

September 1, 2026

Staff Council News

Campus News

Training & Development

Community Resources

- [55th Anniversary Wordle Contest](#)
 - [Door Decorating Contest](#)
 - [Professional Development Fund](#)
 - [Ski Pass Discounts](#)
 - [Events](#)
 - [Staff Council Links](#)
- [Our Common Ground Staff Award](#)
 - [Staff Appreciation](#)
 - [Campus Safety Week](#)
 - [UVM Wellness Grant](#)
 - [Campus Rec Free Week](#)
 - [UVM Hort Farm Apple Sales](#)
 - [Office of Sustainability](#)
 - [Studies Seeking Volunteers](#)
- [UVM PACE](#)
 - [Cultural Resource Guide](#)

STAFF COUNCIL NEWS

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 9/1/26 from 12:05-1:30**

Strategic Communications Leadership will be presenting

All members of the UVM community are welcome.

The meeting is offered in-person and via [Teams](#) at the Davis Center - Chittenden Bank room.

Meeting agendas, minutes, and video recordings are also available [on our website](#).



55th Anniversary Wordle Contest

Staff Council 55th Anniversary Wordle Challenge

As we celebrate 55 years of Staff Council, we're inviting employees throughout the UVM community to test their word-solving skills and join a little friendly competition. Each Wordle features a five-letter word inspired by appreciation, connection, collaboration, and the values that guide our work. Whether you're a Wordle expert or trying it for the first time, we hope you'll play along and have fun!

- Play this issue's Wordle: [9.1.2026 WORDLE](#). After you complete the puzzle, submit your results here: [Staff Council Wordle – Fill out form](#)
- Participants will be recognized in future *Staffline* issues, and we'll be tracking results throughout the semester to build our Staff Council Wordle Leaderboard.



Door Decorating Contest

"Welcome Students" Door/Cubicle/Workspace Decorating Contest

Join us in welcoming back students by decorating your office door, cubicle, or workspace. "Welcome Students" is the theme. Send a photo of your entry to staff.council@uvm.edu by Tuesday, 9/29/2026. The Social Committee will review the photos, and ribbon prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.



The application period for FY27Q2 is now open .

All non-represented staff are eligible to apply.

[Eligibility, Information, & Application \(PDF\)](#)

[Rubric \(PDF\)](#)

[Flyer \(PDF\)](#)

Q2 Deadline is November 30th!



Ski Pass Discounts

- Smugglers Notch - [Click Here and select "corporate"](#)
- Sugarbush - [Click Here](#)
- Bolton Valley - May be announced in October



Events - All Invited

- Staff Council Community Engagement Book Club 10/8 - [Click For Details](#)
- Monthly Crafting Group - [Click For Details](#)
- Wednesday Campus Walks - [Click For Details](#)
- Reduced Price Tickets for Lyric Theater Elf The Musical on 11/14/26 - [Click Here To Purchase](#).

CAMPUS NEWS



Office of the President

Our Common Ground Staff Award

Dear UVM community,

It is my absolute pleasure to share the news, first announced during yesterday's State of the University address, about this year's recipients of the [President's Our Common Ground Staff Award](#). This award honors staff members who embody the spirit of UVM's Our Common Ground values of respect, integrity, innovation, openness, justice, and responsibility—the shared aspirations that guide our university community.

This year's honorees, representing the very best of UVM's values-driven commitment to excellence, are:

- **Christine Gallese**, Assistant Director, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, Larner College of Medicine
- **Vicki Gilwee**, Executive Assistant to the Dean, Larner College of Medicine
- **Lise Larose**, Assistant Dean for Student Services, College of Arts and Sciences
- **Ali Mahmood**, Assistant Director, UVM Interfaith, Division of Intercultural Excellence
- **John Sama**, Coordinator of Academic Integration, Academic Affairs and Student Services

Congratulations again to our awardees and thank you to all staff for the many ways you bring our shared values to life.

Sincerely,
Dr. Marlene Tromp
President



Staff Appreciation

This academic year, the university is taking a new approach to celebrating staff by shifting from staff appreciation being limited to a single week to offering appreciation and engagement opportunities throughout the year. By hosting events in the fall, winter, and spring, we hope to make participation more accessible for staff with varying work schedules, responsibilities, and hybrid arrangements. Planning events well in advance also gives staff the opportunity to save the dates and include them on their calendars.

