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## [New York, New York, Big City of Trees](#)



Rubenstein students and three instructors hit the New York City streets for four days in August 2008. It was the beginning of Natural Resources 378/285: GIS Analysis of New York City's Ecology. Their goal: help the city plant one million new trees. (Photo: Robert Caplin)

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[Professors](#) There is an exclusive and rapidly shrinking club on campus that has a unique perspective of the university that only they can comprehend. It's an alternate universe where hockey games are watched at Gutterson through chicken wire fence instead of Plexiglass; the UVM bookstore is in the basement of Waterman along with three bowling alleys; and students and faculty communicate by speaking face-to-face and writing letters instead of using cell phones or email.

### THE WEEK IN VIEW

Dec. 5. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Board of Trustees Meetings. Fourth Floor, Davis Center. [Information, schedule.](#)

Dec. 5. 7:30 p.m. Lane Series Performance: The Rose Ensemble, mixed chorus, holiday music. \$25 adult, \$20 student. Pre-Concert talk with artists begins at 6:30 p.m. Music Building Recital Hall. [Information, tickets.](#)

Dec. 6. 8 p.m. Top Cats Winter Show. \$5 with UVM ID, \$10 general admission. Ira Allen Chapel. [Information, tickets.](#)

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## New York, New York, Big City of Trees

By Joshua Brown

Article published December 3, 2008

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An urban forest might sound as far-fetched as a rural subway. But New York City already has more than five million trees, and these create a canopy that shades 24 percent of the city according to a 2006 study by the US Forest Service and UVM's Spatial Analysis Laboratory.

While not a moose-filled wilderness, New York's urban forest exists now: cooling city streets, soaking up rainfall and carbon, reducing pollution that triggers asthma, and making twiggy homes for New Yorkers' beloved birds.

Still more trees are needed. Which is why a dozen UVM students at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources are speaking by videoconference to Fiona Watt, New York City's chief of forestry. Together, they're looking for places to put a million new trees.

### Big apple trees

Graduate student Dan Erickson points to a digital map of Brooklyn he and his classmates created with a geographic information system (often called a GIS) program in a lab in the Aiken Center, while Watt and other officials watch the presentation on computers in New York.

"It looks like some kind of fungus is growing in those areas," Erickson says, pointing to several neighborhoods covered with spots. Each spot of the "fungus" is actually a vacant lot, he explains. "These might be good places to plant trees," he says. Overlaying this data with other information, like asthma-related hospitalizations, he identifies a few areas in the borough as top

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priorities for new trees.

Erickson and his classmates, mostly undergraduates, spent four days in August 2008 tramping around the city, studying its trees, meeting neighborhood groups, and collecting data. It was the beginning of Natural Resources 378/285: GIS Analysis of New York City's Ecology.

Led by three scientists who have been working with officials in New York for several years — Austin Troy and Jarlath O'Neil-Dunne from UVM and Morgan Grove from the Forest Service — the students saw New York's realities: burgeoning population, disappearing open space, increasing summer heat brought by climate change, and the city's current tree stock enduring life in a concrete jungle.

In 2007, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced an ambitious goal using analysis from the UVM and Forest Service team: plant a million trees in the next decade. More than 125,000 trees have been planted since the MillionTreesNYC campaign began.

But there's a problem: all the \$400-million Bloomberg allocated to the Parks Department is for trees — and none for planning where to plant them. How to add another 875,000 trees by 2017 — on what land, in what neighborhoods, with which stewards, at what cost — remains an open question.

#### **Arboreal accuracy**

As the students' slides roll by, the answers seem closer. The city has extensive data on land use, existing trees, pollution, parks, pavement, stewardship groups and the like but not the resources to fully explore it. UVM has the technical expertise — and student labor — to analyze this information, searching for a balance of suitable planting locations with neighborhoods in need.

"A tree is a living organism that has to be planted but also cared for," says graduate student Loona Brogan, and that means creating a more complex plan than simply finding empty lots and plopping in trees. "It takes a lot of time and resources to do spatial analysis, and we have tools to help the city," she says.

Though final plans and decisions will, of course, rest with city officials, Erickson and his class partner used the skills they have been developing in the course to identify Bedford, Crown Heights North, Bushwick and a few other areas of Brooklyn as potentially good places for new trees.

