UTC Student of the Year: Emily J. Stebbins

Emily Stebbins is a Master’s degree candidate in the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at the University of Vermont. Her interests center on the key policy issues facing Vermont related to land use, transportation, agriculture, and energy, and how communities and citizens engage to negotiate change and conflict. As a communications consultant prior to graduate study, Ms. Stebbins conducted public relations for the Regional Public Transportation Initiative, a task force seeking to change the way public transportation in Vermont is funded and governed. She pursued her interests in transportation through an internship with the Snelling Center for Government, where she conducted research on community visioning and scenario planning best practices that support integrated long-range transportation and land-use planning. Ms. Stebbins serves on the City of Burlington Planning Commission and holds an A.B. cum laude in English and American Literature and Language from Harvard University. Ms. Stebbins will receive her award at a UTC banquet in Washington D.C. on January 20, 2007.

Dr. Richard Watts joins UTC as Senior Research Analyst

UVM’s Transportation Center has hired Richard Watts, PhD as a Senior Research Analyst. Richard is currently a lecturer at the Rubenstei School for Environment and Natural Resources and a Policy Fellow at the Snelling Center for Government.

Richard has a Ph.D. in natural resource planning from the University of Vermont and a Master’s in public communications from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. Richard has an extensive background in transportation policy and programs including working with the Vermont Agency of Transportation on the Enhancement Activity Program, VTrans Community Outreach efforts, the Champlain Flyer and the agency’s Long Range Transportation Plan. For seven years Richard managed EVermont – a project testing and demonstrating electric vehicles in Vermont. Richard currently serves as the environmental representative on the MPO’s Transportation Advisory Committee and as a member of the advisory committee to the New England Transportation Institute.

Dr. Watts can be contacted at 802-656-9775. His office is located in Farrell Hall Room 213.

Faculty Profile; Dr. Adel Sadek’s

The success of UVM’s UTC is owed to Dr. Adel Sadek’s vision. Of course we now know that excellent transportation research and researchers are spread throughout the UVM campus. Many of these researchers are busy right now working on strong interdisciplinary transportation research proposals for the UTC. But before there was a UTC, there was the Transportation Systems Research Group in the School of Engineering led by Dr. Adel Sadek. Dr. Sadek was vital to planning for the UTC during 2005-2006 and has acted as a tireless advisor to Dr. Aultman-Hall and transportation researchers in Fall 2006. The success of UVM’s UTC will no doubt be owed to Dr. Sadek’s vision, positive work ethic and dedication.

UTC Permanent Host for Vermont Clean Cities Coalition

The University Transportation Center is the permanent host for the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition – a national network of more than 75 cities and regions coordinated by the U.S. Department of Energy and in Vermont the Department of Public Service.

The mission of the Clean Cities program is to advance the economic, environmental and energy security of the U.S. by supporting local decisions to adopt practices that contribute to reduced petroleum consumption in the transportation sector.

Some Clean Cities activities are already underway, including an e-newsletter, a web page, and data collection.