The University of Vermont

PRESIDENT’S
Annual Report
2018/2019
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DEAR UVM FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

Seven years ago, arriving as UVM’s 26th president and recognizing the great potential for the University to be a leader in 21st-century learning, I embarked in the first 100 days on a listening tour. The immediate campus community, alumni across the United States, partners in the state and beyond in government, business, private and public good, philanthropy—all shared their passion and ideas for UVM’s future.

To a person, the passion for taking UVM to its next level of quality, influence, and impact was palpable, and a desire to be part of a future-focused energy was contagious. Together, the many people who invested in UVM’s possibility embraced the invitation to envision, articulate, and implement plans to make UVM a standout land-grant, research university, student focused and solutions driven, with teacher-scholars working across boundaries to take on the many urgent issues of our day.

Now, as the transformative Move Mountains Campaign draws to its successful conclusion, we celebrate the powerful changes that have been put into motion by working together toward this common goal. As a first priority, we have kept tuition increases to their lowest levels in 40 years, while expanding scholarships and offering greater opportunities to students of all cultural and economic backgrounds. We have more than doubled the number of endowed professorships, providing ongoing support for our world-class teacher-scholars to drive their ideas forward while remaining ever inspirational in the classroom.

We have reshaped the physical campus space with 21 building projects to support 21st-century learning—building state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories for STEM disciplines; renovating iconic landmarks to house the creative arts, humanities, and agricultural research; adding a dedicated new addition as the home for the nation’s #1 Green MBA program. Year over year, our entering class has arrived with the highest academic profile in UVM history. The list goes on—see pages 24 and 25 for more.

None of this could have been achieved without the vision, the input, the support, and the shared passion of the community that has brought UVM to its next level of distinction. As we chart the future for this Public Ivy university, these transformative changes will reverberate in the groundbreaking environmental, health, and data science research of our faculty and students, in the incisive arguments of our humanities scholars, in the medical breakthroughs emerging from the Larner College of Medicine, in the creative artworks generated in campus studios and beyond. Every year our University grows brighter in its promise to the future.

Leslie joins me in extending our deepest appreciation to all who joined in the aspirational call and supported the last seven years of collective partnerships in making UVM an ever more consequential national university.

With every best wish,

Tom Sullivan
President
FACULTY RECOGNITION

As the heart of the University’s educational and research enterprise, UVM faculty across the disciplines are dedicated and accomplished teacher-scholars, devoted to discovery, advancing knowledge, engaging students, and working across disciplines to forge inventive solutions for humankind and the planet. We celebrate their many accomplishments and accolades.

University Distinguished Professor and Chair of Pharmacology, Mark Nelson, has been elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of his distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. A member of the UVM faculty since 1986, Nelson is internationally recognized for his research on the molecular mechanisms and cellular communication involved in blood flow. He is a Fellow of both the American Heart Association and the Biophysical Society, and has received an Outstanding Investigator Award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute at the National Institutes of Health and an NIH MERIT award. He is also the recipient of the Annual Reviews Award for Scientific Reviewing from the American Physiological Society, and of University Scholar honors from UVM.

Election to the National Academy of Sciences is among the greatest honors that a biomedical researcher can receive. A private, nonprofit institution established under a congressional charter signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, the National Academy of Sciences recognizes achievement in science by election to membership, and—with the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine—provides science, engineering, and health policy advice to the federal government and other organizations.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Michael Ruggiero was selected as one of Forbes’ “30-Under-30” leaders in science for his remarkable work in better understanding how the subtle, but very specific, motions of atoms influence the bulk properties of materials people can use. In his on-campus laboratory, Ruggiero and his students hit materials with a powerful laser to tease out the quantum mechanics of molecules. They then take their learning from these real-world materials and model their motions on a supercomputer. Applications of his research include informing pharmaceutical companies on how materials may be interacting to degrade a medication in order to improve shelf life, and better understanding the mechanical properties of gas-storage materials for improved hydrogen fuel cells.

Four University of Vermont faculty members were named to the prestigious Highly Cited Researchers 2018 list. Researchers on the list, published annually by Clarivate Analytics, are in the top 1 percent of all scholars whose work has been cited by others. UVM faculty named to the list are Taylor Ricketts, Gund Professor and Director of UVM’s Gund Institute for Environment; Dean of the Larner College of Medicine and Professor of Medicine Richard Page; Professor of Medicine Mary Cushman; and Professor of Pathology Russell Tracy. UVM is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in research, scholarship, and academic programs in the environment and health. With research spanning the essential role of wild bees in pollinating global food crops to understanding the role of inflammation in atherosclerosis, the critically important scholarly contributions of these researchers are accelerating advances across several fields.

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The Dean of the Grossman School of Business, Sanjay Sharma, was named the 2018 Fetner Sustainable Enterprise Fellow. The prestigious research fellowship is made annually to a leading international scholar in sustainable enterprise. Sharma is a Fulbright scholar with expertise in corporate environmental strategy, competitive strategy, stakeholder engagement, and organizational innovation. His research has been widely published in top management journals, and he has written and co-edited nine books on corporate sustainability. Dean Sharma and his leadership team launched the Sustainable Innovation MBA in 2011, with the ambitious goal of becoming the top MBA program in the country for sustainable innovation. For the second year in a row the program has been recognized as the #1 ranked Green MBA program by the Princeton Review.

Professor of Geology Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux was selected from nearly 200 experts across the U.S. to serve as the lead author of the Northeast chapter of Volume II of the Fourth National Climate Assessment, issued by the United States Global Change Research Program. The National Climate Assessment is the U.S. government’s premier resource for articulating the risks and impacts posed to the nation by climate change.

Joe Roman, Gund Institute for Environment Fellow and Research Assistant Professor in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, pioneered a special edition of the Bulletin of Marine Science dedicated to Cuban marine science. The embargo against Cuba meant that Cuban researchers previously were rejected without an opportunity for peer review from this leading U.S. academic journal. Roman led a legal campaign to help open up academic channels between researchers in the United States and Cuba to provide a broad analysis of marine conservation issues. He served as co-editor of the special edition of the journal.

Assistant Professor of History Sarah Osten won a Latin American Studies Book Award for her recently published book The Mexican Revolution’s Wake: The Making of a Political System, 1920–1929. A specialist in modern Latin American history, Osten spent a week in October at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas, where she volunteered as an interpreter for the Dilley Pro Bono Project for women and children asylum seekers under detention. Osten discovered that many fellow volunteers were seeking more context for the troubles in Central America today. She has joined forces with David Smith ’19, who is working with Professor Osten on an independent study project building a website that includes a basic historical primer of regional history and politics for attorneys working with asylum seekers.

President Tom Sullivan is the 2019 honoree of the Vermont Council of World Affairs. The annual award is being given to President Sullivan in recognition of his commitment to supporting international education and cultural exchange, and for his published scholarly articles on the use of proportionality principles in American and international law.

Sharon Reich Paulsen, Vice President and General Counsel and Senior Advisor to the President, was elected this year to the American Law Institute, the leading independent organization producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and improve the law. The American Law Institute publishes the Restatements of the Law, Model Codes, and Principles of Law that are used by courts and legislatures, as well as legal scholars.

INVESTITURES AND LIFETIME AWARDS

With attracting and resourcing faculty talent as a top priority in the University’s strategic plan, the Move Mountains Campaign has created 67 new faculty endowments, ensuring that our highly talented and innovative teacher-scholars have ongoing generous resources to continue developing their work and inspiring their students. The following faculty received endowed chairs or professorships during 2018–2019.

Chair of Pharmacology, Mark Nelson, has been elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of continuing achievements in original research.

Professors Taylor Ricketts, Russell Tracy and Mary Cushman, and Dean Richard Page have been named to a list of the world’s most impactful researchers. The four are in the top 1 percent of all researchers whose work has been cited by others.
Andrew Stanley was appointed as the inaugural Green and Gold Professor of Vascular Surgery on May 9, 2018. Jean Harvey was appointed as the Robert L. Bickford, Jr. Green and Gold Professor of Nutrition also on May 9. On June 8, Director of Gynecologic Oncology and Urogynecology Cheung Wong was invested as the inaugural Berta Pi-Sunyer Williams Professor. On August 21, Michael LaMantia, Head of Geriatric Medicine and Director of the UVM Center on Aging, was invested as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Memory and Aging, and Rosemary Dale was invested as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Professor in Nursing Leadership. Eric Hernandez was invested as the inaugural Gregory N. Sweeny Green and Gold Professor of Civil Engineering on December 17, 2018.

