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## [INTERview: Fayneese Miller](#)



"I hope I've hit the ground running:" New Dean Fayneese Miller is passionate about her vision for the College of Education and Social Services. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Just a few minutes into a chat with Dean Fayneese Miller and it's clear that the College of Education and Social Services has a dynamic and determined new voice, leading from the inside, advocating on the outside in a drive to place the college's faculty, students, research and outreach at the forefront of the university.

[FULL STORY](#) ▶

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## [Power of Practicality](#)

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## THE WEEK IN VIEW

*Dec. 10, 1 p.m.*  
**Athletics: Men's basketball opens America East action against the University of New Hampshire. Patrick Gym. Information: 656-4410 or [Tickets](#)**

*Dec. 11, 1 p.m.*  
**Concert: University Organist David Neiweem will perform a free Christmas Organ Concert. There will also be a short Carillon Recital played on the University Memorial Carillon. Ira Allen Chapel. Information: 656-3040 or [Concert](#)**

*Dec. 12, 4:30 p.m.*  
**Meeting: Faculty Senate. Memorial Lounge, Waterman. Information: [Faculty Senate](#)**

*Dec. 17, 7 p.m.*  
**Athletics: Men's hockey hosts former ECAC foe St. Lawrence University. Gutterson Fieldhouse.**

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## INTERview: Fayneese Miller

By Lee Ann Cox

Article published Dec 07, 2005

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"I hope I've hit the ground running:" New Dean Fayneese Miller is passionate about her vision for the College of Education and Social Services. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

*Just a few minutes into a chat with Dean Fayneese Miller and it's clear that the College of Education and Social Services has a dynamic and determined new voice, leading from the inside, advocating on the outside in a drive to place the college's faculty, students, research and outreach at the forefront of the university. Miller came to UVM in August after a 20-year career at Brown University where she was associate professor of education and human development and an*

*internationally recognized expert on the social, academic and political development of adolescents. She led Brown's Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity and was the university's first coordinator and chair of ethnic studies. The view checked in with Miller about her work, her history and her vision for the college.*

### the view: What was the greatest lure for you to come here?

FAYNEESE MILLER: The greatest lure was the opportunity to work with the faculty. What I liked about the faculty was not only are they doing good scholarship, they are doing good scholarship that has immediate benefits for the Vermont community... There also seemed to be lots that could be done — and lots that faculty wanted to do. I wanted to be a part of making that happen.

### We understand that the search committee saw you as a person who could really shake things up, get things done, and be a strong advocate for this college. What's on your agenda?

What's on my agenda is making this college the best college at UVM. I realize that is a big thing to do. Do I think it's doable? Yes. I say that because people don't give education, social work and human services the attention and the respect they deserve. And, I want people to know what it is we do... I want to make sure our faculty feel as supported as they possibly can... I want to make sure that social work feels connected to us because (they are) doing the work with the refugees and the immigrant communities in the state... So shake things up? If the faculty feels there's something they need and want, then my job is to help them get that.

...I tend to be someone who is very collaborative, but I have no problem in making decisions and moving us forward. I like to make sure we have a plan in place, but I'm not going to sit and meet to death about an issue, especially if it seems we are becoming stagnated or experiencing a bit of inertia.

### What specifically will achieving your agenda take?

### Rigorous Rounds

The conference room in the surgical intensive care unit at Fletcher Allen is packed. The group is focused on Dr. Steven Shackford, Stanley S. Fieber professor and chair of surgery, who is about to launch into one of his famous "Shack rounds" — a class characterized by intense, sustained questioning of individual students — and there's a tinge of nervous anticipation in the room.

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We have to focus on making sure that we're infusing a very strong liberal arts component into our curriculum. I would like to see us offer more classes that have to do with philosophy of education, for example, that have to do with the history of education, at a lower level, so that what we do is excite the minds of young people... and get them to see that education is more than teaching. We need people in education and social work who are policy thinkers, we need people who are program developers. We need a lot of different people and not just teachers.

