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Biology Professor Bernd Heinrich in his native habitat. (Photo: Sally McCay)

While running alongside Bernd Heinrich during his 15-mile training session, Ralph Waldo Emerson's words come to mind: "In every efficient man there is first a fine animal."

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

Oct. 17 3 p.m. Presentation: "Advocacy 101," Kevin Veller from Sen. Jeffords's office gives information on how to get involved with disability rights. Marsh Lounge, Billings.

Oct. 18 12 p.m. Balinese prayer ceremony for peace with visiting psychiatrists, 461 Main St. (Allen House).

Oct. 18 7:30 p.m. Lane Series concert: "Yuki and Tomoko Mack, Duo Piano." Tickets: \$25/\$5 students with ID at door. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. Information: 656-4455

Oct. 22 6 p.m. Community medical school: "The FDA Drug Approval Process", with John McCormack, pharmacology. Carpenter Auditorium, Given Medical Building. Registration: 847-2886

Oct. 23 12:14 p.m. Lunchtime talk: "Kaleidoscope of Color: Visions of Race in the Caribbean," with Kathryn Dungy, history. Fleming Museum.

Oct. 23 12:30 p.m. Brown bag lunch talk: "Olaudah Equiano and the Politics of Postcolonial Remembering," with Loka Losambe, English. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill.

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Bramley Named Provost and Senior Vice President

John Bramley, shown here in convocation regalia, is an interim no more. For more details about his appointment and other administrative changes, see the story below and our trustees coverage. An interview with Bramley will appear in the Oct. 23 issue of *the view*. (Photo: Sally McCay)

Fogel's First 100 Days End with Administrative Realignment

It's been a hectic few months for UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel.

The first 100 or so days of his presidency, a milestone he reached last week, included a deal to purchase the Trinity College campus, finalizing the state appropriation request, a city quality of life initiative, the appointment of a new permanent provost, progress on his drive to create an honors college and a comprehensive administrative restructuring plan.

All this, and near-ubiquity "out on the hustings" singing UVM's praises to donors, legislators, community members, press, students, faculty and staff.

"In my first hundred days at the helm... I have been able to gauge the situation of the university far more accurately than was possible at a distance, taking measure of the challenges and opportunities that lie before us and of UVM's high quality and even higher potential," Fogel said.

This assessment led Fogel to refine his organizational structure with a number of new appointments, titles and position searches. Detailed reports of the moves, which do not increase salaries or the number of administrators, appear in this [Press Release](#) and [E-mail to Faculty and Staff](#).

UVM to Play Key Role in Huge "Stroke Belt" Study

A five-year study that will examine possible causes for the higher incidence of stroke in southern states and among African-Americans compared to whites will rely on cardiovascular risk factor specialists at the College of Medicine for analyses of blood from an estimated 30,000 people. The \$28-million "REGARDS" (Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke) study is led by the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

REGARDS aims to determine why African-Americans have a 50 percent higher rate of stroke death compared to whites and why stroke incidence is higher in the southeast compared to the rest of the country. Based on their analysis of blood samples, UVM scientists will be helping to identify which known risk factors for stroke – and maybe some not-yet-known factors – are consistent among stroke victims or are unique to African-Americans compared to whites.

UVM is expertly equipped to handle what Mary Cushman, M.D., UVM associate professor of medicine and pathology, estimates could be as many as 130 blood samples per day once the study is up and running at full capacity. Cushman, who will lead the central laboratory for the REGARDS study, and her colleagues at UVM's Laboratory for Clinical Biochemistry Research in Colchester currently function as the central analysis lab for two other large-scale, national studies.

Each of the 30,000 REGARDS participants will have blood samples taken in their homes, which will then be shipped to the UVM lab. When received, samples will be "spun" in a high-speed centrifuge, a machine which separates cells in the blood from the liquid needed for analysis. Once processing is complete, each blood sample will be divided and stored to allow for multiple types of tests, and information about each sample will be scanned into a computer database. Some samples will be analyzed and some will be stored for future studies in one of 18 giant freezers, which can hold a total of 390,000 samples. Some of the initial analyses include cholesterol, blood sugar, kidney function, and C-reactive protein, a marker of inflammation that has been associated with increased risk for heart disease. In later analyses, the researchers will look at blood-clotting factors, DNA markers, vitamin levels, and other markers of inflammation.

