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UVM HOMEPAGE

## [A Hydrological Spine Runs Through It](#)



Athletic Campus' new outdoor amphitheater to the east of the University Heights Residential Learning Complex features an eco-friendly design, with wetland plants filtering stormwater run-off. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

UVM's newest classroom/lounge/concert hall/performance space has a capacity of approximately 250 and affords the best views of Mount Mansfield on campus. This new outdoor amphitheater between Austin and Millis residence halls is the centerpiece of the visually striking and eco-friendly landscape design at the new University Heights Residential Learning Complex, which was dedicated on September 27.

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### [Smoothing the Transfer Transition](#)

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[Maine Ingredient](#) Every morning, Renee Rickard gets out of bed, fixes a quick breakfast, and walks out her front door, which lies almost in the shadow of Maine Medical Center's (MMC) imposing Victorian Gothic tower. Rickard is part of a three-decade tradition that has seen more than a thousand UVM College of Medicine students receive part of their clinical education 200 miles and two states away from Burlington.

### THE WEEK IN VIEW

*September 30, 7:30 p.m.*  
Faculty Recital: Paul Orgel, piano. Orgel plays world premier of work by T. L. Read and more.  
UVM Recital Hall.  
Information: 656-7776.

*October 2, 5 p.m.*  
Lecture: "Castros, Citanias, and Roman Towns in Roman Portugal, the New Finds From of Tongobriga," with Rolf Winkes, professor of classical archaeology and the history of art and architecture, Brown University. 301 Williams.  
Information: 656-8242.

*October 3, 6 p.m.*  
Community Medical School: "Sex and the Brain: How Do Male and Female Brains Become Different?" with Cynthia Forehand, professor of anatomy and neurobiology. Carpenter Auditorium, Given.  
Information and Registration: (802) 847-2886

*October 3, 7:30 p.m.*  
Research-in-Progress Seminar #202: "Counting Sheep and Other Critters: Land Use, Soil Fertility and Population in Post-Civil War Vermont," with Christopher Harris, adjunct professor of history, Northeastern University. Memorial Lounge, Waterman.  
Information: 656-8363.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## A Hydrological Spine Runs Through It

### *Amphitheater, wetland to hit the Heights*

By Thomas Weaver

*Article published Sep 26, 2006*

Athletic Campus' new outdoor amphitheater to the east of the University Heights Residential Learning Complex features an eco-friendly design, with wetland plants filtering stormwater run-off. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

UVM's newest classroom / lounge / concert hall / performance space has a capacity of approximately 250 — more if students sit on the grass or perch on the granite boulders — and affords the best views of Mount Mansfield on campus. This new outdoor amphitheater between

Austin and Millis residence halls is the centerpiece of the visually striking and eco-friendly landscape design at the new University Heights Residential Learning Complex, which was dedicated on September 27.

The impact of the new and improved University Heights began to be felt last January when the north complex opened and Honors College students moved in. The south complex followed in August, and the GreenHouse residential learning program took hold. New buildings and residential learning initiatives have transformed the look of that part of campus and the lives of the students who call it home. But important work still remained, and in the early weeks of the semester stone, sod and perennials have taken center stage while landscaping crews hustle to complete the job.

Jason Hutchins points up at the steeply pitched roof of the north complex and shows where the drip line will fall and how water will channel down into the "hydrological spine" running down-slope from west to east. Hutchins is general manager for Landshapes, a Richmond, Vt. landscaping firm that installed the design created by Philadelphia's Andropogon Associates. While his crews work stone into place for a footbridge, Hutchins walks along the stream's course and explains how the water will travel down toward the amphitheater where it will cascade through small waterfalls in a stone grotto before reaching a wetland at the low point on the east end. A cistern and pump system beyond that will cycle the flow of water back to the top.



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Hutchins tallies some of the wetland plants - iris, juncus, carex grass, rushes, sweet ferns - that will not only beautify the area, but also naturally filter a significant amount of the stormwater run-off at the new residential complex. Hutchins says that Landshapes was eager to win the University Heights project because it fit well with their skills in wetlands, ponds, and stonework, but also because they were impressed and intrigued by Andropogon's design. "To trap stormwater and filter it through plants, it's two for one. You clean the water, and you get this beautiful landscape," Hutchins says.