One of the other things that I want to do... is to create a Ph.D. program. We need to see CESS as a national/international college as well as one that serves Vermont. We still need to think about Vermont, but we also need to think about how we train people for positions throughout the country. A Ph.D. program allows us to do that — it allows us to bring in new ideas, different ways of thinking, different ways of knowing, into the college. I want a Ph.D. program that's not just one-department oriented. I want to know how we can partner with other colleges to create something that's really spectacular here at UVM, that speaks to the fact that we want to be interdisciplinary and not take an insular approach to the way in which we train future leaders because the reality of the matter is that you've got to know more than one area to be able to succeed as a leader nowadays, no matter what field you go in.

The other thing that I want to do here is ratchet up our international studies program. Our Asian studies program is a model program... What we don't have in Vermont — in most states — are significant numbers of teachers who are trained and certified to teach Chinese at the public school level. We can be a leader in providing that service... (We're applying for a grant today) to get a Chinese teacher certification program here at UVM.

**Your own scholarship has focused on issues of race, ethnicity and discrimination in adolescents and their impact on behavior and academic achievement. Can you talk about that work?**

What I'm primarily interested in from a research perspective is why do some young people succeed and others don't. What do we know about those who succeed that would help us understand those who don't? I put it that way because most people focus on those young people who don't succeed. I want to reverse it and think about what do we know about those who do and are they really that different?

(I've been using) a model of alienation for several years. And I make the argument that all young people are alienated, regardless of their social class, regardless of their racial background... The difference is that, depending on your social situation and depending on the kind of messages that you've been given throughout your development, the alienation is either temporary or stable. Those with a stable alienation feel as though no matter what happens, no matter what they do, they will never get ahead... So I've done research about that over the years and I've connected that research to a variety of things. One, I'm interested in looking at cross-racial friendships and what is the connection between your sense of place within society, which is the alienation issue, and the nature of one's friendships. I connect cross-racial friendships to political and social involvement. One thing that I've found is that young people who are politically and socially involved, and have a sense of where they're going, are more likely to have friends who come from different racial and ethnic backgrounds than those who don't.

**Can you tell me a little about your personal background and how it influences your work?**

I think that the reason that I got interested in research on political attitudes of young people early in my career is because I come from a very political family... My parents were civil rights workers. I was an infant when they were doing a lot of this work, but I was very much thrown into the civil rights community. When I was in elementary school, the Poor People's March came through my hometown in Danville, Virginia. My parents opened up the house, and we had all these people staying with us, sleeping everywhere. We didn't have the luxury of being selfish and not wanting anybody to share our bed or share our room because it just wasn't a choice that we had. Our parents helped us understand why they were doing this. I come from a family where there is a servant-leader mentality; I come from a family where you are expected to take your knowledge and try and do something good with it.

My elementary years were all in segregation. My middle school years I went to a segregated school because my mother made me go... she was involved with the movement and she wanted us to feel safe in the school environment in which we were located. She didn't want us to have to worry about the racial issues that were going on in school at the time... I've lived discrimination, I understand discrimination, I have no tolerance for discrimination of any sort. I don't tolerate race, sexuality, gender, disability, any kind of discrimination. I have no tolerance for it whatsoever, and that's a gift my parents gave me.

**What's the most critical thing for people to know about you?**

It's that I'm passionate about what I do... I want people to respect my ideas. You don't have to agree with me, but respect my ideas, respect the experience that I bring to the college and the university, and help me make what I want — and what the faculty wants — a reality. I came here because I think we're on the same page. So I'm ready. As a matter of fact, I've already started. I hope I've hit the ground running.

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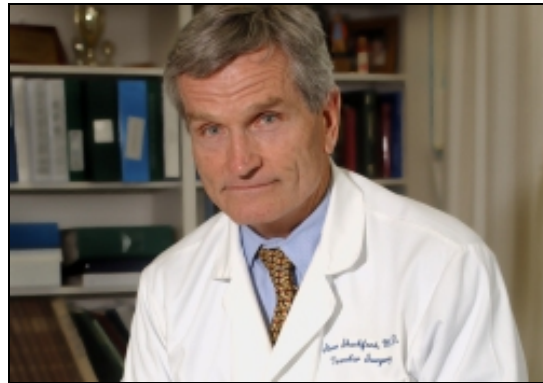
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UVM HOMEPAGE

## Rigorous Rounds

By Jennifer Nachbur

Article published Dec 06, 2005



He asks, you answer: Dr. Steven Shackford's classes are characterized by careful questioning of surgery students.

