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## [Lucky Dog](#)



Current event: University Scholar Robert Gordon is speaking Tuesday, Oct. 2. (Photo courtesy of Robert Gordon)

Robert Gordon, professor of anthropology and one of this year's four University Scholars, was studying colonialist photographs from Africa when he noticed an odd pattern. Many of the images showed a dog lurking around in the background.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

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[UVM Lifetime Wellness Effort Kicks Off Friday](#)

[Brennan's Pub Now Serving Beer, Live Entertainment](#)

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[Influential Bereavement Scholar in Burlington Oct. 3-5](#)

[Nick Kristof Q+A](#) From his writings about personally purchasing the freedom of two teenage girls from a brothel in Cambodia to his unrelenting pressure on the U.S. to act against another African genocide, Aiken Lecturer Nicholas Kristof uses his highly visible New York Times column to press for change.

### [The Right Wheels](#)

Boedy Leombruno, a tow-haired four-year-old with cerebral palsy and visual impairments, is grinning to beat the band. With his parents looking on in disbelief, his mother wiping tears from her eyes, Boedy rides a red and yellow plastic tricycle with utter abandon.

[Model Proposal](#) MBA students Geoff Robinson and John Stewart laughingly balk at the suggestion that the model document they created with fellow classmates during a summer business course will guide all of UVM's future construction projects.

### THE WEEK IN VIEW

Sept. 27, 5 p.m. Lecture: "Beyond the Culture of Poverty Myth: Talking Authentically about Poverty and Classism" with Paul Gorski, assistant professor of education, Graduate School of Education, Hamline University. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. Information: 656-9511.

Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m. Concert: "Old School Freight Train," a bluegrass ensemble presented by the Lane Series. \$25 adults, \$20 students. A free, pre-concert talk with the artists will begin at 6:30 p.m. UVM Recital Hall. [Information, tickets.](#)

Oct. 2, Noon. Staff Council Meeting. Livak Ballroom, Dudley H. Davis Center. Information: 656-4493.

Oct. 2, 6 p.m. Community Medical School: "Future Docs: How We Educate Physicians at UVM" with Lewis First, senior associate dean for medical education, professor and chair of pediatrics, and Cynthia Forehand, director of Foundations and professor of anatomy and neurobiology. Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building. [Information, registration:](#) (802) 847-2886.

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## Lucky Dog

*University Scholar Robert Gordon finds pleasure and purpose in anthropology*

By Kevin Foley

Article published September 26, 2007



Current event: University Scholar Robert Gordon is speaking Tuesday, Oct. 2. (Photo courtesy of Robert Gordon)

Robert Gordon, professor of anthropology and one of this year's four University Scholars, was studying colonialist photographs from Africa when he noticed an odd pattern. Many of the images showed a dog lurking around in the background.

The presence of pooches seems normal in the west, where dogs are our "best friends" and we treat them that way, spending billions on food, leashes, apparel, and even canine chiropractors, psychologists and nutritionists. But take your imagination off leash, and it gets a little weird. In Africa, Asia and the Islamic world, "dog" is an insult, and coddled pets are rare.

"Whenever you're in Africa, and you're looking to talk with strangers, you bring up dogs, and they'll tell you their favorite story about a crazy white person and his pet," says Gordon. "The way we look at dogs is a wonderful indicator of global divisions."

Dogs had an often-dark practical part in colonial pacification and rule, and were powerful symbols as well. Gordon will expand on the many meanings of the dog here and in Africa during a public seminar, "Fido in Namibia: Dog Tales of Colonialism," on Tuesday, Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman.

While the creativity and resonance of Gordon's "fido" writing is characteristic of his approach to anthropology, the project itself is a departure. Gordon has done most of his work in Namibia, Southern Africa and Oceania. He says most of his efforts have been driven by the needs of the communities he visits. This has led to projects involving, among other


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things, violence, legal issues, prostitution, vagrancy, poverty and, recently, inheritance.

This diverse and extensive portfolio (Gordon's University Scholar citation mentions more than 20 books and monographs), isn't a drive for relevance — "I have yet," he says, "to meet an academic who was doing irrelevant work... in his or her mind, anyway" — it's fundamental to the way Gordon views his discipline.

### **Ideas and advocacy**

Giving something back to research subjects is now an anthropological truism, but it was less common when Gordon finished his doctorate in 1977 at the University of Illinois. But Gordon nonetheless strived to practice a kind of "public anthropology" that was sensitive, accountable and relevant to the people he worked with, a theme that continues today.

"My thinking was that once you get your Ph.D., you should let other people decide what you work on," he says. "I would go to a community, and I would work on the issues that they wanted me to work on. That's part of why I have such diversity in my CV."