### **'Brushing against the landscape'**

The amphitheater and water course are just part of the overall building siting and landscape design elements created by Andropogon Associates, a pioneering national firm in ecological planning and design. Landscape architect Yaki Miodovnik's words blend practicality with a whiff of mysticism as he describes the prime objectives of the landscaping work. "We want students to brush against the landscape, experience it as much more than something beautiful to look at," he says.

To accomplish that, Miodovnik and colleagues looked to the natural setting beneath the frowsy cluster of ranch houses that, for most locals, is associated with University Heights. They found the advantages of the site such as the gentle slope, southern exposure, and clear views of Mount Mansfield and worked with them.

The landscape architects also looked to create an integration of the new residence halls, those already existing, and the athletic complex to the south. "For the community of students, we wanted to create places they would never forget," Miodovnik says.

Miodovnik is pleased with how the project has translated from design to reality. Site construction is always a collaborative process, he says, and Landshapes' skill with stonework and ideas for combining natural boulders with the cut stone in the amphitheater have been key to creating something special. Miodovnik notes that one of the rewards of a landscape architect's work is the fact that it tends to improve with time as trees grow, plant beds fill in and a site matures. Pity the poor architects who have to stand by and watch as their buildings wear instead of grow.

### **The future is in nature's hands**

As that hydrological spine starts babbling and the serviceberry and sycamore branch out, the future of the site is in nature's hands. But it will also be guided by the faculty, staff, and students who will use it day-to-day. Landshapes' Jason Hutchins says students have stopped and asked him about the work, posed questions like, "Can we put fish in there?" Perhaps not in so many words, but Hutchins suggests fish might be ok, but not litter. "I tell them, 'Enjoy it, take care of it,'" he says.

Faculty Walter Poleman and Steve Libby, who oversee the

environmentally focused programs at GreenHouse, are interested in exploring ways their students could get involved in working with and maintaining the site. Next door at the Honors College, Dean Bob Taylor admits that he's taken aback by how the amphitheater has come together and its potential. "It's just fantastically beautiful," he says and considers the possibilities of such a stage - music, open mike, student plays, readings by student writers.

Taylor and his colleagues heading up the other residential learning communities in this campus neighborhood have started to talk about the site's future. With a spirit of democracy befitting such a truly public forum, Taylor suggests who should be involved with planning ways to put the amphitheater to good use. Students? Faculty? Administration? "We should be throwing it out there to everybody," Taylor says.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Smoothing the Transfer Transition

By Jon Reidel

Article published Sep 27, 2006



Dave Pawlik, a transfer from Pace University, is one of 361 transfer students to enter the university in the fall of 2006. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Each fall, UVM welcomes more than 350 new students whose circuitous route to campus sets them apart from traditional first-year arrivals. Many of them wanted to attend the state's flagship institution but needed to take care of some business first. Others didn't plan to come here initially but

had a change of heart.

Regardless of how they got here, the university's current transfer students account for 15.5 percent of the 9,040 undergraduates. Sometimes referred to as the "forgotten population" because they often miss out on the traditional orientation events of the first-year student, they are now benefiting from new initiatives and staffing designed to ease their matriculation.

The university hired Sarah Sears to fill a newly created transfer advisor position in the College of Arts and Sciences and has designated Jilly Warner as UVM's transfer coordinator. And, for the first time ever, transfer students, who traditionally have had to live off-campus, are living in campus housing this semester. In addition, a transfer student support group has been set up, although transfer students have a higher retention rate than traditional four-year students. "These students have sought us out and have worked hard to get here," says Warner, who travels the east coast to work with potential transfers. "They have often been left to navigate the system by themselves, but we're starting to realize that they need help matriculating just like other students."

The university expects to expand its population of transfer students, and to that end, Warner has submitted a proposal to establish an articulation agreement with Bronx Community College that would allow students there to transfer to UVM after satisfactorily completing designated coursework. If it succeeds, it would give a second chance to those

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students at UVM partnership high schools, such as Christopher Columbus in the Bronx and the High School for Environmental Studies in Manhattan, who initially did not gain admittance to UVM.

