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Making Sense of Mountains



More than scenery: The gorgeous peaks of Milford Sound offer UVM geologists rare insights into the forces that make (and move) mountains. (Photo courtesy of Keith Klepeis.)

An earthquake registering 7.1 on the Richter scale rocked southern New Zealand on Aug. 22, triggering more than 475 landslides and sparking a thriving trade in commemorative t-shirts. Keith Klepeis and Tracy Rushmer, assistant professors of geology, took special interest in the quake.

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Guarding the Farm

Since the outbreak of mad cow disease that scared beef eaters in England in 1993, the 2001 epidemic of foot and mouth disease, and the increased threat of diseases spread by terrorists, "biosecurity" has become a word uttered frequently in agricultural circles.

Rembrandt at the

Fleming The Fleming Museum's Andy Warhol exhibit had barely closed this June when Rembrandt van Rijn, packing three centuries of fame and counting, moved in. "Rembrandt and the Art of Etching" is the latest in a string of big-name shows at the Fleming.

Aiken at the Plate

The Sept. 19 meeting of the annual George D. Aiken Lectures looked at food issues from a multiplicity of angles — tapping diverse viewpoints ranging from farmers to chefs to health experts.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

Sept. 24, 12:30 p.m.
Lecture: "America, Iraq and the Middle East" with Gregory Gause, political science. John Dewey Lounge, 325 Old Mill. Information: 656-1096

Sept: 25, 5 p.m.
Event: Special opening reception for the academic community of "Rembrandt and the Art of Etching" hosted by Provost John Bramley. ID required. Fleming Museum. Information: 656-0750

Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Lane Series performance: singer-songwriter Richard Sindell. UVM Recital Hall.

Sept. 26, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Conference: "A Service Learning Institute" with keynote speaker Edward Zlotkowski of Bentley College. UVM Conference Center at the Sheraton Hotel. Information: 800-639-3210 or 656-2085

Sept. 29, 3 p.m.
Men's soccer: Catamounts return home from a road trip to play conference rival Sienna at Centennial Field. Information: 1-866-4-CAT-TIX

Sept. 29, 6 p.m.
Community Medical School: "The Risks of Not Eating Enough Fiber: Diverticular Disease," with Dr.

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Dr. Geoff Tabin with patients in Nepal. His work in the region will be featured on an episode of National Geographic Explorer airing Sept. 28. (Photo courtesy of cureblindness.org.)

Professor a National Geographic 'Miracle Doctor'

On a fairly typical recent Friday afternoon, sitting down with Dr. Geoff Tabin in his small University Health Complex office requires slaloming through an obstacle course of large cardboard boxes containing donated intraocular lenses.

"These are going to Nepal," Tabin says.

Tabin is an ophthalmologist, associate professor of surgery and the co-director of the [Himalayan Cataract Project](#), a 9-year-old group that provides medical care and, increasingly, doctor training in an impoverished region with a staggeringly high incidence of cataracts. The group's work is the subject of a National Geographic Ultimate Explorer documentary, "Miracle Doctors," that will air on Sept. 28 at 8 p. m. on the MSNBC cable channel.

To find most dramatic footage possible, the National Geographic crew trekked with Tabin and his cataract project colleagues for a week through the Upper Mustang region of Nepal to a tiny, remote village where residents have little or no access to medical care. The cataracts that patients struggle with there are almost unrecognizable to views from the developed world: they are huge, milky, inexorably growing things that choke off all vision. With a relatively simple procedure in a field hospital, these totally blind people can once again see.

"It really is a kind of miracle," Tabin says. "You're taking a person who is totally blind, and then they can see. The producers needed a blur for

Gund Study Finds Vermont's Economic Well-Being Double the National Average

Burlington's much talked about quality of life seems to place it on a new "top ten" list every week. Now there's quantitative data to support the idea that life is better in Vermont's largest city — as well as in the Green Mountain State itself.

According to a comprehensive measure of economic and social welfare called the Genuine Progress Indicator, which takes into account factors like income distribution, the cost of crime, the loss of leisure time, and the erosion of non-renewable resources, Burlington, Chittenden County, and Vermont scored approximately double the national average in the year 2000.

Tipping the scales for the city, region, and state was a much better environmental performance than the nation had overall.

"Traditional measures of economic progress like the Gross Domestic Product don't tell the whole story," said Robert Costanza, director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, which performed the GPI analyses in collaboration with students in a class Costanza teaches.

"Many things that contribute to a growing GDP, for instance, clearly don't benefit society," he said. "An oil spill increases GDP, because people are paid to clean it up, but it detracts from our well being." In addition, Costanza said, GDP leaves out many things that do enhance welfare but are not part of the market economy — the unpaid work of mothers or father who stay home to care for their children, for example.

Costanza and his students prepared the GPI report for the Burlington Legacy Project, which co-sponsored it along with the Champlain Initiative. The Legacy Project has involved thousands of residents throughout Burlington in planning for the economic, environmental and social health of the city over the next 30 years.

The Champlain Initiative works with residents across the county to implement a broad vision of what a "healthy community" should be.

While GPI analyses of national economies are common, they have never before been performed at the regional and state level, Costanza said. "States and communities need better economic indicators of economic progress, just like nations do," said Costanza. "Part of our goal was to show that the model works at a smaller scale," he said.

the *TV Guide*, and he called back to New York on a satellite phone and said, 'I've just been watching miracles.'"