His recent ongoing work on inheritance in Namibia came about because of the interest of a human rights non-governmental organization in the issue. Gordon says inheritance is a crucial issue for advocates of gender rights; an example is the phenomenon of "asset stripping," when a woman's husband dies and then his relatives come and take any remaining money and property under the pretext that the widow can remarry. "Inheritance is a major cause of inequality in society," Gordon says.

This interest in anthropology as an instrument for advocacy started early.

Gordon grew up in apartheid-era South Africa; as an English person in an Afrikaans community, and especially as the son of a Jewish father, he received more than a taste of that place and time's racism and xenophobia. Before starting college at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, he attended an English boarding school that emphasized public service. His desire to do something useful, rejection of the racism around him and orneriness all influenced his choice to pursue anthropology as an undergraduate and beyond.

"I suppose it was a political decision," he says. "After growing up in apartheid South Africa, I saw anthropology as a professional excuse to transcend the color bar..."

### **A sense of wonder**

Decades later, he's still enthusiastic about his field — and fieldwork. Gordon tries to adopt an anthropological mindset in even familiar places like supermarkets and hospitals, but his true passion is for travel.

Not just any kind of travel: Undergraduates asking Gordon about studying

abroad receive both encouragement and admonitions to make the most of their experiences through openness, curiosity and reciprocity. (Two unreflective weeks in Costa Rica or Africa, Gordon says, does not a global citizen make.) Gordon is extending his thoughts and advice on travel in a forthcoming book, *Going Abroad: An Anthropological Primer On Getting Lost*.

He tries to live his own philosophy and get out of the country as often as he practically can. Gray hair, he says, has made starting conversations with strangers easier than ever before.

His goal is give and take, sharing and receiving information. The reward is more psychic than academic.

"I'm a junkie. I'm a fieldwork junkie. You have to get new stories to tell your students or you're a boring teacher," he says. "I stand in awe of how wonderful the world is and how it is always changing. There's so much to look at. You become aware of your own humility; you're not as good as you think you are. I've met so many wonderful people who have absolutely no education."

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*the view endeavors to publish profiles of University Scholar recipients before their public presentations.*

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## INTERview: Aiken Lecturer Nicholas Kristof

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published September 26, 2007

*From his writings about personally purchasing the freedom of two teenage girls from a brothel in Cambodia to his unrelenting pressure on the U.S. to act against another African genocide, Nicholas Kristof uses his highly visible New York Times column to press for change.*

*On Monday, Oct. 1 at 5 p.m., Kristof will give the 32nd George D. Aiken Lecture, "The Promise and Price of Modernization in China." The free, public address will be in Ira Allen Chapel with overflow seating downstairs in Billings Auditorium, followed immediately by a book signing.*

*For his on-the-scene journalism on Darfur and other issues, Kristof won his second Pulitzer Prize last year. In 1990, he and Times journalist Sheryl WuDunn became the first husband-and-wife team awarded a Pulitzer for their coverage of China's Tiananmen Square democracy movement. (For a full biography of Kristof visit [Aiken Speaker.](#))*

*Despite spending a career traveling into the world's most tragic, seemingly hopeless places, Kristof says it is less depressing than one might imagine. Alongside the worst horrors, he explains, there are invariably people with an altruism and courage that keep him going. Less inspiring, he feels, is to return stateside and find Americans obsessed with meaningless, tawdry gossip.*

*"I wish that problems of global poverty could attract the attention that Paris Hilton does," Kristof says, "but I'm always hoping Paris is going to end up taping a sex video in the Congo or something and get some interest (that way)."*

*Here, the view talks with Kristof about some of the ideas behind Monday's talk and why he believes so deeply in getting students involved.*

**THE VIEW:** What's the promise of a modernized China and who reaps the most?

**NICHOLAS KRISTOF:** Not just China, but Asia generally, is transforming the



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world. We live in an unusual period when the West has been totally dominant; but for most of history, Asia has dominated. I think we're going back to that. So if China again becomes the world's biggest economy then it will obviously see advantages. I don't think that it has to be terrible for the US — though it's a little sad to go from number one to number two.

**More specifically, what does the promise look like?**

The promise is that China is going to continue to grow. It's not

going to be a smooth process but I think China is going to grow in bursts and will emerge as the world's biggest economy. We think of this as a race between us and them but the reality is that America is benefiting and has benefited from China's economic boom. We pay an awful lot less for clothing now than we did a couple of decades ago, and that's because we have clothing made cheaply in southern China. It's particularly benefited poor Americans who can buy things more cheaply — unless you happen to be a poor American who had a manufacturing job, but we tended to lose those jobs to somewhat richer countries than China.