The conference room in the surgical intensive care unit at Fletcher Allen is packed. The group is focused on Dr. Steven Shackford, Stanley S. Fieber professor and chair of surgery, who is about to launch into one of his famous "Shack rounds" — a class characterized by intense, sustained questioning of individual students — and there's a buzz of nervous anticipation in the room.

"This is easy!" he says to the eight or so third-year medical students and a few surgical residents. "Wait until you're in the emergency department and someone's writhing in pain."

The qualities that earned Shackford a 2005-06 Kroepsch-Maurice Award for Excellence in Teaching are clear within minutes as he kicks off the session of the affectionately nicknamed clinical decision-making course. Famous for relentlessly challenging his students, Shackford skillfully uses empathy, humor, passion and knowledge to inspire learning — and excellence.

### 'Pimp' that debride

First, Shackford reviews the ground rules for the rounds: only the person getting grilled, or "pimped" as the students call it, can answer his questions when it's their turn. "It's intimidating, I know, in front of your peers," Shackford admits. Next, a surgical resident presents the basic facts on the patient case up for review. Then the professor asks the student to his right "What are you thinking?" Much more than a conversation-starter, Shackford's question aims to jump-start the clinical decision-making process.

"He takes very complex patients and shows how understanding basic physiology allows third- and fourth-year medical students to identify the primary medical issues and necessary interventions," says 2005 College of Medicine graduate Dr. Zechariah Gardner, who is currently serving a surgical residency at Fletcher Allen. "It's like the ABC's of critical care medicine and it's fun, because you can do it."

Shackford's rapid-fire style of questioning would be intimidating if it weren't for the respectful guidance he provides as his student makes her way from exploring the possible causes of the patient's symptoms to deciding which tests to order. "What about acute onset belly pain?" he asks. "Are you going to put fluids in, draw any blood?" After several minutes, Shackford moves to the next "victim," progressing through six more students until the group gets to the stage of deciding whether or not to perform surgery and if so, making sure all of the necessary elements are in place in the operating room.

His mind functions as quickly as an on-line dictionary, supplying definitions and examples of symptoms, consequences and tests. Body parts have nicknames, like "Pippi Longstocking" for the diaphragm and "Big Blue" for an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He urges the students to review test results and

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MRI images supplied by the residents.

### **Nothing but the best**

Everything happens quickly, mimicking real-life surgical decision-making. But instead of being discouraged, students say they like being put on the spot and pushed to the limit.

"He's doing it to make us better doctors," says third-year medical student Jennifer Gillis, who, with several of her classmates, is attending the rounds as part of the College of Medicine's surgical clerkship — one of a number of required discipline-specific clinical training courses.

"Dr. Shackford is really direct," says Ryan Crete, another third-year student. "I like how he picks one person at a time and makes them work. He pushes you to find the right answer on your own and commends you if you get the right answer. He knows everything!"

Surgical resident Gardner believes Shackford was probably the strongest influence in his choice of surgery as a career. "He has high expectations and won't settle for anything but our best and his students rise to the occasion. He is also very realistic and keenly aware of appropriate expectations for your level of training, which creates a culture of students and residents who work hard to do well for their patients."

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The Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Awards highlight faculty for excellent classroom instruction and memorializes Robert H. and Ruth K. Kroepsch and her parents, Walter C. and Mary L. Maurice, who were all teachers. Robert H. Kroepsch served as registrar and dean of administration at UVM from 1946-56; Ruth K. Kroepsch graduated from UVM in 1938; and her father, Walter Maurice, graduated from the university in 1909.