Setting up a field surgery camp in such a far-flung location — and not to mention locating and brining in blind patients, many who trekked for days carried by their families — was a huge effort, one that needed to be repeated twice over three years because of the vagaries of television production. Tabin says the effort was worth it: "My hopes for this are, as always, big. I'm hoping this will help attract a significant amount of funding to expand our hospital in Kathmandu."

As the cataract project has grown over the years, it now devotes much of its effort to building an infrastructure for eye care in the region. It does this by training surgeons, nurses and ophthalmologic assistants who work through the entire region. Instead of just dropping in foreign specialists to provide care, the group is building facilities and training locals to staff them. Tabin finds this work nerve-wracking at times (teaching surgery, he says, is far more stressful than performing it), but ultimately deeply rewarding.

"It's a thrill to see a doctor you work with develop. One year, they're telling you, 'Last year I was making 609 surgeries, sir', and then the next year you come back and it's 1,740 surgeries. It's great watching a physician who three years before was mediocre, and is now absolutely superb."

"Miracle Doctors" will also air on Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. on MSNBC.

New Bus Links UVM, Montpelier

Commuting UVM faculty and staff can now leave their wheels at home thanks to a new bus that runs between Washington and Chittenden counties.

Offered through a partnership between the Chittenden County Transportation Authority and the Green Mountain Transit Agency, the bus, called the LINK Express, began service on Sept. 22.

Commuters can choose from two morning trips and two evening trips that offer stops in Montpelier, Waterbury, Richmond and Burlington. The morning runs leave from Montpelier at 6:30 and 7:30 a.m. and evening runs depart from Burlington at 5:22 and 6:22 p.m. The campus stop is on the Fletcher Allen Health Care circle that abuts the Fleming Museum. The full trip from Montpelier to Fletcher Allen takes about 70 minutes.

Fares include a \$3.00 charge each way or a monthly pass is \$99.

For more information, including a complete service schedule, call CCTA at 866-864-0211.

The GPI was developed ten years ago by the Oakland, Calif.-based group Redefining Progress, Costanza said, to provide a more comprehensive picture of economic welfare, one that adjusts economic activity for social and environmental factors.

The GPI is derived by collecting data in 26 categories, including income, adjusted by the way it is distributed in the community; the estimated value of household and volunteer work; the benefit and costs of highway systems; the cost of water, air, and noise pollution; the estimated cost of societal negatives like crime, divorce, and diminished leisure time; and the cost of depleted natural resources like wetlands and forests.

Costanza and his group put the data in per capita terms so they could compare local, state, and national scores. The respective per capita GPI scores of Burlington, Chittenden County, and Vermont were \$15,975, \$18,339, and \$17,887, compared with the national per capita score of \$8,692.

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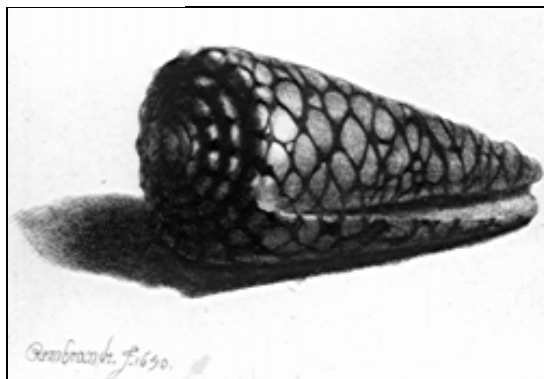
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Truth and lines: Rembrandt's etchings reveal aspects of the painter's character that inform his larger, more famous works. The Fleming Show opens to the UVM community on Sept. 25. (Publicity detail: Fleming Museum)

Distinguished Lecture Looks at Child-Rearing

Do we raise our children like we were raised? Are children in America brought up differently than children in other countries? Should we question our childrearing traditions?

Anthropologist Meredith Small will address these questions in her talk on "The Natural History of Babies" on Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. in Billings Student Center's North Lounge. The event is part of the President's Distinguished Lecture Series.

"Human infants, like all babies, come into this world with expectations," says Small. "Our babies, being primates, expect constant contact, attention to their needs, feeding, and social interaction."

But the biological expectations of babies and the cultural traditions of parents "are sometimes at odds with what babies need and expect," explains Small.

A faculty member at Cornell University and a primate behaviorist, Small's research currently focuses on how human behavior is influenced by biology and culture. Small frequently discusses her work on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" program and her writing appears in *Discover*, *Natural History*, *Scientific American* and *New Scientist* magazines. She has written several books, including, *What's Love Got to Do With It?* and *Our Babies, Ourselves: How Biology and Culture Shape the Way We Parent*. Her next book, still a work-in-progress, explores mental health across cultures.

"Words and Music" Together on Sept. 25

Experimental. Revolutionary. Political. Celebrants of the breadth of black culture. These terms have been used to describe poets Sonia Sanchez and Ursula Rucker and jazz legends Odeon Pope and Tyrone Brown. The four artists will present "Words and Music" at 5 p.m. on Sept. 25 at the Billings Apse.

In addition to performing their own work, the artists are expected to share some collaborative pieces. "I would not be surprised if they decide to turn the event into a poetry jam," says Major Jackson, assistant professor of English, who is coordinating the event through the department's Writing Workshop.

