

NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

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FEEDBACK

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UVM HOMEPAGE

'Press One for Health'



Dr. IVR? University Scholar John Helzer is a pioneer in using interactive voice-response technology to monitor patients and support treatments. (Photo: Andy Duback)

Don't let the title of Dr. John Helzer's Nov. 15 University Scholar lecture — "Dr. IVR" — fool you. Interactive voice-response technology is only one piece of a very dense and interesting pie of important accomplishments made throughout his 35-year academic career.

[FULL STORY ►](#)

CURRENT NEWS BRIEFS AND EVENTS

[Iraq Vet Student to Screen Film, Lead War Discussion](#)

[Nonprofit Leader Discusses 'Turning Passion Into Power'](#)

[Some 'Macbeth' Tix Still Available](#)

[Panel Looks at Vermont's Digital Divide](#)

[November Is Time to Tune In Free Concerts](#)

[Take a Shot at the Flu Nov. 9-10](#)

[Ecocritic to Lecture on American Classics](#)

[Box City to Raise Homelessness Awareness](#)

[The Davis Deal](#) It's 296 days and counting until the opening of the Dudley H. Davis Center. Our reporter canvassed for frequently asked questions — and, of course, their answers — about UVM's new student center.

[Politics, Student](#)

[Style](#) There's a good chance that Rachel Weston, president of the 2006 Graduate Student Senate, woke up on Nov. 8 feeling a little tired. She had been busy knocking on all of the roughly 3,000 doors in her Burlington district to tell them about her plans and register new voters. The payoff came on Election Day when Weston easily won her bid to become a Vermont state representative.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

November 9-12, Board of Trustees meetings. Various times and locations. Information: [Meeting dates and schedules](#)

November 10, 6 p.m. Self-Defense Training: Women's Awareness with Jay Smith, founder of Integrated Fitness Systems and president of FitForce. Ira Allen Chapel. Information: (802) 999-6897

November 10, 7:30 p.m. Lane Series Concert: Rufus Reid. Recital Hall. \$25. Tickets: 802-86-FLYNN

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UVM HOMEPAGE

'Press One for Health'

Psychiatrist and University Scholar John Helzer's innovative work with telephone voice-response technology supports research and treatment

By Jennifer Nachbur

Article published Nov 08, 2006



Dr. IVR? University Scholar John Helzer is a pioneer in using interactive voice-response technology to monitor patients and support treatments. (Photo: Andy Duback)

Don't let the title of Dr. John Helzer's Nov. 15 University Scholar lecture — "Dr. IVR" — fool you. Interactive voice-response technology is only one piece of a very dense and interesting pie of important accomplishments made throughout his 35-year academic career.

As a young psychiatrist at Washington University in St. Louis, Helzer joined a distinguished team of researchers at the U.S. Army General Hospital in Fort Gordon, Ga., in an examination of narcotic dependence among returning Vietnam veterans. According to one of his psychiatry colleagues, this work, which demonstrated the importance of prior use and environment in continued dependence, "revolutionized scientific understanding of narcotic and other drug dependence." Helzer was also a leader in the development of multiple editions of the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, the diagnostic manual used by mental health clinicians and researchers. He came to UVM as professor and chair of psychiatry in 1989.

In nominating Helzer for University Scholar, one colleague explained that "alcohol use is especially difficult to study across time, because unlike many abused substances, there are no long-lasting metabolites to monitor."

A successful innovation

Helzer's approach to the problem was to borrow an idea from private business. Early in his tenure at UVM, Helzer worked as a consultant to the Vermont Alcohol Research Center, where the idea of using telephone voice-response technology was hatched. The goal of the group, which

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included former psychiatry faculty member John Searles and Daniel Walter, an information technology professional in psychiatry, was simple: Make it easier for alcohol-dependent research participants to report information about their drinking. Initially, voicemail allowed a repository for this reporting, but it lacked the option to ask and respond to specific questions.

“We thought we’d try what the bank does,” said Helzer, referring to the “please press one now”-style of prompts typical of IVR. This low-cost technology, which facilitates collecting of information on the frequency and patterns of substance abuse, requires a dedicated computer to run the system, a script for the system to follow and a programmer to set up the computer.