#### **There's no such thing as a 'typical transfer.'**

Of the 361 transfer students admitted to the university in the fall of 2006 out a record number of 1,174 applicants, 205 students are Vermont residents, many of whom went out-of state to school, but decided to return home. "We get a pretty significant number of Vermonters who come back," says Don Honeman, director of admissions and financial aid. "They see the world and then have an epiphany and realize how great a place Vermont really is..."

Since the fall of 2000, according to the Office of Institutional Studies, the university has accepted 3,669 transfer students hailing from 787 institutions. Northeastern University has provided the most transfers from a non-Vermont institution at 46, followed by the University of New Hampshire (43); the University of Massachusetts-Amherst (36); St. Lawrence University (33); Boston University (27); the University of Colorado (22); and Skidmore College, the University of Rhode Island, and the University of Southern Maine (20 each).

Dave Pawlik, a 22-year-old transfer from Pace University in Manhattan, decided he wanted to go to school in New England. "I was very excited when I was accepted to UVM. I took some time off between transfers, and there was definitely some maturation that took place. Now I'm more focused on working hard and graduating."

The largest in-state feeder school during the same seven-year period was the Community College of Vermont at 374, with whom UVM has an articulation agreement. Champlain College was second with 125 students, followed by Vermont Technical College (105) (also with an articulation agreement); Johnson State College (63); Castleton State College (57); St. Michael's College (44); now defunct Trinity College (30); Lyndon State College (28); and Norwich University (23).

Senior Corrina Thompson grew up in the Northeast Kingdom and was accepted to Johnson State College and UVM out of high school. She chose to attend Johnson because she wasn't sure what she wanted to major in, and it was less expensive. When she decided on engineering, she came to UVM, where she credits her "great advisor," Associate Professor James Iatridis, for "saving me a semester by making sure I took the right classes. It can be very confusing at first for a transfer," she says.

#### **Coping with 'transfer shock'**

Sears uses the term "transfer shock" when advising new transfers, explaining that they might experience a slight dip in their GPA, despite having attended another college or university. Once that period ends, however, transfer students tend to have equal or higher GPA's than 'traditional' students.

As of 2001, 40 percent of American college students had attended more than one institution and 32 percent transferred from one institution to another, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Deborah Gale, UVM admissions officer and diversity team leader, and now Warner, who plans to tap into some of the two-year colleges along Interstate 91 through Springfield and Hartford, are actively recruiting potential transfers.

"Once they see UVM as a viable option and that they are well prepared to matriculate, they will want to here," says Warner. "Transfers tend to be hard working and they are bound and determined to have a UVM diploma on the wall."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## The Maine Ingredient

*For more than a quarter-century, a cooperative relationship has brought UVM medical students to Portland's Maine Medical Center*

By Edward Neuert

Article published Sep 26, 2006



Third-year med student Rene Rickard (second from right) talks with a co-worker during a surgery rotation at Maine Medical Center. (Photo: Bridget Besaw Gorman)

Every morning, Renee Rickard gets out of bed in the house she shares with several other students in the west side of Portland, Maine, fixes a quick breakfast, and walks out her front door, which lies almost in the shadow of Maine Medical Center's (MMC) imposing Victorian Gothic

tower. Rickard and her classmates are part of a three-decade tradition that has seen more than a thousand UVM College of Medicine students receive part of their clinical education 200 miles and two states away from Burlington.

Dr. Virginia Eddy, clinical professor of surgery at MMC, has been a key mentor for Rickard during her time in Maine. "For me, as for so many other doctors here, the connection with UVM medical students is very important," Eddy says. "Every day I see students play important roles here. They present cases and they bring something more to them, different ways of looking at them, that makes the experience a rich one. When we're seeing patients in the Emergency Department, we structure it so the students follow patients through the whole process — resuscitation of critical cases, scrubbing-in to the operating room. We're not making cars here, we're making physicians, so we want them to see everything in the process."

### Personal connections, public benefits

The UVM-MMC connection came about in the late 1970s as a result of a unique personal connection between the two institutions. "Maine's last medical school, at Bowdoin College, had closed in the 1920s," says Dr. David Tormey, former associate dean at the College of Medicine. Dr. Edward Andrews, the college's dean in the late 1960s, who, during his

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tenure, had spearheaded the curriculum reform that vastly increased the amount of clinical education medical students received, became UVM's president in 1970, and then president and chief executive officer of MMC in 1975.

