. She writes her papers on a laptop computer after consulting Google, she completes her calculus homework with other students on an interactive website, she forgets to call you from her cell phone at Starbucks, and her biology textbook is a 5-pound, 1000-page encyclopedia.

Hmmm. One of these things hasn't changed.

"Textbooks have yet to respond to changes in technology and in teaching philosophy and student life," says Paul Bierman, a geologist at the University of Vermont, who gathered 54 leading scientists, educators and technology experts to a 3-day workshop on "Reconsidering the Textbook," at the National Academy of Sciences, in Washington D.C., May 24-26.

"There was broad agreement at the workshop that the role of the textbook is going to change from a single monolithic let's-cover-every-detail volume," Bierman says, "to be what some participants call guidebooks. They are going to be the integrating force between all these different digital technologies and show you where to go for more depth."

The invitation-only group—drawing on six of Bierman's fellow Distinguished Teacher Scholars, the NSF's highest award, as well as representatives from Google and Microsoft—did some imagining of what these science and math textbooks of the future might look like.

Maybe, some participants thought, they'll be small 100-page paper texts, like a hiking trail guide, with numerous weblinks printed in the margin. Elliot Soloway, from the University of Michigan, talked about inexpensive pocket-size computers that download content in the lab or field or dorm as needed. And, though e-books have floundered in the marketplace, there was discussion of futuristic electronic paper that overwrites with wiki-style content fed in by both professors and students.

"There wasn't agreement about whether the textbook would be print or electronic," Bierman says. "There were some people there who thought

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that within 5 years, we'd be 100% digital. Others who think we'll never be digital. My suspicion—and probably the center view of the conference—is that there will probably be a bit of both."

But what exact technology will replace traditional textbooks was not the top concern of the attendees. "The laptops and PDAs, the BlackBerries and cell phones—these are external manifestations of much bigger change," Bierman says. "No longer is information the seat of power. Now it's the ability to find and organize the right information quickly and conveniently."

"Students don't need us, the professors, to give them the information, they can go to Google to give them the information," he says. "They need us to give them the skills to organize that information and make something useful out of it. It has really changed in the last five years."

"We see more students saying: what's important, what should I care about, how does this really work?" he says. "And we know that what works best is having students intimately involved in directing their own learning, rather than being passive observers."

Several decades of educational research back him up. A growing body of teaching approaches—sometimes called constructivist learning at lower levels of education, or inquiry-based learning at the college level—is driven by students' own questions and adapts to various learning styles and levels of understanding.

"That's a far cry from: OK, everybody read chapter 7 for tomorrow," Bierman says.

"Instead," he says, "I pose the students a broad problem: 'You need to solve the origin of the earth. And you might find parts of the answer in these chapters, and in this article from Scientific American, and on our field trip.' Then let them explore." This approach fits with what the workshop keynote speaker, Diane Ebert-May, from Michigan State University, calls "backwards design," where the goals of what should be learned are established first and then the tools—like textbooks or computer animations—are selected to meet those goals.

So is the textbook soon to the grave? Probably not, the group concluded after three days of intensive discussion, but it is quickly changing. The traditional strengths of the textbook remain: they gather an established body of knowledge within a discipline, present a consensus overview, and filter information through peer review. It's unlikely that Wikipedia or Amazon-style websites alone could develop that kind of authority. If nothing else there is a need for something textbook-like to provide credibility in an ever-widening murky river of information.

But the very qualities that give textbooks their gravitas are often their downfall. The peers in "peer-review" are not your first-year student bewildered by an index thick with specialized terms. The ponderous

process of publishing means that the information in a textbook is years out-of-date on the day it's released. The broad market that textbooks seek means that local detail and current relevance are not included. And the voice of most textbooks is so homogenized it would spread on crackers.

For a geologist like Bierman these liabilities are so significant that he has dispensed with textbooks altogether. "I had thrown up my hands about textbooks; my teaching is driven by hands-on work in the field, looking at rocks," he says. "I don't use them. In my intro course, Earth Hazards, we're reading John McPhee essays. It makes science personal. Scientists are a bunch of crazy funny people. Where does that come through in a textbook?"

Perhaps the new textbooks—if they were adjusted to each student through interactive software, if they could be customized to each location (like Bierman's field site) for what the workshop participants called "place-based" curriculum, and if they were constantly updated by the input of both faculty and students—just might have some of the quirky attraction that makes a good essay so different from a standard leaden textbook chapter.

"The goal," Bierman writes, "is to retain the core stability and authority that make the textbook so valuable while at the same time providing the flexibility, timeliness, and inquiry-focused approach that the web and other electronic resources provide."