Mark Fung was appointed the inaugural Roy Korson, MD and Lorraine Korson, MD Green and Gold Professor in Pathology on January 14, 2019 and will be invested formally later this year. Helen Parmett was appointed to the Edwin W. Lawrence Forensic Professorship of Speech on March 13, 2019. Nicholas Gotelli was appointed as the George H. Perkins Professor of Zoology on March 13, 2019. Robert Pepperman Taylor was appointed as the Elliott A. Brown Green and Gold Professor of Law, Politics, and Political Behavior on March 13, 2019. Alan Steinweis was appointed as the Raul Hilberg Distinguished Professor of Holocaust Studies on March 13, 2019. Helga Schreckenberger was appointed as the Wolfgang and Barbara Mieder Green and Gold Professor on March 28, 2019. Andrey Ukhov was invested as the inaugural Pizzagalli Chair of Free Enterprise on April 18, 2019.

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT FACULTY AWARDS

Each year the University bestows recognition on several of our teacher-scholars for their excellence and innovation in teaching, research, and mentoring and advising.

The University Distinguished Professor Award, founded in 2009 by Provost John M. Hughes, is the highest academic honor that the University of Vermont can bestow upon a member of the faculty. Holders of this title are recognized as not only having achieved international eminence within their respective fields of study but for the truly transformative nature of their contributions to the advancement of knowledge. Only 10 individuals out of 1500 may hold an active appointment as University Distinguished Professor at any one time. Three new University Distinguished Professors were named this spring.

Mark E. Bouton, Professor of Psychological Science, Robert B. Lawson Green and Gold Professor of Psychology, is considered among the most outstanding experimental psychologists of his generation working on animal learning. Throughout a 39-year career at UVM, Professor Bouton has conducted pioneering research into the role of context in the learning and memory process, resulting in over 130 publications, including some of the most highly cited research papers in the discipline. He is one of the leading experts on associative learning—a core type of learning and memory—and considered by colleagues as the foremost expert on extinction, a learning process that has been demonstrated to be fundamentally important to learning and to the treatment of a number of clinical disorders.
Tina Escaja, Professor of Romance Languages and Linguistics, is recognized as the foremost scholar of the works of Delmira Agustini, a Uruguayan poet from the early 20th century, and Ana Rosetti, a contemporary Spanish poet. The breadth of her pioneering research and trans-cultural scholarship, in several genres, is displayed in over 100 works that include books, book chapters, journal articles, reviews, encyclopedic entries, anthologies, and other venues. Professor Escaja is internationally known for her creative and groundbreaking work integrating poetry and technology (electronic literature), and for her digital exhibits at museums and galleries around the world.

Russell P. Tracy, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Biochemistry, is an international leader in the field of biomarkers. His research, over the span of 34 years at the Larner College of Medicine, has produced over 700 publications describing the etiology of atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease, other complex chronic diseases of aging, infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and the process of aging itself. Professor Tracy is among the top 1 percent most highly cited researchers of 2018 in his discipline, and has also been recognized as one of the 400 most highly influential biomedical researchers. He has a distinguished record of service at UVM, including ten years as Senior Associate Dean for Research and Academic Activities for the Larner College of Medicine.

Four faculty members—two from the basic and applied sciences and two from the social sciences, humanities, and creative arts—have been named University Scholars for their sustained excellence in research and scholarly activities. The 2019–2020 University Scholars are Mary Cushman, Professor of Medicine, Hematology/Oncology Division and Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Peter Sheridan Dodds, Professor of Mathematics and Statistics; Adrian Ivakhiv, Steven Rubenstein Professor of Environment and Natural Resources and Professor of Environmental Thought and Culture; and Valerie Rohy, Professor of English.

The President’s Distinguished University Citizenship and Service Award recognizes faculty who have established an outstanding and consistent record of service to the University community. The 2019 award recipient is Katherine Shepherd, Green and Gold Professor of Education and Associate Dean in the College of Education and Social Services.

The Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes faculty for excellence in instruction, curricular innovation, commitment to cultural diversity, the ability to motivate students, and excellence in advising. The 2018 Kroepsch-Maurice Award winners are Nicholas Gotelli, Professor of Biology; Lance Smith, Associate Professor of Leadership and Development Sciences; Lizzy Pope, Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Food Sciences; and Patricia O’Kane, Lecturer in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Walter Poleman, Director of the Ecological Planning Program, received the 2019 President’s Distinguished Senior Lecturer Award. Lecturer Thomas Dunn, Global Gateway Program, received the 2019 President’s Distinguished Lecturer Award. Lecturer Celia Aileen Whitson Cuddy in the Department of Social Work received the Outstanding Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award.

The UVM Alumni Association honored Associate Professor of Education Cynthia C. Reyes with the 2019 George Kidder Outstanding Teacher Award.

The University has honored seven distinguished emeriti professors with awards to complete research or scholarship projects during their retirement. Retired Scholars Award recipients for 2018–2019 are Robert Gordon, Professor of Anthropology and African Studies Emeritus; David Huddle, Professor of English Emeritus; Stephanie Kaza, Professor Emerita, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources; Daniel Lusk, Senior Lecturer of English Emeritus; Dennis Mahoney, Professor of German and Russian Emeritus; Christina Melvin, Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing Emerita; and Mark Stoler, Professor of History Emeritus.
NEWEST CLASS BREAKS RECORD, YET AGAIN

For the fourth year in a row, this year’s incoming class—UVM’s Class of 2022—achieved the highest academic credentials in the University’s history, with an average SAT score of 1264 and an average ACT of 28.1. With the addition of this high-achieving cohort, the current undergraduate student body is the most academically talented in UVM history. Beyond test scores, the Class of 2022 boasts a number of standout students with fascinating backgrounds—from a professional cinematographer to an internationally competitive snowboarder, a classically trained advanced ballet dancer to a competitor in the long-distance paddling world championships. They are Eagle Scouts, entrepreneurs, National Hispanic Scholars, leaders in the LGBTQ+ community, and Olympic hopefuls. The class hails from 43 states and 15 countries. Approximately 22 percent are Vermonters, an estimated 12 percent are students of color, and 35 are Vermont’s Green and Gold Scholars, the top rising seniors in 68 high schools across Vermont.

STUDENT AND RECENT GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Eight UVM students and recent alumni have been awarded prestigious Fulbright grants for the coming academic year. The Fulbright program awards highly coveted grants to students and recent graduates for individually designed research projects and English Teaching Assistant programs abroad, strengthening intercultural relations and cultural diplomacy through immersion in the host community and the exchange of knowledge and skills. The Fulbright Program is considered one of the most widely recognized and prestigious scholarships in the world.

Claire Dumont ’19, majoring in geography, environmental studies, and Middle East studies, received a Fulbright Research Award to Jordan to create a guide to the Jordan Trail, highlighting local stories, outlining logistics, and drafting a history of the landscape. In partnership with the Jordan Trail Association, the guide will help cultivate the Jordanian outdoor identity and help make the wilderness accessible. Alison Chivers ’19, a medical laboratory sciences major with a minor in Spanish, received a Fulbright Research Award to the University of León in Spain to research the role of the tumor suppressor protein p73 in stem cell-mediated tissue maturation and architecture.

Caitlin Mello ’19, a social work major minoring in behavioral change health studies, will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Poland. Global studies major Annie Ryan ’19, minoring in Chinese and anthropology with a social action focus, will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Taiwan. Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration M.Ed. candidate Patrick Long ’19 will serve as an English Teaching Assistant at a university in South Korea. Lucy Bisselle ’19, majoring in Spanish and English and minoring in Latin American and Caribbean studies, has been selected as an Alternate English Teaching Assistant at a university in Columbia.

Briana Martin ’11, a senior program coordinator and mentor in UVM’s TRIO Student Support Services, was awarded a Fulbright Graduate Degree Enrollment Award to Canada to pursue a master’s in social work at McGill University. Patrick Nease ’15 has been selected as an Alternate English Teaching Assistant in South Africa.
Students in the Class of 2022 await the start of Convocation. For the fourth year in a row, the class came in with the highest academic credentials in UVM’s history.

