

September 24, 2008

Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Med](#) | [Lg](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

The Desire for a 'Second Life'



More than one million dollars a day changes hands between vendors and subscribers in the internet-based community Second Life. Two UVM researchers are studying the potential applications for real-world business and marketing practices. (Photo courtesy of Linden Lab)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

CURRENT NEWS BRIEFS AND EVENTS

[UVM, Center for an Agricultural Economy Announce Partnership](#)

[Lane Series Offers Diverse Concerts, Performances](#)

['Eurydice' Opens Royall Tyler Season](#)

INTERview: Hans

[Ohanian](#) In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

Lessons of Politics and Burritos

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

Sept. 25. 5 p.m. Poetry Reading: Ed Pavlic. Author of three volumes of poetry and director of the M.F.A./Ph.D. Program in Creative Writing at the University of Georgia. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. Information: major.jackson@uvm.edu.

Sept. 25. 5:30–7:30 p.m. Fleming Museum Fall Opening Reception. Hosted by President Daniel Mark Fogel and Rachel Kahn Fogel. Featuring the opening of the museum's newest [exhibit](#). Fleming Museum. Information: 656-0750.

Sept. 27. 9 a.m. Historic Tour of UVM. [Information](#), [registration](#). Tour begins at Ira Allen statue, Main Green. Tour runs Saturdays, through Oct. 11.

Sept. 30. 6 p.m. Community Medical School: "Robotics: The History and Future of Computer-Assisted Minimally-Invasive Surgery," Scott Perrapato, associate professor of surgery and urologic oncologist. Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building. [Information](#), [registration](#): (802) 847-2886.

Oct. 1. 12:15 p.m. Area and International Studies Lecture: "Private Military Firms and Risk Transfer Warfare," Kateri Carmola Department of Political Science, Middlebury College. John Dewey Lounge,

[Environmental Prof Kaza in New Dalai
Lama Film](#)

[Center for Rural Studies Celebrates 30th
Anniversary](#)

[Energy Research Symposium Slated for
Sept. 27](#)

[Health Policy Expert to Discuss Early
Childhood Program, EPTSDT](#)

[Author Anita Diamant to Lecture at Ira
Allen](#)

PREVIOUS ISSUE

[Davis' Busy Summer Vacation](#)

[Research with MERIT](#)

[Members of the Upper Crust](#)

[Faculty Members to Speak at Archaeology
Conference](#)

[UVM Cyclists Rally for Injured Teammate](#)

[Bestselling Author Elizabeth Marshall
Thomas to Speak Sept. 23](#)

[At UVM, Even the Toilet Paper Is Green](#)

[2006 Commencement Speaker Esteva on
Campus Again](#)

[Visiting Holocaust Scholar, Anne Frank
Expert to Lecture](#)

[Grasso, Panelists to Discuss Green
Initiatives for Vermont](#)

[Cultural Studies Scholar to Deliver Burack
Lecture on the Culture of Globalization](#)

[Public Radio's 'Studio 360' Features
Classics Prof's Music Archaeology](#)

[Faculty Senate to Launch Self-Assessment](#)

.....
[ARCHIVE ►](#)

Old Mill.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#)

[Print This Issue](#) | [Print Past Issues](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

The Desire for a 'Second Life'

By Jon Reidel

Article published September 24, 2008



More than one million dollars a day changes hands between vendors and subscribers in the internet-based community Second Life. Two UVM researchers are studying the potential applications for real-world business and marketing practices. (Photo courtesy of Linden Lab)

marketing and design services.

People with names like Aleister Kronos, Eladrienne Laval and Echo Barbosa spend thousands of dollars on her products as well as the latest techno gadgets, expensive cars, lavish weddings, waterfront mansions and plastic surgery. Not exactly unheard of spending habits of the rich and famous, except for one thing: the products aren't real and neither is Aimee Weber.

Weber, whose real-life name is Alyssa LaRoche, is a resident of Second Life, an Internet-based 3-D virtual world where 30 million real people around the world create virtual representations of themselves called avatars. These individuals spend real money to buy virtual products for their avatar from people like Weber. So why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one?

That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration and expert on consumer behavior, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration, who focuses on retail marketing and customer satisfaction, intend to find out. They have been conducting research on the behaviors of marketers and consumers in virtual worlds, which presents a number of unique challenges and opportunities for promoting,

Meet Aimee Weber: marketing consultant, clothing designer, artist and event planner with a knack for selling things. Her PREEN line of clothing made her wealthy before she moved on to collecting six-figure consulting fees from the likes of NBC, IBM and American Apparel for her

PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.

selling and buying goods and services.

"It's an amazing phenomenon that has real world applications," says Tomas. "Little is known about the motivation behind consumers' choices to spend real currency on virtual goods and services. Our research looks into why people do this and if it's transferable to real world marketing concepts. There is money to be made by companies like Coke and American Apparel (who can sell their products in Second Life), but they are struggling with how much of a presence they should have."

Virtually limitless possibilities

Weber, a Columbia University graduate whose construction of a virtual American Apparel store in Second Life represented one of the first unions between real and virtual business worlds, is one of an emerging class of virtual world moguls (now in the hundreds) generating more than \$5,000 in real-life monthly income, according to San Francisco's Linden Lab, owner of Second Life.

Virtual business owners generate income from consumers whose avatars use a currency called Linden dollars (250 Linden dollars equals about \$1) to buy products. A car worth 25,000 Linden dollars, for example, would cost about \$100 of U.S. currency (usually purchased with a credit card). Anshe Chung, a virtual land baroness featured in a *Newsweek* cover story, titled "My Virtual Life" become Second Life's first real-life millionaire (U.S. dollars that is) when her real-life creator, Ailin Graef, accumulated enough land holdings, virtual shopping malls, store chains and virtual stock-market investments in Second Life businesses so her Linden dollars (they can be converted to real cash) equaled seven figures of U.S. currency. Not bad for a \$9.95 fee to join Second Life.

Bonifield and Tomas say major brands aren't sure if they should place products throughout Second Life for exposure or if they should try to make money from avatars buying their product (sellers receive about half of the sale price). "Marketers are trying to figure out what to do with this," says Bonifield. "Is just having a presence enough? Should they try to sell their products? Use it for promotional purposes? Marketing research? Some brands have been successful, and others are still unsure what to do."

Striving for your "possible self"

Bonifield and Tomas believe that the desire to spend real money on virtual goods is connected to the concept of the "possible self." They hypothesize in their paper "A Different Reality: Considering Possible Selves in Virtual Worlds," which they presented in May of 2008 at the Advertising and Consumer Psychology Conference on Virtual Social Identity and Consumer Behavior in Philadelphia, that "possible selves" could represent what people (through their avatars) would like to become as well as what they are afraid of

becoming, thus directly affecting their construction of avatars and their spending habits.

Other areas of study by Tomas and Bonifield include copyright issues and how marketers protect their brands (people sue avatars) and the decline in real-world job performance of individuals who focus more on their Second Life job (usually higher up the corporate ladder as a CEO). With Second Life having created an economy currently trading at more than \$1 million per day, the research applications are endless. Getting people to come forward to participate in research is another matter.

"Individuals create avatars to participate in virtual worlds for myriad reasons," write Tomas and Bonifield in their paper "Where Avatars Come From: Exploring Consumers' Motivations in Virtual Worlds." The researchers note that participating in real world consumer interviews and surveys may not appeal to many. That said, they intend to find alternative ways to gather data so they can gain a better understanding of what motivates consumers' avatar construction and thus help marketers "frame their advertising, promotions, and product offerings to better appeal to these consumers."

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)

[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

INTERview: Hans Ohanian

A professor of physics explores the human failings of genius in a new book, Einstein's Mistakes.

By Joshua Brown

Article published September 24, 2008



Professor of physics Hans Ohanian stands in front of an inscription by Albert Einstein that translates "the Lord is cunning, but not malicious." Ohanian's new book shows how Einstein used a sleepwalker's intuition — rather than force of logic — to catch the tail of a cunning universe. (Photo courtesy of Hans Ohanian)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein.

One hundred years earlier, in a year of boggling productivity, the young physicist

completed five papers that reshaped human understanding: he described light as a stream of photons, determined the size of molecules, proposed a theory about Brownian motion that proved the existence of atoms, created his theory of relativity, and blessed the marriage of mass and energy in the tidy package $E=mc^2$. In physics, 1905 was the year of miracles.

Hans Ohanian joined the centenary celebrations. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But the life-long student of relativity, and UVM adjunct professor of physics, was struck by a constant omission from all these accounts: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes, though they were well-known to physicists both in his day and today.

So Ohanian, the author of some half-dozen textbooks, set out on a new writing venture: a forensic biography that dissects these mistakes. Not, as he says, because of Schadenfreude, a kind of "joy of harm," but because these mistakes reveal Einstein as human — and a human whose genius depended on errors.

PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.

THE VIEW *spoke with Ohanian to learn more about his new book, published this month by W.W. Norton, Einstein's Mistakes: The Human Failings of Genius.*

THE VIEW: Someone picking up this book might expect an exposé on how Einstein's mistakes show him to be less of a genius than an adoring public would believe. But you argue nearly the opposite: some mistakes are a sign of genius and maybe even a necessity of genius.

HANS OHANIAN: In the case of Einstein, the mistakes were necessary. He could not have arrived at some of his great pieces of work, such as special relativity and general relativity, without relying on mistakes that showed him a path towards a final result that was correct.

Give an example. What's the most telling error he made that gave him a shortcut to insight?

To arrive at general relativity, Einstein took a shortcut through what is called the "principle of equivalence." He observed that behavior inside a freely falling elevator is as though gravity didn't exist. Things seem to float. So gravity and acceleration are equivalent.

But that was a short cut, because it's not really true. Even in a freely falling elevator, with careful experiments, you can detect the presence of the gravitational field in which you're falling. Einstein just ignored these little details — and that permitted him to get to general relativity fairly quickly. Other people who might have approached the study of relativistic gravitation by a different track would have taken an extra 20 years to get to the same point.

Is there embedded in what you say a skepticism of the unique insights of genius? You seem to be saying Einstein was merely ahead of what would have been discovered anyway.

I think that is generally true of science. In science, all discoveries ultimately get made. When a genius intervenes, it merely ensures that a discovery comes much earlier than it would have happened otherwise. In the case of Einstein, the discoveries he made would have been made anyhow within 10 or 20 years.

As your book makes clear, not all his errors were helpful or launched him toward new insights. Tell us about the various kinds of mistakes he made.

