

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLIED ECONOMICS



## NEWSLETTER

### Spring 2019

#### FROM THE CHAIR, DR. JANE KOLODINSKY



We have been hearing so much in the news about young professionals' struggles to find employment in Vermont. This edition of the CDAE newsletter showcases the value of a CDAE major: we highlight three CDAE graduates who have found employment in Vermont on pages 2-4. These professionals attribute so much of what they offer in their jobs to their skills gained in their relevant, applied majors that also provided a strong liberal arts foundation and combined their in-class work with internships and other service learning opportunities to prepare them so effectively for the job market. In fact, our internship program continues to grow! With the hire of Alie Sarhanis as the Internship Coordinator in CDAE, the breadth and number of internships available to CDAE students (and other students on campus) have expanded (See p. 6). Combining our curriculum and service learning offerings (see the feature on Dr. David Conner's class on p. 8) with the real world experience an internship provides is a winning combination for students and the organizations with which they work. Speaking of winning combinations, I am happy to report that Max Muller (and team) were awarded first place in an entrepreneurship competition, Launch VT, by combining design thinking and entrepreneurship (see p. 6)!

We also welcome and highlight our new faculty hires whose areas of expertise span all of our majors: Community and International Development, Entrepreneurship, and Public Communication. Lecturer Matt Dugan notes, "Modern problems are complex, and modern companies and funders are looking for the people with the skills to solve them." That succinctly communicates the transdisciplinary approach CDAE provides and that all graduates will need in their careers. And, as our world needs creative solutions, our curriculum continually evolves to better equip our alums to solve them. Our largest major in Public Communication has even added three new concentrations to help students hone their skills in specific areas (See p. 7).

I never cease to be amazed by the energy, thoughtfulness, and ability of the faculty, staff, and students in CDAE.

### CDAE FACULTY MEMBER HOSTS CLIMATE CHANGE PANEL AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Climate leaders, international ambassadors and teen activists from around the world gathered at the United Nations last week for an international panel highlighting the unique role of women and parents in developing innovative climate solutions.

Organized in partnership with DearTomorrow, an organization co-founded by UVM behavioral and environmental economist Trisha Shrum, the event aimed to relaunch an international "Our Kids' Climate" coalition to mobilize parents, grandparents, and families around the world to take action in their own lives, in their communities, and to push for serious political action around climate change.

"Fighting for our children's future is a core, primal instinct that crosses all political and social boundaries," said Shrum, a professor in the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics and mother of two. "The work of



Jill Kubit (left) and Trisha Shrum (right) speak with Catarina Rolfsdotter-Jansson (center) of Sweden. All three are founding members of Our Kids' Climate, an international coalition of parent activists. (Photo: Mustafa Onder)

(continued on page 9)

Contributors: Alie Sarhanis, Rachel Leslie, Trisha Shrum, Chris Damiani, Erika Quackenbush, Mariah Noth, Jane Kolodinsky, Travis Reynolds, Matt Dugan

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*The*  
**UNIVERSITY  
of VERMONT**

# ALUMNI IN THE COMMUNITY & IN THEIR OWN VOICE: CHRISTOPHER DAMIANI

## On work...

My job as the planning and zoning administrator for the Town of Waitsfield has a large focus on policy development and analysis through drafting the town plan and local zoning bylaws. It encompasses community development through both project management of local projects but also acting as a facilitator of various community interests. While CDAE covers a broad array of subject areas, it prepares you whether you are in the non profit or government sector interacting with for profit companies or vice versa.

## On CDAE-acquired skills...

One of the most used skills that I learned from CDAE is how to take in a variety of public opinion from a community or interest group and be able to condense them into actionable goals, objectives, and tasks to help move the issue or idea forward. In addition, CDAE also taught the importance being conscious of your meeting environment from the agenda, meeting packets, location, etc. This really sets the stage for having an engaged public meeting.

## On classes...

My three favorite CDAE courses were CDAE 102: Sustainable Community Development, PA 206: Intro to Contemporary Public Affairs, and CDAE 186: Sustainable Development in Small Island States. Each of these classes provide great insight and experience into the logistics of local government. CDAE 102 had a lot of emphasis on the meetings themselves as well as critical thinking skills. PA 206 taught the importance of how you market your public policy objective both before it becomes law and after it passes. CDAE 186 was great because it was working with a relatively small international government roughly the size of Chittenden County but gave awareness into how to approach community development with an outside perspective.