Gillian Tiley ’19 won appointment as a 2019–2020 Coro fellow. The prestigious Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs provides hands-on learning in leadership alongside community members and professionals in the public sector to promote positive change in their fields and their communities. Notable Coro alumni include Senator Diane Feinstein and Senator Michael Bennett. A double major in geography and political science with a minor in French, throughout her years at UVM Tiley has served as an instructor for SPEAK, Inc., teaching public speaking to incarcerated women and youth in Vermont. This experience peaked an interest in helping empower individuals to be advocates for their communities through participatory urban planning and neighborhood development.

Current speaker of the UVM Student Government Association and newly elected SGA president, Jillian Scannell ’20, has been selected as a 2019 Truman Scholar. The Harry S. Truman Scholarship, the most highly competitive American fellowship to support graduate education and leadership development, is awarded to 50 to 60 university-nominated candidates each year for their demonstrated leadership potential, academic excellence, and commitment to public service. The $30,000 scholarship supports public service oriented graduate study. An environmental studies major and political science minor, Scannell will serve as Student Government Association president in the coming academic year.

Anthropology and gender, sexuality, and women’s studies major Allison Barritt ’21 has been selected to participate in the Critical Language Scholarship, a nationally competitive, learner-oriented language acquisition and cultural immersion program. Barritt will be studying Hindi in Jaipur, India from mid-June to mid-August this summer. Her career vision is to serve in a nonprofit focusing on women and children in South Asia.

Emily Press ’22 was awarded a DAAD RISE at the University of Münster’s Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity, where she will study host-parasite interactions in parasitic plants. The DAAD RISE offers summer research internships in Germany to undergraduate students from North America, Great Britain, and Ireland, in the natural science, engineering, and life science fields. Press is studying microbiology and French with a writing minor.

Tilden Remerleitch ’18 was awarded the National Geographic Society’s Early Career Grant to fund her community-based research on how natural disasters, climate change, and resource extraction in Ecuador alter the complex relationships between people and place. She will be contributing her GIS mapping skills for Ecuadorian NGOs working with internally displaced populations in three eco-zones: the highlands, the Pacific coast, and the Amazon River basin. During her undergraduate career at UVM, Remerleitch worked as Dr. Pablo Bose’s research assistant studying refugee resettlement in small and mid-sized cities, including Burlington. She received a Critical Language Scholarship and a Boren Scholarship during her undergraduate studies.

Colin Bushweller ’20, a double major in Russian and political science with a minor in speech and debate, will study Russian and Czech language courses at Masaryk University’s Center for International Cooperation as a Boren Scholar. The Boren Scholarship is a nationally competitive award that provides funding for students to study a foreign language in a country important to U.S. national security. Boren Scholars are highly motivated students who wish to work in federal national security and commit to working in the federal government for at least one year after graduation.

Three UVM students have been chosen as Boren alternates. Brooke Stellman ’21, a double major in political science and global studies with a minor in philosophy, is a Boren alternate to study Twi language at the University of Ghana. Francesca Carasi-Schwartz ’21, a Chinese and biology double major, has been selected as a Boren alternate to study Mandarin at East China Normal University. Allison Barritt ’21, an anthropology major and gender, sexuality, and women’s studies minor, has been selected as a Boren alternate to study Hindi at the American Institute of Indian Studies in Jaipur, India.

Sonia Zaccheo ’18 and Rhea Goveas ’17 were awarded Princeton in Asia Fellowships for 2018–2019. The fellowships support recent graduates in service-oriented fellowships to 22 countries and regions across Asia. Princeton in Asia Fellows work in the fields of access to education, economic development, public health, environmental sustainability, peace and justice, and access to information. Zaccheo is working at Marie Slopes International in Dili, Timor-Leste. Goveas is in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, working with the Asia Injury Prevention Foundation.

Nine students have been awarded the U.S. Department of State’s Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. Japanese language and literature majors Sydney Alderman ’20 and Katherine Scheidler ’20, public communications major Dominique Boccanfuso ’19, and
environmental studies major Alysa Kelly '19 received awards in the fall. Mary Anderson '19, anthropology and global studies major; Catherine Dune '21, majoring in social work; environmental science major Rachel Gladstone '19; Greta Stack '20, wildlife and fisheries biology and natural resources major; and Abigail Youngless '19, community and international development major received awards in the spring. A nationally competitive award given to accomplished students with financial need who wish to study abroad, the Gilman supports students in becoming active and engaged global citizens.

An impressive 11 Class of 2020 Public Health Projects studies were accepted for presentation at the annual American Public Health Association conference, and three projects received awards. Two student representatives received honorable mentions in the Student Abstract Award category—Eli Goldberg '20 for the project “Radon, From the Ground into Our Schools: Parent/Guardian Awareness of Radon Levels in Vermont,” and Kirsten Martin ‘20 for the “Needs Assessment of Suicide Prevention in Vermont Middle and High Schools” project. The “Health Professionals and Public Awareness of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Vermont” poster, presented by Lee Hiromoto '20, won 2nd place. The Public Health Projects course, first launched in 2004, brings Larner College of Medicine students together with the United Way of Northwest Vermont and dozens of community collaborators to study issues of public health concern across the state and beyond.

The Larner College of Medicine hosted its third annual Celebrating Excellence in Research event in October, culminating with an awards ceremony to highlight special research achievements at the College. Among those honored were four junior researchers who received the Outstanding Research Publication Award, which celebrates publication in internationally known, peer-reviewed journals as well as the importance of mentorship in the academic research environment. Jamie Abbott and mentor Christopher Francklyn, Professor of Biochemistry, received the award for their publication in the journal Human Mutation; medical student Lindsay Howe ‘19 and mentor Ira Bernstein, Professor and Chair of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, for their publication in the journal Reproductive Sciences; Osama Harraz and mentor Mark Nelson, University Distinguished Professor and Chair of Pharmacology, for publication in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; and Borzoo Farhang and mentor Lydia Grondin, Associate Professor of Pharmacology, for their publication in the journal Anesthesia and Analgesia.

Mechanical engineering doctoral student Dan Orfeo won the first annual Design It, Pitch It, Fab It competition, held in October. The contest invites student participants to pitch product ideas to a panel of judges, with the winner earning the opportunity to work with the staff and use the equipment at UVM’s Instrumentation and Model Facility to take the rough concept to the working prototype stage. The IMF is a custom design and fabrication facility that helps UVM faculty create equipment for their research. Orfeo’s winning design of a custom magnetron for orbital angular momentum radar uses an emerging technology to scatter radar waves around the area it is scanning. Design It, Pitch It, Fab It is sponsored by the Office for the Vice President for Research; a similar contest for faculty is slated to be held in 2019.
ENGAGED SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS FOSTER COMMUNITY TIES

Service-learning continues to be a significant aspect of undergraduates’ experience at UVM. With 100+ service-learning courses typically offered each year, nearly 45 percent of UVM students take at least one service-learning course during the course of their four years of study.

Efforts are increasing to provide students with community-engaged experiences early in their time at UVM—the more opportunities to work with community members, the more impactful students can be. Some departments at UVM have already developed scaffolded opportunities: first-year students learn about communities locally—or further afield—and explore their own motivations, experiences, and backgrounds in ways that will prepare them to engage effectively. By junior or senior year, these students then take service-learning courses that require high levels of flexibility and responsiveness as they engage with community needs, taking direction from community partners and bringing their academic knowledge and skills to bear on community problems.

This sequencing has been most intentional in Community Development and Applied Economics. Students in CDAE 166—Intro to Community Entrepreneurship—engage in “pop-up enterprise” projects that raise funds for local organizations, learning key entrepreneurship skills and familiarizing themselves with the local landscape. By the time they are seniors, students in CDAE 295—Local Community Initiatives—are ready to work directly with small-scale, community-based organizations in the Burlington area, applying a community capital-building model to conceptualize, design, and implement projects with partners.

On June 29, 2018, Larner College of Medicine students Katherine Callahan ’21 and Christina Dawson ’21 arrived in Kampala, Uganda, not quite sure what to expect. They returned to Vermont six weeks later with a deeper understanding of medicine across cultures, and what it means to be a physician. Callahan and Dawson are part of UVM’s Global Health Program, a joint effort of UVM and the Western Connecticut Health Network. Since 2012, the program has built a network of clinical education connectors among partner sites across the globe. In addition to Uganda, Larner College of Medicine students and other members of the UVM academic health center also participate at sites in Russia, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Thailand, and Zimbabwe.