With those pieces in place, Helzer, Searles and Walter launched a pilot study, recruiting more than 30 male subjects identified as heavy alcohol consumers, and examined the effectiveness of the technology over a two-year period. The resulting compliance — participants made between 90 and 95 percent of the calls expected — made it clear that the technology held promise and might have a future in strengthening interventions.

Helzer’s first funding for his IVR research came from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, or NIAAA, and focused on an alcohol-use screening and intervention with primary care and family medicine clinicians. The five-year study enrolled roughly 350 participants, and, in addition to the in-person intervention, included daily reporting in response to a single question regarding daily alcohol consumption.

“The most helpful aspect of this intervention was the visual report of the participants’ daily feedback,” says Helzer. “We could show them, day-by-day, how much they were drinking compared to the goal they had set for themselves.”

From monitoring to treatment

At this point, Helzer had begun collaborating with psychiatry colleague Dr. Magdalena Naylor to examine a more elaborate intervention. Therapeutic IVR (TIVR) was designed to keep chronic pain patients on track after receiving cognitive behavioral therapy, a form of psychotherapy, which involves identifying negative patterns of thinking and reacting and modifying or replacing them with more helpful behavior patterns. They launched another pilot study and eventually received National Institute on Drug Abuse funding for a controlled study.

After the success of the pain study, Helzer thought it would be interesting to incorporate the cognitive behavioral therapy component into his alcohol dependence IVR work. The Office of Patient-Oriented Research at UVM’s General Clinical Research Center funded a pilot study of the TIVR for alcohol dependence, which led to the funding he received from the NIAAA to run his current study. The TIVR system is designed to supplement traditional behavioral therapy to prevent relapses. In

addition to making daily reports, study participants can use the TIVR to review and/or rehearse coping skills they learned in CBT and get personalized feedback about their progress.

Helzer believes IVR technology holds great promise as a potential treatment method for a host of health problems, having now looked at its merit as an intervention with alcohol-dependent, pain and weight control patients (with Naylor).

“This work relates back to the first 15 years of my research career doing epidemiology,” he explains, referring to his tenure at Washington University. “That left me with an interest in interventions that could work in large populations. IVR is easy to set up and inexpensive, so the incremental costs of adding new populations, new clinics, etcetera, is really trivial,” he adds.

The next step, according to Helzer, is a recently funded NIAAA grant, which, in collaboration with Dr. Charles Maclean, associate professor of medicine, will pilot-test a stand-alone IVR intervention that would work without the live intervention of a primary care clinician. Helzer does not expect it will be as effective as a live intervention, but if it shows positive effects, the program could have huge public health implications, particularly in rural areas where access to providers is an issue.

Why does the technology work? “There’s a long literature that self-monitoring really makes a difference in people’s behavior that goes back 50 years,” says Helzer. “Just monitoring your own behavior influences good behavior – you’re your own best critic.”

Helzer’s University Scholar Lecture, titled “Dr. IVR: Meeting Growing Health Care Needs by Promoting Patient Self-Directed Care,” will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 4 p.m. in Waterman’s Memorial Lounge.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

The Deal with the Davis Center

By Tom Weaver

Article published Nov 03, 2006

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Linear progress: Exterior work on the new Dudley H. Davis Center, including the installation of these Vermont-produced slate roof tiles, is anticipated to be largely complete at the end of December. (Image: Courtesy of the Davis Center)

It's 296 days and counting until the opening of the Dudley H. Davis Center. As work continues on UVM's long-anticipated student center, we walked a slow circle around the perimeter of the construction site on a recent sunny afternoon and asked students if watching the building take

shape has inspired any questions. Here's what they were wondering:

What's going on with the tunnel that used to go under Main Street?

