College Street to Wall Street
No more eggs all day?
Sad, but true.
The iconic Pam’s Deli truck is no longer parked on University Row since George and Pam Bissonnette retired in November. See page 64.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BEAR CIERI

SPRING 2018

Vermont Quarterly

DEPARTMENTS
2 President’s Perspective
4 The Green
18 Catamount Sports
20 On Course
49 Class Notes
64 Extra Credit

FEATURES
22 UVM PEOPLE: Jonathan Garcia ’81
Hurricane Maria’s devastation of Puerto Rico included toppling the WAPA-TV tower. Helping restore critical communication links is the latest challenge in Jonathan Garcia’s long career in television.
BY ANDREA ESTEY

24 NATURE CATALOGUED
Last summer’s fire at Tommy Hall threatened natural collections deeply ingrained in UVM history and vitally necessary to contemporary research.
BY JOSHUA BROWN

30 LIFE ON THE INSIDE
Helping bring the liberal arts to the incarcerated in Vermont is the latest focus for sociologist Kathy Fox in an academic career rooted in creating positive change.
BY KEVIN COBURN ’81

34 CATAMOUNT NATION: SAN FRANCISCO EDITION
San Francisco and Burlington share a common spirit, part of the draw for the many alumni who have made their lives and careers in the City by the Bay.
BY THOMAS WEAVER

44 COLLEGE STREET TO WALL STREET
Business alumni help the next generation build experience and connections through the rigors of BSAD 228, Wall Street Seminar.
BY JON REIDEL G’06

COVER: Nicole Hamaway takes a BSAD 228 selfie with classmates in the Wall Street Seminar. Left to right: Derek Hamilton, Casey Fuller, Kyle Hubenschmitt (foreground), John Kantis, and Erik Bertalan.
PHOTOGRAPH BY MARIO MORGADO
Creating an engaging environment within which our students develop as creative critics and as emotionally and physically vital public citizens ranks as the topmost priority at UVM. Campus-wide initiatives undertaken over the last five years—from transforming our educational facilities to developing interest-based residence halls such as the Wellness Environment and implementing a four-year Plan for Career Success—all have been directed to this overarching goal.

One critical initiative making a noticeable impact on our campus culture is the University-wide effort to reduce high-risk drinking and drug abuse by our students. In speaking with other educational leaders across the country, I have increasingly recognized the high-risk use of alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs by college students to be a critical national public health issue, one that is rendering such significant results in counteracting student alcohol and substance abuse.

This past October, UVM was honored with the prestigious Prevention Excellence Award by EVERFI, the educational technology company behind AlcoholEdu, for our comprehensive, systemic, evidence-based initiative that is rendering such significant results. The perception that drinking and recreational drug use must be a part of college life is misguided and, indeed, not correct! The truth is that these behaviors impede students’ engagement and ability to learn, to be actively and positively involved in academic and extracurricular life, and to fulfill their dreams and goals following graduation.

Our systemic and ecological approach recognizes that the health and well-being of our students is everyone’s number one priority on this campus, and that everyone in the UVM community has the means to help us shift the student culture away from high-risk behavior and toward students who are engaged in every positive opportunity the University has to offer. We will continue promoting student well-being academically, culturally, and socially, creating the healthiest environment within which UVM students can thrive.

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One of those changes involves outreach to parents. Research conducted by Pennsylvania State University shows that when parents talk to students about their expectations, students are more likely to refrain from drinking and substance use. Our Vice Provost and Dean of Students Office reaches out to parents frequently now, identifying students to manage stress, and provides several pathways by which students can connect with others for substance-free socializing.

So far, our data show that these efforts are eliciting the positive changes we are seeking. Student rates of high-risk drinking are dropping year over year—UVM is poised to fall below the national average very soon, as trends continue in this direction. Our efforts at culture change are receiving national recognition. This past October, UVM was honored with the prestigious Prevention Excellence Award by EVERFI, the educational technology company behind AlcoholEdu, for our comprehensive, systemic, evidence-based initiative that is rendering such significant results. Other recent national awards from the NASPA—Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors acknowledge UVM’s diligent prevention efforts with fraternity and sorority chapters on campus.

—Tom Sullivan
Pledges by college students to eschew drugs and alcohol are old hat. Now they’re meditating, working out, practicing yoga, eating healthfully, and at least one school, the University of Vermont, it has become a bona fide lifestyle.”

—Opening of an Associated Press article on UVM’s Wellness Environment. The story ran widely, appearing in The Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, USA Today, and many other media outlets.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

“ACRES
Amount of forest Vermont is losing annually. The trend across the last decade reverses a 150-year trend of forest recovery and expansion. go.uvm.edu/forest

#1
WE’RE NO. 1
The Sustainable Innovation MBA in UVM’s Grossman School of Business is ranked as the best “Green MBA” in the nation by The Princeton Review. go.uvm.edu/greenmba

HOME FOR Hillel
439 College Street will undergo renovations to become new headquarters for UVM Hillel thanks to a $2.5 million gift from the Burack family. Read more on page 7.

ONE GRAD TO ANOTHER
UVM alumnus Alexander Nemerov ’85, professor and chair of Art and Art History at Stanford University, will deliver the graduation address at Commencement 2018. More on graduation: uvm.edu/commencement

Big apology to Corey Bronner for erroneously describing him as a former hockey player in a fall issue story about new UVM Athletic Hall of Fame inductees. Soccer was the sport in which Corey, pictured back in the day, excelled for the Cats.

CATS IN THE GAMES
Continuing a streak that dates back to when Larry Damon ’55 competed in the 1956 Winter Olympics, the Catamounts were well represented at February’s 2018 Games in South Korea. In addition to Amanda Pelkey ’15 (pictured), U.S. women’s hockey, other UVM grads included Ryan Gunderson ’07, U.S. men’s hockey; Lowell Bailey ’05, U.S. men’s biathlon; Kevin Drury ’14, ski cross, Canada; siblings Caitlin ’12 and Scott ’14 Patterson, Nordic skiing, U.S.; Viktor Stalberg ’09, men’s hockey, Sweden; Laurence St. Germain ’19, women’s alpine, Canada; Jonathan Nordbotten, men’s alpine, Norway; Ida Sargent G’20, women’s Nordic skiing, U.S.; and Connor Wilson ’21, slalom, the lone athlete representing South Africa.

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THE GREEN

TREE COVER AND HUMAN HEALTH
A UVM-led study of 300,000 children in thirty-five nations says kids whose watersheds have greater tree cover are less likely to experience diarrheal disease, the second leading cause of death for children under the age of five. Published in Nature Communications, the study is the first to quantify the connection between watershed quality and individual health outcomes of children at the global scale.

“This suggests that protecting watersheds, in the right circumstances, can double as a public health investment,” says Brendan Fisher of the Gund Institute and Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. “This shows, very clearly, how ‘natural infrastructure’ can directly support human health and welfare.”

The research team predicts that a 30 percent increase in upstream tree cover in rural watersheds would have a comparable effect to improved water sanitation, such as the addition of indoor plumbing or toilets.

“We are not saying trees are more important than toilets and indoor plumbing,” says Diego Hillel aspires for an inclusive environment and extends its participation in UVM Hillel and seeks to rally wider support from fellow alumni, parents, and grandparents for faculty, staff, and student connections.

As ardent supporters of UVM Hillel, the Buracks hope others will see their gift as a call to action to do the same. “Now is the time for us to combine our Jewish values of giving back and creating a bright future for Jewish students at UVM.”

New Home for Hillel

STUDENT LIFE | In recent years, UVM Hillel has developed into one of the nation’s top programs promoting Jewish student life on campus. Throughout this growth process, members of the Burack family have been both guiding force and stalwart supporters.

Now, on the strength of a recent gift from Daniel A. Burack ’55 HON ’08 and his wife, Carole Burack HON ’08, UVM Hillel is poised to step it up another notch with a new home on campus. The gift of $2.5 million from the Buracks will support the design, planning, and renovation of 439 College Street as a vibrant hub for Jewish life, and will support ongoing and inclusive programming at UVM Hillel. (The building, across from Waterman, was originally home to Phi Delta Theta fraternity.)

Mining’s Major Impact on Amazon Forest

GUND INSTITUTE | Sprawling mining operations in Brazil are destroying much more of the iconic Amazon forest than previously thought, according to the first comprehensive study of mining deforestation in the world’s largest tropical rainforest.

The research, published in Nature Communications, finds that mining-related forest loss occurred roughly 10 percent of all Amazon deforestation between 2005 and 2015, much higher than previous estimates.

Surprisingly, roughly 90 percent of deforestation related to mining occurred outside the mining leases granted by Brazil’s government, the UVM-led study finds. Mining-induced deforestation was twelve times greater outside the mine lease areas than within them, extending as far as seventy kilometers beyond mine borders.

“These results show that mining now ranks as a substantial cause of Amazon forest loss,” says Laura Sonter of UVM’s Gund Institute for Environment. “Previous estimates assumed mining caused maybe one or two percent of deforestation. Fitting the 10 percent threshold is alarming and warrants action.”

Mining infrastructure is one key form of off-lease deforestation, researchers say. This includes worker housing and new transportation routes—roads, railways and airports. Built by mining companies or developers, these routes also enable other forms of deforestation, including agriculture, which remains the leading cause of Amazon forest loss.

“Our findings show that Amazon deforestation associated with mining extends remarkable distances from the point of mineral extraction,” says Gillian Galford of the Gund Institute and Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

The findings come as Brazil’s government considers legislation that would further ease environmental regulations and limit restrictions on mining in protected and indigenous areas. Currently, when companies apply for mining leases, they do not need to account for any damage their operations may cause, officials say.

“We hope these findings help government, industry, and scientists to work together to address this issue,” says Sonter, who led the study as a UVM postdoctoral researcher, before joining the University of Queensland in Australia.

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Move Mountains Campaign Progress

CAMPAIGN GOAL $500M
CURRENT GIFTS $490M

Three generations of alumni Buracks: Dan ’55 HON ’08, Carole HON ’08, Adam ’85, and Abigail ’16.

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This latest gift from the Burack family builds on record levels of participation in UVM Hillel and seeks to rally wider support from fellow alumni, parents, and grandparents for faculty, staff, and student enhancements and investments in students and programs.

“The new facility will benefit campus by providing a physical center of support for students to connect with high-quality, inclusive Jewish life,” Matt Vogel, executive director of UVM Hillel, says. “We envision a hub of activity where all students can come to grab coffee, study, attend class, plan, and participate in the hundreds of programs Hillel facilitates each year.”

In the five years since Dan Burack has chaired its board, UVM Hillel has seen extraordinary growth with participation increasing from 130 students in 2013 to 1,855 in 2017, and a projected 2,000 students for the current academic year. UVM Hillel aspires for an inclusive environment and extends its activities beyond traditional programming. Students from all backgrounds and beliefs are invited to engage with the program and one another as a way to create community and form lasting connections.

Along with their son, Adam ’85 and grand-daughter Abigail ’16, the Burack family’s prior philanthropy at UVM has supported a professorship in the College of Education and Social Services, an endowed scholarship, the Burack President’s Distinguished Lecture Series, and the Fleming Museum.

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ABOVE: NEIL PALMER (CIAT); RIGHT: MARK RAY

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Three generations of alumni Buracks: Dan ’55 HON ’08, Carole HON ’08, Adam ’85, and Abigail ’16.
Eureka moments make compelling movie scripts, but they aren’t what day-to-day research is really about. Last summer and through this academic year, Suma Lashof, an environmental science major in the Honors College, has worked with biology professor Bill Kilpatrick on the DNA of threatened Vermont bat populations.