**What does that mean for Chinese working in factories, who tend to be women? They're producing cheap clothes for us. Is it really good for them?**

I think it is. And I think the measure of that is that (women) are choosing to go from their villages in rural China to coastal areas to work in those factories. If they choose to make that journey then it's a little patronizing for us here to second-guess them and say, oh, well, but you're being exploited. Right now my wife and I are working on a book about women in the developing world and China is an interesting case because so much of the oppression that women run into there is rooted in culture, whether it's female genital mutilations or honor killings or whatever. China, traditionally, had a culture that is about as hostile to women as any other. Just a hundred years ago there was no place worse in the world to be born female than China. You had your feet bound; if you were born in a rural area you might not even get a name other than Third Daughter; and you were subject to child marriage, being a concubine, all kinds of things. And yet that culture proved to be adjustable, and today, at least in urban areas, women have really tremendous opportunities. And the division of labor in households in China, in the cities, is probably more equitable than in households in America.

**Yet Americans are still going to China to adopt their girl babies.**

There's definitely a son preference and that's deeply rooted, but culture is more complicated than that. If you look at who cooks the food, who picks up the kids after school, who cleans the house, those are things that still in this country are deeply embedded in gender, and that's less true in cities in China. In rural areas it's a different world. But one of the reasons we find China interesting is that there's a tendency just to give up on places like Afghanistan or Pakistan and say there is no hope, partly because women themselves are the ones putting on the burkas. But in China it was women who were binding their daughters' feet. That culture changed and (that's why they) were able to have an economic boom... In contrast, one of the problems with countries where women get a really raw deal is that (these places are) embedded in poverty because they use only half of their workforce, the male half.

**If China grows the way you're expecting, will it eventually lessen the dichotomy of poverty and inequality between rural and urban areas?**

Generally. I think it's a great thing when people move out of poverty, and if you look, China has lifted more people out of poverty than any other country in human history. And it was the Chinese example that encouraged India to reform its economy; now India is growing, not quite booming, but growing quickly. And India's example encouraged Pakistan to reform as well. So an awful lot more kids are surviving all over Asia today because of (the) Chinese boom. You can be nervous about what a stronger China will mean but still think it's absolutely terrific that hundreds of millions of people are being lifted out of poverty.

**Talk about the price — other than America's ego.**

The environment is one obvious one. Traditionally China was mostly mucking itself up, so local people were dying of filthy air or water. But increasingly we're waking to the fact that China is mucking up the global environment. If we lose the Florida coastline we'll be partly to blame, but Chinese coal-fired power plants will be partly to blame as well.

**Do you think they can be persuaded to reform in that area?**

I think China is going to be very reluctant to curb growth rates to save Florida. Chinese feel that, look, you Westerners have been pumping carbon into the environment for 150 years, we're just starting, and you're telling *us* to curb our economic growth? There's a certain logic to that, but the problem is, unless China gets on board, you can't do anything about climate change. So I think there's going to be real tension about that. I think there's going to be tension about international security issues like China's role in North Korea, Iran, Darfur and Sudan.

**You take a great interest in students — the contests (to travel with you and write a Times blog), these talks.... What drives that and what impact do you hope to make?**

A couple of things. On issues that I care about, I don't think you can make progress unless you bring in a younger generation and harvest their passions. And I'm often a little despairing about the lack of leadership that we see from politicians on some of these issues. But students have been real leaders on some of these. The fact that we're providing a lot of relief aid to people from Darfur is pretty much attributable to students all across the country holding rallies and putting on green armbands and organizing themselves. Students have been a far more effective presence than the White House or the U.N. for Darfur. I sense among students that they want to get involved in larger issues; I also think they have more effective tools today than my generation did. In our day, if you cared about something the instinctive thing you did was organize a protest. And these days, students are good at protests, but they also have become more creative about pushing for solutions and figuring out innovative mechanisms that will actually achieve something.

I also think that universities do a dismal job at educating young people about global problems. It's just bizarre that somebody can consider themselves educated if they have read Shakespeare and know about the Punic Wars but don't have any clue about how the world's poor people live in villages today. Universities have to do a far better job of getting young people to travel abroad — not just organized trips to Florence but to Africa, Asia — to get out of their comfort zones. If you're not shaken up, then something went wrong. The point of university should be to encounter different worlds, to grow; one good way to grow is to go to the villages where there are a billion people living in real poverty.

I really would like to see young people go to China, but also elsewhere. And maybe to take a gap year before or after college, spend a summer abroad. We're going to have a much more effective citizenry deciding on public policy issues if people understand how foreigners perceive us, how instinctively suspicious (they) are of American intentions. If more Americans had traveled abroad then we probably wouldn't have invaded Iraq on the assumption that Iraqis were going to welcome us.

China obviously has a long, complicated history. How important is understanding the historical context to understanding the message of a "new" China? Even Tiananmen Square — recent history — yet many students today weren't even born.

Yeah. Just as the U.S. has been shaped by, say, 9-11, China has been shaped by its past. Probably more than most countries, China has a very deep sense of history, and for example, everything that the U.S. does is seen through the prism of a country that deeply resents the fact that it was pushed around and bullied and had parts of it colonized by other countries. I think that one has to know a bit of that history to understand how our actions are going to play in China. You don't need to know that the Ming Dynasty fell in 1644.



