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UVM HOMEPAGE

[SAD Conversation](#)



Light isn't quite right: Kelly Rohan, assistant professor of psychology, has found that cognitive-behavioral therapy has some advantages over light boxes for treating SAD. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

For most of us, the Oct. 30 clock shift just adds an hour to the weekend — but for sufferers of seasonal affective disorder, a syndrome involving recurring bouts of depression during fall and winter months, it marks the beginning of a difficult time of year. UVM psychologist Kelly Rohan is exploring how talk therapy can combat a disorder that comes from a lack of light.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

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English Beat It was 5 p.m. on Oct. 21, long before the usual raucous Friday-night scene at Parima. This evening, however, was different, thanks to the first-ever Buckham Challenge, a face-off between English graduate students and their professors.

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.
UVM Lane Series Concert: "Verdi's Macbeth - Opera Verdi Europe." Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. Information: 656-4455 or [UVM Lane Series](#)

Oct. 26-27, 6 p.m.
Talk: "On Creaturely Life," with Eric Santner of the University of Chicago. Fleming Museum. Information: 656-3056

Oct. 27, Noon.
Lecture: "The Education Gap: Issues of Race," with UVM student Hillary Black. Women's Center, 34 S. Williams St. Information: 656-4637

Oct. 28, 4 p.m. Fall Institute on Racism, Heterosexism, Bias and Oppression
Keynote Address: "Transacting Identity in Everyday Life," with William Cross. Billings Campus Center Theater.

Oct. 29, 1 p.m. Jazz workshop: Trumpeter Wynton Marsalis leads a workshop with the University Jazz Ensemble. Contact Alexander Stewart at 656-7766. Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. Limited tickets available: 656-7766

Oct. 31, 10 p.m.
Halloween Concert: "The Haunted Organ." University

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By Jon Reidel

Article published Oct 25, 2005



Light isn't quite right: Kelly Rohan, assistant professor of psychology, has found that cognitive-behavioral therapy has some advantages over light boxes for treating SAD. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

The daily routines of one in ten Vermonters will change for the worse on Oct. 30.

The alterations start every year around October just after the end of daylight savings time. For most of us, the clock shift just adds an hour to the weekend — but for sufferers of seasonal affective disorder, a syndrome involving recurring bouts of depression during fall and winter months, it marks the beginning of a difficult time of year when many

forgo an after-work run for a nap, watch television instead of walk the dog, or sleep later in the morning.

With this year's turning back of the clock, the 14.5 million Americans susceptible to SAD may begin feeling fatigued, worthless, disinterested, maybe even suicidal. Many will receive treatment involving sitting in front of a light box for an hour or two a day in hopes that the white fluorescent or full-spectrum light will simulate sunlight and make them feel better.

The treatment works reasonably well but is hard to stick with, so Kelly Rohan, a SAD expert and assistant professor of psychology, views it as more a quick fix than long-term solution. She is currently exploring treatment through cognitive-behavioral therapy, a commonly used form of "talk therapy" that has been used for non-seasonal depression since the 1960s, with SAD patients. She thinks this is the first time this type of therapy has been deployed to treat SAD, and the results in early research and clinical trials are promising.

In a 2005 study involving 61 patients, Rohan treated one group with daily light therapy, another with 12 sessions of CBT and a third group with a combination of both treatments. A less popular option — selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors — wasn't used. Rohan's findings, which will be published later this year as a follow-up to a 2004 study that appeared in the June issue of *Journal of Affective Disorders*, show that all three groups showed comparable improvement across the six weeks of study treatment compared to a wait-list control group. In addition, the largest percentage of patients (80 percent) responded in full when CBT and light therapy were combined.

Furthermore, those who underwent CBT — both alone and with light therapy — were less depressed at the one-year follow-up compared to patients who had been treated with light therapy alone. Only six percent of the CBT participants met the criteria for depression at the one-year follow-up, while 40 percent of light-exclusive participants met the depression criteria during the winter season of the next year. The majority of light therapy users reported having a hard time adhering to the recommended twice-daily 45-minute light box sessions at the end of six weeks of study treatment. Rohan's research offers compelling evidence that CBT talk therapy by itself may be an effective treatment for SAD and may offer some long-term benefits over light therapy.

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"Sitting in front of a light box every day of the fall and winter promotes sedentary behavior and is hard for people to maintain over time," she says. "Cognitive-behavioral therapy is a time-limited treatment and appears to have better long-term effects."

Replacing thoughts of SADness

The cause of SAD, first noted as far back as 1845 but officially named in the 1980s, has been attributed to a biochemical imbalance in the hypothalamus due to the shortening of daylight hours and the lack of sunlight in winter. The theory goes that as seasons change there is a shift in people's "biological internal clocks" or circadian rhythm, due in part to changes in sunlight patterns.

