



The University of Vermont

PRESIDENT'S Annual Report

2017/2018





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Letter from the President



DEAR UVM FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

As the academic year nears a close, we reflect back on a landmark year for our University. The strategic action plan articulated nearly six years ago laid the groundwork for the academic advancements, philanthropic investments, and physical transformation that are elevating UVM's academic profile and setting a new standard of excellence for our land-grant University in the 21st century.

The physical profile of our campus changed dramatically this year with the opening of the first of our two new STEM buildings at the heart of campus. Discovery Hall opened its doors in summer 2017, welcoming students to join faculty now doing their leading-edge research in state-of-the-art labs and teaching spaces. Construction on Innovation Hall, the second of the two STEM buildings, is currently underway. With its team-based learning spaces and flexible, technology-equipped classrooms, Innovation Hall will give our students and faculty the infrastructure for learning, teaching, and innovating within and across disciplines. Votey Hall, home of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, was modernized and integrated into the new STEM Complex.

Steps away from the new STEM Complex is the iconic red stone Billings Library, a crown jewel among the University's historic buildings. A yearlong update of the Billings Library interior is preparing the way for its prominent new residents: the UVM Humanities Center, a vital part of the intellectual life of our community at UVM and beyond; the renowned Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies; and the Center for Research on Vermont. Harkening back to its original purpose, Billings Library also will house the University's Library Special Collections and University Archives.

The new Central Campus Residence Hall, home to 700 first-year students committed to the groundbreaking, substance-free Wellness Environment program, opened in August to great excitement from its new residents.

When the Integrative Creative Arts center opens this summer—with studios, galleries, and performance spaces for studio art, dance, and music—it will give the newly acquired Elihu B. Taft School at the north edge of campus a refreshed and spirited purpose. Finally, swift progress is being made on the new Ifshin Hall, opening in fall 2018, which will accommodate the continued growth of our world-class programs in the Grossman School of Business.

The University continues to garner acclaim nationally for our innovative programs, academic rigor, and exciting faculty research and scholarship. UVM was again ranked a top 50 public University, the Sustainable Innovation MBA received the #1 ranking from Princeton Review, and research by Gund Institute Fellows, working in partnership with business, government, and civil society leaders, is accelerating innovation and problem solving on some of our most pressing environmental issues.

All of this interdisciplinary scholarship, state-of-the-art new facilities, and abundant research opportunities at both the undergraduate and graduate level are attracting high-caliber students to UVM, students who want to put their passion and creativity to work for Vermont and our world. Ultimately, the advances that we make on every front move us closer to the goals of creating an inspiring learning environment, one in which our students will thrive now and in the future, and supporting and incenting new discoveries and knowledge creation.

I am pleased to share this sampling of highlights from the year in this annual report. We look forward to advancing this Public Ivy through collective energies, imaginative minds, and creative ideas.

With every best wish,

Tom Sullivan

FACULTY RECOGNITION

INVESTITURES AND
LIFETIME AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
FACULTY AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
RETIRED SCHOLARS AWARDS

FACULTY

FACULTY RECOGNITION

University of Vermont faculty members value our liberal arts tradition with its emphasis on teaching, balanced with a commitment to cutting-edge research and student participation in the discovery of new knowledge. Many faculty see UVM as a “living laboratory” where they can pioneer groundbreaking innovations in fields ranging from environmental sustainability and health and medicine, to education and social work.

Jason Stockwell, Director of the Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory and Associate Professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to France to study the impact of storms on lake systems around the world. In partnership with a team of investigators from the French public research institute Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique and others, Stockwell is studying the impact of storms on 25 lakes across Europe, Asia, South America, and North America. Through his research, Stockwell has established himself as an internationally renowned scholar on lake ecology and climate resilience. He anticipates taking new insights from this research to apply to Lake Champlain.

Two members of the UVM History Department and the UVM Miller Center for Holocaust Studies received prestigious research fellowships to the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Associate Professor of History **Susanna Schrafstetter** received the Judith B. and Burton P. Resnick fellowship for the study of Anti-Semitism. Her work focuses on the thousands of Jews who fled from

National Socialist persecution between 1933 and 1940 to Fascist Italy. Professor of History and Director of the Miller Center for Holocaust Studies, **Alan Steinweis**, received the Ina Levine Invitational Senior Fellowship. Steinweis is writing a book on the history of Nazi Germany to be published by Cambridge University Press; the book will contain extensive sections about Nazi racial policy and the Holocaust, situating those topics in the broader historical context of the Nazi regime. He also will begin research on a new project about Georg Elser, a German cabinetmaker who came close to assassinating Hitler in November 1939. His work will focus on Elser’s actions in 1939 while exploring why it took so long for post-war German society to honor his deed. Both scholars will be in residence at the Mandel Center in Washington, D.C. for the fall 2018 semester.

The legacy of pioneering Holocaust scholar and longtime UVM professor **Raul Hilberg** was honored at a three-day academic conference in Berlin coinciding with the tenth anniversary of Professor Hilberg’s death. The conference at the Center for Research in Contemporary History was sponsored by UVM’s Miller Center for Holocaust Studies, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and other research institutes. The Raul Hilberg Distinguished Professorship of Holocaust Studies was established at UVM in 2006. Hilberg’s masterwork, *The Destruction of the European Jews*, was the first to show the methodical, bureaucratic nature of the program of genocide against the Jews.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry awarded **James Hudziak** the 2017 Irving Phillips Award for Prevention in recognition



Above: Professor Jason Stockwell evaluating lake water samples with students on the Melosira research vessel | Upper right: Professor Alan Steinweis | Right: Professor Susanna Schrafstetter

of his significant contributions to the prevention of mental illness in children and adolescents. Professor of Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Medicine at UVM, Hudziak was also recognized for the notable prevention programs he has created at UVM. Acclaimed internationally for his work, Hudziak developed an approach for promoting health in children and families called the Vermont Family Based Approach, which is used in clinics around the world. Hudziak is the Thomas M. Achenbach MD Chair in Developmental Psychopathy; Director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families; and creator and Director of UVM's Wellness Environment.

UVM Cancer Center members and professors of biochemistry **Jane Lian** and **Janet Stein** were named Fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science Section on Biological Sciences. Lian's research spans several areas: from skeletal development, to phenotypes produced by bone mutations, to cell biology in bones' microenvironment. Stein focuses on gene expression. **Susan Wallace**, Professor and Chair of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, was honored as a Fellow for her advances in radiation biology, and for her dedication as a scientist, educator, and mentor.

Michael LaMantia, Associate Professor of Medicine and Section Head of Geriatric Medicine at the Larner College of Medicine, was one of 18 healthcare professionals selected to be Fellows of the American Geriatrics Society. LaMantia joins a group of experts honored for their commitment to the American Geriatrics Society and to providing high-quality, individualized care for everyone as they age.

Nathan J. Sanders, Director of the Environmental Program in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, has been selected as a Fellow by the Ecological Society of America for his contributions to increasing understanding of biodiversity change in terrestrial ecosystems.

Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences **Elizabeth Bonney** was appointed to a five-year term on the Board of Scientific Counselors for the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Division of Intramural Research. The board focuses on the biology of cell fate, of growth and development, of reproduction, and of cognition and behavior. Bonney is the Director of Research in her department, specializing in the function of immune systems during pregnancy.

Zail Berry, Associate Professor of Medicine at the Larner College of Medicine and Associate Director of the Visiting Nurse Association Hospice and Palliative Care Program, received the inaugural VNA Madison-Deane Award for Excellence in End-of-Life Care for helping to expand education for physicians and caregivers in improving quality hospice care. The Madison-Deane Education Fund promotes the acceptance of death as a natural part of life, and strives to transform end-of-life care with education and inspiration. Berry was the founding director of the Palliative Care Program at the former Fletcher Allen Health Care and served as co-medical director of the Hospice of Champlain Valley for over a decade.

The Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation awarded its highest recognition to **John Evans**, an advisor to President Tom Sullivan. President of the Vermont Technology Council and former dean of the Larner College of Medicine, Dr. Evans received the C. Harry Behney Lifetime Economic Development Achievement Award for advancing innovation, entrepreneurship, and dynamic economic development in the region and the state.



FACULTY

continued...

Deb Markowitz '83, visiting professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, received last year's EPA New England Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors the region's most committed environmental leaders who have made lasting improvements to New England's environment during their careers or lifetimes. Markowitz served as Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources from 2011 to 2017, during which her commitment and leadership skills were recognized. As secretary, she designed Vermont's environmental agenda, focusing on the challenges of climate change, forest health, and cleaning up Lake Champlain. Markowitz continues to speak nationally and internationally, promoting the need for state-level action, and teaches environmental policy and leadership to students at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

In *It Occurs to Me That I Am America*, a book that celebrates and supports the American Civil Liberties Union, **Jane Kent**, Department Chair and Professor of Art and Art History, is featured alongside several impressive contributors, including Joyce Carol Oates, Alice Walker, Neil Gaiman, Russell Banks, Louise Erdrich, and others. Kent's piece, "Blackout," is the first visual image displayed in the book.