Ultimately do you have optimism — about global poverty, Darfur...  
you're particularly tough on China for their behavior providing  
weapons used in Darfur?

I'm an inveterate optimist. It may be a function of having spent a lot of  
my career in Asia and just seeing Asia transformed around me over the  
last 20 years — the strides against poverty and disease, particularly in  
Asia, have been mind-boggling. I think our lesson is, if you manage to get  
policies right and if you really make an effort then you can accomplish  
incredible things.

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## The Right Wheels

*Center on Disability and Community Inclusion is raising money to provide special trikes to kids with disabilities*

By Jeff Wakefield

*Article published September 26, 2007*



Boedy Leombruno, 4, is on a roll at an event that matched children with specially adapted trikes. (Photo: Center on Disability and Community Inclusion)

Boedy Leombruno, a tow-haired four-year-old with cerebral palsy and visual impairments, is grinning to beat the band.

With his parents looking on in disbelief, his mother wiping tears from her eyes, Boedy rides a red and yellow plastic tricycle

with utter abandon 10 yards forward, then 10 yards back in a hallway outside the Patrick Gym multi-purpose room.

Off the trike, Boedy is so unbalanced that walking is a "scary thing," says his mother, Patty. On the right wheels, he's a mini Evel Knievel in training. "It's phenomenal," she says. "This gives him a freedom he just hasn't had."

Boedy's exuberant locomotion came courtesy of an open house featuring a variety of trikes specially adapted for children and young adults with disabilities that was organized by the College of Education and Social Services' Center on Disability and Community Inclusion.

CDCI used its statewide network of physical and occupational therapists to bring 34 families from around Vermont to the Sept. 15 event. Its purpose was to match the children with a specific adapted trike made available by the Highpoint, N.C.-based nonprofit Ambucs, which had brought a tractor-trailer full of the machines to the open house.

### Helping hands

Boedy's ride featured a common adaptation at the event: hand cranks protruding from the handlebars and foot pedals with straps. To power the bike, Boedy both cranked and pedaled, setting up a parallel motion between his arms and legs that allowed him to synchronize and control



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his upper and lower body. In earlier attempts, Boedy had not been able to ride a conventional trike independently.

Other adapted trikes had pedals with blocks and steel cups, which locked the feet in the proper position. All had a variety of belts and a series of optional seats to secure riders and make them as comfortable as possible.

Marie MacLeod, a physical therapist and interdisciplinary faculty member at the CDCI, took the lead in organizing the open house, along with Christina Allard and Liz Robitaille, community therapists in Chittenden County.

At the event MacLeod is a blur, flying from one family to the next to make sure the adaptations are in sync with the rider's needs.

MacLeod made the original connection with Ambucs, a 100-year old service organization that began focusing on the needs of the disabled 10 years ago, when she met the group's executive director, Joe Copeland, at a professional meeting in 2005.

At that time, Copeland was reluctant to bring the adapted trike program to Vermont, because the state did not have an Ambucs chapter and was therefore less likely to generate the community support and fundraising necessary for success.

#### **Key 'roll'**

The simple solution, MacLeod decided, was to join 22 other states and form a chapter, an effort she spearheaded with Allard and Robitaille.

MacLeod says raising funds is the chapter's major purpose. She wants all the families who need the special trikes to have them, regardless of their means. The machines range in price from about \$225 for a small trike like Boedy's to nearly \$600 for the larger models with more elaborate adaptations.

Ambucs will match every dollar raised over \$5,000. The organization donated trikes to six children at the event. The rest were placed on a wish list. Copeland, the group's head, was on hand at the event, helping with the trike adaptations and clearly impressed by the turnout and enthusiasm of participants.

Given the energy the open house generated, MacLeod is optimistic the group can meet its goal of raising enough money to provide a trike to all of the attendees.

The trike program is "about getting these kids out there doing what their friends are doing," MacLeod says, a goal she feels most community members can identify with and support. MacLeod plans to approach a variety of student groups at UVM to see if each will take on the challenge of raising funds for one trike.

By late morning on Saturday, Boedy has extended his range and is now cycling madly in another part of the gym. His father jogs behind him, periodically exclaiming, to no one in particular, "That's awesome."

The Vermont Ambucs chapter will hold its first fundraiser at Pizzeria Uno in South Burlington on Oct. 3. For more information on the event and the Vermont Ambucs chapter, contact Michaela Collins at (802) 656-5785 or [Michaela.Collins@uvm.edu](mailto:Michaela.Collins@uvm.edu) or visit [CDCI Bike Event](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Model Proposal

By Jon Reidel

Article published September 26, 2007



MBA students John Stewart (left) and Geoff Robinson helped develop a new tool to help trustees and administration prioritize building projects. (Photo: Jon Reidel)

MBA students Geoff Robinson and John Stewart laughingly balk at the suggestion that the model document they created with fellow classmates during a summer business course will guide the university's administration and Board of Trustees in determining all future

construction projects.