Yes, his mistakes were of different characters. Some were just blunders in calculation. Those are in some sense the trivial errors. We all make mathematical errors, but I think Einstein was more prone to them than most. He was not a particularly good

mathematician. He neglected his mathematical education in his studies at the University of Zurich, and he never made up for it. Instead, what he did throughout his life was hire assistants who would do calculations for him. He called them his *Rechenpferde*, his “calculating horses,” a reference to Clever Hans, the horse that apparently could do arithmetical calculation by tapping its hoof.

And there were more fundamental errors, conceptual errors in the basic ideas on which he based his theories, such as the example of the principle of equivalence. This mistake and a few others were ultimately productive, giving him the insight, for example, that in the presence of gravity, spacetime is curved. Without the mistake, he might never have arrived of such an outrageous — but true — idea.

But he also made odd errors in logic. A good example of this is one of his attempted proofs at $E = mc^2$ where he proved that when you add some amount of energy to a system, the additional quantity satisfies the condition that E is equal to mc^2 for the increment you have added. But then he claimed that this means that what you had there originally has to also satisfy $E = mc^2$. This is, of course, an absolute error in logic. But he believed it. He printed it in his papers, he printed it in a book he wrote about relativity; he never saw that this was just an absurd error in logic.

According to the chronology you lay out in the book, Einstein makes not just one mistake in his proof of $E=mc^2$, but many.

Yes, seven times. Every one of his attempted proofs went off the track somewhere. He did manage to prove $E=mc^2$ for a few specialized configurations, but he, of course, really wanted a general proof that $E=mc^2$ was always going to be valid. And he never managed to prove that.

Why not?

To a large extent it was his poor mathematical background. It turned out that the solution of that problem hinged on using tensor mathematics, something Einstein was not familiar with until much later. He ultimately learned it when he needed it for general relativity but by that time other people had gotten ahead of him in their understanding of tensor mathematics and so they were able to produce the proof that he never managed.

Did Einstein recognize his own errors?

Einstein recognized that theoreticians might make mistakes. He classified them in two ways: either errors in the basic concepts on which they base their theories — they are led into these errors by the devil and we should pity the theoretician for that.

And he said there are errors of mathematics and logic, and for these we should not pity the theoretician. Instead, we should give him a beating! Well, he made mistakes of both kinds, so sometimes we should pity him and sometimes we should give him a beating.

Did Einstein's contemporaries give him a beating for his mistakes?

By and large his contemporaries were very forgiving of these mathematical errors. I guess because they recognized the greatness of Einstein and they felt they shouldn't hold some mathematical errors or some slips in logic against him.

But on his conceptual errors, yes, some of his contemporaries came down very hard on him, especially in the errors in connection with the unified theory of fields. Wolfgang Pauli, a Swiss physicist, for many years made fun of Einstein for the construction of his unified theories, because Pauli immediately recognized that these theories were totally mistaken and totally silly.

Like many geniuses, Einstein had this period of almost unbelievable productivity as a young man. 1905 is the year of miracles and within ten more his most important work had been done. And then he goes on for decades searching fruitlessly for this unified theory.

I don't think that is terribly surprising. In the 1920s, when his productivity declined, he was in his early forties. That's a pretty old age for a theoretical physicist to make any more discoveries. There is an expression in physics: theoreticians suffer from *Knabenphysik*, physics of boys. They have to make their discoveries early — or not at all. Einstein lasted longer than most.

Einstein is famous in many ways. And one of them, that you describe in the book, is that he is seen as being a person of mystical insight. What does mysticism mean in the world of physics?

When I say that his approach to problem solving is that of a mystic, I simply mean that he didn't approach it through logical thinking, but came at it in an intuitive, visceral manner. He would just sit in a corner and think about it and then suddenly get an idea out of apparently nowhere. In that sense I describe him as having the habits of a mystic.

He did rely greatly on what he thought was the beauty and compulsory nature of the ideas that came to him. That clearly has a mystical element to it. Why would you think that this or that idea is compulsory when you can offer no logical reason for that? I regard

that as a mystical trait in Einstein's thinking.

Einstein, like many great thinkers, presupposed that the world was knowable and ordered and in some way beautiful. But today we have a group of theorists, the string theorists, who have been failing for so many years that some of them are starting to say: maybe the world is not knowable or that the universe is capricious.

I don't think that's true. The string theorists of today are very much imitating Einstein in the sense that they want to construct theories on the basis of criteria of beauty and aesthetic qualities of the mathematical constructs that they are using. Which was exactly what Einstein tried to do with his unified theory and absolutely failed. I think the string theorists are failing in their unified theories for exactly the same reason: ultimately you can't construct a theory of the universe on the criteria of beauty and aesthetics alone. You also have to have solid experimental input.

And Einstein failed with his aesthetic, mystical approach once he got to regions of physics where he had no experimental input anymore. And what is happening to the string theorists is exactly the same. They are failing because they are proceeding without using any experimental input.

Is Einstein's nearly saint-like status as the greatest genius of physics justified?

He made mistakes. He made stupid mistakes. We all make stupid mistakes. But as Paul Dirac, the famous British physicist, said, we have to judge a theoretical physicist not by the worst work he did, but by the best. And if you look at the best work of Einstein, it is of absolutely amazing quality, and he richly earned his reputation as the greatest genius of physics in the twentieth century. There is no question about that.

I'd say he was the greatest genius of all time after Newton. Newton is the one physicist I'd place ahead of Einstein. If you wanted to make a list of the greatest geniuses of physics, I'd say Newton is at the top, Einstein is second. I would place Archimedes third and Galileo fourth.

A key lens you use in the book is a psychological one, a Freudian one: here is Einstein as rational theorist on one level and yet his greatest insights come from this unconscious realm. How did you try to illuminate this strange dark world of unconscious thought?

That is the big puzzle. I have struggled and I can't say that I am satisfied with the level of understanding I've attained of Einstein's

thought processes and how he went about conceiving of these ideas. Maybe that's just a general problem of dealing with genius — ordinary persons can't understand how they do this! And maybe it is that all geniuses have some element of madness.

So the honest biographer of genius is left at the edge of darkness?

In trying to understand the mental processes of these people, yes, the biographer is left confused. I doubt that we will ever understand how geniuses really operate. Einstein says he doesn't know how these ideas came to him; they just came. And he apparently was not able to explain this ultimate process of creation any better than anyone else.

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)

[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Lessons of Politics and Burritos

By Thomas Weaver

Article published September 23, 2008



Amanda Michel '02, director of the *Huffington Post's* citizen journalist coverage of the presidential election, brings her philosophy degree to bear on the ethics of reporting politics. (Photo: Suzanne Dechillo/The New York Times)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington*

Post's citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.

Michel says she approached the challenge of such uncharted territory by setting two clear goals from the outset. "We wanted to really craft the genre of the citizen journalist: What is it that they can provide the public sphere that a traditional journalist can't?" she says. The "*Huff Po's*" second focus was to use the scale of the internet to report on a large, geographically widespread story, such as the Obama campaign's nationwide canvassing effort early in the primary season, by amassing information gathered by many citizen journalists.

"You know that a reporter can only be in one place at one time, so there are a lot of things that happen in politics where the coverage under-serves itself because of that natural fact," Michel says.

Off The Bus's approach recently earned nomination to be listed among "The Top 10 Who are Changing the World of Internet and Politics," a ranking assembled by *PoliticsOnline*.

Human challenges

Working for Howard Dean's 2004 presidential campaign was Michel's first immersion into the power and potential of the Web. Starting as a volunteer, she eventually joined the campaign's internet team and rose to a staff position as national director of the

PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

Generation Dean youth outreach effort.

A less likely foundation for Michel's current pursuit — a job at Burlington's New World Tortilla during a two-year break from school between junior and senior years. Working for fellow alum and friend Chris Hathaway '92, Michel learned a good deal more than how to wrap a burrito. "I got to see a business get put together from start to finish," she says. "That actually helped kick-start some of my entrepreneurial bent."

Michel sees commonalities between her experience at New World, with the Dean campaign, and on the frontiers of citizen journalism. "I was thrown into new situations and found that I really thrived," she says. "I like to be constantly challenged, and I like the challenges to not just be intellectual challenges, but human challenges as well."

Applying the liberal arts

The challenges and rewards at *Off the Bus* have included reporter Mayhill Fowler's breaking the story when Sen. Barack Obama, speaking at a private fundraiser in San Francisco, referred to some Pennsylvania voters as "bitter." Michel says the story took off within a half-hour—"kind of like holding a paper to the wind." Though it raised the publication's profile, it also brought stressful times, even threats, to Fowler and Michel, who both acknowledge that they are Obama supporters. (Michel notes that one of *OTB's* guiding ethics is to eschew the "false neutrality" of traditional media. The reporters reveal their biases.)

Fowler's first instinct was to ignore the comment because she felt it would hurt Obama's campaign. As she discussed the story with the reporter, Michel recalls that she reached back into the Immanuel Kant she studied as a UVM philosophy major. "Basically, I asked what would happen if all *Off the Bus* members followed her lead and ignored a story for fear it would hurt the candidate they supported," Michel says. "We'd be hard-pressed to call our project journalism."

Obligated to plainly report what they observe, Michel felt that going forward with the story was the right decision, but it was far from an easy one. "It is very hard for citizen journalists, often times seen as traitors, committing acts of betrayal by being public with the information they have," she says. "It was certainly one of the more personally trying experiences."

Richard Sugarman, professor of religion, isn't surprised by Michel's success or the Phi Beta Kappa grad's ability to put lessons of the classroom to use. "Amanda is proof that you can study the liberal arts — especially philosophy — and apply it. She has a logically precise mind and puts it to work on genuinely human problems," Sugarman says.

Off the Bus's citizen journalist force was fast approaching ten thousand in early September, but what happens after the campaign? Michel says the question is open. "I'm curious to see how the model can be advanced and I have a few new ideas," she says. But after the long days and weekends required to get *Off the Bus* in gear and rolling, there's one thing clearly at the top of the post-November agenda. "Before anything else, I'll be taking a vacation."

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

UVM, Center for an Agricultural Economy Announce Partnership

By Jeffrey Wakefield

Article published September 24, 2008

The University of Vermont and the Center for an Agricultural Economy, a non-profit that seeks to promote a healthy food system through a network of food-based companies in the Hardwick, Vt. area, announced a formal partnership on Sept. 24, signaling an expansion of the university's commitment to investigating and advancing local food systems.

At a ceremony held at the combined manufacturing plant and offices of Vermont Natural Coatings and Vermont Soy in Hardwick, UVM president Daniel Mark Fogel directed the university's Office of Federal, State and Community Relations to assist the center in developing and implementing a dynamic, comprehensive connection to UVM research and faculty across the university.