Sonia Sanchez was among a wave of women writers, such as Toni Morrison, Alice Walker and Maya Angelou, who took the publishing world by storm in the 1970s with their powerful narratives about what it meant to be black, female, poor, laborers, artists and mothers. A pioneer in developing black studies courses at what is now San Francisco State University, Sanchez is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, including *Does Your House Have Lions?* which was nominated for both the NAACP Image and National Book Critics Circle Award. She is also the recipient of the Robert Frost Medal for distinguished lifetime achievement from the Poetry Society of America.

Ursula Rucker is one of the premiere spoken-word recording artists in the music industry today. From her first spoken word recording, the 1994 club classic, "Supernatural," to her collaborations with alternative rappers and fellow Philadelphians "The Roots," she provides listeners with unsettling glimpses of urban reality. "Some of us have to crack the whip, pull the reins, wake people up and snap them back," Rucker has said of her work.

It's clear why Jazz icon Max Roach has enlisted tenor saxophonist Odeon Pope and bassist Tyrone Brown to play in his bands since the 1960s. Pope, who's been called "a true jazz fan's dream," is known for swooping melodies and sparse arrangements with an emphasis on harmonic density. Brown, who is also a composer, arranger and educator, has recorded 85 CDs to date and teaches master classes throughout the world.

"Words and Music" is presented by The Writers' Workshop and the ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Department, with funding provided by the James & Mary Brigham Buckham Fund. Free and open to the public. Information: 656-3056.

Small's lecture is the second this semester in the lecture series established by President Daniel Mark Fogel in October 2002. Funded by discretionary gift funds, the series brings top researchers to campus to enhance the academic experience, showcase faculty, students and programs and bring the campus community together regularly.

For more information about Small's lecture, contact Pat Erickson, animal sciences lecturer and program host, at 656-1338 or patricia.erickson@uvm.edu.

The next lecture in the series will be delivered by Peter Ellison, John Cowles Professor of Anthropology and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University. Ellison will speak on "Evolutionary Ecology and Human Reproduction" on Oct. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. in John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. See [Distinguished Lecture Series](#) for more upcoming events.

Professors to Participate in Flynn Center Enviro Panel

A public panel discussion to address "a sense of place and the call to act" in defense and witness of the natural world will take place on Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Flynn Center's Amy E. Tarrant Gallery.

Panelists include Jon Erickson, associate professor of ecological economics; Stephanie Kaza, ecofeminist and associate professor of environmental ethics; multi-disciplinary artist Bill Botzow; choreographer Hannah Dennison; Marjorie Ryerson, a photographer, author and communications professor at Castleton State College; and Flynn visiting artist Robin Holcomb. Don DeHayes, dean of the School of Natural Resources, will moderate.

The free discussion is sponsored by UVM's President's Initiatives for Diversity and the Vermont Humanities Council, and inspired by the Flynn's Oct. 2, 3 and 4 presentations of performer Robin Holcomb's "O Say a Sunset," a musical celebration of Rachel Carson's landmark book, *Silent Spring*. For performance information and tickets, go to [Robin Holcomb "O Say a Sunset"](#).

October is Deaf and Disability Month

A kick-off rally at noon on Oct. 1 on the Bailey/Howe Library steps will launch Deaf and Disability Month at UVM. Throughout October, free public activities will heighten awareness and promote support and understanding of the deaf and people with disabilities. Among topics to be explored in workshops, lectures, films and panel discussions are depression on college campuses, autism, learning disorders and epilepsy.

Great strides have been made in recent decades to make employment, education and many elements of community life accessible to people with disabilities. But problems still exist — not only physical barriers to transportation, buildings and public spaces, but also psychological impediments such as misunderstanding, prejudice and exclusion.

Now in its seventh year, Deaf and Disability Month provides an excellent forum for both UVM affiliates and the broader community to examine their attitudes and beliefs about disabilities and to learn more about the importance of equal opportunity, access and diversity. It is sponsored by the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity with the support of several other campus organizations.

A few highlight events from the month's programs:

- Oct. 8, 5:30 p.m., Memorial Lounge: Reading and discussion with Kenny Fries, author and poet.
- Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m., John Dewey Lounge: Discussion on veterans and disability with Will Miller, assistant professor of philosophy.
- Oct. 22, 9:30 a.m., Center for Teaching Learning (third floor, Bailey/Howe): Class on accessible Web design with Laurel Pitts.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, or to request an accommodation, go to [Deaf and Disability Awareness Month](#) or call 656-3368.

Symposium Tackles Environmental Chemistry

The 22nd annual Esther and Bingham J. Humphrey Memorial Symposium in Chemistry will focus on environmental chemistry, with speakers from the California Institute of Technology and the University of North Carolina.

The free event will take place on Sept. 27 in the Cook Physical Science Building and the Angell Lecture hall. Registration is required. For information, as well as a full agenda and biographical profiles of speakers, go to: [Humphrey Symposium](#).

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Awards and Honors

Milton ("Buddy") Tignor, assistant professor of plant and soil sciences, received a \$247,563 USDA Multi-state Higher Education Challenge Grant for a proposal titled "Multimedia Instrument for Worldwide Greenhouse Education." Also involved with the project are Gene Giacomelli and Chieri Kubota (University of Arizona), Tracy Irani and Sandra Wilson (University of Florida), and Margaret McMahon (Ohio State University). This multidisciplinary group has individuals with expertise in horticulture, engineering, and agricultural education."