"What's especially wonderful about the REGARDS study is that it will create a biological specimen bank that will provide the foundation for detailed study on risk factors for stroke," says Cushman.

A summary of the changes begins with John Bramley, who was named provost and senior vice president on Oct. 10. He was previously interim provost. Fogel's other leadership appointments, which become effective Nov. 1, are as follows:

- **Ian deGroot** as vice president for development and alumni relations (previously held as an interim)
- **Karen Meyer** as vice president for state and federal relations (previously executive assistant to the president).
- **Lauck Parke** as vice president for undergraduate education (previously vice provost for undergraduate education).
- **Thomas Gustafson** as vice president for student and campus life (previously vice president for university relations and operations).
- **David Nestor** as associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students (previously interim vice president for student affairs).
- **John Evans** as senior advisor for strategic initiatives (previously senior advisor for business development in the College of Medicine).

Fogel also announced searches to fill the following posts:

- Vice president for finance and administration. James Fernandez, special assistant to the president, will assume the position on an interim basis but will not be a candidate.
- Vice president for research and dean of the graduate school. This officer will report to the provost, will also hold the title of Dean of the Graduate School, and will replace in a single office the two existing offices of graduate dean and vice provost for research.
- Vice provost for academic and faculty affairs. This new position will be filled by an internal search for a tenured professor who can serve as the principal deputy of the senior vice president and provost.
- Vice provost for multicultural affairs. Rebecca Flewelling, senior advisor to the president, will assume this role for a limited time on an interim basis during the national search.

"This will help us get closer to identifying not only the root causes for stroke, but for other related diseases as well."

Two Faculty Win Fulbrights

Two faculty members received Fulbright Scholar grants for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Kathleen Manning and Howard Ball will receive 2002-2003 Fulbright Scholar grants to lecture and conduct research abroad. They join 800 US faculty and professionals in receiving the award this year and approximately 84,000 who have participated in the program since it began in 1946 to honor Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas.

Manning, an associate professor in the higher education and student affairs graduate program will visit the Beijing Normal University in China beginning in March. Her research and writing interests include campus cultures, qualitative research methodology and cultural pluralism. She is the author of *Rituals, Ceremonies, and Cultural Meaning in Higher Education* and editor of *Giving Voice to Critical Campus Issues*.

Ball, professor emeritus of political science, will be a distinguished lecturer at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski in Bulgaria beginning in February. He'll also continue his research on war crimes in Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia and Croatia. Ball specializes in constitutional law, civil liberties, civil rights, American government, judicial process and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has published almost two dozen books, including a biographies of Thurgood Marshall and Hugo Black.

Two UVM faculty won Fulbright grants during the past academic year: David Scrase, professor of German and director of the Center for Holocaust Studies participated in a seminar, "History and Memory: Jewish Past and Present in Germany," conducted in Berlin, Leipzig, Frankfurt and Munich, Germany and Stanley "Huck" Gutman, professor of English, spent several months in India lecturing on 20th century American poetry at the University of Calcutta and University of Delhi.

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Thurman Headlines Tibet Festival Oct. 25-26

Scholar, author and former Buddhist monk Robert Thurman will be the featured speaker at UVM's Tibet Festival next weekend, Oct. 25 and 26.

Thurman is co-founder and director of Tibet House in New York; Jey Tsong Khapa Professor of Indo-Tibetan Studies at Columbia University; father of five children, including actress Uma; and a close friend of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

He will speak about "The Dalai Lama's Millennial Ethic of Intelligent Nonviolence: Sources in Tibetan Buddhism and Prospects in Our Troubled World," on Friday, Oct. 25, at 8 p.m. in Billings Campus Center Theatre.