*the view* will publish profiles of all winners of the award over the course of the academic year. The other winners for 2005 are [Patricia Julien](#), assistant professor of music; Juan Maura, associate professor of romance languages; and Julie Richards, lecturer of social work

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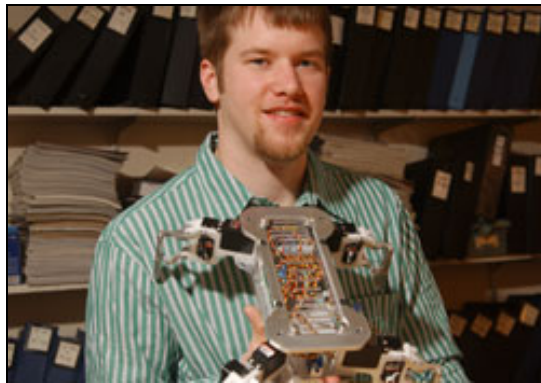
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## Power of Practicality

***Student engineering design projects range from sleek robot to sturdy biomass generator***

By Jon Reidel

Article published Dec 07, 2005



Mr. Roboto: Ross Piette, a senior engineering major, poses with his senior mechanical engineering design project. (Photo: Sally McCay)

The furnace-like metal box connected with a twisted mass of steel piping to a generator in the back of an Oldsmobile station wagon is the kind of practical application that Mike Rosen, adjunct lecturer of mechanical engineering and a research associate professor of physical therapy, relishes and says engineering students need before entering the work force.

are presenting their final projects in Rosen's required "Mechanical Engineering Senior Design" (ME 186) course. The three projects — the Oldsmobile-based biomass-burning "gasifier," four-legged "quadbot" and robotic-armed "gimbot" — vary in scope, technology and function, but all embody the mechanical, electrical and programming principles students learned as undergraduates.

"I've had a lot of theory-based courses, but ME 186 is more practical and deals with real-life situations," says Ross Piette, who describes his project as a "walking robotic educational test bed" designed for educators to use as a hands-on teaching tool. "It forces you to implement what you've learned and integrate all of the (engineering) systems together. This was without question the missing link in my education. It's the bridge between the theoretical and practical."

### Robot Ferrari

Rosen told students prior to their Dec. 6 presentations that in many ways the completion of their projects marks their transition from students to engineers. Students worked on their projects anywhere from 200 hours to less than 50 hours depending on their complexity, and spent between \$370 and \$935 to complete them. Making their ideas into material was a crash course in reality: students dealt with everything from incompatible parts to smoking circuits, even small explosions.

Piette's 9-by-12-inch quadbot, a four-legged robot that crawled on command and walked the other way when it sensed something in front of it, was designed and built by Piette out of aluminum, plastic, batteries, microprocessors and servos using CAD drafting software. He wrote and entered 10 pages of programming to ensure the robot could complete desired tasks sent from a remote control.

In his presentation, Piette showed why his robot, which could be used by the military to flush out explosive devices, is more efficient than the industry leading "Crustcrawler," which takes up to eight hours to assemble and has 364 pieces, compared to the Quadbot's one-hour assembly and 111 parts. "It has many potential purposes. Imagination is the key," says Piette, who likes to think of his project as the Ferrari of robots. "It's not like it's going to mow your

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lawn for you or get you something out of the fridge, but it can be used in an educational setting to teach certain engineering principles.”

The gimbot, created by Jason Petrello and Brittany Simons, attempted to redesign the way robotic arms move using novel kinetics. The goal was also to design a robotic joint capable of four degrees of freedom that could potentially replace existing, multi-joint robotic arms and more accurately mimic human movements. Made with a gimbal mount, tubing, wire and servos, the Gimbot is equipped with an infrared pointer on top of a spaghetti strainer “in case you have to drain some spaghetti in space,” joked Petrello. The pointer illustrated the movements of the arm as it beamed onto various parts of the wall during the demonstration.

Alex Andors and Shane Cahill say people in Third World countries without ready access to fossil fuels could use their gasifier to generate power. Built primarily out of bricks, Pyroglow, sheet metal and steel exhaust tubing, the device breaks down woodchips or most any organic biomass fuel and turns it into vapor sent down a pipe to a generator to produce power.

“It’s a masterpiece of piping and smoke. It’s big, belching and it works,” says Rosen.

