

Judith Van Houten, Ph.D.

Dr. Judith Van Houten is an active scholar and principal investigator of state-wide grants for the state of Vermont. In recognition for her research and student training, in 2009 she was named **University Distinguished Professor**, a life time appointment at the University of Vermont, and one of only six such recognized faculty. She is the **George H. Perkins Professor of Biology** at the University of Vermont (UVM). In September 2008, she was inducted into the **Vermont Academy of Science and Engineering (VASE)** as a Full Member. Elected an **AAAS Fellow** in the same year, Dr. Van Houten was commended for her "distinguished contributions to the field of chemosensory signal transduction and to development of research infrastructure and pre-baccalaureate education throughout the state of Vermont." In 2010, Dr. Van Houten was elected as a Fellow to the **Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences**.

In 2005, Dr. Van Houten was appointed **State Director** of the Vermont Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (VT EPSCoR) in 2005. She is the **Principal Investigator** of both the **Vermont NSF EPSCoR RII awards** and the **Vermont INBRE grant**. The EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) award, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) with \$20M, is the largest ever grant awarded to an Investigator at the University of Vermont. Dr. Van Houten also holds the distinction of securing the third largest award ever to the University of Vermont for the **Vermont Genetics Network (VGN)** funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with \$16.5M for which she acts as **Director**. Both programs support science and engineering infrastructure in Vermont and promote collaborative research at UVM and beyond.

Dr. Van Houten has been a leader in the IDeA and NSF EPSCoR programs. She has held leadership positions on national boards as President of the **National Association of IDeA Principal Investigators** and Chair of the **NSF EPSCoR Project Director's Executive Committee**.

Dr. Van Houten has received many other awards including most recently, the **2012 New England Higher Education State Merit Award** for her work with the VT EPSCoR program and a **Boston/New England Emmy** in 2009 for the Vermont Public Television Series produced in partnership with VT EPSCoR, *Emerging Science*, which showcases Vermont scientists and researchers. The VT EPSCoR program also received the **Tibbetts Award** for the SBIR Phase (0) program for private sector development, invented by Dr. Van Houten. In 2006 Dr. Van Houten received the **Jackie M. Gribbons Leadership** award from the Vermont Women in Higher Education.

Dr. Van Houten served as the **Director of the HELiX** (Hughes Endeavor for Life Science Excellence) Program, from 1995-2009, which supported undergraduate research at the University of Vermont. Dr. Van Houten has a long record of administration and mentoring, including service as Director of the Cell and Molecular Biology Graduate Program for 6 years, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 5 years, Chair of Biology from 1995-2005.

Dr. Van Houten has a distinguished record of extramural funding from NIH and NSF. She received a 7-year **Pepper Award** from NIDCD and the **Manheimer Award** for career achievements in Chemosensory Sciences. The University of Vermont has recognized her as a **University Scholar** and the **George H. Perkins Professor**. She is well regarded in her field, has been elected to offices, including President, in the Association for Chemoreception Sciences. She is familiar with federal funding mechanisms at NSF and NIH, has served for 6 years on the CMS study section (2 years as chair) and 4 years on the CMBK study section and is in the College of CSR reviewers.

Dr. Van Houten received a BS from Pacific Lutheran University and her PhD from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Her research investigates the molecular mechanisms of how cells detect chemicals, and how cilia develop and function. Her work provides insights into the sense of smell and diseases stemming from dysfunction of cilia. A full description of Dr. Van Houten's research areas may be found at <http://www.uvm.edu/~epscor/vanhouten/>

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