"It was Ed Andrews who saw that both institutions could cooperate and benefit from working together," Tormey says. "We'd get increased clinical education opportunities for our students, and Maine would get a cadre of top-quality students."

Greg Connolly, among the current generation of medical students to benefit from study in Maine, reminisces fondly about his clinical clerkship at MMC. "I signed up for one four-month block of clerkship in Maine, and the lottery gave me two blocks," he says. "I was glad to be able to be there for that amount of time. You get a great feeling from staff at every level at MMC. Every single doctor I interacted with in my time there seemed excited to teach. Portland is very similar to Burlington. It's a very nice place to live and raise a family. So, like Burlington, it seems to attract physicians who could just as easily be at institutions in bigger cities, but who chose to work and teach here."

Throughout his time at MMC, Connolly lived in one of the houses provided by the program for UVM students, located just across the street from MMC on Portland's Western Promenade, a bluff overlooking a picturesque view of the highlands of western Maine. The "Western Prom," as it's known locally, was one of the city's most exclusive neighborhoods in the late 19th century, and the area is still filled with beautiful, stately homes, four of which now house College of Medicine students.

"I didn't miss my classmates while I was in Maine because, basically, I was never apart from them," Connolly says. "Since we live together here, I actually felt like I was seeing more of my classmates in Portland than I had in Burlington. That was a nice, unforeseen benefit."

The experience of medical students such as Rickard and Connolly promises to be repeated for years to come through the enduring, mutually beneficial UVM-MMC connection.

"There's no question that medical education is essential to the vibrant life of a medical center," says Dr. George Higgins, chief medical officer and vice president for medical affairs at MMC and associate dean for Maine affairs at the College of Medicine. "I recently heard one of our OB residents speak about how important it was for her to know she would be working with students. It was a very positive factor in her deciding to do her residency here. Our commitment is to always explore ways to make this relationship even better, to meet the medical needs of both our states. I'm impressed that the College of Medicine is clearly committed to that, too."

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A substantially longer, and slightly different version of this story

appeared in *Vermont Medicine* magazine. It is available at this link (PDF download): [The Maine Ingredient](#).



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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Fogel Back to Work, Sends Letter to Campus

By The View Staff

*Article published Sep 26, 2006*

With a clean bill of health from his doctors and renewed eagerness to help press UVM's momentum forward, President Daniel Mark Fogel resumed work on Sept. 22 following a two-month medical leave.

On July 17, Fogel fell ill with a case of acute pancreatitis following a busy morning of meetings and was transported from his Waterman office to Fletcher Allen Health Care via a UVM Rescue ambulance. Subsequent complications led to a 12-day hospital stay, including time in the intensive care unit.

Initially, Provost John Hughes stepped into the role of acting president. But as President Fogel's condition worsened and it became clear that he would need an extended recovery period, trustees appointed former provost John Bramley acting president on July 24.

In a Sept. 25 letter to the campus community, Fogel lauded Bramley, Hughes and others for not missing a beat in his stead and expressed "deep gratitude" for the outpouring of affection and support after his illness. He returns to full-time work, he says, with a "renewed sense of joy, energy and urgency" for advancing UVM.

True to that statement, the letter looked more forward than back, quickly moving past illness to chart an array of accomplishments and begin a campus-wide conversation about a proposed second phase to the UVM Vision that Fogel says will "illustrate the kind of innovations we have in mind as signatures of distinction for undergraduate and graduate education."

The new Vision document, which is still in draft, is the result of nearly a year of discussions among administrators, faculty, staff and students. Fogel wrote that it is based on "bedrock principles" including a focus on people, active promotion of the unity of knowledge, practical application of ideas and research findings and freedom of inquiry.

In assessing the institution's "dramatic and rapid progress," Fogel focused not on buildings, but curricular initiatives including the Vermont Integrated Curriculum in Medicine and an interdisciplinary graduate program in neuroscience. He also cited the Honors College, the six-credit diversity requirement, expansion of service-learning, introduction of residential colleges and taking the first steps toward developing a rigorous Writing-in-the-Disciplines program among other



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accomplishments.