The festival will continue from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, with a screening of Jan Reynolds' award-winning film, *Tibetan Adventure*, performances of Tibetan song and dance, an arts and crafts fair and a display of Tibetan religious paintings in Southwick Ballroom, Redstone Campus.

Sponsored by UVM's Asian Studies program, all events are free and open to the public. Information: 656-5764 or <http://www.uvm.edu/~asian/events.html>.

Forum Seeks "Meaning Through Movement"

A forum on the role of movement therapy in the education of children, including individuals with disabilities, will be held Oct. 23-25 at the Radisson Hotel in Burlington.

"Meaning Through Movement" is being presented by the UVM Center of Disability and Community Inclusion in conjunction with the annual conference of the American Dance Therapy Association.

The forum is aimed at parents, special educators, and therapists who want to learn more about the role movement therapy can play in meeting the needs of children and youth with disabilities. Teams of dance/movement therapists, other related service and mental health providers, educators, artists and parents will share their common language and present models of collaboration, methods of working with children who challenge them, and recent innovations.

"Nationwide, there are very few experts in

Grammy-nominated Music Lecturer to Premiere UVM Professor's Composition

Grammy nominated pianist Paul Orgel, an adjunct lecturer in music, will give a recital and lecture on 20th century music October 23 at 7 p.m. in the UVM Recital Hall. Among works to be performed are the world premier of three movements from "Partita," composed by T. L. Read, a UVM professor of music, and Viktor Ullmann's Sonata No. 7, written in 1944 while the composer was an inmate in the Terezin concentration camp.

Orgel has performed throughout the United States as a soloist and as a chamber musician. His recently released CD, "Works for Flute and Piano of Louis Moyse," with Karen Kevra, has been nominated for a 2003 Grammy Award.

The free, public recital is sponsored by the English Department in conjunction with a course in modern poetry taught by Huck Gutman, professor of English. Information: 654-3422.

Grand Cree Chief to Discuss Historic Legal Settlement

Ted Moses, Grand Chief of the Cree of Quebec, will speak and answer questions Monday, Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Williams Hall.

His topic is "Peace of the Brave," the recent multi-billion dollar settlement between the Cree and the Quebec government that promises to end decades of discord and open the door to a new round of large-scale hydroelectric and other development projects.

Moses represented the Cree in the negotiations leading to this agreement and he signed the historic settlement on behalf of his people. Information: 656-4181

UVM to Honor Outstanding Vermont Teachers

UVM will honor 90 of the state's top teachers in a ceremony and luncheon at 10 a.m. on Oct. 23 in the Marsh Dining Hall.

The 22nd annual Vermont Outstanding Teacher Recognition Day is organized by UVM's College of Education and Social Services and that college's dean, Jill Tarule, will deliver opening remarks. UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel will give the keynote address. The luncheon will follow at 12:15 p.m. Provost John Bramley will present certificates to the teachers at 1:30 p.m.

movement therapy who specialize in working with children," said William Freeman, research assistant professor of education and director of the Expressive Movement Project at CDCI. "This program presents a rare opportunity to hear from some of the top people in the country in this field."

Information: 656-1442 or greynold@zoo.uvm.

The forum begins with an evening program for parents of children with disabilities on Oct. 23. It continues through Oct. 25, concurrently with the ADTA national conference, also at the Radisson, which extends through Oct. 27.

Information: 656-8209 or cspain@zoo.uvm.edu.

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*Oct. 16-Oct. 23**Publications and Presentations*

John Gennari, assistant professor of English and ALANA Studies, was the keynote speaker in a symposium at New York University titled "Eye-Talian Flava: The Italian American Presence in Hip Hop." On Nov. 2, Gennari will deliver a paper titled "Duke Ellington and the Jive Sages" at the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers-Newark. On Nov. 14, at the American Studies Association annual conference in Houston, he will deliver a paper titled "Baraka's Bohemian Blues."