Matthew Wilson, assistant research professor in the School of Business Administration and the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, was recently awarded a competitive subcontract to work with Steven Wratten and Ross Cullen at Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand. The research project will extend until 2007 and will analyze and model the value to New Zealand of ecosystem services for key New Zealand productive sectors (arable, pasture and horticulture) and enhance ecosystem services and natural capital in the three sectors above to improve naturally occurring biological control of pests and diseases.

University of Vermont Fulbright Scholars **Kathleen Manning**, an associate professor of integrated and professional studies, and **Howard Ball**, emeritus professor of political science, were among 10 2002-03 Fulbright Scholars who will be recognized at a presentation on Sept. 24 in the Vermont Statehouse. Manning studied in China, while Ball went to Bulgaria.

Publications and Presentations

Kurt Oughstun, professor of electrical engineering, mathematics and computer science, presented a paper on his recent research at the Gordon Research Conference on Nonlinear Optics and Lasers at Colby-Sawyer College.

Marilyn Lucas, assistant professor of business administration, in collaboration with Chuck Nicholson of Cornell University, published an article titled "Subsidized Vehicle Acquisition and Earned Income in the Transition from Welfare to Work" in the journal *Transportation*. The study examines the extent to which participation in a small-scale vehicle donation-and-sales program (Good News Garage) increases earned income of individuals in transition from welfare to work in Vermont.

Declan Connolly, an associate professor in the College of Education and Social Services, was quoted extensively in a Sept. 22 article in the *New York Times*, "You Took a Pill. You Still Hurt. Here's Why." The story drew upon a review article that Connolly co-authored in the *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research* casting doubt that even high doses of ibuprofen prevent muscle soreness.

September 17 – 23, 2003

Awards and Honors

Sandra Musters and **Emma Wall**, graduate students in the Department of Animal Science, won top national and regional awards for scientific presentations. Musters won first place in a national competition among 50 U.S. land-grant colleges at the annual conference of the American Dairy Science Association (production division) in Phoenix, Ariz. Wall won first place in the

Northeast competition of the combined American Dairy Science Association./ American Society of Animal Science meeting held at the same location.

Karen Plaut, professor and chair of animal science, received a three-year \$949,000 grant through NASA's Fundamental Space Biology Program. Plaut and two NASA scientists are studying the effects of hypergravity on metabolic activity in pregnant rats. This research is done at the NASA-Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif. Plaut and colleagues will make presentations on this ongoing research at the American Society for Gravitational and Space Biology Conference in November.

Dr. **Steven Shackford**, professor and chair of surgery, has been elected as President Elect of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma. The national organization aims to furnish leadership in the field and foster advances in trauma surgery.

The **Center on Disability and Community Inclusion** has again been recognized by the federal Administration on Developmental Disabilities as a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities. This July, the branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded CDCI a five-year grant to continue activities of research and evaluation, personnel development, community outreach, and dissemination related to people with disabilities and their families toward the goal of total community inclusion.

Publications and Presentations

Antonello Borra, assistant professor of romance languages, and **Adriana Borra**, a lecturer in the department, published a translation of a German novel, *Vor aller Zeit*, in Italy as *Prima di tutti i tempi*. Antonello Borra also published some poems this summer in the Italian magazine *Il Quaderno*.

Sept. 10 – 17, 2003

Publications and Presentations

Lyndon Carew, professor of animal science, and **Valerie Chamberlain**, emerita professor of nutrition and food sciences, published a paper "Using Class Newsletters to Enhance Learning" in the *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences* Co-authors were Christine Hanson and Fran Alster.

Donna Kuizenga, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of romance languages, recently published an article, "*Une Altérité voilée: images de l'Afrique dans la fiction de Madame de Villegieu*" in a collection of articles on images of Africa in the 17th century edited by Professor Alia Baccar Bournaz of the University of Tunis.

Wolfgang Mieder, professor and chair of German and Russian, has edited the twentieth volume of *Proverbium* published at the University of Vermont with the support of the College of Arts and Sciences and the University Bookstore.

Juan Maura, associate professor of romance languages, contributed an essay, "*Refranes y adagios en la Historia general de las cosas de la Nueva España: Paradigma de la paremiología mexicana*." **Kevin McKenna** and **Kenneth**

Nalibow, both professors of German and Russian, are represented by an article and book review. McKenna's illustrated article is titled "A Nation Adrift: The Russian 'Ship of State' in *Pravda* Political Cartoons during the Decade of the 1990's," while Nalibow reviewed a *Russian-English Dictionary of Phraseology*. Mieder's essay is titled "Government of the People, by the People, for the People: The Making and Meaning of an American Proverb of Democracy." He also contributed an article, "The Proverbial Carl Sandburg (1878-1967): An Index of Folk Speech in His American Poetry," with co-author George B. Bryan, emeritus professor of history. Bryan passed away seven years ago, but the paper was based on one of the many projects that he and Mieder were working on at the time of his untimely death.