"We are here today to highlight UVM's expanding commitment to local food systems," Fogel said. "Building on years of basic and applied research, teaching, and community outreach, both in and out of Vermont, UVM is committed to intensified integration of scholarship across the university focused on food systems research."

"This collaboration between the University of Vermont and the Center for an Agricultural Economy highlights the importance of identifying what research is needed to create a healthy food-based economy and then finding the expertise that can help create that system," said Andrew Meyer, founder and board member of the center and president of Vermont Natural Coatings and Vermont Soy. "Given the university's encompassing range of relevant expertise and outreach-oriented leadership and faculty, we couldn't find a better partner than UVM."

UVM's expanded commitment to local food networks in rural communities, which the new partnership will help drive, invigorates its land grant mission.

"Through this invigorated mission, UVM and its partners will seek to broaden and deepen the state and national policy debate to emphasize the importance of rural, sustainable food systems to American well being," Fogel said.



PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE

Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.

In pursuing this expanding commitment and in working with the center, UVM will build on research areas already prominent at the university. Those areas include farm-to-school initiatives, national and international policies and their affect on the American food system, farmer entrepreneurship, agriculture and land use, on-farm and community energy use, obesity, consumer behavior, food security, and sustainable transportation systems.

Fogel said that the Center for an Agricultural Economy was an ideal partner for advancing the university's new focus.

"The Center for an Agricultural Economy is splendidly positioned to be an effective partner because of its commitment to build upon local tradition and bring together community resources and programs needed to develop a locally based 21st century healthy food system that we believe can serve as a model for other Vermont communities, the nation, and the world," he said. "The center's vision supports the desire of rural communities to rebuild their economic and ecological health through strong, secure, and revitalized agricultural systems to meet their own food needs locally as well as to determine and build the best opportunities for value-added agricultural exports."

After the announcement, Fogel and representatives from the Center for an Agricultural Economy signed a memorandum of understanding committing both sides to "the promotion and enhancement of the health and sustainability of our rural communities and our complex and vital local food systems," Fogel said.

By the terms of the agreement, UVM will devote professional time and resources to advancing these objectives, facilitated by a graduate student, Clint Jaspersen, who will be dedicated to the new partnership.

Board members of the Center for an Agricultural Economy include Tom Stearns of High Mowing Seeds of Wolcott, president; Andy Kehler of Jasper Hill Farm of Greensboro, vice president; Andrew Meyer, secretary; Pete Johnson of Pete's Greens in Craftsbury, treasurer; Tom Gilbert of the Highfields Institute of Hardwick, director; Warren Rankin of Top Rankin Organic Dairy Farm, director; and Neil Urie of Bonnieview Farm, director. The executive director is Monty Fischer.

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)

[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Lane Series Offers Diverse Concerts, Performances

By The View Staff

Article published September 23, 2008

The UVM Lane Series begins its 54th season on Friday, Sept. 24 with a concert of Gypsy, Klezmer and Eastern European dance music by the trio Veretski Pass in the UVM Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. A free, pre-concert talk with the artists begins at 6:30 p.m.

This year's season is among the most diverse yet offered by the Lane Series. Highlights include the Omar Faruk Tekbilek Ensemble, who perform music of Turkey and the Middle-East; a screening of a classic Chinese Kung Fu film from the 1930s, *The Red Heroine*, accompanied by a live, original soundtrack performed by The Devil Ensemble; a performance of *First Person: Stories from the Edge of the World*, narrated by NPR's Neal Conan and accompanied by large-scale National Geographic photographs and music by Celtic-crossover group Ensemble Galilei; and a performance by the extraordinarily original monologist Mike Daisey of his piece *Monopoly! Tesla, Edison, Microsoft, Wal-Mart and the War for Tomorrow*.

Lane Series devotees, attracted to the program's commitment to classical music, will enjoy the Harlem Quartet, Lincoln Trio, and Alexander Quartet as well as three piano concerts by Russian award-winner Alexander Ghindin, who will perform Schubert, Chopin and Mussorgsky; Lara Downes, who incorporates projections of classic American photography into her work; and Simone Dinnerstein who will perform her interpretation of Bach's *Goldberg Variations*.

Also on the schedule is Teatro Lirico D'Europa in Bizet's opera *Carmen*, music from Dublin on St. Patrick's Day, and Shakespeare's *Henry V* performed by the Acting Company and the Guthrie Theatre.

For more information about the Lane Series and to order tickets securely online, visit the program's website, www.uvm.edu/laneseries.

PRINT | EMAIL THIS PAGE
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

'Eurydice' Opens Royall Tyler Season

By The View Staff

Article published September 23, 2008

The UVM Department of Theatre opens its 2008-2009 season with a contemporary twist on a classic Greek myth. Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* plays in Royall Tyler Theatre from Wednesday, Oct. 1 through Sunday, Oct. 12.

In a touching exploration of the ageless tale, *Eurydice* is torn between a reunion with her dead father and the passion she shares with her beloved husband Orpheus. Pulitzer Prize-finalist Ruhl uses a unique, poetic style to retell the classic Greek myth from the heroine's point of view. *The New York Times* describes *Eurydice* as "a quirky contemporary meditation on the classic that has the subliminal potency of music, the head-scratching surprise of a modernist poem and the cockeyed allure of a surrealist painting. It's pretty funny, too."

Directed by Sarah E. Carleton, with original music composed by associate professor of music Patricia Julien, the cast -- made up of students from the UVM Department of Theatre -- includes Paige Kelley as *Eurydice* and Carter Biedler as *Orpheus*. Also included in the cast are Nilsen Schilling, Josh Clarke, Maria Dirolf, Molly Sullivan, Mian O'Dowd and Annie Stauffer. Scenic design is by Jeff Modereger, lighting design by John B. Forbes, and costume design by Calvin Utter.

All performances are at 7:30 p.m., except the Oct. 12 show, which begins at 2 p.m. American Sign Language interpretation for the deaf and hard of hearing and audio description for the sight impaired will be available at the Oct. 12 performance.

Also on sale and arriving at Royall Tyler November 5 is the multiple Tony Award-winning musical *Cabaret* by Joe Masteroff, Fred Ebb and John Kander, directed and choreographed by Gregory Ramos.

Tickets are available online at www.uvmtheatre.org or by walk-up and phone, 656-2094. Box office hours are noon to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. Ticket prices are \$7-19 for reserved seating, with group rates available.

 **PRINT** | **EMAIL THIS PAGE**
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Environmental Prof Kaza in New Dalai Lama Film

By Thomas Weaver

Article published September 23, 2008

At the cusp of the new Millennium, a delegation of some of the world's most innovative thinkers traveled to India to meet with the Dalai Lama at his residence in the foothills of the Himalayas. Stephanie Kaza, professor in the Environmental Program and a scholar of Buddhist environmental thought, was among the group that endeavored to bring a synthesis of diverse disciplines to address the world's most critical problems.

Their starting point was a five-day series of discussions with the Dalai Lama, a process that is documented in the new film *Dalai Lama Renaissance*, narrated by Harrison Ford. A selection at 40 international film festivals, the film has garnered a dozen awards and is entered in this year's Academy Awards competition in the Best Feature Documentary Film category. *Dalai Lama Renaissance* is playing at the Palace 9 Theater in South Burlington through Thursday, Sept. 25.

Kaza, who has a small speaking part in the film, acknowledges that though the group struggled to generate momentum and build concrete proposals — realities captured by the filmmakers — she still drew a great deal from the experience. "The strongest impressions for me came from listening to his Holiness in his own setting of Dharamsala, and spending so much time in the stunning Tibetan Buddhist temple at Norbulingka Institute for the Preservation of Tibetan Culture," she says. "As a practicing (Zen) Buddhist, I was profoundly moved to be holding these conversations in such a beautiful and sacred temple."

More on the film: dalailamafilm.com.

Ticket information: palace9.com.

 **PRINT** | **EMAIL THIS PAGE**
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Center for Rural Studies Celebrates 30th Anniversary

By The View Staff

Article published September 24, 2008

The Center for Rural Studies is celebrating three decades of helping rural Vermonters with a 30th Anniversary Symposium on Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Mount Mansfield Room of the Dudley H. Davis Center.

Moderators and discussion panels will include three alums: Vermont Secretary of State Deb Markowitz '83; Vermont Secretary of Agriculture Roger Allbee '67; and author Dan Gillmor '81. Displays, presentations and panel discussions are scheduled throughout the day on Vermont's civic culture, food systems and rural communication strategies.

The event is free and open to the public. Participants may register for lunch by Sept. 29 at a cost of \$18. For more information, or to register, visit the [Center for Rural Studies' website](#).

 **PRINT** | **EMAIL THIS PAGE**
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Energy Research Symposium Slated for Sept. 27

By Joshua Brown

Article published September 24, 2008

Focusing on new directions in energy research, the 27th annual Humphrey Memorial Symposium in Chemistry will bring three renowned scientists to campus on Saturday, Sept. 27.

Héctor D. Abruña, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Cornell University, will speak on "Electrical Energy Generation and Storage: Fuel Cells, Batteries and Super Caps," at 9:15 a.m.

He'll be followed by R. Tom Baker, director, Centre for Catalysis Research and Innovation at the University of Ottawa, who will address "Metal-Catalyzed Dehydrogenation of Ammonia-Borane for Chemical Hydrogen Storage."

The final speaker will be Daniel G. Nocera, professor of energy and professor of chemistry at MIT, speaking at 11:30 a.m. on "Powering the Planet: The Challenge for Science in the 21st Century."

The symposium will take place at the Cook Physical Sciences Building and Angell Lecture Hall. To attend, please contact professor José Madalengoitia, jmadalen@uvm.edu, 656-8247.

Though the event is free and open to the public, "It's going to be hard-core science," Madalengoitia says, "not targeted to a general audience." The symposium is directed at scientists and other serious students of energy, he says.

 **PRINT** | **EMAIL THIS PAGE**
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Health Policy Expert to Discuss Early Childhood Program, EPTSDT

By The View Staff

Article published September 24, 2008

Sara Rosenbaum, chair of the Department of Health Policy and Harold and Jane Hirsh Professor of Health Law and Policy at George Washington University, will deliver a Burack President's Distinguished Lecture, "EPSDT at Forty: Lessons for Health Reform" on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 4 p.m. in the Case Method Room 200, Medical Education Center Pavilion.

Named one of the nation's 500 most influential health policy makers by McGraw Hill, Rosenbaum's scholarship, teaching, and participation on national boards and councils — including the White House Domestic Policy Council under President Clinton — is dedicated to improving health policy in the United States, including access to care for low-income and minority populations.