Because of this, incidence of SAD varies by locale, with rates ranging from one percent in Florida to 10 percent in Vermont, Alaska and Orono, Maine, where Rohan first became interested in SAD while working on her doctorate in clinical psychology. The condition ranges in intensity from not being able to function normally without continuous medical treatment to a mildly debilitating case of "winter blues."

It seemed to Rohan, who came to UVM earlier this fall after spending five years as an assistant professor of medical and clinical psychology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, that cognitive-behavioral therapy was an obvious way to treat SAD, despite it never being used before. "As far as I know we're the first group to apply it to SAD," she says. "Some people would argue that SAD is a purely biological kind of depression, so any type of psychological treatment such as CBT shouldn't work, but it does. I think it's good news that there appears to be more than one way to intervene and improve winter depression."

During the therapy, which occurs twice a week for six weeks, Rohan teaches patients about the origins of SAD and how learned behaviors and ingrained negative thought patterns contribute to their symptoms. She also encourages patients to act more like they do in the summer and continue regular activity. She says it doesn't necessarily have to be an outdoor activity like skiing, just something that keeps people active and engaged during the fall and winter months. One SAD patient was an artist, for example, who tended not to have time in the summer to work on her art. "We started having her do more art in the winter. It gave her something to look forward to," Rohan says. "The key is to limit hibernating and develop some winter interests."

Disproving light therapy as a form of treatment isn't Rohan's goal. Instead she hopes to show its shortcomings and offer an alternative that is easier to comply with in the long run, has more lasting effects and teaches lifelong coping skills.

"Before investing in a light box, I encourage SAD patients to go for a 30-minute walk after sunrise every morning. This gets just as much light to the retina as using light therapy and has the added benefit of increasing physical activity," she says. "The time change is a bear; just the thought of winter can be enough to trigger symptoms. We encourage people to do whatever it is they get enjoyment out of and to recognize the symptoms early so they can deal with them before they become unmanageable."

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English Beat

Buckham Challenge quiz event pits professors against grad students

By Sarah Tuff

Article published Oct 26, 2005

It was 5 p.m. on Oct. 21, long before the usual raucous Friday-night scene at Parima. This evening, however, was different, thanks to the first-ever Buckham Challenge, a face-off between English graduate students and their professors.

In a back room of the Burlington Thai restaurant, English Department Graduate Studies Director Mary Lou Kete introduced the Old Farts — professors Huck Gutman, Todd McGowan, Sarah Nilsen and Mike Stanton. They leaned back confidently in their chairs. Then she turned to the Smarty Pants, a table of five English graduate students who seemed to be conducting some last minute strategizing.

"It's like the Harlem Globetrotters versus a local high school team," said Kete, who would serve as "Quizmaster" with fellow faculty member Major Jackson; both had helped organize the Buckham Challenge. The din sounded like that surrounding any sporting event. A couple of spectators made a \$2 bet on the outcome of the game. But as the competition was based on literature, the pre-game talk wasn't all trash.

"I'm hoping my team's knowledge comes into play," said English Graduate Student Association governing member Corey Christman, who explained that the event was modeled after the GRE subject test in English literature, which many students would be taking in November before applying to Ph.D. programs. "All of us have different strengths, so I think we have the whole canon down." She paused. "Maybe."

Smarty Pants' captain, Will Alexander, pointed out the win-win prospects of his team. "I'm feeling good; we can't lose," he said. "The worst case scenario is that they show that they know more than we do — and I hope they do, or we're paying too much tuition. There's glory in the attempt, even."

After both teams had piled up paper plates with spring rolls and pad Thai, Kete welcomed the audience: she called the event a "test of mental acumen and comprehensive knowledge of English and American literary and cultural studies."

"And elephantine memorization," added a Smarty Pants.

"And elephantine memorization," Kete acquiesced. "We're lucky enough to have a team of the smartest, the brightest, the bravest faculty members."

"The most available," interjected Jackson.

The games begin

Jackson curtsied when Kete asked him to distribute "the author paddles," which were photos of literary luminaries fastened to wooden sticks. Thus, Walt Whitman, Joyce Carol Oates, Allen Ginsberg and Chinua Achebe, among other authors and poets, would signal to the quizmasters that an Old Fart or a Smarty Pants knew the answer.

Kete and Jackson had written questions for five rounds of play: Women Prize Winners; Famous First Lines; Really?; Who Wants to be a Critic?; and Terms of the Trade. The rules seemed a bit dodgy, with both quizmasters regularly debating on such matters as to whether they should penalize with negative

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points and allow collective answers. (One quizmaster was even witnessed mouthing “Fifty” when a Smarty Pants struggled with the year of *Moby Dick*’s publication.)