It's tough to wax nostalgic about that dank, culvert-like passage, but it was a foolproof way across Main. That option will return, with style, when the Davis Center opens. A lobby building on the south side of Main will lead into the former tunnel, but the corrugated metal tube of yore will be replaced with a finished interior space. In essence, you'll feel as if you are in the Davis Center as you pass under Main Street. With the help of a recent grant from Sodexho, the north end of the tunnel will have a "sustainability gallery" with green building information and real-time data monitoring the environmental and energy performance of the DC.

I'm a junior. Will it be done in time for me to enjoy it during my senior year?

Definitely. And, assuming the project remains on schedule, you'll be able to enjoy it for your entire senior year. First chance to set foot in Davis promises to be as soon as late next spring when the UVM Bookstore moves in and there is limited access to the building. Look for that around commencement. Student Life staff offices will move in over the summer. Student organization offices will be boxed and moved over from Billings to await students' return in August. The building is scheduled to be

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totally completed and open when students return for the fall semester. The formal dedication will be Friday, Oct. 5, 2007, during Homecoming and Family Weekend.

I heard they're going for LEED certification. How is that going to turn out? What level are they going for?

Planners anticipate that the Davis Center will be one of the first student centers of its size to receive LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification. The hope is to achieve this distinction at the silver level. Here's what some of that translates to in the building: Whenever possible, materials are purchased from within a 500-mile radius. Going a step better, a number of the building materials are from Vermont — slate from Fair Haven, maple from Shelburne, bricks from Swanton. Design and energy management will result in an estimated 52 percent savings in electricity and heating and cooling, and a 41 percent reduction in water cost. Builders emphasize using recycled materials. As a sign on top of the rubble heap in front of Bailey/Howe proclaims, more than 90 percent of the former Carrigan Building will be reused or recycled. For more information on Davis' green features: [Davis LEED Certification](#)

The supports in the big arched windows form a V on top of a T. Did the architects plan that on purpose?

The large Vermont abbreviation is a happy design coincidence. Ray Lavigne, project manager, jokes he's sure the design team wouldn't mind taking credit for the Vermont look, but the V and T are all about supporting the building's structure, not school spirit.

I heard there was going to be a connector to the library. Is that true?

Yes, but not right away. A 600-seat performing arts theater is planned as phase two of the Davis Center project. That structure would connect to the main Davis building and also link to Bailey/Howe Library via an enclosed walkway.

What's going to be in that glassed-in space at the top of the tower on the east side?

The glass windows in the east tower are at the ceiling height of a meeting room off the ballroom on the fourth level. The ceiling height is almost 40 feet, giving the room a voluminous feeling and natural light from above.

I heard there's going to be a bar? Will they serve alcohol?

Brennan's Pub and Bistro, seating approximately 200, will be located in the northeast corner of the first floor. Though current plans are to serve a limited selection of beer and wine, the vibe will be much more small restaurant/bistro than bar. A stage in Brennan's promises to make it a popular spot for music, open mikes and other performances. By the way,

the bistro isn't named for UVM's longtime basketball coach, but for Robert and Carolyn Brennan, an alumni couple whose gift to the university was key in the creation of this part of the Davis Center.

Is it going to raise tuition costs?

A variety of funding sources are behind the construction and operation of the Davis Center. These include private philanthropy (thanks, Davis family), income generated by businesses in the center, and a student fee increase. The fee in support of Davis has been implemented and progressively increased in steps over the last several years. It will be \$500 in 2007-08.

When will the exterior be done so there isn't so much noise on campus?

The Davis Center exterior should be finished by the end of December. Interior work, which will not create exterior noise, continues through fall, winter, and spring.

What's that green and yellow stuff on parts of the building?

It's spray-foam insulation, which also serves as a vapor barrier. The material is part of the highly efficient exterior envelope of the building which will help in conserving energy, a literal display of the "green" design features in Davis.

What is the section that looks like a parking garage on the west side?

It's an underground loading dock. Loading docks are ugly (unless you're a fan of 1950's, Soviet-style architecture), so the Davis Center will go underground with its shipping and receiving for the bookstore, dining services and other functions. To smooth out the aesthetics, a green roof will top the dock, featuring grass and ornamental plantings along a sidewalk to Morrill Hall. A large outdoor patio adjoining the main dining area indoors will run along the west face of the Davis Center.