Her Burack lecture, "EPSDT at Forty," will discuss Medicaid's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment program, a cornerstone of the nation's early childhood preventive and treatment services, currently serving nearly 30 million low-income children.

Rosenbaum, whose research focuses on intersections of the law and health care and public health systems, was a recipient of the Investigator Award in Health Policy from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and was recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services for distinguished national service on behalf of Medicaid beneficiaries, among other awards and honors.

A reception will immediately follow the talk.

Information: 656-8309.

 **PRINT** | **EMAIL THIS PAGE**
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

SUBSCRIBE
(ENTER E-MAIL)

UVM HOMEPAGE

Author Anita Diamant to Lecture at Ira Allen

By Jay P. Goyette

Article published September 24, 2008

Anita Diamant, award-winning author of *The Red Tent* and numerous other books and articles, will lecture at the University of Vermont's Ira Allen Chapel on Sunday, Oct. 5, at 11 a.m. The lecture, "Writing Historical Fiction: Imagining the Past," will focus on her experience in writing *The Red Tent* in the larger context of writing historical fiction. The event is part of the university's annual Homecoming and Family Weekend celebration, Oct. 2-5.

Tickets are free with UVM student ID and \$10 for all others. Student tickets are available at the Hoffman Information & Resource Center on the first floor of the university's Dudley H. Davis Center. All others may purchase tickets [online](#), or by calling (888) 458-8691.

Diamant, who lives in the Boston area, began her writing career in 1975 as a freelance journalist, writing for magazines and newspapers including the *Boston Phoenix*, the *Boston Globe*, and *Boston Magazine*. She branched out into regional and national media with articles appearing in *New England Monthly*, *Yankee*, *Self*, *Parenting*, *Parents*, *McCalls*, and *Ms*.

Her first book came with the release of *The New Jewish Wedding*, published in 1985. Her debut as a novelist came in 1997 with *The Red Tent* (St. Martin's Press), which was published to critical acclaim and became a word-of-mouth bestseller. She has published two additional novels, *Good Harbor*, a contemporary story exploring the importance of women's friendships as a source of strength and happiness; and *The Last Days of Dogtown*, a fictionalized account of life in a dying Cape Ann village in the early 19th-century.

Diamant is also the founding president of Mayyim Hayyim: Living Waters Community Mikveh and Education Center, a community-based ritual bath located in Newton, Massachusetts.

Diamant's appearance is co-sponsored by UVM Hillel, Student Government Association Cultural Diversity Fund, the Department of Student Life, Women and Gender Studies, the Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies, the Israel Center of Vermont, and Hadassah.

 [PRINT](#) | [EMAIL THIS PAGE](#)
Text Size: [Sm](#) | [Md](#) | [Lg](#)

CURRENT FEATURES

[The Desire for a 'Second Life'](#)

Millions of Americans buy clothes, cars and houses for virtual representations of themselves called avatars in internet-based virtual worlds like Second Life. Why would someone spend money they earned in their real life to pay for a virtual one? That's what Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration, and Amy Tomas, a lecturer in the School of Business Administration intend to find out.

[INTERview: Hans Ohanian](#)

In 2005, scientists and historians around the world wrote papers, shot fireworks, created exhibits, held conferences, and raised a glass — all to praise Albert Einstein. Hans Ohanian, adjunct professor of physics, was among them. He attended lectures, visited new museum displays across Europe, and read a stack of new books — all dedicated to taking the measure of Einstein's greatness. But Ohanian was struck by a constant omission: no one talked about Einstein's mistakes.

[Lessons of Politics and Burritos](#)

Citizen journalism is evolving so rapidly that even a leading figure in the field is reluctant to fence in the genre with words. "I'd be hard-pressed to give you a fast and firm definition," admits Amanda Michel '02, who has spent the past year directing *Off the Bus*, the online *Huffington Post's* citizen journalism coverage of the 2008 presidential race.



[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)
[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#) | [About Us](#) | [RSS](#) | [Feedback](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

PRINT PAST ISSUES

FEEDBACK

UVM HOMEPAGE

NOTABLES

September 24, 2008

Awards and Honors

Edwin Bovill, professor and chair of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine; **Naomi Fukagawa**, professor of medicine; and **Judith Van Houten**, Perkins Professor of Biology, Director of the VT EPSCoR, Vermont Genetics Network and HELIX Programs, were inducted into the Vermont Academy of Science and Engineering (VASE) on September 23, 2008.

Charles MacLean, associate professor of medicine, was named interim associate dean for primary care at the College of Medicine. MacLean will replace Dr. John Fogarty, who left UVM to become dean at Florida State University College of Medicine. MacLean will maintain his faculty appointment and role as research director for the Office of Primary Care, and continue his teaching, research and clinical practice within the Primary Care Internal Medicine division.

The Horticultural Research Center's rain garden won first place in Chittenden County in a statewide contest of gardens designed to aid in stormwater management. Rain gardens are designed to divert runoff from storm drains, reducing pollution while nourishing plants and flowers.

UVM's **Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese** has been awarded a \$99,000 grant to work on-site with 20 Vermont cheesemakers to develop protocols to help manage food safety issues. The well-timed grant follows a recent recall in Quebec after consumer illnesses and deaths linked to cheese consumption. "We hope this proactive approach," said Catherine Donnelly, professor and co-director of VIAC, "will help foster the growth of future successful cheesemaking enterprises in Vermont."

September 17, 2008

Awards and Honors

The department of medical laboratory and radiation sciences was one of seven university- and college-based programs to receive new state-of-the-art equipment through the Abbott Labs Are Vital® Equipment Donation Program. Recipients were selected from 225 grant applicants from 29 states across the United States. **Christine**

Griffin, lecturer of medical laboratory and radiation sciences, submitted the grant application, which resulted in a donation of a HEMO Analyzer CD1800 valued at \$38,000 with three years of full service and supplies. Recipients were announced July 30 at the American Association of Clinical Chemistry Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Ödul "Laurie" Amburgey, a maternal-fetal medicine fellow in the department of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, was selected as one of four recipients of a 2008 Vision Grant from the Preeclampsia Foundation for her study of brain vessel function in preeclamptic women. Preeclampsia, a condition characterized by high blood pressure, protein in the urine, as well as swelling in the hands and face during the second half of pregnancy, is responsible for at least 76,000 maternal deaths each year. Amburgey's research seeks to determine if some women have certain blood factors that make them more susceptible to brain swelling.

Bradley Palmer, research assistant professor of molecular physiology and biophysics, received a five-year, \$1.25 million grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute to support his research on the role of zinc in the relaxation processes of individual heart muscle cells known as cardiomyocytes. An essential mineral found in almost every cell of the human body, zinc stimulates the activity of dozens of enzymes responsible for critical chemical reactions. Palmer's research will specifically address the role of protein-bound zinc and free zinc ion in the heart's relaxation process. Relaxation plays a significant part in heart function, because it permits the chambers to fill with blood before the next contraction.

September 10, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Kevin McKenna, professor of Russian, published "Didactics and the Proverb: The Case of Alexander Solzhenitsyn's Literary Memoir, *The Oak and the Calf*." McKenna examines how Solzhenitsyn uses proverbs to illustrate and underscore the message of his five-hundred page memoir about his experiences as a writer in the Soviet Union during the tumultuous period from 1962 to 1974.

David Jones, assistant professor of business administration, and his coauthors, Drs. Neil Fassina and Krista Uggerslev (Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba) had an article published in the most recent issue of the *Journal of Organizational Behavior*. Their meta-analytic findings challenged accepted wisdom on the structure of cooperative work behaviors, and showed that employees tend to target the performance or withdrawal of these behaviors towards the sources of perceived fair and unfair

treatment. They also showed that these cooperative behaviors are simultaneously influenced by gestalt perceptions of fairness based on treatment from both immediate supervisors and the larger organization. Also this September, David and his co-author, Dr. Martin Martens (John Molson School of Business, Concordia), presented a paper at the annual meeting of the British Academy of Management in Harrogate, England, titled "Justice, overall fairness, and employee attitudes: Using qualitative data to understand how context affects quantitative findings."

Wolfgang Mieder, professor of German and Russian, who stepped down as chairperson after 31 years, is the editor of the English translation of Lutz Röhrich's seminal work on fairytales titled, "And They Are Still Living Happily Ever After: Anthropology, Cultural History, and Interpretation of Fairy Tales." Mieder also edited the 25th volume of "Proverbium: Yearbook of International Proverb Scholarship." The volume contains Mieder's article "Let Us Have Faith that 'Right Makes Might': Proverbial Rhetoric in Decisive Moments of American Politics," an examination of proverbs in American political discourse. He traces the use of proverbs in the political speeches of American presidents from Abraham Lincoln to George W. Bush as well as in those of political activists like Frederic Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Martin Luther King Jr. In addition, Mieder is the author of "Don't Swap Horses in the Middle of the Stream: An Intercultural and Historical Study of Abraham Lincoln's Apocryphal Proverb," which traces the origin of the proverb and documents its subsequent use throughout different centuries and cultures.

Jane Okech, assistant professor, Department of Integrated Professional Studies is the author of a September 2008 article in the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work* titled "Reflective practice in group co-leadership." She is also the lead author of a September 2008 article in the *International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling* titled "Informing culturally competent practice through cross-racial friendships." Her co-author on the paper is Julia Champe, assistant professor, Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Helga Schreckenberger, professor of German and Russian, published "Joseph Hahn: Kunst als Ehrfurcht vor dem Leben," illustrating the influence of the exile experience on Joseph Hahn's poetry. Hahn, a refugee from Nazi Germany, lived in Middlebury for the past eighteen years. He died on October 31, 2007. Schreckenberger argues that the experience of exile impacted not only the thematic aspect of Hahn's work but also its language.

Awards and Honors

Dr. Richard Colletti, professor of pediatrics, received the 2008

Distinguished Service Award from the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) in recognition of his excellence and service to the field. Colletti will be presented with the award at a ceremony during the NASPGHAN and Children's Digestive Health and Nutrition Foundation joint annual conference in San Diego on Saturday, November 15.

Dr. Roger Young, professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, was elected to the national Board of Trustees of the March of Dimes Foundation. March of Dimes trustees, who serve as volunteers, represent the public in governing the organization and advancing its mission and serve five-year terms. Young has reviewed scientific grant applications for the March of Dimes for six years, and served as a member of the organization's Scientific Advisory Committee since 2006. He is a recognized leader in the field of uterine physiology of pregnancy, and has a long-range goal of decreasing the rising rate of prematurity in the United States, which is consistent with a component of the mission of the March of Dimes.

