



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As we acknowledge the 29th year of *The Vermont Connection*, let us also acknowledge the legacy this journal has left in the Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (HESA) Program at the University of Vermont, as well as within the student affairs community as a whole. It is an honor and a pleasure to join the 2007-2008 Editorial Board in recognizing the supportive network we have come to know as *The Vermont Connection*.

Each year, current students in the HESA Program at the University of Vermont gather their energy, creativity, leadership, and mentorship, and take on the immense task of developing a student affairs journal that speaks to the community of higher education and student affairs professionals. They work tirelessly to solicit articles to diversify the journal with various forms of research and scholarly writing, introduce professional development sessions to strengthen their character as rising professionals, and seize opportune moments to reconnect with alumni and friends from UVM's HESA family. However, they would not and could not imagine any of this without the vision of past HESA students, faculty, and friends who have established a legacy of professionalism, relationship building, and innovative practices from which this journal continues to benefit.

The Vermont Connection has evolved beautifully, serving over 1,200 alumni and friends, while also providing a cohesive experience for the current students within the program. This journal is indicative of the professionals UVM's HESA Program graduates each year, and plays a prominent role with the recruitment of students who are at our doorstep each year awaiting the opportunity to become a part of the HESA family.

Nicholas E. Negrete graduated from the Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration program in 2006 and currently serves as the Assistant Director for the African, Latino, Asian, and Native American (ALANA) Student Center at the University of Vermont.

The Vermont Connection is not just a journal enabling our current HESA students to develop personally and professionally. It is a journal that honors the community we have all worked to build and the community we seek to engage at any given moment. Furthermore, the longevity of this journal signifies the commitment to the community we lovingly know as HESA.

On behalf of the 2007-2008 Editorial Board, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude for the continuous support you have all provided in order for this journal and this community to be possible. May the legacy continue, and may we look forward to many more years of *The Vermont Connection*.

Warmest Regards,

Nick Negrete '06
Assistant Director, ALANA Student Center
University of Vermont