INVESTITURES AND LIFETIME AWARDS

The *Move Mountains* campaign has so far created 58 new faculty endowments, ensuring that talented, innovative researchers and teachers have the resources they need to advance knowledge and change students' lives.

Kevin McKenna was named the Wolfgang and Barbara Mieder Green and Gold Professor on May 11, 2017. **Benedek Erdos** was invested as the inaugural Bloomfield Early Career Professor on June 28, 2017.

Ingi Agnarsson was appointed as the Howard Professor of Natural History on January 17, 2018. Also on January 17, **Emily Bernard** was invested as the inaugural Julian Lindsay Green and Gold Professor in English, and **Mark Usher** was named the Mrs. Edward Lyman and Mrs. Robert Roberts Professor. On April 18, **Bernice Garnett** was invested as the inaugural **Adam '85** and **Abigail '16 Burack** Green and Gold Professor of Education.

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT FACULTY AWARDS

Each year the University recognizes members of the faculty with a variety of awards for significant contributions to their fields and to the institution. Three faculty members, two from the basic and applied sciences and one from the social sciences and humanities, have been named University Scholars for their sustained excellence in research and scholarly activities. The 2018–2019 University Scholars are **Sean Field**, Professor of History; **Yvonne Janssen-Heininger**, Professor of Pathology; and **Junru Wu**, Professor of Physics.

The Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes faculty for excellence in instruction, including for curricular innovation, commitment to cultural diversity, the ability to motivate students, and excellence in advising. The 2017 Kroepsch-Maurice award winners are **Rocki-Lee Dewitt**, Professor and former dean in the Grossman School of Business; **James Murdoch**, Associate Professor in



Father and daughter alumni Adam and Abigail Burack with Professor Bernice Garnett at her investiture as the inaugural Adam '85 and Abigail '16 Burack Green and Gold Professor of Education.

the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources; **Melissa Willard-Foster**, Assistant Professor of Political Science; and **Catherine Bliss**, Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics.

The Office of Undergraduate Research has bestowed the first ever Faculty Mentoring Award to **Robert Hondal**, Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry, and **Denise Youngblood**, retired Professor of History. The Mentoring Award program was created to underscore the importance UVM places on undergraduate mentoring and to recognize the strong mentorship skills possessed by many UVM faculty. The inaugural Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award was presented to **Joan Rosebush**, Senior Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics. Jointly sponsored by the Provost's Office and the Student Government Association, the award recognizes a faculty member who exemplifies excellence in undergraduate academic advising.

The UVM Alumni Association honored Annie Murray-Close, Associate

Professor of Psychological Science, with the 2018 George Kidder Outstanding Teacher Award

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT RETIRED SCHOLARS AWARDS

The University of Vermont has honored seven distinguished emeriti professors with its Retired Scholars Award, which supports longtime faculty members in completing a research or scholarship project during their retirement. The recipients for the 2017–2018 academic year are **Robert Gordon**, Professor of Anthropology and African Studies Emeritus; **Thomas Hudspeth**, Professor of Environmental Studies and Natural Resources Emeritus; **Patrick Hutton**, Professor of History Emeritus; **Linda Reeves McIntyre**, Professor of Art Emerita; **Kathleen Schneider**, Professor of Art Emerita; **Burton Wilcke, Jr.**, Associate Professor of Medical Laboratory Science Emeritus; and **Barbara Zucker**, Professor of Art Emerita.



Visiting professor and former Vermont Agency of Natural Resources secretary Deb Markowitz '83

TALENTED, DIVERSE CLASS
SAYS YES TO UVM

STUDENT AND RECENT
GRADUATE RECOGNITION

ENTERPRISING STUDENTS,
IMPRESSIVE ENDEAVORS

SERVICE LEARNING AND
VOLUNTEERING BRING STUDENTS
AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER

CATAMOUNTS MEDAL
IN PYEONGCHANG
WINTER OLYMPICS

STUDENTS

TALENTED, DIVERSE CLASS SAYS YES TO UVM

UVM's **Class of 2021** is the largest, most academically talented, and diverse class to date in the history of the University. For the third year in a row, the incoming class breaks the record of the highest average combined SAT scores and grade point average. As proof of the University's commitment to increasing access to higher education for Vermonters, UVM welcomed a record number of Green and Gold Scholars—41 full-scholarship recipients representing the top-rising seniors at Vermont high schools. Fourteen percent of students in the Class of 2021 are first-generation college students and 13 percent are students of color. This newest class at UVM also includes more limited-income Vermonters than ever before, thanks to the Catamount Commitment program, which supports Pell Grant recipients by fully covering tuition and fees.

STUDENT AND RECENT GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Ben Teasdale '15 of Williston, Vermont, was selected as an inaugural member of the Knight-Hennessy Scholars at Stanford University. Knight-Hennessy Scholars is the largest fully endowed scholars program in the world. The scholarship, much like the Rhodes, seeks to identify and develop future leaders in issues of global importance. Teasdale is one of 49 outstanding students—and one of 26 Americans—to receive full funding to pursue any Stanford graduate degree of his choosing. Scholars of the 2018 cohort were from 20 different countries around the world; they will pursue degrees in 28 Stanford graduate departments. Teasdale is one of six Knight-Hennessy Scholars who will be pursuing an MD at Stanford School of Medicine.

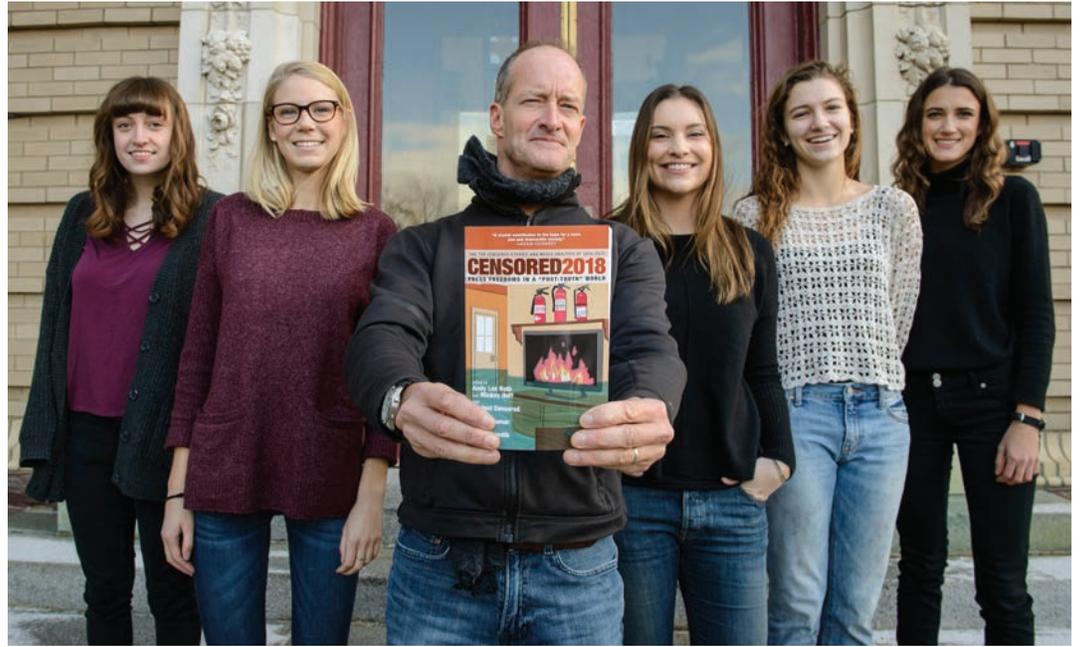
Leah Campbell '16, a graduate in Early Childhood Special Education and Human Development and Family Studies, won a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award to teach in Taiwan. **Jessie Mazar** '12 G'16, a graduate in Global Studies and Food Systems, was selected as a Fulbright alternate to conduct anthropological research regarding food sovereignty in the Nicoya Peninsula in Costa Rica. **Justin Abbott** '18, a neuroscience major and pharmacology minor, was selected as an alternate to teach English in South Korea.

Animal science majors **Amber Davis** '18 and **Katlyn Guerin** '19, along with **Jill Brooks** '19, a geography major and environmental studies minor, have been awarded the U.S. Department of State's Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. The Gilman, a nationally competitive award given to accomplished students with financial need who wish to study abroad, supports students as they prepare to become active and engaged citizens.

Phillip Alexander Burnham, a graduate student pursuing a PhD in Philosophy, was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program grant to pursue his graduate studies.

ENTERPRISING STUDENTS, IMPRESSIVE ENDEAVORS

For the first nine years of her life, Education major **Madina Haji** '18 lived in a Kenyan refugee camp after fleeing from her home in war-torn Somalia. Haji is now a leading student advocate in the local refugee community, working to strengthen partnerships between refugee families and local school districts. In March 2017, Haji became an American citizen. She aspires to a future as a civil rights activist in the U.S. and teaching in Somalia.