There were a couple of soft balls lobbed in the first round, such as “She won the Pulitzer Prize in 1994 for her novel *The Shipping News*” and “She won the Pulitzer Prize in 1988 for her novel *Beloved*” and the lightning-fast Old Farts took the early lead as the audience grew ever rowdier. (Parima was, without doubt, the only place in town where you would have heard catcalls for Edith Wharton and Jane Austen on a Friday night.)

The questions got tougher, and the teams got more animated in their pursuit of the Buckham Challenge title. At one point, Huck Gutman leaped from his seat to offer an interpretive dance of Edmund Spenser’s “The Faerie Queene.”

Meanwhile, the Smarty Pants huddled and whispered, a la “Family Feud,” and rotated team members in their attempt to school the professors. The mirrored walls seemed to shrink with the mounting tension; the faux skylights seemed to be dropping.

After nearly two hours of trivia, the quizmasters ended the Buckham Challenge with “epithalamium” which the Old Farts nailed as a complex wedding song. Jackson, whose undergraduate degree is in accounting, tallied the scores and called for a drum roll. Plates of pad Thai nearly leapt off the tables with the resounding drumming of some three-dozen sets of hands.

“The Old Farts, 395 points,” announced Jackson, pausing for a few polite claps from the audience. “Only to be outgamed by the Smarty Pants with 485 points!”

The room erupted in cheers. “This is only a tribute to the masterful teaching,” said Kete.

The awards, besides the “fame and fabulous prizes” that the quizmasters had promised, tongue-in-cheek, in the rules, were “laurel” crowns harvested from Michael’s craft store. Kete and Jackson presented the crowns ceremoniously to the grad students. Some of the wreaths, however, were so big that they slipped around the students’ necks and looked more like Hawaiian leis.

One of the Old Farts said, “How big did you think their heads were?”

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Sino Symposium

UVM event brings U.S. researchers together with their Chinese counterparts to create new collaborations

By Jon Reidel

Article published Oct 26, 2005



Chinese scientists and UVM faculty forged some specific collaborative projects at a recent symposium on ecological complexity and ecosystem services. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

With most of the major events of the second day of the joint Sino-USA symposium on Ecological Complexity and Ecosystem Services at UVM out of the way, it was time for a less formal brainstorming session for the dozen or so scientists from China and their American peers.

The informal dialogue at Billings, which continued over dinner at A Single Pebble, was exactly the kind of conversation university organizers of the Oct. 21-22 event,

sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Chinese Academy of Science in partnership with the university, were hoping would occur. American scientists and members of the Chinese delegation, they hoped, would forge long-term collaborations and exchange innovative ideas pertaining to ecological complexity and ecosystem services that would lead to concrete initiatives from which both countries would benefit.

"This is a worldwide issue," says ZhenLiang Yu, one of the Chinese scientists and director of the Ecology and Forestry division in the Department of Life Science at the National Natural Science Foundation of China. "This interaction is very important because it puts all these scientists together with different backgrounds to do research. We can learn from each other. Both countries benefit from this type of collaboration."

The Burlington symposium, established in response to a similar trip to China in 2004 by a U.S. delegation that included Matthew Wilson, assistant professor in the School of Business Administration and the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, and Austin Troy, assistant professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, attracted more than 100 researchers from universities across the country. Wilson and Troy, who served as co-principal investigators and session chairs, planted the seeds for the return visit to UVM while on the China trip.

Scientists presented on topics related to myriad of issues stemming from the increasing intersection of natural ecosystems and human enterprise as economies become more inter-connected due to economic globalization. These issues are particularly prevalent in China, where a massive population is still adjusting to the country's transition to a market-based economy. The symposium included an interactive session with President Daniel Mark Fogel prior to touring the Echo Center; a ride on Melosira, UVM's research vessel; and built-in time to meet with university professors in their labs.

"During these trips you build a basic baseline of trust," says Wilson. "We have some big cultural divides; we're from different worlds really. By visiting each other's homes and meeting each other's families, it makes it easier to create a

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network and develop some specific research projects. Certainly some very specific products will come out of this.”

What's next?

One of the outcomes of the symposium is a formal plan by Wilson and others in the U.S. delegation to apply for a Research Coordination Network grant from the National Science Foundation to support future collaborations and research endeavors. The Chinese delegates under the direction of Professor Xie Gaudi of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, intend to apply for a similar grant from Chinese institutions with the joint funding to be used to create a consortium that would act as an umbrella under which specific projects would be housed. Penny Firth, deputy director of NSF's division of environmental biology, was on hand for those discussions at Billings and encouraged the grant proposal.