"We don't want a million dead trees," says Dexter Locke '09, whose group assessed Manhattan and developed a planting prioritization based on reducing urban "heat islands" and improving air quality. "This is real service on a real problem," he says.

The four-day field trip to New York was essential, says Austin Troy, an associate professor who organized the course. "It's so easy with GIS to be completely abstracted — you don't get a sense of the people, the neighborhoods, the significance of real world constraints," he says. But on the other hand, without the spatial data and remote imaging, many opportunities and best-odds locations would be missed.

Troy and Morgan Grove had been working together for several years with Fiona Watt and other officials in New York helping them to measure and quantify their existing urban tree canopy and how much plantable area there might be. It's part of a larger effort that they've been championing to help cities around the country understand and enhance the value of their urban forests.

"What the students are doing here is useful in New York," Grove says, "but also for our work in other cities from Burlington to Washington, D.C."

"It's amazing to see so many projects with our data," Fiona Watt says via speakerphone, as the students complete their video presentations. "We'd have to commit our GIS person to a year's worth of work to come up with what your class did in a few weeks."

theview

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## INTERview: John P. Burke

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published December 2, 2008



John Burke, an authority on presidential transitions, is in the spotlight as the world watches Barack Obama prepare to take office in the midst of two wars and a financial meltdown. (Photo: Raj Chawla)

*When the White House readies for a new regime, political scientist and presidential scholar Professor John Burke becomes a hot commodity, his expertise tapped by journalists around the country. Likewise, in early November, the view wasted no time*

*getting his thoughts on the Obama transition and early administration. It was an exercise in speculation based on solid credentials — Burke authored the seminal Presidential Transitions: From Politics to Power and Becoming President: The Bush Transition, 2000-2003. Here are some of Burke's early opinions and a few new ones on the building of this new presidency.*

**THE VIEW:** Reading about this transition, one encounters a lot of similar rhetoric, some of which seems contradictory. "There is only one president at a time," is the old saw, but now the President-elect is facing "the worst economic crisis since FDR in 1932." How can Obama effectively and diplomatically navigate the intense pressure he's under to turn things around?

**BURKE:** There's not much he can practically do until he becomes president. There's a lot he can rhetorically accomplish but he has to be careful that it doesn't seem like he's assuming that he's president already; it's a fine line to walk.

The public orchestration, particularly in terms of the economy, is important, as in the advisory board (he appointed within two days of election). It's to provide him advice but also a signal that, here's the first time you see me since I was elected and this is what I'm focusing on. I think that's about the best he can do. "There's one president at a time" is pretty much the road map here.

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**At his first press conference, Obama used the phrase “deliberate haste” to characterize how he will make his staff and cabinet selections. You mentioned the public face of the transition; can you offer some insight into what it might look like behind the scenes making these choices?**

My sense is that the Obama transition is very well organized. They have done an excellent job before Election Day in beginning to get the pieces together. Those of us who study transitions think that is very important and important to do so in a quiet way, which they've done. It's clear from reading between the lines in some of the coverage that has come out that the Obama transition has been studying the kinds of policies they want to pursue with the new Congress and figuring out which ones to go with now and which ones to hold off on. They've taken a very deep look at the executive orders that President Bush has issued — and this is before Election Day — to figure out after inauguration which ones (they're) going to rescind quickly. So all of that, I think, bodes very well.

**You write about “decisions about decision-making.” Is it generally more important to spend the transition mapping out how the process will work than making specific decisions? Are we in special circumstances that challenge that notion?**

You have to do both. Clearly, during the transition you've got to focus your agenda. From all of the things talked about during the campaign, what will get through Congress? You can't have everything. You have to make decisions about who to appoint. But in appointing these people, in terms of a White House staff, cabinet, and sub-cabinet positions, the information and advice that the president gets and will use to make decisions will come internally and you have to think about how that information gets to the president. What kind of meetings are we going to have? Are we going to rely on various cabinet councils like the national economic council? Are there new councils we might create — an energy council? When the president is making decisions, who are the people in the room?

I think the classic example of a failure would be Clinton because they made appointment decisions late. And once they got into office, at least early on, they were very disorganized, and I think that really affects what the president can do. The early period — and I won't say a hundred days, I think that's artificial — the first six to seven months are key. That's the most productive period any president will have, and that's where successes will come — maybe not immediately, but that's where you lay the groundwork. That's where Bush got his tax cuts, where Reagan got his tax cuts, where Clinton began to go off the rails in terms of his health care plan. I think the Obama people recognize that.