In August, Lashof bumped up against difficulty in the lab finding a primer to properly amplify the DNA in bat guano she had collected. This is not failure, Kilpatrick notes, this is education. “There is an advantage of getting into research,” he says. “You do a lab in a genetics course, and, of course, it’s going to work. It’s designed that way.” But Lashof’s struggles to amplify the DNA of these bats requires a much deeper dive into what it actually means to experiment.

“I had this idealized picture in my mind that there’s this clear methodology and it’s just simply going to work,” she says. “That’s not the reality of research.”

A month later, the undergrad would find her way on that particular challenge. And, through her work with Kilpatrick, she’s found something much more. “I didn’t know much about bats before I came to college. Now they are my passion,” she says. It all started with a paper she wrote for a class on invasive species, learning that nine species of North American bats are being devastated by white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease caused by an invasive fungus.

The hope for Lashof’s research project is to help state biologists with Vermont’s Department of Fish and Wildlife monitor the location and health of roosting bat colonies via the DNA in their guano, making it so they don’t have to catch or handle these sensitive creatures.

PSYCHOLOGY | When we’re on a diet, we’ll avoid cheeseburgers and ice cream and other foods we love, even though we’re ravenous and hankering for them. Once off the diet, we’ll often return to stuffing ourselves with goodies—even if we aren’t hungry.

We learn self-control while we’re dieting. But a new study by UVM researchers suggests that control of consumption isn’t simply a great act of willpower but possibly is guided by the states of hunger and satiety.

During a diet, hunger may become the context in which we learn to deny eating impulses. When we stop dieting and no longer feel hungry, the context vanishes, and we may lose the inclination to restrain our food intake. That’s perhaps a reason why weight regain after a diet ends is so common.

Context matters, says Mark Bouton, the UVM psychology professor who co-authored the study with his PhD student Scott Schepers, published in the journal Psychological Science. For years, Bouton has looked at the importance of context in controlling behavioral and emotional responses.

His research shows that the suppression of behavior or emotion depends upon context—a physical setting, a time period or an internal state such as hunger, mood or the influence of a drug. And the behavior or emotion will “renew” when the context changes or returns to where it was when the response was learned.

Bouton is collaborating with University of California San Diego researchers who work with obese children. The study teaches the kids to inhibit their craving in the presence of food and food cues, and also studies the role of context.

“You need to practice the inhibition in the context where it’s going to matter,” Bouton says. “You want to learn to control your eating in the presence of all those cues that have been so hard.”

Bouton’s research also could inform treatment of opioid or other drug abuse. He draws parallels between overeating and addiction, alcoholism and smoking—habit-forming behaviors in response to cues, and influenced by context. Drug rehabilitation programs, like diets, create a context for suppressing the behavior, Bouton says, so it’s not surprising that addicts can relapse when they get out of such programs and back to their normal lives.

Because context is key to controlling behavior, Bouton hopes his work expands the understanding of this concept and sheds light on what causes—and could inhibit—addictive behavior.
10 THE GREEN

SERIOUSLY COMIC

Dykes to Watch Out For to Fun Home, the Fleming Museum offers a look into the work of cartoonist/graphic memoirist Alison Bechdel this semester. Early drawings, activist ephemera, large-scale self-portraits, and a model of the set for the musical Fun Home are among the works featured.

The exhibition, on display through May 20, explores the works featured.

The three-day event drew hundreds of comic artists and fans of the medium.

Alison Bechdel—who shared keynote honors with Art Spiegelman, Joe Sacco, and Andy Kolovos, director of archives and research at the Vermont Folklife Center—opened the festival with Spiegelman’s talk. Credited in his own right as a pioneer of graphic journalism and war reporting, Sacco’s books, such as Palestine and Footnotes in Gaza, have further pushed the boundaries of cartooning. Discussion panels throughout the day on Saturday led up to the closing keynote by local hero Alison Bechdel. Celebrated for her long-running strip Dykes to Watch Out For and her graphic memoirs Maus and Fun Home, Bechdel has been a UVM Marsh Professor-at-Large for the past several years.

Bechdel was informal and insightful, funny and frank. Reflecting on the unlikely success of Fun Home, she said, “At age forty, it saved my ass. I got to keep being a cartoonist.” She traced a line back to Spiegelman. “The publication of Maus turned everything upside down. You could tell painful, complex stories about individuals in their own voices to show the quest for love, acceptance, and community, and social justice.”

Elevating Entrepreneurs

Growing up in southern India, Srinivas Venugopal witnessed people living in extreme poverty on a daily basis. He often marveled at their entrepreneurial abilities to meet basic consumption needs by selling tea or umbrellas or patching punctured bicycle tires on the streets of Chennai.

Those experiences inspired Venugopal, assistant professor in the Grossman School of Business, to start a technology-based social venture at age twenty-three. His goal improving education for low-income students in rural India through technology. He currently runs a non-profit that has increased the economic and educational opportunities of young women in the slums of Chennai, which also informs his research on subsistence marketplaces.

“The marketing world has done a fantastic job of meeting needs in affluent contexts, but to me the ultimate marketing challenge is how to meet the basic needs of sectors like education, healthcare, finance, and nutrition in these contexts of poverty,” says Venugopal, who joined the UVM faculty in 2010. “The cornerstone of the Grossman School is seeing how businesses can be used as an important force for making the world better, and my own philosophy and research fits squarely within that broader paradigm.”

Venugopal’s research has taken him and his students to India, Tanzania, Argentina, and a refugee camp in Uganda where they use qualitative research techniques such as interviews, videography, photography, role playing, map drawing, and village walks. “Different contexts have different rhythms and you need to start with an immersive exercise rather than with pre-conceived notions inherited from research done in the context of affluence,” he says.

Venugopal understands the local context in which entrepreneurs operate, he theorizes ways to improve their circumstances, often testing it with an experiment. He recently employed an entrepreneurial education program for 750 women in India to see if it improved a set of empowerment indicators. Many of the women have benefited from the program and are now able to contribute to the family budget, having a voice in household purchases for the first time.

“Srini’s not hovering above in a helicopter collecting big data,” says faculty colleague Stuart Hart, a world authority on the implications of environment and poverty for business strategy. “He’s embedded in those contexts on the ground, which is similar to our approach to business at the Base of the Pyramid. We share a common perspective that to be successful, business has to be developed from the inside out by co-creating a value proposition business model from within local entrepreneurs.”

Venugopal’s experiences are chronicled in a new book he co-wrote titled Voices from the Subsistence Marketplaces. The goal of the book, he says, was to write stories about individuals in their own voices to show readers that they are more than just statistics.
Over the past several years, young alumni Aaron Rice ’12 and Tyler Wilkinson-Ray ’12 have taken to the mountains out west on audacious quests. For Rice, that meant attempting to ski 2.5 million vertical feet under his own power in one year, largely in Utah’s Wasatch Range. For Wilkinson-Ray, it meant a move from Vermont to Telluride, Colorado, aspiring to turn avocation into vocation as an outdoor filmmaker and cinematographer.

Those two quests become one in 2.5 Million, Wilkinson-Ray’s documentary about Rice’s attempt to not just break the existing world record, but exceed it by 500,000 feet. This is “human-powered” skiing. No lifts, snowmobiles, or helicopters, just Aaron Rice on a pair of back-country skis, doggedly ascending and gracefully descending day after day after day.

After setting his sights on the world record, Rice called Wilkinson-Ray about possibly documenting his journey. “Tyler is especially skilled with storytelling in his films,” Rice says. “I’m a good skier, but I’m not hucking forty-foot cliffs, so, I knew this was going to be more about the story.”

In an early scene, Rice pulls his gear out of the back of his Honda Odyssey green-and-gold UVM Euro sticker on the bumper. With characteristic understatement, he walks past the camera and says, “Day one. I’ve got a lot of walking to do. Wish me luck.” So it begins. Across the next calendar year, Rice climbs on his skins, skis downhill, stares down adversity, and scarfs 6,000 calories daily.

The film has earned accolades, including a Best Documentary Powder Award, a Vimeo Staff Pick, and a place in this year’s Banff Mountain Film Festival, gold standard of the genre.

Watch 2.5 Million go.uvm.edu/skifilm
Guiding Next-Gen Journalists

STUDENT LIFE | It’s equal parts critique, lesson, and conversation as UVM student media adviser Chris Evans sits down with the Vermont Cynic’s editor-in-chief, Erika Lewy ’18, and managing editor, Olivia Bowman ’20, for their weekly review of the university’s student newspaper. Evans, who also advises WRUV radio and UVMtv, is well-prepared and rapid-fire, a teacher determined to maximize this hour on a quiet Friday morning in the Davis Center.

A chunk of the meeting is devoted to discussing leadership, driven by a reading list ranging from Lao Tzu to Machiavelli to Martin Luther King, Jr. Later, they drill down on a page-by-page look over the previous week’s Cynic, addressing questions as major as the choice of story on 1A and minor as stray commas.

As the editors and staff put together the next week’s issue, they’ll do it with Evans’s lessons and critique of past issues in mind, but with full control over the new editorial content and presentation. “That’s Chris’s thing—support, but from a distance—which is really good,” Bowman says.

Today’s Cynic staffers are the latest in a proud legacy, “Vermont’s independent student voice since 1883.” The paper’s alumni include two-time Pulitzer winner Eric Lipton ’87 of The New York Times; Laura Bernardini ’95, CNN’s director of coverage in Washington, DC; and Robert Rosenthal’ 70, longtime editor of top American papers and now executive director of the pioneering Center for Investigative Reporting, among scores of others in journalism and multiple fields.

Evans’s hire in 2006 introduced a new era for UVM student media. The organizations would be guided by a full-time adviser with deep expertise as a communicator. Long involved as a national leader in his field, Evans recently became president of the College Media Association.

The Cynic has earned numerous honors during the past decade, including prestigious Pacemaker Awards from the Associated Collegiate Press and “Diversity Story of the Year” in 2016 for an examination of UVM’s past Kake Walk tradition.

Reflecting on the current political and cultural landscape, Evans says, “We need journalists now more than ever. There is more misinformation out there than ever. It is right to be concerned about the state of facts. That seems like a ridiculous statement to say, but we need to be concerned about the state of facts.”

Based on multiple recent alumni success stories, Evans is optimistic this generation of UVM journalists possesses the innovation and initiative required to make an impact.

“It takes creativity, which I think we’re good for here,” he says. “We’re not creating a whole bunch of middle managers who are going to go out and sit at a desk and just be the hands of someone else’s mind. I think our students are going out, and they are the minds and the hearts of the organizations that they are working for. That’s what I want for them. I want them to be steering their own path. That’s what a journalist needs to do today.”

SEVERE STUDIES? NO PROBLEM

Artifacts of a shining first in UVM history, the Phi Beta Kappa keys awarded to alumnae Ellen Hamilton and Lida Mason are part of the University Archives collection. In 1875, Hamilton and Mason became the first women to graduate from UVM and the first women in the nation admitted to the Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society. Matthew Buckham, UVM president during that era, noted that the pioneering pair “addressed themselves to their work with great zeal” and showed “themselves quite capable of meeting the demands of severe studies as successfully as their classmates of the other sex.”
John W. Hennessey, Jr., the University of Vermont’s first provost, died on January 11, 2018 in Shelburne, Vermont. After a distinguished career as a professor and dean in Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business, Hennessey joined UVM in 1986 to work with President Latte Coor’s administration in the new role of provost. In 1989, after Coor left UVM to accept the presidency at Arizona State University, Hennessey served as interim president for the next year.

As a teacher, Hennessey was remembered as a life-changing mentor. He joined the Dartmouth faculty in 1957 and accepted the Tuck School deanship in 1968. Within his first year as dean, women were admitted to Tuck for the first time, and Dartmouth College made the decision to accept undergraduate women three years later. Across the next eight years, Hennessey led numerous innovations and advances in the school.