Karen Richardson-Nassif, associate dean for faculty and staff development and diversity in the College of Medicine, and colleagues will be receiving the Best Paper Award for 2007 from the Research In Medical Education Committee of the Association of American Medical Colleges at the organization's annual meeting in San Antonio on November 4. The group is being recognized for their joint paper titled "Crafting Successful Relationships with the IRB, which was presented at the AAMC annual meeting in 2007.

September 3, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Representatives of the UVM Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program Office delivered a poster presentation and a workshop at the National AHEC Association (NAO) 2008 Conference in Denver, Colorado June 28 to July 1. **Dr. Richard Pinckney**, assistant professor of medicine, presented a workshop titled "Teaching health professionals about pharmaceutical advertising: experience from the Program in Wise Prescribing." **Laurie Hurowitz**, research assistant professor of medicine, delivered a poster presentation titled "Promoting Healthier Weight in Adult Primary Care in Vermont – A Public Health and AHEC Partnership." The NAO national conference takes place every two years and represents a nationwide sharing of successful efforts to connect students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health.

Awards and Honors

Betsy Greene, associate professor of animal science, received the

2008 Communication Award in recognition of Excellence in Use of Communications Media from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Greene was the national winner for her work with eXtension's HorseQuest website. Greene is also co-chair of the "HorseQuest Community of Practice" which includes over fifty national equine experts throughout the country.

Dr. Ted James, assistant professor of surgery, received the Cancer Liaison Physician Outstanding Performance Award from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) for his leadership and guidance as a physician champion. This national award recognizes physicians who go above and beyond expectations to improve and provide direction to their cancer program. James is among 55 recipients nationwide to achieve this recognition.

Rex Forehand, Heinz and Rowena Ansbacher Professor of Psychology and director of the University's clinical training program, received the American Psychology Association's 2008 Award for Distinguished Career Contributions to Education and Training at their annual meeting on August 15.

Adam Lock, assistant professor of animal Science, received the 2008 Young Scientist Award for Research for the Northeast by the American Dairy Science Association and the American Society for Animal Science. Lock is noted for his research on the role of fats and lipids in animal and human nutrition as well as studies with ruminant nutrition.

Lee Nelson, clinical professor of rehabilitation and movement science, received Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute of Health Professions Distinguished Alumni Award at their commencement on May 3, 2008. This award recognizes individuals who have worked to expand and refine the scientific basis for clinical practice through research and scholarship; contributed to new models of practice to foster provision of effective, affordable and ethical care; and contributed significantly to advancing the mission, reputation and standards of the Institute.

Monica Patton is one of fifteen fourth-year medical students to receive an American Medical Association Foundation Physicians of Tomorrow Scholarship. Recipients were nominated by their medical school dean and chosen by a selection committee based upon their academic standing and financial status, as well as community involvement, letters of recommendation and personal statement. Each student will receive a \$10,000 scholarship to help defray medical school expenses. Currently participating in a clinical rotation at Maine Medical Center, Patton recently completed "The CDC Experience: Applied Epidemiology Fellowship at CDC," a competitive fellowship program that selects eight medical students from around the country each year to spend 10 to 12 months at the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Students in the Department of Animal Science won awards at the national meetings of the American Dairy Science Association and the American Society for Animal Science in Indianapolis. **Emma Wall**, a doctoral student also in the Vermont Genetics Network Bioinformatics Core was the sole recipient of the H. Allen Tucker National Appreciation Award for travel to the American Society of Animal Science's annual meeting in Indianapolis last week. She presented two papers of significance to the Vermont dairy industry with her advisor, **Thomas McFadden**, as coauthor. They were, "The acute response to milk removal and the long-term response to frequent milking treatment involve distinct mechanisms" and "The persistent milk yield response to frequent milking during early lactation is associated with persistent changes in mammary gene expression." She was presented with a check and plaque at the awards dinner. **Lindsay Lord**, a master of science candidate won second place in the Northeast Graduate Student Competition for her presentation, "Photoperiod regulates diurnal expression patterns of genes related to immune function in PBMC of heifers." **Jennifer Scudder**, also a master of science candidate, placed third in the Northeast Graduate Student Competition with her presentation, "Colicin E1 and EDTA have additive antimicrobial effects against E. coli isolates in bovine milk."

Denise Youngblood's book *Russian War Films: On the Cinema Front, 1914-2005* was named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. Youngblood, professor of history, has also received a grant from the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies to support her current project, "Double Vision: Soviet and American Films during the Cold War" (with Tony Shaw).

July 16, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Christopher W. Allen, emeritus professor of chemistry and interim director of the Vermont Advanced Computing Center presented a paper entitled "Cyclo- and Polyalkynylphosphazenes" at the International Conference on the Chemistry of phosphorus Compounds (ICPC XV) in St Petersburg Russia in May. He also presented two invited papers, "Polyester: You wear it, you love it but do you know it" and "Cyclo-and Polyalkynyl phosphazenes" at the 35th Northeast Regional American Society Meeting in Burlington in June. He published an article on "The Mechanism of the Reaction of Alkali Metal Phenoxides with Hexahalocyclotriphosphazenes" in *Phosphorus, Sulfur, Silicon and the Related Elements* in 2008.

Frank Bryan, professor of political science, presented the address, "New England Democracy and America: The Road Not Taken" at a

conference on "The State of New England: People, Politics, and Policies" at the Joseph Martin Institute for Law and Society, Stonehill College, Easton, Mass. on March 28, 2008.

Garrison Nelson, professor of political science, also presented a paper at the Stonehill Conference, "Running from New England: Will It Ever Lead the Nation Again." He also presented papers, "Party Leadership Selection in Congress: A Century of Change," to the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association on April 25, 2008 in Providence, Rhode Island with Douglas B. Harris, Loyola College of Maryland and "Democracy, Diversity, and the 2008 Presidential Election: Mapping State Electoral Votes by Diversity Propensity," a paper for the Eighth International Conference on Diversity in Organisations, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, on June 20, 2008. An excerpt of Nelson's speech, "Democracy and Diversity in 2008," delivered to the New York Regional Board of the Alumni of the University of Vermont on May 7, 2008 was published in the April, 2008 issue of *Vermont Woman* as "Mapping a Path for a Woman President," with maps by Geography senior **Michael J. Oldham**. Nelson conducted a number of interviews recently with Channel 3 on Vermont's congressional delegation; Channel 5 and Fox 44 on the 2008 presidential election and upcoming contests in Vermont. National interviews have appeared in the *Boston Globe* and for the Cox Newspapers in the *Atlanta Constitution* and the *Kansas City Star*.

Several Dana Medical Library faculty and staff members presented posters at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in Chicago in May 2008. **Donna O'Malley**, library associate professor, presented a poster titled "A Medline Station in the Clerkship Clinical Skills Exam." **Nancy Bianchi**, library associate professor, presented a poster titled "An Analysis of Clinical Questions Asked at Professor Rounds: a Retrospective Review" at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in May 2008. **Shiela Phillippe**, library assistant professor, **Christina Kussey**, library assistant professor, **Lesley Boucher**, head of circulation/reserves, **Marianne Burke**, library associate professor and director, Dana Medical Library, and **Colin McClung**, library support assistant, presented a poster titled "Academic Medical Center to Rural Clinic: Ensuring Fair and Accurate Representation in Go Local." **Laura Haines**, library assistant professor, presented a poster titled "Measuring the Effectiveness of Community Outreach: The Community Medical School Project." Dr. **Peggy Carey**, assistant professor of family medicine, and **Laura Haines** also co-presented a poster titled "Information Rx As Patient-Physician Communication Tool and Community Health Information Program." Haines received one of four 2008 EBSCO Information Services/MLA Annual Meeting Grants, which are designed to cover conference-related expenses.

Donna O'Malley and **Christina Kussey** presented a poster titled

"Benefits of Integrating the Library Reserve Function With Blackboard," at the Association of American Medical Colleges Northeastern Group on Educational Affairs Annual Meeting in April 2008. O'Malley also co-authored another poster at the meeting, which was titled "Teaching Evidence-Based Literature Retrieval to Medical Students and Residents." O'Malley is the author of a Winter 2008 Clinical Laboratory Science article titled "A Survey of Scholarly Literature Databases for Clinical Laboratory Science."

Susan Lowey, professor of molecular physiology and biophysics, is lead author of a July 18 *Journal of Biological Chemistry* article titled "Functional Effects of the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy R403Q Mutation Are Different in an α - or β -Myosin Heavy Chain Backbone." Co-authors on the article include **Alex Hodges**, postdoctoral associate in molecular physiology and biophysics, **Sheryl White**, research assistant professor of anatomy and neurobiology, **Robert Low**, professor emeritus of molecular physiology and biophysics, and Mercedes Rincon, associate professor of medicine.

Judith Shaw, research assistant professor of pediatrics and director of the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, and **Sharon Henry**, associate professor of rehabilitation and movement science, have been selected to participate in the 2008-09 Management Institute for Women in Higher Education, an integrated series of five seminars offering women administrators and faculty professional leadership and management training, sponsored by the New England branch of Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) and held at Wellesley College.

Kathleen Trybus, professor of molecular physiology and biophysics, is senior author of a July 11 *Journal of Biological Chemistry* article titled "Functional Effects of Nemaline Myopathy Mutations on Human Skeletal $\text{I}\pm$ -Actin." **Becky Miller**, postdoctoral fellow in molecular physiology and biophysics is first author on the paper.

Dann Van Der Vliet had an editorial titled "'The Art of Business' in Vermont – Where benefits are for the dogs and the pizzas are flat" published in the August issue of *Vermont Business* magazine. The piece focused on how Vermonters and their businesses have long been innovative, creative, thrifty, and artful as Vermont people and businesses continue to lead their respective industries. On May 21, a rare assembly of seven business leaders gathered to discuss what "the art of business" means to them today and why it matters. Brought together by the popular 7X7X7 panel at the Vermont Business and Industry Expo, each panelist shared a tip that demonstrated how they incorporate creativity in the workplace and what the tangible benefits were. These business owners and leaders each shared one common trait: passion for their fellow employees.

Curt Ventriss, professor of public policy, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, and adjunct professor, Institute for Policy Studies, Johns Hopkins University, was invited to give the keynote policy lecture at the international forum entitled "New Direction in Policy Research" in Brazil. The forum was sponsored by the Federal University of Bahia, Federal University of Santa Catarina, and State University of Santa Catarina. Professor Ventriss's keynote lecture was entitled "The Implications of Participatory Policy Analysis: A Reexamination." The lecture was presented to doctoral students in policy and to the faculty of the sponsoring universities in Brazil.