Wilson says both delegations agreed to develop research collaborations focusing on ecosystem services in protected areas in China; watershed planning in both countries; and on the greening of Beijing in preparation of the 2008 Olympics. Faculty from the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and other departments will be involved in many of the new initiatives, he says.

The symposium comes shortly after a recent trip to China by Fogel and other top UVM officials to explore collaborations in environmental education and research with Tsinghua University and Beijing University.

“We are very interested in forging partnerships with those institutions,” he says, adding that he recently sent letters of intent to both universities with specific offers to fund partnerships focused on teaching, research, and service in the environmental sciences, engineering and other disciplines. “We are looking to formalize these partnerships on an institutional level.”

Don DeHayes, dean of the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, who traveled with Fogel to China along with other faculty, says the trip and the symposium are examples of a larger effort by the university to forge new partnerships with research institutions in China.

“It's not just happenstance that we took a trip there,” says DeHayes. “We've had faculty members traveling there and forging partnerships for a number of years now. We've actually had our toe in this for a while. I think we're now starting to formalize some of the ideas that we've had in the hopper. Resources are being dedicated to this effort. I don't have any doubt that Dan is serious about this.”

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[Volunteer Duo Urge UVMers to Consider Supporting the United Way](#)

Oct 26, 2005

John Sama began his involvement with UVM's campus United Way campaign back in 1997 or so as, well, a figurehead. "They told me they needed someone to put his name on the letter," Sama recalls.

[Chemists Celebrate Their Science With Prose Contest, Shows](#)

Oct 25, 2005

Carbon helium molybdenum nitrogen americium aluminum lawrencium astatine ununhexium? Let's put that another way: C He Mo N Am Al Lr At Uuh? Still not clear? Do we have to explain *everything*? Fine: Chem on a mall rat: Uuh? "Chem on a mall rat: Uuh?" – is an unlikely sentence and an unlikely sight, except perhaps for participants in National Chemistry Week, an annual outreach celebration running from Oct. 16-22 that this year put members of UVM's Department of Chemistry into University Mall (and the ECHO science center) for color-changing, smoke-generating "chemistry shows."

[Solid Support at First Public Hearing on Diversity Curriculum Requirement, Second Hearing Set for Friday](#)

Oct 26, 2005

A standing-room only crowd that included dozens of students gathered in a Waterman lecture hall on Oct. 25 to discuss a proposed university-wide diversity curriculum requirement currently before a faculty senate subcommittee. While there were questions and concerns about implementation of the plan, support was unanimous among those who spoke, many of whom lamented the long, slow journey that led to this point.

[Group Collecting Medical Items for Gulf Coast Relief](#)

Oct 19, 2005

A coalition of local agencies including the UVM Center for Disability and Community Inclusion is asking for help in responding to an urgent request for durable medical equipment for families in the Gulf Coast.

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By Kevin Foley

Article published Oct 26, 2005

John Sama began his involvement with UVM's campus United Way campaign back in 1997 or so as, well, a figurehead.

"They told me they needed someone to put his name on the letter," he recalls. "The next thing I know I have almost 4,000 pledge packets in my office. I never would have agreed to do it, because I don't consider myself to be fundraiser, if I hadn't first been involved with the United Way in a couple of capacities."

Sama's "partner in crime" as a staff campaign co-organizer, Mary Provost, also began her role as something of a draftee. "I don't want to say that John roped me in, but..." she says.

Good-natured kidding aside, both are deeply committed to promoting United Way's mission and helping the university's faculty, staff and retirees, meet this year's \$130,000 goal for fundraising. Both say that the United Way of Chittenden County has a pervasive positive influence on the local community through its funding of local non-profit programs, expert consultation with agencies and many other services.

Learn more electronically at [United Way of Chittenden County](#) or personally at the annual "Cider and Donuts on the Green" event, which will take place Oct. 31 from 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at the foundation (rain location: in front of Bailey/Howe). The campaign is sponsoring a raffle, for details see [UVM United Way Campaign](#) or the fund-raising pamphlet sent via campus mail.

Both Provost and Sama have volunteered with the volunteer teams that regularly review the local programs that the United Way funds. For Sama, the experience of visiting the agencies and meeting some of their staff and clients was revealing.

"It was a real eye-opener in terms of what the needs are in this community," he says. "It's because of that experience that I said yes and got involved."

Provost's story is similar.

"I eventually realized that they were enhancing my life without me even knowing it. I wanted to spread the word that there were these people behind the scenes to take care of people and make sure that your community is well-taken care of," she says. "You know what, it's happening, and it's done so well you don't even realize that it's happening."

