



The University of Vermont

PRESIDENT'S Annual Report

2016/2017





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Letter from the President



DEAR UVM FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

Nearly five years ago, early in my tenure, the UVM Board of Trustees approved the strategic action plan developed to focus our collective efforts here at the University of Vermont. The overarching goals of that plan are to elevate the University's already strong academic profile, promote affordability, and ensure a bright future for this dynamic, respected Public Ivy.

Discussions began in earnest, and first commitments toward realizing this future took shape soon thereafter. With the May 2015 groundbreaking for the new STEM Complex, the largest capital project in UVM's history, the strategic action plan began to be realized—and the momentum has been building ever since.

In October of 2015, we launched the public phase of our \$500 million *Move Mountains* campaign, inviting alumni, supporters, and friends to become partners in creating an outstanding learning experience for all of our students. Since the campaign's inception, endowed professorships have more than doubled, providing 107 faculty members with perpetual funding for teaching and research. Student scholarship and financial aid have received \$61 million in commitments, allowing us to shape new programs, such as the Catamount Commitment, that promise to lower financial barriers for promising students.

The momentum is palpable now as we approach Commencement 2017 and the end of a landmark academic year. From the \$100 million gift to the College of Medicine by Burlington native Robert Larner '39, MD'42 and his wife, Helen—the largest gift ever to a public university in New England—supporting innovation in medical education and ensuring our students receive a medical education “second to none,” to the new Gund Institute for Environment, UVM is taking a leap forward in realizing excellence across the University. Discovery Hall in the new STEM Complex opens to students this June; the new First Year Residence Hall in the heart of campus welcomes students this fall; and construction on the new facilities for the Grossman School of Business and the Humanities Center are underway.

Our Division 1 sports teams surged this year with the same momentum, bringing home conference championships and advancing to national tournaments.

In short, it has been a great year at UVM, a year in which our shared commitment to quality and excellence is elevating the University to new heights and bringing distinction in many domains. I am pleased to share with you this sample of accomplishments and accolades from across the University. I look forward to continuing the momentum through the collective energies of our UVM community.

With every best wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

FACULTY RECOGNITION

INVESTITURES AND LIFETIME AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT FACULTY AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT RETIRED SCHOLARS AWARDS

MARSH PROFESSORS-AT-LARGE PROGRAM

FACULTY

FACULTY RECOGNITION

Adrian Del Maestro, Assistant Professor of Physics, won a prestigious five-year CAREER grant award from the National Science Foundation to advance his research of the quantum physics phenomena known as entanglement, and how it might be applied to create a new generation of ultra-fast quantum computers.

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering **George Pinder** won a lifetime achievement award from the Environmental and Water Resources Institute, a division of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The award honored Pinder's contributions to understanding the movement of pollutants and applying that knowledge to inform public policy and improve human welfare. Professor Pinder, an elected member of the prestigious National Academy of Engineers, will be recognized with the high honor of University Distinguished Professor during the 2017 Commencement ceremony.

Professor **Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux**, chair of the Department of Geography, was named regional lead of the northeast chapter of the fourth National Climate Assessment. In this position, she will serve as author on NCA4. The National Climate Assessment is the U.S. government's premier resource for articulating the risks posed to the nation by climate change.

Research scholarship brought prestigious recognition to several College of Medicine faculty members. **Charles Irvin**, Vermont Lung Center Director and Assistant Dean for Faculty, was recognized by the American Thoracic Society Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function with the inaugural Crapo Lifetime Achievement Award. Chair of Pathology and Laboratory

Medicine **Debra Leonard** opened the first genomic medicine laboratory at the UVM Medical Center. Her initiatives in genomic testing were highlighted in a recent *Wall Street Journal* article.

Department of Mathematics and Statistics professors **Christelle Vincent** and **Taylor Dupuy** are part of an international group of over one hundred mathematicians to develop a new mathematical tool. Likened to the first periodic table of elements, the online atlas—the "L-functions and Modular Forms Database"—provides a guide to new mathematical landscapes that underlie current research in quantum physics, computer science, and cryptography, among others.

Global Change Biology published a study led by **Lini Wollenberg**, Research Associate Professor at the Rubenstein School for Environment and Natural Resources, that calculated, for the first time, the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture must be reduced worldwide to meet the end-of-century target of the Paris climate change agreement to limit global warming to two degrees Celsius. The research program, based at UVM's Gund Institute for Environment, reveals a major gap between existing policy and technology options and the reductions needed.

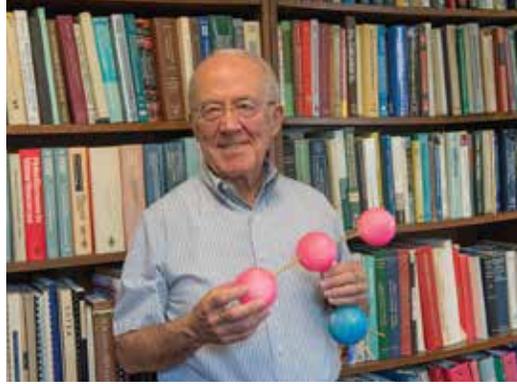
As the *Washington Post* recently reported, **Major Jackson**, Professor of English at UVM and poetry editor of the *Harvard Review*, is curating a large collection of poetry—crafted in a traditional Japanese form—to honor and celebrate the presidency of Barack Obama. Jackson's inspiration for the project came a few days before the 2017 inauguration. Known as the "Renga for Obama," the poem is a continually

unfolding reflective collaboration of 270 poets working in call-and-response pairs within a structured syllabic form. The poems, published online each day at the *Harvard Review* website since January 21, 2017, have captured national attention and praise. Professor Jackson is a University Distinguished Professor awardee.

Latino Book Review named *Manual Destructivista/Destructivist Manual* by **Tina Escaja**, Professor of Spanish, one of the top 10 bilingual poetry books to read during National Poetry Month. In addition to her award-winning poetry, Escaja has published extensively on gender, technology, and representation at the turn of the twentieth century. She is the recipient of several coveted UVM academic awards, including the Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award and the University Scholar Award.

Sanjay Sharma, dean of the Grossman School of Business, received the Distinguished Scholar Award for Lifetime Achievement by the Academy of Management for his founding contributions to the field of organizations and environmental and corporate sustainability. The award recognizes recipients for their distinguished scholarship and enduring impact on shaping scholarship and research throughout their career. **Pramodita Sharma**, Sanders Professor for Family Business in the Grossman School of Business, was awarded an honorary doctorate from Jönköping University in acknowledgment of her contributions as an internationally leading scholar in establishing family business as a legitimate academic field. Sharma, one of the most frequently cited family business scholars in the world, also contributed to the development of research at Jönköping and several other universities worldwide.

President **Tom Sullivan** has been selected to serve as the Vice Chair of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) Division I Presidential Forum. The Presidential Forum advises the NCAA Division I



From upper left: Professor George Pinder, Professor Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Associate Dean Cindy Gerstl-Pepin, Professor Major Jackson

Board of Directors in accomplishing its mission in the new Division I governance structure. President Sullivan will assist the Forum by contributing his strategic and legal expertise, while also supporting the success and graduation of student-athletes at colleges and universities across the country.

Last summer Chief of Staff and Senior Counsel **Sharon Reich Paulsen** was one of four lawyers and judges invited to serve on a panel of experts to help Uzbekistan improve their criminal code and criminal procedure law. The panel was hosted by Regional Dialogue, a non-governmental organization working to promote the rule of law in Uzbekistan, and the trip was funded by a program run through the U.S. State Department.

Patty Prelock, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, received the prestigious Honors of the Association from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in recognition of her contributions to the field of speech, language, and hearing. A leading expert on autism, Dean Prelock's work has contributed to important research on autism and language impairment.

Cindy Gerstl-Pepin, Associate Dean of the College of Education and Social Services, received the 2016 Jackie M. Gribbons Leadership Award. The award is presented to a woman who has demonstrated leadership effectiveness, served as a model and mentor for aspiring professionals, developed innovative programs and activities in higher education, and contributed significantly to her institution and profession. Dean Gerstl-Pepin was recognized for her contribution to UVM and higher education, having held several leadership positions at UVM and served as an integral mentor to many colleagues and students.

Bill McDowell, Professor of Art, received tremendous recognition for his new book, *Ground: A Reprise of Photographs from the Farm Security Administration*. Professor McDowell's book was recognized as one of 2016's top publications by *Mother Jones*, which included *Ground* on its list of standout books of 2016, and "Artnet News," which placed the volume among its top 10 art books of 2016. *Ground* features photographs from the New Deal's Farm Security Administration rejected for publication with the stamp of a hole



FACULTY

continued...

punch, the black circle introducing an intriguing element and tension. Oxford University Press published **Food, Ethics, and Society**, edited by Philosophy professors **Tyler Doggett** and **Mark Budolfson**. Exploring issues of food justice, agricultural production, global hunger, and more, the text explores the complex food landscape of the twenty-first century, viewed through the lens of ethics.