Global health experiences give students a broad exposure to clinical practices and needs across cultures. As Katherine Callahan wrote in her journal as she prepared to leave Uganda at the end of her rotation: “In these six weeks I have begun my career as a physician and member of the global community. My impact will not come in the next three weeks, or even next years, but eventually I hope to be a driver of change on the global level.”

UVM AGAIN A TOP PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER SCHOOL

UVM ranks no. 6 among medium-size school on the Peace Corps’ list of top volunteer-producing colleges and universities. Currently, 31 UVM alumni are volunteering for the Peace Corps in countries around the world; since the Peace Corps’ founding in 1961, more than 900 UVM alumni have served abroad as volunteers.

The Peace Corps leadership applauds the colleges and universities that produce the most volunteers for their focus on cultivating global citizens. UVM has ranked among the top 25 medium-size schools for over a decade. In 2018, UVM ranked no. 7; Vermont ranked no. 2 among Peace Corps’ top volunteer-producing states. UVM Peace Corps alumni are enthusiastic mentors to current students who aspire to serve.
RESEARCH ON THE CUTTING EDGE

UVM is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in research, scholarship, and academic programs in the environment and health. In FY2018, the University garnered $136 million in external sponsored awards for research and scholarship.

As global temperatures increase, ice sheets and glaciers are being closely watched by scientists to see if, and how fast, they will melt. Of all the world’s icy places, the ice sheet covering East Antarctica has the largest potential to make sea levels rise, flooding coastal cities. But efforts to predict the East Antarctic’s role in future sea-level rise have been hindered by an absence of data about the ice sheet’s response to past warming. Now, new research by a team from UVM, Boston College, and other partners has found that the East Antarctic Ice Sheet did not retreat significantly over land during the warm periods, extending back many millions of years, periods when atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations were similar to today’s levels. Professor of Geology Paul Bierman helped conceive the study, the results of which were reported in the journal *Nature*. Data reported in the paper were generated in UVM Geology’s unique clean labs, now funded as a national training and research facility by a five-year US National Science Foundation grant. The findings not only clarify the past impact of rising temperatures on East Antarctic ice, but also confirm the accuracy of models scientists are using to assess past and future consequences of our rapidly warming planet.

Forest conservation and children’s health are not often seen as closely aligned issues, but a study led by Gund Institute for Environment team highlighted their intertwined nature. Examining data on children’s diets from 43,000 households across four continents, the team found that being close to forests caused children to have at least 25 percent greater diversity in their diets compared to those who lived farther away from forests. Children in developing countries are particularly vulnerable to micronutrient deficiencies. The results of the study undercut the common assumption that improving nutrition in poorer countries requires clearing forests for more farmland, and instead suggest that forest conservation could be an important tool for aid agencies seeking to improve the nutrition of children.

Research led by Charles Nicholson, a UVM PhD student in the Gund Institute and Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, revealed that wild bees improve not only blueberry quantities, but also size and other quality factors. It found that wild bees provide major benefits for berry farmers, including greater berry size (12 percent), quantity (12 percent), size consistency (11 percent), and earlier harvests—by a significant two and a half days. Nicholson conducted the research at nine berry farms across Vermont. Because the Green Mountain State receives much less honeybee traffic than other blueberry growing regions, researchers were able to isolate the value of wild bees to the farmers. The study was published in *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*.

A study led by researchers from UVM and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies and published in the *Journal of Insect Conservation* found that, after examining 100 years of bumble bee
records, almost half of Vermont’s species of these vital pollinators have either vanished or are in serious decline. While the researchers cannot pinpoint what may have caused these sudden bumble bee population declines, habitat loss, parasites, pesticides, and climate change have all been implicated by recent bee studies in North America. An anonymous $500,000 gift to the Gund Institute for Environment will catalyze projects supporting vital bee pollinators. The gift to establish the Apis Fund acknowledges the Gund Institute’s leadership in addressing global bee declines. The fund will announce its first call for proposals from scholars and external groups in fall 2019 and award its inaugural grants in 2020. It will prioritize efforts focusing on North America and Central America, and collaboration between these regions.

A shocking number of sea stars have been dying along the West coast of the United States since 2013, and research by Melissa Pespeni, Assistant Professor of Biology, has helped point the finger at the culprit of the sea star devastation. The study, published in Scientific Reports, found that the animals’ microbiomes—the community of bacteria living in and on the sea stars—play a powerful role in whether a sea star stays healthy or becomes sick and are critically important to the progression of sea star wasting disease.

Professor of Biology Lori Stevens is a principal investigator for a National Science Foundation grant that is unraveling the mysteries of which parasites are carried by “kissing bugs”—responsible for the spread of Chagas disease—and who or what they’re biting. She alternates her time between investigating DNA sequences in her lab at UVM and working in Guatemala to help rural villagers retrofit their homes against the insect. Chagas is a parasitic disease caused by the protozoan Trypanosoma cruzi, transmitted by the kissing bugs. Professor Stevens and members of the collaborative research team Chagas EcoHealth have learned that education, prevention, and access to early health care are important tools to stop the disease from spreading. EcoHealth includes researchers from UVM, Loyola University in New Orleans, and San Carlos University in Guatemala. Along with Professor Stevens, UVM evolutionary biologist Sara Helms Cahan and Professor of Engineering
Donna Rizzo have contributed to the program. The collaborative model mirrors the new Quantitative and Evolutionary STEM Training (QuEST) graduate program at UVM. QuEST trains doctoral students to solve environmental and global health problems that draws on UVM faculty in biology, plant and soil sciences, math, computer science, engineering, and molecular and biomedical sciences.

Ellen McGinnis, a UVM clinical psychologist, and Ryan McGinnis, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, were lead researchers on a study published in *PLOS ONE* that showed wearable sensors could detect hidden anxiety and depression in young children. The team used a “mood induction task,” a common research method designed to elicit specific behaviors and feelings such as anxiety. They found that the way children with internalizing disorders moved was different than those without. The paper suggests that this instrumented mood induction task can help identify those children to get them to the services they need.

Professor Jane Kolodinsky, an applied economist in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director of the Center for Rural Studies, led a study that compared levels of consumer opposition to GMO foods in Vermont—the only U.S. state to have implemented a mandatory labeling policy—with consumer attitudes in the rest of the country. The analysis showed opposition to GMO food fell by 19 percent in Vermont after the implementation of mandatory labels. The study is the first to examine the real-world impact of consumer attitudes toward GMO foods in a state where consumers were exposed to mandatory GMO labels.

Vermont has emerged as a national leader in treatment for opioid use disorder. The new “hub-and-spoke” system, developed by Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine John Brooklyn, incorporates addiction treatment into primary care in a comprehensive way not seen anywhere else in the country. While treating patients at the Community Health Centers of Burlington, Professor Brooklyn—who received his undergraduate degree from UVM in 1979—saw the struggling primary care physicians, the at-capacity clinic, and the growing number of patients who desperately needed treatment. With the executive director of community-services agency The Howard Center, he proposed the hub-and-spoke plan to Vermont Department of Health officials, suggesting providers be connected by the same kind of referral network that exists throughout the medical care environment. A support network for community physicians administering medication-assisted treatment has increased capacity at the “spokes,” while centers of excellence, the “hubs,” bring addiction specialists and wrap-around services together to provide more intensive treatment for patients who need a higher level of support. Research on new treatments for addiction—long an area of excellence at UVM—benefits from a model that incorporates opioid use disorder as a chronic condition, fostering innovative thinking about ways to deliver care.

Professor of Psychiatry Richard Rawson ’70, Ph.D.’74, a native Vermonter who returned to the state in 2015 after a storied career in addiction treatment research at UCLA, characterizes Vermont as the leader of a paradigm shift in opioid use disorder. In December of 2017 he completed a federally funded assessment of the hub-and-spoke system, conducting interviews with providers and patients over the course of one year. Inspired by the level of treatment going on in primary care settings, Professor Rawson is confident this new
treatment paradigm will change the course of opioid addiction and recovery.