About 21 percent of the UVM community supports the United Way through lump cash donations now or at the holidays, or through automatic payroll deduction. That's not bad, and the number has stayed stable over recently, but Sama and others hope to see that participation rate move to 22 percent this year and, eventually, 25 percent. (President Daniel Mark Fogel, an ardent United Way supporter going back to his LSU days, would love to see participation rise far beyond that.)

Neither Sama nor Provost are hard-sell types, but they urge members of the university community to look into the organization over the next two weeks and consider making a commitment to support it. A buck a week would be great — as Provost says, "a lot of small amounts add up to a big amount."

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"For me, I don't have a lot of time at this point to volunteer, but it makes me feel good and gives me a piece of mind to know that financially I can do my part by supporting someone else as they volunteer and do *their* part," she continues.

So check out the pamphlet, and maybe grab some cider on the green. Provost and Sama aren't looking for figureheads, but they would like to rope you in.

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Chemists Celebrate Their Science With Prose and Shows

By Kevin Foley

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Chemistry for kids: Professor Martin Case and graduate student Karen Murphy investigate the properties of thermochromic putty and ducks at the Town Center mall. (Image: Fiona Case)

Carbon helium
molybdenum nitrogen
americium aluminum
lawrencium astatine
ununhexium?

Let's put that another
way: C He Mo N Am Al
Lr At Uuh?

Still not clear? Do we
have to explain
everything? Fine: Chem
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"Chem on a mall rat:
Uuh?" is an unlikely
sentence and an
unlikely sight, except
perhaps for participants

in National Chemistry Week, an annual outreach celebration running from Oct. 16-22 that this year put members of UVM's Department of Chemistry into Town Center Mall (and the ECHO science center) for color-changing, smoke-generating, frozen-banana-nailing "chemistry shows."

In addition to the demonstrations, Associate Professor Willem Leenstra devised a fiendish chemical prose contest for this year's festivities, challenging participants to write by stringing together symbols from the periodic table of the elements. (In fact, this story was entirely composed using element symbols, with portions even written in periodic table pirate talk, much like this: I LiEs.)

If you're feeling more inspired than *the view's* editorial staff — and how, really, could you not? — the contest closes Oct. 28 and there are \$100 prizes for the longest and most creative passages. The rules are [here](#). But be warned, the contest was prominently featured in *Seven Days* and has attracted plenty of entries, so you'll need to roll with some serious element game. "I'm getting really creative responses. This is something that nonchemists can partake in," Leenstra says.

UVM faculty members Martin Case and Dan Savin, as well as undergraduate and graduate chemistry students, also participated in the week's chemical demonstrations, which were conducted under the auspices of the Vermont section of the American Chemical Society. Leenstra says the events were a lot of fun, and great outreach, but he's packing away his colored dusts, flashy titrations, liquid-nitrogen-forged banana hammer and other tricks for another year and returning to his normal physical chemistry and spectroscopy research barring exceptional circumstances.

"I could practically have another full-time job doing the shows," he laughs.

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Solid Support at First Public Hearing on Diversity Curriculum Requirement, Second Hearing Set for Friday

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published Oct 26, 2005

A standing-room only crowd that included dozens of students gathered in a Waterman lecture hall on Oct. 25 to discuss a proposed university-wide diversity curriculum requirement currently before a faculty senate subcommittee. While there were questions and concerns about implementation of the plan, support was unanimous among those who spoke, many of whom lamented the long, slow journey that led to this point.

Offering historical context for the plan in remarks preceding the discussion, Willi Coleman, vice provost for multi-cultural affairs and chair of the committee that wrote the proposal said, "The battle has been going on here for a very long time."

The plan would require all UVM undergraduates, beginning in 2007 or 2008, to take one 3-credit course in race and racism in the U.S., and a second 3-credit course from either that same category or from a second category of courses in human and societal diversity. A transitional diversity requirement of three credits from either category would take effect in the fall of 2006. To be approved, all courses must satisfy the eight diversity competencies identified by the President's Commission on Racial Diversity.

According to the 21-page report by the diversity curriculum committee, formed last February by Provost John Bramley, the university is currently out of step with national trends on this issue. UVM is alone among the six New England public land grant universities in having no diversity requirement for all undergraduates.

Voices of faculty, students, alumni and parents were all represented in the Oct. 25 discussion. One senior expressed a widely-held concern that classes be small enough to foster in-depth learning. Others spoke about the need for adequate numbers of faculty who are qualified to teach the issues involved. Many of the concerns boiled down to funding; Jim Burgmeier, chair of the faculty senate curricular affairs committee, offered assurances that the proposal has full support from the administration and would receive the resources necessary for success.

But the public dialogue went far beyond issues of process and was at times deeply thoughtful. "This room doesn't look like any class I've ever taught," said Sherwood Smith, assistant professor and director of the center for cultural pluralism. Acknowledging the room filled with faces from multiracial and ethnic backgrounds, he talked about the challenge of teaching diversity to a not-so-diverse group of students.