## On staying in Vermont...

I knew that after graduation that I wanted to stay in Vermont. It was important to me that I explore areas outside of Burlington and took a planning job in Woodstock, VT. This provided the ability to explore the Greater Upper Valley area and experience one of many different flavors and cultures that Vermont has to offer.

## On fun...

Now that I am working in the Mad River Valley, I am able to ski at Sugarbush and Mad River Glen more than ever before! In the summertime I enjoy canoeing and hiking. Last summer I finally got around to hiking the whole Long Trail and highly recommend doing that to explore one of Vermont's best assets! Finally I am always searching for the best breakfast food and coffee roasters across the state!

## On advice for CDAE students...

I highly recommend for any CDAE student that either through a CDAE class or on their own, that they travel across the state and visit different communities, talk with the movers and shakers in those towns and see what makes each town shine. By both connecting with those people and learning from their experience you are able to build your network as well as your toolbelt for what failed or succeeded that you can take into your school work or future employment.



Christopher Damiani, CID '15

# ALUMNI IN THE COMMUNITY & IN THEIR OWN VOICE:

## ERIKA QUACKENBUSH

### On work...

Being in marketing there's no better skill than communication; communication is fundamental in creating relationships. In my role as Digital Content Manager at Ski the East, I am tasked with building enticing methods via various channels to convert people into paying customers. It all starts with communication, whether verbal or visual, crafting the right message is imperative.

### On CDAE-acquired skills...

Every day, I tap into my skill set from my CDAE courses. Most notably, for my work with Ski the East, I use my knowledge in data analysis for marketing research and social media engagement, graphic design for our marketing and outreach, copywriting for our products, website, and other media pushes, and, of course, Photoshop.

### On classes...

CDAE 014 - Visual Design Studio

I use Photoshop every single day and it really padded my experience on my resume to be proficient in that program. I took a couple photography classes too, with more photoshop knowledge to be learned there.

CDAE 195: Cabot Marketing Challenge

(now CDAE 178 Socially Responsible Marketing)

Talk about real-world experience! This kind of stuff, like working with community partners, is invaluable post-graduation. When working with a real client, in my case Good News Garage, there's a lot more pressure to do well. Not to mention the financial piece, knowing how to balance a budget is always a good thing. There's nothing better than being thrown into something and learning through trial and error.

### On staying in Vermont...

Once you know, you know: Vermont summers and skiing... doesn't get much better than that! Plus a lot of my family and friends are in the area.

### On fun...

When I'm not at work, you'll find me outside fly fishing, skiing (I get to ski a lot for my job too!), boating, hiking, cooking, etc.

### On advice for CDAE students...

Don't settle; if you're not happy, move on and don't be afraid of failure. Oh, and get certified in Google Analytics (and AdWords while you're at it)!



Erika Quackenbush, PCOM '12



# ALUMNI IN THE COMMUNITY & IN THEIR OWN VOICE: MARIAH NOTH

## On work...

My position as Community Planner has me working with three interconnected towns in Vermont's Mad River Valley and has truly built upon many of the skills developed during my CDAE education. My work involves identifying pathways to achieve community goals and empowering diverse stakeholder groups to realize them.

I often convene community members from diverse backgrounds to engage in local initiatives, such as enhancing local transportation systems, increasing affordable housing opportunities, and codifying the regional trails system with wayfinding signage. My experience in CDAE working directly with communities and dealing with genuine complex challenges on the ground provided a vital foundation for my current work.

## On CDAE-acquired skills...

Daily utilization of systems thinking and the community capitals framework developing social capital among the various committees I staff and local volunteers are paramount. Highlighting the connections between community capitals is also a key strategy for explaining complex and at times ethereal challenges. Drawing these connections is a critical part of my approach to community dialogues as consensus and shared responsibility can emerge when seemingly unmanageable issues are broken down into parts relevant to the everyday lives of stakeholders.

Community engagement, empathy, optimism, and effective communication—both written and through group presentations—were key tenants of my CDAE education that have prepared me to be impactful in my work today.