Awards and Honors

Gayle Belin, clinical associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences has recently become president of the Vermont Speech Language and Hearing Association (VSHA). Her term runs from 2008 through 2010. She was also one of 20 participants selected from a nationwide pool to take part in a Leadership Development Program through the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA).

Mark Nelson, professor and chair of pharmacology, has received a prestigious MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) award from the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. The ten-year, \$3.39 million grant provides continued funding for Nelson's research on urinary disorders, such as overactive bladder and incontinence, as well as for additional investigation on the underlying causes and potential therapies for erectile dysfunction. This award, which recognizes Nelson's superior grant performance, research competence and productivity throughout his career, will provide 10 years of continued funding support without the typical competitive review required by most grants. The MERIT award program is intended to foster continued creativity and reduce the administrative burdens associated with the preparation and submission of research grant applications.

May 21, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Dr. **Richard Zubarik**, associate professor of medicine and chief of endoscopy at Fletcher Allen, presented an abstract titled "Pancreatic Cancer Screening in a High-Risk Population: Preliminary Data of a Multi-Center Trial Employing Carbohydrate Antigen (CA) 19-9 and Endoscopic Ultrasound" at Digestive Disease Week® 2008 in San Diego on May 19. With support from the Vermont Cancer Center and the Lake Champlain Cancer Research Organization, Zubarik examined the effectiveness of a new screening method for

pancreatic cancer using CA 19-9, a tumor marker that is most often used to monitor disease progress as well as predict survival rates, with endoscopic ultrasound. He found that Stage 1 pancreatic cancers were more likely to be detected using this protocol. The finding is significant because a nationally-accepted screening tool for pancreatic cancer does not exist.

Barbara Arel, assistant professor of Business Administration, published an article entitled "The Influence of Auditor Experience on the Persuasiveness of Information Provided by Management," in *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory* (Volume 27, Number 1, May 2008.) The paper is co-authored with Ed O' Donnell, from The University of Kansas and Steven Kaplan, from Arizona State University. The study investigates whether experience limits auditors' reliance on management-provided information when that information is more favorable than an objective benchmark. The findings suggest that as auditors gain experience, they also gain persuasion knowledge, which allows them to deflect management's persuasion attempts.

Brooke Mossman, professor of pathology and director of the environmental pathology program, is a coauthor on a May 2 *Science* article titled "Innate Immune Activation Through Nalp3 Inflammasome Sensing of Asbestos and Silica." These research findings identified the role of the Nalp3 inflammasome in particulate matter-related pulmonary diseases and support its role as a major proinflammatory "danger" receptor.

Mercedes Rincon, associate professor of medicine, was the lead author of a May 2 *Science* article titled "Phosphorylation by p38 MAPK as an Alternative Pathway for GSK3 β Inactivation." Coauthors on the paper include **Dwight Matthews**, professor and chair of chemistry, and postdoctoral associates **Tina Thornton** and **C. David Wood**, as well as **Alexander Aronshtam**, a lab research technician in the immunobiology division of medicine. The p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) is a key intracellular protein that regulates inflammatory cytokine production and modulates T cell function. Rincon and colleagues' research identified an alternative pathway for the inactivation of GSK3 β , which is involved in metabolism, neurodegeneration and cancer.

Marilyn Cipolla, associate professor of neurology, presented a study at the International Stroke Conference in February 2008 that was published in a special April supplement to the journal *Hypertension*. Titled "Pregnancy Reverses Hypertensive Remodeling of Cerebral Arteries," the article reports on Cipolla's findings that pregnancy reverses hypertensive remodeling of cerebral arteries. Though the mechanism behind hypertensive remodeling was previously fairly unknown, Cipolla's research found evidence of a protective mechanism that prevents damaging pressure from

getting to the microcirculation and causing edema formation. Pregnancy reverses this circumstance, thereby predisposing women to eclampsia, a serious complication of pregnancy.

Awards and Honors

Trina Magi, library associate professor, was presented with the 2008 Vermont School Library Association Award on May 13, 2008 at the Vermont Library Conference in recognition of her "dedication, leadership, and collaboration with the Vermont School Library Community." Trina was specifically recognized for her work this past year as chair of the Vermont Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee, which successfully worked with school, public, and academic librarians, the state library, parents groups, and state lawmakers to introduce legislation that would strengthen Vermont state law regarding the confidentiality of library records. Gov. **Jim Douglas** signed the legislation into law this week. The new law (S. 220, "An Act Relating to the Confidentiality of Library Patron Records") will take effect on July 1, 2008. The law specifies that only a court order from a judge could force the release of a library patron's records. The previous law allowed librarians to release the records on their own volition.

Nicole B. Chittenden, assistant dean/business operations administrator of the School of Business Administration, was presented with a "Rising Star Award" at the Vermont Council for Quality's Annual Recognition and Award Ceremony on May 14, 2008. The award is granted to those individuals who are newly affiliated with Vermont Council for Quality and who have been hugely supportive of the program. Nicole completed VCQ's 3-tiered Baldrige training--approximately 50 hours--to be certified as a Vermont Council of Quality Performance Examiner. She then volunteered to be a member of the team that conducted the three-day site visit that resulted in Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vermont earning this year's Governor's Award. The site visit takes countless hours, not only on site, but also driving to and from and working after hours to complete the necessary work. Nicole was one of six people on the Site Visit Team. Nicole was also instrumental in the School of Business Administration becoming a Bronze Sponsor of Vermont Council for Quality.

Lee Nelson, a physical therapist and clinical professor of rehabilitation and movement science, received MGH's Institute of Health Professions Distinguished Alumni Award at their commencement on May 3, 2008. The criteria for the award include: expanding and refining the scientific basis for clinical practice through research and scholarship; contributing to new models of practice to foster provision of effective, affordable and ethical care; and contributing significantly to advancing the mission, reputation and standards of the Institute. The MGH Institute of Health

Professions is an independent affiliate of Massachusetts General Hospital, which operates within the Partners HealthCare System – the nation's second largest integrated health care system.

Dr. **Melody Brown Burkins**, associate dean in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, has been appointed to the National Academy of Sciences U.S. National Committee for the Geological Sciences (USNC/GS). Managed by the National Academies' Board on International Scientific Organizations (BISO) in the National Research Council Policy and Global Affairs division, the USNC/GS is composed of a diversity of earth systems scientists from academia, research, government, and industry who have received honors in their field and support the promotion of earth systems science and policy issues in the U.S. and throughout the international community. "I am extremely pleased to see one of our newest colleagues recognized by the National Academies for her earth and environmental research experience as well as her skill connecting the world of science and policy," said **Domenico Grasso**, Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (CEMS). "Melody's enthusiasm for promoting scientific excellence and applications beyond the walls of academe will be an asset to U. S. National Committee efforts, just as it is for UVM and Vermont." As one of 20 U.S. National Committees coordinated by the National Academies, the USNC/GS represents U.S. interests to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), a member union of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). The USNC/GS also acts as the adhering body to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) International Geoscience Programme (IGCP). In August, a USNC member detail will represent U.S. geoscience interests to the 33rd International Geological Congress "Earth System Science: Foundation for Sustainable Development" meeting in Oslo, Norway.

Dr. **Virginia L. Hood**, professor of medicine and a nephrologist at Fletcher Allen, has been re-elected to serve a second three-year term with the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians (ACP), the main policymaking body of the nation's second-largest physician organization. She began her second term during Internal Medicine 2008 -- the ACP annual scientific meeting held in Washington, D.C., May 15 through 17. Dr. Hood is the incoming 2008-2010 chair of the national ACP Ethics, Professionalism, and Human Rights Committee, chair of the ACP International Subcommittee for 2007-2009 and an ex officio member of the ACP Membership Committee. She has held numerous leadership roles at both the national and statewide levels of ACP over the past 17 years.

Judy Cohen, professor of nursing, was appointed Faculty Nurse Scientist at the Yvonne L. Munn Center for Nursing Research at Massachusetts General Hospital. The Munn Center was established

in 2003 to provide nurses an opportunity to identify new ways to reshape, influence and improve the delivery of patient care and nursing practice.

April 30, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Several members of the department of pharmacology contributed to an April 30 PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Science) Early Edition paper titled "High blood pressure arising from a defect in vascular function." Among the co-authors are **Mark Nelson**, professor and chair of pharmacology, **Adrian Bonev**, research assistant professor of pharmacology, and **Michael Wilkerson**, postdoctoral associate in pharmacology.

Jan Carney, research professor of medicine and associate dean for public health, co-authored a "Brief Communication" titled "Community-Academic Partnerships: A "Community-First" Model to Teach Public Health" in the open-access e-Journal Education for Health on April 21.

April 23, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Wolfgang Mieder, professor and chairperson of the department of German and Russian, is the author of the book "Hänsel und Gretel: Das Märchen in Kunst, Musik, Literatur, Medien und Karikaturen," which deals with the origin, meaning, and modern survival of one of the best known fairy tales. The book includes 145 illustrations depicting the use of various motifs of this tale in art, advertising, and cartoons. He also published a series of articles on fairy tales and advertising, aphorisms, cartoons, comics, poems, proverbs, stamps, etc. in the three-volume "Encyclopedia of Folktales and Fairy Tales." His article on "God Helps Them Who Help Themselves: Proverbial Rhetoric in the Letters of Abigail Adams" appeared in an essay volume in Bulgaria, and another article on anti-proverbs with the title "Phrasenkritik durch Antisprichwörter im 19. Jahrhundert" appeared in another volume in Austria.

Dennis Mahoney, professor and director of the department of German and Russian, has published an article on "Apt Pupil: The Making of a 'Bogeyboy'" in a volume on "The Films of Stephen King. From "Carrie" to "Secret Window" (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008) edited by **Tony Magistrale**, professor in the department of English. Mahoney presents a detailed comparison of King's original novella "Apt Pupil" and its subsequent film adaptation, showing similarities and differences in these two versions of the same plot. While the novella shows how crimes of the Nazi era influence a high

school pupil to commit atrocities, Mahoney also refers to actual occurrences today that show this as well, to wit the recent shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado. King's invented tale of horror unfortunately proves to be only too realistic when compared with modern crimes.

Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, associate professor of geography and Vermont state climatologist, and CO-PI **Regina Toolin**, assistant professor of education, have received a \$149,466 grant from the National Science Foundation: Satellites, Weather and Climate to implement a two-year pilot project to increase climate education and literacy in public schools. Vermont's education department is one of 15 across the US that has signed up to integrate climate issues into their science curricula.