Charlie Rathbone, associate professor of elementary education, spoke of the need to make students feel safe in the classroom. "Students and teachers don't know how to have a dialogue on race," he said. "We're at a really important moment here. We've got to pull it off."

A second and final public hearing will be held on Oct. 28 at 1 p.m. in 110 Kalkin. The [full diversity committee curriculum report](#) is online.

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[University of Chicago Critic at UVM for Talk, Roundtable](#)

Oct 25, 2005

Eric Santner, the Harriet and Ulrich Meyer Professor in Germanic studies and Jewish studies at the University of Chicago, will give a talk titled "On Creaturely Life" on Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. at the Fleming Museum. He is also participating in a roundtable discussion on Oct. 27.

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The ALANA Student Center will be making an altar and traditional sugar skulls in celebration of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) on Oct. 31 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The altar and other decorations are on public display Nov. 1-11 on the fourth floor of Waterman Building.

[Fall Institute Aims to Spark Dialogue, Challenge Prejudice](#)

Oct 18, 2005

The sixth annual "Fall Institute on Racism, Heterosexism, Bias and Oppression," a public conference sponsored by the Department of Psychology, will take place Oct. 26-28.

[South African Ambassador to Speak](#)

Oct 18, 2005

A person with direct insight into South Africa's rocky transition from apartheid state to a more just and democratic society — Barabara Masekela, the country's current ambassador to the United States and former chief-of-staff to Nelson Mandela — will discuss her country's progress and challenges on Oct. 20 at 3:30 p.m. in Marsh Lounge, Billings Student Center.

[Pedal Smoothies and More at Eco-Fair](#)

Oct 18, 2005

The fifth annual Eco-Fair, sponsored by the UVM Environmental Council, aims to help people "find out what's happening at our 'Environmental University'" with more than 30 displays and activities. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 20 in Billings Student Center.

[Poet, Author Geoffrey O'Brien to Read](#)

Oct 18, 2005

Geoffrey O'Brien, author of *Sonata for Jukebox*, *Castaways from the Image Planet*, *The Browser's Ecstasy*, *Dreamtime* and more, will read from his poetry and nonfiction on Oct. 27 at 4:30 p.m. in North Lounge, Billings.

[Professor's 'Performance Theory' Takes on Cold War Culture](#)

Oct 18, 2005

Jackie Orr, associate professor of sociology at Syracuse University, will give a talk, "Daddy Does Cybernetics: Diary of a Mental Patient," on Oct. 24 at 4:30 p.m. in 207 Lafayette. Her talk is part of the Department of Geography's Women in Science Lecture Series.

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Santner is the author of *On the Psychotheology of Everyday Life: Reflections on Freud and Rosenzweig*; *My Own Private Germany: Daniel Paul Schreber's Secret History of Modernity*; *Stranded Objects: Mourning, Memory, and Film in Postwar Germany*; and *Friedrich Hölderlin: Narrative Vigilance and the Poetic Imagination*.

"On Creaturely Life" starts with a reading of Rilke's 8th Duino Elegy (on "the creature"), the lecture will analyze Heidegger's critique of Rilke's "metaphysical" view of the distinction between humans and animals and, via Giorgio Agamben's commentary on the Rilke-Heidegger debate as to the nature of creaturely life, move on to the 20th century German-Jewish tradition of thought about creatureliness, one that includes such figures as Rosenzweig, Kafka, Benjamin and Celan. In this tradition, creatureliness names a new ethical material that emerges under conditions of modernity.

A roundtable discussion with Santner will take place on Oct. 27 at 3:30 p.m. at Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building. The other participants are Hilary Neroni, UVM assistant professor of English; Paul Eisenstein, associate professor of English at Otterbein College; and Kenneth Reinhard, associate professor of English and comparative literature at UCLA.

Todd McGowan, associate professor of English, is teaching a seminar on Eric Santner's work this semester. The lecture and roundtable are supported by the English department's James and Mary Brigham Buckham Scholarship Fund.

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Glen Elder, associate professor and chair of geography, will give the College of Arts and Sciences Fall 2005 Dean's Lecture on Nov. 3 at 5 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building.

Elder's lecture, "45° North, 71° West or Not? Vermont's New Borderland Personality after 9/11," will discuss changes at Vermont's U.S.-Canadian border since September 11, 2001, examining the ways in which the federal government's most recent defensive shift in border policy has significantly altered the landscape of northern Vermont, mobility patterns therein and levels of surveillance throughout. The lecture will discuss the changes and their effects and in so doing locate Vermont within a broader set of globalized landscapes that have emerged in response to and because of the U.S.-led war on terror.