Top left: Knight-Hennessy Scholar Ben Teasdale '15 | Bottom left: Student and advocate/activist Madina Haji '18 | Above: Senior Lecturer Rob Williams and UVM investigative journalists featured in Censored 2018

Six UVM students in Community Development and Applied Economics are being published in this year's anthology *Censored 2018: Press Freedoms in a "Post-Truth" Society*. Project Censored is a media watchdog organization that every year compiles the nation's top 25 student-written investigative news stories. CDAE students from the UVM course "Journalism 2.0" entered their articles into a pool of 350 total entries from 12 different colleges. The six stories by UVM students represent nearly 25 percent of the publication's story content. Developed by **Rob Williams**, Senior Lecturer in Communications, "Journalism 2.0" explores media literacy, censorship, and independent journalism, and aspires to uncover suppressed stories in an era of "alternative facts." The featured work of UVM students covers topics ranging from voter suppression in the 2016 election and oil company dismissal of climate change to antibiotic-resistant "superbugs" and connections between dark money and big data.

Last summer Exercise Science major **Kristina Ushakova '18** interned with top trainers and athletes at the U.S. Olympic Training Site at East Tennessee State University. Her internship took her to the Pan American Weightlifting

Championships in Miami, where she collected data using leading-edge technology to monitor and test athletes' development and collect performance data. Returning to UVM, she developed a resistance training program for track and field athletes to sequentially increase an athlete's strength and power based on principles of block periodization that she learned about at the Olympic training site.

This past fall, **UVM student-athletes** boasted the highest collective GPA—a 3.28 out of 4.0—on record. NCAA data shows UVM in the top 15 percent of Division I schools for graduation success rate, which stands at 95.5 percent. More than two-thirds of UVM student-athletes were listed on the America East Academic Honor Roll, and 170 student-athletes earned Honor Roll status, the highest number to achieve Honor Roll status in eight years. The collective student-athlete GPA has now exceeded that of the overall UVM student body in 28 of the last 31 semesters. Jeff Schulman, Director of UVM Athletics, attributes this success to the commitment of hard-working student-athletes and coaches, and a broad departmental commitment to academic excellence.

SERVICE LEARNING AND VOLUNTEERING BRING STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER

UVM is an early leader in the field of service learning, putting into pedagogy and practice the civic imperative reflected in the University's land-grant mission. From the King Street Center in Burlington to the farm communities of Addison County, and from New Orleans to the island of St. Lucia, UVM students and faculty are putting academic learning into practice in the real world. UVM currently offers nearly 100 designated service-learning courses every year, partnering with over 200 community organizations and reaching 20 percent of the student body. By graduation, over 40 percent of UVM students have participated in at least one service-learning course, a higher percentage than many of our peer institutions. Student-driven volunteer projects and internships in the community increase this participation percentage. A top producer of Peace Corps volunteers, UVM ranked number 7 among medium-sized universities in producing Peace Corps volunteers for 2018. Twenty-eight UVM alumni currently serve worldwide in the Peace Corps.



STUDENTS

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The award-winning service learning course “Race, Identity, and Migrant Labor,” developed by Community-University Partnerships and Service Learning faculty fellow **Rachael Montesano**, Senior Lecturer in Spanish, weaves Spanish composition and conversation with the historical experience of Mexicans in the U.S. Partnering with several community organizations to establish gardens at Addison County and Northeast Kingdom farms with plants traditionally grown in Mexican culture, and engaging in communal meals and Day of the Dead celebrations with farmworkers, bridges the divide between cultures and eases the sense of isolation for migrants living in Vermont.

One hundred UVM students participated in this year’s 27th annual **Alternative Spring Break**, a program that places students with service organizations across the U.S. for the annual spring vacation. Students continually have praised their experiences. This spring, groups of students visited 11 different sites, including the nonprofit disaster relief organization St. Bernard Project in New Orleans; God’s Love We Deliver, a group that prepares and delivers nutritious foods to seriously ill people in New York City; and Nashville-based Project Cure, which sends donated medical supplies to developing countries. Students are asked to reflect on their experiences throughout the week; the impacts are lasting for many, fueling a passion for service work and a desire to give back as part of a career and life-planning strategy.

Last summer **Emily Speck** ’17, **Morgan Medeiros** ’18, and **Alex Cohen** ’16 founded a Camp Kesem chapter in New Hampshire, a camp for children who have either lost a parent to cancer or have a parent in treatment or remission. Camp

Kesem is a nationwide community of college students who are dedicated to supporting kids through every step of their parents’ prognosis. The goal is to “let kids be kids,” while also providing a supportive and inclusive experience during a very trying time. With the founding of the UVM-student-sponsored Camp Kesem in New Hampshire, UVM is one of only seven New England schools with chapters.

Four years ago, Clinical Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders **Danra Kazenski** established the Burlington chapter of the National Stuttering Association and UVM’s Stuttering Summer Camp. The camp, run by UVM’s Eleanor M. Luse Center for Communication, provides speech language services and more for children and offers a fertile training ground for students. Each summer campers meet peers who stutter, develop self-empowerment, and create a project that is distributed nationwide through the National Stuttering Association. Last summer **Elizabeth O’Donnell** ’19 and fellow counselors oversaw the creation of the pamphlet “Back to School Survival Guide for Kids/Students Who Stutter.”

The Larner College of Medicine student chapter of American Medical Women’s Association hosted Girl’s Science Discovery Day, giving nearly one hundred 7th- and 8th-grade girls an inside look at the field of healthcare. The girls explored various workshops teaching team collaboration skills and highlighting the importance of women in science. Coordinators **Zara Bowden**, **Jinal Gandhi**, **Kyle Henny**, **Gesca Borchardt**, and **Julia Hannigan**—all Larner College of Medicine ’20 students—created the hands-on event to foster enthusiasm and excitement in the next generation of healthcare providers.



Top left: UVM students founded a Camp Kesem chapter for kids whose parents are managing or have succumbed to cancer. | Top right: A counselor and camper at UVM's Stuttering Summer Camp, run by the Eleanor M. Luse Center for Communication | Bottom left: Peace Corps volunteer Carrie Harvey '15: UVM is a top producer of Peace Corps volunteers

CATAMOUNTS MEDAL IN PYEONGCHANG WINTER OLYMPICS

UVM Catamounts made a strong showing at the 2018 Winter Olympics, with 11 UVM students and alumni participating in the games in South Korea. **Amanda Pelkey '15** earned a gold medal as a member of the U.S. women's hockey team. **Jonathan Nordbotten '14** won bronze for Norway in the inaugural alpine skiing team event. **Kevin Durey '14** represented Canada for ski cross, finishing in fourth place. **Lowell Bailey '05** finished a four-Olympics career,

competing in several biathlon individual and relay events. **Scott Patterson '14** earned the best American finish in winter Olympic history for the men's 50K Nordic race, finishing in 11th place. **Caitlin Patterson '12** skied in two Nordic events during the games. **Ryan Gunderson '07** was a member of the U.S. men's hockey team, finishing in 7th place. **Viktor Stalberg '09** played for Sweden's men's hockey team, which finished 5th. **Ida Sargent G'20** participated in the women's sprint classic Nordic race. **Laurence St. Germain '19** placed 15th in women's slalom for team Canada. **Conor Wilson '21** was South Africa's lone winter

Olympian, competing in giant slalom. Finally, **Knut Nystad '94** was recognized by the *New York Times* for his critical supporting role as chief wax technician for the Norwegian cross-country and biathlon teams.

RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

RESEARCH ON THE CUTTING EDGE

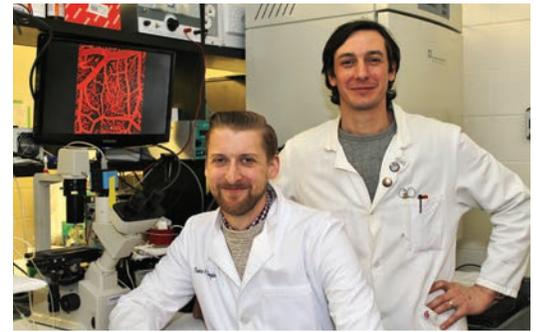
In FY2017, the University garnered over \$123 million in external sponsored awards for research and scholarship.

UVM biologists **Ingi Agnarsson** and **Linden Higgins** led a multi-institution research team sequencing the genome of the prolific silk-producing golden orb-weaver spider. Spider silk is a natural material of great interest to biomedical engineers for its strength and flexibility, and for its compatibility with the human immune system. As reported in *Nature Genetics*, in this largest-ever investigation of spider silk genes, researchers identified more than 14,000 likely genes, including 28 that appear to encode spider silk proteins and give rise to silk's many diverse functions. The research is revolutionary in understanding the unique properties of different types of spider silk, which will assist biomedical engineers in converting a spider's liquid silk to solid spinnable threads for manmade materials.

A *Nature Neuroscience* study published by Assistant Professors of Pharmacology **Thomas Longden** and **Fabrice Dabertrand** determined that capillaries—the smallest blood vessels in the body, which cover most of the brain—have a much more active function than previously known. Longden and Dabertrand found that, rather than acting as passive tubes, capillaries instead function like wires, actively controlling blood flow to the areas that need it most. The findings open new avenues for investigating cerebral diseases with a vascular component, such as Alzheimer's disease and other conditions that result in deteriorating cognitive function.