But as any historian of science will tell you, technological changes are often driven less by rational policy and more by unexpected disruptions and powerful conservatisms. The tool that displaces the textbook may not be the one that the textbook publishers and professors would choose, anymore than railroad companies selected the automobile. And the success of the new technologies doesn't depend simply on their efficiency, it depends on a social environment among teachers and others willing to accept the status changes the new textbooks might bring.

If it works as the workshop attendees imagine it could, and a successful economic model can be found, "subtly, but dramatically, the adaptable, flexible textbook will shift the way higher education is accomplished," the workshop summary notes. "We see the new textbook as an important part of the shift from faculty-directed to student-centered learning."

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UVM Alumnus Contributes $5 Million to Center for Holocaust Studies

By Jeffrey Wakefield
Article published Jun 29, 2006

A University of Vermont alumnus celebrating his 55th class reunion has announced a $5 million gift to support the university's Center for Holocaust Studies.

Burlington native Leonard Miller '51 and his wife Carolyn Rosen Miller are making the gift to renovate Billings Hall on the UVM campus as a permanent home for the Center for Holocaust Studies and to endow two new professorships in Holocaust studies. The renovation will also provide a home for the university's Center for Research on Vermont and for the UVM Libraries' Special Collections. Billings Hall, dedicated in 1885, was designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, the foremost architect of his day, as the university library.

Miller is a retired Florida real estate developer and former mayor of Indian Creek Village, FL. His wife, Carolyn, is a realtor specializing in upscale Florida properties.

The Millers have been strong supporters of UVM's Center for Holocaust Studies in the past, having established the Miller Endowment, which provides faculty support and funds the Miller Symposium in Holocaust Studies every other spring at UVM.

"Growing up in Burlington's Old North End, I would never have dreamed that some day I could do something meaningful to assure that the horrors of the Holocaust would not be forgotten," Miller said. "By supporting UVM's Center for Holocaust Studies, Carolyn and I are very pleased that we're able to take a substantial step in that direction and help the University at the same time."

"We are so very grateful to Lenny and Carolyn Miller for this extraordinary gift," said UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel. "Thanks to their thoughtful and purposeful philanthropy, the University of Vermont will stand even taller among the handful of institutions worldwide known for the excellence of their teaching and scholarship surrounding one of the defining events in human history."

UVM's Center for Holocaust Studies was established to celebrate and perpetuate the achievement and legacy of Raul Hilberg, author of The *Destruction of the European Jews*, widely regarded among scholars as a seminal work in the field of Holocaust studies. Hilberg taught at UVM

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from 1956 to 1991 and initiated its Holocaust Studies program. The Center offers an academic minor in Holocaust studies and promotes knowledge of the Holocaust through lectures, courses, seminars, visits to local schools, and cultural events on campus.

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Seven Rules for Building a *New* New Orleans

By Joshua Brown
Article published Jun 29, 2006

Hurricane Katrina was the largest natural disaster ever to strike the United States. The US government has pledged over $100 billion to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast after this predictable tragedy. The question is: how should it be rebuilt?

In an editorial published electronically June 10, 2006 in the international journal *Ecological Engineering*, Robert Costanza, Director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics at the University of Vermont, and two co-authors point out seven rules that need to be followed to restore New Orleans. They suggest that while what was there can simply be replaced, this approach would merely mean setting the pins up to be knocked down again by a future hurricane.

Wetlands and barrier islands are the only thing between New Orleans and the Gulf of Mexico. But 1,800 square miles of wetlands have been lost since the 1930s. The blanket of freshwater, sediments, and nutrients from the Mississippi River Basin that used to spread across the Louisiana delta no longer does so, as the heavily managed river is forced to dump most of its load into the deep waters of the Gulf.

That river management allowed deepwater shipping in New Orleans and stopped flooding of developed areas, but it will ultimately lead to the city's destruction.

A well-conceived plan called the Louisiana Coastal Area Project would have reversed the trend of continuing wetland loss. This plan may now be in jeopardy if priorities shift to simply replacing levees and pumps instead of restoring wetlands and creating sensible human settlements.

What would a truly new New Orleans look like? Here are seven rules proposed by Costanza and colleagues:

1. **Let the water decide**. Building a city below sea level is always a dangerous proposition. While parts of New Orleans are still above sea level, much of it has sunk below. It is not sustainable to rebuild these areas the way they were before. They should be either replaced with coastal wetlands, which are allowed to trap sediments to rebuild the land, or replaced with buildings on pilings or floats that are adapted to flooding.

2. **Avoid abrupt boundaries between deepwater systems and uplands**.