The first director of the new Center for Health Services Research at UVM, Adam Atherley, sees the future brimming with possibilities. The time is right to focus on health services research, as Vermont is embarking on a bold experiment in healthcare reform. The state is one of two that has received a waiver from the federal government to create an all-payer system, shifting from fee-for-service to a value-based model over time. As the state’s sole medical school, the Larner College of Medicine has the opportunity to become a national leader in evaluating how the delivery of care affects health outcomes. What happens in Vermont could inform the country’s trajectory. This shift in state policy, combined with Vermont’s relatively small population, proximity to other rural populations in neighboring states, and unique access to data, make it a prime location for studies focused on health services, and the new center is taking a lead in fostering that research.

MAJOR GRANTS

Heralded with a press conference and broad local news coverage, the Larner College of Medicine’s $12.3 million Translational Global Infectious Disease Research Center (TGIR) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence grant uniquely joins two traditionally distinct groups of scientists to develop innovative approaches to prevent and control infectious disease. Led by Chair of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Beth Kirkpatrick, the TGIR project leverages expertise in the College of Medicine, the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to develop strategies for decreasing the burden of infectious diseases, particularly in low-income countries. This is the fifth COBRE grant from the National Institutes of Health to support his work to uncover critical information about the control of blood flow in the brain and how this process relates to small vessel disease of the brain—a leading cause of cognitive decline and functional loss in elderly patients.

Linda Schadler, Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, is part of a nationwide collaboration to collect data on nanocomposites funded through a five-year, $5 million National Science Foundation grant. The project—led by Duke University and including research teams from UVM, Northwestern University, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute—will contribute to the emerging materials genome initiative by building a platform and a culture to enable sharing of data and metadata, leading to deeper and faster discoveries and the ability to design new materials.

Mandar Dewoolkar, Chair and Professor of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will receive $1.25 million over five years from the U.S. Department of Transportation to assist in the development of a highly competitive regional University Transportation Center. The aim of the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center is to help save taxpayer dollars by extending the life of our bridges, roads, and rail. Dewoolkar is working with a team of New England institutions led by the University of Maine to develop this regional initiative. New England’s transportation infrastructure faces unique challenges due to harsh winter weather and short construction seasons. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, nearly 30 percent of New England roads are rated in poor condition—in part due to harsh winter weather and short construction seasons—which costs motorists an average of $584 annually in vehicle repairs and operating costs. The $14.2 million initiative seeks to identify new materials and technologies that maximize the impact of transportation infrastructure investments.

The National Science Foundation awarded the University a $1 million grant to significantly upgrade its Vermont Advanced Computing Core (VACC). In the fall of 2018, 72 high performance graphics processing units were added to the current VACC to create a new high-performance cluster. The new cluster—dubbed DeepGreen—is up to 3,000 times faster than its predecessor. At its peak, DeepGreen will be able to achieve a speed of over 1 petaflop, or one thousand million million computations per second, the equivalent of 20,000 laptop computers working in tandem. According to grant lead Adrian Del Maestro, Associate Professor of Physics, DeepGreen will give UVM faculty access to one of the fastest supercomputers in New England and one of the 100 fastest academic supercomputers in the country.
MOVE MOUNTAINS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

NEW CENTER WILL ADVANCE DATA SCIENCE

HISTORIC GIFT NAMES FUTURE HOME FOR CATAMOUNT BASKETBALL

OPENING THE DOORS FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

ENDOWED FACULTY SHINE AS TEACHERS, RESEARCHERS, AND CLINICIANS

HISTORIC BUILDINGS REBORN THANKS TO PHILANTHROPY

DONORS ENHANCE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

ENDOWMENT ENSURES PERPETUAL INVESTMENTS

IMPACT OF SUPPORT

MOVE MOUNTAINS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

The Move Mountains Campaign surpassed its $500 million goal in July 2018—one year ahead of schedule—and to date has raised over $560 million. The campaign has already had a remarkable impact in virtually every corner of campus. Following its conclusion on June 30, 2019, that impact will continue for generations. Thanks to the generous private support offered by alumni, community members, parents, and friends, UVM is poised to reach new heights. By helping outstanding students find a home here, creating outstanding new and renovated facilities, supporting the teaching and research of our faculty, and enhancing the student experience, our dedicated and passionate donors have proven themselves vital partners in the work of the University.

NEW CENTER WILL ADVANCE DATA SCIENCE

This year the University received its largest corporate gift ever, $5 million from Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual). The funding, to be provided over five years beginning in 2019, will establish the MassMutual Center of Excellence for Complex Systems and Data Science. The Center will initiate research projects and programs that use data analytics to enhance our understanding of human wellness, as well as run programming to cultivate and develop the next generation of data scientists. The gift reflects a significant expansion of the relationship between MassMutual and the University of Vermont Complex Systems Center, and opens an exciting new chapter in corporate collaboration for the University as a whole.

HISTORIC GIFT NAMES FUTURE HOME FOR CATAMOUNT BASKETBALL

UVM alumni have rallied like never before to help make a new Multi-Purpose Center a reality, and in December 2018 that effort received an enormous boost from Rich and Deb Tarrant, Vermont philanthropists with strong ties to the University. Their exceptional $15 million commitment is one of the largest ever made to UVM, and the largest capital gift in its history. The University will recognize Rich and Deb’s generosity by naming a portion of the facility the “Tarrant Center.” The Tarrant Center will be a newly constructed space that will be home to UVM’s men’s and women’s basketball programs, and also host a variety of academic, social, cultural, and entertainment programming. Many other dedicated Catamount fans also stepped forward with major commitments—including several gifts of $1 million or more—helping surpass the preliminary fundraising targets and lending crucial momentum to this important project.

OPENING THE DOORS FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Attracting outstanding students of all backgrounds to UVM is central to the University remaining one of the nation’s premier research universities. For this reason, philanthropic support for both need- and merit-based scholarships is more important than ever before. During the Move Mountains campaign, over 280 new scholarship funds have been created, including several major new commitments in the last year. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the UVM family’s dedication to the students of today—and tomorrow.
Donors gathered in Billings Library for the rededication ceremony on October 5, 2018.

**ENDOWED FACULTY SHINE AS TEACHERS, RESEARCHERS, AND CLINICIANS**

The University of Vermont has an exceptional faculty community, each member of which is dedicated to excellence in teaching as well as in their own areas of research, discovery, and creative activities. At the beginning of the Move Mountains Campaign, the University had 52 endowed professorships and chairs, with a goal to double that number by the end of the campaign. To date, 67 new endowed faculty positions have been created, bringing the total to 119.

Many generous alumni and friends have shared this vision and have made commitments to help create new endowments to support faculty members’ vital teaching, mentoring, research, and clinical duties. The generosity of **Holly and Bob Miller** continued with the naming of **Rosemary Dale**, Clinical Professor and Chair of the Department of Nursing and Health Sciences, as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Professor in Nursing Leadership and **Michael LaMantia**, Head of Geriatric Medicine and Director of the UVM Center on Aging, as the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Memory and Aging. The vision and generosity of **Angelo Pizzagalli ’56** and the **Pizzagalli Foundation** lead to Associate Professor **Andrey Ukhov** being recruited to the Grossman School of Business as the Pizzagalli Chair of Free Enterprise.

With the support of other committed donors, 13 of our exceptional faculty have been named as endowed professors in 2018–2019.

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS REBORN THANKS TO PHILANTHROPY**

In early October, the community came together to rededicate and celebrate two important and historic buildings on campus. Burlington’s former Elihu B. Taft elementary school, now named the Michele and Martin Cohen Hall for the Integrative Creative Arts, has significantly expanded UVM’s classroom, studio, exhibit, and practice space for a range of fine and performing arts. On the night of the dedication, **Michele ’72 and Martin Cohen** announced a splendid additional gift of $2 million to the project—on top of their initial $5 million gift. Not far away, Billings Library, an iconic campus landmark for over 130 years, has received a major infrastructure update and interior renovation thanks to support from over **200 donors**. The building now brings together a cluster of programs focused on the humanities, all supported by the beautiful new Jack and Shirley Silver Special Collections Library.

**DONORS ENHANCE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

In 2019, the annual **LuvMyClub campaign** raised nearly $46,000 from over 1,300 donors. Their gifts will directly benefit 70 student organizations and clubs that help enrich and enliven the undergraduate experience at UVM. The Women’s Ultimate Frisbee Club inspired the largest number of donors (208), while UVM Crew and the Women’s Volleyball Club each counted over 100 supporters. Many of the LuvMyClub donors were current students and recent alumni, demonstrating the importance of these programs to campus life and underscoring the fact that everybody in the UVM family can help foster a spirit of generosity and a culture of philanthropy.