A first-of-its-kind model that measures the effects of human behavior on climate change provides new insight into the range of temperatures the planet may face in the coming century. The model provides "a rational basis for hope" that people—as the dominant cause of global temperature rise—may also be a crucial factor in helping to reduce it. Supported by the National Science Foundation and published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, the study claims that having a better understanding of the human perception of climate change and related human behavioral responses are crucial for the future of climate change. UVM Professor of Plant Biology and Computer Science **Brian Beckage**, and **Asim Zia**, Professor in Community Development and Applied Economics and Computer Science, co-led the study.

A new research study co-led by Professor of Mathematics and Statistics **Chris Danforth** and Andrew Reece of Harvard University, ranked one of the 20 most popular pieces of academic research in 2017, shows that Instagram photos posted by depressed people have darker, grayer, and bluer tones as opposed to healthier people. Published in the data science journal *EPJ Data Science* and featured in hundreds of media outlets across the country, the study helped prove a 70 percent accuracy rate for depressed people from clues in their Instagram posts. This result is seen as a potential breakthrough for one day helping to see mental illness in its onset stages and as an alternative to high-cost screenings for people who don't have access to trained experts.



Above: Professor Ingi Agnarsson with the prolific silk producing orb-weaver spider | Top right: Assistant Professors of Pharmacology Thomas Longden and Fabrice Dabertrand | Center right: Professor Eyal Amiel | Bottom right: Professor Srinivas Venugopal in active research on subsistence marketplaces

A recent surprising discovery by **Eyal Amiel**, Assistant Professor of Medical Laboratory and Radiation Science, determined that dendritic cells, messengers of the immune system, have an internal source of glycogen. This could help improve vaccines and treat autoimmune diseases. Previous research indicated sugar stores happened externally to the cell, but this new discovery provides immunologists with a different area of focus in understanding how the early part of a dendritic cell immune response is generated. The study findings were published in the journal *Cell Metabolism*.

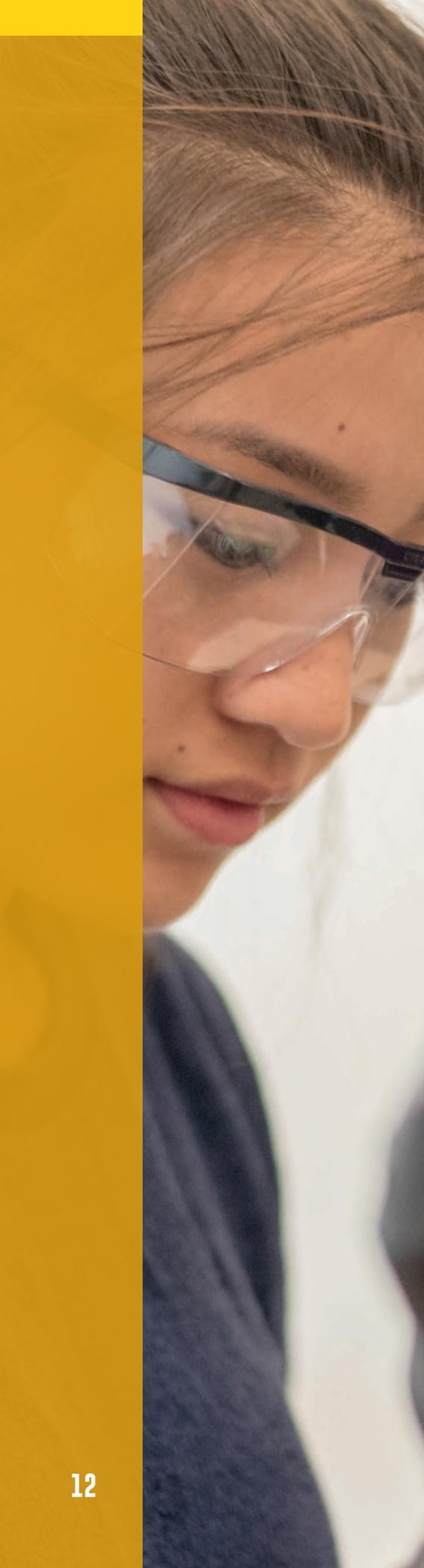
Srinivas Venugopal, Assistant Professor in the Grossman School of Business, recently returned to his native India and his entrepreneurial ventures of helping low-income communities. Having started a technology-based social venture at age 23, he currently runs a non-profit that has increased the economic and educational opportunities of young women in the slums of Chennai, and that also informs his research on subsistence marketplaces. His research uses a bottom-up approach; he immerses himself in communities

to better understand the lives of local entrepreneurs who live at the base of the pyramid to co-create a value proposition business model from within, an approach popularized by **Stuart Hart**, UVM's Steven Grossman Endowed Chair in Sustainable Business. Many of Venugopal's experiences are documented in his new book, *Voices from the Subsistence Marketplaces*.

A new study of nearly 2,000 smallholder farms in Africa and Asia, led by Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Food Sciences **Meredith Niles**, shows how climate patterns matter in determining effective strategies for addressing food insecurity. Published in *Scientific Reports*, the study is the first to analyze on a large scale the relationship between food insecurity among smallholder farms in Africa and Asia, rainfall patterns, and a range of interventions—from agricultural inputs to agricultural practices and financial supports—designed to address the issue.

Rural sociologist and principal investigator **Shoshannah Inwood**, along with colleagues at the Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis at the University of Chicago, found that health-related

costs—specifically a lack of access to affordable health insurance—are a significant risk for people in agriculture. Three of four farmers and ranchers in the ten-state survey said that having affordable health insurance was an important or very important means of reducing their business risk. Health care costs also factor into farm succession, potentially denying young people access to land for farming. The study's findings have significant implications for the 2018 Farm Bill. A \$500,000 grant from the USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative funded the study as part of a National Institute of Food and Agriculture initiative designed to increase prosperity in rural America.



RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

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Chris Callahan, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Engineering at UVM Extension, has invented a \$300 device that could save Vermont's produce growers an average of \$6,500 annually and its artisanal cheese and meat producers up to \$10,000 a year. The DewRight device, which has been licensed and commercially developed by Vermont Energy Control Systems, measures and monitors relative humidity in the storage spaces and processing centers for growers and artisanal food produces.

MAJOR GRANTS

The National Institutes of Health awarded a five-year, \$20 million Clinical and Translational Research Network grant to the University of Vermont and the Maine Medical Center in Portland to create a clinical and translational research infrastructure aimed at improving community health and rural health care delivery in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The program will be co-led by **Gary Stein**, UVM Cancer Center Director and Department of Biochemistry Chair, and Clifford Rosen, Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Research at Maine Medical Center Research Institute. UVM Larner College of Medicine faculty will spearhead five of the six program areas, working to build bridges between academic medical centers and primary care practices in rural communities, where there are often health problems specific to the area. Vermont Health Commissioner Mark Levine remarks that the grant "reinforces confidence in the tremendous resource that is provided by the University—not just in education, but in promoting and protecting the overall health and well-being of our citizens."

The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation awarded a three-year, \$1.8 million grant to **James J. Hudziak**, the Thomas M. Achenbach MD Chair of Developmental Psychopathology at the Larner College of Medicine and the Director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth, and Families. The grant's goal is to determine if the UVM Wellness Environment, in concert with a health promotion app Hudziak developed, will promote wellness among college students and reduce their use of alcohol and other drugs in the process. The study will also test the effectiveness of a screening and intervention model designed to help students who are abusing alcohol and other drugs adopt healthier behaviors. The Wellness Environment is an incentivized health-promotion, substance-free community located in two UVM residence halls that motivates students to engage in a range of healthy behaviors and requires them to take a neuroscience course, taught by Larner College of Medicine faculty, that shows the impacts of healthy and unhealthy behaviors on the brain. Hudziak launched the WE program two years ago. Its enrollment has grown from 120 in the fall of 2015 to over 1,200 today.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded a \$598,000 grant to **Jason Stockwell**, Director of the Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory, and **Rachelle Gould**, Assistant Professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, to lead a team of researchers investigating the impacts of blue-green algae blooms in Lake Champlain. The team will look at both natural and social impacts of the blooms, including how the toxins may travel in fish tissue and how they impact aspects of human well-being. U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy praised the study's efforts and



Top left: Gary Stein MD, UVM Cancer Center Director | Top right: James Hudziak MD, Thomas M. Achenbach MD Chair in Developmental Psychopathy; Director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families; and creator and Director of UVM's Wellness Environment | Bottom right: Extension Professor Chris Callahan (center) and Vermont Energy Control Systems directors with the DewRight device for food storage

strongly supports the grant recognition by the EPA. The UVM grant was one of four grants funded—and part of the more than \$2 million awarded—by the EPA in October 2017 in the research area of Integrating Human Health and Well-Being with Ecosystem Services.

MassMutual, in collaboration with UVM's **Vermont Complex Systems Center**, will fund a \$500,000 initiative to create an innovative PhD fellowship and faculty-driven project in the area of data science. This initiative with MassMutual represents the largest single corporate collaboration with the Center since it began in 2009. The focus for the initiative is to develop quantitative methods for seeing changes and patterns in human behavior, using complex data to answer questions across a spectrum of disciplines, among them the life sciences, humanities, and social sciences. The funding will underwrite a four-year PhD student to work in data science and complex systems and support faculty collaboration with the Complex Systems Center. The initiative will also underwrite a visual data artist to create visualizations for people to better understand and interact with the data.