**It seems that a president's leadership style can have major consequences in the transition and the effectiveness of an administration. What is your assessment of Obama?**

I don't have a fully formed sense yet, but I think there are a couple of things which have struck me. One, he ran a very organized, disciplined campaign. They stayed on message; they didn't get rattled. Obama seems open to input; it's not like he's fixed in his views, he's calm and collected, an intelligent consumer of information. I think what we've seen so far bodes well for him as a decision maker. Also, the staff operated as a very collegial group, which is interesting because usually campaign people are supercharged, type-A personalities who are often after each other; I think that is a good sign. Now, the unknowable is how new people will affect the mix. How is Rahm Emanuel as chief of staff going to fit in? That might be interesting.

**Many top posts have now been filled. What is your assessment of the picks — does it feel like Clinton administration redux?**

There are a lot of people with Clinton-era experience, but in many ways that is an advantage: they know how the White House works, how Congress works, how Washington works. At the same time, there are many appointees — especially in the White House — who have close ties to Obama. So I think there is a good balance. This is especially so in terms of his foreign policy team: Gates' continuation at Defense will be a good balance to Clinton at State; Gen. Jones, NSC advisor, is a respected figure with ties to both parties and he looks like someone who will be an effective, honest broker of the decision-making process.

**Would you care to venture any predictions of how this early presidency may play out?**

This is a hard transition to project forward because the context in which they are operating is so difficult. This is not a normal transition time given the severity of the economy, given that it is during wartime, given the budgetary restraints, recession — the cost of the bailout. I think it will have a significant impact on what this administration can do, but I don't know exactly what that is. He won't be able, at least immediately, to push forward big-ticket items that aren't related to the economy. They're going to have to think about these constraints in ways that we haven't seen recent presidents have to. Usually it's a political calculation. Now it's going to be both a political and economic calculation.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Peace, Love and Professors

By Jon Reidel

Article published December 3, 2008



Garrison Nelson (R) talks with U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy in 1975 when Leahy was first elected to office and Nelson was in his seventh year as a professor of political science.

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the UVM bookstore is in the basement of Waterman along with three bowling alleys; and students and faculty communicate by speaking face-to-face and writing letters instead of using cell phones or email.

Clay Warren, a supervisor senior mechanic, and Jerold Lucey, M.D., professor of pediatrics, are the senior members of this gracefully aging club comprised of employees hired in the 1960s, which according to Human Resources includes 18 faculty and 13 staff members. Two women (staff members Beverly Granger and Marcia Caldwell) made the list. Lucey, who was actually hired in 1956 (the only pre-1960 employee left), holds the longevity title among faculty while Warren's summer of '61 hiring at \$1 an hour makes him king among staff. Both took a backseat to Delmar Janes, 92, until his retirement in 2006 after 57 years as a stockroom/shipping clerk at Bailey/Howe Library — the same job he was hired for in 1949 when Harry S. Truman was president.

With a handful of these employees planning to retire in the next few years, it won't be long before none remain, and the 72 faculty and 105 staff members who arrived in the 1970s will take over. Both decades were part of a rapid growth period at the university with the student population in the 60s rising from around 3,000 in 1960 to more than 4,000 by 1970. This was due primarily to Baby Boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) reaching college age. Because of the low birth rates during the Great Depression,

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however, there weren't enough adults around to teach them. Consequently, colleges and universities were hiring faculty in record numbers without the credentials required of today's aspiring professors.

"When I was hired in 1968 at age 25 less than half the faculty had PhDs," says Garrison Nelson, a professor of political science who jokes that the \$255 price tag of one of his earlier text books has been reduced to one penny on Amazon.com. "Schools were left scrambling to fill courses. People received tenure based on one book review. Today, we get first-time faculty members who already have a book out. It was also a highly politicized time with the anti-war movement in full swing. I remember finals being canceled the day after Kent State and about 1,500 students and faculty marching from Billings downtown and back. People ask me why Iraq isn't having the same impact today, and I tell them because there's no draft."