**ENDOWMENT ENSURES PERPETUAL INVESTMENTS**

Endowment gifts are key to ensuring the University of Vermont has the long-term financial resources necessary to attract outstanding students and faculty and give them the tools that they need to excel. What’s particularly special about endowment gifts is that they are investments in UVM’s present and future, helping support the University today and in the decades to come. The combined total endowment of the University and the UVM Foundation is over $550 million (as of 2/28/2019), an 80% increase since 2012. Thanks to new donations and market performance, the endowment has gained roughly $207 million in value since the start of the Move Mountains campaign. In fiscal year 2018, income from endowment gifts totaled more than $21.5 million. These funds were used in alignment with the UVM’s Strategic Action Plan to support a range of University priorities. 36 percent of endowment spending supported student scholarships; 36 percent supported academic programs; 20 percent supported endowed faculty positions; and 8 percent supported facilities. The endowment contributed more than $7.6 million to scholarships and fellowships in fiscal year 2018.
UVM skiing and men’s basketball excelled in 2019, bringing national attention to our Division I athletics program. The men’s and women’s ski program hosted the 2019 NCAA Skiing Championships in Stowe, Vermont. The Catamounts finished in second place nationally behind a historic performance from 2018 Olympian Laurence St. Germain ’19. St. Germain became the seventh skier in NCAA history to sweep the women’s slalom and giant slalom at the championships, and the first from UVM. She was dominant in the slalom race, winning by 2.58 seconds—the largest known margin in NCAA Championship skiing history.

The men’s basketball team won the America East Championship Tournament for the second time in three years to advance to NCAA’s March Madness once again. Vermont was led by America East Coach of the Year John Becker and America East Player of the Year Anthony Lamb ’20. The Catamounts won 27 games amidst their toughest schedule in recent history. Vermont faced Florida State in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament in Hartford, Connecticut. The Catamounts led by as much as nine points in the game but eventually fell 76–69. For the student-athletes hearing the thousands of Green and Gold fans at the XL Center chanting, “UVM, UVM,” it is a memory that will last a lifetime.

Ben Jealous, former NAACP president and 2018 Maryland gubernatorial candidate, delivered the keynote address for UVM’s 2019 MLK celebrations. Jealous described the moment when he recognized his calling—ending the injustices in our justice system—and the steps he took day by day to remember and embody that calling. Working across politics and ideologies and against his own assumptions about others were vital in his efforts to ban the juvenile death penalty across the nation and reduce the number of inmates nationwide. “Dr. King taught us that each of us has not just the responsibility but the capability to be a great leader,” Jealous told the crowd gathered in Ira Allen. He asserted the importance of giving everybody a chance to be an ally and to be a good ally in turn, because in activism “you become dependent on other people becoming a good ally with you.”

Tarana Burke — founder of the “me too” movement to end sexual violence and a 2017 Time Person of the Year—kicked off the 12th annual Blackboard Jungle
Symposium, a two-day conference supporting UVM faculty, staff, and students in developing a deeper understanding of inclusivity and diversity. In her work, Burke fosters healing and inclusivity by focusing on language and interpersonal relationships. She then read UVM’s mission statement to the gathered crowd—something she does at every college campus she speaks to—and urged all in attendance to think about how their work to prevent sexual violence on campus is reflective of that mission. She concluded by imploring the audience to be accountable for each other. Whether to change the status quo around sexual violence or any other social justice issue in a community, Burke suggested concerned community members start by reevaluating policies, changing behaviors, talking to family members, speaking up for others’ actions—and doing so with intentional urgency.

This fall the EcoCultureLab, an environmental arts and media initiative coordinated by Steven Rubenstein Professor of Environment and Natural Resources Adrian Ivakhiv, hosted a large-scale, community-based, art-driven reflection on and response to the urgency of climate change. Organized with partners across UVM and from Champlain College, St. Michael’s College, and the Burlington community, the Feverish World Symposium brought transdisciplinary artists, scientists, and innovators to Burlington for three days of presentations, collaborations, and community engagement with eco-innovators and activists from across Vermont and beyond. Ivakhiv believes that, as a small urban area in a vibrant and responsive state, Burlington and Vermont can provide leadership to catalyze innovative responses to climate change through collaboration. Feverish World was designed to draw on the creative imagination of the arts, the know-how and know-what of science and technology, and the wisdom and critical insight of the humanities to help people think about how we might do things in new and collaborative ways.

CONFERENCE AND COMPETITIONS SHOWCASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

After a two-year hiatus, the Grossman School of Business’ premier student-run event, the Family Enterprise Case Competition (FECC), returned to the global stage in January. Students, coaches, and judges from nearly 30 countries descended upon a snowy Burlington to compete in FECC 2019. In its sixth edition, this year’s competition was long awaited after construction/renovation of Ifshin and Kalkin halls postponed last year’s competition. FECC 2019 was Grossman’s largest yet, with 25 undergraduate and graduate teams, 52 judges, and 49 Grossman students all working through real-world cases involving family businesses. After four days of presentations and competition, Carleton University’s Sprott School of Business from Canada and University of Adelaide from Australia took home first place for the undergraduate and graduate leagues, respectively.

From a simulation that predicts the spread and maximizes the containment of forest fires to a searchable web database of Supreme Court cases, more than 100 computer science-based projects offered solutions to problems big and small at this year’s Computer Science Fair. More than 200 students presented their web designs, research, programming projects, and more, discussing their projects with a team of judges and the UVM community. Open to students of all experience levels—from non-computer science majors to second-year master’s students—this year’s competitors showcased a mix of databases, games, websites and even hand-built structures. A generous gift by alumni Anthony F. Voellm ’93 and Beth Zimmerman ’93 will give students access to the Computer Science Fair for years to come.
This Spring’s thirteenth annual Student Research Conference was the largest presentation of student projects to date. The 425 presentations featuring 515 students showcased research, scholarship, and creative projects in progress that students have completed while earning their degrees at UVM. With poster sessions, lightning talks, and oral presentations, the annual event highlights impressive student achievements and gives 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 experience.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Suresh Garimella, Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships and the Goodson Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University, will become the University of Vermont’s 27th president, effective July 1, 2019. At Purdue, Suresh Garimella leads a world-changing, $660 million per year research enterprise and oversees Discovery Park, a unique set of facilities and institutes, where disciplines converge to solve global challenges related to health and life sciences, sustainability, food, energy, and defense and security. He is responsible for Purdue’s international programs and its global and corporate partnership endeavors, focused on strengthening relationships to advance innovation, research, and education. Under his leadership, Purdue has experienced consecutive record years in research funding and established significant new partnerships around the world.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences Dean Patricia Prelock has been named Interim Provost and Senior Vice President. In her 10 years as Dean, Prelock has helped to transform and elevate the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, developing signature interdisciplinary programs that have enhanced the University’s reputation and contribute significantly to the health and well-being of people across Vermont. Under her direction the College has increased enrollment by nearly 40 percent at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Prior to becoming dean, Prelock served for 8 years as Department Chair in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her attention to UVM’s land-grant mission underpins her approach to strategic development.

Scott Thomas, Dean of the College of Education and Social Services, will serve a dual appointment as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. An experienced administrator, Thomas brings his leadership of undergraduate and professional programs to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, ensuring a seamless transition.

Richard L. Page became the 18th dean of the Larner College of Medicine at UVM in October. Page was previously the George R. and Elaine Love Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. A nationally recognized specialist in cardiac arrhythmias with interest in treatment of atrial fibrillation and sudden cardiac arrest, Page has led a department at the University of Wisconsin committed to professionalism in the pursuit of patient-centered care, transformational research, and innovative educational programs.
In October Harry Chen was named Executive Director of the Center for Health and Wellbeing and Public Health Officer at UVM. Dr. Chen served as commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health for six years. A three-term Vermont State Representative, he also served as acting secretary of the Vermont Agency of Human Services. Dr. Chen served as attending physician for the emergency departments at the Rutland Regional Medical Center and the Fletcher Allen Medical Center for over 22 years and has been a member of the UVM’s Larner College of Medicine faculty since 2001.