Huck Gutman, professor of English, published a column exploring the economic implications of President Bush's policy of preemptive war in the Indian newspaper *The Statesman*: [Gutman Editorial](#)

Richard G. Vanden Bergh, assistant professor of business administration, published a paper this summer titled "Policy and Process: A Game-Theoretic Framework for the Design of Non-Market Strategy" in the journal *Institutionalism in Strategic Management: Advances in Strategic Management*. Along with co-author Guy Holburn, Vanden Bergh argues that legal institutions can be the object of organizational strategies and presents a formal model of lobbying.

Awards and Honors

Mark Stoler, professor of history, received the 2002 Distinguished Book Award from the Society of Military History for *Allies and Adversaries: The Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Grand Alliance and U.S. Strategy in World War II*. *The New York Times* called Stoler's book, "a lucid, logical examination of U.S. military thinking about the world."

Dr. G. Scott Waterman, associate professor, **Dr. Terry Rabinowitz**, associate professor, **Dr. Paul Newhouse**, professor, and **Dr. Richard Bernstein**, associate professor, all of the Department of Psychiatry, have been selected to receive the 2002 Profile of Courage Award from the American Psychiatric Association. This award formally recognizes APA members, who, at risk to their professional and personal status, have taken an ethical stand against intimidating pressure for the good of patient care and in keeping with APA Principles of Ethics. The award will be presented at the 2002 November Assembly Meeting of the APA in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 10.

Guest Speakers

Annie Viets, lecturer of business administration, hosted a guest speaker on Oct. 4. Joe Perrotto, CEO of Country Home Products of Vergennes, spoke to the students about the challenges of leading and growing a Vermont company that assembles, markets, and sells high-end garden tools and machines.

*Oct. 9-Oct. 15, 2002***Awards and Honors**

The USDA's Natural Resources and Environmental Management division recently named five Programs of Excellence to "recognize and speed the adoption of initiatives within state Cooperative Extension Programs." Two of those five programs were originally begun at UVM by Extension Associate Professor **Thomas McEvoy**. They are the Logger Education and COVERTS

woodland management for wildlife habitat programs. See [Logger Education](#)

Declan Connolly, physical education program director and director of the human performance lab, will receive the Ray Sparks Professional Award. The award, which honors professionals who make outstanding contributions to physical fitness, will be presented this month by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. Connolly, an associate professor of education, speaks widely on fitness testing and muscle damage. Recent presentations include: National Strength and Conditioning Association annual meeting in Las Vegas; Tri-State Athletic Trainers Conference; Vermont Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; and the upcoming New England American College of Sports Medicine annual meeting in Rhode Island.

Ken Becker and **Chris Koliba** have accepted the positions of co-directors of the Master's of Public Administration Program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Becker, lecturer in the Community Development and Applied Economics, teaches courses in entrepreneurship and co-directs the undergraduate, international service-learning experience. Previously he was deputy commissioner of agriculture for Vermont and executive director of the Northeast Dairy Compact. He has a master's degree in international administration. Koliba, research assistant professor in the education, is director of the John Dewey Project, coordinates UVM's service-learning faculty fellows program and co-chairs the committee on community engagement. Koliba previously was research associate at the Center for the Study of Voluntary Organizations and Service at Georgetown University. He has an MPA and PhD from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Policy.

Papers and Presentations

Burton Wilcke, chair of biomedical technologies, coauthored a Sept. 20 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report from the Centers for Disease Control, titled "Core Functions and Capabilities of State Public Health Laboratories: A Report of the Association of Public Health Laboratories." Read the report at [CDC](#)

Donna Kuizenga, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of romance languages, gave a paper, "*Traductions et trahisons : le sort du roman français en Angleterre au 17e siècle*" at a conference on women and translation sponsored by the *Université de Montréal* in late September. On Oct. 4, she was reelected president of the *Société d'Analyse de la Topique Romanesque* at the society's annual meeting at Queen's University, Kingston, Ont. SATOR is an international organization that is creating an electronic thesaurus of the building blocks of French narrative prose from the Middle Ages to the Revolution; it brings together scholars from North America, Europe and Africa.