Our first event of the academic year will be an Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, September 30, 2026.

- [Ice Cream Social Details](#)
- [Staff Appreciation Website](#)



Division of Safety and Compliance

Compliance and Privacy Services

Campus Safety Week 9/21 - 9/24

Safety Week is an annual event at UVM, dedicated to promoting safety awareness and preparedness across our campus through hands-on activities and interactive workshops. Safety Week is a great opportunity to learn, connect, and take an active role in enhancing campus security.

[Click For Details](#)



Your partner. Your path.

UVM Wellness Grant

Apply for a grant to support your semester in a multidimensional wellness opportunity. Four winners will be chosen to receive a Fall Semester of Unlimited Group Fitness Classes at the UVM Campus Recreation. Winners are also engaged with a Personalized Health and Wellness Coach to support change making, wellness goals, and the challenges that show themselves during any journey. Winners are invited to engage with UVM Campus Recreation Boost classes which happen twice during the semester, offering small group environment, and trying something new!

[UVM Staff Council Well-being Grant Fall 2026 Application](#)



Your partner. Your path.

Campus Rec Free Week

[UVM Campus Recreation](#) Free Week - all group fitness classes are free to all - Through Sunday, September 6th



College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

UVM Hort Farm Apple Sales

UVM [Catamount Educational Farm](#) Fruit and Vegetable Sales are open at the UVM Horticulture Research and Education Center, 65 Green Mountain Drive, South Burlington, VT and will continue every Friday through at least November 6 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Weekly updates on apple, peach, and grape varieties available will be found at our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

Directions to the farm from campus:

The HRC is located behind GE Healthcare (former IDX) and the Heritage car dealerships off Shelburne Road in South Burlington. From Campus Follow Spear Street South to Swift Street, take a right at the light and follow Swift St to the end. Turn left on US Route 7 and travel 1.5 miles south. Turn left at the traffic light onto IDX Drive. Travel .3 miles on IDX Drive and turn left onto the Horticultural Research Center access road.



Office of Sustainability

Office of Sustainability

UVM's recycling program dates back more than 40 years! Check out the Office of Sustainability's [recycling timeline](#) to learn about its history since the 1980s.

This past year, the Office of Sustainability relaunched its [Surplus Property Program](#), opening a physical space at Fort Ethan Allen where employees can browse and purchase surplus items, including desks, chairs, file cabinets, and more.

The Office of Sustainability also maintains the [UVM Recycling Listserv](#), which helps foster a culture of reuse and redistribution across campus. Community members can search for needed items or find new homes for everything from paper clips to standing desks.

It's great to see our campus community working together to keep useful items in circulation and reduce waste!



UVM Research Studies Seeking Volunteers

- [Vaccine Research Study](#)
- [Evolution of lung disease ages 25 - 35](#)

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT



Professional and Continuing Education

UVM PACE

As the working world rapidly evolves, UVM's Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) is your source for cutting-edge knowledge in high-growth fields. The path to a more fulfilling career and greater earning potential starts here.

We offer flexible, personalized, and relevant learning opportunities for high school students and adult learners alike. Aligned with UVM's commitment to environmental and societal impact, our programs empower learners to pursue new beginnings, advance in their careers, or deepen lifelong passions—all while contributing to a better world.

[Click For More Details](#)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Division of Intercultural Excellence

Cultural Resource Guide - Live

Got a job or admissions letter that is bringing you to (or keeping you in) the area? We know there's a lot more to setting up or maintaining your home here. From housing to compost laws to childcare, find what you need to live your best life.

[Click Here For Details](#)



[Meetings](#) [Get Involved](#) [Resources](#) [Inside UVM](#)



Staff Council - serving as a voice and advocate
for all staff at UVM since 1971

staff.council@uvm.edu | (802) 656-4493
85 S. Prospect Street | 313 Waterman Building | Burlington, VT 05405
Hours: In-Person M, T, W 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Remote Th, Fri 8:30AM - 4PM

[https://www.uvm.edu/staffcouncil](#)
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Staff Council