William Paden, professor and chair of the religion department whose arrival in the fall of 1965 puts him tied for second with Bruce Parker, professor of plant and soil sciences, as the longest serving faculty members, was hired over the phone one day by the Chair of the Philosophy and Religion Department without having ever applied. "He called me out of the blue," recalls Paden. "I was 3,000 miles away in California and was offered the job right there that morning. I found a map and looked up Vermont. Now, 43 years later, I'm in a job I never even had to apply for. I've compared notes with a few others from that decade and found similar stories."

### **A century of service**

Warren, whose office is located in a closet-like space with no sunlight in the basement of the Given Medical Building, has spent the last 46 years taking calls around the clock from faculty and staff who need something fixed. He is the ultimate example of a staff member taking advantage of all the benefits available to employees. He's taken more than 100 classes (enough for two bachelor degrees) in subjects ranging from geology to religion to thermodynamics to philosophy and uses university facilities to play racquetball or exercise. His vacation time is spent in the summer at Katmai National Park in Alaska as a supporter of a research team for the National Park Service.

Lucey, the Harry Wallace Professor of Neonatology and former chief of Newborn Services at Fletcher Allen Health Care, is an example of a prolific researcher who has remained ahead of the curve for over six decades. His research helped pioneer two treatments for newborn children — phototherapy to prevent jaundice, and artificial surfactant to assist the breathing of premature infants.

With no intensive care unit in the area when he arrived, Lucey

helped set up the neonatal Intensive Care Unit in 1969. He arranged transportation for babies from the state's dozen other hospitals, which didn't have enough premature babies to justify caring for them. An ICU was built at the former Mary Fletcher Hospital, and 30-40 nurses and special staff were hired.

"That's what it takes to do neonatal intensive care," says Lucey, founder of the Vermont Oxford Network, an international health outcomes database network for quality improvement in the care of premature infants, and editor-in-chief of Pediatrics magazine since 1974. "There were only 40 students here at the time. Of the senior students, nearly all 40 were sent out to other hospitals. We used to have them for three months to teach them pediatrics. It was a wonderful time, because you got to know them each individually and see them every day. It was a very good education for them. I'd worked in NYC for seven years and Boston for two, and I was just smitten by how nice the size of the class was and how we got to know the students. It was an ideal teaching environment."

### Teaching and learning with passion

Professors from the era talk passionately about wanting to make a difference and the supportive sense of community among co-workers that fostered that desire. Paden recalls offering interdisciplinary seminars with colleagues beyond their normal loads, which often reached eight courses a year "just for the love of it and collegiality that went with it."

Robert Lawson, professor of psychology who arrived in 1966 and plans to retire in 2010, says he still receives letters and emails from students from the 1960s and other decades who emphasize the value of their UVM education for their careers and personal journeys. "These communications warm my heart, and I realize how fortunate I have been to be a member of the UVM community and to have learned so much from my students and colleagues over the past 40-plus years. From the beginning, I have believed that UVM has always touched the mind and spirit of so many of us in so many different ways that it has been and always will be a deep and abiding part of each of us in Vermont and beyond."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Film Series Celebrates Human Rights for Women

By The View Staff

Article published December 3, 2008

UVM's Anti-Violence Partnership and the Women's Center, along with the Vermont Chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, are hosting a film series in celebration of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, an international campaign that connects the struggle to end violence against women with the broader campaign for human rights.

Two films remain in the series. *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo*, a documentary feature that explores the plight of women and girls caught in the sexual crossfire as the the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) enters its second decade of internal conflict, will be screened on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. in 427 Waterman. Since 1998, a brutal war has ravaged the DRC, killing over 4 million people. Over the same period of time, tens of thousands of women and girls have been systematically kidnapped, raped, mutilated and tortured by soldiers — both from foreign militias and the Congolese army that is supposed to protect them.

On Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. in 427 Waterman, watch *North Country*, the 2005 film starring Charlize Theron that tells the story of the first major sexual harassment case in the United States. Theron's character, Josey Aimes, goes to work in a local mine and chooses to fight back against the threats, insults, and attacks she endures on the job.

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## Juckett Series Hosts Cancer Prevention Expert

By Jennifer Nachbur

Article published December 3, 2008

Lori Minasian, chief of Community Oncology and the Prevention Trial Research Group in the Division of Cancer Prevention at the National Cancer Institute, will present a lecture titled "Cancer Prevention: The Current Experience and New Approaches" on Thursday, December 4 at 8 a.m. in Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building.