"We gave them a tool, a way to make it clear why certain projects are put in the order they are, but we're not the ones shaping the future of the university," says Stewart. "Management has final say."

True enough, but trustee Susan Hudson-Wilson, who along with many of her colleagues has been asking for a more quantitative way to evaluate projects, might respectfully disagree. As far as she's concerned, the "UVM Capital Project Model Proposal" and the 13-question evaluation form designed in Associate Professor Susan Hughes' "Business Analysis and Consulting" course is a crucial measure for determining which multimillion dollar project is needed most.

"I'm thrilled. Not a little bit thrilled — a lot thrilled," said Hudson-Wilson at the September Board of Trustees meeting. "This gives us a traceable and documentable sense of priorities. I thank the administration for biting this bullet. This was a toughie. My confidence is enormously enhanced by the availability of this tool... We now know exactly where we stand and why we stand there. It's a good feeling. That level of transparency provides awesome comfort to all of the university community. We are in a good place."

The endorsement is strong enough to please a high-priced professional business consultant. But the consultants here were unpaid students, participating in an unusual collaboration among faculty, administrators



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and university trustees.

### **Critical criteria**

Over the last several years, as trustees have have grappled with decisions about which proposed projects would best serve UVM's strategy, the need for set criteria to evaluate proposals gradually became apparent. The board started responding to presentations by deans (all of whom were advocating for projects they considered crucial) by repeatedly asking one question: "How can I tell if your project is more important than the others?"

Trustees were familiar with the administration's priority list of projects in the Strategic Capital Plan and knew, for example, that the \$55.7 million Plant Science Facility was the highest-ranked capital project heading into its last meeting. But Hudson-Wilson wanted to know why, so she asked the administration to come up with a transparent system to evaluate capital spending.

President Daniel Mark Fogel responded by charging Provost John Hughes, Mike Gower, vice president of finance and administration, and Thomas Visser, associate professor of history and chair of the relevant Faculty Senate committee, with developing a methodology to rank projects currently in the university's capital plan. Then Susan Hughes and her students stepped in to support the collaboration.

"Our class happened to need a client, and the university needed a consultant," says Susan Hughes. "That combination was fortunate for all of us. I hope there are many more opportunities for our MBA students and university personnel to work together to solve such interesting and challenging problems."

### **Testing the tool**

One of the more attractive aspects of the ranking system is that it allows individuals or 'project champions' to get their project on the Strategic Capital Plan 3.0 list by submitting a proposal that includes the same criteria as that used in the ranking system. The form provides the basis for determining scores on each of the 13 criteria. Scores range from zero, or no impact, to a high-impact three.

Each of the 13 criteria has many sub criteria, however, giving high-ranking projects like the Plant Science Facility "perfect" scores of around 300 points. For example, the "student" criteria is followed by a series of questions asking if the project promotes wellness; affects a large number of students in a cohort; enhances learning opportunities and so forth.

"There isn't a pure objectivity to this," says Fogel. "There's a good deal of art as well as science. The point of the tool is to disclose fully the administration's thinking on future projects so the board and all members of the community can understand it."

Stewart and Robinson said they initially felt overwhelmed by the project



and thought it would be impossible to complete in a summer course. After conducting research, speaking with other boards and attending meetings, including a City of Burlington capital-planning session, an initially massive list of criteria was reduced to a workable number. Multiple conversations with Gower and John Hughes helped identify university priorities and cut it down to the most critical areas.

Robinson says the group worked with the knowledge that it was developing a system that wasn't immune to political pressures or potential "gaming of the numbers," as one trustee put it.

"It was a management-client situation, but we didn't want to give them exactly what they wanted," he says. "We wanted to give them the best product possible. In the end, they agreed with our recommendation. Some changes were made, but the meat of the criteria is ours."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## New Agreement Increases UVM Payments to City

By University Communications

Article published September 25, 2007

The City of Burlington administration and UVM have reached agreement on a proposal for payment of services and other issues. The agreement was considered and approved by the Burlington City Council at its Sept. 24 meeting. UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel and Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss appeared at a signing ceremony for the agreement on Sept. 26 at the Firehouse Gallery.

Payments under the five-year agreement are based on a total yearly fee for services of \$1,103,016. This amount breaks down to a fee for fire services and an omnibus fee for all other services that the city provides. The university would make phased-in payments to the city over the first three years, which, respectively, represent 50 percent, 75 percent and 100 percent of the agreed-upon yearly payment. During this fiscal year, the agreement's first, the payments will total \$636,046; in year two, payments will total \$869,450; and in year three, payments will total \$1,103,016. In years four and five of the agreement, the payment will be adjusted according to an agreed-upon inflation indicator.