The Office of the Vice President for Research's Early Extra Promotion of Research & Scholarly Success (EXPRESS) grant program encourages new tenure-track faculty to continue their research, scholarship, or creative work. This year's recipients are **Maria Hummel**, Assistant Professor of English; **Srivas Venugopal**, Assistant Professor of Business; **Laura Lewis**, Assistant Professor of Nursing; **David Seward**, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; **Helen Parmett**, Assistant Professor of Theatre; **Yang Bai**, Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; **Tracy Ballysingh**, Assistant Professor of Leadership and Developmental Studies; **Jason Garvey**, Assistant Professor of Leadership and Developmental Sciences; **Hamid Ossareh**, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering; **Mark Budolfson**, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; and **Madsen Minax**, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History.

INVESTITURES AND LIFETIME AWARDS

This year UVM reached the mark of 107 endowed professorships, more than doubling the number since the start of the **Move Mountains** campaign. On June 10, 2016, **Robert Gramling** was invested as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Palliative Medicine. On September 1,

Jon D. Erikson was named the David Blittersdorf Professor of Sustainability Science and Policy. On September 23, **Adrian J. Ivakhiv** was appointed to the Steven Rubenstein Professorship for Environment and Natural Resources. On September 23, **Carlos Marroquin** was named the first Green & Gold Professor of Transplant Surgery and Immunology. On September 23, **Brian Sprague** was appointed as the inaugural Green & Gold Professor of Surgical Research. On December 6, **James T. Boyd** was invested as the first Robert W. Hamill, MD Green & Gold Professor of Neurological Sciences. On December 16, **Philip A. Ades** was invested as the inaugural Phil Ades Professor of Cardiovascular Disease. On December 19, **Kenneth H. Sartorelli** was appointed as the inaugural Green & Gold Professor of Pediatric Surgery. On February 7, 2017, **Katharine G. Shepherd** was invested as the inaugural Levitt Family Green & Gold Professor of Teacher Education. On February 8, **John P. Burke** was reappointed to the McCullough Professorship of Political Science. On March 6, **Gary Stein** was named the inaugural Arthur Jason Perelman, MD Professor.

Ralph Budd, Professor of Medicine and director of the Vermont Center for Immunology and Infectious Diseases, and **Major Jackson**, Richard Dennis Green & Gold Professor of English, were named University Distinguished Professors at May 2016 commencement. Both professors are recognized across campus for their many achievements. Dr. Budd is an internationally recognized physician-scientist who has made significant contributions to our understanding of the immune system. Professor Jackson is a prominent poet with a national reputation who has authored hundreds of poems and five books. Professor of Civil and



Professor Katharine Shepherd investiture as the inaugural Levitt Family Green & Gold Professor of Teacher Education, with College of Education and Social Services Dean Scott Thomas and President Sullivan

Environmental Engineering **George Pinder**, a national authority on using mathematical modeling to predict the movement of pollutants in groundwater, will be honored with the University Distinguished Professorship during May 2017 commencement ceremonies.

Nicholas Heintz, Professor Emeritus of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, received the 2016 President's Distinguished University Citizenship and Service Award. The annual award honors members of the UVM faculty who have established a consistent and outstanding record of service to the University community. Professor Heintz is recognized as a leader in graduate education at UVM, having served on numerous program and standards committees throughout his career both in the Graduate College and the UVM Cancer Center, which he joined in 1987.

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 2017–2018 University Scholars are **Jane Kolodinsky**, Professor and Chair of Community Development and Applied Economics; **Kelly Rohan**, Professor of

Psychological Science; and **Jianke Yang**, Professor of Mathematics and Statistics. 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 2016 Kroepsch-Maurice award winners are **Kelley Helmstutler Di Dio**, Professor of Art History; **Kathleen Scollins**, Assistant Professor of Russian; Stephen Dempsey, Associate Professor of Accounting; and **Sarah Turner**, Senior Lecturer in English.

The UVM Alumni Association honored **Lewis First**, Professor of Pediatrics, with the 2017 George Kidder Outstanding Teaching Award.

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT RETIRED SCHOLARS AWARDS

The University of Vermont has honored six 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 2016–2017 academic year are **Alfred Andrea**, Professor of History Emeritus; **Phillipe Carrard**, Professor of French Emeritus; **Carolyn Elliott**, Professor of Political Science Emerita; **David Huddle**, Professor of English Emeritus; **Daniel Lusk**, Senior Lecturer Emeritus of English; and **Thomas Read**, Professor of Music Emeritus.

MARSH PROFESSORS-AT-LARGE PROGRAM

This academic year the James Marsh Professor-at-Large program hosted three internationally recognized scholars for residencies with students and faculty. Renowned systems ecologist **Sture Hansson** from Stockholm University spent two weeks at UVM advising undergraduates and graduate students on thesis research projects, teaching seminars, initiating experiments in the Rubenstein Lab, and presenting a public lecture, “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: On Algal Blooms in the Baltic Sea.” Interdisciplinary scientist **Stephen Polasky**, the Fesler-Lampert Professor at the University of Minnesota, visited UVM for a packed three days of research, and meetings with students and environmental leaders. His public lecture—“Meeting the Sustainable Development Challenge of Jointly Achieving Economic Growth and Improved Environmental Conditions”—which capped the visit, put on full display his scholarship in applied economics and ecology, evolution, and behavior. Governor **Madeleine Kunin** hosted a far-reaching panel discussion on policy in the early days of the Trump Administration. Joined by political science, economics, and media scholars, the panelists engaged nearly three hundred students and community members in discussion of the political and social possibilities of the new administration.

A RECORD-BREAKING INCOMING CLASS OF ACADEMIC TALENT

UNDERGRADUATE AND RECENT GRADUATE AWARDS

GRADUATE STUDENT RECOGNITION

SERVICE LEARNING AND VOLUNTEERING ENGAGE UVM STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

STUDENTS

A RECORD-BREAKING INCOMING CLASS OF ACADEMIC TALENT

The University of Vermont welcomed a record-breaking incoming class for the second year in a row, topping the academic scores of the previous year's class. The Class of 2020 boasted an average high school GPA of 3.64 on a 4.0 scale and SAT scores in critical reading and mathematics of 1206. The University also enrolled a record number of Green and Gold Scholars —the top-ranked high school students from Vermont public schools. Thirty-nine of these talented students chose UVM this past fall. Among the gifted class of 2020 are **Clark Deng** from South Burlington, national winner of the annual engineering competition Real World Design Challenge, and **Abbie Dillon** from London, named second tuba in an international touring orchestra.

UNDERGRADUATE AND RECENT GRADUATE AWARDS

UVM students and recent graduates continue to receive competitive, prestigious awards and scholarships, gaining national and even worldwide recognition for the University.

Five UVM students have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships for the 2017–2018 academic year. The prestigious awards are yearlong fellowships that enable seniors, recent graduates, and graduate students to live abroad and represent the United States as a part of the world's largest intellectual and cultural exchange fellowship. Three awardees will spend the year on an English Teaching Assistantship: **Vanessa Avalone** '17, a biology major and French minor, has been funded to teach in Malaysia, while **Will Julian** '17, a biochemistry major and Russian minor, and **Abby Dorfman**

'15, a middle level education major, will teach in Russia and Holland respectively. Two awardees will conduct research: **Nathaniel Fuchs** '16, an individually designed public health major with biology and geospatial technologies, will investigate the cultural and systemic factors of successful school vaccination systems in Norway, and **Tracie Ebalu** '13, a psychology major and German minor, will research post-migration influences on the mental health functioning of refugees in Germany. These five new Fulbright winners will follow UVM's two current Fulbright scholars. **Zhenya J. Rock** '16, a double major in Russian and mathematics, is currently serving as an English teaching assistant at the National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University in Russia. **Sammie Ibrahim** '16 graduated with a triple major in geography, political science, and Russian. She is conducting field-based, participatory research on migration, nationalism, and post-Soviet urban development in Kazakhstan.

Estefania Puerta '10 was recently named a 2017 Paul & Daisy Soros Fellow. This premier graduate school fellowship for immigrants and children of immigrants is highly competitive: this year 1,775 applicants competed for 30 fellowships. The rigorous selection process is focused on identifying the most promising New Americans who are poised to make significant contributions to the nation through their work. Estefania is the first UVM alumnus to win this coveted \$90,000 award. A native of Colombia, Estefania immigrated with her mother to Boston at the age of two, joining her father, who had come to the U.S. the year before. The first in her family to attend college, Estefania majored in Community and International Development at UVM, vigorously engaging in her studies and working as a teaching assistant



Fulbright Scholar Zhenya J. Rock '16



Fulbright Scholar Tracie Ebalu '13



Estefania Puerta '10, winner of the coveted 2017 Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans

all while deepening her love for and practice of visual art. Remaining in Burlington after graduation, she worked in painting and poetry, established performance art events, and brought her unique perspective and energy to the vibrant Burlington art scene. Currently pursuing her master of fine arts in painting and printmaking at Yale University School of Art, she hopes to create opportunities for more immigrant Latina artists in the art world.