Dr. Minasian's presentation is part of the Vermont Cancer Center's J. Walter Juckett Distinguished Lecture Series, which is supported in part by the Lake Champlain Cancer Research Organization.

A board certified medical oncologist, Dr. Minasian is responsible for the management and oversight of the Community Clinical Oncology Program, a large NCI-sponsored community-based clinical trials network. Through this network, community oncologists participate in cancer clinical trials in treatment, prevention, and cancer control. The network sponsors large breast and prostate cancer prevention trials, several smaller prevention trials in disease sites that include colon, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, and bladder cancer, as well as numerous symptom management and other cancer control clinical trials.

During her lecture, Dr. Minasian will review prevention trials, present similarities and differences with cardiovascular disease prevention, and identify concepts for moving forward in cancer prevention.

Continental breakfast will be provided at the lecture.

Information: 656-4414.

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## Ron Krupp on the Politics of Food

By The View Staff

Article published December 3, 2008

Author, gardener, and Vermont Public Radio commentator Ron Krupp will lecture on "The Politics of Food" on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10 a.m. to noon at the UVM Horticultural Research Center, 65 Green Mountain Drive, Burlington.

Krupp, author of *The Woodchuck's Guide to Gardening*, will speak about the importance of local sustainable food and its impact on hunger, globalization and obesity, issues he addresses in his new book, *Lifting the Yolk: Local Solutions to America's Farm and Food Crisis*.

Pre-registration by phone is requested, 864-3073, as is a donation of \$5-10.

Information: [friendsofthehortfarm.org](http://friendsofthehortfarm.org).

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## New Music and Humanities Series Launches with Opera Favorites

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published December 3, 2008

"An Afternoon of Operatic Delights" will open the university's new Music and Humanities series on Thursday, December 4th at 3:30 p. m. in the UVM Recital Hall on the Redstone Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

The program, a celebration of voice and opera, features Shyla Nelson and John Tiranno, accompanied by Paul Orgel at the piano. Highlights include excerpts from Mozart's *Magic Flute*, Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*, and Puccini's *La Boheme*.

Tom Simone, professor of English, will offer a brief narration to help place the vocal beauty and dramatic immediacy of opera into the context of its story.

Internationally acclaimed soprano and UVM alumna Shyla Nelson is known as a luminous singer and presence in opera and oratorio. She appears regularly with the Vermont Mozart Festival.

John Tiranno has performed in a broad range of operatic and concert venues throughout the United States and Canada. He will be tenor soloist in Bach's Christmas Oratorio for the Vermont Mozart Festival.

UVM faculty member Paul Orgel has performed a wide range of piano repertory throughout the United States and Eastern Europe, with special interest in Czech music and the music of the Holocaust.

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#### [New York, New York, Big City of Trees](#)

An urban forest might sound as far-fetched as a rural subway. But New York City already has more than five million trees, and these create a canopy that shades 24 percent of the city according to a 2006 study by the US Forest Service and UVM's Spatial Analysis Laboratory. While not a moose-filled wilderness, New York's urban forest exists now: cooling city streets, soaking up rainfall and carbon, reducing pollution that triggers asthma, and making twiggy homes for New Yorkers' beloved birds.

#### [INTERVIEW: John P. Burke](#)

When the White House readies for a new regime, political scientist and presidential scholar Professor John Burke becomes a hot commodity, his expertise tapped by journalists around the country. Likewise, in early November, *the view* wasted no time getting his thoughts on the Obama transition and early administration. Here are some of Burke's early opinions and a few new ones on the building of this new presidency.

#### [Peace, Love and Professors](#)

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## Martin Luther King III to Highlight UVM's 2009 Holiday Commemoration

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published December 3, 2008

As part of a multi-day celebration honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., human rights advocate and community activist Martin Luther King III will speak on Thursday, Jan. 22 at 4 p. m. in Patrick Gymnasium. There will also be a special guest performance by the Burlington Ecumenical Gospel Choir.

The event is free and open to the public but does require tickets, which will be made available according to the following schedule: Beginning Monday, Jan. 12 tickets will be available to UVM students, faculty, and staff (one ticket for each UVM ID). Saturday, Jan. 17 tickets are open to the general public with a limit of two per person. To find out more please contact the Hoffman information desk, Davis Center at (802) 656-4636.