David Jenemann, Professor of English and Co-Director of the Humanities Center, was appointed Dean of the Honors College. An active member of the Honors College faculty, he has taught the Honors College first-year seminar for many years and was instrumental in developing its interdisciplinary approach to knowledge and intellectual history.

Jennifer Dickinson has been appointed Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, effective July 1, 2019. A faculty member in the Department of Anthropology and Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Professor Dickinson will work closely with colleagues in the Office of the Provost, the academic deans, and other senior leaders to ensure a world-class environment for teaching and learning at UVM.

FLEMING MUSEUM OF ART EXPLORES DIVERSE THEMES

Signature exhibitions at the Fleming Museum of Art explored diverse themes, from the role of female fashion during the Victorian period to the exciting new ways contemporary artists are using the miniature in their works. The popular fall exhibition The Impossible Ideal: Victorian Fashion and Femininity drew from the museum’s large garment collection, using clothing and accessories, along with excerpts from popular period American women’s magazines, to explore how fashion embodied the many contradictions of Victorian women’s lives and, eventually, the growing call for more diverse definitions of women’s roles and identities. For spring semester, curator Andrea Rosen delved deeply into how the miniature has been featured throughout time, from the ancient period through contemporary conceptual art. Small Worlds: Miniatures in Contemporary Art explored the ways contemporary artist use miniatures to inspire awe, whimsy, and even dread. The artists featured in the exhibition either create or employ found miniature figures, rooms, and landscapes, displaying them through sculptures or photographs.

LIBRARY COMPLEX TAKES ON NEW NAME

At the October Board of Trustees meeting, trustees agreed unanimously with the Trustee Renaming Advisory Committee to remove the name of Guy W. Bailey from the Bailey-Howe Library complex, given his involvement with the eugenics movement in Vermont and on campus in the 1930s. The library complex has been renamed as the Howe Library, and efforts to reflect the name change on the library’s stone exterior are underway.

BURACK LECTURE SERIES WELCOMES DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Thanks to a generous endowment gift from Dan Burack ’55 H’08 and his wife, Carole H’08, each year the University welcomes leading scholars, writers, artists, and public intellectuals to campus through the Burack Distinguished Lecture Series. This past fall the series welcomed Mark Lubell, Director of the Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior at the University of California-Davis; documentary filmmaker Jago Cooper, head of the Americas Section at the British Museum; Huajian Gao, Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Engineering at Brown University and past director of the Max Planck Institute for Metals Research; Lisa Feldman Barrett, University Distinguished Professor of Psychology at Northeastern University and author of How Emotions Are Made: The Secret Life of the Brain; French philosopher Bruno Latour; Caleb McClennen, Vice President for Global Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Society; sociologist Elizabeth Armstrong, author of Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality; and Future Earth Executive Director Amy Luers.

This spring the Burack Distinguished Lecture Series welcomed astronaut Colonel Cady Coleman; behavioral economist Francisco Alpizar; archivist and celebrated poet Kevin Young; and Patricia Resick, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University and creator of cognitive processing therapy for PTSD.
NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS AND RANKINGS

U.S. News & World Report ranked UVM as a top-50 public university in its annual College Guide. The rankings, spanning undergraduate and graduate education, highlight UVM’s strength as a national research university, a top medical school, and a vibrant community.

Created in 2014, the UVM Grossman School of Business’ Sustainable Innovation MBA program has again been named the no. 1 “Best Green MBA” program by the Princeton Review. Topping Cornell University and Yale University, which ranked second and third respectively on Princeton’s list, UVM’s program is a one-year, AACSB-accredited program that boasts small cohorts of students who collaborate and move through the program together. During their short, yet rigorous, time in the program, students learn from Vermont-based companies that have excelled in social and sustainable enterprise, such as Ben & Jerry’s, Seventh Generation, and Keurig Green Mountain, and gain real-world experience through a required practicum. This is second consecutive year the program has earned the Princeton Review’s top ranking.

A team of five Class of 2019 Sustainable Innovation MBA students has emerged as the winners of the Total Impact Portfolio Challenge, sponsored by the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. The Challenge involved creating and analyzing a portfolio that met risk, return, and ESG (environmental, social, and governance) impact-investing objectives. UVM’s team, coached by Professor of Finance Chuck Schnitzlein, was named to the “Final Five” back in late-March from an elite field of 25 teams, including entrants from the University of Chicago, Cornell University, Georgetown University, and the Wharton School. UVM’s SIMBA team beat Yale University, Columbia University, Fordham University, and Boston University to claim the title.

The University of Vermont was again named a Top 50 Green School by the Princeton Review, climbing to the #3 spot this year, up from #4 last year. This annual ranking of the 399 most environmentally responsible colleges takes stock of the efforts schools are making to adopt sustainable policies, prepare students for citizenship and careers in a world defined by climate concerns, and provide a healthy and sustainable environment on campus.

Two leading national groups ranked UVM among the top schools for sustainable energy and energy reduction this year. The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Partnership both recognized UVM’s work as a leader in sustainability and renewable energy use.

For the second time in four years, UVM’s ROTC detachment was ranked no. 1 out of the 42 programs in the Northeast and one of the top eight schools out of 275 Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps units nationwide by the U.S. Army Cadet Command and the General Douglas MacArthur MacArthur Foundation. The MacArthur Awards recognize the top-performing programs in the country based on a combination of the achievement of the school’s commissioning mission, its cadets’ performance and standing on the command’s National Order of Merit List, overall academic and military success, and cadet retention rate. The cadre and staff who oversee the program...
are of the highest caliber, and continue to produce junior officers who are destined to become future leaders in the armed forces and in society at large.

The Office of Student and Community Relations received the Presidential Excellence Award from the International Town Gown Association for its work on Burlington’s Isham Street. The program led to large decreases in noise tickets, vandalism, and burglaries after it was launched in 2012. In its award letter the association described the office and its staff as “trailblazers in doing new and innovative work.” The Isham Street initiative grew out of a strategy developed in 2010 by the Office of Student and Community Relations, the Student Government Association, and city and community groups to address quality-of-life issues in high-density student neighborhoods.

The environmentally conscious campus community at UVM was recognized by the League of American Bicyclists for the University’s achievements in promoting and enabling safe, accessible biking on campus. This year, UVM was promoted from a silver to a gold-level Bicycle Friendly University.

**UVM IN THE NEWS**

UVM’s Wellness Environment continues to receive national attention, most recently featured on the CBS This Morning show. Students in the Wellness Environment live in a substance-free dorm, take a required neuroscience course taught by faculty in the Larner College Medicine, and receive incentives such as a free gym membership, access to nutrition and fitness coaches, and an app that enables them to track their activities and moods. Enrollment in the program has grown from 120 when it launched in 2015 to over 1,200 today, resulting in nearly one-quarter of UVM’s undergraduate on-campus population living in substance-free housing.

The UVM spinoff company Packetized Energy is on a roll, adding staff, customers, and business partners at an impressive clip. Packetized Energy produces smart controllers for the big energy loads in the home: hot water heaters, batteries like the Tesla Powerwall, electric vehicle chargers, and HVAC systems. The company’s algorithms help utilities tap the potential of renewables like solar and wind. It has also developed a cloud-based software platform, called Nimble, that both speaks “packetized” with the device controllers and can listen to demand or pricing data from utilities.

Catamounts across the nation had the opportunity to watch Professor of Classics Jacques Bailly in the 2018 Scripps National Spelling Bee in his role as official pronouncer. Bailly was the bee champion in 1980 and has been the head pronouncer for 16 years, after serving 12 years as associate pronouncer.

The University of Vermont is participating in a large effort, working collaboratively with 130 public universities and systems, to increase college access, close the achievement gap and award hundreds of thousands more degrees by 2025. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities organized the collaborative effort, known as Powered by Publics: Scaling Student Success.

The participating institutions will work within clusters of four to 12 institutions to implement innovative and effective practices to advance student success on their campuses. Collectively, the institutions enroll 3 million students, including 1 million students who receive Pell Grants. The clusters have identified anticipated focus areas for their work. UVM’s cluster plans to focus on first-generation and male students.

UVM President Tom Sullivan was appointed to the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions. The committee is an independent administrative body charged with deciding infractions cases involving NCAA member institutions, their employees, and their students. Its membership includes volunteers from NCAA member institutions and conferences and individuals from the general public who have a legal education.