Benjamin Teasdale '15 is the third UVM alumnus to be named a U.S. Gates Cambridge Scholar. The Gates Cambridge Trust, which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, awarded 36 scholarships to United States students who have been accepted to attend the University of Cambridge. Recipients of the award must demonstrate intellectual achievement and the desire to make meaningful contributions to society through their scholarship

Aimee Johnston '18, a chemistry and Chinese double major, **Sean Sarmiento '16**, a double major in economics and Chinese, and **Cassandra Furlong '18**, an early childhood education major and special education minor, have been awarded prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarships. **AriaRay Brown '18**, a linguistics major and computer science and French double minor, has received a summer study abroad scholarship. The Gilman, a nationally competitive award given to accomplished students with financial need who wish to study abroad, supports students as they prepare themselves to become active and engaged citizens. Six students are awaiting results for Fall 2017 study abroad funding. The State Department's Bureau of

Educational and Cultural Affairs has awarded two students full funding to participate in intensive language programs overseas this summer through the Critical Language Scholarship program. Biochemistry major and Russian minor **Will Julian '17** will study Russian; Chinese and economics double major **Kiersten Brewton '19** will study Mandarin.

Sebastian Hanna '18, a biochemistry major, received an honorable mention in the 2017 Goldwater Scholarship competition, continuing a trend of annual recognition for UVM students in this competition in recent years. **Duncan Hacker '19**, a mechanical engineering major and German and mathematics double minor, received a DAAD-Research Internship in Science and Engineering award to conduct research at a German university this summer. **Rebecca Mirhashem '18**, a psychology major, received a scholarship from the Amgen Scholars Program to study and conduct research this summer at a neuroscience laboratory at Columbia University.

Cadet **Kaelyn Burbey '16**, an Honors College graduate with a major in environmental engineering, received the ROTC Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Award, an annual award given for achievement of scholastic excellence in military and academic subjects. Only 13 cadets across the country receive this award.

Ellen Wixted '16 and **Andrea Pack '11**, both neuroscience alumnae, received National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program grants to pursue graduate studies. The grants are awarded to graduate students who demonstrate outstanding intellectual merit and the potential to have a

broad and significant impact in their respective fields.

Olivia Spooner '15 MAcc '16 from Newport, Vermont, received the prestigious 2016 Elijah Watt Sells Award. The award is bestowed upon Certified Public Accountant (CPA) candidates who have obtained a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all four sections of the Uniform CPA Examination, have passed all four sections of the examination on their first attempt, and completed testing in 2016. Of the 102,323 individuals who sat for the Uniform CPA Examination in 2016, only 58 candidates met the criteria to receive the Elijah Watt Sells Award. UVM's Master of Accountancy students achieved a first-time, first-year pass rate of 94.4 percent, the highest in the nation.

GRADUATE STUDENT RECOGNITION

Michael Wironen, PhD student in UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, received a Switzer Fellowship to support his studies at the Gund Institute for Environment. The \$15,000 award, one of twenty given out in 2016, goes to students whose work focuses on improving the environment and who demonstrate clear leadership in their field. Wironen is part of the Anthropocene project, a collaboration between UVM, McGill University, and York University. With a multi-disciplinary background in sustainable development, environmental planning, and ecological design, Wironen is currently exploring how to help Vermont policymakers identify new solutions to reduce phosphorus pollution from agricultural sources.

STUDENTS

continued...

The annual Norman R. Alpert Research Prize recognizes a graduate student in the UVM Cellular, Molecular, and Biomedical Sciences program for the best peer-reviewed research article. This year's recipient, **Christopher Ziegler**, was responsible for characterizing a new aspect of virology that helps to explain the basis for production of defective interfering particles during viral infection.

Twelve members of the Larner College of Medicine Class of 2018 presented their Public Health Project findings at the National American Public Health Association conference in Denver. Fourth-year student **Nicholas Bonenfant** and **Michael Upton**, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, presented on their LGBT-inclusive medical education modules at the Improving OUTcomes Leadership Summit held at University of California-Davis.

Mary-Kate LoPiccolo LCOM '18 published research in *Medical Science Educator* on selecting global health elective candidates. Research published by **Mustafa Chopan** LCOM '17 and **Benjamin Littenberg**, Tufo Professor of Medicine, which found that participants who consumed hot chili peppers had a 13 percent decrease in mortality, received wide national and international media coverage.

Samantha Magier LCOM '19, co-founder of UVM's Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Open School Chapter, was named leader of the IHI Open School Northeast Regional Chapter. She collaborated with the Jeffords Institute Performance Improvement Collaborative on an initiative to create learning opportunities for medical students in quality improvement and patient safety.

SERVICE LEARNING AND VOLUNTEERING ENGAGE UVM STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

UVM students have a long history of and a strong reputation for engaging in public service. The civic duty of service is reflected in the University's land-grant mission; in the social thought of American progressive educator John Dewey, UVM Class of 1879; and in the work of our students and alumni. Each year nearly half the student body participates in service and volunteer work, totaling more than 100,000 hours of work in the community. UVM is a top Peace Corps-producing University, ranking among the top 10 for medium-size schools nationwide.

Service-learning courses continue to engage students with communities around the state and beyond. This year, over one hundred service-learning courses enrolled nearly 20 percent of the student body. Almost eight hundred seniors took part in service-learning courses, including engineering students completing capstone projects with local companies or faculty researchers and students in the Rubenstein School courses partnering with community groups and businesses for environmental problem-solving. Service-learning courses at UVM offer real-world experience with over 200 organizations, and the opportunity to learn and seek solutions collaboratively with hands-on mentors and teachers. With a distinguished history of recognizing experiential education as foundational to engaged citizenship, UVM's service-learning program gained national attention this year when Trish O'Kane's course "Birding to Change the World" was profiled by NBC.



A student in UVM's ServiceTREK orientation program working on a Habitat for Humanity project.



Medina Serdarevic '18 at the King Street Center after-school program, in the service-learning course "Working with Refugees."

Service-learning projects ranged from tracking bobcats in Hinesburg for the Nature Conservancy to working with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering to develop a hybrid energy-harvesting system combining a bamboo wind turbine and solar panels. A group of twenty students, along with Community Development and Applied Economics Professor **Dan Baker**, recently designed a community garden to serve the residents of Harbor Palace, a temporary housing complex for homeless families and individuals, with the idea of bringing healthy, harvested food to the residents. Several service-learning projects come together in "A Day in the Dirt"—a day during which students engaged in courses across the academic spectrum are deployed to dozens of community gardens all over Burlington and beyond, applying their coursework to the real-world efforts of building fences, planting crops, and raising beds. **Jess Hyman '09**, executive director of the Vermont Community Garden Network, leads the effort.

This year the UVM Career Center chose six undergraduate students as Interns for the Common Good, a competitive scholarship that awards up to \$2,500 to each student to pursue an internship at a mission-based organization. The students spent last summer learning from and contributing to a wide variety

of nonprofits. **Amanda Morelli '18** advocated in Central America with migrant workers fighting for educational and economic justice. **Camara Stokes Hudson '18** interned in Washington, D.C. with the Children's Defense Fund. **Edil Hassan '20** worked with the African American Policy Forum in New York City, promoting efforts to dismantle structural inequality. **Giana Gaspero-Beckman '20** helped the Nanubhai Education Foundation in Gujarat, India, to empower rural students. **Nicholas D'Alessandro '18** interned with Vermont's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. **George Chrisafis '18** researched cell cycle regulation with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.

UVM offers a yearlong Sustainable Entrepreneurship MBA (SEMBA) program to teach students how to address worldwide sustainability challenges. During the final three months of the program, students have the opportunity to apply their acquired skills abroad and appeal to the leaders of top companies. Among the many collaborations this past year, some UVM students spent time in India, conducting research for Facebook under an initiative to connect billions of people to the internet. Another three students lived with a family in Ghana, working with Vermont-based company **NativeEnergy** to better understand the financial and

cultural aspects around water use. This program ties together the University-wide commitment to sustainability and the entrepreneurial pursuits of the Grossman School of Business.

STUDENT-RUN UVM RESCUE TO GET NEW HOME

The University of Vermont has broken ground on a new \$1.4 million headquarters for UVM Rescue, an all-volunteer, student-run organization created in 1972 that provides advanced life support ambulance services to the campus and greater Chittenden County. In 2016, UVM Rescue received 1,615 service calls. Crews of eight or more students will frequently be on duty at one time. The \$1.4 million project will build a facility to accommodate modern ambulance design, with updated dispatch technology and expanded crew quarters. Other necessary design updates include a full kitchen, bathrooms and laundry rooms, supply storage space, a conference room, a workout area, and a common room for training. Students participating in UVM Rescue come from a diverse array of majors, with the majority coming from health sciences. Many pursue careers in health care after graduating.

RESEARCH ON THE
CUTTING EDGE

MAJOR GRANTS

RESEARCH
COLLABORATIONS

Creativity is
intelligence
having fun.