Edwin Bovill, professor and chair of pathology, authored an editorial in the March 19 *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Titled "Gene Discovery in Venous Thrombosis: progress and promise," Bovill's paper responded to an article titled "Gene Variants Associated With Deep Vein Thrombosis" (Bezemer et. al) in the March 19 *JAMA*.

Charles Irvin, professor of medicine and director of the Vermont Lung Center, is a co-author of an article in the April 21 Online Early Edition of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science* titled, "Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase in lung dendritic cells promotes Th2 responses and allergic inflammation."

Gary Margolis, UVM's chief of police, gave a presentation at a conference at Princeton University on April 18 marking the one-year anniversary of the fatal shooting at Virginia tech that explored the progress and continuing questions related to campus security. The event, titled "Campus Safety in Focus: Advances and Ongoing Challenges One Year Later," featured the release of a "Blueprint for Safer Campuses" by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA). Steven Healy, Princeton's director of public safety and immediate past president of IACLEA, was joined by Margolis and Dolores Stafford, chief of police at George Washington University. Katherine Newman, Princeton's Malcolm Stevenson Forbes, Class of 1941, Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs, delivered the keynote address. Newman is the author of "Rampage: The Social Roots of School Shootings," which examines the rash of school shootings in the 1990s, the roots of school violence and the repercussions for the affected communities. Campus safety professionals and other experts also participated in panel discussions on the best practices and model policies in threat assessment, the growing complexities in liability analysis and the state of campus safety in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

April 16, 2008

Publications and Presentations

The March 2008 issue of NIDA Notes from the National Institute on Drug Abuse featured an article titled "Combination Treatment Extends Marijuana Abstinence" focused on research by **Stephen Higgins**, professor of psychiatry and psychology and co-director of the Human Behavioral Pharmacology Lab and Substance Abuse Treatment Center, and colleagues. The research team found that using a combination of vouchers and cognitive-behavioral therapy may be more effective in keeping marijuana abusers abstinent in the longer term than vouchers-only and CBT-only programs.

Rick Vanden Bergh, professor of business administration and expert on corporate strategy in the political environment, was featured in an article on CFO.com about how the accounting profession still gives most of its campaign contributions to Republicans, but that the portion going to Democrats is growing. Vanden Bergh tells CFO.com that proving the exact motivation behind corporate political donations is a difficult feat, adding that contributions to congressional representatives and senators are more effective for firms in a regulated profession (such as accounting) because those legislators play a more pivotal role than the president in policy making and in the oversight of regulatory institutions such as the SEC. CFO.com notes that in a recent paper called "Targeting Corporate Political Strategy: Theory and Evidence from the U.S. Accounting Industry," Vanden Bergh analyzed the corporate strategy of the accounting profession when Democrats took over in 1992, following Bill Clinton's election. His paper argues that firms in the early 1990s made their donations with the intent of directly influencing policy decisions, though he acknowledges another theory that says firms simply shift their donations to the party with the most influence. "It could easily be that the shift in power is driving the shift in contributions," he says. "If Obama or Clinton wins, it will be the first time in eight years that Democrats control all three branches and it would likely [cause] a major shift."

Awards and Honors Three members of the department of pediatrics will serve in national editorial leadership roles as part of an upcoming change at *Pediatrics*, the peer-reviewed journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and preeminent journal in the world in its field. Dr. **Jerold Lucey**, Wallace Professor of Neonatology and *Pediatrics* editor-in-chief for the past 34 years, will step down as of January 2009 and become editor-in-chief emeritus. Stepping up as the new deputy editor will be Dr. **Lewis First**, professor and chair of pediatrics and senior associate dean for medical education. In addition, Dr. **Jeffrey Horbar**, Lucey Chair of Neonatal Medicine, will become one of three new associate editors for the journal.

Robert Karp, associate professor in the department of medicine

and a leader and innovator in clinical care and education with a specialty in geriatrics, has been named a 2009-20010 Frymoyer Scholar for his project titled, "Improving Basic Medical Student Competencies in Clinical Geriatrics."

April 9, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Dr. **Magdalena Naylor**, associate professor of psychiatry and director of the MindBody Medicine Clinic, is lead author of a February 2008 article in the journal *Pain* titled "Therapeutic Interactive Voice Response for chronic pain reduction and relapse prevention." Co-authors on the paper include Dr. **John Helzer**, professor of psychiatry and director of the Health Behavior Research Center, and **Shelly Naud**, researcher/analyst in the department of medical biostatistics.

Kevin C. H. Chiang, associate professor of business administration, co-authored an article with Kirill Kozhevnikov, Ming-Long Lee and Craig Wisen that was published in the spring, 2008 issue of *Real Estate Economics*. The article is titled "Further Evidence on the Performance of Funds of Funds: The Case of Real Estate Mutual Funds." The study examines funds of funds that are created when investment companies invest in other investment companies. Although the additional layer of fees incurred by funds of funds has a negative effect on returns, there is empirical evidence that real estate funds of funds generate superior performance net of fees and risk adjustments. The evidence is inconsistent with a growing consensus that most actively managed mutual funds do not, on average, generate excess returns after adjusting for fees and risk. This study explains this apparent contradiction and finds that most real estate funds of funds do not outperform their benchmarks under alternative risk adjustment specifications.

The March 2008 issue of *NIDA Notes* from the National Institute on Drug Abuse featured an article titled "Combination Treatment Extends Marijuana Abstinence" that focused on research by **Stephen Higgins**, professor of psychiatry and psychology and co-director of the Human Behavioral Pharmacology Lab and Substance Abuse Treatment Center, and colleagues. The research team found that using a combination of vouchers and cognitive-behavioral therapy may be more effective in keeping marijuana abusers abstinent in the longer term than vouchers-only and CBT-only programs.

Awards and Honors

Valerie Esposito, a doctoral student in natural resources and ecological economics, has been selected to participate in the Advanced Graduate Workshop on Poverty, Development and

Globalization, organized jointly by Columbia University's Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) and University of Manchester's Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI). The highly selective, all-expense paid workshop (10 percent acceptance rate) will be held in the summer of 2008. The acceptance letter was signed by Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz.

Tian Xia, assistant professor in engineering, is one of 17 faculty from universities around the world including Singapore, Toronto, Gosudarstvennyi Upravleniya, Georgia, California, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Massachusetts, Colorado, and New York, who received the prestigious 2008 IBM Faculty Award. This competitive worldwide program is intended to foster collaboration between researchers at leading worldwide universities with IBM research, development and services organizations. The IBM Faculty Awards recognize full-time professors at accredited universities with Ph.D or MBA programs promoting courseware and curriculum innovation to stimulate growth in disciplines and geographies that are strategic to IBM. Xia received this award for his extensive research on mixed signal VLSI circuit design and test, adaptive and multifunctional VLSI Design, and Reconfigurable FPGA Design and Testing. He is a member of IEEE- Computer Society and IEEE- Solid State Circuits Society. "This internationally competitive award highlights the importance of industry alliances with education," says Domenico Grasso, Dean of the UVM College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

April 2, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Jane Okech, assistant professor in the Graduate Counseling Program, is scheduled to present two papers at the Annual American Counseling Association Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii on March 27-31. Both papers are based on empirical studies: "Doctoral Research Training of Counselor Education Faculty" and "The experiences of expert group work supervisors: An exploratory study."

Russell Tracy, professor of pathology and biochemistry and senior associate dean for research and academic affairs at the College of Medicine, is a co-author on an article in the March 27 *New England Journal of Medicine* titled "Coronary Calcium as a Predictor of Coronary Events in Four Racial or Ethnic Groups." Tracy heads up the central laboratory for the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA), which is a long-term, multicenter study designed to locate and identify genes contributing to the genetic risk of subclinical cardiovascular disease (CVD) and evaluate the impact of lifestyle and environment on the expression of these genetic components of CVD.

Kathleen Liang, associate professor of community development and applied economics has given presentations at multiple conferences around the country in 2008. She started by presenting on "Are Entrepreneurs Optimistic, Realistic, Both or Fuzzy? The Relationship Between Entrepreneurial Traits and Entrepreneurial Learning" at Academy of Entrepreneurship, Allied Academies where she won the Outstanding Research Award. She gave also presented at the National Collegiate Inventors & Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) annual conference in Dallas in March on "An Interactive Workshop: Thinking Outside The Box, But Where Is The Box?" She also gave presentations at the U.S. Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Annual Meeting in San Antonio titled "A Life Case: Growing Vermont: The Student-Run Retail Shop on UVM Campus" and "Interactive Workshop: Who And Where Are Entrepreneurship Professors?"

Faculty members in the School of Business Administration will be presenting papers at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management in Anaheim, California in August, 2008. **David Jones**, assistant professor, is presenting a study in which he found that Business Administration majors who received training in business ethics demonstrated advancements in their stages of cognitive-moral development relative to a control group. In a second paper, Jones and his co-authors (Joseph Schmidt and Derek Chapman, University of Calgary) conducted a field experiment in which they manipulated the wording of on-line job advertisements to emphasize different aspects of employee-organization fit. Results showed that certain kinds of fit-information significantly increased the size and quality of the applicant pool for engineering and other professional positions. **Mark Youndt**, associate professor, and his co-authors (Caroline D'Abate, Skidmore College, and Kathryn Wenzel, Vitale, Caturano, and Company) will present a study in which they examined the influence of job characteristics, work environment characteristics, and other contextual factors on the satisfaction and learning of student interns in a broad array of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.

March 26, 2008

Publications and Presentations

David Jones, assistant professor of business administration, and his coauthors, Drs. Neil Fassina and Krista Uggerslev (Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba) had an article published in the most recent issue of the *Journal of Management*. The article was titled: "Relationship Clean-up Time: Using Meta-analysis and Path Analysis to Clarify the Relationships among Job Satisfaction, Perceived Fairness, and Citizenship Behaviors." The authors tested competing theoretical frameworks to explain the pattern of relationships among employees' perceptions of fairness, job

satisfaction, and five types of job behaviors that can be collectively described as "going above and beyond the call of duty." The authors found greatest support for an independent effects model, which suggests that managers can promote cooperative work behavior by fostering three separate types of perceived fairness as well as general job satisfaction.

Garrison Nelson, professor of political science, was interviewed during the Vermont presidential primary by CNN, Associated Press, TIME Magazine, the *Wall Street Journal*, National Public Radio, La Presse (Que.), Vermont Public Radio, New England Cable News three times, WPTZ-TV (4), Fox 44 News (3), the *Boston Globe* twice, the *Providence Journal*, the *Burlington Free Press*, the *Bennington Banner*, and *Vermont Woman*.