“John Hennessey played a very significant role in the emergence of UVM as a ‘Public Ivy’ in the years I served as president,” Lattie Coor wrote in an e-mail. “He brought great stature and experienced leadership to the university. He was a friend to all with whom he worked, always thoughtfully attentive to whatever issue was under discussion. UVM was very fortunate to have him as a key player in the university’s evolution.”

President Tom Sullivan said, “UVM and Dartmouth lost a great intellectual leader and friend in John Hennessey. Those who knew John knew him as a person of the highest character, impeccable moral judgment, a deeply caring and engaged, probingly person in all of life as well as a role-model and mentor to many. His civility, wise counsel, and gentleness stood out beyond all others.”

In 2006, Hennessey married former Vermont Governor Madeleine May Kunin G’67, currently a UVM James Marsh Professor-At-Large. At the 2008 commencement at Vermont Law School, Hennessey and Kunin were awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees. At UVM’s 2012 commencement, Hennessey was awarded an honorary L.L.D. degree from the university.

What would the late Andy Warhol make of the social media age? Snapchat moments and Instagram pics direct from The Factory? Dartmouth’s president of an 89-year-old Warhol armed with an iPhone, art historian Anthony Grudin says, “He would have been deeply excited by the enchantment, by mystified by all of these new possibilities.”

And terminology in this regard—amateur cultural participation—is a phrase the UVM associate professor of art history describes early in his store brand. The publisher of pulp magazines such as True Story, argued that the future of national brands depended on the masses of working-class consumers who would remain loyal because of the perceived higher status of name brands. That same demographic defined Macfadden’s readership. Seeing an opportunity, they made their pitch to potential advertisers with tough-to-miss, full-page ads in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Chicago Tribune.

The first Macfadden ad appeared August 14, 1945. A few months later, Grudin notes, Andy Warhol began painting soup cans. While it is impossible to directly connect dots between those two events, they’re indicative of the times and the milieu around consumerism. The class within which Warhol blazed his trail. And they add another dimension to a critical consideration of the artist’s life and work. While scholars have looked at performance of gender, sexuality, and race in regard to Warhol, this focus on the performance of class introduces a fresh perspective. Grudin notes that a more egalitarian artist world, allowing for expression across class lines, isn’t necessarily comfortable or welcome. He says, “That provokes a lot of anxiety in people, and it also provokes responses to that anxiety—people who come along and say ‘you’re scared of what us ‘low-lifes’ are going to do with this access,’ let’s show you what we’re going to do. It will be scary.”

Grudin at her best is a lot like the uncle of one character, who is described as ‘so good at imagining things’ that he makes the imagined things real.” Hunt’s dreamlike images operate in service to earthbound ideas. A three-time novelist, this is Hunt’s first short story collection.

Robert Lacey ’93 examines an underappreciated tradition in American political thought with his most recent book, Pragmatic Conservatism: Edmund Burke and His American Heirs (Palgrave MacMillan). He argues that modern liberals, who favor evidence-based reforms that strike a balance between tradition and innovation, are the true conservatives in America today.

Howard Frank Mosher G’67, celebrated novelist of Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom, passed away in January 2017. His last work, a book of short stories titled Points North, was released early this year by St. Martin’s Press. “Mosher’s rich language makes art form both grand and intimate, from big-dog cogency and big-brother conceit to big-brother courage and big-brother brook trut...writes Publishers Weekly.”

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Countdown to Game Time

As UVM’s Board of Trustees approves project planning, and multiple alumni step up with financial support, the university’s long-awaited dream of enhanced space for varsity athletic competition and student wellness has taken significant steps forward over the past year. The proposed Multi-Purpose Center will include a new events center that will serve as the home for men’s and women’s basketball while also hosting a variety of campus and public events. In addition, the project includes a transformational renovation of Gutterson Fieldhouse for men’s and women’s hockey, and dramatic upgrades to the health, wellness and recreation facilities for the entire campus. These upgrades will result in a five-fold increase to the amount of dedicated space available for campus recreation.

At the October 2017 meeting of the UVM Board, members viewed detailed drawings of what the project could be. To move the project design through the next phase, the board authorized UVM to spend up to $1 million, all in private gifts, to finish the design and determine a final budget that could be. To move the project design through the next phase, the board authorized UVM to spend up to $1 million, all in private gifts, to finish the design and determine a final budget that could be. To move the project design through the next phase, the board authorized UVM to spend up to $1 million, all in private gifts, to finish the design and determine a final budget. The board received an update on that work at the February meeting, and Bob Vaughan, director of capital planning and management, hopes to present the final plans and budget at the May meeting.

“Feedback from students, alumni, our loyal fans, and the broader community has been incredibly positive,” says Director of Athletics Jeff Schuman ’89. “I’m looking forward to continued work with our trustees, university leadership, and my Athletic Department colleagues to deliver a truly transformative project.”

Groundbreaking could happen as early as spring 2019. Vaughan says, provided fundraising goes as planned. UVM Foundation President Shane Jacobson says the project is generating significant interest among potential donors and several recent pledges, detailed below, provide critical early support.

SUPPORTING WELLNESS

David Dagle ‘89, chair of UVM’s Board of Trustees, and his wife, Beth Dagle ‘89, have pledged $1 million to the proposed Multi-Purpose Center. Their gift will be directed toward new facilities that will enhance student health and wellness on campus, as well as programs that encourage all UVM students to lead healthier lives.

The Dagles’ long history of philanthropy at UVM has had a significant impact on each of the four priorities of the UVM Foundation—scholarships, faculty, facilities, and academic programs. They have supported initiatives at UVM including the Grossman School of Business, the UVM Career Center, the UVM Cancer Center, faculty endowments, student scholarships, and more.

The success of UVM’s nationally-acclaimed Wellness Environment, a neuroscience-inspired behavior change program that incentivizes college students to build healthy brains and healthy bodies, played a significant role in the decision to support the Multi-Purpose Center at UVM. The Dagles believe that the Wellness Environment program can have a direct and positive impact on student academic success, which in turn increases the likelihood that UVM students will enjoy successful lives and careers after they graduate.

COURT FOR ‘COACH’

In December, UVM recognized a landmark era in men’s basketball with the naming of the “Tom Brennan Court” in Patrick Gymnasium. The court-naming opportunity was the result of a $1 million fundraising goal established to both recognize Coach Brennan and advance the planning for the Multi-Purpose Center.

In his nineteen years at UVM, Brennan won 264 games and led the Catamounts to four 20-plus win seasons, three America East Championships, and UVM’s first three NCAA Tournament appearances. The breakthrough to March Madness was capped by the 2004–2005 season and the Cats’ stunning upset win over Syracuse. Barry Stone ’89—a former UVM basketball player and member of the UVM Foundation’s Leadership Council—and his wife, Carol, made a lead gift to launch the fundraising effort and other donors joined in to make the Brennan Court a reality.

The “Tom Brennan Court” will remain as the centerpiece in Patrick Gym after it is renovated into a recreational gym for all UVM students. As part of the Multi-Purpose Center project, the court in the new basketball and events arena will be available for a naming opportunity.

DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISE

A gift of $1 million from Bill Shean ’79 and Laurie Shean ’80 has provided critical support for producing architectural plans of the Multi-Purpose Center, as well as site evaluation and preparation.

The Sheans are longtime UVM supporters with a special interest in athletics. Bill, a former member of the UVM tennis team, is the managing director of investments at CYS Investments, an agency mortgage REIT located in Waltham, Massachusetts. Laurie is a nurse practitioner at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Given their long history with UVM Athletics, the Sheans have significant experience with previous plans to renovate or expand athletic facilities on campus. “This is the first time, in my heart and in my head, that I believe that we will finally get the Multi-Purpose Center completed and deliver on our promise to give variety athletes as well as our entire student body the facilities that they so richly deserve,” says Bill Shean. “We have an incredibly active group of students and they deserve a top-notch center to exercise, train, practice and compete.”
Walking into Morrill Hall  
Tuesday and Thursday mornings during his first semester at UVM, Tom Freeman has stepped into an immersive learning experience of a different sort.

Yes, on a pedestrian level, Morrill of the distinctive red tile roof, granite entry columns and gray marble staircase, is the classroom location for “Why Build That?” a College of Arts and Sciences Teacher-Advisor Program (TAP) course taught by Professor William Mierse. But to Freeman, the building is also the focus of research at the heart of his work in the course.

Mierse, a veteran professor of art history, initially developed “Why Build That?” years ago, recognizing the rich learning resource in a campus buildingscape that spans centuries and architectural styles, including gems by the likes of Henry Hobson Richardson and McKim, Mead & White. Also essential, the primary sources in UVM Library Special Collections, where students can trace the long and winding road from inspiration to funding, blueprint to building.

Along the way, Mierse’s syllabus puts a heavy emphasis on enhancing students’ skills in collaborative work, speaking, research, and writing, all core elements of TAP courses. Beyond campus, students explore the architecture of Burlington and examine decidedly different places and cultural/political circumstances with readings such as At Home with Apartheid: The Hidden Landscapes of Domestic Service in Johannesburg by Rebecca Ginsburg.

As student Tom Freeman has delved into the architecture of Morrill Hall during the course, he has come to appreciate the history and symbolism of a building that honors the Vermont congressman, Justin Morrill, who sponsored the Land-Grant College Act of 1862.

“Without this land grant, most universities around America, including UVM, never would have created agricultural departments. Without these agriculture departments, America’s middle class never would have grown to the size that it is today,” Freeman says. “The Vermont Legislature funded this building which shows that it was not just UVM that felt the need to commemorate Justin Morrill.”

Another landmark building at the opposite end of the Green has been the focus of student Grace Vailikis’s research. A psychology major, she has dug into the history of her academic home, John Dewey Hall, originally opened in 1905 as home to the university’s College of Medicine. Beyond a greater understanding and appreciation for architecture, Vailikis says the course has sharpened her analytical sense around political, economic, and social issues.

At semester’s end, the students in “Why Build That?” write an argument, framed as a letter to UVM’s Board of Trustees, for why “their” building should be preserved or torn down.

Mierse says his goal isn’t to create architectural or art historians with this one course. Instead, he hopes the students will grow as thoughtful, informed consumers of architecture. Whether it’s building or remodeling a house, managing an office space, or voting on municipal development, Mierse says, buildings and the multiple issues around them impact all of our lives.
Hurricane Maria, the worst natural disaster to ever hit Puerto Rico, claimed many lives, flattened buildings and homes, and left the island forever changed. Part of that devastation: a thousand-foot television tower, which had stood atop Puerto Rico’s tallest mountain for sixty years, was pulverized by winds greater than 200 miles per hour. Now, it’s up to Jonathan Garcia ’81, a senior vice president at WAPA-TV, and his staff to rebuild a communications system, and a way of life.

It’s hard to imagine living without electricity, let alone running water, but that’s the situation Puerto Ricans found themselves in post-Maria; the entire island lost power, and thousands are still without basic necessities today. Outages, of course, mean no Internet, and no television. “It affected our business very much,” says Garcia, who’s been with San Juan-based WAPA for nearly twenty years. “We’ve never seen anything like this.” With their infrastructure devastated, WAPA is using Telemundo’s broadcasting tower to stay on the air as they rebuild.

Unlike most mainland local networks, WAPA is an independent station. “We produce everything on our own. It’s like being in mini-Hollywood,” Garcia says. And their approach has worked; WAPA was Puerto Rico’s most-played station for the last nine years. “Instead of focusing on rating points, I try to find new solutions,” Garcia explains, like product integrations and new programming. Over the years, his credits include helping to start “MTV Puerto Rico,” and producing “Idol Puerto Rico.”

Many islanders, deprived of power and cell data, have changed the way they get their news, turning back to newspapers and radio. Garcia, whose job includes managing the station’s sales and marketing, saw advertisers simultaneously shift their dollars to these traditional mediums, bucking recent trends; the alum estimates it will take the station six months to normalize programming, ratings, and advertising billings.