Wolfgang Mieder's Katherine Briggs Memorial Lecture at the University of London in 2002 was published as "Good Fences Make Good Neighbors: History and Significance of an Ambiguous Proverb" in the journal *Folklore*. The paper traces the origin and dissemination of the common proverb and also deals with its lexicographical registration in dictionaries and its use in literature (Robert Frost), legal argumentation and international politics.

UVM's **Vermont Lung Center** is hosting the 2003 meeting of the "Flow-Volume Underworld," a secret society of international lung mechanics scientists that has met every three years since 1964, alternating between U.S. and European locations. **Charles Irvin**, professor of medicine and director of the Vermont Lung Center, coordinated the meeting, which is taking place at the Grand Isle Lake House Sept. 10-13. The first "Flow-Volume Underworld" meeting was initiated by a group of researchers and physicians with a common interest in measuring lung mechanics in humans, including flow-volume curve co-inventor and Mayo Clinic researcher Dr. Robert Hyatt.

Betty Rambur, dean of College of Nursing and Health Sciences, **Mary Val Palumbo**, director of the Office of Nursing Workforce Research Planning, and Development, **Barbara McIntosh**, associate professor of business administration, and Joan Mongeon, data analyst in health biostatistics, had an article, "A statewide analysis of Rns' intention to leave their position," appear in the August/September issue of *Nursing Outlook, the Journal of the American Academy of Nursing*. The research was funded by a Federal Rural Health Outreach Grant and the Vermont Agency of Human Services.

Awards and Honors

The following members of the College of Medicine's Class of 2004 were recently elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society: **Amir Ajar; Amy Branning; Shuriz Hishmeh; Brandon Lawrence; Melissa Myrsiades; Priti Patel; Julie Phillips; David Scalzo; Dishant Shah; Elisha Tilton; Darren Volpe;** and **Julie Wilbur**. Class of 2004 members **Susan Campbell, Carolyn Come, Kerry Sibert** and **Lavone Simmons** were elected to the AOA Honor Medical Society in April 2003. AOA faculty councilor Dr. **William Raszka**, associate professor of pediatrics, and **Nancy Moreland**, a staff member from the department of pediatrics, coordinated the election process.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Greene, associate professor of animal science, was honored with the 2003 National Outstanding Young Professional Award by the Equine Nutrition and Physiology Society. The award is for meritorious contributions to equine science, in teaching, research, public service or industry by members under the age of 40. Greene was noted for her work on equine safety with the industry and has developed video as well as written materials used widely in the industry. She has also been a leader in using technology in the classroom and for extension activities.

Sept. 3, 2003

Publications and Presentations

Gale Burford, professor of Social Work, gave invited lectures at the Center for Social Work in Copenhagen, Denmark and the University of Southampton in England during June. Burford consulted with local area social work teams while in Denmark and England and gave a one-day lecture/workshop at the Children's Bureau in London titled, "Planning for Safety: Families Using Family Group Conferences to Halt Family Violence."

Sanjeeva Murthy, associate professor of physics, published a paper with R.G. Bray titled, "Structure and Properties of Polyamide 6 and 4--Aminomethylcyclohexane Carboxylic Copolymers with an Unusually Short Helical Pitch for Nylons" in the August Issue of the journal *Polymer*.

Mark Nelson, chair and professor of pharmacology, and **Adrian Bonev**, research assistant professor of pharmacology, are co-authors of a paper in the Sept. 1 *Journal of Clinical Investigation* titled, "Modulation of the molecular composition of large conductance Ca²⁺ activated K⁺ channels in vascular smooth muscle during hypertension." The research, conducted by Nelson, Bonev and their co-authors from the department of physiology and biophysics at the University of Washington, was funded in part by the National Institutes of Health, as well as a Totman Medical Research Trust award.

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Making Sense of Mountains

By Lynda Majarian



More than scenery: The gorgeous peaks of Milford Sound offer UVM geologists rare insights into the forces that make (and move) mountains. (Photo courtesy of Keith Klepeis.)

An earthquake registering 7.1 on the Richter scale rocked southern New Zealand on Aug. 22, triggering more than 475 landslides, and sparking a thriving trade in commemorative t-shirts and offers of free counseling for people made anxious by the tremors.

Keith Klepeis and Tracy Rushmer, assistant professors of geology, took special interest in the quake, as it occurred along a mountain belt on Milford

Sound in South Island, Fiordland that has long been the focus of their research. To date, their studies have revealed the mechanisms that generated and transported magma through the lower continental crust, and how these processes affected the formation of mountains over millions of years.

In January, their joint paper on mountain-building dynamics made the cover of the journal *Geological Society of America Today*. And this spring, they led a geological society-sponsored field forum that brought scientists to Fiordland via ferry, helicopter and the research vessel, the Milford Wanderer.

"This was a special opportunity for us to test new ideas about how mountains form and evolve with a group of leading scientists," says Klepeis, a structural and field geologist. The excursion also gave the 30 scientists — who will continue their discussions in December during a special session at the international meeting of the American Geophysical Union — the chance to study geological features they can't see anywhere else.

Finding fault

Although mountains exist on all continents and in all ocean basins, scientists understand relatively little about how they are formed and destroyed, change over time and affect the earth's climate. A primary obstacle is that the relevant processes operate at very deep levels of the earth's crust and occur over millions to tens of millions of years.