Glen Elder, who won a 2004 Kroepsch-Maurice Award for Excellence in Teaching, focuses his research on the intersection of sexual and racial identities and place.

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In 1791, when New York's opposition was all that stood in the way of statehood for Vermont, New Yorkers demanded — and received — the princely sum of \$30,000 to end their opposition.

Was that payment a case of extortion? Or reasonable compensation for dropping New York's claim? It's debatable — and Nov. 2-3, in two benefit events, Center for Research on Vermont affiliates will do exactly that — but the stakes are high. In today's figures, New York could owe Vermont "somewhere between \$584,000 and \$1.32 billion," says UVM economist Art Woolf.

The two "What New York Owes Vermont" debates, one at UVM and one at the Burr & Burton academy in Manchester, feature an all-star cast: speaking for Vermont will be Vermont Supreme Court Justice John Dooley and UVM political science Professor Frank Bryan. Defending New York's interests will be the renowned constitutional historian Professor John Kaminski of the University of Wisconsin and UVM Professor Emeritus Neil Stout.

The Manchester debate will take place at Burr & Burton's Riley Center on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. The UVM event is at the Billings Campus Center Theater on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. Both events suggest a donation of \$10. The money will benefit the Center for Research on Vermont's endowment.

The Center for Research on Vermont encourages and supports research into all areas related to Vermont. It provides channels through which the work of scholars can be made available to the general public and to each other and strives to expand public awareness of the importance of research on Vermont. The center also fosters support and collaboration among UVM faculty engaged in teaching Vermont-related themes and materials, and supervises a Vermont Studies minor for UVM undergraduates.

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Charon's talk is part of the Zeltzerman Lecture Series.

Charon, who practices internal medicine and holds a doctorate in English, is a pioneer in the studies of literature and medicine and the way in which narrative plays a critical role in the doctor-patient relationship. She has created the groundbreaking program in narrative competence for medical students at Columbia and comes to UVM to discuss the salience of literature studies to the medical practice.

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Library Panel to Discuss Open Access and Scientific Communications

By the view Staff

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Researchers, editors and librarians will come together on Oct. 27 at 3:30 p.m. in the Medical Education Center's Reardon Classroom for a discussion of changes in scientific communications and future effects on research and publication.

In a video address, Elias Zerhouni, the director of the National Institute of Health, will discuss his organization's policy, which requests that all researchers receiving NIH funding submit the final copy of peer-reviewed publication manuscripts to PubMed Central, a database freely available to the general public via the Internet.

Reactions to the NIH's policy have been mixed. Some proponents of open access fear it does not go far enough, as it allows researchers up to a year to make their papers accessible. On the other side of the debate, publishers are concerned about how the policy will affect their profit margins and change the nature of their work.

Following the video, Pongracz Sennyey, Director of Collection Management Services at the University of Vermont's Bailey/Howe Library, will lead panelists through a discussion on the open access movement's effects on promotion and tenure, the peer review process, scholarly associations and small presses and access to government-funded information.

Panelists will include Sherrie Bergman, director of the Hawthorne Longfellow Library at Bowdoin College and a member of the Association for Research Libraries Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition; Michael T. Clarke, executive editor for the American Academy of Pediatrics; and Gary Ward, an associate professor in the University of Vermont's Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics and a member of the National Library of Medicine Public Access Working Group.

Information: 656-9980

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On Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. at the altar, volunteers from Romance Languages and Latin American Studies will serve the traditional tamales, Day of the Dead bread and hot chocolate. The display will include photographs of recently deceased UVM colleagues.

the view covered [the 2004 UVM observance of Día de los Muertos.](#)

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NOTABLES

October 26, 2005

Awards and Honors

Dr. **Philip Ades**, professor of medicine and director of cardiac rehabilitation, received the Outstanding Volunteer award from the Community Health Center of Burlington at the organization's 34th annual meeting on Oct. 27. Ades has provided volunteer cardiology care to CHCB patients for over a decade. "We honor his years of service to make a lasting difference in our patients' lives and his continued support of our mission of health care for the whole community," the CHCB stated in its newsletter.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars recently inducted two faculty members from the psychology department as Distinguished Members: **Bill Falls**, associate professor of psychology, who delivered the keynote address at the UVM NSCS induction ceremony, and **Tim Stickle**, assistant professor of psychology.

NSCS has a strong emphasis on both scholarship and community service. Students in the UVM chapter nominated Falls and Stickle for their scholarly achievements, their support of students in pursuing academic excellence, their willingness to step up as community and national leaders, and their generosity in giving back to the community.