ROOTS, RADIO, ’RUV
Garcia spent his early years in Philadelphia and New Jersey, before the family moved to the island when he was eleven. He attended a small, private American high school in Puerto Rico. “I had total island fever,” laughs Garcia. “Puerto Rico is a hundred miles long, thirty-five miles wide. I said, ‘What’s the farthest place I can go, where I’ll have no family, and no other person here would apply?’” The answer: UVM.

When he arrived on campus, it was his first visit ever to Vermont and he had no winter clothes. He was one of fewer than a dozen students of color. But he quickly found his niches; one year, he lived in the Pantomime Suite in Living/Learning. “I was an annoying mime on campus, juggling, unicycling, clowning,” he confesses.

Fond memories of student life include an epic run of concerts at Patrick Gym: Springsteen to Van Morrison to Bob Marley. And there was a deep-Burlington-late-seventies moment when he and friends took a study break visit to this little ice cream shop on the corner of College and St. Paul. A guy named Ben scooped the granola chunk; his friend Jerry played piano in the corner.

At UVM, Garcia found a way to combine this passion for music with his business and engineering studies in broadcasting. He started WRUV’s radio operations suite, later becoming the student-run station’s public relations director. He even created the logo still used today. “My involvement with ’RUV launched me into radio. It helped me a lot.”

Today, he and his wife live outside of San Juan, and actively maintain ties to Vermont, returning to their house in Stowe throughout the year.

Rebuilding after Maria presents a challenge unlike any other, but Garcia is up for it. A thirty-year television-industry veteran, he’s faced reinvention before, especially in the face of the digital revolution.

“I live for creativity, and I always try to do things differently,” Garcia says. “I get up with the same energy for my job every day.” The historic storm, and the devastation it left behind, hasn’t changed that: “Puerto Rico will never be the same, but we’re going to come back strong.”

UVM PEOPLE

JONATHAN GARCIA ’81
by Andrea Estey
Photograph by Angel Negron
ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2017, Liz Thompson, director of conservation science for the Vermont Land Trust, was walking in the woods in Shaftsbury, Vermont. On Bucks Cobble Hill, she and a colleague came across an unusual plant growing on limestone. They knew it was some kind of snakeroot, in the genus Sanicula—but which species? As botanists will do, they both got out their field guides and began to look more closely at the parts of the plant's green flowers, its calyx and stigma. They keyed it down to two possibilities: an uncommon snakeroot called Sanicula trifoliata or the more rare Sanicula canadensis.

But their two books had different drawings and keys. “And these were conflicting. So we were confused,” says Thompson G’86, an expert on Vermont plants who co-teaches a UVM field botany course with senior lecturer Cathy Paris G’91. “There are books and books and books, and there are descriptions and descriptions and descriptions. But there is nothing to substitute for natural specimens. To actually see them in the flesh—so to speak—there’s just no substitute for that.”

So she decided to go take a look at the plant collections in UVM’s Pringle Herbarium. From 1975 until last August, that would have meant going to the third floor of the venerable but-often-overlooked Torrey Hall, dedicated in 1863. It’s home to a collection of some 660,000 specimens. These include more than 330,000 dried plants from around the world—many thousands of which were contributed by UVM botanist Cyrus Guernsey Pringle (1838-1911) for whom the herbarium is named—as well as 280,000 pinned insects, 40,000 spiders and other arachnids, 12,000 mammal skins and skeletons, and a modest selection of stuffed birds, bird eggs, amphibians, lizards, snakes, fish, and mollusks. It’s by far the largest natural history collection in Vermont and now the state’s official archive for documenting its plants and animals after the State of Vermont’s own collections were deeply damaged by flooding during Hurricane Irene in 2011.

But, as Vermont Quarterly readers may have noted in the last issue—and as many Burlington residents saw on the campus skyline—smoke began pouring out of the roof of Pringle Herbarium. From 1975 until last August, that would have meant going to the third floor of the venerable but-often-overlooked Torrey Hall, dedicated in 1863. It’s home to a collection of some 660,000 specimens. These include more than 330,000 dried plants from around the world—many thousands of which were contributed by UVM botanist Cyrus Guernsey Pringle (1838-1911) for whom the herbarium is named—as well as 280,000 pinned insects, 40,000 spiders and other arachnids, 12,000 mammal skins and skeletons, and a modest selection of stuffed birds, bird eggs, amphibians, lizards, snakes, fish, and mollusks. It’s by far the largest natural history collection in Vermont and now the state’s official archive for documenting its plants and animals after the State of Vermont’s own collections were deeply damaged by flooding during Hurricane Irene in 2011.

NATURE CATALOGUED

The Enduring Importance of Natural History Collections

STORY & PHOTOGRAPHS BY

JOSHUA BROWN
Torrey Hall at 8:12 a.m. on August 3. A spark from a workman’s torch, during renovations to the building’s copper roof, had gone astray.

When David Barrington arrived on campus a few minutes later, “Twenty-foot flames were coming out of the roof,” he says. “I thought: well, that’s the end of my forty-three years of investment in Pringle and his heritage. I thought I was just going to drop.” The curator of the herbarium since 1974 and professor of plant biology, Barrington has been the driving force behind designating the collections in Torrey, in 2014, as the University of Vermont Natural History Museum—bringing together the plants in the Pringle Herbarium with the animal specimens in the Zadock Thompson Zoological Collections. This work included securing a $470,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to reorganize the collections to align with a modern understanding of the tree of life, make high-res digital images of the specimens for online viewing—and move the whole collection from substandard wooden cabinets into new fire-proof metal ones.

As the four-alarm fire burned, several near-miracles unfolded. First, the fast-moving firefighters went into the building and covered some of the cabinets with tarps and were able to contain the blaze to the crawl space on the flared outer edge of the building’s mansard roof. “The lieutenant climbed right in there with a hose,” Barrington recalls. The top of the building was surrounded by a crown of flames, but the interior frame was spared. Second, the tinder-dry sheets of plants, glued on paper, just feet from the scorching heat overhead, were unharmed in their new cabinets.

And third, in the days after the fire was extinguished, “an absolutely amazing outpouring of people came to help,” Barrington says. The few thousand plants that were in open cabinets, or out on work tables, were carried by hand to dry out in nearby buildings or shipped to a specialized freezing facility in Massachusetts for protection. The insects and mammals—housed on lower floors of Torrey—were safely moved to Blundell House on Redstone Campus.

This Shaftsbury forest, where the plant was growing, was recently conserved by the land trust and Thompson and her colleague were scouting it on behalf of the owner, an organic farmer, helping her develop a land management plan. “We know exactly what the species is now,” says Thompson, “we can talk to the landowner about how she has something quite special and get her out to see where it’s living. We’ll advise that area not be managed for timber because of its conservation value.”

She places them side by side on a small metal table, takes out her smartphone and opens pictures of the plant she saw in the Shaftsbury forest. In one folder, she goes through a sheaf of specimens of *Sanicula canadensis*, collected at different seasons, peering closely at their flowers with a silver hand-lens. One of the plants in this folder Thompson collected herself, in West Haven, near Rutland, in July 1990, on “a hill NW of Fish Hill,” the label reads. In the other pile are sheets of *Sanicula trifoliata*. She looks closely at one collected on August 18, 1898, by the former president of Middlebury College and distinguished botanist Ezra Brainerd. “Yep, that’s the one,” she says, smiling. “It’s awesome to think that Ezra Brained made this collection more than one hundred years ago and here it is and it’s vitally useful to me right now.”

Scans down the hundreds of stacked folders, color-coded by region (plus a few in red, that are “type” specimens, meaning they are the original plant which a collector used to describe and name a new species) and picks out two green folders; green for Vermont.

“…”

—Liz Thompson G’86, upper left; lower left, David Barrington.
WHILE NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS certainly need cabinets, the Renaissance notion of the Kunstkabinett or cabinet of curiosities—the vision of a natural history collection as a mashup of exotic plants and stuffed creatures curated for its own sake—“misses the point of what I do,” says assistant professor Michael Sundue ’99, the assistant curator and research librarian of the Pringle Herbarium.

Last summer, before the fire, I spoke with Sundue as he was preparing for a botanical expedition to Colombia. Part of his work takes place in a laboratory in Jefords Hall, extracting DNA from plant cells, part among the cabinets in the herbarium, studying dried plants, and part in mountains, swamps, and forests—from New Guinea to South America—collecting living plants, especially ferns.

“They all fit together,” he says. “Museums are repositories for collections. And collections are a tool of natural history, which is a tool we can use for understanding many biodiversity questions,” he says. “All of our questions are much more interesting than the collection itself. But they can’t be addressed without the collection.”

“When I tell people I work in an herbarium, they say, ‘so what do you do up there all day?’ Categorize things?” Sundue tells me, with a big smile. “I try not to be offended,” he says, now laughing out loud. And then he pauses and looks up at the ceiling. “And I think, well, yes, I guess I do. I do categorize things a lot.”

Then he picks up a small bag of dried and ground fern leaves that has been prepared for DNA analysis. “But that is not the point. The point is not to categorize things. This is the point: categorizing is a process we do in order to develop a tool—which is a collection—which we use to answer questions about the natural world.”

For example: how well global warming affects insect life in Vermont? Numerous scientists use the UVM collections to look for clues about how climate change may be shifting the geographic ranges of species. In the Vermont portion of the collection, “we have only one specimen of the carpenter ant, Camponotus chronicus, collected in the Champlain Valley in 1944,” says UVM biologist Nick Gotell, who studies ants as part of his ecological research. “This is a warm-climate species that rarely occurs north of central Massachusetts,” he says. Having this baseline information from the collection can allow him and other scientists to better understand what they discover in the field. “It could be a harbinger of climate change if we start to detect additional occurrences in Vermont,” he says.

Similarly, in 2015, a team of scientists, including Leif Richardson, a bee expert at UVM’s Gund Institute for the Environment, and Sara Zan Henderson and Kent McFarland from the Vermont Center for Ecosystems donated some 9,000 pinned, identified, and digitized bumble bee specimens, drawing from their work on the Vermont Bumble Bee Survey, to the UVM collections. Combined with the labors of collectors going back decades, this bee collection helps tell a story of how land-use changes, pesticides, and climate change are rewriting the distribution and abundance of the state’s bees and other pollinators.

But the questions go much farther than Vermont, and much deeper in time than the geologic eye-blink of the reign of the naked, large-brained primate categorized as Homo sapiens. “People will say, ‘so, then you have all of the bugs in Vermont?’” says Sundue. “Well, yes, we do have many of them. And we have insects and plants from all over the world,” he says, including the best collection of DNA-grade Caribbean spiders in the world, gathered by UVM spider expert Fungi Aagnon and others; a stupendous worldwide collection of ground beetles collected by legendary professor Russ Bell and his wife, Joyce Bell, Cyrus Pringle’s pioneering plant collection from Mexico and other dry places, including some 1,200 new species he discovered; a fine collection of rare shrews and other small mammals from Pakistan collected by mammalogist Bill Kilpatrick; Dave Barrington’s extensive collection of hollyferns—and the collections of hundreds of other naturalists and scientists stretching well back into the nineteenth century.

“The point is not to have one of everything, but to have a representative sample which we can use to understand the morphology of an organism, its shape and form,” says Sundue. Historically, this set of visible traits—like flower shape or skull size—has been used to describe and distinguish species and place them on their branch in the tree of life. The molecular revolution of the last few decades has redrawn large parts of this tree by exploring microscopic DNA. But the same basic task remains: to find the traits of a plant or animal—whether the shape of a leaf or the molecular sequence of base pairs in a gene—that shows how it is different from, but relates to, other organisms.