A number of faculty from the department of radiology received awards for their educational posters at the 93rd Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America held November 25-30, 2007 in Chicago. The following poster presentations won awards: "Imaging Findings of Adipose Tissue in and around the Heart: A Matter of Fat" received a Cum Laude award in the category of educational exhibit. Co-authors included Dr.

Diego Lemos, clinical instructor in radiology, Dr. **Julio Lemos**, clinical instructor in radiology, Dr. **Jeffrey Klein**, professor of radiology, Dr. **Curtis Green**, professor of radiology, Dr. **George Gentchos**, clinical assistant professor of radiology, and Dr. **Peter Dietrich**, professor of radiology; "CT Findings of Grown-Up Congenital Heart Disease" received a Cum Laude award in the category of educational exhibit. Co-authors included Dr. **Julio Lemos**, Dr. **Diego Lemos**, Dr. **Curtis Green**, Dr. **George Gentchos**, Dr. **Peter Dietrich**, and Dr. **Jeffrey Klein**; "Fetus in Fetu: Reality and Myth" received a Cum Laude award in the category of educational exhibit. Co-authors included Dr. **Diego Lemos**; "The Suprapatellar Region: Anatomy, Pathology, and Imaging Findings" received a Certificate of Merit award in the category of educational exhibit. Co-authors included Dr. **Diego Lemos** and Dr. **Evelyne Fliszar**, associate professor of radiology; "The Patella Revisited" received a Certificate of Merit award in the category of educational exhibit. Co-authors included Dr. **Diego Lemos**, Dr. **Julio Lemos**, and Dr. **Evelyne Fliszar**.

March 19, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Dr. **James J. Hudziak**, professor of psychiatry, medicine and pediatrics and director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families, is editor of a new book published March 1 by American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc. (APPI). Titled "Developmental Psychopathology and Wellness: Genetic and Environmental

Influences," the book features work from a team of 22 international authorities on psychiatric illness in children and adolescents, including Hudziak and Thomas Achenbach, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry and psychology. According to APPI, "Developmental Psychopathology and Wellness shows that these psychopathologies are not a matter of nature versus nurture or genes versus environment, but rather an intertwining web of them all." Hudziak is also co-editor of *Psychopathology in the 21st Century: DSM-V and Beyond* (American Psychiatric Publishing, 2002). His research focuses on using twin, family and molecular genetic approaches in order to understand genetic and environmental influences on a wide variety of child psychiatric conditions.

Rebecca Evans, a second-year medical student, has been invited to compete in the Medical Student Poster Competition at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center as part of the American College of Physicians national meeting, Internal Medicine 2008, in Washington, DC on May 17, 2008. Evans' poster abstract, titled "Impact Of Mixed Mode Simulation Based Training On Performance Of Central Venous Line Placement In Cardiac Surgical Patients," was one of only 70 abstracts chosen from the 225 submissions received for the 2008 competition. The poster will be included in the Quality Improvement-Patient Safety category.

March 5, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Several members of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families in the department of psychiatry recently published two important journal articles. Dr. **David Rettew**, assistant professor of psychiatry, is lead author and Dr. **Robert Althoff**, assistant professor of psychiatry, Dr. **James Hudziak**, professor of psychiatry, medicine and pediatrics, and **Linsay Ayer**, graduate student in psychiatry, are co-authors of an article titled "Latent profiles analysis of child temperament and their relations to psychopathology and wellness" in the Jan. 22, 2008 epub edition of the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. Rettew and Hudziak are also co-authors on an article in the Feb. 1, 2008 epub edition of *Behavior Genetics* titled "Non-additive and additive genetic effects on extraversion in 3314 Dutch adolescent twins and their parents."

Awards and Honors

Jennifer Kenyan, graduate student in the Master of Public Administration Program (MPA), will participate in the ENO Leadership Development Conference in Washington D.C. this May. The ENO Transportation Foundation selects 20 outstanding graduate students from throughout the country to participate in this

conference. Kenyan is a graduate fellow at the Snelling Center for Government working on research sponsored by the University Transportation Center. Her research focuses on how states and nations are preparing themselves for a post gas tax world, maintaining and growing transportation infrastructure, and what the lessons are for Vermont. As an Eno Fellow, Kenyan will meet with leaders from key transportation organizations and institutions including US Department of Transportation, congressional committees, industry associations and advocacy groups. She will also become a part of the Eno Alumni Network which includes transportation leaders from throughout the country.

February 27, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Marilyn Lucas, assistant professor of business administration, published an article titled, "Tracking the Relationship between Environmental Management and Financial Performance in the Service Industry," in *Service Business: An International Journal*. The paper, co-authored with M. A. Wilson, from Arcadis, Inc., investigates the relationship between the implementation of environmental management practices and financial performance in the context of the service industry. The findings support the hypothesis that it pays for service sector firms to have "clean-running facilities" in addition to running facilities in a "cleaner service industry."

Garrison Nelson, professor of political science, wrote an op-ed article in the Jan. 4 issue of the *Boston Globe* titled "Success for one Kennedy, but not the other." Nelson writes about the significance of the New Hampshire primary using Jack and Ted Kennedy's bids for the Democratic ticket as evidence. He was also quoted in a Feb. 22 *Boston Globe* article on the appeal of the presidential candidates to moderates. Nelson co-authored an article in January appearing in *Political Science & Politics*. His article, "Middlemen No More? Emergent Patterns in Congressional Leadership Selection," explores a possible shift in the political profile of party leaders — from "middlemen" to politicians from the ideological extremes.

Awards and Honors

Heather Cairl, senior film and television studies major, recently presented a solo dance, "Dirthead," for adjudication at the New England regional conference of the American College Dance Festival Association at Connecticut College. Her work was selected as one of the best in the conference to be performed again in a closing gala concert. "Heather performed with works from universities with much more developed dance programs," says Paul Besaw, assistant professor of dance. "This was a major honor for (her), and for our

new dance program."

Jeanine Carr, associate professor of nursing, was appointed by Governor Jim Douglas to the Vermont Board of Nursing for a four-year term, beginning in January 2008. She is the first faculty member from the UVM department of nursing to be appointed to this board.

Ahmad Chaudry, assistant professor of medical laboratory and radiation sciences, has been awarded a \$50,000 research grant from the Vermont Cancer Center for his project "Regulation of gene expression in radiation-treated cells." The project will examine the molecular events (specifically the mechanism of gene regulation) in human cells treated with radiation. The long-term goal of this research is to gain a better understanding of how best to manage radiation therapy patients.

David Jones, assistant professor of business administration, has been elected to serve as chair of the board of directors for the [New Sudan Education Initiative](#), an organization founded and directed by UVM alums with the goal of building 20 secondary accelerated learning and leadership academies throughout southern Sudan by 2015.

Burton Wilcke, chair of medical laboratory and radiation sciences, was invited by the Association of Public Health Laboratories and Centers for Disease Control to lead a one-week PEPFAR-funded lab leadership workshop in Tanzania last week.

February 20, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Jamie Shaw, lecturer in the Department of Animal Science, is featured in this month's edition of *Business People-Vermont* magazine. The article describes her activities as a highly successful dog trainer. Shaw teaches the UVM course "Dog Training and Behavior," which is one of the most popular in the department. The article describes Shaw's work as an expert in dog behavior and as the operator of the dog training facility, The Dog School, in Williston. She is also author of the book "Dog to Dog Communication: The Right Way to Socialize Your Dog."

February 13, 2008

Publications and Presentations

David Novak, assistant professor of business administration, had a paper accepted for publication in *Decision Support Systems* titled "Managing Bandwidth Allocations between Competing Recreational

and Non-Recreational Traffic on Campus Networks." The paper demonstrates a decision support methodology to set optimal bandwidth allocations for competing recreational peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing traffic and non-recreational traffic (non-P2P) with respect to minimizing the total cost of network operations. Total costs include the explicit costs to the Internet provider associated with network management, as well as the implicit costs resulting from unsatisfied users under various bandwidth allocation scenarios. Management decisions include bandwidth allocations for P2P and non-P2P traffic during specific time periods, as well as the number of allocation changes made during the day. A goal program (GP) is used to estimate both P2P capacity demand and P2P user demand at different time periods and bandwidth allocations. A Markov Decision Process (MDP) is used to solve the cost minimization problem. A real-world example for optimizing bandwidth allocations between competing P2P and non-P2P interests is provided using empirical data from a large university.

Carolyn Bonifield, assistant professor, and **Amy Tomas**, lecturer, both of the School of Business Administration, had a paper titled "A Different Reality: Considering Possible Selves in Virtual Worlds," accepted for the 2008 Advertising and Consumer Psychology Conference on Virtual Social Identity and Consumer Behavior. The conference will take place in Philadelphia in May. Bonifield and Tomas are currently working on a program of research focused on marketers' and consumers' behaviors in virtual worlds. These virtual worlds, among them the very popular Second Life, present a number of unique challenges and opportunities for promoting, selling and buying goods and services. The paper proposes an alternative version of the self-concept, referred to as the possible self, as a means to better understand the motivations behind consumers' willingness to spend significant sums of real currency on virtual goods and services. In addition to this paper, Bonifield and Tomas are working on several pieces of research related to marketing in the virtual world, including two independent study research projects with Business Administration seniors, Megan Piro and Jamie Webber.

James Sinkula, professor of business administration and John L. Beckley Chair, had an article accepted for publication by the *Journal of Small Business Management* titled "The Complementary Effects of Market Orientation and Entrepreneurial Orientation on Profitability in Small Business." The article, co-authored with William Baker of San Diego State University, examines two cultural factors present in companies. The first is the firm's market orientation, which reflects the degree to which strategic market planning is driven by customer and competitor intelligence. The second is the firm's entrepreneurial orientation, which reflects the degree to which firms' growth objectives are driven by the identification and exploitation of untapped market opportunities. The paper finds that both factors are drivers of profitability, one of which is direct and the other

mediated.

February 6, 2008

Publications and Presentations

Garrison Nelson, professor of political science, wrote an op-ed article in the Nov. 3, 2007 edition of the *Boston Globe* titled "Border wars in fight for presidency." It focused on the early domination of New York in presidential politics (New York natives and/or residents received 47 major party nominations for president and vice president from the first election in 1789) and how the emergence of the New Hampshire changed that foreve

theview

University Communications
86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

[The View Homepage](#) | [UVM Homepage](#)

[News Briefs](#) | [Events](#) | [Notables](#)

[Print This Issue](#) | [Print Past Issues](#) | [About Us](#) | [Feedback](#)