#### **Targeting social needs**

Before taking the design seminar and actually building their projects, students must first take a preliminary course from Rosen, who teaches them about design, methodology, consumer product development, and other aspects of creating and taking an engineering product to market. A recent shift in project criteria to more need-based projects, as part of a department effort to emphasize practical applications to societal problems, has resulted in six original designs for spring 2006.

Design-stage presentations given on Nov. 29 included proposals for an avalanche-victim search vehicle; a method for firefighters to use foam instead of water; emergency “pop-up” housing during disasters; a mechanism that helps Cerebral Palsy sufferers with no use of their hands to operate a wheelchair with their legs; a parts-inspection robot; and a new solar lighting device that collects and disperses light.

“What I’ve insisted is that students choose projects that are driven by a societal need,” says Rosen. “I’ve been pretty adamant that projects should start with a ‘needs statement’ from a particular group of consumers. We present them as open-ended challenges. I want them to be creative and systematic at the same time, but I also want them to meet a deadline. That’s the way it’s done in industry, where you get fired if you don’t.”

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### [University Organist to Give Holiday Concert](#)

Dec 07, 2005

David Neiweem, professor of music and university organist, will play holiday favorites from many countries and in many styles in a free, public Christmas concert on Dec. 11 at 1 p.m.

### [Agreement Reached With Faculty Union](#)

Dec 07, 2005

Provost John Bramley sent this message to UVM faculty and staff on Dec. 6: I am very pleased to announce that we have reached agreement with the full-time faculty union over the elements of a new three-year contract. While the agreement is still subject to ratification by the union membership, I am confident that it will lead to a new contract with our faculty. Both sides have agreed to withhold details of the contract until it is ratified.

### [Talking Frankincense](#)

Dec 07, 2005

Word to the wise men: Frankincense — the ancient tree whose fragrant sap has been at the center of religious and cultural rituals for millennia, including a role as one of three precious gifts for the newborn Jesus Christ — may be in some trouble. Marta Ceroni, research assistant professor of botany and affiliate of the Gund Institute of Ecological Economics, along with her students in an Honors College sophomore seminar, are hoping their emerging partnership with a Vermont-based private company will help preserve the livelihood of the trees and the people who own them.

### [UVM Names Research Wing for Starbuck Family](#)

Nov 28, 2005

The university will name a wing of its Colchester Research Facility in honor of alums George '62 and Pammella Starbuck '83 and their family, in recognition of a \$2.7 million gift resulting from the sale of the former Aquatec building at 208 South Park in Colchester.

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By The View Staff

Article published Dec 07, 2005

David Neiweem, professor of music and university organist, will play holiday favorites from many countries and in many styles in a free, public Christmas concert on Dec. 11 at 1 p.m in Ira Allen Chapel.

The program will include the J.S. Bach "Pastorale," as well as Handel's "Pastoral Symphony." In addition, it will feature Neiweem's arrangements of favorites like the "Skater's Waltz," "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies" and many more.

The event will be preceded by a short recital played on the University Memorial Carillon. The tower will start ringing at 12:40; organizers suggest coming early to listen to the bells on the approach to the chapel.

Information: 656-3040

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While the agreement is still subject to ratification by the union membership, I am confident that it will lead to a new contract with our faculty. Both sides have agreed to withhold details of the contract until it is ratified.

I wish to thank not only my team that has worked so hard over several months, but also recognize the leadership of United Academics for their important contributions to this process.

In my view, this agreement and the hard work that led to it reflects our commitment to all our employees. Striving for competitive salaries and benefits for all of our faculty and staff, while being fiscally responsible, is critical to the continued success of the institution.

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Frankincense ranges widely, growing from Ethiopia to Somalia, to Oman and Yemen and beyond, so there's no danger that the plant's piquant scent, a blend of citrus and mint, will fade into history. But in Northern Somalia, exports of the tree's pungent resin are a crucial part of the economy even as the trees that produce it are under increasing threat from open grazing practices, water-sanitation problems, and economic pressure to harvest more and more frequently.