-Albert Einstein

FAB LAB
University of Vermont

RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

RESEARCH ON THE CUTTING EDGE

In FY2016, the University garnered over \$138 million in external sponsored awards for research and scholarship, a record amount for the University.

Surprising research by **Margaret Skinner**, Research Professor of Plant and Soil Science, and **Arash Ghalehgalabbehbahani**, visiting doctoral candidate from Iran, reveals that Vermont has the potential to become a top producer of the world's highest valued spice: saffron. Using a high tunnel—a greenhouse-like domed structure that uses no heat or electricity—the research team was able to grow higher yields of saffron per square meter than Iran, the largest saffron-producing country in the world. Aside from the plant's high market value, it also has beneficial biochemical properties: studies have shown saffron to be an effective treatment for depression, for some eye diseases, and possibly even some cancers. Skinner and Ghalehgalabbehbahani hope to introduce saffron to Vermont's farmers.

A study co-led by **Brendan Fisher**, Associate Professor at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, and co-authored by Gund affiliates Robin Naidoo of the World Wildlife Fund and Andrew Balmford, University of Cambridge, revealed elephant poaching costs Africa \$25 million per year in lost tourism. The research, published in **Nature Communications**, determines that investment in elephant conservation is economically favorable across the majority of African elephants' range. Highlights of the study appeared in several leading news outlets, including **The Guardian**, United Press International, Voice of America, **Yahoo**,

Travel + Leisure, *International Business Times*, *Pacific Standard*, and *Vice*.

Research by **Joe Roman**, Research Assistant Professor at the Rubenstein School, was cited by **New Scientist**—and at a recent meeting of the International Whaling Commission—as a reason for Japan, Norway, and Iceland to stop hunting whales. The resolution, introduced by Chile and passed by the Commission, used Roman's work on whales' benefits to marine life to justify reduced whaling.

Ten scientists from UVM and one from Dartmouth College, led by climate change expert **Asim Zia**, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Decision Analysis, used a set of computer models to show that accelerating climate change could outpace regulations put in place by the EPA to protect Lake Champlain. The team has explored the potential changes in water quality, temperature, and severe algae blooms, all of which will damage the lake's water quality. They hope that their findings demonstrate the fragility of Lake Champlain's future and the need to work toward better solutions, awareness, and regulations of Vermont's largest lake and the crown jewel of Burlington.

Stephanie Seguino, a University of Vermont economist, led a global study of gender equality that revealed women still lag behind men in quality job employment and government representation, despite advances in closing the education gap between women and men. The study, published in the **Journal of African Development**, challenges the widely held assumption that education translates into equal access to high-paying jobs. With data examining more than 150 countries, the study revealed that women have reached 91 percent of the education

that men have, yet only 70 percent of men's rate of employment, and just 25 percent of political representation.

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences, under the supervision of Clinical Associate Professor **Dinah Smith**, has been raising awareness about noise-induced hearing loss resulting from listening to music on headphones. With the help of Jolene, a mannequin with a built-in sound decibel meter, Smith demonstrates the effects of prolonged exposure to music at dangerous sound levels to local high school and university students.

Larner College of Medicine doctoral student **Devin Champagne** and Professor of Medicine **Mercedes Rincon** discovered that a protein called methylation controlled J—or MCJ—can be altered to boost the immune system's response to the flu. Champagne and Rincon are now testing potential therapies for fatty liver disease by eliminating this same protein from liver cells. Their study and findings have been published in the journal *Immunity*. Devin is president of the Graduate Student Association at UVM.

The Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development study by the National Institutes of Health is the largest long-term study of brain development and child health in the United States. UVM is taking part in the study, and in September began recruiting for the cohort of more than 10,000 children nationwide who will participate.

Hugh Garavan, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, and **Alexandra Potter**, Research Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, are UVM's programs coordinators and lead investigators. The study explores how biological events and environmental exposures affect brain development.

Philip Ades, Professor of Medicine and Associate Director of the Vermont Center on Behavior and Health, was the lead author of an article published in November in the *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* on increasing participation



Top: Research Professor Margaret Skinner and PhD candidate Arash Ghalehgalabbahani with saffron corms research project. Bottom left: Professor Stephanie Seguino. Bottom right: SPARK-VT 2015 winners Ryan McDevitt and Professor Darren Hitt of GreenScale Technologies.

rates in cardiac rehabilitation. Currently, only 20 to 30 percent of cardiac outpatients participate in rehabilitation. Ades suggests that these numbers can be improved by systematically referring eligible patients and optimizing the successful enrollment and adherence of those referrals. Should the participation rates reach Ades' target goal of 70 percent, an estimated 25,000 lives could be saved and 180,000 hospitalizations prevented annually.

This past summer, UVM's Office of the Vice President for Research provided seed funding up to \$50,000 each for four winning teams that competed in SPARK-VT—a competition among the top research teams at the University seeking to implement their research in the marketplace. This year's winning projects included a tablet-based tool to screen for suicide risk, a robotic

device to improve patient handling, a micro-propulsion system for satellites, and a medical device that simplifies a common orthopedic surgery procedure.

MAJOR GRANTS

An innovative project developed at UVM has been awarded a \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative for research directed at improving the electric grid's ability to accommodate power generated from renewable energy sources. The grant, one of only 13 awarded nationally, is part of SunShot's newest program, ENERGISE—Enabling Extreme Real-time Grid Integration of Solar Energy. As more rooftop solar comes onto the energy grid, utilities have to manage an increasingly variable and uncontrollable power supply, which creates challenges for maintaining reliable, resilient, and



RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

continued...

economic grid operations. Led by **Mads Almassalkhi**, Assistant Professor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering, the project adapts real-time control and energy optimization concepts from high-voltage power systems to low-voltage solar operations. **Paul Hines**, Associate Professor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering, **Hamid Ossareh**, Assistant Professor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering, and **Pavan Racherla**, Research Assistant Professor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering, and two professors from Johns Hopkins University complete the research team.

Anne Dixon, Professor and Director of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, and colleagues earned two R01 grants and \$6.2 million in funding for asthma research from the National Institutes of Health. With co-principal investigator **Jason Bates**, Professor of Medicine, their team will build on its discovery of links between asthma and body mass index.

This past summer UVM received a \$494,110 grant from the National Institutes of Food and Agriculture as one of three universities involved in a national program seeking to implement a new method of food distribution to reach communities that would not otherwise have easy access to fresh, healthy produce. Food boxes consisting of an assortment of fresh produce would be packaged by farmers and distributed to the public at community-gathering places. The food boxes are non-subscription and can be purchased with food stamps, benefiting both farmers and consumers. The program will also be implemented in California and Washington state. UVM's Center for Rural Studies will assess the impact in all three states.

A Center for the Study of Aging, established at UVM in 1992, focuses on promoting a sense of well-being and a high quality of life for older adults, especially in the Vermont community. The Center on Aging annually awards \$50,000 to fund pilot research programs. Recent awards went to **Virginia Hood** and **Katharine L. Cheung** from the Department of Medicine-Nephrology for a study of frailty and resilience in older adults with advanced kidney disease, and to **Nancy Gell** and **Barbara Tschoepe**, from the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science, for a study of mobile technology to support physical therapy exercise for people aging with arthritis.

The Charles H. Hood Foundation granted **Benjamin Lee**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, a \$150,000 Child Health Research Award to study the effects of a higher dosage of the rotavirus vaccine in developing countries, which see higher death rates from the disease than in the United States. This grant is supporting a study of 220 infants in Bangladesh.

RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

MetroLab Network, a network of 35 city-university partnerships, began in 2015 as part of the Obama Administration's Smart Cities Initiative to bring data, analytics, and innovation to local government. The Obama White House selected UVM and the city of Burlington to join this nationwide initiative. The University and our home city will collaborate on their first of at least three projects: the development of a comprehensive plan to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies to improve operational processes



Top: With a built-in decibel meter, Jolene helps students learn about dangerous sound levels. Bottom: Engineering student Hannah Davis, part of a four-member team in Mechanical Engineering 123: Thermal-Fluid Lab.

and better inform decision making within the city, as well as to expand sharing of information and thinking.

Eric Clark, a PhD candidate in mathematics and engineering, has been working with IBM, whose inventors had heard about Clark's data-driven healthcare projects at UVM's College of Medicine. Together they are developing personal technology that will better connect patients and doctors. Clark began as a temporary data research scientist at IBM's Watson Research Center in New York and is now creating mathematical algorithms to collect and interpret data from patients' physiological changes. Clark's work at IBM was recently featured in a *Fortune* magazine article.

Researchers from four academic medical centers across the United States published a study in the journal *Neurology* that reported on the common misdiagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS). **Andrew Solomon**, Assistant Professor of Neurological Sciences and Division Chief of Multiple Sclerosis, is the study's lead author. The misdiagnosis of MS can result in significant long-term risk for the patients. The researchers hope this study encourages better education of clinicians and further research on the misdiagnosis of MS.