Oct. 2-Oct. 8

Awards and Honors

Six UVM teachers will incorporate service learning into five fall semester classes using mini-grants provided by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education and Vermont Campus Compact. The grant winners are **Sheila Weaver**, mathematics and statistics; **Nancy Welch**, English; **Karla Karstens**, mathematics and statistics; **Janet Bossange**, education; **Luis Vivanco**, anthropology; and **Rick Paradis**, environmental program.

James Rosen, professor of psychology, is the recipient of a Vermont Leaders in Fitness and Sports Award from the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The award recognizes Rosen's efforts to improve Vermonters' health through weight control programs and research, as well as his personal achievements as a competitive athlete.

Susan Yuan, Family and Consumer Affairs Coordinator at the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion, has been appointed by Governor Howard Dean to serve on Vermont's Olmstead Commission. The group will work to implement the requirements of a 1999 Supreme Court decision that mandates more integrated, accessible services for the disabled.

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In the Long Run

By Tom Weaver



Biology Professor Bernd Heinrich in his native habitat. (Photo: Sally McCay)

While running alongside Bernd Heinrich for the early part of his 15-mile training session, Ralph Waldo Emerson's words come to mind. The transcendental sage may have left most of the woody rambles to his little buddy Henry David, but he wholeheartedly endorsed walking the walk. Emerson could have been describing Thoreau and the lithe 62-year-old Professor Heinrich both when he wrote, "In every efficient

man there is first a fine animal."

Heinrich, of course, is many things – teacher, raven researcher and author among them – but first he is that fine animal. And, by measure of a stopwatch, a very fast animal who one year ago set an American record for men age 60 and over in the 50-mile run. This weekend, on Oct. 19, Heinrich will have another go at the 50 miler when he competes in Brunswick, Maine over the same course on which he excelled last year.

A "hot shot" still?

The record run in October 2001 recalled running achievements from twenty years before when Heinrich surged to an American record in the 100-kilometer ultrarace at a competition in Chicago. Though the ever-active biology professor has stayed in fine shape by nearly any standard ever since, his workouts during his late forties and fifties tended toward climbing into tree stands or hauling carcasses through the woods to study ravens rather than logging major miles to prepare for a footrace. That changed as Heinrich simultaneously set to work on his 2001 book *Racing the Antelope: What Animals Can Teach Us About Running and Life* and began to eye, as if it were prey, the new competitive category his sixtieth birthday promised.

Running into a stiff south wind on the UVM rec path last week, Heinrich says, "I wanted to become very familiar with the motion of running again. I wanted to feel how the arms coordinate with the legs." He swings his arms and strides deliberately to emphasize the rhythm and nuance of actions most take for granted. "I wanted to be conscious of all of that again and feel what it is like to be very tired, to reawaken all of those memories."

The good news is that Heinrich found his joy in movement was not much different from what he remembered as a forty-something. "I feel like I'm running just as fast. If it wasn't for the clock, I would think I was still pretty hot shot. But now I think I'm doing six-minute miles and find I'm actually doing eight-minute miles."

Running for inspiration

But Heinrich considers a relatively slower pace a small toll to pay the aging process. "I know I'm not going to get any faster, but on the other hand I say, 'My knees are feeling good, I'm running as well as any 60-year-old in the

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country, so I should be grateful.' I kind of feel like I've had a gift handed to me on a platter. Not to use it would be almost dismissive. I should do what I can do best."

Not using that gift would rob Heinrich of an outlet that feeds mind as well as body. For the author, who has received the John Burroughs Medal for Natural History Writing, getting his endorphins dancing is essential to scholarly and creative work. "You get out there for hours at a time and you're away from a lot of distractions, you can free associate. Besides, I need to work off a certain amount of energy," Heinrich says.

Writing books or running ultra-marathons are both beasts that demand diligence and endurance. Working up a hill by Rice High School, the professor describes the parallels of his pursuits with quick phrases between deep breaths, the conversational shorthand of one at home with the anaerobic good life.