Other high points mentioned by Fogel included an expansion of the tenure-track faculty by 81 positions; increased financial aid during a time of below-average tuition growth (a study by *Kiplinger's Household Finance* magazine found UVM's net in-state cost 49th out of 100 "top values" in public higher education); National Science Foundation data showing that UVM is number one in federally financed research and development expenditures among public Carnegie Research Universities with 14,000 or fewer students; the coming successful close of the \$250 comprehensive campaign; and major and objectively recognized gains in attitude and reputation.

The full text of Fogel's letter, which includes considerable material and details not summarized here, is available at (PDF download) [President Fogel's Letter to the UVM Community, September 25, 2006](#).

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Watzin Wins Roosevelt Award

By Joshua Brown

*Article published Sep 27, 2006*

Mary Watzin didn't grow up on Lake Champlain. "But I feel like it is my lake now," she said, having spent the last 15 years studying its waters and ways, "and I want to do everything I can to protect it."

She seems to be succeeding. Watzin, professor in the Rubenstein School and director of the Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory, received the Teddy Roosevelt Award—given to "those who have dedicated themselves to preserving Lake Champlain as precious resource," the award citation reads—from the Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce in Isle La Motte on September 16.

"The reason we picked Mary is her outstanding research," said Ruth Wallman, executive director of the chamber of commerce that established the award and co-hosted this year's celebration with the Isle La Motte Preservation Trust and the Lake Champlain Land Trust. "She has done so much on the lake over the last dozen years to help us understand the blue-green algae that has been such a problem for landowners up in the northern part of the lake."

Watzin, an ecologist whose research focuses on understanding how human activities influence ecosystem health, received the award as part of Isle La Motte's annual "Teddy Roosevelt Day" celebrations, held at the historic Fisk Farm. There, on September 6, 1901, then vice-president Theodore Roosevelt declared: "the nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired in value."

During that same visit, Roosevelt learned of the shooting of President McKinley, an event that soon led to Roosevelt's rise to the presidency—from which he launched an unprecedented era of land conservation in the United States.

"The challenge for my generation is not just to conserve what we have, but to aggressively restore some of what we have lost," Watzin said as she received the award before more than 100 people including Vermont governor Jim Douglas. "By [Roosevelt's] criterion, I'm not sure that the nation has always behaved that well. When we look at Lake Champlain today, no question, we see impairments."

The most problematic of these impairments comes from excess phosphorus, pouring down from farms and lawns into streams and rivers—

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and then building up in lake water and bottom sediments; it's a key culprit in the complex blue-green algae bloom that Watzin is helping to unravel.

"I see my job as not just doing research, but as translating science—for the purpose of better management of the lake," Watzin said.

Past Teddy Roosevelt Award winners include U.S. senators Patrick Leahy and James Jeffords, Art Cohn, executive director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, state senator Dick Mazza, and, last year, the conservation organization, Friends of Missisquoi Bay & Conservation Baie Missisquoi.

"On the hundredth anniversary of TR's visit to Isle La Motte, we established this award to honor people who have carried on his legacy of conservation," Wallman said. "Mary has provided practical information and focused attention where problems are the worst. She's a great friend to the lake."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Talk Takes on Pesky (and "Dangerous") Statistical Error

By The View Staff

*Article published Sep 22, 2006*

Howard Wainer, a provocative scholar of statistics and information design, will discuss "The Most Dangerous Equation" on Sept. 29 at 4:30 p. m. in 314 John Dewey Hall. Wainer's talk is part of the Department of Psychology's Colloquium Series.

The talk will take on a recurring statistical fallacy: ignoring the relationship between the variation of the mean and sample size. Despite the relationship being mathematically derived by De Moivre in 1730, Wainer will argue, incidence of the error has, if anything, increased — with intellectually dangerous consequences. Wainer's illustrative cases include small schools movement, the 1160 AD Trial of the Pyx, possible causes of deaths due to kidney cancer and a commentary on Lawrence Summers' remarks on sex differences in scientific ability.

Wainer is distinguished research scientist at the National Board of Medical Examiners and an adjunct professor of statistics at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. His areas of research are varied, but he is best known for his work in graphic communication, psychometric theory and educational measurement. He has published 14 books and more than 285 articles on topics as diverse as test fairness, French poetry, criminology, aesthetics, robust estimation, computerized testing and intellectual history. He once swam the English Channel.