Dr. **Naomi Fukagawa**, professor of medicine, was selected to serve as an at-large delegate to the White House Conference on Aging from Dec. 11 to 14 in Washington, D.C. by the WHCoA Policy Committee. The WHCoA takes place once every ten years. The 2005 WHCoA, the fifth WHCoA in history, will focus on the aging of today and tomorrow, including 78 million baby boomers who will begin to turn 60 in January 2006. Its purpose is to make recommendations to the president and congress on national aging policies for the next ten years and beyond. At-large delegates will represent a wide group of varied interests and professions including aging and health professionals, baby boomers, business and industry, disability, non-profit and veterans from all over the country.

Dr. **Allan Ramsay**, professor and vice chair of family medicine, has been named the Vermont Medical Society 2005 Physician of the Year. He received the award at the VMS annual meeting in Killington on Oct. 15. Ramsey was nominated for the award by a local physician in recognition of the care and concern he showed his family during a recent family illness. Ramsay is the director of the inpatient hospital service for family medicine at Fletcher Allen and is taking on an expanded role in palliative care there. He has over 25 years of service to UVM and Fletcher Allen, has practiced family medicine at Colchester Family Practice for over 20 years, and has served on numerous community boards, including as chair of the board at the Community Health Center and co-director of Champlain Valley Hospice.

Karen Richardson-Nassif, research associate professor and director of research and pre-doctoral programs in family medicine and director of assessment in the Office of Medical Education, received the Vermont Women in Higher Education Jackie M. Gibbons Leadership Award on Oct. 14 at the Vermont Women in Higher Education annual meeting luncheon. The award is presented to a woman who has demonstrated leadership ability, served as a model and mentor, developed innovative programs, and contributed significantly to the institution and profession.

Mark C. Starrett, professor of plant and soil sciences, received the Outstanding Advisor Award from Alpha Zeta, a national agriculture honor fraternity, at the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Green Mountain Chapter of Alpha Zeta. The ceremony culminated with the induction

of Governor James Douglas as an honorary member of chapter. President Fogel, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Deans Johnson and Vadya, as well as AZ alums, former advisors and other special guests were in attendance at the ceremony held at the Wyndham Hotel on Oct. 8th following Ag Day on the main campus at UVM.

Publications and Presentations

David Jones, assistant professor of business administration, and his co-authors at the University of Calgary and University of Manitoba, published an article titled "Applicant attraction to organizations and job choice: A meta-analytic review of the correlates of recruiting outcomes" in the September issue of the *Journal of Applied Psychology*. The study represents the first empirical summary of employee recruitment literature. The authors used path analysis to analyze relationships among meta-analytically derived population estimates. Specifically, the authors tested models about how various types of predictors (job-organization characteristics, recruiter behaviors, perceptions of the recruiting process, perceived fit with the organization and job, and hiring expectancies) relate to attitudinal, cognitive and behavioral outcomes. Results showed that applicant attitudes and behavioral intentions mediated the predictor-job choice relationships.

October 19, 2005

Awards and Honors

Laurel Broughton, lecturer of English, was elected to a Derek S. Brewer Visiting Fellowship at Emmanuel College, Cambridge University. She will be in residence at Cambridge for the spring term of 2006, continuing her research on medieval miracles of the Virgin.

Publications and Presentations

Martha Dewees, associate professor of social work, is the author of a new book for social work students and practitioners. *Contemporary Social Work Practice* is the second in a series by McGraw-Hill of innovative texts, software and custom electronic content primarily aimed at foundation courses in social work. Dewees' intent was to translate the guiding theoretical perspectives of the UVM department (social justice, human rights, the strengths perspective and critical social construction) into purposeful social work practice with real people in real contexts. The book's primary audience is senior-level undergraduate students with some crossover into the first year of MSW preparation. The book is accompanied by a custom Web site, online reader and CD-ROM.

Rebecca McCauley, professor of communication sciences, presented a nationally attended video-enhanced teleconference on the subject of childhood apraxia of Speech from her office in Pomeroy Hall on Sept. 29. It was attended by 100 individual speech-language pathologists and 132 groups ranging in size from 5 to 20 from around the country, making it the largest of such conference ever sponsored by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. McCauley presented with Shelley Velleman of the University of Massachusetts. Childhood apraxia of speech is a severe speech sound disorder in children that, although rare, is often associated with speech production difficulties that persist into older childhood and increased risk for literacy difficulties. With suspected genetic and neurologic etiologies, this disorder has received increasing research attention in the past 20 years.

McCauley also conducted a one-day workshop on the assessment motor speech disorders in children for the Vermont Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Burlington on Oct. 6. More than 90 speech-language pathologists from Vermont and neighboring states attended this workshop to learn about current methods used in the identification and description of motor planning and execution problems affecting speech production in children.

October 12, 2005

Awards and Honors