"With writing you have to keep everything in the mind, keep at it all the time," Heinrich says. "Step back from a project, it's just like stepping off the track."

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His Aim is True

By Carole Whitaker



Dr. David Krag is taking his cancer-targeting peptides from the lab and into the bodies of breast cancer patients. (Photo: Adam Riesner)

The "library" is stocked. Early results are encouraging. So now Dr. David Krag, S.D. Ireland Professor of Surgery, is taking aim at breast cancer in real women with an innovative new weapon.

A world-renowned cancer researcher best known for his pioneering work in sentinel node biopsy, Krag has spent the last several years identifying amino acid compounds, called peptides, that bind to

cancer cells in the laboratory. These binding peptides, or ligands, may someday be used to target anti-cancer compounds directly to breast cancer cells.

With a library in excess of one million peptides and more than \$750,000 from the National Cancer Institute, Krag's research enters the human phase with a clinical study, "In Vivo Selection of Ligands for Targeted Therapy." Recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the Phase I trial is designed to determine whether the technique to identify peptide ligands that bind specifically to cancer cells – proven effective in the laboratory and in animal models – will work in actual breast cancer patients. UVM is the only site for the trial, now underway and enrolling patients.

"We're hopeful that this research will help us identify a small peptide that binds to an important breast cancer membrane receptor, which may in turn lead to improved therapy for cancer patients," said Krag, speaking at a recent medical meeting. "These tumor-targeting ligands could then be joined to cell-destroying agents, considerably increasing the effective concentration of an anti-cancer drug at the cancer site."

Small is beautiful

State-of-the-art laboratory technology plays an important role in Krag's work, and he is quick to credit his team of scientists for their use of random peptide library technology to construct a large panel of peptides, and determine which are most likely to bind to targeted breast cancer cells. Developing these libraries was a major step in the project; this was completed during Krag's sabbatical last year.

Peptide libraries are created using a phage-display system. Phage are viruses containing a circular single-stranded DNA genome, which have an outer layer of protein. A library is created by inserting synthetic DNA with random sequences into phage genome so that peptides are produced, or displayed, on the outer protein layer of the phage particle.

"Each phage produces a unique peptide, and millions of different peptides are present (on millions of different phage) in a single library," explains Vermont Cancer Center research scientist Susan Fuller. "The library is then exposed in the laboratory to cancer cells and screened for those peptides that bind to the

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target. Only those unique peptides that have good binding affinity stick."

A goal of the study is to identify peptide ligands that have the ability to target specific cancer cells, but have the benefit of being smaller than the antibodies used today in cancer therapy. These smaller ligands can be better absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and eliminated by the body.

"While the process is complicated, we are pleased with our results so far," says Fuller. "These peptides could be coupled with anti-cancer agents and hold great promise in the development of safe and effective compounds for the treatment of breast cancer."

From lab to bedside

Now that the libraries have been developed and initial studies are complete, Krag's theory that screening for peptides with possible therapeutic value can be done by directly administering them to a cancer patient is ready to be tested.

"This method allows us to bring our library directly to the patient," says Krag. "We can deliver over a million peptides directly to a tumor site, and determine back in the lab which peptides bind to the tumor cells."

Krag, who will personally work with each patient in the current trial, will inject a peptide library and after about an hour will surgically remove a small tumor specimen. Back in the laboratory, his team of scientists will analyze the specimen to identify those peptides that have bound to the tumor.

"Random peptide library technology has revolutionized the drug discovery process, and plays an important part in leading-edge cancer research" says Krag. "We hope our work will produce promising compounds that may lead to the development of new drugs with great potential efficacy in the treatment of breast cancer."

For more information on Dr. Krag's research, visit the Vermont Cancer Center at: www.vermontcancer.org/Research/Programs/ClinicalHilites.html

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Teaching Mindfully

By Cheryl Dorschner



"We are all colleagues": Stephanie Kaza (center), cultivates close relationships with her students. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

In most college courses, students are expected to answer questions, solve problems, come to conclusions, master the facts. Quite the opposite is true in Stephanie Kaza's Environmental Studies courses, where students learn to ask questions, articulate complex, multi-faceted problems and suspend judgment.