And the engine of this ever-branching, constantly changing, shrinking, 3.95-billion-year-old tree of life is evolution by natural selection—organisms trying to make a living in the constant ecological flux, with the ones best-adapted to their place and moment surviving to pass on their distinctive genes to the next generation. It’s an endless process of diversification and movement, innovations and failures. “And we use natural history collections to explore some big questions in evolution,” says Sundue. “Where is biodiversity distributed on the planet? Why are there more species at the equator than anywhere else? Why are there more species halfway up the Andes Mountains than there are at the top of the bottom?” Collections are the fundamental primary data we use to address those questions.

“The information we need is not necessarily written down in books anywhere,” Sundue says, sitting in the library of Torrey Hall. “Behind him are hundreds of mostly green, and brown-spined books: Fruits of the Guianan Flora, Sex in Plants, Megalastrum of the Andes, Parts I & II. “So you have to have collections at your disposal so you can constantly query the specimens. Does this specimen show this trait? Let’s pull it out of the cabinet and see.”
WHEN ELEVEN UVM UNDERGRADS in the course “Justice Studies” arrive for a weekly class meeting, they are required to leave their keys, cellphones, and other personal belongings at the door before walking through a metal detector under the watchful eye of a correctional officer. It isn’t part of an extreme measure to remove distractions from the classroom. It’s just part of the routine for the students taking the course with incarcerated people at the Women’s Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility in South Burlington.
Opening doors, for UVM students and their counterparts in the prison, was the impetus for the course developed and taught by Kathy Fox, professor of sociology and director of the new UVM Liberal Arts in Prison Program. Spring semester 2017 was the first time in Vermont that undergraduates and inmates took a course together on the “inside,” and it represented UVM’s entry into the renowned Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison established at Bard College. UVM is the first public institution and the first land grant university to join.

Admittance to the consortium, and plans to begin offering for-credit courses to qualified incarcerated Vermonters beginning this spring comes after patient and persistent advocacy by Fox, who sees a liberal education as transformational in the lives of individual students and society at large. This semester UVM is teaching an introductory sociology course to men in the Northwest State Correctional Facility in Swanton and a course on mythology for female inmates in South Burlington.

“I’ve been very impressed with the number of smart people in prison,” Fox says. “They work hard, not just because they see education as important, but because of access to resources.” Fox says. “That struck me as wrong. But the experience made me a sociologist.”

Her father, a tax attorney in Tulsa, served as an early role model. He fought to establish fair voting districts in the city—the existing system underrepresented densely populated lower-income neighborhoods dominated by African Americans.

“He got threatening phone calls and was harassed. But he didn’t back down,” Fox recalls. It was a later conversation with her father that finally set Fox on the path to her profession. She had just graduated from high school and was taking a gap-year (before the term became fashionable), waiting tables and casting about for a clear direction. The things she was interested in, she told her father, didn’t seem to have any academic application.

“He asked me, ‘What do you spend time thinking about?’ I told him I wondered why people behaved differently in crowds as opposed to small groups. Or why some groups get labeled negatively and others didn’t. ‘There’s a name for that,’ he said. ‘That’s sociology.’”

Fox is not an “armchair” sociologist—her research takes her to places most people don’t want to go but where the magnitude of need and opportunity for positive change are the greatest.

Her doctoral dissertation at California Berkeley focused on a prevention program for intravenous drug users on the West Coast, most of them home-less and at high risk of contracting HIV from sharing needles. Fox conducted qualitative research on the program, and in the process, provided free condoms and precipitated a change in crowds as opposed to small groups. Or why some groups get labeled negatively and others didn’t. ‘There’s a name for that,’ he said. ‘That’s sociology.’”

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She joined the UVM faculty in 1994. Teaching introductory classes and seminars in criminal justice, her research interests turned increasingly towards offender reentry and reintegration in Vermont.

VQ is never been inside a prison, but I was really struck by the notion that these are people’s sons and daughters, husbands and wives,” she says. “I’ve often for the said every citizen should visit a prison, because they would understand how dehumanizing the environment is, and they’d meet people that don’t need to be there.”

Fox increasingly began to see higher education as a key lever to change the lives of inmates and improve outcomes after their release. She also became convinced of the societal benefits of education on the “inside”—providing higher education reduces recidivism and dramatically improves the odds that returning citizens could become successful, crime-free, tax-paying members of society.

Vermont is an ideal laboratory because of its scale—we can try lots of new things,” she says. “The state spends $5,000 per year per in-state inmate (more than four times what it spends for each public school student from kindergarten through the twelfth grade).”

The recidivism rate in the state, while better than the national average, has hovered at about 45 percent for the last decade. Incarcerated citizens who are released with a high school education have a recidivism rate of 24 percent. That drops to 10 percent for inmates with two years of college, and about 5 percent with four years of college.

“Vermont, like the rest of the nation, is investing vast sums of money in a correctional system that has the potential to deliver better results,” she says.

FOX IS A GREAT BELIEVER in experiential learning, and, bringing her UVM undergraduates into the prison provides them with a first-hand look at lives of the incarcerated. The learning is a two-way street—inmates learn academic content alongside UVM students in a classic college seminar while the undergrads develop a sharpened sensitivity to the obstacles inmates face in their day-to-day lives and long-term prospects.

The class typically sits in a circle, with UVM undergraduates and students from the prison seated next to each other. It is one of the few times in the inmates’ weekly routine that a uniformed officer is not present in the classroom.

“A big obstacle was breaking down the walls as much as possible. Both groups were a little intimated so we did some ice breaking exercises to establish the things we all have in common. For instance, I’d propose they talk about what their one food would be if they were stranded on a desert island,” Fox says.

Wednesday evening in the facility meeting individually with class mates to answer questions and help them with assignments.

“One of the ladies told me every week how empowered she felt to be part of the class,” Bull says. “She understood that we were not going in just to ‘study’ them—that we were learning as much from them as they were from us. She told me she appreciated the fact that we were using their perspectives to improve a system where she feels she has no voice.”

One of the “inside” students who was recently released, wrote to Fox saying she never imagined she could go to college, but feels that she can after being part of the course. As the program continues to take root at UVM, that’s a result the professor behind it hopes will repeat many times over.

“A liberal arts education certainly changed my life,” says Fox. “I’m confident it can change the lives of those inside our prisons, and improve our communities in the process.”

GROWING UP IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA, Fox received some early lessons in fairness and privilege that informed her research on social problems and eventually criminal justice. After attending a private Catholic elementary school, she volunteered to be bused to Booker T. Washington, a racially and socio-economically integrated high school on the other side of Tulsa. She observed that only when white middle-class students were bused in did the district infuse a lot of resources into the school: “I was very aware that my trajectory might be different from other kids I knew, not because of talent or smarts, but because of access to resources,” Fox says. “That struck me as wrong. But the experience made me a sociologist.”

The capacity for critical inquiry—our prison system provides extremely fertile ground for its application.”
Geography and vibe have earned Burlington the “West Coast of New England” nickname. On a smaller city scale—with gentler hills—UVM’s hometown shares something with San Francisco, in particular. Talk to a sample of the approximately 1,700 alumni who make the Bay Area home and you’ll hear echoes of these words from Jim Louderback ’83: “It’s more like Vermont than you might think.”

With this issue, VQ launches an annual focus on our alumni in various cities or regions. Next year: we’re coming for you, Chicago.

by Thomas Weaver
principal photography by Clayton Boyd ’09

JIM LOUDERBACK ’83
WORK: CEO of VidCon, an online video events and experiences company. Big picture: “I focus on how we fulfill our mission to celebrate, connect, and democratize the creative economy around the world. I love the emerging ecosystem that lets creative people anywhere in the world create and connect to audiences without the traditional media middlemen that have constrained connections between fans and creators.” UVM: A math major/mass communications minor, Louderback also learned computer programming and worked many shifts at WRUV. “That mix of technology and media proved to be a fundamental underpinning of my career, as the two are now inextricably bound up.” SF FAVE: Praising the outdoor options and Bay Area vibe—“It’s more like Vermont than you might think.” He loves walking the beaches near his home in Pacifica, and evenings at Phil Lesh’s Terrapin Crossroads music club in Marin take him back to a favorite UVM memory, the night the Grateful Dead came to town.
LUKE APFELD ’14
WORK: Third-year student at Berkeley Law, graduating in May. “I’m in the process of figuring out where I want my career in the law to go. There are a lot of possibilities for lawyers right now, and I want to make sure I use my law degree to help ease some of the unrest in our society today.” The former Catamount basketball star helps pay the rent by working with the Golden State Warriors youth program, travelling Northern California for hoops clinics.
“It is great to see the positivity that the Warriors embody seep into the neighboring communities.”
UVM: Double major in English and sociology. Friends in Vermont included coaches, fellow teammates, and the sports medicine staffers Apfeld credits for keeping him on court. He also found a mentor for his law career in UVM President Tom Sullivan, JD. SF FAVE: Apfeld declares allegiance to Oakland. “It is a beautifully diverse city that captures the best of both worlds—the free spirit of Berkeley and the big city feel of San Francisco.”

ANN CROMLEY ’15
WORK: Line chef at famed Berkeley restaurant Chez Panisse. “Being part of the magic and history of Chez Panisse is an honor. To invigorate and inspire people with good food and to be able to tell the people and stories behind the food and the soil is part of what makes Chez Panisse so special.”
UVM: Cromley says her four years at UVM were transformative. From volunteer work helping with Hurricane Irene clean-up during her first year to the mentorship of Professor Rachel Johnson in her nutrition and dietetics major, Cromley fell in love with the state and the university. Of Johnson, she says, “Each day, I learned something new from her, was continuously inspired to stay committed not only to my studies, but to myself.” Cromley’s work as president of Slow Food UVM, a student club, put her on a path to Chez Panisse, she says. Last, far from least, she values the community and connection she found in the Slade Environmental Cooperative. SF FAVE: Excited to continue exploring the historic network of paths and staircases in her new hometown of Berkeley.

BILL ALLARD ’71
WORK: A founding member of Duck’s Breath Mystery Theatre, a comedy team that made their name from 1975 to 1990 with live performances and sketches on National Public Radio. Today, Allard is focused on producing, distributing, and marketing Duck Spots comedy movies with the goal of having “10 funny movies for Apple to sell by 2020.” Allard calls it “achieving my dreams in the last quarter-mile of my life.”
UVM: A theater major, Allard says legendary professor Ed Feidner “hired me to work for the Champlain Shakespeare Festival while apologizing for ruining my life.” He was also a varsity swimmer, AEPi brother, and braved the snow on his Honda 90 motorcycle. SF FAVE: Allard and his wife, Margaret, own a house in Outer Sunset and have lived in the city for nearly forty years. “Every inch of this wonderful city is worth a zillion dollars, and we’re all still mining for gold. Digital gold.”

Milo Werner ’02
WORK: VP for engineering at OffGrid Electric, an innovative company focused on multiple aspects of bringing affordable, reliable, renewable energy to communities in need. Her previous jobs include engineering/management roles at FitBit and nine years with Tesla during the automotive company’s early days. As a woman in management in a technical field, Werner is thankful for the advocacy of a mentor who saw her leadership potential. “I love creating the environment that stimulates our engineering team to be creative. It is about allowing people to access that inner playful side of work.”
UVM: While earning dual degrees in civil/environmental engineering and geology, Werner ran varsity track and cross-country. She has stayed involved with the university through work on her college’s board of advisors and recently hired Tarye Peter ’17, a young UVM grad. SF FAVE: Home is in the Marina and work is on Potrero Hill. Werner deeply appreciates that she can hike to work. Weekends, she, her husband, and their two kids often head to Chrissy Field.
a strong circle of lasting friends filled the hours he wasn’t on the job or hitting the books. SF FAVE: Being out on the Pacific fishing for king salmon with his three kids.