What businesses are going in there?

Can't say for certain yet, but Student Life surveys of the campus community showed little interest in re-creating downtown Burlington with national retail chains such as Gap or Abercrombie. Instead, expect to see services such as a copy shop, bank outlet, pharmacy/wellness center. In addition to the UVM Bookstore, the CATcard Service Center and bookstore-run convenience store will call Davis home.

Information: [Davis Center](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Politics, Student Style

By Jon Reidel

Article published Nov 08, 2006



Rachel Weston, 2006 graduate of the MPA program and victorious candidate for state representative, talks with gubernatorial candidate Scudder Parker outside Lawrence Barnes School polling place. (Photo: Jon Reidel)

There's a good chance that Rachel Weston, president of the 2006 Graduate Student Senate, woke up on Nov. 8 feeling a little tired. She had been busy knocking on all of the roughly 3,000 doors in her Burlington district to tell them about her plans for livable wages, affordable healthcare and clean energy. In

the process, she also registered more than 500 people to vote. The payoff came on Election Day when Weston easily won her bid to become one of Vermont's youngest state representatives.

"I took a class with former governor Madeleine Kunin called 'Women, Politics and Leadership' that dealt with women and their struggle to vote," says Weston, who easily captured her Old North End district with 1,676 votes. "That translated into young people being the underrepresented. Less than five percent of elected officials nationwide are under age 35. That was part of the reason why I ran for graduate student senate; so young people had more of a voice."

Just six months removed from graduating from the university's Master of Public Administration program, Weston was one of dozens of students involved in recent local, state and national elections. Although none ran for office like Weston, a feat last attempted by a student in 1994 when current State Rep. Dave Zuckerman lost by 59 votes, many could be found working long hours making phone calls, holding signs, producing Web content and registering voters.

Vibrant energy

When asked how many hours he worked for the Vermont Democratic Party the week prior to Election Day, Kevin Lumpkin, president of the College Democrats, responded by jokingly asking, "What's 12 times seven?" Lumpkin says some out-of-state students, including Eddy Foster,

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treasurer for the College Democrats, went home to work on key U.S. House and Senate races. Some of these decisions were made based on which races were most critical. Foster headed home to Pennsylvania, where a number of critical national races were hanging in the balance. Other students remained in Burlington, but voted in key races in their home states via absentee ballot.

Alden Guptill, political director for the Vermont Republican Party, says the youthful energy of students can go a long way in keeping a campaign vibrant. On Nov. 7, students were utilized primarily to remind voters to go to the polls through phone calling, sign waving and coordinating rides to polling places. "Working on a campaign allows young people to get an inside glimpse of the political process," Guptill says. "They play an important role for us."

The roughly 10 million college students nationwide have long been considered a potentially key voting group. Efforts like "Rock the Vote" have had some impact on student voting, although the 18-24-year-old age group is still the least likely to cast a ballot. Buried inside the Higher Education Act of 1998 is a requirement that colleges must provide voter-registration forms to every enrolled student or risk losing their federal funding.

Junior Neil Connors, a full-time paid staff member for the VDP who hopes to work for a 2008 presidential campaign, says new technologies such as Facebook, a social networking service that is hugely popular among students, may eventually turn the tide.

"It's tough to get people our age to believe they can make a difference," said Connors on Election Day between sips of coffee and making phone calls. "But I think it's starting to change with the use of technology. There's some really innovative ways being used to get students more involved."

Outreach, old and new

Weston generated 140 new Facebook friends during her campaign buildup, which she says helped create excitement among people her age who often communicate through cell phones, blogs and Internet sites. "Young voters have different ways of communicating than past generations," says Weston, a jazz musician who threw a party called "Vote Loudly" at Nectar's to celebrate the 500 voter registrations. "I tried to reach people through new means of communication, but also by meeting as many people as possible."