The result is open-minded, active students who develop skills they

can use to create change in their communities after they graduate

This "not-by-the-book" approach is part of the reason that Kaza, associate professor in natural resources and the environmental program, was awarded a 2002 Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching award, UVM's top undergraduate teaching honor.

Kaza finds that her courses self-select a rich diversity of students. In Religion and Ecology "there were as many majors as students. It was so interdisciplinary," she says. And Kaza finds that key to the success not only of classes but also the whole department. "Environmental Studies must have an international face in order to understand our global environment," she says.

Kaza melds degrees in biology, education and a master's of divinity with 30 years of Buddhist practice to create environmental ethics courses such as Radical Environmentalism, Religion and Ecology and Unlearning Consumerism. Each applies a similar template to a new topic. "Environmental Justice brings a race lens [to environmental issues]." Eco-feminism brings a gender lens, she says. "We ask in all the classes, 'Who's suffering? At whose expense are we getting our food, our energy, our wood products....'"

Kaza's most recent book, edited with Kenneth Kraft, *Dharma Rain: Sources of Buddhist Environmentalism*, is a compilation of perspectives from contemporary Buddhist activists who look deeply at causes and solutions to environmental devastation. She's working on a book on environmental consumerism from the Buddhist perspective.

Most writers addressing these topics are religious scholars, so Kaza finds her science background and experience are sought after in this newly emerging field.

After witnessing Kaza teach a course on Humanities and Sustainability to humanities faculty members from several colleges, Jay McDaniel, professor of religion at Hendrix College in Conway, Ark., said, "As the result of her work, several went back to their campuses and began to ... integrate sustainability into their curricula.... Dr. Kaza has this effect on many. She has truly made a difference in the nation, as well as (I imagine) the University of Vermont. She

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[Trustees Meeting](#)

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exudes a personal integrity that is contagious.”

Some tenets of Kaza’s teaching:

- "All the courses have an awakening process that’s kind of my fundamental commitment. I don’t care how many facts they learn, but if they walk away with that (awakening experience) they can use it in other arenas.”
- “We are all colleagues – students and teachers – together working on the survival of the planet. Our knowledge is not ivory tower; our knowledge is usable.”
- In Religion and Ecology, “I reinforced that we were not going to come up with answers – these problems are just too complex.” Instead they came up with a series of questions from different points of view. “I saw their questions as koans – can-opener questions in which a lot pops out but there are no answers.”
- In Unlearning Consumerism, “the point of the course was to look at – not judge – what we consume and what the implications are,” Kaza says. “Students were relieved to have someone help them in this.”

Kaza stresses, “I don’t use the courses to promote my own values, but rather, I design courses to help students articulate their own values, to examine and develop them in the context of their learning.”

“Stephanie’s own religious practice and rigorous personal values-examinations give her advice authenticity and depth,” says Rachel Jolly, whom Kaza taught and advised. “Students respect her because they know that she ‘ walks the talk’ in terms of living out her strong beliefs in social justice and equality.”

Kaza sees her students changing physically, spiritually and psychologically. “All college students go through life changes, but my students go through ethical life changes.” Some change their relationships, others become vegetarians. Some have a conversion experience, others find a new worldview that makes more sense to them. At the end of class they always have more friends who share their values as opposed to social friends. Kaza says strongly, “that’s important to me.”

“I’m trying to help students look at their values and articulate them in an environmental context,” she says. “I want them to be leaders. I want them to build their learning community. I try to get students to be ethically sensitive, interdisciplinary thinkers, so they will be multifaceted.” Kaza’s goal is no less than to “reduce the judgmental self-righteousness of environmentalism. We can’t move forward on issues without that.”

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Trustees Tap a Provost, Talk Finances

By the view Staff

Trustees wrestled with financial issues and pushed forward the notion of a university-wide honors college at the Oct. 10-12 board meeting. The group also approved the appointment of John Bramley to the position of senior vice president and provost.