A team of UVM and Dartmouth College scientists have discovered a new way that some molecules can make a luminescent glow—or, in other words, create light. **Matt Liptak**, Assistant

Professor of Chemistry, and Dartmouth chemist Ivan Aprahamian are co-leading the research with support from the National Science Foundation. The team is calling their discovery Suppression of Kasha's Rule, or SOKR. They believe the viscosity sensitivity of a newly discovered compound has the potential for many applications, including new kinds of LED bulbs and medical dyes.

STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE

This spring the University held its eleventh annual **Student Research Conference**. Nearly 450 undergraduate, graduate, and medical students presented research, scholarship, and creative projects in progress or that they have completed while earning their degrees at UVM. With poster sessions, lightning talks, and oral presentations, the annual event highlights impressive student achievements and give students the opportunity to hone the professional skills necessary for presenting their work at a national or international conference. The Student Research Conference celebrates the professional collaborations and close work with faculty mentors and advisors that distinguishes the UVM undergraduate student experience.

IMPACT OF SUPPORT

MOVE MOUNTAINS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

When UVM's largest-ever fundraising initiative, *Move Mountains: The Campaign for The University of Vermont*, was publicly announced in October 2015, the goal was unprecedented—\$500 million in private philanthropic support for four strategic areas of focus: student scholarships and fellowship support, faculty endowments, new and renovated facilities, and academic support programs.

For more than 226 years, the University of Vermont has been a national leader in research and teaching. Now, with *Move Mountains*, UVM is increasingly able to provide even more robust opportunities and exceptional resources that will enable our faculty and students to further excel.

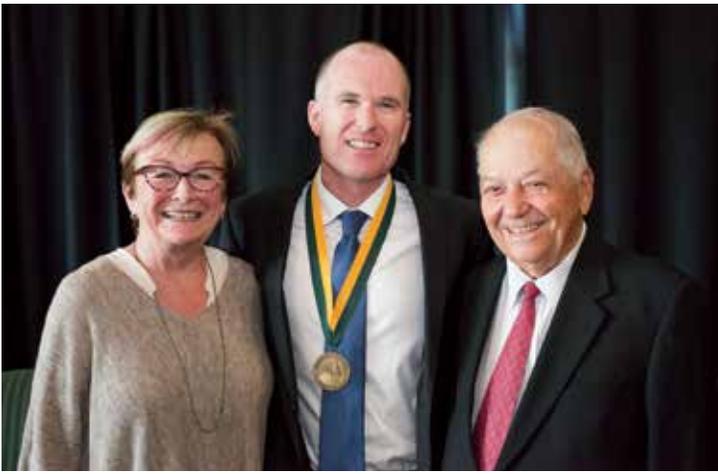
With eternal gratitude to over 60,000 alumni, parents, and friends of UVM, already we've raised more than \$418 million, over 80 percent of goal. As the following examples illustrate, this remarkable achievement is a cause for gratitude and celebration.

Scholarships and Endowments: To date, we have raised more than \$61 million for student scholarships, and every gift has a story. For example, emeriti faculty members **James G. and Lorraine M. Welch** both have endowed scholarships at the university that played such an important role in their lives for many years. The James G. Welch Scholarship Fund has awarded almost \$100,000 in scholarships to more than 20 Vermont students in the College of Arts and Sciences since its inception in 1999. The Lorraine M. Welch Scholarship Fund, which supports Vermont students in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, was just established

and will make its first awards this year. **Faculty:** Just five years ago, the University of Vermont had only 52 endowed faculty positions. Significantly raising that number became one of the top priorities for the *Move Mountains* campaign. With two years remaining until the conclusion of the campaign, UVM has more than doubled that number, to 107. To recognize these distinguished faculty members appointed to newly endowed positions, the University has adopted a symbolic tradition of early European universities to gather as an academic community for investiture ceremonies. This academic year, 10 faculty members, all of whom serve as "talent magnets" to attract top faculty and students, have been honored with investiture ceremonies.

Facilities: The University of Vermont campus is teeming with new building and renovation projects to support our academic, cultural, health and wellness, and community mission. The STEM facility, the new student residence hall, and the Robert E. and Holly D. Miller Building at the UVM Medical Center are all on schedule. The Taft School renovation and the Ifshin Hall addition to Kalkin are underway, with renovation of the iconic Billings Library slated to begin soon. To understand how a physical space can lead to a transformative experience, the new UVM Alumni House is a must-see for every campus tour. The historic late Victorian mansion and new home for the UVM Alumni Association is paired with the **Jack '64 and Shirley Silver** Pavilion to welcome our alumni to campus and to provide elegant and accommodating event space.

Academic Programs: The University of Vermont received an estate commitment with an estimated market value of \$66 million from dual-degree alum and Vermont native **Robert Larnar '39**,



Left: Holly and Bob Miller with Robert Gramling, MD at his investiture as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Palliative Medicine. Right: Jack '64 and Shirley Silver at the gala opening of the UVM Alumni House and the Jack and Shirley Silver Pavilion.

M.D. '42, and his wife, **Helen Larner**, to support medical education. The endowment commitment, the largest for UVM and the largest gift ever to a public university in New England, caps decades of generous philanthropic support from the Larners, whose lifetime giving to UVM now totals \$100 million. To express gratitude for Dr. Larner's extraordinary commitment to have UVM recognized as second-to-none worldwide in medical education, the UVM Board of Trustees voted unanimously to change the name of the medical school to the Robert Larner, MD College of Medicine. Dr. Larner, age 99, died in April of this year.

UVM's strong tradition of broad-based educational opportunities integrates the humanities, fine arts, business, and the sciences to prepare students to be actively engaged in our local and global communities. In addition to the Larners' gift to the University of Vermont Medical Center, other leadership gifts support a number of our centers of excellence.

A few weeks after endowing the Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Palliative Medicine, the long-time community philanthropists were back on campus to break ground for the **Robert E. and Holly D. Miller Building**. The new facility will replace outmoded double-occupancy rooms with four floors of state-of-the-art single rooms. In addition to the latest technologies, each room will have dedicated zones for patients, families, and clinical teams—a design that promotes healing by keeping patients and loved ones close while permitting caregivers to work discreetly nearby. In recognition of the largest gift in the history of the UVM Medical Center, a

15-acre commercial site known as Holly Court (valued at \$13 million), the UVM Medical Center has named the new inpatient facility for Bob and Holly Miller.

A \$6 million gift from the Gund family—with a challenge to raise even more from other donors—created the University of Vermont's first University-wide institute dedicated to research related to the environment. Designed to catalyze interdisciplinary research at UVM, the Gund Institute for Environment also will connect scholars with government, business, and societal leaders to address urgent environmental issues around the globe. The new institute will be headquartered in Johnson House, replacing—and greatly enlarging the scope of—the internationally renowned Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, which the Gund family established in 2002. This extraordinary gift to UVM comes from **Gordon Gund** (UVM honorary degree '95) and his wife, **Llura** (UVM honorary degree '95); **Grant Gund** '91 and his wife, **Lara**; and **Zachary Gund** '93 and his wife, **Lindsey**.

Michele Cohen '72 and her husband Martin Cohen's gift of \$5 million will transform the interior of Burlington's former Elihu B. Taft School, located at the edge of campus on the corner of South Williams and Pearl streets. The facility, currently under construction, will significantly expand classroom, studio, and exhibit space for photography, sculpture, and digital art. With work started on Ifshin Hall, the expansion of Kalkin Hall—home of the Grossman School of Business—is underway thanks in part to a \$1.75 million gift from **Stephen Ifshin** '58 and

the Ifshin family. Ifshin, a developer and philanthropist who knew that investing in top-notch facilities would enable the Grossman School of Business to compete internationally for the best faculty and students, died unexpectedly in November 2016. He was a member of the UVM Foundation Board of Directors and former co-chair of the Grossman School of Business Board of Advisors. Ifshin's company, DLC Management, was the 2012 recipient of the UVM Family Business Award.

ENDOWMENT

The combined total endowment for the University and the UVM Foundation is over \$485 million (as of March 31, 2017). Endowment income from donor gifts for fiscal year 2016 totaled more than \$15.1 million, which was all expended in support of 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, 42.6 percent of endowment spending supported scholarships; 9.2 percent of endowment spending supported professorships; and 48.2 percent of endowment spending supported critical academic programs. In FY 2016, scholarships and fellowships funded by the endowment totaled more than \$6.4 million.



VP BIDEN UNVEILS FIRST
"CANCER MOONSHOT"
FINDINGS AT UVM

RECORD-SETTING SEASON
FOR MEN'S BASKETBALL

UVM'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT
TO SUSTAINABILITY

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

THE PRESIDENT'S OUR COMMON
GROUND STAFF AWARD

LECTURES ON CAMPUS

BURACK DISTINGUISHED
LECTURE SERIES

FLEMING MUSEUM

IDEATHON, INNOVATION
SLAM, LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

THE CAMPUS

VP BIDEN UNVEILS FIRST "CANCER MOONSHOT" FINDINGS AT UVM

In October, the University welcomed **Vice President Joe Biden** to present the first findings of his Cancer Moonshot initiative to support cancer research. Joined by Senator Patrick Leahy, Representative Peter Welch, and UVM Cancer Center Director Gary Stein, Vice President Biden led a panel of physicians, nurses, and cancer survivors discussing initiatives to accelerate rapidly the pace of development of effective cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment strategies. The vice president came to spend a morning at UVM because the UVM Cancer Center and research labs are on the leading edge of new therapies in cancer prevention and treatment.