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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Homecoming and Family Weekend is Oct. 5-8

By Jay Goyette

Article published Sep 22, 2006

UVM ushers in the fall season with the annual Homecoming and Family Weekend, Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 5-8.

Except as noted below, a \$30 per family registration fee covers admission to most of the weekend's events and includes a button that entitles the wearer to special discounts and giveaways at various locations around campus and in downtown Burlington, admission to open classes on Thursday and Friday and complimentary admission to the Fleming Museum all weekend. (Most events listed here are open to members of UVM's campus community without registration.)

For registration materials and a complete schedule stop by Billings Student Center Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. or Oct. 7 from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., or contact the UVM alumni office toll-free at 888-458-8691, or visit [Homecoming and Family Weekend](#).

A sampling of this year's highlights:

### Thursday, Oct. 5

- Open Classrooms. All Day. Parents, families, and alumni are invited to sample academic life at UVM by attending selected classes. Class listings available at Billings. Oct. 6 also.
- The Robert Hull Fleming Museum 75th Anniversary Celebration. 6-8:30 p.m. Live music by Will Patton and Estrela Norte, silent auction, delectable appetizers and more at this gala celebration at the Fleming Museum. Black tie optional. \$50 per person. RSVP to UVM Alumni & Parent Programs, 888-458-8691 or [Fleming Museum](#)

### Friday, Oct. 6

- Careers in Finance: "It's More than Money". All Day. Kalkin Hall Classrooms. Enjoy panels and discussions featuring more than 50 alumni, parents, and friends. Sponsored by UVM's School of Business Administration.
- Ask a UVM Parent. All Day. Billings Student Center. UVM parent volunteers will be on hand to answer all of your questions and provide information about UVM and the Burlington area. Sponsored by the UVM Parents Council.
- The Annual UVM Victory Club Fall Foliage Golf Classic at the



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Vermont National Country Club. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$175 per person includes lunch, giveaway and greens fee. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. Pre-registration required. Contact [jason.spaulding@uvm.edu](mailto:jason.spaulding@uvm.edu).

- Career Services Open House for Alumni and Families. 2-4 p.m. Living/Learning E140 Explore Career Services, meet the career counselors, or get a quick resume review (for students and alumni). Refreshments.
- Discovering our Diversity Inaugural Reception. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Billings North Lounge. Featuring the unveiling of the "Remembering Our Past, Envisioning Our Future" Project, profiling ALANA and LGBTQA members throughout UVM history who have contributed to the world we live in today. Refreshments.
- Department of Music Homecoming Concert. 7 p.m. Ira Allen Chapel. Featuring the university ensembles in a Gala Homecoming Concert.

#### Saturday, Oct. 7

- Kevin Roberson '93 Memorial Run. 9 a.m. Archie Post Field. Participants must register at Archie Post Field. The \$10 registration fee benefits the Kevin Roberson Scholarship Fund.
- George V. Kidder Homecoming Lecture. 9:30 a.m. North Lounge, Billings. Philip Ambrose, professor of classics, will present "*Studiis et Rebus Honestis* and the UVM Curriculum." Refreshments.
- Ninth Annual Homecoming Parade and President's Family Picnic. Noon- 2 p.m. Show your spirit with other Catamounts, then join us for a picnic lunch under the tent on CBW Green, next to the Fleming Museum. Picnic \$10 per person (included in family registration fee).
- Second Annual CALS Harvest Festival. 1:30-3:30 p.m. CBW Green, adjacent to Cook Chemistry Building (west side) and Bailey-Howe Library (south side). Festivities include riding/dressage demonstrations, "cow patty" bingo, an apple cider press, beer making demonstrations, mum sale, pumpkin sale, and educational displays from groups, clubs, and departments comprising the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Plans for the new Plant Sciences Building on display.
- Soul Food Social. 5-8 p.m. Food and music sponsored by UVM's Black Student Union in the tent on UVM Green behind the Fleming Museum. Donations welcome.
- Homecoming and Family Weekend Concert. 8 p.m. Ira Allen Chapel. Featuring UVM's student a cappella singing groups: the Top Cats, the Cat's Meow, and the Hit Paws. Tickets \$5 for students and faculty; \$10 all others.