The National Science Foundation awarded \$300,000 to three UVM faculty members: Biology Department research associate **Andrew Mead**; former Biology Chair and current Associate Provost, **Jim Vigoreaux**; and Associate Professor of English, **Libby Miles**. The grant application and the research it proposes were built around BioFabLab, a pilot Biology course created by Mead and Vigoreaux. Working in partnership with experts at Burlington Generator, a Burlington makerspace, students in the course design and build their own experimental instruments to assist Biology faculty with their research—from devices that test fish embryos to trackers that record the motion and energy of fruit flies in order to understand how muscles affect the aging process. The two-year grant will fund an expansion of BioFabLab geared entirely to first-semester, first-year students, introducing students to biology in a makerspace setting to test the approach for attracting students with an aptitude for creative thinking into the life sciences.



A \$180,000 challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities was given to the University and three partners to help promote the understanding of Vermont's agricultural community. The goal of the grant is to tell the story of Vermont's contemporary farms by bringing people together to see the full picture. Vermont's farmers are becoming increasingly diverse, ranging in gender, age, race, and agricultural products. With the help of **Linda Berlin**, Director of UVM's Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and Professor of Anthropology **Luis Vivanco**, an advisory panel will be gathered to oversee the project, including both humanities scholars and eight farmers from Vermont's diverse geographic, gender, cultural, and racial backgrounds.

MOVE MOUNTAINS:
THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

ENHANCING OUR
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

NEW HOME FOR RECREATION,
WELLNESS, AND OUR
CATAMOUNTS ON THE HORIZON

INVESTING IN TALENT—STUDENT
AND FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

ENDOWMENT

IMPACT OF SUPPORT

MOVE MOUNTAINS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

To date, the *Move Mountains* campaign has raised \$479 million, over 95 percent toward the goal of \$500 million. The impact of the campaign is evident everywhere you look on our campus, and as the campaign enters its final year we are poised to reach unprecedented levels of philanthropic investment in the University of Vermont. Private support is allowing us to write an exciting new chapter here at UVM, one where we are drawing increasingly talented students and faculty to our wonderful campus. Whether focusing their support on student scholarships, investing in faculty and priority programs, or helping us make progress on new and enhanced facilities, our committed and generous donors are one of this University's greatest assets.

ENHANCING OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

This year saw major advancements in the UVM STEM Complex: the University's remarkable new hub for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines welcomed students back to campus in the fall. **Discovery Hall** and its cutting-edge teaching and research laboratory spaces was open for business, as was a significantly renovated Votey Hall, home to the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. The second phase of this important project, **Innovation Hall**, is currently taking shape and will include state-of-the-art classrooms, team-based learning spaces, and offices for faculty.

Ifshin Hall, set to open in August, is an expansion to Kalkin Hall and will accommodate the growth in student

enrollments and programs in the highly regarded Grossman School of Business. Ifshin Hall will be the new home for graduate programs, including the Sustainable Innovation MBA, which was ranked the #1 Green MBA by the *Princeton Review* this year.

NEW HOME FOR RECREATION, WELLNESS, AND OUR CATAMOUNTS ON THE HORIZON

At UVM we work to build healthy bodies and healthy minds, offering a full spectrum of recreation, wellness, and varsity sports programming. The time has come for a significant modernization and upgrade to the facilities that lay at the heart of these efforts. The UVM Board of Trustees authorized moving forward on the design of a highly efficient building concept that includes significant re-use of existing space combined with new construction. The Multi-Purpose Center will dramatically enhance campus health and wellness opportunities while positioning varsity sports programs for sustained competitive excellence.

Private philanthropy is an essential component of this project. Several donors have made early philanthropic investments, including long-time alumni leaders **Bill '79** and **Laurie Shean '80**, who demonstrated their enthusiasm for the project with a \$1 million gift. Former UVM basketball player and member of the UVM Foundation's Leadership Council **Barry Stone '56** and his wife, **Carol**, made a lead gift to launch an exciting effort to name the basketball court in Patrick Gym for UVM Athletics legend and former Men's Basketball Coach **Tom Brennan**. Inspired by their commitment, more than 100 donors made gifts to surpass the \$1 million

fundraising goal, offering a fitting honor to the man known simply as “Coach.” This momentum was further enhanced when Chairman of the UVM Board of Trustees **David Daigle** ’89 and his wife, **Beth Daigle** ’89, pledged \$1 million to the project. Their gift will be directed toward facilities to enhance student health and wellness on campus, as well as programs that encourage all UVM students to lead healthier lives.

INVESTING IN TALENT—STUDENT AND FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

We are focused on attracting exceptional students from all backgrounds to UVM, and scholarship support both based on merit and on need gives us the resources to fulfill that commitment. Scholarship investment is the single largest priority for the *Move Mountains* campaign. To date in the campaign, our generous donors have established over 240 new scholarship funds that will help hundreds of students reach their potential.

Seeking to expand the applications of computational, social, and data science, **Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company** invested \$500,000 to fund an innovative pilot program within the University’s Vermont Complex Systems Center. The partnership with UVM will fund a new four-year PhD fellowship to explore the intersections of human health and well-being, data science, and complex systems. This groundbreaking fund will also support faculty collaboration and a visual data artist-in-residence, to create visualizations that allow people to easily understand and interact with complex data.

Rick Morin, Dean of the Larner College of Medicine, took the *Move Mountains* campaign to new heights. He wanted to inspire more alumni to invest in their alma mater and the students who aim to become the next generation of physicians educated at UVM, so he issued a challenge. If at least 375 alumni would give, he would climb the three highest peaks visible from campus and he and his wife, Tracey, would make their own gift of \$15,000 to the College. Happily the goal was met with 424 gifts received by Match Day (the day medical students learn where they’ve “matched” for their residency programs) and Dean Morin

climbed Camel’s Hump and Mt. Mansfield in the Green Mountains, and Mt. Marcy in the Adirondacks.

Each year, more than 2,000 students and members of the UVM community participate in a program or activity sponsored by UVM Hillel. Now plans are underway to renovate 439 College Street into a vibrant hub for Jewish life that will support the dynamic and inclusive programming for which UVM Hillel is known. Early gifts from **Dan** ’55 H’08 and **Carol Burack** H’08, **Ray** ’67 and **Gail** ’70 **Weinstein**, and parents **Michael** and **Jacki Goldberg** will help make this new home a reality.

At UVM, learning is not limited to the classroom. Today, almost 80 percent of our undergraduate students are involved with at least one club or student organization, investing their time and energy to make campus—and communities beyond—more vital, engaged, and enjoyable. This year, the annual **LuvMyClub** campaign raised over \$32,000 from nearly 1,200 donors to directly benefit students. Perhaps most importantly, many of those donors were our current students helping to create a culture of philanthropy on campus by supporting their passions.

The Grossman Challenge, a matching initiative from **Steven Grossman** ’61 and the **Grossman Family Foundation** to raise \$10 million for the Grossman School of Business, was successfully completed and a second challenge is now underway. The Challenge inspired donors to create new endowed funds or add to seven existing scholarship funds. As a result, two new professorships and eight new endowed scholarships were established to benefit both undergraduate and graduate students in the School. Donor support is also making possible expanded educational programming, including guest panels, experiential learning opportunities, and case competitions that help prepare students for success in a complex and ever-changing global environment.



Coach Tom Brennan flanked by Barry ’56 and Carol Stone, and Teddy Greenstein at the Brennan Court Dedication

ENDOWMENT

Endowment gifts are key to the long-term health and success of the University of Vermont, building the financial resources that enable UVM to recruit and retain the best students and faculty and provide them with the resources they need to flourish. These investments not only make a difference for those who walk our campus today, but will improve the educational experience at UVM for generations to come. The combined total endowment for the University and the UVM Foundation is over \$555 million (as of December 31, 2017). Endowment income from donor gifts for fiscal year 2017 totaled more than \$20 million, which supports academic priorities of the University: student scholarships, professorships, and critical academic programs. One of the foremost goals of the University’s strategic action plan is to promote access and affordability for students. In alignment with that goal, 36 percent of endowment spending supported scholarships; 19 percent of endowment spending supported professorships; and 45 percent of endowment spending supported critical academic programs. In FY 2017, scholarships and fellowships funded by the endowment totaled more than \$7 million.

STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDINGS
TRANSFORM CAMPUS

FIRE DEPARTMENT SAVES
HISTORIC TORREY HALL

UVM HOSTS NATIONAL AND
STATEWIDE SUMMITS

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

THE PRESIDENT'S OUR COMMON
GROUND STAFF AWARDS

LECTURES ON CAMPUS

BURACK DISTINGUISHED
LECTURE SERIES

PIONEERING EXHIBITIONS AT
THE FLEMING MUSEUM OF ART

THE CAMPUS

STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDINGS TRANSFORM CAMPUS

The Grossman School of Business broke ground on its new building, named for the late **Steve Ifshin '58**, who served as a former member of the Grossman School of Business Board of Advisors and the UVM Foundation Board of Directors. His gift of \$1.75 million for Ifshin Hall will provide critical capacity as the Grossman School of Business continues its progress into the ranks of the world's finest, as evidenced by the increasing list of national and global rankings and recognitions, a world-class faculty, dedicated staff, and year-over-year increasingly talented classes of students.