RECORD-SETTING SEASON FOR MEN'S BASKETBALL

The UVM men's basketball team had a historic, record-setting season on many fronts. The Catamounts set school and America East Conference records for wins (29), while becoming the first team in league play to have 16 conference wins and no conference losses. The Catamounts entered the NCAA "March Madness" tournament with the longest winning streak in the nation at 21 games. UVM also became the first team to sweep all of the major America East awards: John Becker (Coach of the Year), Trae Bell-Haynes (Player of the Year), Anthony Lamb (Rookie of the Year), Darren Payen (Sixth Man of the Year), and Dre Wills (Defensive Player of the Year). Ernie Duncan and Payton Henson were also named to the All-Conference Third Team.

UVM's student-athlete model, which focuses on graduation and academic excellence in addition to athletic prowess,

also received national press attention. The basketball team's perfect graduation rate helped take it all the way to the national championship in the classroom, according to an academic-based bracket by *Time Magazine*; the Catamounts were bested only by Bucknell. In the *Time* article "Here's Who Wins March Madness in the Classroom," UVM was joined in the Elite Eight by Duke, who lost to Bucknell in the other semifinal, along with Mount St. Mary's, Creighton, Xavier, Dayton, and Winthrop. Academic and athletic success has gone hand-in-hand at UVM for decades. The University won the inaugural America East Academic Cup in 1996 and proceeded to capture a record seven-straight wins starting in 2005, including the highest grade-point average (3.19) in the history of the award in 2011. UVM student-athletes continue to produce an overall GPA above 3.0.

Basketball player **Joshua Speidel '19** was featured on the front cover of the *NCAA Champion Magazine*. The feature shared the story of Speidel's brain injury that resulted from a car accident his senior year of high school, and threatened his earned spot to join the UVM basketball team in the fall. Despite physical handicaps resulting from his brain injury, Speidel remained committed to the sport, and UVM remained committed to having him join the team. The story highlights the University's core values in upholding its steadfast commitment to students and the well-being of all individuals who are part of the Catamount community.

UVM'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

The University is making great strides in its effort to purchase 20 percent local, sustainable, fair, and humane food. In the 2015-2016 school year, 19 percent



Vice President Joe Biden, with UVM Cancer Center director Gary Stein, MD (left) and Senator Patrick Leahy (right), unveiling the first findings from the "Cancer Moonshot" initiative.



America East Player of the Year Trae Bell-Haynes '18 drives to the basket.

of the food purchased by UVM Dining qualified as "real" according to the Real Food Challenge. This spring, the University met the goal of 20 percent Real Food by 2020, three years ahead of schedule! In April, President Sullivan announced a new University goal of 25 percent Real Food by 2020.

The University, along with the Burlington Electric Department, installed four dual-port electric vehicle (EV) charging stations on campus. The installation of the charging stations is part of a commitment to increase workplace-charging opportunities, which is part of a larger strategy to increase the number of EVs on the road and to decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Following a national search, **Shane Jacobson** has been named president and CEO of the University of Vermont Foundation, succeeding Rich Bundy, who left the UVM Foundation in December to become vice president for development and alumni relations at his alma mater, Pennsylvania State University. Jacobson currently serves as vice president for development and alumni relations at Grinnell College. Under his leadership, Grinnell's alumni giving rates have increased rapidly, the school has achieved double-digit growth in fundraising revenues, and alumni engagement has expanded and diversified. Leading the University of Vermont Foundation represents a kind of homecoming for Jacobson, who was the organization's

first employee, hired eight months before the formal launch of the UVM Foundation in January of 2012 to create the Foundation's operational infrastructure. He was later appointed vice president for development, a position he served in until he left for Grinnell College in 2014.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences named **Chuck Ross '78** director of UVM Extension. Ross served as secretary of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets from 2011 until his appointment at UVM in January. The son of a seventh-generation Vermonter, Ross has a long and distinguished track record of serving the state of Vermont. Prior to his role as secretary, he served for 16 years as state director and senior advisor under U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy. Prior to his work with Senator Leahy, Ross served for six years as a representative in the state legislature from Hinesburg.

Mazen A. Maktabi was appointed Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Health Care Service Chief of Anesthesiology at the UVM Medical Center. Dr. Maktabi joined the UVM team from Harvard Medical School, where he was an associate professor of anesthesia.

David Jenemann, Associate Professor of English, was appointed Acting Dean of the Honors College. Dr. Jenemann brings to the Honors College his extensive background and leadership and service to the University, where he previously served as the Director of the Film and Television Studies Program and Co-Director of the Humanities Center. **Jennifer Prue**, Senior

Lecturer in Education, was appointed as the Provost's Faculty Fellow for Advising and First-Year Experience.

THE PRESIDENT'S OUR COMMON GROUND STAFF AWARD

The *Our Common Ground* Staff Award, established in 2014 by President Sullivan, honors staff members who have made a significant impact on the University community. Each year six staff members are recognized for their extraordinary contributions that exemplify the University's *Our Common Ground* statement of aspirations and shared values for the UVM community: Respect, Integrity, Innovation, Openness, Justice, and Responsibility. The President's *Our Common Ground* award recipients for 2017 are: **Holly Brevent**, Administrative Coordinator, English Department; **Michael Cross**, Maintenance Worker, Custodial Services; **Tiffany Delaney**, Director, Larner College of Medicine Office of Diversity & Inclusion; **Kate Ford**, Office Manager, Residential Life; **John Mejia**, Assistant Director, Office of Student & Community Relations; and **Julia Russell**, Associate Chief Information Officer, Enterprise Technology Services.

LECTURES ON CAMPUS

The University welcomed author **Elizabeth Kolbert** to present a lecture on her Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*, the 2016 title for the First-Year Summer Read. Kolbert's book explores the

THE CAMPUS

continued...

unprecedented scale and rate of human-driven extinction currently underway and the effects on our planet's precarious environmental state. **Isabel Wilkerson**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*, offered an engaging and enlightening talk on the mass migration of black Americans from the South to the North and West after the Civil War to the mid 1900s. Ms. Wilkerson received the 2015 National Humanities Medal from President Obama at a White House ceremony a week before coming to UVM. Physician and anthropologist **Dr. Paul Farmer**, chief strategist and co-founder of Partners in Health and chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School, was the distinguished speaker for this year's Aiken Lecture. Dr. Farmer's visit afforded Larner College of Medicine students an opportunity to participate in a round-table discussion with the global health leader, as well as interact one on one at an evening reception following his lecture.

Award-winning journalist **Gail Sheehy** '58 led workshops, gave a public lecture, and met with faculty in a two-week spring semester residency. In one workshop, "21st Century Journalism Fellows," a handpicked group of 13 advanced undergraduate writers learned from Sheehy strategies and techniques for writing literary nonfiction and investigative journalism pieces, and worked on articles of their own for publication with Sheehy's mentoring. In the "Public Arts and Humanities Fellows" workshop, eight Humanities faculty members worked with Sheehy to develop techniques for using stories to write for and speak with non-academic audiences beyond the University.

BURACK DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

The academic year opened to a diverse roster of scholars and artists visiting UVM as part of the Dan and Carole Burack Distinguished Lecture Series. All of the distinguished lecturers were very generous with their time—visiting classes, meeting with graduate students, and connecting with faculty. **Omid Safi**, Professor of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University and Director of the Duke University Islamic Studies Center, gave a riveting talk on racism and Islamophobia in America. The following week **Michael Russo**, Charles H. Lundquist Professor of Sustainable Management at University of Oregon's Lundquist College of Business, addressed a capacity crowd on how local values give rise to green entrepreneurship.

To close September, **David Barlow**, the leading clinical psychologist in the United States, spoke on the future of psychological interventions. Dr. Barlow, Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry Emeritus and Director Emeritus of the Center for Anxiety and Related Disorders at Boston University, received his PhD from UVM in 1969 and an honorary doctorate from UVM in 2015. In October the University welcomed "America's Most Wired Composer," **Todd Machover**, co-founder of the MIT Media Lab and creator of Guitar Hero. Mr. Machover presented a multimedia talk, "Robotic Operas, City Symphonies, and Beyond" and a concert performance in UVM Recital Hall.