#### Sunday, Oct. 8

- Jazz Brunch at the Manor. Noon-2 p.m. Waterman Manor. The ALANA Student Center, LGBTQA Services, Women's Center and Affirmative Action will offer great food and cool jazz. Free for

students; \$10 all others. Pay at the door. Information, phone  
reservations: 656-1762.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Pulitzer-Winning *New York Times* Reporter to Speak at UVM

By Tom Weaver

*Article published Sep 26, 2006*

Eric Lipton, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and 1987 graduate of the University of Vermont, will return to UVM on October 8 and 9 for a series of events with undergraduates in the university's Honors College, a seminar with student journalists at The Cynic newspaper, and a public talk.

Lipton, who currently reports on homeland security for The New York Times, will give a public talk titled "Eyewitness to Catastrophe: Living in an Era of Terror and Mega-Disaster from Katrina to the Tsunami in Banda Aceh and the World Trade Center Attack" on his personal impressions and professional account of these three world disasters. Lipton will explore what the events say about modern society, human nature, and the way we confront loss and recovery. His talk is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 9, at 4:30 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building. The event is free and open to the public.

Lipton's journalism experience began in the basement of the Billings Center, where he was a reporter and editor for The Cynic. After beginning his professional career with two years at The Valley News in Lebanon, New Hampshire, Lipton moved to The Hartford Courant in 1989. While at the Courant, Lipton and a fellow reporter won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism for their stories about the flaw in the main mirror of the Hubble Space Telescope.

Five years at *The Washington Post* preceded Lipton's move to *The New York Times* in 1999. Following the attacks of 9/11, Lipton spent two years covering the aftermath — rescue, recovery, clean up and investigation into the collapse of the towers. Working together with James Glanz, a science reporter at the Times, Lipton extended his reporting into a book on the history of the World Trade Center. *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center* was published by Henry Holt/Times Books in 2003.

More information: Read a 2004 *Vermont Quarterly* [interview](#) with Eric Lipton concerning his book on the World Trade Center and Lipton's 2005 [first-person essay](#) in *Vermont Quarterly* on his experience covering the 2004 tsunami in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.



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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Physicist's Talk Asks, Why not Pluto?

By The View Staff

*Article published Sep 26, 2006*

The curious case of Pluto, once a planet, now relegated to "dwarf planet" status after an August vote, is the topic of a lecture by Darren Williams, associate professor of physics and astronomy at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. Williams will ask, "What is a planet? Why not Pluto?" in a layperson-friendly lecture scheduled for Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. in the Angell Lecture Center.

Williams will explain that the vote, which took place 76 years after Pluto's discovery, was made in consideration of the body's small size and the countless icy objects now known to orbit the sun beyond Neptune. He argues that although disappointing to many — some astronomers included — this textbook-changing maneuver will not in any way alter present understanding of Pluto or its moons.

Williams is the author/co-author of more than ten research papers on the origin and evolution of habitable planets, and his research has been featured in *Nature*, *National Geographic*, *Astronomy*, *Sky and Telescope* and *Discover* magazines. His UVM talk is sponsored by the Department of Physics.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Acclaimed Canadian Writer to Speak, Teach at UVM

By The View Staff

*Article published Sep 26, 2006*

Eden Robinson, a well-known First Nations novelist from British Columbia, will be giving a public reading on Wednesday, October 4th at 4:30 p.m. at 315 Commons, Living/Learning.

Robinson's books have received international critical acclaim and are currently being studied by six classes in the Department of English. While at UVM, Robinson will be speaking to classes, meeting with students, and giving a public reading from her work.

Robinson's first collection of stories, *Traplines*, won the Winifred Holtby Prize for the best first work of fiction by a Commonwealth writer and was a New York Times Editor's Choice and Notable Book of the Year. Her first novel, *Monkey Beach*, won the B.C. Book Prize for Fiction, was a finalist for the 2000 Giller Prize and the Governor General's Award and was longlisted for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Her latest work of fiction, the Canadian best-seller *Blood Sports* (2006), has been described as "A gripping page-turner of a tale that should have Quentin Tarantino knocking down her door."•

An article in the *The National Post* said that "Eden Robinson writes with the violent beauty of a seasoned knifefighter...She writes with a cool economy, a parsed precision; no wasted words, no wasted motion. In her hands, language is a weapon that can leave you bleeding, unsure of just how you were cut."