And like icebergs, 90 percent of most mountains lie beneath the surface. The Fiordland mountains, however, have unusually deep exposures that provide scientists with a rare peek at geological processes that occur beneath the earth's surface, such as crustal melting, melt migration and rock deformation.

After millions of years in the making, those exposures were created about 6.4 million years ago, Klepeis says, due to the intense compression that resulted from a collision between the Australian and Pacific plates. "The same compression created the Southern Alps mountain chain and helped to propel material that originally formed as far as 50 kilometers down to 'pop' to the surface," he explains.

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[Guarding the Farm](#)

Since the outbreak of mad cow disease that scared beef eaters in England in 1993, the 2001 epidemic of foot and mouth disease, and the increased threat of diseases spread by terrorists, "biosecurity" has become a word uttered frequently in agricultural circles.

[Rembrandt at the Fleming](#)

The Fleming Museum's Andy Warhol exhibit had barely closed this June when Rembrandt van Rijn, packing three centuries of fame and counting, moved in. "Rembrandt and the Art of Etching" is the latest in a string of big-name shows at the Fleming.

[Aiken at the Plate](#)

The Sept. 19 meeting of the annual George D. Aiken Lectures looked at food issues from a multiplicity of angles — tapping diverse viewpoints ranging from farmers to chefs to health experts.

The recent earthquake ruptured a fault that runs almost the length of the mountain belt, creating even more exposures that can provide valuable new information about the characteristics of an especially enigmatic part of the inner earth: the lower crust.

An unusual approach

The integrated approach Klepeis and Rushmer bring to their research is nearly as unique as the mountains they study. Experimental petrologists like Rushmer, for instance, usually don't venture into the field or conduct research on material from a specific site. Instead, they conduct laboratory experiments that allow them to make general observations.

"This gives you more bang for your research buck," explains Rushmer, whose interests lie in the broad field of the growth and evolution of the earth's continental crust. But she became intrigued by Klepeis's research in Fiordland, and felt she could make a contribution. In the process, she discovered how much an experimentalist can benefit from time spent in the field.

"By personally collecting samples," she says, "I was able to study materials at their source, and to choose specific samples for experiments."

In the Department of Geology's rock deformation laboratory, Rushmer applies internal pressure and high temperatures to these samples, mimicking conditions she observed in the field to recreate microstructures such as cracking, and to induce mineral reactions that produce what geologists call "partial melt."

It is actually possible to melt a rock into a puddle of minerals, but Rushmer says she finds it most useful for her deformation experiments to work with rocks "in a state just before they turn to mush."

Adding another facet to the research is University of Maine geologist Peter Koons, who creates computer models that test how mountains behave on a larger scale. "He provides an important theoretical perspective," Rushmer notes.

Collaborative research can not only add a big piece to the puzzle of how tectonic processes operate within the earth, it is also becoming an essential component of successful grant proposals. The National Science Foundation has adopted a data sharing policy, and a major project created under its auspices, called Earthscope, will rely on scientists working collectively to map the entire North American continent.

As a steering committee member of the year-old Integrated Solid Earth Sciences organization, Rushmer works to encourage geologists in different disciplines to talk to each other and share their findings more collaboratively.

"Geologists don't combine resources as often as we should," she says, "but this has to happen if we are to make major advances in earth science."

theview

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86 South Williams Street
Burlington, Vermont
05401-3404

pho 802.656.2005
fax 802.656.3203

theview@uvm.edu

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Guarding the Farm

By Cheryl Dorschner



New guide, new model: Julie Smith hopes her writing on farm biosecurity in Vermont serves as an example for other other states. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

extension assistant professor, has in mind.

"We don't want it to be a scary thing, but we want people to take precautions," Smith says.

A book of guidance

Biosecurity is just a new-millennium moniker for a very old idea. It refers to the practices that help keep people and animals safe from spreading disease.

Tales of the spread of diseases throughout history are legion. Even well-educated agriculturists make mistakes. Smith recounts a story well-known in farm lore. "Back in 1946, Francis Fox, now professor emeritus of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, first described a 'new' cattle affliction called bovine virus diarrhea. And he was among the first to spread it." Between Fox's traipsing around to inspect various herds and concerned farmers subsequently visiting and checking each others' farms, cattle throughout the territory rapidly contracted the ailment.

Despite heightened awareness, the problem remains almost 60 years later. While most people won't catch diseases from farm animals, they often carry problems from one animal or farm to another via such simple acts as children moving through a barn letting calves lick their fingers or tourists walking from one barn to another wearing their street shoes.

Seeing the need to help today's Vermont farmers spread the word about safety and thwart the spread of disease while defusing the fear factor, Smith spent the past year writing a plain-talk handbook called "Healthy Farms – Healthy Agriculture." On press now, the 117-page binder notebook will be available and distributed to 2,200 animal owners statewide in October. The booklet could become a model for other states.

As the "Healthy Farms – Healthy Agriculture" title indicates, the practices recommended within "link the health of individual farms with the health of agriculture in all of Vermont," says Smith. "This is a visual reminder for farmers of how to protect their investment."

"Farms need to address the points at which diseases may enter, such as from

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And yet, the idea of farm biosecurity still conjures all the alarms of a Michael Crichton novel. But that's not at all what Julie Smith, a veterinarian and

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Rembrandt at the Fleming

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people, other livestock and wildlife," Smith says. This book addresses each of these three topics and includes fact sheets on 19 livestock diseases, guidelines for exhibitions, and information to give children and school groups who visit. After following the book's guidelines for assessing their own properties, farmers "should start discussions with the people who regularly visit their farms," says Smith.