Spring semester was just as lively, with three high-profile distinguished lecturers. **Jonathan Patz**, Director of the Global Health Institute at University of Wisconsin-Madison, spoke to an audience



The Fleming Museum's new Gallery of Asian Art

of diverse disciplines on the connections between greenhouse gas emissions and public health in his talk on confronting the global climate crisis. In March the University welcomed the winner of the 2003 Nobel Prize in chemistry, **Peter Agre**, for his lecture on opening doors worldwide through medical science. Recognized for his discovery of the aquaporins, water channel proteins underlying many physiological processes and disorders, Dr. Agre led field research and scientific diplomatic visits around the world throughout his illustrious career. **Fred Allendorf**, Regents Professor of Biology Emeritus at the University of Montana and a founder of conservation genetics, gave a riveting lecture entitled "Zen and Deep Evolution," connecting the Buddhist principles of emptiness and impermanence with Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection.

FLEMING MUSEUM

Over the past year, the Fleming Museum has presented a range of exhibitions drawing from the permanent collections as well as from lenders and donors. In the fall, Sargent to Basquiat: UVM Alumni Collections featured selections from the collections of three generations of UVM alumni, including works by Wassily Kandinsky, Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, and Henry Moore. A richly illustrated catalogue was also published.

In the spring, large-scale photographs, digital projections, and sound by artist Catherine Jansen immersed visitors in India, with Catherine Jansen: 1008. The exhibition *Imbibe: Drinking In Culture* draws from the Fleming collections with cross-cultural examples of drinking vessels and traditions. The Fleming Museum's new Gallery of Asian Art opened in February, including a selection of objects from the Museum's collections as well as select loans from private collections. The Fleming is also displaying a selection of paintings from the Hood Museum, including works by Georgia O'Keeffe, Alex Katz, and Ivan Albright.

IDEATHON, INNOVATION SLAM, LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

The winning entry in UVM's first "ideathon" is a pocket guide that will make it easier for UVM students to vote in national elections by providing them with state-by-state information on casting absentee and early mail-in ballots. The guide was created and developed by **Wyatt Chia**, a PhD candidate in the Cellular, Molecular, and Biomedical Science program, with help from teammate **Jenn Karson**, a lecturer in the College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences. An ideathon, a kind of non-technical version of a

hackathon, harnesses the power of the group to address a single challenge. The event's theme was to create ideas that would encourage more voting. The end product is an idea rather than an app. The event, sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research, gave Chia and Karson \$1,000 for research and implementation of the pocket guide. The document will contain state-by-state information on casting absentee ballots, early voting, sample forms, and deadlines. With the aim of increasing engagement, their proposal also incorporates campus contributors in design, art, and poetry to the handbook.

The University hosted its first ever Innovation Slam in the fall. The Slam featured six UVM-affiliated innovators who introduced their new companies and products in a lightning round of talks. The event showcased the entrepreneurial spirit of UVM with featured companies BeaconVT, Packetized Energy, Game Theory, EASY LLC, SAP!, and Mamava. Among the attendees was Senator Patrick Leahy, long a supporter of innovation at UVM.

The University hosted its fourth annual Legislative summit this year. This year's summit, "Healthcare: Issues and Opportunities for Policy Makers," engaged with faculty experts on a topic critically important to our state and the country.

NATIONAL NEWS AND RANKINGS

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

UVM SPINOFFS SHINE AT
NATIONAL INNOVATION SUMMIT

UVM'S IMPACT ON
VERMONT'S ECONOMY

GUND FAMILY DONATES \$6
MILLION TO CREATE INSTITUTE
FOR ENVIRONMENT AT UVM

RAISING OUR PROFILE

NATIONAL NEWS AND RANKINGS

University programs continue to receive high commendations in many national and international rankings.

U.S. News and World Report ranked UVM as one of the top 40 public universities in the country. The rankings, spanning undergraduate and graduate education, cite UVM among the top 100 schools in 12 categories, highlighting UVM's strength as a national research university, a top medical school, and a best college for veterans, among other accolades. *Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine* again ranked UVM among the top best-value colleges in the country, affirming the University's core tenet of value-driven excellence.

UVM's Sustainable Entrepreneurship MBA (SEMBA) program has received several awards, adding to its growing reputation as one of the nation's most innovative business programs. *The Princeton Review* ranked SEMBA No. 2 on its "Best Green MBA" list. The ranking is based on students' assessment of how well their school is preparing them in environmental, sustainability, and social responsibility issues, and for a career in a green job market. On the heels of that award, for the second year in a row *CEO Magazine* named SEMBA one of the top MBA programs in North America. Corporate Knights, a Toronto-based media and research company focused on clean capitalism, ranked SEMBA as the 10th best MBA program in its Better World MBA Rankings. Last summer SEMBA was named the 2015 Grand Prize winner of the Dr. Alfred N. and Lynn Manos Page Prize for Sustainability Issues in Business Curricula, an award given annually by the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina in recognition

of an MBA program that has shown effective and innovative integration of sustainability into business education.

UVM made *Bloomberg Business*' coveted "Best Undergraduate Business Schools 2016" list. The ranking places UVM among the top undergraduate business schools in the country, positioning UVM's Grossman School of Business at No. 107 out of more than 1,400 accredited business schools in the United States. The survey is based on data from nearly 30,000 students and recruiters at 600 companies.

The College of Education and Social Services jumped nine positions in the 2018 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Graduate Schools rankings, and is now among the top 60 nationally. The new rankings place UVM at No. 57 overall, putting it among the top public schools in the Northeast, and at No. 6 in New England for both public and private institutions. Harvard tops the annual list, which uses 10 criteria to determine its rankings, with research activity and peer reputation given the most weight.

The Larner College of Medicine received national attention for its innovative education, most notably for its pledge to eliminate lectures and move to 100 percent active learning. This innovation garnered widespread national media coverage, from the *Boston Globe* to *ABC News* to the *New York Times* to the *San Francisco Chronicle*. In addition, the College was ranked 10th for Rural Medicine in the *U.S. News & World Report* 2018 Best Grad Schools report.

The University of Vermont now ranks among the top 25 institutions nationally for its pass rate on the Certified Public Accountants exam, based on the latest rankings from the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy. The



Taylor Farnsworth '17 teaches math to first graders at Edmunds Elementary School for her senior practicum. The College of Education and Social Services is ranked among the top graduate schools nationally.

University's 78.6 percent first-time pass rate ranks among the top 3 percent nationally. Overall, UVM improved from No. 40 to No. 23 out of 858 institutions, and moved up five spots to No. 4 among the 283 medium-sized programs.

The University received several high rankings from the *Princeton Review*, among them being No. 10 as a "top green college," No. 6 for "most beautiful campus," and No. 10 for "their students love these colleges." The widely popular theater blog OnStage named UVM's Department of Theatre a top 10 B.A. program in the country.

UVM received its second Gold rating from STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System for higher education, placing among the top 12 percent of all rated institutions. A program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, STARS is the most widely adopted sustainability rating in higher education. UVM practices stood out in each of the STARS categories: academics, engagement, operations, planning and administration, and innovation and exemplary practices.

The University was named as a 2016 Top 30 "Best of the Best" among LGBTQ-inclusive colleges and universities. The nomination comes from Campus Pride, which chose 30 campuses to highlight this past year based on their overall ratings on the Campus Pride

Index, a national benchmarking tool that self-assesses LGBTQ-friendly policies, programs, and practices, in addition to specific LGBTQ-inclusive benchmark measures.

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

Excellence in research, clinical care, and service put several Larner College of Medicine faculty members in the spotlight in FY2017. Department of Biochemistry professors **Jane Lian** and Janet Stein were elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in recognition of their contributions to innovation, education, and scientific leadership. **Yvonne Janssen-Heininger**, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Science, received the inaugural National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's Outstanding Investigator Award.

Kristen DeStigter, John P. and Kathryn H. Tampas Green and Gold Professor of Radiology, received a 2016 Global Humanitarian Award from the American College of Radiology Foundation for her efforts to expand access to ultrasound imaging to underserved areas of Africa. In January 2017, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, **Mark Levine**, was appointed Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health by Governor Phil Scott. The Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP) and **Judith Shaw**, Executive Director of

the VCHIP and Professor of Pediatrics and Nursing, earned a significant role in a \$13.4 million multicenter pediatric quality measures study funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Gail Shampnois, director of UVM's Office of Student and Community Relations, won the 2016 Peter Clavelle award from the city of Burlington. The award honors individuals whose leadership has advanced social equity, environmental stewardship, equality education, or economic growth and vitality in Burlington. Mayor Miro Weinberger presented Ms. Shampnois with the award in October at City Hall. Ms. Shampnois has been dedicated to connecting UVM students and the Burlington community for over 20 years.

A consortium of programs treating torture survivors that includes an initiative launched at the University of Vermont has received the 2017 Human Rights Award from the American Psychiatric Association. The award was given to the National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs; the New England Survivors of Torture and Trauma, a member of the consortium, has its roots at UVM. The University's work with torture survivors began in 2007, when UVM created a mental health treatment program for refugees who had experienced torture in their home countries. The program, called Connecting Cultures, was developed and led by Karen Fondacaro, director of UVM's

RAISING OUR PROFILE

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Gail Shampnois, director of the Office of Student and Community Relations and winner of the 2016 Peter Clevelle award

Vermont Psychological Services Clinic. UVM received the 2016 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. The HEED Award is a national honor recognizing U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. This award comes as a great honor to the University, as it is the third consecutive year UVM has been named as a HEED Award Recipient. UVM was selected by the magazine based on the University's exemplary diversity and inclusion initiatives across the campus.

