



Patricia Corcoran, Associate Dean for Student Services in the College of Arts and Sciences, has made significant contributions to the University of Vermont in her 37 years of service. She is a deeply respected and regarded member of the College and is universally recognized by her colleagues for her unparalleled skill as an administrator, advisor, and counselor.

Patty has worked with thousands of students over her career. She has an uncanny ability to establish an almost instant rapport, separate fact from fiction, and help identify a way forward—all the while leaving students feeling supported *and* with a clear understanding of the academic achievements expected of them. She routinely works with students and families in crisis and never fails to rise to this considerable challenge. While many of these interactions are short-lived and intense, Patty often develops deeply meaningful relationships with students that last for years after they graduate.

Patty's leadership and service extends well beyond her work with students. She has supervised scores of developing professionals, serving as a mentor, supporting them as they balance their family and work lives, encouraging their professional development, and demanding the very best work from them. She has provided similar support and mentorship to faculty and department chairs within the College, and has been a source of consistency through eight deans. Beyond the College of Arts and Sciences, she has provided support to Athletics, Student Affairs, the Graduate College, and other Dean's offices, and has served—often in leadership roles—on innumerable University committees.

Patty has also made significant contributions to shaping the undergraduate experience at UVM. She was instrumental in the creation of the John Dewey Honors Program—now the Honors College—and the Teacher Advisor Program, now an essential element of our first-year experience. She helped create the Applied Learning and Engagement Program and the highly valued Premedical Enhancement Program. Decades ago, as conversations unfolded around these new ideas, it was Patty who knew what our students wanted and needed; how our advising and core scheduling systems could be altered to make things possible; and how to garner buy-in from faculty and administrative colleagues to bring these ideas to life.

Patty comes to work every day ready to do the right thing, willing to see the best in others, and with a sense of openness and optimism. She brings to her work joy, passion, and compassion. She cares, and she cares deeply. She is firm and fair. She believes in forgiveness and second chances. And Patty has never been afraid to use her considerable credibility and influence to right a wrong.

Patty has modeled the values of Our Common Ground in every day and in so many ways in her tenure at UVM, a career of extraordinary effort, accomplishment, and goodwill. As she retires, she leaves an indelible mark on the University and the countless students and colleagues whose lives she has touched.