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Gentle slopes with wetlands are the best division, and avoid putting humans, particularly those who have few resources to avoid the next hurricane, in harm's way. Of course the abrupt boundaries of the levees are necessary, since wetlands alone cannot protect the city, but we need both.

3. **Restore natural capital**. Coastal wetlands in Louisiana have been estimated to provide $375 per acre ($925 per hectare) each year in storm and flood protection services. Hurricane Katrina has shown this to be a large underestimate. Restoring Louisiana's coastal wetlands and New Orleans levees has been estimated to cost $25 billion. Had the original wetlands been intact and levees in better shape, a substantial portion of the $100 billion in damages from this hurricane probably could have been avoided. Prevention is much cheaper and more effective than reconstruction.

4. **Use the resources of the Mississippi River to rebuild the coast**, by changing the current system that constrains the river between levees and allows it to simply dump into the deeper waters of the Gulf. Diversion of water, nutrients, and sediments from the Mississippi should be greatly expanded beyond what current plans call for, to allow rapid restoration of the coastal wetlands. Where possible, levees should be breached in a controlled way to allow marsh rebuilding.

5. **Restore the built capital of New Orleans with green buildings and a car-limited urban environment with high mobility for everyone**. New Orleans has abundant renewable energy sources in solar, wind, and water. What better message than to build a 21st-century city running on renewable energy on the rubble of a 20th-century oil and gas production hub? Imagine neighborhoods of New Orleans with strong, multistory, multifamily buildings surrounded by green space, each with enough water and fuel storage for several weeks, and operating on wind and solar energy.

6. **Rebuild the social capital** of New Orleans to 21st century standards of diversity, tolerance, fairness, and justice. New Orleans has suffered long enough with an unjust social system dating from the 18th (or even the 15th) century. The envisioning and rebuilding must include participation by the entire community.

7. **Restore the Mississippi River Basin** to minimize coastal pollution and the threats of river flooding in New Orleans. Upstream changes in the drainage basin have altered nutrient and sediment delivery patterns to the delta. Changes in levees and farming practices upstream and the establishment of 5 million acres of wetlands and riverine forests can improve not only the coastal restoration process, but also the nation's agricultural economy by promoting sustainable farming practices in the entire basin.

The authors point out that we must not let the restoration of New Orleans and the rest of the Mississippi delta become another disaster

waiting to happen.

For more information, please contact the editorial offices of *Ecological Engineering* or the paper's authors: Robert Costanza; William J. Mitsch; John W. Day, Jr..

The paper is available on the Web.

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Endowed Faculty Position Honors Legacy of Radiology Leaders

Dr. Jeffrey Klein appointed Soule-Tampas Green & Gold Professor of Radiology

By Jennifer Nachbur

Article published Jun 29, 2006

A new endowed faculty position has been established by the Department of Radiology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, honoring the legacy of two medical alumni and past Chairs of Radiology — Dr. A. Bradley Soule, a 1928 medical graduate, and Dr. John P. Tampas, a 1954 medical graduate.

Named the A. Bradley Soule, M.D.'28 and John P. Tampas, M.D.'54 Green & Gold Professor of Radiology, the position honors Soule, who served as chair of radiology for 34 years and passed away in 1983, and Tampas, who succeeded Soule as chair of radiology in 1970. Soule gained a national reputation for the department and earned the American College of Radiology's highest award, its gold medal.

In 1971, after his long career in radiology, he took on a leadership role at the College of Medicine as Director of Alumni Affairs. Soule was a mentor to Tampas, professor of radiology, who served as chair of radiology at UVM for 26 years and currently serves as executive secretary of the UVM College of Medicine Alumni Executive Committee and on the advisory board of the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

This is the second endowed position named after Tampas. Last fall, he and his wife Kathryn announced they were establishing an endowed faculty position in radiology. The entire department of radiology — many of whom were trained by Tampas — decided to match the Tampas' generous $250,000 gift. Rather than have the position named after him, Tampas wanted to honor Soule, his mentor.

"This endowed faculty position is a real testament to how strongly everyone in the radiology department feels about Dr. Tampas and how highly they regard his long and distinguished career," said Dr. Steven Braff, professor and chair of radiology.

Dr. Jeffrey Klein, professor of radiology, has been named the first A. Bradley Soule, M.D.'28 and John P. Tampas, M.D.'54 Green & Gold Professor of Radiology. Klein, who also serves as associate dean for Continuing Medical Education, received his medical degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) Health Science Center at Brooklyn and served a radiology internship at Staten Island Hospital. He completed his

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residency at SUNY-Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn, and a fellowship at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco.

Prior to joining the UVM College of Medicine faculty in 1995, he held positions at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine and the University of Arizona. Klein and his family reside in Williston, Vt.