It's the people who visit farms every day who are most likely to spread animal diseases: the veterinarians, supply deliveries, salespeople, hoof trimmers and the like. The "Healthy Farms – Healthy Agriculture" notebook is for them as much as the farmers themselves. "Some farmers may already know this stuff, but having this booklet enables the farmer to back up his requests to service people with an authority," says farm owner Beth Kennett of Rochester, Vt. "We often have to educate them."

Kennett's Liberty Hill Farm bed and breakfast draws 1,200 visitors a year for three to 10-day farm vacations in addition to school groups, drop-in visitors and service people, so Kennett is expert at keeping her 160 Holsteins healthy while making the safety practices innovative and subtle.

Making connections

While many farms now ask visitors to put plastic coverings over their shoes when they enter barns, Kennett has an antique chest on her front porch brimming with rubber boots in all sizes and colors. "We make it fun. Visitors think I'm being sensitive to them, but I'm protecting my animals," Kennett says. "We have a washing station, visitors use when they leave, and I tell kids that now we have to wash our paws."

Kennett makes sure entrances that visitors can use are clearly marked and that some areas are clearly off limits. "There are a number of things that farms can do easily without a big investment," she says.

Biosecurity is a lesson, Kennett and Smith agree, in how people are connected to each other and to agriculture and in the importance of protecting both.

Smith completed the new guide with help from interns Jen Ather, Mark Murray and Leah Yandow and funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Inspection Service.

A Web version of "Healthy Farms – Healthy Agriculture" will be online on Sept. 26. *the view* will publish the link when it is available.

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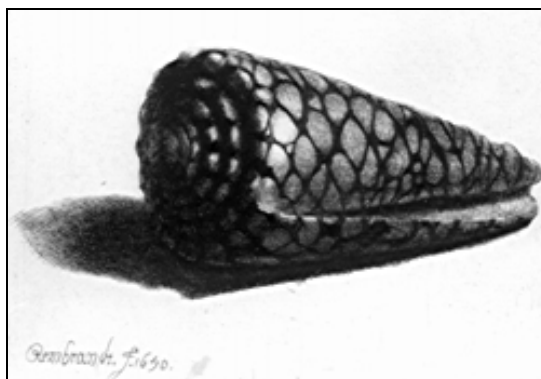
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UVM HOMEPAGE

Rembrandt at the Fleming

By Tom Weaver



Truth and lines: Rembrandt's etchings reveal aspects of the painter's character that inform his larger, more famous works. The Fleming Show opens to the UVM community on Sept. 25. (*Publicity detail: Fleming Museum*)

The Fleming Museum's Andy Warhol exhibit had barely closed this June when Rembrandt van Rijn, packing three centuries of fame and counting, moved in. "Rembrandt and the Art of Etching" is the latest in a string of big-name shows at the Fleming featuring artists who are going to get nods from the collector, the dilettante, or even the guy on the bus reading *The Sporting News*.

The Vermont stop is the lone North American visit for this Rembrandt House Museum traveling

show, which has primarily been displayed in South America. After it closed in Brazil, it had nowhere to go, hence the early stop at the Fleming, where the rare works went into dark storage for a couple of months as the museum staff prepped for the opening. After the Burlington show, which runs Sept. 28 (or Sept. 25 for UVMers in a "sneak preview") through Dec. 14, it's back to Amsterdam.

The heart of the show is 84 Rembrandt etchings — the display also includes 31 prints by his predecessors and followers. Fleming Museum Director Janie Cohen says that Rembrandt's name generally evokes thoughts of his paintings — a mammoth canvas like "The Nightwatch," the mastery of light and shadow — but there's much to be said for the humbler mediums. "The works on paper are always close to my heart because of the intimacy," Cohen says. "There's a formality that is a part of painting, but in these sketches you can see the artist thinking and working things out."

Rembrandt's highly realistic works offer a window on 17th-century Dutch life, often an intimate, highly personal window. Cohen smiles as she describes one of her favorite prints. As with many of his works, Rembrandt's wife, Saskia, was the model who posed nude to depict the mythological Susanna at her bath. Look closely, Cohen advises, and you'll see the imprint of Saskia/Susanna's sock on her ankle. "The reality of the person and his relationship comes through. He didn't idealize," Cohen says.

It was that immediacy and emotion combined with his etching technique that drew Pablo Picasso to Rembrandt's work. And Picasso would prove to be the Fleming Museum's link to the Rembrandt House Museum, when Janie Cohen came to know the Rembrandt's director, Ed de Heer, and staff while doing her graduate work at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts. Cohen focused on Rembrandt's influence on Francisco Goya and Picasso.

A series of Fleming Museum lectures and events throughout the fall semester will further illuminate Rembrandt's work and his times. Highlights include a talk on "Rembrandt as Printmaker" by Bob van den Boogert, curator of the Rembrandt House Museum, on Thursday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. The museum's regular Wednesday lunchtime talks will explore Rembrandt from various angles

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(see the end of this story for the current schedule) and the annual Community Family Day on Saturday, Nov. 1, "The World of Rembrandt," will have a Dutch flavor as well. For more on Fleming programming, see [Fleming Events](#).