A summary of major events at the various committees follows. For a more complete report, see the [October Trustees Summary](#).

Finance and Budget Committee

Trustees discussed tuition rates, state support and the importance of private gifts in the upcoming capital campaign during this Oct. 11 meeting.

Describing possible ways to strengthen UVM's fiscal foundation, Vice President for University Relations & Operations Thomas Gustafson said, "None of these [engines] we can draw from – tuition, state appropriation, or increased enrollment – has the horsepower alone. We need to take some from each as we move forward."

Acknowledging the difficult financial climate for state government, the board approved a three percent increase in the state appropriation request for FY04 – \$37,283,939 for general operations. Trustees also took action on summer tuition rates, raising the per credit hour cost to begin to bring them in line with the regular tuition rate. Leveling summer rates with standard rates will be a gradual process over the next several years.

Academic and Student Program Committee

Senior Vice President and Provost John Bramley provided an update on plans to establish a university-wide Honors College at the Oct. 11 meeting. Rather than creating "a cadre of elite students," Bramley said the honors college, slated for implementation in fall 2003, "will strengthen the academic climate for all students." Based on a study of similar initiatives at other universities, the honors college is expected to comprise 11 to 15 percent of first-year and sophomore students and to complement existing programs, Bramley said. He noted that once programming components are in place, the university would aggressively market the program.

Fred Curran, director of institutional studies, provided a summary of fall 2002 enrollment statistics and trends. Curran said the 1,841 members of the Class of 2006 comprise 56 percent out-of-state students and 44 percent Vermonters. This fall's undergraduate enrollment of 7,601 is the highest since 1993, he said. A review of last year's first-year class shows a retention rate of 84.3 percent, which is not only 2.4 percent higher than the fall 2000 class, but also represents the highest first-year retention rate since 1991, Curran said.

Athletic Director Richard Farnham provided an update on campus sports initiatives and gave what he called "a snapshot of 2002 athletic programs." Over the past six semesters, UVM student athletes have earned a grade point average 16 percent higher than the general student body and 30 percent higher than the national average, Farnham said.

Bramley announced that Christopher Koliba, research assistant professor of education, and Kenneth Becker, who teaches in the community development and applied economics program, have been named co-directors of the Masters of Public Administration Program, which is now part of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Admission to the graduate program has been reopened, Bramley said, and involves faculty in four colleges.

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[Teaching Mindfully](#)

In most college courses, students are expected to answer questions, solve problems, come to conclusions, master the facts. Quite the opposite is true in Stephanie Kaza's Environmental Studies courses.

Facilities and Technology Committee Meeting

Following a brief presentation by Provost Bramley, the committee voted to accept the resolution to authorize President Fogel to make a \$4 million state capital request for FY04 to support some of the costs of upgrading or rebuilding the Hills Life Science building.

Advancement and Constituency Committee

Michael Schultz, director of development and alumni relations, reported on fundraising progress through the first quarter of fiscal year 2003. Overall, private commitments in the first three months of the fiscal year totaled \$7,220,192, a 10.6 percent decrease from the same period last year. However, private commitments secured through development and alumni relations show a 6 percent increase over the prior year, and gifts to the UVM Fund are up 170 percent over fiscal year 2002. The overall decrease in voluntary support stems from a 44.3 percent decline in private grants secured through the sponsored programs office compared with the first quarter of last year, he said, which is attributed to a few large grants that have not been renewed. Schultz said the university's comprehensive campaign, still in the "quiet phase," is "off to a good start, despite the shaky economy."

Trustees also heard an update on UVM's partnership with Generation, a higher education creative marketing group. The firm has spent the past six weeks conducting an institutional audit, which involved focus group and individual interviews with students, faculty, administrators, alumni, and major donors. Their audit report is expected in November, with concepts for creative execution to follow in early- to mid-December, and final implementation in the form of print and electronic marketing communications adhering to the university's normal production schedules through the early spring and summer.

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