Robinson's visit to the University of Vermont is co-sponsored by the University of Vermont's Department of English, Canadian Studies Program, Global Village Residential Learning Community, and The James and Mary Brigham Buckham Fund.

For more information, contact Paul Martin, director of Canadian Studies and assistant professor of English, at 656-8451.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Historian to Kick off Fall Burack Lectures

By The View Staff

Article published Sep 27, 2006

Mark T. Gilderhus, Lyndon Baines Johnson Chair in History at Texas Christian University, leads this fall's Dan and Carole Burack President's Distinguished Lecture Series with a talk titled, "So Far from God, So Close to the United States; An Overview of U.S. Latin American Relations Since 1889" on Sept. 28 at 4 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman.

Former president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Gilderhus is an expert on U.S. and Latin American relations. His books on the subject include *Diplomacy and Revolution: U.S.-Mexican Relations under Wilson and Carranza* (1977), *Pan American Visions: Woodrow Wilson in the Western Hemisphere, 1913-1921* (1986) and *The Second Century: U.S.-Latin American Relations since 1889* (2000).

Gilderhus spent nearly 30 years teaching at Colorado State University, where he won awards including Outstanding Professor and John M. Stearn Distinguished Professor. He is perhaps best known for his work on historiography in *History and Historians: A Historiographical Introduction*. Now going into its sixth edition, the book is praised for providing a concise and easy-to-read overview of the field.

A reception also in Memorial Lounge will immediately follow his lecture.

Information: 656-8512


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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Reception to Welcome Provost and Professor Hughes

By The View Staff

*Article published Sep 27, 2006*

President Fogel and his wife Rachel Kahn-Fogel will host a welcome reception for recently appointed provost and senior vice president and professor of geology John M. Hughes and his wife Susan B. Hughes, associate professor in the School of Business Administration, on Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. in Billings.

Hughes assumed the role of provost this summer after having served as associate provost for research and scholarship and dean of the Graduate School at Miami University of Ohio for the past three years. His career at Miami spanned 25 years, including positions as professor of geology, chair of the geology department and associate dean of the College of Arts and Science. His wife Susan comes to UVM from a position as professor of accounting at Butler University.

Information: 656-1266

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## NOTABLES

*September 27, 2006*

### Awards and Honors

Dr. **Peter Zvara**, assistant professor in surgery, was awarded a \$275,0000 grant by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIH) for a period of two years. The proposed project will study the role of sensory neuroplasticity in the development of irritative voiding symptoms. A mouse model will be used of bladder outflow obstruction and record sensory nerve activity in awake animals using microlecectrode surgically positioned on the bladder nerves. Zvara developed this technique in collaboration with **Dr. Heppner**, research assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacology, who is a co-investigator on the grant.

**Declan Connolly**, director of physical education and UVM's Human Performance Lab, received "Credentials of Distinction Award" from the National Strength and Conditioning Association for Loyalty and Promotion in continuing education standards at the national meeting in Washington D.C.

### Publications and Presentations

**Kathleen Manning**, associate professor of integrated professional studies, co-edited the book, "One Size Does Not Fit All: Traditional and Innovative Models of Student Affairs Practice," published by Routledge. Co-editors were **Jillian Kinzie**, associate director of the NSSE Institute for Effective Educational Practice and Project Manager of the Documenting Effective Educational Practices (DEEP) initiative, and **John H. Schuh**, professor and department chair of educational leadership at Iowa State University.

*September 20, 2006*

### Awards and Honors

Dr. **Philip Ades**, professor of medicine and director of cardiac rehabilitation and preventive cardiology, received the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation's "Award of Excellence" at their annual meeting in West Virginia on Sept. 15. The award, which is the organization's highest honor, is presented annually to an individual who has had a major impact on the delivery of cardiovascular and/or pulmonary rehabilitation through significant and unique professional contributions. The organization recognized Ades for his extraordinary career dedicated to improving the health of the nation,