Under a previous agreement with the city, UVM currently pays \$288,803 for services each year, not including property tax payments it makes on certain non-exempt properties. This agreement will not affect UVM's obligation to pay taxes on these properties.

The agreement includes an additional payment of \$25,000 per year (annually adjusted) by UVM for access to and use of the Burlington Police Department's dispatching and records system.

City officials and UVM praised the proposed agreement as fair and representative of the important, cooperative relationship between Burlington and the university. Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss stressed the importance of the fee-for-services agreement in maintaining Burlington as a sustainable city. "UVM and the city have long-appreciated a mutually beneficial relationship," said Kiss. "Payment by UVM for essential city services is an important element of the city's ability to maintain a level of services that all city residents, including those associated with UVM, should expect."

"The University of Vermont has always strived to be a responsible citizen and good neighbor within the Burlington community," said Fogel. "The proposed agreement reflects that spirit, and the university is proud to

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have participated in the process that brought it about."

In addition to a fee for services, the agreement also includes language related to the mutual delivery of police services and fire marshal services. The language reflects a strong commitment to work together on neighborhood policing issues and on fire safety response protocols.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## UVM Lifetime Wellness Effort Kicks Off Friday

By The View Staff

Article published September 26, 2007

A new online wellness center offers extensive information about health — and offers faculty and staff the opportunity to earn up to \$100 in the fall Personal Best Incentive Program by using its health and wellness tools.

Employees can earn credits on their CatCards by completing a health screening form, completing an online assessment and participating in health coaching sessions over the Web. The program kicks off on Friday, Sept. 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman.

The Wellness Center is the product of a partnership between the university and Blue Cross Blue Shield, and can be personalized for you when you complete a confidential health assessment. The on-line questionnaire was developed by medical doctors and leading health researchers to help you chart a course to a healthier lifestyle. The Wellness Center will customize a health coach program just for you and display the information through your personal health dashboard.

The site includes information about disease symptoms, medication side-effects and more; it also includes tools to figure out how many calories you burn by walking and a calculator that measures your child's growth.

The Wellness Center is completely confidential, 100 percent secure and available at any time. Personal information will remain private and can not be sent to the insurance company or university.

Information: [UVM Wellness Center](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Brennan's Pub Now Serving Beer, Live Entertainment

By Jon Reidel

*Article published September 26, 2007*

Struggling to be heard over the sounds of Rubblebucket, a four-piece afro-rhythmic mini-orchestra, Joanna Scott, manager of Brennan's Pub and Bistro, sounds pleased with the turnout of roughly 40 students on a Tuesday night at the university's new nightspot in the Dudley H. Davis Center.

Some of the patrons ate the pub's signature New Orleans inspired wings, a creation of the pub's WOW Café and Wingery franchise, while others sipped on one of the dozen local beers. The pub's debut on Sept. 24 broke a roughly 20-year prohibition on campus alcohol sales, and word is already getting out. "Not bad for only our second night serving beer and wine," says Scott, surveying the tables.

Scott and her staff have been working diligently to get things just right since the pub opened at the start of the school year. Seven plasma televisions arrived on Sept. 25 to air sporting events and facilitate participatory games. One of the pub's walls will feature work by local artists, another is reserved for UVM athletic memorabilia. Live local and student music is scheduled Fridays; a quiz night and karaoke alternate on Wednesdays; and live comedians perform on Thursdays.

All programming is selected by students in conjunction with Pat Brown, director of student life and a Davis Center advisor. "This place is very student-driven," says senior Catarina Goes, a member of the University Program Board, a student-led event-production group. "We want as much input as possible from students."

The pub, named after UVM donors and center supporters Robert '83 and Carolyn Brennan '82, has a three-drink limit and will rely heavily on its food offerings for revenue. In addition to the extensive wing selection, patrons can order from a [menu](#) that includes hamburgers, quesadillas, salads, sandwiches, wraps, desserts and appetizers. A connecting space, the Park Place Room, can be reserved for private events of around 20-25 people.

On Tuesday, most students were eating appetizers with a mix of beer and soda. The current setup funnels students over to three registers, one of which focuses on alcohol to check ID's and keep track of the three-drink limit. After patrons order they can sit down at one of the many wooden tables or on one of the stools facing the stage.



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"We want this to be about the students and other members of the UVM family," says Scott. "It's their place and we want to make it feel that way."

Brennan's is open Monday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturday, 3 p.m. to 1 a.m.; and Sunday, 3 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Service Pending for Art Professor Robert Flynn

By The View Staff

*Article published September 26, 2007*

Robert Flynn, an assistant professor of drawing in the Department of Art and Art History, died unexpectedly on Sept. 23 from a heart attack. He was 39. A memorial service took place on Sept. 26; a campus service is also being planned, with location and time to appear in this space and on the UVM homepage.