JESS PEABODY ’02
WORK: Community director for Conscious Capitalism International, a nonprofit dedicated to elevating humanity through business, overseeing chapters in forty communities worldwide. “I get to work with incredibly purposeful and engaged business leaders around the world who truly want to positively impact their communities, employees, partners, and the environment.”

UVM: Studied psychology and studio art. Academically, classmates in the Integrated Humanities Program and printmaking professor Bill Davison had lasting influences upon her. Off-campus, Peabody was active in the local punk rock scene, as a fan and singer in bands. On the quieter side, Muddy Waters was a favorite spot to read and write. SF FAVE: “This city celebrates and encourages diversity and independence like no other place I have experienced. The value of this lends itself to an incredible richness of self-expression.” A “just say yes” motto since moving to the city four years ago has led to many experiences, including an ultramarathon on Mt. Tam. Marin Headlands—endless trails, views, whale sighting—keeps her coming back for more.

JIM BETTS ’69 MD ’73
WORK: Surgeon-in-chief and assistant director of Trauma Services at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland. As a safety-net facility, the hospital turns no patient away. Betts, who grew up in Bennington, Vermont, with his two siblings and their widowed single mom, who had no health insurance, notes that his personal background resonates with the hospital’s mission. “It is an honor and privilege to be able to serve the surgical needs of our patients.” Betts also serves as a tactical physician with the FBI San Francisco SWAT Team.

UVM: A Wilbur Scholarship combined with other aid and work as a resident advisor enabled Betts to earn his bachelor’s and medical degrees debt free. Within the College of Medicine, longtime dean Bill Luginbuhl and his wife, Vi, were encouragers and confidants. A self-described “very unaccomplished discus and hammer thrower,” Betts credits legendary Catamount track and field coach Archie Post with helping him fit athletics into a challenging academic schedule.

SF FAVE: During the week, Betts lives in Alameda, near the hospital. An ideal weekend usually means heading to his oceanside home in Big Sur, where he does double-duty as a member of the area’s volunteer fire department.

KATE SYLVESTER ’02
WORK: Staffing manager at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. “It’s busy, full of innovative and creative people. We’re a pillar in the community for art of our time and I get to see it every day.” Mentoring interns and helping them move into the field is another especially fulfilling aspect of her job.

UVM: Environmental studies and polisci major. Kept busy outside of the classroom with Phi Beta Phi, as an orientation leader, waiting tables at Trattoria Delia, and, very importantly, suiting up as Kitty Catamount. Study abroad experiences in Australia and Costa Rica, along with a semester in Washington, D.C., sparked a love for travel. As a co-chair of the UVM Alumni Association San Francisco Regional
Jeff Buckley ‘00
WORK: Housing policy advisor in the San Francisco Mayor’s Office, focused on big picture questions such as affordability. Buckley is particularly proud of a public housing plan that leveraged $1 billion in local city funds to provide more than 175,000 million in direct improvements to public housing—without losing a unit or displacing tenants. “That’s why I got involved in government—to make change and improve lives.” UVM: History major/English minor. Ski slopes, music downtown, gravy fries at Nectar’s are among the fond memories. Buckley also worked as a student journalist for the Vermont Cynic, covering the Vermont legislature’s same-sex marriage decision. He credits that experience for guiding his path toward taking a role in progressive government. SF FAVE: Describing a typical day leaving his home in Ingleside, dropping his three-year-old daughter at day care, and getting on BART to go to work, Buckley says, “The beauty of this city is around every corner.” The rickety wooden deck of Fort Funston, watching hang gliders over the Pacific, is his place to be.

Briidget Donovan ‘98
WORK: Trauma nurse practitioner at San Francisco General Hospital and clinical assistant professor of nursing at the University of California, San Francisco. “The science of medicine and working with people is what I love. The hospital work environment is very intense at times. However, to be at the bedside with patients who are often in their most vulnerable state after sustaining terrible injuries and to know you are taking the best possible care of them is very rewarding.” UVM: A Burlington local who grew up just a few blocks from campus, Donovan still found a new world up the hill at UVM. She made lasting friends living in Harris and Davis halls, rose early for rowing practice with UVM Crew, and knew she’d found the right calling in her nursing courses and clinical experiences. SF FAVE: Donovan raves about a long list of the things she loves—the sound of the Pacific, runs through the Presidio, shopping in Union Square and hearing the rumble of the cable cars, Giants and Warriors fans, and liberal politics, diversity, tolerance, acceptance. Everyone is always welcome in SF.

Lydia Horne ‘18
WORK: Supports three senior editors at WIRED magazine with everything from scheduling to research to photoshoots. “I love the community at WIRED—everyone is so quick, sharp, and kind. I’m constantly learning. I also report to three senior WIRED women—which feels quite special and unique in the tech industry—and feel grateful to be supported and surrounded by such brilliant women.” Horne is also in good company with fellow Catamounts at WIRED—Natalie DiRasio ’12, Alex Baker-Whitcomb ’14, and Michael Calore ’06. UVM: English major/art history and Italian double minor. Visiting art professor Peter Shellenberger inspired exploring film photography and Super 8. “He completely redirected my interests and self-understanding as an artist.” SF FAVE: Church of 8 Wheels, a church-turned-roller skating rink, with Soul Train soundtrack, on Friday and Saturday nights. “It has the perfect collision of funk and nos- talgia that initially drew me out to San Francisco in the first place.”

Will Vitagliano ’12 G’15
WORK: Associate university registrar at the University of San Francisco. “I stumbled into something (I don’t know anyone who knows they want to be a registrar when they grow up) that I’m good at and gives me the opportunity to help others. I get to work with students from the moment they step foot on campus to the moment they walk across the stage with their diploma in hand.” UVM: Bachelor’s in psychology and master’s in education. Vitagliano was SGA vice president and served on the President’s Commission on LGBTQ Equity, among other leadership roles. He credits late friend David Maciewicz ‘11 with shaping his UVM experience and career path. “He showed me that even when you are just one student, out of an entire student body, you can make a difference.” SF FAVE: Lives in SOMA neighborhood with husband, Gary, and puppy, Stetson. Vitagliano praises the view from Twin Peaks. “No matter how many times you go to the top, every time you look down at the city below, you fall in love with it all over again.”

Basil Tsimoyianis ‘08
WORK: Freelance photographer, creative, climber, and certified rope tech who has climbed with Greenpeace for more than ten years. He is also lead rigger and photographer with Bandaloop, a vertical dance company that performs across buildings, bridges, and cliffs. “My goal is to share and provide a holistic and visually driven approach to all the work I do—including my work in the vertical world—it’s a powerful way to change perspectives and move people.” UVM: Tsimoyianis earned his degree in environmental studies, also studying photography. Climbing with the Outing Club “launched my obsession into the vertical world.” As a campus environmental activist, he helped push the university to change paper procurement policies in response to deforestation in Boreal forests. He credits the late Professor Tuna Snider for “encouraging me to speak up and for teaching me that it’s not just what we say but how we say it that matters.” SF FAVE: At home in East Oakland, Tsimoyianis says one of the best parts of the Bay Area is the landscape outside the city. “The Eastern Sierras hold a special place in my heart and is where I go to come home to myself.”

Alissa Boochere ‘15
WORK: Staff for The Trust for Public Land, a national non-profit headquartered in San Francisco. After starting as an intern, Boochere is now on the organization’s Parks for People team, assisting in project management and outreach for urban parks that the trust builds or renovates in the Bay Area. She’s particularly excited about a Green Schoolyards program getting started in Oakland. “I used to be a teacher on a farm right after I graduated UVM and before moving to San Francisco, so I know firsthand the benefits of teaching outside and encouraging children to have a connection with nature.” UVM: Studied ecological agriculture in the Plant and Soil Science Department with a minor in Food Systems. She counts an internship on an organic farm in Starkboro as a highlight and influential
I’d probably bring my picnic of local cheeses and bread and an avocado and hike down to the rocky beach to munch and watch the sunset over the Pacific.”

FAVE: Slide Ranch, a non-profit educational farm just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, where Boochever first lived when she moved west.

John Austin on his work as director of education and outreach at The Garden Project:
“When I go home I feel content knowing that we’ve done something tangible to help the community move forward. Whether that’s a box of vegetables to a senior living community or just seeing a student get excited about a subject here that they shunned in school, all the pieces seem to fall together by the end of the day.”

FRANZ BERNSTEIN ’12 WORK: Product manager for rewarded advertising at Pandora Media, where his role means connecting business, technology, and user experience teams. Bernstein leads Pandora’s engagement-based ad product suite. “In a world where advertising is often seen as interruptive and intrusive, I’m very excited to work on experiences that provide users with what they want, when they want it and satisfy their need for instant gratification without having them swipe their credit cards.”

UVM: Engineering Management/mechanical engineering were Bernstein’s focus as an undergrad, followed by an MBA. He also excelled as a varsity Nordic skier for the Catamounts. “As part of the ski team, I feel fortunate to have been able to travel to amazing places, make lifelong friendships, and prepare for the real world.”

Influential people from his student days included Joan Jordan and Tony Julianelle from his college and ski coaches Patrick Weaver and Fred Fayette. FAVE: Bernstein puts a landscape that offers “skiing in Tahoe one day and hopping on a surfboard in Santa Cruz the next” to good use. Lately, cycling has been a free-time focus, with the Martin Headlands as a favorite destination.

JOHN AUSTIN ’07 WORK: Director of education and outreach for The Garden Project, a non-profit that focuses on empowering students in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods. The project’s 145-acre farm, employs three hundred students in the summer, donating six tons of vegetables. Being part of a smaller “scrappy nonprofit” might mean joining a SPFD task force and driving a tractor in the same afternoon. “When I go home I feel content knowing that we’ve done something tangible to help the community move forward.”

UVM: An anthropology major, he has fond memories of Living/Learning’s Chinese Suite. Jazz trombone and competitive Taekwondo also filled his days. Active in the student of color community, Austin credits staff member Beverly Colston as a key influence. FAVE: Though he lives in Haight/Ashbury, Austin is an East Bay fan who loves exploring Oakland. “I think it’s a really diverse and complex city. It creates a great contrast from SF’s tech culture, offering artist spaces and communities that offer a different face of The Bay.”

KAREN KefaUVER ’91 WORK: After twenty years as a freelance journalist specializing in endurance sports and adventure travel, KefaUver shifted into social media coaching shortly after Twitter launched. She teaches small business owners how to use Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter for marketing. “I love helping people demystify the ever-changing technology.”

UVM: Her experience at the university, KefaUver says, pivoted on two key “life-changing” events. First, spending her first year in Living/Learning, where she thrived academically and socially, making friends who lasted long past graduation. Junior year, studying abroad at the University of Kent in Canterbury via the Buckham Overseas Program Scholarship led her to decide on an English major. FAVE: KefaUver lives in Santa Cruz, where she first visited on a West Coast road trip at age twenty-three. A few nights in a youth hostel and she decided this was the place for her—ocean, check, redwoods, check, mountain bike trails, check. “Twenty-five years later, I love it just as much!”

CLAYTON BOYD ’09 WORK: Photographer, who works in house for The North Face on a broad variety of projects—product shots, on-location and in-studio photos of models, photojournalistic work with the brand’s athletes in action, and portraiture. “The variety has taught me a lot, but the portraits are the most engaging aspect of this job.” Boyd also takes on freelance projects, including most of the portraits of his fellow alumni in this article.)

UVM: Earned a bachelor’s in Latin American literature, which he credits for opening a door to critical thought on social issues. Professor Martin Oyata—“an enthusiastic and studied man who seeded a love for the genre”—made a lasting impact. Boyd competed in downhill events for UVM Cycling and lived at the Adsit Court team house where, let history record, he and Adam Morse ’08 built a pump track in the backyard one summer.