Many of the species of the tree that grow in the country's north (the class focused on Somaliland, a functionally autonomous but unrecognized region), are endemic to the area, that is, they grow only there, so local ecological pressure could threaten the species' overall biodiversity. This could become significant as research continues on the plant's medicinal uses, which include improving blood circulation, relieving pain and inhibiting the growth of leukemia cells in laboratory tests. More immediately, frankincense is the region's third-largest export; high-quality Somaliland frankincense is prized in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere.

So it was auspicious when Mahdi Ismael Ibrahim and Bill Lanzetta, while Googling UVM for help with their new fair-trade business importing and distilling frankincense, came across Ceroni just as she was beginning work on an honors ethnobotany seminar designed to look at the social, environmental and economic uses of plants.

"At first, I was hesitant. They were businesspeople," Ceroni recalls of her first interactions with Ibrahim and Lanzetta, two of the principals of Ismael Imports. "But the more I thought about it, the more attractive it got as an overarching case study for the whole class."

For their part, Ibrahim and Lanzetta have enjoyed their interactions with the students, which have included everything from giving classroom talks, attending Dec. 6 presentations of final projects, supplying images and video of the plants and the growing region and putting student researchers in touch by phone and e-mail with Somalis familiar with the plant. Their motivation was to begin filling in the vast gaps in knowledge about the plant, particularly in Somaliland, where Ibrahim was born. They also wanted to help their start-up business — and suppliers, some of whom are Ibrahim's relatives.

"The people in Somaliland don't always fully understand the value of this commodity," Lanzetta says. "Once the frankincense leaves Africa, its value skyrockets. We want to help keep some of value in Africa."

One student paper, by sophomore Ashley Hall, analyzed the exploitative nature of much current frankincense trade and explored viability of a sustainable frankincense market in Somaliland, perhaps with higher wholesale prices supported by a grower's cooperative and sustainable-practices certification. Jennifer Fricke and Elizabeth Tomkinson produced a Web site with extensive information about ecology and ethnobotany of frankincense. Jacqueline Travers wrote a grant proposal she hopes will eventually secure funding to support education programs around the water-sanitation issues her

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### [Fayneese Miller Q+A](#)

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### [Rigorous Rounds](#)

The conference room in the surgical intensive care unit at Fletcher Allen is packed. The group is focused on Dr. Steven Shackford, Stanley S. Fieber professor and chair of surgery, who is about to launch into one of his famous "Shack rounds" — a class characterized by intense, sustained questioning of individual students — and there's a tinge of nervous anticipation in the room.

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research indicated were afflicting the plant and people. In all, about two-thirds of the seminar chose to pursue frankincense-related projects.

Ceroni says that their unusually direct connection with the people involved with the plant being studied, a connection that resulted from the relationship with Ismael Imports, raised the stakes in the classroom.

"The people in Somlialand didn't know the ecology. They didn't know the economics. In some ways, they depended on the knowledge gathered by the students," Ceroni says. "That was something that students came to understand over the course of the semester, as they talked by phone and e-mail with Mahdi's family and business partners. They saw that their knowledge could be really important to people, and that excited them."

After the semester, Ceroni will meet with her counterparts at Ismael Imports to go through the students' work and develop a strategy to attract some funding and launch some projects. "I'm committed to doing something on the ground (possibly related to water use and sanitation related to Travers' project) that will set the basis for more long-term collaboration," she says.

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### [Neuroscience Forum Keynote Set for Dec. 8](#)

Dec 06, 2005

John Bixby, professor of molecular and cellular pharmacology and chair of the University of Miami Neuroscience Center, will deliver the keynote address at the UVM Neuroscience Forum on Dec. 8 at 3:30 p.m. in 200 Medical Education Center.

### [Chemistry Seminar Series Continues](#)

Nov 28, 2005

The Department of Chemistry's extensive fall seminar program continues through Dec. 20 with speakers from Stanford, Cal Tech and Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

### [Messiah Sing-Along Dec. 6](#)

Nov 28, 2005

David Neiweem, professor of music, will lead a volunteer chorus of enthusiasts in singing Handel's Christmas classic on Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel.

### [Honoring Rosa Parks](#)

Nov 29, 2005

On Dec. 1, 1955 Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to relinquish her bus seat to a white passenger. Parks died on Oct. 24. An event, "Standing on the Shoulders of Our Sisters: Honoring Mrs. Rosa Parks," celebrating her and her lifetime of work as an activist, to be held on the 50th anniversary of her historic arrest, will take place Dec. 1 at 1 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel.