Although Flynn's time at UVM was short — he began his post just this fall — his teaching career spanned many years. He taught drawing, painting, printmaking and art history at several institutions in Florida, including Barry University, Florida International University and New World School of Art, since earning his master of fine arts degree at Rutgers in 1992.

Flynn was also a celebrated artist. His drawings, paintings and sculpture, which explore life in the suburban backyard, won him a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Florida Individual Artist Award as well as solo and group exhibits across the country at venues in Phoenix, Houston, Denver, Atlanta and Miami, among other locations.

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## Archaeologist Will Discuss Fort St. Anne

By The View Staff

*Article published September 21, 2007*

Jessica Desany of the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program will give a talk, "Fort St. Anne: Archaeology and Memory of Vermont's Earliest European Occupation Site," on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman.

The seminar is part of the Center for Research on Vermont's research-in-progress seminar series. It is being held in conjunction with Vermont Archaeology Month.

Fort St. Anne on Isle La Motte dates to the earliest European occupation of Vermont and represents one of the most significant historic sites in the state. It was constructed by French soldiers in 1666 on the colonial frontier between the Abenaki, Mohawk, Huron, French, Dutch and English. The history and archaeology of the fort offers valuable information about the religious, political, economic and military beginnings of New France.

Information: [Center for Research on Vermont](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Historian to Discuss Nazi Coercion, Consent

By The View Staff

Article published September 21, 2007

Peter Fritzsche will discuss "Consent and Coercion in Nazi Germany" on Monday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m. in the Davis Auditorium, Medical Education Pavilion (Fletcher Allen Health Care).

Fritzsche is professor of history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and author of many and diverse works on German history, the history of National Socialism and modern European history, among them *Rehearsals for Fascism: Populism and Political Mobilization in Weimar Germany*, *A Nation of Fliers: German Aviation and the Popular Imagination*, *Reading Berlin 1900*, *Germans into Nazis* and *Stranded in the Present: Modern Time and the Melancholy of History*. He is currently completing a history of National Socialism, which Harvard University Press will publish in 2008.

The event is sponsored by the Center for Holocaust Studies.

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## Influential Bereavement Scholar in Burlington Oct. 3-5

By The View Staff

Article published September 26, 2007

The Madison-Deane Initiative, the end-of-life care education program of the Visiting Nurse Association, is offering three days of presentations by Colin Murray Parkes, an internationally known scholar of bereavement. On Wednesday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. in the Doubletree Hotel, South Burlington he will give a community presentation titled "Loss, Grief and Bereavement: Psychological Aspects." A panel discussion featuring two UVM-affiliated experts will follow the presentation.

Titled "Loss in our Community: Reflection, Response and Renewal," the panel will be moderated by Dr. Robert Macauley, medical director of ethics at Fletcher Allen Health Care and the UVM College of Medicine. Panelists include Parkes; Jim Fitzpatrick, Superintendent of Schools, Essex, Vt.; and Brookes Cowan, senior lecturer of sociology and director of the award-winning hospice documentary *Pioneers of Hospice: Changing the Face of Dying*.

"This discussion is partly in response to the traumas our community has experienced over the last year — the murder of Michelle Gardener-Quinn and the Essex school shootings," Cowan says.

Lecture and panel information: 860-4419.

On Oct. 4, Parkes will be the keynote speaker at an all-day conference, "Teachable Moments: Companioning Children and Teens through Loss and Grief." Held at Hilton Hotel (formerly Wyndham) in Burlington, the event runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is aimed at people who work with children and teens in health care, educational or other settings. Registration and a fee is required. Information: (866) 293-8200 or [VNA Events](#).

On Oct. 5, Parkes will present at Medical Grand Rounds at Fletcher Allen Health Care at 8 a.m. Information: 860-4419.

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## AHEC Hosts Vermont Recruitment Day Sept. 28

By The View Staff

Article published September 26, 2007

On Friday, Sept. 28, the UVM Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program will host the 14th Annual Vermont Recruitment Day, an event designed to offer students and medical residents opportunities to learn about health care career opportunities across the state. The event will take place from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Health Science Research Facility Gallery.

Representatives from Vermont and northern New York hospitals, the Vermont Department of Health, VT AHEC, Vermont Medical Society, Vermont Recruitment Center and many others will be available to meet with potential candidates and share information about career openings in such fields as nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, laboratory technology and more.

Information: 802-656-2179 or [Vermont AHEC](#).

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## Colburn Exhibit Offers Three Visions of Contemporary Life

By The View Staff

*Article published September 26, 2007*

From Tuesday, Oct. 2 to Friday, Oct. 12 an exhibit curated by Steve Budington, assistant professor of art, will be on display in the Colburn Gallery in Williams Hall.