Additionally, I engage in a significant amount of grant research and writing—skills that were introduced and honed during my international development courses where we learned about funding mechanisms for community initiatives and nonprofits, and was able to employ them. Developing specific, applied technical skills in concert with broad frameworks for objective analysis have been invaluable, as one cannot predict daily occurrences in any given community and must have the drive and capacity to adapt to unforeseen changes as well as prepare for a vibrant future.

## On classes...

One of my favorites was CDAE 271: Local Community Initiatives. During my sophomore year, CDAE 271 pushed me to employ the confidence and skills I was developing through foundational coursework, and engage in a project "on the ground" with the community of Bristol, VT.

## On staying in Vermont...

I returned to Vermont—after 9 months post-graduation exploring food systems and wine production in New Zealand—to expand and hone my community development skills given Vermont's unique interconnectedness and collaborative nature, which facilitates broad and deep involvement in complex initiatives at any career stage.

## On fun...

I enjoy travel, getting outside however I can, and exploring whatever place I find myself in. Craft produce and beverages are also elements of human culture I am deeply passionate about and fascinated by, professionally and personally. Beyond cooking and gardening, I am also thrilled to work with a team of passionate biodynamic wine, cider, and vinous-cider makers here in Vermont as well as volunteer for various local food and beverage oriented organizations.

## On advice for CDAE students...

My experiences in CDAE and beyond taught me to "know what I don't know." That is, to seek knowledge outside myself to provide the most useful assistance to others as those closest to a challenge are most often closest to the solution. I would advise students to keep this in mind moving forward, and to trust that remaining insatiably curious, optimistic, and driven will result in positive world change. I would also remind students that the world is much smaller than it may seem, and even the most complex and far reaching challenges start with small steps, local action, and genuine collaboration. We can all engage in these activities from whatever position we find ourselves in.



Mariah Noth, CID '18

# FACULTY PROFILES: NEW PROFS IN CDAE

## MATTHEW DUGAN, LECTURER, PCOM, MARKETING & CAMPAIGNS

After running a successful production and evidence-based behavioral change agency, Shadow ABC, which produced over 10,000 animations, radio ads, TV ads, web movies, music beds, and sound tracks for local, regional, and national clients, Matt has joined the CDAE faculty focusing on problem-solving in the communication realm to build student portfolios. "Modern problems are complex, and modern companies and funders are looking for the people with the skills to solve them," Dugan notes. "Fortunately, there are exciting social science tools available to do this. Because these tools are underutilized in the modern communications workplace, this represents a significant opportunity for students. We do a lot of work with real-world issues and real-world clients in the pro-health, pro-social, and pro-environmental realms."

When Matt got to CDAE he found his new professional home to be "Tremendously exciting to learn that CDAE was full of smart, engaged people working on solving the same problems in the academic world that my company was working on in the private one."

Outside of the classroom Matt likes to run mountains (over time, he notes, he's observed that they haven't gotten any shorter) and he once biked across the country and found out that most Americans are actually pretty nice folks.

You can find Matt teaching CDAE 124 Public Communication Media; CDAE 112 Social Media: From Theory to Practice; CDAE 127 Consumers, Markets & Public Policy; CDAE 123 Media, Policy, Action; CDAE 128 The Consumer and Advertising; and CDAE 178 Socially Responsible Marketing.



## TRISHA SHRUM, ASST. PROF, CENT & BEHAVIORAL ECON

A behavioral economist by training and an entrepreneur by experience and opportunity, Trisha Shrum joins the CDAE faculty to teach in CDAE's Community Entrepreneurship program. "I studied ecology and environmental science as an undergraduate before falling in love with environmental economics and policy. As I pivoted into my training as an economist, I found that behavioral and experimental economics provided the best tools for me to approach human decision-making related to climate change and natural resource management." During her post-doctoral training at the University of Colorado Earth Lab, Shrum expanded her training in data science and coding to tackle bigger challenges in leveraging big data and creating gaming experiments driven by natural-human systems models.

In true CDAE fashion, Shrum is a problem solver who wants to instill these same theories and skills in the undergraduate students in CDAE. "I'm excited to teach students to think creatively about how to solve problems and to use the practical skills of entrepreneurship to bring their solutions into the world."