The iconic **Billings Library**, an architectural gem and anchor of the University Green historic district, is undergoing an infrastructure update and interior renovation in advance of welcoming its prominent new occupants: the UVM Humanities Center and the Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies. When Billings Library reopens this summer it will locate these two important centers for research, creative output, and teaching at the heart of the UVM campus. The renovated library will also house the UVM Libraries Special Collections and University Archives, as well as the Center for Research on Vermont.

Thanks to a \$5 million gift from **Michele Resnick Cohen '72** and her husband, **Martin Cohen**, a new integrative creative arts center is preparing to open this summer. Located near the northern end of the historic UVM Green in the former Elihu B. Taft school—a large Colonial Revival-style building on the Vermont Register of Historic Places—the building will feature classrooms, studios, gallery and performance spaces, and

lab and production spaces intended to foster collaboration between students and faculty in Studio Art, Art History, Dance, Music, Music Technology and Business, and Film and Television Studies. The spaces will offer opportunities for students and faculty to work in new and enhanced ways in digital art forms as well as in traditional media.

Ifshin Hall, the Hall for Integrative Creative Arts, and the renovated Billings Library will all open this summer with dedications the first week of October.

At the start of the FY2018 academic year, the new **Central Campus Residence Hall** opened its doors to nearly 700 first-year students, all participants in the Wellness Environment initiative, a learning environment that merges a peer-positive, substance free residence hall with courses in neuroscience and brain development and incentivized programs for pursuing wellness. The new Residence Hall, in the center of campus and connected to Bailey/Howe Library, also includes a state-of-the-art kitchen with education as its mission, focused on engaging students in health, food culture, and sustainability.

UVM Rescue, an all-volunteer, student-run organization providing advanced life support and ambulance services to the campus community and beyond since 1972, celebrated the dedication of their new headquarters in October. The new facility, with updated dispatch technology, incorporates a common room for training, a large kitchen, a conference room, two bunk rooms, and a gym, and houses two ambulances. Students participating in UVM Rescue come from a diverse array of majors, and many consider it the pinnacle of their extracurricular experience at UVM. Many UVM Rescue members pursue careers in health care.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SAVES HISTORIC TORREY HALL

On the morning of August 3rd, fire broke out in UVM's historic **Torrey Hall**, ignited by soldering work underway in renovations to the 1863 building. Thanks to the quick action of firefighters, the specimens of the Pringle Herbarium—the third largest herbarium in New England and the largest Vermont flora collection in the world—were largely saved and sustained minimal damage. The herbarium contains specimens collected by botanists dating back to Fanny Allen, widow of Revolutionary War leader Ethan Allen. It's named for Cyrus Pringle, a native of Charlotte, Vermont, who traveled to the western frontier in the late 1800s to discover new species, braving rugged terrain, malaria, and stage coach robbers to press, dry, and ship specimens to scientists in the east. By the end of his life, he had collected more than 500,000 specimens, 12 percent of which were entirely new to science. The collection, considered a world-renowned resource, is critical for researchers studying plant diversity and systematics, or how living things evolve and change over time.

UVM HOSTS NATIONAL AND STATEWIDE SUMMITS

UVM hosted the national innovation summit **Catalysts of the Climate Economy**, bringing together entrepreneurs, investors, and thought leaders to gear up for the next stage of economic development and prosperity in a low-carbon future. The three-day event featured speeches, roundtables, and discussion groups with industry leaders from around the country in clean energy, green building, agriculture, transportation, tech innovation, efficiency improvement, smart growth, and more. The summit also hosted an innovation and pitch contest for entrepreneurs from around the country to exhibit their ideas for a better future. The event was keynoted by environmentalist, entrepreneur, activist, and bestselling author **Paul Hawken**.

State legislators and a wide array of UVM faculty came together for the fifth annual **Legislative Summit**.



The state-of-the-art dining room for the Central Campus Residence Hall includes Discovery Kitchen, a teaching and learning space for food culture and sustainability

After addressing education, climate change, the Vermont economy, and healthcare policy in past years, the summit's topic this year was "Water: How Will We Ensure That It Is Clean and Plentiful?" The summit explored groundwater contamination, causes and consequences of algal bloom, and Lake Champlain as sentinel.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Linda Schadler has been appointed Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. She joins UVM from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where she is currently the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education and the Russell Sage Professor in Materials Science and Engineering.

T. Simeon Ananou joins UVM as Chief Information Officer, effective July 1, 2018. He has served in leadership positions at several higher education institutions. He joins the UVM team from the University at Albany, where he served as Vice President for Information Technologies Services and Chief Information Officer.

LECTURES ON CAMPUS

Each year, incoming students are given their first assignment before stepping foot on campus—they are asked to read

a selected book, the themes of which are then integrated into foundation courses in each academic college. Pulitzer Prize-winner **Matt Richtel**, author of the 2017 First-Year Summer Read **A Deadly Wandering**, gave a riveting talk on his book and its themes of attention, focus, forgiveness, and redemption. Leading intellectual and activist **Marc Lamont Hill**, Steven Charles Professor of Media, Cities and Solutions at Temple University, dared the large crowd he addressed in Ira Allen Chapel to imagine a radical freedom dream and then laid out a path to achieve it in the tradition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hill gave his keynote address as part of UVM's weeklong Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration.

Veteran investigative reporter **Michael Moss**, author of **Salt Sugar Fat: How the Food Giants Hooked Us**, delivered the 2017 George D. Aiken Lecture. He took a capacity audience in Ira Allen Chapel on an exposé of this "unholy trinity," the ingredients the trillion-dollar food industry relies on in its deliberate product development to make us consume more. He encouraged an investigative approach to food systems study and a playful marketing strategy to get more people eating healthy, whole foods.

THE CAMPUS

continued...

BURACK DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

A generous endowment gift from **Dan Burack** '55 H'08 and his wife, **Carole H'08**, supports a robust lecture series that brings top scholars, writers, and public intellectuals to campus each year. Professor **Kurk Dorsey**, Professor of History at the University of New Hampshire and a pioneer in the field of diplomatic environmental history, opened the Burack Lecture Series this year with a fascinating exploration on how the decades-long multi-nation negotiations on whaling might inform international discussions on mitigating climate change.

Stanford University Professor of Developmental and Psychological Sciences **Jelena Obradovic** gave a fascinating presentation on self-regulation in children and their caregivers, and how children who learn to control their impulses through example are more likely to thrive in school and life. **Jeffrey Kahn**, Professor of Bioethics and Health Policy at Johns Hopkins, spoke on the challenge of advancing biotechnology for ethics and policy in his Burack lecture, "Do New Tools Need New Ethics?"

The lecture by Professor **Nick Cutforth**, Director of Qualitative Data Collection at Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center, attracted students and community-engaged scholars from education, food systems, social work, and geography to learn about successful partnerships for healthy eating in schools in impoverished areas of Colorado. Director of the Behavioral Sciences Program at Santa Fe Institute and Professor of Economics Emeritus **Samuel Bowles** spoke about his lifelong passion—political hierarchy and wealth inequality

and their evolution across time—in his lecture, "The Origin and Future of Economic Inequality."

Delving into the arts, **Rowland O. Abiodun**, Professor of Art History and Black Studies, spoke about the Yoruba aesthetic of Imoju-mora and the African adoption of new styles, techniques, and materials in African visual expression under enslavement in the New World. Professor **Ashley Lucas**, Director of the Prison Creative Arts Project at the University of Michigan, spoke about documentary theatre and performed excerpts from her one-woman show, *Doin' Time: Through the Visiting Glass*, about the effects of incarceration on prisoners' family members.

Finally, the Burack Lecture Series hosted three prominent journalists this year. Guggenheim Fellow and *New York Times* bestselling author **Joe Sacco** spoke about his intrepid reporting in war and crisis zones and his style of graphic narration in "Comics as Journalism." **Larissa MacFarquhar**, staff writer for the *New Yorker* and author of *Strangers Drowning*, gave a compelling presentation on her latest research about people who live lives of extraordinary moral commitment in her talk, "Radical Goodness and the Urge to Help." Acclaimed journalist **Alan Weisman**, author of *Countdown: Our Last, Best Hope for a Future on Earth?*, spoke to a capacity crowd on what it will actually take for our species to reach a healthy, sustainable truce with the rest of nature to ensure our future on Earth.

PIONEERING EXHIBITIONS AT THE FLEMING MUSEUM OF ART

The exhibitions featured at the Fleming Museum of Art during the 2017–18 academic year have proven to be among the most popular in recent history, with attendance at the Museum up nearly 20 percent this year.