FAVE: Climbing is Boyd’s athletic focus these days. “The Matthes Crest Traverse is a climbing route in Yosemite that is comparatively easy. It’s like walking a sidewalk, but with hundreds of feet of air below you on either side.”

karen kefauver '91

Clayton boyd '09

John Austin '07

Franz Bernstein '12
n Friday, October 20, 2017, sharply dressed, a bit bleary-eyed, a dozen UVM business majors meet at BTV airport for a 5:30 a.m. flight to New York’s JFK. A big day awaits. They’re the latest class to take part in what has become a rite of passage for many, a day when business students trade a UVM classroom for a Manhattan boardroom as their learning ground. It’s a critical element of BSAD 228, Wall Street Seminar, a course that gives undergrads in the Grossman School of Business experience in professional equity analysis and mergers and acquisitions. Launched in 2003 by professor emeritus James Gatti, it is now taught by associate professor Andrew Prevost.

The short flight is a chance to grab sleep or gather thoughts. Queens to Manhattan, the mood is light on the subway. Students crack jokes, listen to a fellow passenger dropping rhymes to help pay his rent, peer at their laptops with one last run-through of presentation slides. The vibe turns decidedly more serious after they arrive at a Starbucks on 47th and Broadway, where they nervously sip coffee before walking next door to Morgan Stanley, filing through security, then taking an elevator to a boardroom high above the city.

Awaiting them are UVM alumni Steve Penwell ’84, Morgan Stanley’s director of equity research for North America, and Jamie Flicker ’89, managing director and partner at Greenhill & Co., LLC. After brisk greetings, it’s right to the business at hand. The twelve students in the 2017 Wall Street Seminar, divided into three groups, have spent the weeks leading up to this day at work on a financial projection model to determine the valuation of Goodyear Tire, Abbott Laboratories, and Corning, Inc., then advise investors whether to buy, sell, or hold stock.

Now, it’s time to step up.
The first group recommends buying stock in Good- year, based in part on projected future growth. Pen- well wants proof. “Sorry, I'm not very good at math,” he says. “What's going to drive your revenue growth in 2018, '19, and '20? How did you get there, because I don't understand the math?” You've got five years of down revenue and you've got them up 1 percent in '18. Why?”

The students say they are convinced there is pent up demand for certain types of tires. “That seems like a pretty key assumption without any data to support it,” Penwell responds. “You are trying to convince us to put capital into this idea, right? Anyway, let's move on.”

Penwell counters. “You are trying to convince us to put money and commit capital,” he says. “I'm trying to impress on students that if you walk into a meeting with a client unprepared, they are going to rip you apart. So that's part of the method to the madness when I evaluate their work. I've become more prescriptive lately, so if they don't give me what I asked for, I'm not afraid to give them some tough love.”

Across the fourteen years of the Wall Street Seminar's existence, this investment world dry run, coupled with some tough love applied as needed, has been the linchpin of many students' business education. Gatti says the benefits of the first trip to New York for students far exceeded his initial expecta- tions. In this day, graduates of the seminar let him know how significant the experience was to their careers.

James Keller '03, a portfolio manager with Toc- queville Asset Management, is among them. “Pro- fessor Gatti and the seminar were instrumental in my ability to land my first job,” he says. “I believe it's a great differentiator for the business school for prospective finance students, giving undergraduates the opportunity to be thrown into a real-life situation they might not get at other schools.”

Keller's father, James B. Keller '72, president of Green Mountain Business Consultants and chair of the UVM Foundation, has funded travel and other expenses associated with the seminar, inspired, to a large degree, by the experience of his son.

“In my opinion, this course was the defin- ing element that put my son on his career path,” says Keller. “I waivered as a senior in my choice of what was to come next for me. I contrast that with James's clear focus on getting to Wall Street and into the investment business. When something is that powerful, it needs to be funded, and in our family's tradition of giving back to those enter- prises or programs that shape us, let us grow and develop, we chose to fund this.”

A similar spirit drives the alumni who make the class possible through hosting the Wall Street visit and giving guest talks up in Burlington through- out the semester.

Penwell, a Wall Street warrior who cut his teeth on the trading floors of the 1980s, and Dave Daigle '89, chair of the UVM Board of Trustees and partner at The Capital Group Companies, Inc., have donated their time and expertise since the seminar's inception. “They stepped up early,” says Gatti of Penwell and Daigle, who recently funded an endowed scholarship in the professor's name.

“Almost all of the students in the seminar have gotten high-level jobs before graduation, which I would attribute to what they learned from them.”

More recently, the course has expanded to include help from younger analysts and associ- ates at Morgan Stanley. Patrick Halfmann '14 gave a presentation at UVM on how to give a profes- sional stock pitch. Evan Silberberg '16 G'17 helped students build a fully functioning financial model before they started working with analysts. “I'm just returning the favor,” says Silberberg.

Someday soon, senior Kyle Hubschmitt may be joining them, but on October 20 he is ready for that same-day round flight trip back to Vermont. “I was nervous right up until we started present- ing,” he says. “Once we started I was fine and was actually happy when he (Penwell) started asking us questions, because it gave us a chance to dif- ferentiate our work. It was a fun day. The eleva- tor ride down after we presented felt really good. I can tell you that.”

Above: Kyle Hubschmitt, Michael Calome, (front), Casey Fuller, and John Kanto (back) nervously ride the elevator to their presentiations. Top: Nicole Hamaway delivers hers.
Revisiting his academic roots as a guest

I was adrift, but totally committed to finding something I was four years earlier with no idea what I wanted to do. Feeling this wasn't it either. “There I was, no better off than side” and earned a degree from Suffolk Law School.

Chris’s stories. I kind of had this epiphany: “What if I went to law school and actually studied something I liked?”

In business law, a light went off. I loved thinking that way. It wasn’t until he took a business law course taught by his mentor. Dozens of rejection letters later, Dodge focused on a new satellite media company named DISH. Even though he’d already been turned down by DISH, he left a message with the person who had sent him the rejection letter. To Dodge’s surprise, he got a return call, albeit not a particularly friendly one. “He says, ‘I’ve got two questions for you: did you get my rejection letter and what the hell do you want?’” Dodge told the UVM students, drawing a good laugh.

He got his opportunity—“once I saw the door crack open just a little bit, I jammed my foot in and never took it out.” Since joining DISH in 1996, Dodge has held positions of increasing importance in the legal department leading to his current responsibilities for all legal and government affairs for DISH and its subsidiaries and also overseeing corporate communications.

CLASS NOTES

Life beyond graduation

33-65

Green & Gold Reunion

October 5-7, 2018

If you are interested in planning your upcoming reunion, email alumni@uvm.edu.

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Joyce N. Daniels celebrated her 100th birthday on November 7, 2017. She held a festive party with family, friends, and neighbors in Essex Junction, Vermont to share stories, smiles, and, of course, a big cake. Her picture was on the UVM Alumni Association’s Facebook page and was a huge success.

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39

SALLY MCKAY

Revisiting his academic roots as a guest

I was adrift, but totally committed to finding something I was four years earlier with no idea what I wanted to do. Feeling this wasn't it either. “There I was, no better off than side” and earned a degree from Suffolk Law School.

Chris’s stories. I kind of had this epiphany: “What if I went to law school and actually studied something I liked?”

In business law, a light went off. I loved thinking that way. It wasn’t until he took a business law course taught by his mentor. Dozens of rejection letters later, Dodge focused on a new satellite media company named DISH. Even though he’d already been turned down by DISH, he left a message with the person who had sent him the rejection letter. To Dodge’s surprise, he got a return call, albeit not a particularly friendly one. “He says, ‘I’ve got two questions for you: did you get my rejection letter and what the hell do you want?’” Dodge told the UVM students, drawing a good laugh. “I told him that I wanted to work badly enough for DISH that I’d do it for free until I proved myself.”

He got his opportunity—“once I saw the door crack open just a little bit, I jammed my foot in and never took it out.” Since joining DISH in 1996, Dodge has held positions of increasing importance in the legal department leading to his current responsibilities for all legal and government affairs for DISH and its subsidiaries and also overseeing corporate communications.

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I was shocked and saddened today, November 6, to hear of the unexpected death of our classmate, Mary Beth Davis Bloomer. Mary Beth and I had a fun lunch together. Mary Beth and I had a fun lunch together. Mary Beth Davis Bloomer

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Chester McCabe says, “Your alumni, very few contacts but many memories. Class interrupted by WWII, educated and employed by DuPont R&D for 35 years then public service in Pennsylvania for 25, and now retired for seven in Jenner’s Pond Retirement Community. Have neighbors from UVM, a little later than ’44. Still connected by McCabe Brook in Shelmbrone named after my grandfather. Love the Vermont Quarterly. Thanks for all!”

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Anita Ross Pinney writes, “A busy travel year for me: Lake Tahoe, Finland, and Estonia in the summer, Vermont in the fall. Returned home to discover our city in flames but my home and those of all my family were spared.” Anita also submitted a photo for the Alumni Association Flickr photo gallery. It shows two of the three members of ’47 who attended the Alumni Luncheon, Anita Ross Pinney and Dorothy Frazer Carpenter.

Send your news to—

Louision Jordan Harper

371 Northampton Street, Holyoke, MA 01040

louisjordanharper@gmail.com

Marie Farrow Forehan says, “No class notes for 1945-1948 in the last Quarterly! Even if it has been 69 years! Shame on us! I will try to make amends and try to be brief. I taught home economics and science for 23 years, retiring from West Hempfield Junior High School near Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Clayton and I have travelled quite a bit within the United States and overseas. I loved it and he tolerated it. He likes our 60- or 70s of camping much better. Part of our U.S. travel was visiting our four boys and then their offspring. I spent 24 years as librarian and genealogist with Baltzer Meyer Historical Society. I am still working on extensive genealogical research for our own family, as well as compiling books for all of our children, grand, and great-grand. I am confined to a walker and wheelchair, which cramps my style, but internet came along just in time to help me out. I am sure others of my vintage hear my limitations because of your age! I am still striving for scholarship, leadership and service, as commissioned by Phi Beta Kappa Society on that day in June 1948 at UVM. Come on elders, we need to hear from you!”

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Bob Dufresne writes, “My sis, Barbara Hayden Dufresne ‘52, passed away peacefully in her home in Oklahoma City, OK, on Feb 8. We were married on Dec 27, 1952 and had 65 years of wonderful married life together, leaving a legacy lovingly raised by five great-grandchildren, and nine great-great grandchildren.”

Jules Siegel is living with wife Carol in Lexington, Massachusetts, and it is about to mark 25 years of retirement from Textile. He is still engaged in woodworking and greenbuilding.

Nancy Hoyt Burnett 72/203 Stone Lane, Caprona, CA 90045

Richard Edward Dufresne writes, “Good memories, good friends, good times. I will share teach on and off campus.”

Katherine Jeanne Kay Smith 60 died peacefully at her home in Santa Fe, New Mexico on February 6, 2017. Kay was born in South Bend, Indiana, on September 1, 1936, and our son was born on November 25, 1963. We also had a daughter born on January 31, 1967. Today, the Alpine Shop is more than 18,000 square feet. We worked with many high schools and ski clubs with their ski swaps. We also sponsored the Warren Miller movies for many years, as well as the Bogner For and Tecnica. We were invited to be on the Board of Directors for the Vermont Ski Museum when it was founded in 1980 by Roy Newton. We have also been on the Board of Directors for the ISHA. (International Skiing History Association.) My wife and I bought the bronze statue of the 10th Mountain Ski Trooper to Stowe, Vermont, in 1980. There are only two in the world with the other one being in Val, Colorado. I have been an honorary member of the 10 Mountain Division. Skiing has been both Jain and my voca- tion. Ourrovocation of all our lives, and to be inducted into the Vermont Skiing and Snowboarding Hall of Fame is a tremendous honor.”