The exhibit, "Gone," features the work of three artists, [Joelle Jensen](#), [Lisha Bai](#) and Jeffrey Jones, who each present images of life in contemporary America. Through examination of the mundane — Jensen's domestic spaces, Bai's use of household brands and Jones' images of generic architecture — the artists offer new ways of seeing and navigating the mass-produced, consumptive nature of modern life.

Budington, Jensen and Bai will discuss the artwork at an opening reception and gallery talk on Thursday, Oct. 4 at 5 p.m. The Colburn Gallery is open to visitors Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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## NOTABLES

September 26, 2007

### Publications and Presentations

Dr. Richard Lovett, associate professor of radiology, will present a poster on breast cancer and MRI at the 49th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology Oct. 28 to Nov. 1 in Los Angeles. Dr. Lovett, who is based at Rutland Regional Medical Center, currently serves as chair of the Vermont-New Hampshire affiliate board of Susan G. Komen For the Cure.

Rocki-Lee DeWitt, dean and professor of management in the School of Business Administration, and co-authors Donald D. Bergh of the University of Denver, and Richard A. Johnson of the University of Missouri, had a paper published on September 20 online in *Strategic Management Journal* titled, "Restructuring Through Spin-Off or Sell-Off: Transforming Information Asymmetries into Financial Gain."

Wolfgang Mieder, chair of the Department of German and Russian, has edited the 24th volume of *Proverbium: Yearbook of International Proverb Scholarship* with various articles by proverb scholars from around the world. The book contains a contribution by his colleague Kevin McKenna, professor of German and Russian, on "'Poshlost', Hegelian Syllogism, and the Proverb: A Paremiological Approach to Vladimir Nabokov's *Laughter in the Dark*" as well as a paper by Vicky Reithinger, a former UVM undergraduate, on "'Wenn wir uns wieder in den Haaren liegen': Sprichwörtliche Ambiguitäten in Ulla Hahn's Lyrikband *Herz über Kopf*". Mieder's own article deals with "'Bis dat, qui cito dat': A Global Distribution of Proverbial 'Care Packages'" and includes several pictures of Andrew Crampton and Mieder packaging 100 large boxes of books on proverbs sent as scholarly gifts throughout the world. The edition includes book reviews and bibliographies by McKenna and Mieder as well. *Proverbium* has been published at UVM since 1988, serving the international community of paremiologists by publishing their work in several languages.

### Awards and Honors

Dr. John Braun, associate professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation, received a Russell Hibbs Award at the Scoliosis Research Society's 42nd Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland Sept. 5 through 8. Named in honor of orthopedics innovator Russell Hibbs, M.D., a chief of surgery at New York Orthopedic Hospital during the early 1900s, the award recognized Braun's paper, titled "The Effect of Two Clinically Relevant Fusionless

Scoliosis Implant Strategies on the Health of the Intervertebral Disc," as the best basic science paper presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting. Of all the basic science papers that are accepted for presentation at the meeting, only five are selected to be nominated for the award.

**Connell B. Gallagher**, library professor emeritus and former Head of Special Collections at the Bailey/Howe Library, has been appointed as an Archivist at the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. He is helping to create a plan for the archival preservation of the records of the committee. Gallagher has a long-time familiarity with congressional records. He spent a sabbatical year working as an archivist for U.S. Senators Robert T. Stafford and Patrick J. Leahy in 1988-89, and he was a co-founder and first Chair of the Society of American Archivists Congressional Papers Round Table.

**Jane Hill**, a new assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, received a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to research the "Fate of Mobile Bacterial Pathogens in the Subsurface: Determining the extent and influence of motility and counter-current movement on cell transport." Hill is collaborating with Sharon Walker at the University of California, Riverside, on this three year project. Her research, recently featured in the *Boston Globe*, examines the conditions under which the bacteria "orient like a weather vane" so they can face upstream and then travel counter to the bulk flow.

**Tony Magistrale**, professor of English, won the Bordighera Poetry Prize for his manuscript *What She Says About Love*. The prize for Italian-American writers confers a cash stipend and the publication of a book in a bilingual edition by the Bordighera Press.

*September 12, 2007*

#### **Publications and Presentations**

**Dawn Densmore**, director of outreach and public relations for the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, is organizing an effort in her spare time to lobby the FDA to require companies to disclose on food labels the percentage of production costs devoted to packaging versus the percentage spent on product. She believes that making this information available to consumers would eventually reduce elaborate and wasteful packaging. Her work was recently featured in the *Burlington Free Press*. To make a public comment on Densmore's proposal, visit [Packaging Comment](#).

**Jeffrey Dinitz**, professor of mathematics and computer science, discussed his work on Sept. 12 on Vermont Public Radio. He is also an invited guest speaker for the Midwest Conference on Combinatorics, Cryptography and Computing to be held Oct. 13-15 at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.