Students of each political party approached the election and voter registration efforts in different ways. Renee Lariviere, president of the College Republicans, says members did some phone-banking for U.S. Senate hopeful Rich Tarrant and that Bennett Cowie, a former College Republican secretary, took a semester off from school to work for the Tarrant campaign. The College Republicans also hosted two events for U.S. House candidate Martha Rainville and a recent graduate worked as

deputy field director for the Rainville campaign. A number of members also held internships with the Tarrant campaign over the summer.

Molly Epstein, co-president of the Campus Progressives, says her organization did much of its work in the months preceding the election by holding voter-registration drives two days a week outside the library with some progressive candidates on hand to share their political views. Epstein, who also helped put up signs, spent Election Day at polling locations conducting surveys for a class.

“It’s a different time than during the Vietnam War,” says Scudder Parker, who lost his bid to unseat Gov. Jim Douglas, while standing outside Lawrence Barnes School with Weston on Election Day. “Young people realize that there are a number of ways to reach people about a number of different issues. Rachel and Kevin Lumpkin understand that.”

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Iraq Vet Student to Screen Film, Lead War Discussion

By Kevin Foley

Article published Nov 08, 2006

Drew Cameron, who recently arrived on campus as a transfer student from the Community College of Vermont, is both a forestry student in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources and an Iraq veteran who is active in anti-war causes.

He will lead a discussion following a screening of *The Ground Truth: The Human Cost of War*, a documentary featuring the voices of soldiers who served in Iraq that the *New Yorker* called "emotionally potent," on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Campus Center Theater, Billings.

the view talked with Cameron briefly about his service and the film.

Tell me a little bit about your time in the Army and Iraq.

I enlisted in August of 2000, when I was 18. I did four years on active duty as a field artilleryman, and I did two years in the Vermont National Guard in an administrative capacity. I just got out in August.

I was in Iraq from April to December of 2003, I was there as part of the initial wave, Operation Iraqi Freedom 1. We were stationed in a place called Camp Anaconda... We traveled around central Iraq in lighter vehicles, and we would find and seize weapons stockpiles... We would take anything from rockets to small arms to tank rounds, and we would either stockpile them for the Iraqi security forces or destroy them.

How did your activism grow?

I didn't particularly seek any sort of contemporary news or literature before the Army and Iraq. I wasn't political. I had faith in my leadership and my government, faith that we were doing the correct thing. I wasn't super gung-ho about going to Iraq, but I was ready and prepared to do my job.

I didn't become active with Iraq Veterans Against the War until a couple years after I returned. I went to a rally in Montpelier and met some of the guys. My whole approach to dealing with it had been to not deal with it. I tried to swallow it, and get on with my life... It took time to gain confidence in my ability to say things about the war and actually begin approaching the memories I had been trying to ignore. The process has been exceptional — there is so much camaraderie with the other people

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in IVAW.

You're doing a lot of traveling to speak with students about your opposition to the war. How do they respond?

I'm a college student, this is the group I belong to. I try to communicate how this affects so many people. The majority of people fighting over there are in our age group. You can get bogged down with schoolwork or things on campus, and yet at the same time there's war – wars, actually – raging overseas.

What are people going to see if they come out to see *The Ground Truth*?

I think the most powerful thing one could take away from this film is first-hand knowledge. It's based on interviews with people who served over there. It's structured in three parts – recruitment, deployment, and coming home, which is obviously a big part of it... the war's not over when you're home. The biggest thing I've heard in terms of a reaction is that it solidifies peoples' opinions – a student might say they're against war, but they don't know how to respond when people say they have to support the war to support the troops. But here some of the troops are, saying we don't support this, this is wrong.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Nonprofit Leader Discusses 'Turning Passion Into Power'

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 06, 2006

Robert Egger, founder of the DC Central Kitchen, a community kitchen dedicated to food recycling and distribution for the needy, and author of the award-winning book *Begging for Change*, will give a talk titled "Turning Passion Into Power: Nonprofits and Their Role in Shaping Change" on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 5 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building.

Egger's talk is part of the Vermont Business Center's Leadership Speaker Series.