Off campus, Shrum loves seeing the world anew from the eyes of her two daughters, Eleanor and Lucina. She's a lifelong dancer and a cellist, enjoys hiking, camping, boating, and catching a nap in a hammock. She also founded a nonprofit called DearTomorrow that seeks to change the culture of climate change by focusing on legacy and love that is passed through each generation. She continues to serve as a strategic advisor to help measure impact through research and assessment.

You can find Trisha teaching book-end courses for our Community Entrepreneurship majors: CDAE 166 Introduction to Community Entrepreneurship and CDAE 267 Strategic Planning for Community Entrepreneurs.

## TRAVIS REYNOLDS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CID

Travis Reynolds made his homecoming voyage across New England from his position at Colby College to join the faculty in CDAE. A longtime collaborator with CDAE faculty and an alum of our Master of Science program, Reynolds is a Vermonter whose family owns a farm in the Northeast Kingdom. "I was already very familiar with the CDAE program and the extraordinary faculty here. When this new position opened up I knew it was my dream job – working with passionate young people committed to using their time and energy to do something good in the world, working with faculty colleagues equally committed to making a difference, and working with farmers – in my home State, and including my own family farm – to help ensure that Vermont remains known as a place where thriving, vibrant, economically prosperous and socially just rural communities and agricultural economies are the norm rather than the exception."

A Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, Reynolds continues ties to Africa with his research. "My primary research interests continue to center on small- and medium-scale farm viability, both internationally (smallholder risk perceptions and agricultural development in Sub Saharan Africa, including work with the [Evans School Policy Analysis and Research Group](#) with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and domestically (small- and medium-scale maple syrup producers' risk perceptions and adaptations to climate change in Vermont, with support from USDA Hatch funding). I am also actively collaborating with other faculty in CDAE and PSS to study various aspects of food and farming systems including disaster risk, agrobiodiversity conservation, culturally significant food crops, and farm and community resilience strategies in Vermont, Puerto Rico, and internationally."

Back on the farm, Travis raises two wonderful kids, James and Lytle, and works with his wife, Riva (CDAE MS '07) and parents (both UVM '77) on the family maple syrup and beef farm in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

You can find Travis teaching CDAE 255 Applied Consumption Economics, CDAE 295 Global Food Policy, CDAE 351 Applied Research Methods and CDAE 392 Graduate Research Seminars.





# CDAE INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT



Nicho Ader, PCOM '20, in the field with UVM's Videographer Ian Thomas Jansen-Lonnquist covering a Wilderness First Responder course field trip

by Alie Sarhanis

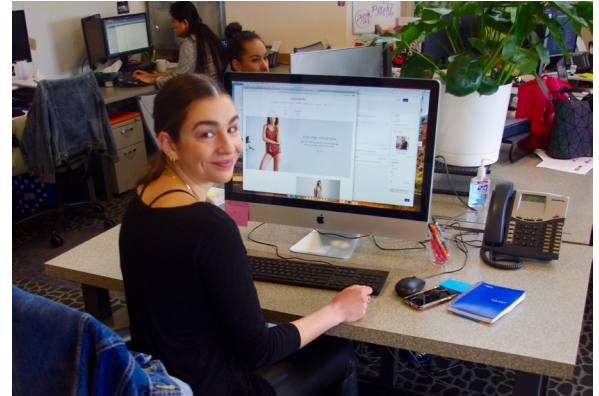
CDAE students interested in gaining applicable skills in their field, expanding their network, and exploring hands-on opportunities have the opportunity to earn up to 15 credits toward their degree by enrolling in CDAE's Internship Course. This allows students to incorporate internships into their academic learning during their time at UVM.

In the 2018-2019 academic year, 65 CDAE students participated in academic internships at over 50 different organizations including Burton Snowboards, Coldwell Banker Hickock and Boardman, Commando, Fuse Marketing, Magic Hat Brewing, Senator Leahy, Tata Harper Skincare, Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sport, and Vermont Works for Women.

interested in working in the non-profit sector and this gave me a first-hand experience as to what it would be like. I had no idea prior to my internship what it would entail but my semester with PJC made me feel more confident about entering the non-profit sector after graduation."