### [Talk Discusses Method of Measuring Progress of Democracy Worldwide](#)

Nov 15, 2005

Edward McMahon, research associate professor of community development and applied economics and political science, will discuss one methodology for assessing democratic development in a talk, "How Democratic is the World? The Freedom House Annual Survey of Political Rights and Civil Liberties: 1986-2004," on Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. in North Lounge, Billings.

### [Flu Shots Available Nov. 17-18](#)

Nov 15, 2005

Faculty and staff can purchase flu shots Nov. 17-18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. The shots are \$10.

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## Neuroscience Forum Keynote Set for Dec. 8

By The View Staff

Article published Dec 06, 2005

John Bixby, professor of molecular and cellular pharmacology and chair of the University of Miami Neuroscience Center, will deliver the keynote address at the UVM Neuroscience Forum on Dec. 8 at 3:30 p.m. in 200 Medical Education Center.

Bixby's talk is titled "Novel Strategies for Improving Regeneration After CNS Injury." He is a faculty member of the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis.

A research poster session and reception in the HSRF Gallery will follow the keynote talk. The event is sponsored by the Vermont Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience and opens a two-day external review of UVM's Center of Biomedical Research Excellence in Neuroscience, which is funded by a \$10.7 million grant provided by a unit of the National Institutes of Health.

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## NOTABLES

*December 7, 2005*

### Awards and Honors

**Sufia Uddin**, associate professor of religion, has been named a 2005-2006 Fulbright Scholar. Uddin's research as a Fulbright Scholar is currently underway at the University of Dhaka in Dhaka, Bangladesh, where she is studying Muslim and Hindu veneration of Bonbibi, goddess of the forest in Sunderbans, the world's largest estuarine forest located in India and Bangladesh.

### Publications and Presentations

Dr. **Richard Colletti**, professor and vice chair of pediatrics, is the network director and co-principal investigator for the Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Network for Research and Improvement, which was officially launched in late November. Colletti was primarily responsible for establishing the network and its registry. Currently, over 200 physicians at 66 sites in the United States and Canada, plus a site in Sydney, Australia, can enter data in the registry with Institutional Review Board approval. The mission of PIBDNet is to build the foundation of a sustainable collaborative network where all pediatric gastroenterologists in North America can work together in a compelling process of continuous quality improvement and acquisition of new knowledge that will over the next decade dramatically reduce the morbidity of children with IBD. PIBDNet is supported by a grant from the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition with funds from the American Board of Pediatrics. Inflammatory Bowel Disease is primarily a disease of adolescents and young adults, affecting as many as one million Americans, 10 percent of whom are estimated to be children under the age of 18.

**Christopher Koliba**, assistant professor of community development and applied economics and co-director of the Master of Public Administration Program, recently had an article published in the *American Journal of Education*. Titled "Place-Based Education in the Standards-Based Reform Era — Conflict or Complement?", the article was co-authored with Nancy Jennings of Bowdoin College and Steve Swidler from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. The authors "challenge the common view of incompatibility between state standards and locally responsive curriculum," featuring results of surveys and extensive interviews with Vermont teachers.

Dr. **Helene Langevin**, research assistant professor of neurology, presented a lecture, "Meridians, Connective Tissue and Nervous System: How Does the Puzzle Fit?", on Nov. 17 at the Neurobiological Correlates of Acupuncture conference hosted by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland.

**Maria Short**, clinical assistant professor of communication sciences and **Gayle Belin**, a clinical associate professor in the department, along with non-UVM colleagues Melissa Bruce and Patrick Coppens, presented at the annual convention of the Massachusetts Speech Language and Hearing Association on "Group Therapy for Aphasia: Theory and Practical Experience", a four-hour seminar. The convention took place in Worcester, Mass. on Sept. 3.

*November 30, 2005*

### Publications and Presentations

**Gregory Gause**, associate professor of political science, published an article in the Sept./Oct. issue of *Foreign Affairs*. In "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?",