The speech will offer a vision of moving "beyond the band-aids" in addressing societal issues from someone who knows how this desire unites and propels nonprofit volunteers and administrators alike. The event is sponsored by University of Vermont Continuing Education, Community-University Partnerships in Service-Learning, the Department of Student Life, the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics, the College of Agriculture and Life Science and Career Services.

Information: [Vermont Business Center](#)

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Some 'Macbeth' Tix Still Available

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 06, 2006

Limited numbers of tickets are available for the UVM Theatre production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The *Burlington Free Press* called the production "terrific" and a "great, great show."

Tickets may be available for Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. for an ASL-interpreted version of the play, and Saturday, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. There also may be limited seating available on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m.

Because of the demand for tickets, UVM Theatre is no longer accepting online ticket orders. Call the Royall Tyler box office at 656-2094 for information about available seats weekdays from 12 to 5 p.m., or inquire in person at the office from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Faculty and staff tickets are \$14, plus a \$2 handling fee for phone orders.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Panel Looks at Vermont's Digital Divide

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 06, 2006

Is Vermont connected – or out of the loop?

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, the Center for Research on Vermont will sponsor a research-in-progress seminar giving an update on Vermont's digital divide. The free, public event begins at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building and features panelists Lauren-Glenn Davitian, Center for Media and Democracy; Al and Laura Duey, consultants to the Vermont Council on Rural Development; Jack Hoffman, Vermont Broadband Council; Dick Pecor, Town of Colchester; and Frederick Schmidt, UVM Center for Rural Studies.

Vermont's governor hopes to provide broadband access to voice, data and video services for all by 2010. The panel will explore whether these initiatives are succeeding in providing the tools, training and transmission networks necessary for the state to fully participate in the emerging global "information society." Panelists will highlight a variety of current projects and assess whether 2010 is a realistic goal, the challenges Vermont must overcome to reach this goal and the necessary next steps.

Information: 656-4389 or [Center for Research on Vermont](#)

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EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

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UVM HOMEPAGE

November Is Time to Tune In Free Concerts

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 07, 2006

Music students, faculty and affiliates are performing a variety of concerts throughout the month of November. All concerts are free and open to the general public unless otherwise noted.

- Thursday, Nov. 9. 7:30 p.m. Anne Janson, a member of the applied music faculty, will present a flute recital accompanied by faculty artists Paul Orgel on piano and John Mantegna on classical guitar. The program features "L'Histoire du Tango" by Astor Piazzolla, a cycle of four movements that cover the evolution of the tango through the 20th century. It also includes Mauro Guililani's "Duo Concertante, Opus 25"; "Sonatine" by Henri Dutilleux; and "Sonata in A Major" by Cesar Franck. Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus. Information: 656-7776
- Sunday, Nov. 12, 3 p.m. The University of Vermont Concert Choir and Burlington Choral Society, under the direction of Professor David Neiweem, will perform excerpts from Berlioz's "L'enfance du Christ"; Verdi's "Nabucco"; Mozart's "Coronation Mass"; Handel's "Messiah"; Honneger's "David" and Haydn's "Creation." Ira Allen Chapel. Tickets (\$18 general admission; \$15 students and senior citizens) through the Flynn Box Office: 863-5966.
- Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. The University of Vermont Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Michael Hopkins, will be performing selections from Verdi's "La Forza del Destino," Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite" and Tchaikovsky's "Overture to Romeo and Juliet." Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus.
- Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m. Music students will perform both jazz and classical selections on a variety of instruments. Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus.
- Thursday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. The University Jazz Ensemble, directed by Joseph Davidian, will perform a variety of jazz favorites, including, "Georgia on My Mind," "Groove Merchant" and more. Music Building Recital Hall, Redstone Campus.

Information: 656-3040

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NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTS

NOTABLES

SEARCH

PRINT THIS ISSUE

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FEEDBACK

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Take a Shot at the Flu Nov. 9-10

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 07, 2006

Flu shots for faculty and staff are available on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 9-10 in the faculty and staff lounge on the fifth floor of Waterman Building. The clinic will run from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on both days. No registration is required or desired – just come on down. The cost is \$11, and organizers request exact change.