Nicho Ader '20, a self-design major in Narrative Communications & Media, is currently interning with UVM's Videographer to learn how to tell captivating stories through video by strengthening his organization and pre-production skills, cinematography and audio techniques, and editing skills. "This internship is practical," Ader wrote in one of his weekly reflections. "I actually get to go out and do what I want to do as a career, but I get to make mistakes and learn. It's been wonderful, and I am learning a ton. [...] I get to mess up and tinker and try new things here, so when it comes time in the real world, I know my process."

Community members interested in serving as an Internship Partner or students seeking to earn academic credit for their internship should contact CDAE Internship Coordinator, Alie Sarhanis, [alie.sarhanis@uvm.edu](mailto:alie.sarhanis@uvm.edu). To learn more about our internships visit <http://go.uvm.edu/cdae-intern>.



Hannah Albert, PCOM '19 interned at Commando, an apparel company in South Burlington

## Design + Entrepreneurship = Winners

**Max Muller (right, CENT major), Grayson Glosser, Sevda Beridze, Ross Elkort win the Launch VT Collegiate Competition**

Recovery Robe is a novel redesign of the age-old hospital gown that has plagued patients and medical professionals for generations. The Recovery Robe is easier to put on, and unlike traditional gowns, it preserves patients' dignity, provides accessibility for hospital staff, and reduces risk of infection and injury.



## New! CDAE T Shirts

Designed by  
Riley Karl, PCOM '21

(pictured, right, with Chair Jane Kolodinsky at CDAE Honors Day)

Stop by Morrill 205 to pick one up!



# PUBLIC COMMUNICATION CONCENTRATIONS LAUNCHED

## NEW CONCENTRATION AREAS ENABLE STUDENTS TO HONE SKILLS FOR 21ST CENTURY CAREERS IN MEDIA, JOURNALISM, COMMUNICATION AND DESIGN.



By Rachel Leslie

Public communication careers can take many forms. Graduates of UVM's public communication program have landed jobs in government, corporate communications, brand management, advertising, music, nonprofits and everything in between.

New this spring, students majoring in the discipline can hone their skills by choosing one of three new concentrations being offered by the

New concentrations enable UVM public communication majors to focus coursework in areas of strategic communication, communication design, or community media and journalism. (Photo: Bear Cieri)

Department of Community Development and Applied Economics (CDAE): Strategic Communication, Communication Design, or Community Media and Journalism.

"The concentrations help students find their way within the general field of communication and help them be more focused in their future job search," said Jane Kolodinsky, CDAE professor and chair of the department.

Public communication is one of the fastest growing majors in UVM's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Over the past ten years, growing demand has led to increased course offerings in strategic communication, community media, community journalism and communication design. The courses have been designed in response to faculty members' areas of expertise, students' career goals and the continually evolving landscape of communications as a professional field.

While faculty members have long been advising students how to strategically pick electives to cluster around sub-disciplines, the new concentrations make it easier for students to make informed choices about their academic journey and set career goals more clearly.

"We have always been passionate about teaching students how to be responsible, relevant and creative communicators," said CDAE associate professor Sarah Heiss, who was involved in developing the concentrations. "Now, we can accelerate that growth by focusing students' experiences and helping them gain depth in a particular area of public communication. This strengthens their ability to secure internships and launch into rewarding careers."

The concentrations offer students the ability to enhance their resumes with more targeted skills employers are seeking for specific communications jobs.

"I'm excited the PCOM major is making it so easy for me to gain the real-world skills and experiences I need to be a public relations specialist," said junior Rosey Lambert who recently declared a concentration in strategic communication.

Beginning this fall, all new public communication majors will be required to select a concentration, which will help guide their academic experience at UVM.

Current public communication students interested in adding a formal concentration should talk with their advisor to determine whether a concentration is right for them. Non-majors considering a public communication major with a concentration area are encouraged to set up a meeting with one of CDAE's academic advisors.



## LEARNING BY DOING

# A SERVICE-LEARNING APPROACH TO TEACHING RESEARCH METHODS OFFERS IMPORTANT LESSONS IN CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY.

By Rachel Leslie

Learning research methods doesn't have to be boring, says David Conner, associate professor in UVM's Department of Community Development and Applied Economics.