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Old Mill Statue Alive and Well

By Tom Weaver
Article published Jun 29, 2006

Members of the John Purple Howard Fan Club, rest easy. The bust of the 19th-century philanthropist has not gone mysteriously missing in the way of various local icons — Big Boys to Chickenbone Cafe roosters. Shirley Fortier of Campus Planning Services and a member of the ad hoc Sculpture Committee reports that J.P. Howard is safe from pranksters and enjoying an off-campus summer sabbatical for cleaning and refinishing.

When the Howard bust returns to its traditional location along the front exterior wall of Old Mill, behind the UVM Boulder, it will sit on a restored pedestal. Work will likely be completed near the beginning of the fall semester. The DAR plaque on Old Mill and Paul Aschenbach's "Tree of Knowledge" by Bailey/Howe have also been cleaned and repaired recently.

John Purple Howard, who grew up in Burlington and made his fortune in the hotel industry in New York City, financed a major renovation and expansion of Old Mill in the 1880s. Other lasting gifts Howard gave to the university include the statue of General Lafayette and the fountain on the green.

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Library Professor Recognized for Impact On Patriot Act

By communications staff
Article published Jul 03, 2006

Trina Magi, library associate professor, was awarded the prestigious 2006 Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award by The American Library Association on June 27 at it's annual conference in New Orleans.

The award, given annually to honor a librarian who invests time and talent to make positive changes in the profession of librarianship, was awarded to Magi for her pivotal role in mobilizing opposition to Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act, which grants investigators access to personal records, including those held by libraries. As a grassroots advocate working with the Vermont Library Association, Magi contacted and worked closely with U.S. Rep. Bernard Sanders, who named her as a key catalyst who thrust the debate surrounding the USA PATRIOT Act into the national spotlight.

“Magi's efforts to reform the PATRIOT Act have proven that one person's actions can affect change in this country,” said Sanders. “Trina’s commitment to protecting the privacy rights of individuals has informed policy and discussion both at the University of Vermont and in the national arena,” added Mara Saule, Dean if Libraries. “We couldn’t be more proud of her.”

Magi, who has spoken extensively about privacy issues related to library user's rights, served as president of the Vermont Library Association and ALA Chapter Councilor for Vermont. She was the 2004 recipient of the Hugh M. Hefner First Amendment Award and the 2005 winner of the New England Library Association’s ProQuest/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award.

“The Committee was impressed with the perseverance and dedication that Magi brought to this process," said Futas Award Jury Chair Robert Newlen of the Library of Congress.

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NOTABLES

July 5, 2006

Awards and Honors

Richard Vanden Bergh, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, was honored with the Teacher of the Year Award at the 2006 School of Business Administration Commencement ceremony. The award was presented on behalf of the Class of 2006 by **Andrea Petronello** and **Tim O'Rourke**, co-presidents of the Student Advisory Committee to the Dean. Vanden Bergh was chosen by the students as the standout teacher of the year not only for his teaching skills inside the classroom, but also for his commitment to his students' success outside the classroom. Vanden Bergh was cited for making an extra effort to get involved in student activities; his expertise in his field; his affability; and for his dedication to the School of Business Administration.

Senior **Darah Lustig** was one of 62 undergraduate from 51 Canadian and US universities to be selected by a panel of experts in higher education to receive a prestigious undergraduate scholarship for 2006-2007 by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to study in Germany. This year's scholarship recipients were selected from a group of 210 applicants from the US and Canada. Most will head to Germany this fall. The Undergraduate Scholarship Program is aimed at students who want to spend part of their third or fourth year of college in Germany. The grantees stay anywhere from a semester to a full academic year, either to study, for internships, or senior thesis research.

Publications and Presentations

Vanden Bergh will be presenting a paper at two conferences this summer: the annual meetings of the Academy of Management and the International Society for New Institutional Economics. The paper, coauthored with **J.P. Bonardi** and **Guy Holburn** from the University of Western Ontario, will be published in the *Best Paper Proceedings of the Academy of Management*. In this study, titled "Non Market Strategy in Regulated Industries: Theory and Evidence from U.S. Electric Utilities," they develop a theory about what makes a political environment attractive for regulated firms. To test their theory they analyzed information on electric utility decisions to initiate regulatory agency reviews of regulated rates and the changes in regulated rates emanating from the review process.