The clinic is sponsored by Fletcher Allen Health Care Community Health Improvement Office and UVM Human Resources: Faculty and Staff Health Promotion Services.

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Ecocritic to Lecture on American Classics

By Amanda Waite

Article published Nov 08, 2006

Hubert Zapf, chair of the Department of American Literature at the University of Ausburg, Germany, will deliver a Burack President's Distinguished Lecture on "The State of Ecocriticism and the Function of Literature as Cultural Ecology" on Monday, Nov. 13 at 4 p.m. in North Lounge, Billings.

Zapf, a German scholar of American literature and culture, will discuss the emerging field of ecocriticism, the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. A relative newcomer to literary theory, ecocriticism employs a cross-discipline approach to the study of literature.

Zapf will draw examples from Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* and Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

A reception in the Billings Apse will immediately follow.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Box City to Raise Homelessness Awareness

By The View Staff

Article published Nov 08, 2006

On the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 15, approximately 100 University of Vermont students will give up the comforts of home for a night to sleep outside in a box on the CBW green. The Box City Homelessness Awareness Project is an effort to raise awareness around issues of homelessness to the campus through experiential learning.

Set up of the "city" will take place Wednesday between noon and 5 p.m. with programming beginning at 7 p.m., including a mock soup kitchen, a guest speaker, a screening of *The Homeless Home Movie* and reflection activities before students crawl in large appliance boxes to sleep for the night. The event gives students an opportunity to address issues of hunger and homelessness while meeting new people and strengthening the bond of our campus community.

The event is being organized by UVM's Residents Involved in Service Experiences Program, a student community service group, as part of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Boxes are being generously donated by local appliance stores. Participating students will donate \$3 to reserve their box which will be donated to COTS Shelter in downtown Burlington.

Another related event includes a film screening on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 8 p.m. of *Invisible Children*, a documentary following the plight of children in the war-region of Uganda, in the Campus Center Theater, Billings.

Information: Melinda Atkinson, 656-2060.

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NOTABLES

November 8, 2006

Awards and Honors

Courtney Ehlers, a graduate student in the Department of Communication Sciences, received a research grant through the Organization for Autism Research's annual graduate research competition. Ehlers' project will examine the quality of narratives of children with autism spectrum disorders compared to children who are typically developing when presented with various types of tasks and when speaking to different listeners. Ehlers' research proposal was among 19 articles submitted in the OAR competition. The data from her study will be presented as a master's thesis in completion of graduate program requirements. It will also be submitted for inclusion at the national convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and eventually prepared for publication in a professional journal. Ehlers developed her study with the assistance of Patrica Prelock, professor and chair of communication sciences.

A segment of a course developed by **Kathleen Liang**, associate professor of community development and applied economics, won a national award. The course, "Introduction to Community Entrepreneurship," includes an activity that assembles students into small teams to create on-campus businesses with one dollar each in start up funding. The [Dollar Enterprise](#) activity received the National 3E Learning Best Practice Award. The program is made possible through the support of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and is developed and managed through collaboration between Delta Epsilon Chi and the George Washington University Center for Entrepreneurship Excellence.

Liang was also elected to the board of directors for InventVermont, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission to promote innovation, invention and creativity through educational programs and by providing a mechanism for sharing information among its members and associates. The organization develops and nurtures the capabilities of its members to conceive, develop, patent, market and benefit from the innovation process.

The School of Business Administration's **Vermont Business Center** received a grant from the Vermont Training Program for Manufacturing Businesses, a program of the Vermont Department of Economic Development. The funding provides Vermont manufacturers with the opportunity to attend the VBC's Leadership and Management Certificate seminars, as well as the VBC's Business Coaching Certificate for Leaders

and Managers program, at 50 percent of regular fees. The state training program promotes industrial expansion and encourages the creation and retention of jobs in manufacturing by providing training for new and existing businesses. The VBC taps the faculty and curriculum of the UVM MBA program to support the state's growing businesses. To learn more about upcoming seminars, to register for a seminar or to learn about the grant funding, please visit [Vermont Business Center](#).