Katherine Jeanne Kay Smith

Valerie Mayer Chenet 52 2 Crabapple Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482 valchamber@aol.com

Katherine Jeanne Kay Smith

Rick Farwell ’57, and yous truly’s brother Bill Morri- son ’56. Plan for 2018 is for Nashville, Tennessee—his 50th class reunion, and the other one being in Vail, Colorado. I have been an honorary member of the 10 Mountain Division. Skiing has been both Jain and my voca- tion. Ourrovocation of all our lives, and to be inducted into the Vermont Skiing and Snowboarding Hall of Fame is a tremendous honor.”

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Dane H. Shortsleeve died of a heart attack on Veterans’ Victory House in Walton, New York on August 31, 2012. Dane graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1953. He retired in 1964 and his work at the University from which he was promptly dismissed as soon as Hitler took over and his work at the University from which he was promptly dismissed as soon as Hitler took over.
Depending on the specific context, this document includes a variety of topics and personal updates. For instance, one section talks about attending an event in Italy, while another discusses participating in a class reunion. The document also features a variety of names and locations, indicating a diverse group of individuals and places. Without more specific context, it’s challenging to extract a specific theme or central idea from this document.
made their home in Chandler, Arizona. John and Sarah Stewart Hynas have lived in Stowe for 35 years and still love it, especially now that their children and families are also there. During “trick or treat” season, they are famous in their neighborhood, and Ladie and welcome visits from friends. Jim Betts ’99, MB ’73 says, “Although we are almost the only UVM alumnus in Boulder for many years. Doug’s son, Andy Shealy ’07 and his wife, Lisa Carillo ’06, both retired from the Trau mesec@prb.org

Jack Schmidt ’75
NOW: Retired from a thirty-eight-year military career, primarily as a medic and transportation officer, Jim Schmidt completed two tours in Iraq and one each in Bosnia and Afghanistan that involved flying high-ranking officials around the Middle East, including Gen. David Petraeus while commander of the U.S.-led forces in Iraq.

UVM DAYS: As one of the founding members of UVM Resuce, Schmidt returned to campus last fall at the dedication of the new headquarters for the student-run squad. He credits joining UVM ROTC with helping him find academic focus as a student, teaching him life and professional skills that were essential to leading the squad. Schmidt is looking forward to launching his long career in the military.

In HIS WORDS: “There was a lot of overlap between my experience with ROTC and UVM Resuce in terms of how they were doing training at the time. ROTC had a task-based standard, so I applied to UVM Rescue by breaking down every job into tasks leading to successful completion.”

Read more: go.uvm.edu/schmidt

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CATAMOUNT NATION

40th Reunion
October 5–7, 2018
You are invited to planing your upcoming reunion, email alumini@uvm.edu. Wal lace R.G. McGrew retired from his post-tenur e practice in January. He looks forward to hearing from any classmates coming through Nashua. Steve Pauleykewitsch ’71, our 40th reunion reunion (damnit we are old), and while I know some didn’t get out in 1978, I think we at least did not.”

Gail Kohlstrom is happy to see another young woman.

Eileen Sheahan McCann passed away November 26th in Trum bule, Connecticut. Several Pi Phi sis tenanced the subject and celebrated her spe cial life with husband Peter McCann ’78, three children, and five grandchildren. After a success ful and exciting career as a costume designer in multiple segments of the entertainment industry, Morty Stockdale has shifted her focus to writing and art. As a costume designer, she worked with some of the greatest. Richard and Ashley Edward Ford; Colleen Dowhurst; Miss Piggy, Loniex, and the Jonas Brothers. She also taught students for 14 years at NYS’s Tisch School of the Arts, and many of her students are now designers on Broadway. Morty, current art project “Plutus” cel ebrates the diverse cultures of our country. The project is a series of art flags made from cultural artifacts with the intent to explore the mean ing of S. Plutus Urim today. The work has been and will be on display in multiple venues. View it at: http://moe-stockdale.com/the-art-plutus. On another front, Muriel also recently pub lished her first novel, Gathering, a word of si tution. She writes, “I aim to UVM for a degree in science and for creating a fertile field of knowledge to pursue this idea. Even back in my

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# CLASS NOTES

## PATRICIA A. FAAS IS STARTING A MEDICAL MARIJUANA BUSINESS IN MASCARA, COLO.

Patricia A. Faas, a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, has started a medical marijuana business in Mascara, Colorado. Faas, who is also a member of the Nurse Practitioners of Utah, is excited to be providing a much-needed service for patients in her state, for dispensaries in St. George and Provo.

Faas' journey to starting her own business began with her love for helping those in need. She received her associate's degree in nursing from the University of Utah and her master's degree in nursing from the University of Colorado. She has spent the past 15 years working as a nurse practitioner in various settings, including hospitals, clinics, and private practices.

Faas' business, Colorado Wellness, will offer a variety of cannabis products, including tinctures, edibles, and concentrates. She plans to offer education and support to patients on how to use cannabis safely and effectively.

Faas hopes to make a positive impact on the community by providing access to legal cannabis for those who need it most.

## LADY MARKWICK

Laura Markwick is the current President of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. She was also elected as the NY North State Representative to the Alumni Association.

Laura has been a nurse practitioner for over 30 years and has dedicated herself to providing high-quality care to her patients. She is passionate about empowering patients to take control of their own health and wellness.

In her role as President, Laura has advocated for the need to increase access to healthcare for all Americans. She has also been a strong advocate for the importance of nurse practitioners in providing primary care services.

Laura's commitment to healthcare extends beyond her professional life. She is an active member of her community and has volunteered her time to various organizations, including a local food bank and a cancer support group.

## SUE MACFARLANE HANISCH

Sue MacFarlane Hanisch is the owner of the law firm Hanisch & Associates in Portland, Oregon. She has been practicing law for over 20 years and has been a dedicated advocate for her clients.

Sue's passion for helping others extends beyond her professional life. She is an active member of her church and has volunteered her time to various community organizations, including a local homeless shelter and a soup kitchen.

Sue is also a published author and has written several books on legal topics. She is an active member of the Oregon State Bar and has served on various committees and task forces.

Sue's dedication to her clients and her community has earned her the respect and admiration of her peers. She is a role model for the next generation of lawyers and will continue to make a positive impact on her community for many years to come.
Michelle Peters is working for the New York Times. It is a Pleasure to love to see any former classmates visiting the area.

Send your news to—
Valen Susan Pappas
spoppas@prattcouncil.org

97

Lauren Chambers Frederette became director of development at King School Prep in Concord, New Hampshire, on July 1, 2017. She, her husband, John, and their two teenagers live in Stanstead, Quebec. Grey Lea shared that she and her family are looking forward to spending time with their grandchildren in New Hampshire.

Send your news to—
Sarah Jacobs ‘14. Katie Lane
lloyd@barrowslaw.com

September 2018 | 59
NOW: Beginning in January 2017, Russell joined with friends Eli Bennett and Noah McCarver on an epic, 12,000-plus-mile bicycle journey from Ushuaia, Argentina, up the west coast of South America, through Central America, and back home through the United States to Vermont. Dubbed “Mundo Pequeño,” the trio’s ride was dedicated to strengthening a sense of global social connection with their travels. On Nov. 19, they rolled through northern Vermont to trip’s end at the Canadian border.

UVM: Major in sociology/minor in community and international development. Russell was very active in the Outing Club and other student leadership roles. He credits a strong “theory/practice” balance during his undergrad years for preparing him for his current work as outreach director with Rights and Democracy and a previous role, in 2016, as coordinated campaign director for the Vermont Democratic Party.

IN HIS WORDS: Describing a night’s stay in Chile, when an innkeeper drastically discounted her rates to give them shelter, Russell says, “When we asked her about why she had been so generous, she replied that she thought we would do the same and that she was always happy to help young people follow their dreams. It’s that type of openminded hospitality that we have been met with most of the way. We shared meals with gaucho and fellow travelers, took rides with truckers twice, and pleaded with ferry captains to take our bikes. Nearly everywhere, we have been greeted with kindness.”

Photos of the Mundo Pequeño journey: go.uvm.edu/mundo

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or you can simply donate by going to www.yourgiv- ing.com/cleanwater

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IN HIS WORDS: “Watching my father and all uncles for many years allowed all us to see the amount of time it takes as a patient. As an artist, I see the whole project as an abstract pursuit, but as an approachable entity, I had a very real connection to the amount of time it takes to hone an art.”

Dr. Spencer L. Fenn was appointed associate professor and a postdoctoral fellowship in the Training in Education and Critical Care at the University of Vermont Children’s Hospital. His research focuses on understanding the cognitive factors that enable children to participate in decision-making processes.

Dr. Margaret T. McLaughlin was appointed as an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. Her research focuses on understanding the cognitive factors that enable children to participate in decision-making processes.

In 2017 Madison Haas is living in San Fran- cisco and working as a management consultant at Accenture. Duyen Vu was accepted to medical school. Jack Ward recently took on a marketing research position at a $2 billion publishing company that grows and connects businesses around New Jersey to promote economic growth for the state.

Simeon Marsalis ’13

NOW: Marsalis published his first novel, As Like It Goes, last year with Catapult Books. The book draws on the author’s own experience at UVM and the university’s history around issues of race. Now enrolled in an MFA program in writing at Rutgers University Newark, Marsalis says the experience of witnessing the work ethic of his father, famed trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, and other in his celebrated musical family influenced the mind he brings to the creative process.

UVM: Marsalis earned his bachelor’s in religion and played varsity basketball for the Catamounts his first two years at the university. The rigors of writing assignments in his religion classes helped him define a writer as a say. Influ- ential faculty in his life included the Religion Department’s Kevin Trainor and David Draper, as well as Major Jackson and Sean Witten in English.

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Read more: go.uvm.edu/marsalis

Attorney's Office as a Deputy State's Attorney in October 2017. She earned a law degree in 2014 from the University of Vermont College of Law, where she was a dean's award winner for criminal ex- pression and a dean's award winner for criminal ex- pression and an assistant to the attorney general. She was a responsible attorney with the Vermont Attorney General's Office and a partner in the law firm of Stowe & Weiner. She currently works as a deputy attorney general with the Vermont Attorney General's Office and is the attorney general's policy advisor for police and corrections. She is the lead attorney for the state's police accountability unit, and she is a member of the state's police oversight task force.

16

Thomas Graham Bryce has been busy since earning his master’s at UVM in 2014 in civil and environmental engi- neering. He has worked for Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding solutions to improve water quality in Vermont. He also worked with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets at a GIS and field tech- nologist. He works, “agriculture is a major passion of mine, and I plan to continue to use my background in environmental science to improve our understanding of our natural and water resources and the viability of agricultural systems that comprise of such a vital part of Vermont to our future.”

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SALTPEPPERKETCHUPHOTS?

Decades before food trucks were cool—1982 to be precise—Pam and George Bissonnette started serving hamburgers, Philly cheesesteaks, strollers, and “eggs all day” from their yellow truck parked along University Row. An era in campus food came to a close with the Bissonnettes’ retirement at the close of fall semester. “We’re getting old. It’s time, it’s time,” Pam said in October. “We’ll miss the kids, they’re great.”

And they will be missed in return. You feed a lot of people, you make a lot of friends.
WINTER IN VERMONT (INSTAGRAM.COM/UNIVERSITYOFVERMONT). LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM: @FRAZHR’18, @BRYCEOLSON’19, @TOMMYDELITTO, SALLY MCCAY, @BRIANJENKINS PHOTO, ERICA HOUSEKEEPER/HAPPYVERMONT.COM, MARGOT SMITHSON, @HARR124 21, @EDCOLEMAN ’91, CENTER PHOTO: UVM WELcomed PUERTO RICAN COLLEGE STUDENTS JONATHAN LOPEZ AND LEISHLA PERRY AS THEY CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES AT NO COST WHILE THEIR HOME COLLEGES REBUILD POST-HURRICANE MARIA.