UVM SPINOFFS SHINE AT NATIONAL INNOVATION SUMMIT

Four new start-up companies that grew out of the research of UVM faculty and graduate students, two technologies developed by UVM faculty that have commercial potential, and a start-up launched by staff at the UVM Medical Center will be on display later this May at the invitation-only National Innovation Summit & Showcase, the

world's largest showcase of industry-vetted emerging technologies ready for commercialization. The seven invitees place UVM and the UVM Medical Center in the top 10 percent of all universities, federal labs, government research centers, and companies submitting applications for the event. Since 2006, UVM has had 29 start-up companies launch from University research.

UVM'S IMPACT ON VERMONT'S ECONOMY

According to a recent study, UVM created \$1.33 billion in economic value for the state of Vermont in 2014–15, affirming the University as a powerful driver of the Vermont economy. Of that amount, \$562 million comes from direct spending within the state on goods and services. In addition, nearly \$771 million was put back into the state's economy. Research conducted at UVM has also been fundamental in creating Vermont-based companies across a variety of industries. Twenty-nine companies have been started in the last 17 years as a direct result of University-based research.



GUND FAMILY DONATES \$6 MILLION TO CREATE INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AT UVM

An extraordinary \$6 million gift from the Gund family will create the University of Vermont's first University-wide environmental institute.

While UVM is already on the forefront of global sustainability leadership, the new Gund Institute for Environment will further the University's breadth in environmental research, teaching, and outreach by pursuing an evolving set of research themes—both relevant to the region and linked to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. These goals range from climate change and renewable energy to world hunger and water security. Uniting interdisciplinary expertise from every college and school at UVM, the new Institute will propel UVM into one of the most exciting, rewarding, and productive places to research and promote environmental action and sustainability.

This visionary gift comes from **Gordon Gund** (UVM honorary degree '95) **and his wife, Llura** (UVM honorary degree '95); **Grant Gund** '91 and his wife, **Lara**; and **Zachary Gund** '93 and his wife, **Lindsey**. The Gund family are philanthropic leaders, supporting the liberal arts and teaching, the Fleming Museum of Art, scholarships, and athletics at UVM.

The new Gund Institute for Environment will replace and greatly enlarge the scope of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, which the Gund family established in 2002. The Gunds have committed to providing an additional gift of \$4 million when UVM raises \$8 million for the new Institute, in order to inspire further philanthropic support from other donors who are also passionate about interdisciplinary environmental research and forging a sustainable future.

STEM “DISCOVERY” HALL AND
FIRST-YEAR RESIDENCE HALL
OPEN THEIR DOORS

PLANS UNVEILED FOR NEW
MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER

CATAMOUNT COMMITMENT
SUPPORTS AFFORDABILITY
AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

NEW AND RENEWED ALLIANCES

CHARTING THE FUTURE

STEM “DISCOVERY” HALL AND FIRST-YEAR RESIDENCE HALL OPEN THEIR DOORS

In May, 2015, President Sullivan and Board of Trustees Chair Deborah McAneny presided over the groundbreaking for UVM’s new STEM Complex, the largest capital project in UVM’s history. Since that day, the central campus has transformed as the new teaching and research laboratory building—Discovery Hall—took shape. The first of three interconnected buildings, Discovery Hall opens its doors for classes and research beginning with the 2017 summer session; construction begins on Innovation Hall, with classrooms, offices, and team-based learning spaces, and renovations to Votey Hall, which will complete the STEM Complex. Recognized as the most urgent facilities need for advancing the University’s educational and land grant mission, the STEM Complex brings state-of-the-art laboratories, classrooms, and research facilities to campus to prepare students for meaningful careers in high-growth, high-impact fields.

This fall, incoming students in the UVM class of ’21 will be the first to reside in the new First-Year Residence Hall, located in the center of the academic campus. Designed to support student success, the new residence hall links to Bailey-Howe Library by a bridge/connector and is adjacent to key academic facilities, such as the STEM Complex and the Center for Academic Success network.

PLANS UNVEILED FOR NEW MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER

Another campus project long under discussion moved a significant step forward this year. In February the UVM Board of Trustees passed a resolution

supporting the project concept for an approximately \$80 million plan to overhaul the Patrick-Forbush-Gutterson Athletic Complex. The project will consolidate and significantly expand health and wellness space, create a new events center for UVM Catamounts basketball and for cultural programming, and upgrade Gutterson Fieldhouse while preserving the character of one of college hockey’s most iconic arenas.

CATAMOUNT COMMITMENT SUPPORTS AFFORDABILITY AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

In an effort to support affordability for in-state students, the University of Vermont has launched a new program called the Catamount Commitment, effective with the incoming class of 2017. This new program will ensure that dependent undergraduate Vermont students receiving federal Pell grants will not have to pay University tuition or comprehensive fees. Currently, 27 percent of all in-state undergraduates are considered Pell-eligible. This program will also offer a range of support services promoting the academic success of the students, many of whom are first-generation college students.

NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

In response to high student demand, the Department of English implemented a new **minor in Writing** that will enhance writing opportunities by providing creative and expository courses to enhance student ability, confidence, and preparation for their professional and educational goals.

Building on the new **Transdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Food Systems** and in alignment with the University’s commitment to supporting sustainable

food systems, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences introduced a **Bachelor of Science in Food Systems**. The new degree program will provide students with a solid foundation in the field of Food Systems and in-depth training in one of the many related Agriculture and Life Sciences disciplines available at UVM. Students will engage in an integrated-systems approach to understanding relationships among environment, food production, distribution, consumption, and food-related health issues.

This past January, the Larner College of Medicine introduced a new 18-credit online **Certificate of Graduate Study in Health Care Management and Policy**. This program provides a foundation in health care policy, finance, and leadership for those with an interest in a non-clinical graduate degree.

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences in conjunction with the Graduate College approved a new **PhD program in Human Functioning and Rehabilitation Science**, which will focus on understanding the spectrum of human function from the basic physiological function of cells and body systems to overall physical capability. The doctoral program was created in response to the recent movement in the health care field toward the dynamic-systems approach of the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health.

The Department of Economics will now offer a **Bachelor of Science in Economics** for students seeking more mathematical and quantitative training than the current Bachelor of Arts provides. The development comes at an important time in the field, as the Occupational Outlook Handbook prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statics projects employment within the field of economics to grow by 14 percent from 2012 to 2022.

UVM is the first public institution and land grant university to join the Consortium of the Liberal Arts in Prison initiative, which originated at Bard College. The **Liberal Arts in Prison**

Program will offer courses to qualified prisoners in conjunction with the Vermont Department of Corrections beginning in spring 2018. Along with Bard, consortium members include Goucher College, Grinnell College, Wesleyan University, and Dwight Hall at Yale University. Aligning with the academic standards of the Consortium, the course work will encompass a rigorous college workload.

NEW AND RENEWED ALLIANCES

Committed to increasing the number of students participating in study abroad programs, UVM has joined the Institute of International Education's Generation Study Abroad initiative. UVM is dedicated to reaching three goals by 2020: 1) increasing short-term study abroad participation by 38 percent, 2) increasing long-term participation by 20 percent, and 3) diversifying the students able to participate by making study abroad more financially accessible for low-income students. As part of the effort to increase study-abroad participation, UVM has added two universities to its bilateral exchange program.

On January 1, UVM Extension—a state-enacted program that directs funds for research and outreach to help the Vermont agricultural economy and community—once again became a critical part of UVM's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. This reintegration of UVM Extension into the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, as the relationship was originally structured, will facilitate closer working relationships among the faculty and strengthen economic development and education with the agricultural community across the state. With UVM's leadership in Food Systems, combining faculty



Top: The dedication and renaming of the Robert Larner, MD College of Medicine. Bottom: The Larners' philanthropy, at \$100 million — including the largest gift ever to a public university in New England — has helped build leading edge active-learning classrooms for medical education at UVM.

professional contacts and expertise also will greatly increase opportunities for student internships with businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits. **Chuck Ross '78**, former secretary of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, is the new director of UVM Extension.

A major highlight of FY2017 that will impact the clinical training choices of future medical students was the State of Connecticut's approval of the Larner College of Medicine's application to establish a branch campus at Western Connecticut Health Network's Danbury and Norwalk Hospitals, where UVM medical students have been doing clinical clerkship rotations since 2010. The Larner College of Medicine also launched a pilot for a Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship for which a total of seven students will be placed in primary care practices connected with two UVM clinical training affiliates for 12 months—Hudson Headwaters Health Network in Glens Falls, New York, and Eastern Maine Health System in Bangor, Maine.



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