Publications and Presentations

Sean Field, assistant professor of history, recently published *Isabelle of France: Capetian Sanctity and Franciscan Identity in the Thirteenth Century*. (University of Notre Dame Press, 2006). The book uses a wealth of previously unstudied material to address significant issues in medieval religious history and draw the life of a remarkable medieval woman who is a significant figure in French and Franciscan history.

David Jones, assistant professor of business administration, conducted a workshop at the fall conference for the Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility. The workshop was co-conducted with Paul Millman, CEO of Chroma Technology, who focused on employee-owned companies. Jones' presentation was titled "Effects of Socially Responsible Practices on the Workforce: Benefits for Firms & Their Employees." He discussed research on the link between socially responsible business practices and organizations' financial performance, and covered the reasons that explain this relationship. Jones offered some practical suggestions and concluded with some preliminary findings from a study in which he is testing his ideas.

Mary Malina, assistant professor of business administration, co-authored an article with Hanne Nørreklit (Arhus School of Business, Denmark) and Frank Selto (University of Colorado at Boulder) which has been accepted for publication in *Contemporary Accounting Research*. The study, titled "Relations Among Measures, Climate of Control and Performance Measurement Models," concludes that effective management control does not require statistically significant cause-and-effect relations in a performance measurement model when other factors create a strong climate of control. Malina, along with co-authors Margaret Abernethy (University of Melbourne), Malcolm Horne (Monash University), Anne Lillis (University of Melbourne) and Frank Selto, received the Management Accounting Research 2005 David Solomons Prize. This prize is awarded annually for the best paper in the view of the editors and the editorial board. Their paper, "A Multi-Method Approach to Building Causal Performance Maps from Expert Knowledge," describes a triangulated approach to building the foundations of a causal performance measurement model.

Susan Maude, assistant professor in early childhood special education, presented the results of a three-year research study with colleagues from the University of North Carolina, the University of Colorado and George Mason University at two conferences this fall. The study, "Crosswalks,"

focused on ways to infuse cultural, linguistic and ability diversity within pre-service early childhood personnel preparation programs across North Carolina. The conferences included the Division for Early Childhood in Little Rock in October and the National Association for Multicultural Education in Phoenix in November.

Matthew Wilson, research assistant professor of business administration and research fellow at the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, has completed guest-editing a special issue in the journal *Ecological Economics: Environmental Benefits Transfer: Methods, Applications and New Directions*. Comprised of 14 peer-reviewed papers, the special issue grew out of collaborative discussions following a workshop jointly sponsored by U.S. EPA and Environment Canada in the spring of 2005 in Washington, DC. The purpose of the special issue is to elucidate the state-of-the-art and science of environmental benefit transfer and to assist practitioners and policy makers in the design and reporting of future transfer research. The articles in the special issue can be accessed via Science Direct at the following address: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/09218009>

November 1, 2006

Awards and Honors

Howard Ball, professor emeritus in political science, **Alexander Stewart**, associate professor in the music department, and **Robert Bartlett**, associate professor in political science, were awarded Fulbright Scholarships for 2006-2007. Ball is spending six months at the University of Szeged in Hungary as a distinguished lecturer on American Constitutional Interpretation. Alexander returned in May after spending ten months in Oaxaca, Mexico conducting research at the Black Mexico Association on "Afro-Mestizo Identity: Music and Culture in Mexico's Costa Chica." Bartlett is scheduled to conduct research and serve as a distinguished lecturer on "International Cooperation in Environmental Policy; EU Institutions and Civil Society Governance in Italy" at Polytechnic Institute of Turin, Italy from February to May of 2007.

Judith Van Houten, director of Vermont EPSCoR and professor of biology, received the 2006 Jackie M. Gribbons Leadership Award from the the Office of Vermont Women in Higher Education. 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.

Robyn Warhol, professor of English has been elected to the Supervisory Board of the English Institute. Located at Harvard University, the English Institute has for decades provided an ongoing discussion of new developments in scholarship, literary criticism and literary theory at an annual conference. For a three-year term, Professor Warhol joins nine other board members in planning topics and selecting speakers at the