During the Fall of 2017, the Museum presented the exhibition *Spirited Things: Sacred Arts of the Black Atlantic*, drawn from the Sacred Arts of the Black Atlantic Collection (SABA) at Duke University. The exhibition was the culmination of 35 years of ethnographic research by **J. Lorand Matony**, Lawrence Richardson Professor of Cultural Anthropology and Director of the SABA Project at Duke University, and James Marsh Professor-at-Large at the University of Vermont. The exhibition included sacred objects from the Yoruba religion of West Africa, as well as Haitian Vodou, Cuban Santería, Brazilian Candomblé, and Caribbean Spiritism, faiths that emerged from the practices of enslaved Africans who blended their ancestral cultures with that of their captors.

In addition to *Spirited Things*, The Museum reexamined the contribution of mid-century modernist painter Herbert Barnett through the subject matter and time period in which the artist's distinctive style found its greatest expression: his Vermont landscapes of the 1940s. The exhibition, *Herbert Barnett: Vermont Life and Landscape, 1940–1948*, was organized in consultation with the artist's son and features works on loan from public and private collections, including 2018 Honorary Degree recipient **J. Brooks Buxton '56**.

The Spring of 2018 saw the arrival of the first retrospective exhibition of the work of acclaimed cartoonist and graphic novelist **Alison Bechdel**, spanning the Vermont resident's illustrious decades-long career. A James Marsh Professor-at-Large at the University of Vermont, Bechdel is a MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Grant winner, and the third Cartoonist Laureate of Vermont.



In 2006, Bechdel published the graphic memoir *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*, which explores her relationship with her father, her coming out, and his possible suicide. *Fun Home* was a *New York Times* bestseller and the basis of the Tony-award winning musical of the same name.

The exhibition, *Self Confessed!: The Inappropriately Intimate Comics of Alison Bechdel*, explores Bechdel's work as a writer, an artist, and an archivist of the self, someone who constantly mines and shares her own experiences as a way to communicate something vitally human: the quest for love, acceptance, community, and social justice. The Bechdel show was juxtaposed in the Museum's galleries with a smaller exhibition featuring the works of 19th century French caricaturist Honoré Daumier and his series of forty satirical lithographs titled *Les Bas Bleus*, or *Bluestockings*, on loan from the Arthur Ross Collection at the Yale University Art Gallery.

In addition to these unique and popular exhibitions, the Museum hosted over 25 programs and events, including a Haitian Vodou Ritual Celebration, an exclusive talk by Alison Bechdel—which drew an audience of over 400—and a Vermont Cartoonist Laureates panel discussion, as well as regular programming of lectures, the *Painted Word* poetry series, workshops, tours, and performances.



Top: *The Trono de Cumpleaños*, or "birthday throne," created by Cuban Santería priest William Zapata for the Fleming Museum's Fall 2017 exhibition, *Spirited Things: Sacred Arts of the Black Atlantic* | Bottom: Renowned Vermont cartoonist and graphic memoirist Alison Bechdel paints a caricature of herself on the introduction wall of the Fleming's Spring 2018 exhibition *Self-Confessed: The Inappropriately Intimate Comics of Alison Bechdel*

NATIONAL NEWS AND RANKINGS

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

GUND INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL CATALYST AWARDS

SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION MBA RANKS HIGHEST IN NATION

RAISING OUR PROFILE

NATIONAL NEWS AND RANKINGS

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine once again has ranked UVM among the top best-value public colleges in the country. Drawing its list of best-value schools from a field of nearly 1,200 higher education institutions in the U.S., *Kiplinger's* compiles its list by first ranking schools based on measures of academic quality, then factoring in cost and financial aid measures. The University of Vermont was also ranked a top 50 public university by *U.S. News & World Report*.

UVM has made *Princeton Review's* "Green Rating Honor Roll" in recognition of sustainability-related practices, policies, and academic offerings. One of only 24 universities nationwide on the honor roll, UVM was also ranked first among institutions with larger populations in *Princeton's Review* list of top green colleges. UVM scored 98 of a possible 99 total points that tally a wide variety of environmental and sustainability efforts.

The **Sustainable Innovation MBA** continued to gain international recognition by earning top-tier status in *CEO Magazine's* 2018 Global MBA rankings for the third year running. The Tier I ranking by the London-based business publication places UVM's Sustainable Innovation MBA among the top 116 programs worldwide and among the 71 top-tier programs in North America, with both rankings focusing on programs that combine exceptional quality with great return on investment. While most other rankings that the Grossman School of Business has achieved are for MBA programs that specialize in sustainability/green business, this is a global ranking of the top MBA programs regardless of area of specialization. Among 11 criteria for receiving this status,

quality of faculty was given the most weight, speaking to the strength of UVM's department. *Corporate Knights* also included the Sustainable Innovation MBA in its top 10 "Better World MBA Ranking."

UVM's **Wellness Environment** attracted national news attention, from ABC News, NPR, and the *Washington Post* to *Fox News*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Seattle Times*, *USA Today*, and others. In UVM's Wellness Environment, known as WE, students live in a substance-free dorm, take a required neuroscience course taught by Larner College of Medicine faculty, and are given incentives to stay healthy, such as access to a free gym membership, nutrition and fitness coaches, and an app that tracks their activities. WE's enrollment has grown from 120 when the program launched in 2015 to over 1,200 today. Thanks to this growth, nearly one-quarter of UVM's undergraduate on-campus population currently lives in substance-free housing.

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies appointed Provost **David Rosowsky** to its board of directors. Provost Rosowsky will contribute as a representative from higher education, inspiring and expanding the number of student and alumni entrepreneurs across Vermont and illuminating the important role of academics within innovation and economic development, both in Burlington and across the state.

Vice President for Human Resources, Diversity, and Multicultural Affairs **Wanda Heading-Grant** received an Inclusive Excellence Award in the Individual Leadership category from the National Association of Diversity Offices in Higher Education. The award



UVM was again ranked a top 50 public university. The Grossman School of Business parallels the current University-wide trend of welcoming increasingly talented classes of students year after year.



UVM received the prestigious Prevention Excellence Award for combating high-risk drinking by students

is presented to a member who has made outstanding contributions to research, administration, practice, advocacy, and/or policy, and whose work informs and advances the understanding of diversity and inclusive excellence in higher education. Heading-Grant has served many important roles at the University over a course of 28 years.

UVM was honored with the prestigious **Prevention Excellence Award** for combating high-risk drinking by students. The award by EVERFI, the educational technology company behind AlcoholEdu—an online course that incoming UVM students complete before arriving to campus—recognized UVM for the comprehensive, systemic, evidence-based initiatives that are rendering significant results in curbing high-risk drinking. The award recognizes President **Tom Sullivan's** leadership in establishing a University-wide committee of faculty, staff, students, parents, and alumni in 2012 to study and make recommendations on reducing high-risk drinking and the use of other drugs on campus. Other recent national awards from the 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.

For the second year in a row, UVM won a **Workplace Wellness Award**, presented by the Vermont Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The award recognizes the University's commitment to employee wellness, including initiatives such as a comprehensive website, an ambassadors program, and a specific council, all of which are dedicated to making employee and workplace wellness more accessible.

GUND INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL CATALYST AWARDS

The **Gund Institute for Environment** at UVM announced nearly \$250,000 in Catalyst Award seed grants to establish new research projects seeking real-world solutions to critical environmental issues. The inaugural Catalyst Awards to five interdisciplinary teams will accelerate new efforts on global climate modeling, renewable biofuels, climate impacts on mountain communities, nitrogen "trouble zones," and sustainable agriculture.

Philosophy Professor **Mark Budolfson** and colleagues from UVM and Princeton University will develop next-generation climate models to improve environmental decision making and policy, adding key factors—such as health co-benefits from air pollution reduction, and economic inequality between nations—that are currently largely ignored.

Nathan Sanders, Director of the Environmental Program, and Professor of Geography **Beverley Wemple** will lead an international team of collaborators in one of the first projects to synthesize how climate change will impact mountain communities worldwide.

Nutrition and Food Sciences Professor **Meredith Niles**, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources Professor **Eric Roy**, and colleagues will lead a comprehensive study of nitrogen use across the U.S., including areas where excess nitrogen poses risks to human health and ecosystems. Faculty and students will identify counties where farmers are most likely to participate in nitrogen use reduction programs based on socio-economic, behavioral, agricultural, and environmental factors, and collaborate with carbon offset initiative stakeholders to reduce emissions resulting from nitrogen hotspots.

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering **Britt Holmén**, Rubenstein Professor **Cecilia Danks**, and colleagues will improve understanding of "biogas" emissions and dynamics. By developing new technologies and systems for real-time biogas monitoring, the team will link regional partners around applications requiring biogas-sensing data. Scholars and industry partners will establish spatial emissions monitoring at a pilot field project in Vermont, and aim to develop novel, miniature

RAISING OUR PROFILE

continued...

biogas sensors for deployment on farms, trucks, drones and satellites.

Extension Professor **Heather Darby** and Research Assistant Professor **Gillian Galford** will help develop milkweed as a commercial crop to enhance farm viability and biological diversity. Faculty and students will determine optimal techniques for growing milkweed for an emerging international market seeking natural textiles for clothing and apparel.