There will be an opening reception for the academic community, hosted by Provost John Bramley, on Thursday, September 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. The event is free for students, faculty, and staff of UVM and academic affiliates. President Fogel and Rachel Kahn-Fogel will host an opening reception for museum members and the public on Sunday, September 28 from 4 to 6 p.m. The event is free to museum members.

Other scheduled Rembrandt events:

- Oct. 8: Ann Clark, associate professor of religion, on "Human and Divine Intersections: Biblical Stories in Rembrandt"
- Oct. 22: David Smith, professor of art and art history at the University of New Hampshire, on "Landscape and Prose Style in Rembrandt's Etching."
- Nov. 5: Janie Cohen, director of the Fleming, on "Picasso's Passion for Rembrandt's Prints."
- Kelley Helmstutler-Di Dio, assistant professor of art, on "Rembrandt's Self-Portrait's and the Social Status of the Artist."

The above talks all begin at 12:15 p.m. in the museum's Marble Court.

For more on Rembrandt, his art, and the upcoming Fleming Museum exhibit, see [Rembrandt Exhibit](#).

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Roger Kayser, a campus chef for Sodexo, serves Vermont farmstead cheeses at the Aiken Lectures. (Photo: Andy Grayson)

The Sept. 19 meeting of the annual George D. Aiken Lectures looked at food issues from a multiplicity of angles:

- Elena Garcia, apple expert and extension assistant professor, told a clutch of folks reaching into wooden apple crates for free samples from Allenholm Orchards that the "Vermont Gold" apple was developed and patented by William Luginbuhl, former dean of UVM's medical school

and a skilled amateur horticulturist. She explained why scrumptious fruits like these would never make it to big-box supermarkets.

- David Shepard made a deal with a visitor to his booth to pick up a bushel or two of her garden cucumbers, saying Vermont Foodbank makes house calls. Drivers are regularly called to stop at homes, party sites, farm stands, schools and anywhere people have extra food they'd like to donate. This nonprofit redistributes food throughout the state either as is or in meals concocted in food bank kitchens.
- Editors Allison Cleary, Patsy Jamieson and Robin Edelman handed out the latest issue of the recently relaunched *Eating Well*, a Charlotte-based national magazine that delivers equal doses of nutrition and science news along with recipes and menus aimed at healthy, delicious dining.

These three — like the dozens of other exhibitors rimming Patrick Gymnasium — each brought a different approach to the cornucopia of issues surrounding food: marketability, hunger, nutrition, taste, local ownership, history, sustainability, education. In the center of the ring, the conversation continued, with 20 speakers and an actively questioning audience taking turns grappling with the twin giants: obesity and America's supersized food system.

The event, titled "Agriculture? Advertising? Industry? Who Chooses the Food You Eat?", drew about 750 people and framed food issues by focusing on America's most popular edibles: chicken, dairy and potatoes.

Attendees strolled the green-tarp-covered floor of the gym or sat in folding chairs, gathering brown bags of red, white and blue heirloom potatoes and recipes for mustard-roasted spuds to try at home. The 4:30 p.m. crowd was treated an elegant repast of Vermont cheeses: smoked cheddar, water buffalo mozzarella, chevre and others offered by Sodexo Campus Services.

A scary system

Nutritionist Rachel Johnson captured the attention of the crowd by starting her talk by saying that "we have a health emergency in the U.S. — an obesity epidemic."

"Over 60 percent of American adults are overweight and these numbers are increasing at an alarming rate," said Johnson, who is also dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "We are particularly concerned about the

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rapid increase in childhood obesity. This may be the first generation of children that doesn't live as long as their parents. Obesity has the potential to crush our health-care system."

"Six million kids are seriously overweight – what are families supposed to do?" asked a *Life* magazine cover as recently as 2000. But now experts are beginning to shift the blame away from individuals and toward larger structures.

"By the time we get to the supermarket or restaurant and are making a personal choice about what to eat, dozens of choices have been made: what to grow, how to grow it, how to preserve or change it, how to transport it and how to sell it," Johnson said.

Picking up the theme in her keynote address, Marion Nestle, a department chair at New York University and author of *Safe Food* and *Food Politics*, said, "Most people talk about personal choice, but I think the food system is a huge elephant under the carpet that no one wants to talk about."

"It's a tough issue," agreed Bill Heffernan, a University of Missouri professor. "It needs a large public dialogue, and we've got to come up with a better way. Most economists would have you believe that the system we have is inevitable. That's hogwash! That's why we're having this conference."

Savoring solutions

"The irony is that at a time when hundreds of millions of people don't have enough to eat...our food supply provides 3,900 calories a day for every U.S. person – much of it wasted," said Nestle. She ticked off statistics on food costs, average calorie intake versus exercise, comparisons between the USDA Food Guide Pyramid and actual consumption, supplements in food, lobby influence, portion size, advertising and marketing – especially to school children.

To change America's food system, Nestle says we need to implement national goals, state nutritional messages explicitly, eliminate food marketing in schools, regulate television advertising, adjust food prices and tax policies, eliminate farm supports and regulate campaign spending.

"Join me in watching this unfold. This an exciting time," said Nestle. "I think many of the changes will be positive and I hope you'll help me make these changes happen. Go cause trouble!"

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