The elder son of the civil rights icon, Martin Luther King III has continued his father's work for equality and justice for all people. Elected the fourth president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, co-founded by Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957, King aggressively fought injustice on local, state, and federal fronts. He currently leads the non-profit coalition force "Realizing the Dream," working to end poverty in the U.S.

Details about other activities that week will be forthcoming. The event is being organized by the Office of the President and the Office of the Associate Provost for Multicultural Affairs and Academic Initiatives.

[See a PDF of the event's poster.](#)

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## NOTABLES

December 3

### Publications and Presentations

**David Brock**, assistant professor of rehabilitation and movement science, is lead author of a paper for publication in the *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*. Titled "Association Between Insufficiently Physically Active and the Prevalence of Obesity in the United States," the paper will be published in January 2009. Brock's co-authors on the study are Charles Cowan, former chief statistician for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and U.S. Department of Education and David Allison, president-elect of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity.

**Jack Leahy**, professor of medicine and chief of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism, is lead author of a Nov. 21 *Journal of Biological Chemistry* paper titled "In Vivo and in Vitro Studies of a Functional Peroxisome Proliferator-activated Receptor  $\gamma$  Response Element in the Mouse pdx-1 Promoter." Co-authors on the study include Dhananjay Gupta, postdoctoral associate in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism; Thomas Jetton, associate professor of medicine; and Mina Peshavaria, research assistant professor of medicine.

### Awards and Honors

The YWCA of Vermont board of directors elected six new directors at its annual meeting of members on Nov. 19, including **Jane Hill**, assistant professor of engineering in environmental microbiology and biotechnology, and **Regina Toolin**, assistant professor of secondary education.

**Robert Manning**, professor of natural resources, is the first winner of the George Wright Society Social Science Achievement Award. This new award was established by the GWS Board of Directors to recognize outstanding achievements in social science research that influences management of parks, protected areas, and cultural sites. Manning is cited for his leadership in establishing and carrying out a long-term and nationally prominent program of applied research on visitor use and management in many units of the U.S. national park system, as well as his distinguished record of teaching and published scholarship in park-related social science and outdoor recreation issues. The award will be presented at a



joint National Park Service/GWS Awards Banquet on the evening of Thursday, March 5, in Portland, Ore.

*November 19, 2008*

### **Publications and Presentations**

**Mary Cushman**, professor of medicine, and **Neil Zakai**, assistant professor of medicine, are co-authors on a paper in the October 2008 *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* titled "Anemia Is Associated with the Progression of White Matter Disease in Older Adults with High Blood Pressure: The Cardiovascular Health Study."

### **Awards and Honors**

Three faculty members in the department of pediatrics were recognized at the recent fall meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter. **Paula Duncan**, clinical professor of pediatrics and medical director of the Area Health Education Centers program, **Joseph Hagan**, clinical professor of pediatrics, and **Judith Shaw**, research associate professor of pediatrics and executive director of the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, jointly received the 2008 Green Mountain Pediatrician award. Traditionally, this award is given to a chapter member who has shown outstanding service and dedication to the care of children. For the 2008 Green Mountain Pediatrician award, VT AAP members voted unanimously to present the award to this group for their incredible vision, work, and leadership. Duncan, Hagan and Shaw are editors of the new AAP Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision. In addition, Shaw was awarded a special honorary membership in the Vermont Chapter due to her outstanding leadership and devotion to children's issues and improving the systems of care that affect the health and well-being of children. According to current Vermont Chapter President Kimberly Aakre, "Judy has been one of our Chapter's exceptional partners, working with us on behalf of Vermont's children and families. We believe she is truly a 'Vermont pediatrician' at heart and are honored to have her as one of our members."

**John P. Burke**, Professor political science, gave the keynote address on Nov. 14 on the "Presidency of George W. Bush," at a conference hosted by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Mary Cushman**, professor of medicine, has been named the chair of the American Heart Association (AHA) Council on Epidemiology and Prevention. This multidisciplinary council, a science arm of AHA, is dedicated to understanding the causes of cardiovascular disease and applying knowledge to optimize cardiovascular health across the lifespan in diverse populations, as well as promoting