Dennis Mahoney, professor in the department of German and Russian, had an article published titled "Old, New, and (Un)Known Worlds: History

and Fiction in Achim von Arnim's *Die Kronenwächter* and Edward P. Jones's *The Known World*" in *Literatur im Spiel der Zeichen*. Festschrift für Hans Vilmar Geppert (Tübingen: Francke, 2006), pp. 155-166. The essay presents an intriguing comparison between Arnim's Romantic novel from 1817 and Jones's depiction of slave-owning African Americans in antebellum Virginia in his 2003 novel that won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction one year later. Mahoney shows in particular how these two authors from different times and cultures treating separate subject matters meet in the complex challenge of finding a poetic balance between fiction and history.

Wolfgang Mieder, professor and chairperson of the Department of German and Russian, authored of an article on "Sprichwörtliche Gesellschaftskritik des Aphoristikers Klaus Koch" in *Deutsch als Fremdsprache*. Festschrift für Barbara Wotjak (München: Iudicium, 2005), pp. 207-231. The essay interprets the aphorisms of the modern German author Klaus Koch and shows how his short prose is informed by social and political satire that quite frequently is based on critical reactions to the wisdom of proverbs and the metaphors of proverbial expressions.

Brooke Mossman, professor of pathology and director of the environmental pathology program, is co-author of a June 21 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science Early Edition* article titled "TNF-α inhibits asbestos-induced cytotoxicity via a NF-κB-dependent pathway, a possible mechanism for asbestos-induced oncogenesis."

Kathleen Trybus, professor of molecular physiology and biophysics, is a lead author of an April 16 Advance Online Publication in the journal *Nature* titled "Three-dimensional structure of the myosin V inhibited state by cryoelectron tomography." **Elena Krementsova**, senior researcher in molecular physiology and biophysics, was a co-author on the paper.

Dr. **George Philips** was the lead investigator and UVM the lead site of a national study conducted through the Cancer and Leukemia Group B cooperative group, which is testing the value of a new drug called gefitinib (or Iressa) in bladder cancer. He delivered a preliminary report of the study findings, titled "Phase II Study of cisplatin (C), gemcitabine (G) and gefitinib for advanced urothelial carcinoma (UC): Analysis of the second cohort of CALGB 90102," in a poster presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting, which took place in Atlanta, Georgia on June 2-6. Dr. Hyman Muss, professor of medicine, chaired an educational session on cancer in the elderly and delivered a poster presentation, which focused on toxicity of adjuvant chemo in older women with breast cancer, at the meeting.

Dr. **Eric Ganguly**, instructor of medicine, Dr. **Richard Zubarik**, assistant professor of medicine, and Dr. **Peter Moses**, associate professor of medicine, delivered presentations at the Digestive Disease Week conference in Los Angeles, Calif., May 20-25. Dr. **James Vecchio**, associate professor of medicine, and Moses were honored as two of the

first group of academic gastroenterologists elected for fellowship to the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA).

Dr. **Lewis First**, professor and chair of pediatrics and senior associate dean for educational and curricular affairs, and Dr. **Christa Zehle**, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics, are chapter contributors in the recently released textbook *Current Pediatric Therapy, 18th Edition*.

Dr. **Anne Johnston**, associate professor of pediatrics, Dr. **William Raszka**, associate professor of pediatrics and Dr. **Paul Krusinski**, professor of medicine, have contributed chapters to the recently released fourth edition of *Oski's Pediatrics Principles & Practice*.

May 24, 2006

Awards and Honors

A team of researchers led by **Bruce Beynnon**, associate professor and director of research in orthopaedics and rehabilitation, garnered a prestigious American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine award for their scientific paper on rehabilitation following knee ligament surgery. The paper, titled "Rehabilitation After Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: A Prospective, Randomized, Double-Blind Comparison of Programs Administered Over Two Different Time Intervals," will be recognized and presented at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine annual meeting in Hershey, Pa., on June 30.

Associate Provost **Jill Mattuck Tarule** was invited to participate in and give a paper at the Oxford Round Table in August. Tarule will travel to England to participate in the round table's "women and leadership" program. The Oxford Round Table provides a forum for the study and consideration of current issues facing state and national systems of education. The Round Table meets periodically and at each session is comprised of a small select group of leaders from both the public and private sectors of several countries.

Publications and Presentations

Susan Edelman, research associate professor, and **Chigee Cloninger**, research associate professor, both of the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion, are co-authors with other colleagues of an article, "Cortical Visual Impairment: Guidelines and Educational Considerations," published in the spring 2006 issue of *Deaf-Blind Perspectives.*

Louise Lampman-Larivee, training coordinator for the Department of Social Work's Title IV E Abenaki-UVM-Department of Children and Families Partnership Project, was recently invited to present a paper at a conference sponsored by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University in May. The conference was titled, "The Politics of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Lampman-Larivee co-authored