E.L. Amidon Chair of Medicine Polly Parsons was installed as president of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) during the organization’s 2018 International Congress. Parsons has been a member of the ATS, which has more than 15,000 physicians, research scientists, and nurses and other allied healthcare professionals among its members, since 1989. She was elected as secretary-treasurer in 2015 and has moved up the leadership ranks as vice president and president-elect prior to president. Parsons is the recipient of the 2006 Elizabeth A. Rich Award, the 2013 Distinguished Achievement Award, and in 2017 was honored with the ATS Assembly on Critical Care 9th Annual Lifetime Achievement Award.
NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

A new Ph.D. in Physics will be offered beginning fall 2019. The program will train students in the concepts and skills required to take on some of the most critical problems facing our world, with an emphasis on complex and interdisciplinary challenges in technology, materials design, and renewable energy.

UVM’s undergraduate Athletic Training program has grown to capacity and continues to be one of the most competitive majors at UVM. The Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science is capitalizing on the many strengths of its current program as it transitions to a Master of Science in Athletic Training.

A new Bachelor of Science in Anthropology, focusing on scientific and quantitative approaches to the study of human diversity and change, offers an expanded degree option for advanced anthropology students interested in graduate studies or post-baccalaureate careers in related fields.

Fine arts at UVM will be enhanced by new curricular offerings. The Bachelor of Arts in Dance will provide opportunities for students to broaden and deepen their studies in dance, aligning them with peers in art, art history, creative writing, film and television studies, music, and theatre. The Undergraduate Certificate in Community Music: Organ will cultivate a marketable skill and address a need regionally and nationally for organists prepared to accompany community singing.

A new minor in American Sign Language meets student demand—since first being taught at UVM in 2010, American sign language classes have been fully enrolled and waitlisted, and ASL is the most commonly requested subject area for students looking to pursue individually designed minors in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students enrolled in the new minor in Reporting and Documentary Storytelling will study the practice and theory of telling socially and culturally engaged stories in print journalism and nonfiction writing, documentary video, and digital media formats.

A new Certificate of Graduate Studies in Sustainable Enterprise is designed to help students to develop business knowledge and an understanding of how enterprises stay competitive by incorporating social, environmental, and economic concerns into their strategy. A new Certificate of Graduate Studies in Community Resilience and Planning will help community development experts, planners, entrepreneurs, and civic leaders to lead and guide communities through change brought on by natural and social disruptions.

The Undergraduate Certificate in Religious Literacy in Professions will prepare students for encounters with diverse religions, religious frameworks, and religious people, and is especially relevant for students seeking careers in social, health, and business fields. The Undergraduate Certificate in Integrative Health and Wellness Coaching and the Continuing Education Academic Certificate in Integrative Health and Wellness Coaching will prepare students for meeting an emerging need in healthcare related to preventative health behaviors across the lifespan.

To meet the growing demands for healthcare and other interested professionals to quickly gain expertise in emerging health-related fields, the Larner
College of Medicine has partnered with UVM Continuing and Distance Education to deliver two new online programs leading to a **Cannabis Science and Medicine Certificate** and an **End of Life Doula Professional Certificate**. Demand is high; the next-enrolled End of Life Doula Professional Certificate course is waitlisted. These programs add to the roster of Masters and Certificate programs offered through the collaboration of the medical school and CDE to prepare learners for careers in healthcare, with nearly 200 students enrolled both online and in the classroom.

**NEW MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER ELEVATES FITNESS, SUPPORTS STUDENT-ATHLETES**

The many successes of UVM’s varsity teams and the robust activities of campus recreation over the past several decades have been accomplished against a backdrop of aging and inadequate space. The barrel-vaulted and beloved Gutterson Fieldhouse and Patrick Gymnasium were built in 1963, when UVM’s student population was 3,500. With a current student body now exceeding 13,000, the ground is being laid for a modern space that benefits the athletic, academic, social, and community needs of our active Catamount Nation with flexible facilities that will benefit the entire campus, surrounding community, state of Vermont, and the region. The new Multi-Purpose Center will feature dramatic upgrades and a five-fold increase in the space dedicated to non-varsity use that will become the hub for health, wellness, and fitness for the entire campus. This space will also become the academic and social interface of the new facility, with classrooms and study areas intermixed with lounges to foster interaction. Separate but interconnected arenas for hockey and basketball will preserve and enhance the venerable Gutterson Fieldhouse while providing a properly sized events center to house Catamount basketball games as well as academic, social, cultural, and entertainment programming.

This December, philanthropists and basketball lovers Rich and Deb Tarrant gave a gift of $15 million to the Multi-Purpose Center project. The new event center will be named the Tarrant Center in recognition of their generous gift. David Daigle ’89, chairman of the University of Vermont’s Board of Trustees, and his wife, Beth Daigle ’89, have pledged $1,000,000 to new facilities that will enhance student wellness and to programs that encourage all UVM students to lead healthier lives.

Competitive excellence is a core tenet to the student-athlete experience—both on and off the playing surface—and supporting student wellness is a top priority at UVM. The new Multi-Purpose Center will dramatically enhance possibilities for student recreation and varsity excellence for generations to come.

**TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGES SET THE STAGE FOR FUTURE IMPACT**

With the implementation of President Sullivan’s 2012 Strategic Action Plan, the success of the visionary Move Mountains Campaign, and the spirited collaboration of stakeholders and friends from across the UVM community and beyond, transformational changes have been put into play that will benefit UVM students—and the world—for generations to come. Our Public Ivy university is developing leaders and critical thinkers across fields critical to society today, including the environment, health, neuroscience, and complex systems. Since 2012, advancements at UVM—measures of access and affordability, future-focused initiatives for student success, new cross-disciplinary academic programs, new state-of-the-art learning and research facilities—are our promise to the future, as we continue welcoming and inspiring young students to be engaged world citizens.

The infographic on pages 24–25 articulates the transformational changes at UVM since 2012.
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

STUDENT SUCCESS

Implemented First Year Student Engagement Program, integrating career counseling and academic planning

Established the nationally recognized Wellness Environment Program (1,160 students)

Established new Residential Learning Communities in all residence halls

Convened Presidential Commission on Alcohol, Cannabis, and Other Drugs

Secured national award for promoting prevention of alcohol and other drugs on campus

ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, & ENROLLMENT

Lowest tuition increases in 40 years

40% tuition limitation repealed, helping moderate cost for out-of-state students

Catamount Scholarship Commitment for Vermont students from lower income families

Increase Graduate School enrollment by 15%

Internationalization of the student body (900+ international students)

Increased Summer School enrollments (9% from FY 2012)

Record number of applications (25,274)

Significant increase in online enrollment (44% increase from FY 2012)

STUDENT SUCCESS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

11% increase in selectivity of the first-year class

Introduced 58 new academic programs: 24 undergraduate | 15 graduate | 14 certificate level

University-wide Gund Institute for Environment established

The Humanities Center established

Increased the number of research grants and research support

$138M

21 building projects completed and in progress, improving all areas of the university, from STEM to business to arts and humanities to athletics

Andrew Harris Commons Dedication, recognizing our first African-American graduate

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
Selective building projects for our 21st-century campus, including:
- Discovery Hall for STEM research
- Innovation Hall for STEM teaching and learning
- Cohen Hall for the Integrative Creative Arts
- Billings Library
- Ifshin Hall
- Royall Tyler Theatre
- First-Year Student Residence Hall
- Alumni House
- Silver Pavilion
- Multi-Purpose Center

**MOVE MOUNTAINS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

$500M
CAMPAIGN GOAL
(CROSSED 1 YEAR EARLY)

$560M
TOTAL COMMITMENTS
TO DATE

$100M
HISTORIC GIFT

$318M
ACADEMIC
PROGRAMS

$93M
FACILITIES

$83M
SCHOLARSHIPS
272
new scholarships

$65M
ENDOWED
FACULTY
67
new positions

**SECUING A BRIGHT FUTURE**

- Designed, implemented, and revised a decentralized budget model
- Increased endowment from $308M to $555M (80% increase)
- Developed comprehensive Enrollment Management Strategic Plan
- Implemented Enterprise Risk Management Plan
- Reduced budget expense by over $30 million
- Rebranded University of Vermont Medical Center

**MOVE MOUNTAINS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

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