The Catalyst Awards will support at least 19 UVM scholars from four colleges/schools and seven departments. At least 22 external partners from 12 countries will participate, including colleagues from Harvard, Princeton, and Yale, along with international collaborators in China, India, Australia, Britain, France, Sweden and Canada.

In addition to Catalyst Awards, the Gund Institute also announced funding for two major events to be held at UVM. Professor

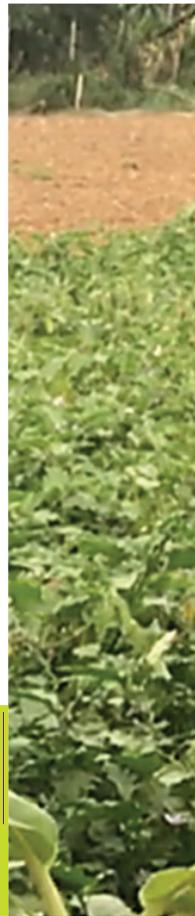
Josh Farley in Community Development and Applied Economics and **Jon Erickson**, Professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, will host an international symposium to develop a new research agenda for ecological economics, a transdisciplinary field that examines relationships between ecological and economic systems to address environmental challenges. The Gund Institute is a global leader in ecological economics, and this event will inform scholarship at UVM and beyond. Rubenstein School Professor **Adrian Ivakhiv** and Professor of Anthropology **Luis Vivanco** will host an international symposium of transdisciplinary experts from leading "artsience" and "eco-humanities" initiatives, such as MIT MediaLab, **Sciences Po**, and UVM FabLab. The event aims to develop new collaborations bridging the arts, humanities, and sciences, and engage universities and citizens in environmental solutions.

Catalyst Awards

SOLUTIONS START HERE



Sustainable Innovation MBA “impact students” Karen Barnett (left) and Margaret Arzon talk with farmers in Bhubaneswar, India, as part of their practicum with eKutir, a social enterprise group based in India that uses a human digital platform model to build self-sustaining ecosystems that address challenges of smallholder farmer poverty



SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION MBA RANKS HIGHEST IN NATION



Six years ago when **Sanjay Sharma** took over as dean of the **Grossman School of Business**, he set his sights on an ambitious goal: to become the top MBA program in the country for sustainable innovation.

In October that ambition became reality when the Grossman School of Business’ Sustainable Innovation MBA received the number 1 ranking on *The Princeton Review’s* 2018 list of Best Green MBA programs. The Best Green MBA rankings are based on students’ assessments of how well their school is preparing them in environmental/sustainability and social responsibility issues, and for a career in a green job market. The nation’s first one-year AACSB-accredited MBA focused entirely on sustainable innovation meets a growing demand by companies seeking managers to convert global sustainability challenges into business opportunities for triple

bottom line performance—a measure of a company’s financial, social, and environmental impacts.

The “impact students” in the program—more concerned with solving the world’s sustainability issues than just turning a profit—are served by Launch, a customized four-phase program for career development embedded within the MBA’s condensed 12-month format. Designed to propel students into careers in renewable energy, clean tech, affordable health care, inclusive business, entrepreneurship within larger companies, start-ups, and other innovative ventures, the four-phase approach of Launch helps students identify career paths starting on day one. Students engage directly with businesses and leaders for career coaching and mentoring, pitch development, and capstone experiential projects, growing customized networks to launch them into realizing their professional and personal aspirations.

NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

NEW ALLIANCES

CAREER MANAGEMENT
INNOVATIONS

CHARTING THE FUTURE

NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

UVM joined **Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences** to offer a Doctor of Pharmacy degree through a seven-year program. This agreement allows UVM students to apply for a specialized “3+4” program at the conclusion of their first year of study. After three years of study at UVM, students in this program will then enroll for an additional four years at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, with a campus in Colchester, Vermont, to complete their PharmD. The first matriculated class is expected in the fall of 2020.

Building on the new Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering and the University’s well-established PhD program in bioengineering, the new **Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering** will be offered beginning in fall 2018. The program will develop in students a solid foundation in the quantitative methods of engineering and provide opportunities to apply those to biomedical problems. With an aging population in the United States and the parallel demand for improved medical devices and systems, this is an important and timely new program addition. Graduates will be well positioned to make contributions to such innovative areas as computer-assisted surgery, cellular and tissue engineering, and orthopedic engineering.

The new **Master of Science in Engineering Management** is a professional degree program available as a regular coursework-only master’s or as a project-based degree. With its focus on the art and science of planning, organizing, allocating resources, and directing activities that have a technological component, the program is designed for students who intend to pursue

careers related to the management of engineering, either in private sector industry or government service.

In response to high student demand, as well as demand for jobs in a range of industries and in academia, the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences will begin offering a PhD in **Complex Systems and Data Science** beginning in fall 2018. The pan-disciplinary program will draw in faculty from across campus who research in and teach about complex systems and data science, and will train students to understand and solve data-rich complex systems problems across disciplines.

With the new **Master of Professional Studies in Leadership for Sustainability**, UVM joins a growing number of institutions of higher education offering a graduate degree focused on applied studies to meet the need for advanced professional training in a specific field. The interdisciplinary MPS degree, to be offered beginning in fall 2018, is designed for emerging leaders who are rooted in their home organization and community and are committed to deepening their capacity to catalyze change and collaborate within and beyond their chosen professional field.

With the high and increasing prevalence of chronic disease tied to lack of physical activity, there is an ever-increasing demand for professionals who can design, deliver, and monitor physical activity programming to prevent and treat chronic disease. The new **Master of Science in Physical Activity** is designed to provide future exercise professionals a scope of theoretical understanding and the knowledge, skills, and abilities to create programming for community health and clinical populations.

A new major and a new minor in **Health and Society**, offered by the College of Arts and Sciences starting in the fall 2018, will explore human health by focusing on the social sciences and employing a public health approach. Students will examine how health is influenced by global, national, regional, and local forces: biocultural and socio-cultural factors, social institutions and inequalities, political and economic realities, and the changing environment, among others. The programs will be particularly attractive to students considering careers related to medicine or public health, areas that are increasingly recognized as requiring nuanced comprehension for maximum effectiveness.

A new **Certificate in Integrative Healthcare**, one for matriculated UVM students and another for non-UVM students, will be offered beginning in fall 2018. Students in the certificate programs will learn about alternative and complementary healthcare modalities for health promotion and disease prevention, and will be encouraged to identify the further training they may need to become providers who can be responsive to patient desires for complementary care. The certificate aims to enhance patient experience, improve population health, reduce costs, and address healthcare-workforce burnout and satisfaction.

A new minor in **Emergency Medical Services**, to be offered through the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science, is meeting high demand from students. The strong culture of student involvement with emergency response through the fully student-run UVM Rescue and through community-based programs such as Wilderness First Responder courses makes this a natural fit for students in a number of clinical programs and other majors.

The Department of Sociology is launching a new minor in **Law and Society** to provide students with a better understanding of the operation of law as a social institution, and to promote the understanding of American society's social norms and values in relation to

legal structures, so that they will be better informed citizens and leaders in whatever paths they choose. The new minor will serve as a way for students to combine a series of constitutional law courses in Political Science with a series of criminal justice courses in Sociology.

COMMITTING TO A STATE TREASURE

The University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm has been a proud steward of the U.S. Government Morgan Horse bloodline since 1951, when the United States Department of Agriculture first bestowed this treasure to the State of Vermont, who in turn entrusted it to the University. Since then, with the University as its caretaker, the farm has successfully raised over 850 UVM Morgans, educated over 220 student apprentices, and welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Weybridge campus.

During the past year a new leadership team has been established at the farm, which has reinvigorated public interest and community involvement and has inspired efforts to strengthen ties to the University's core mission. The new leadership and the Morgan Horse Farm Board of Advisors are dedicated to the continued success and sustainability of the farm in three core areas: herd preservation, education, and community outreach. In recognition of the historical significance of the farm and its horses to the University and to the State of Vermont, the University has recently committed to improve turnout areas for the horses, effectively restoring the idyllic scene of beautiful Morgans grazing the Weybridge countryside.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, in collaboration with the UVM Foundation, are planning a capital campaign to boost the principal of existing endowments, raise funds for



A regal member of the U.S. Government Morgan Horse bloodline, stewarded by UVM since 1951

capital expenses, and engage our most loyal supporters to invest in this great American treasure. The three-year campaign will culminate with a ceremony at the farm to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Figure's (Justin Morgan's horse) statue on the farm.

Visitors to the farm can welcome the energetic and spirited new foals born this spring.

NEW ALLIANCES

UVM proves its dedication to furthering the field of regenerative medicine by joining the **Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute** (ARMI) through its BioFabUSA program. The Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute is a non-profit, federally sponsored consortium dedicated to making the large-scale manufacture of engineered tissues and tissue-related technologies practical, to benefit existing industries and grow new ones. Universities are eligible to join ARMI/BioFabUSA if their research and teaching programs make them a good fit for the organization. UVM is developing a multi-disciplinary regenerative medicine program focused on basic science, commercialization, entrepreneurship, and biotechnology training. The university also has a robust biomedical engineering program recently joined existing masters and doctoral degree programs.



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