Conner teaches CDAE 250: Applied Research Methods, a required course for all students majoring in community and international development at UVM. Rather than using a lecture-based format, Conner designed the course around a service-learning project, engaging students to apply the class concepts by conducting research for a community partner.

"We learn best when we learn by doing, and our community partners have important research needs," said Conner. "I've found that the best way for students to become better producers and consumers of research is to actually go through the process of doing a research project from start to finish."

Last fall, the class teamed up with the UVM Office of Sustainability to conduct a campus-wide survey evaluating students' attitudes, awareness and behaviors around sustainability at UVM. The study both yielded insightful data, and served as an instrumental teaching tool to help students understand the research process.

"We really did every aspect of the research – starting with understanding the problem, then designing the survey, administering the survey and synthesizing the findings," said Nathan Lantieri, a senior community and international development major.

At the end of the course, Lantieri and classmates Betsy McGavisk, Amanda Falkner and Bridgette McShea spent the next several months working with Conner on a manuscript about the results. Their paper published October 24 in the journal *Sustainability*.

### Applying the methods

UVM has been recognized for its leadership in sustainability. Most recently, it was named the #3 Top Green School by the Princeton Review and has been ranked in the top 12 percent of all rated institutions for its sustainability efforts as measured by STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System for higher education.

As part of UVM's commitment, all students are required to take courses in diversity and sustainability. Twenty undergraduate Eco-Reps teach their peers about sustainable behaviors. The campus is powered by 100% certified renewable electricity, and 25% of food purchases are certified as local, organic, fair trade, or humanely raised. These and many other sustainability-related commitments have earned UVM a STARS Gold rating since 2014.

Working with Conner's class enabled the Office of Sustainability to connect with UVM's teaching mission to capture important information about how the University's sustainability efforts are perceived on campus, said UVM Sustainability Director Gioia Thompson.

"We wanted to understand both what people knew, and how they felt. The students were instrumental in helping us define the issues, determining the right questions to ask and getting a strong survey response rate," said Thompson.

Before designing the survey, the students conducted a comprehensive literature review, as well as focus groups and observations of individual behaviors. The feedback informed the survey design, which included several questions measuring students' sentiments and behaviors along a sliding scale, as well as an open-ended question about sustainability at UVM.

For the next several weeks, the class fanned out across campus administering the survey at dining halls, libraries and student centers, and sent the survey link to friends and classmates. By the end of data collection, they had surveyed more than 700 undergraduate and graduate students.

"Dr. Conner places a big emphasis on both the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the research," said senior Betsy McGavisk, a community and international development major and co-author of the study published in *Sustainability*. "We learned best practices around conducting quality research and the hard skills like using statistical software programs and how to publish and disseminate the results."

### Student perceptions on campus sustainability

The survey showed UVM students have a strong understanding of sustainability as a concept and feel it is important to them and the University at large. On performance, students thought UVM was doing well in addressing environmental issues, but was not giving adequate attention to social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

"When people think about sustainability, they tend to think first about environmental issues," said McGavisk. "Since our survey last fall, we have seen positive change around social justice issues, and students have



As students in David Conner's Applied Research Methods course, seniors Nathan Lantieri and Betsy McGavisk saw what it takes to design, conduct and publish a scientific study from start to finish. (Photo: Sally McCay)

Continued on page 13



## CDAE ASST. PROF LEADS PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE AT THE UN (CONT'D.)

DearTomorrow and Our Kids' Climate aims to leverage the universal power of parental love across the globe to push back climate change."

Shrum began conducting transdisciplinary research on behavioral science and climate communication while receiving her Ph.D. at Harvard University. Her research, as well as the birth of her first child, motivated her to start DearTomorrow with Harvard colleague Jill Kubit. Their goal is to open up conversations across generations about why climate change is important in order to create the cultural shift necessary to transition to a world fueled by renewable energy.

DearTomorrow functions as a digital archive that gives people the opportunity to write messages to their children and grandchildren about climate change that can be accessed when their children are grown. The messages are shared through social media, traditional media, and community art.

Speaking at the UN panel last week, Kubit said, "We created a platform where anyone can write and share a story about how they think about climate change and what they want to do. We ask you to think about someone in your life in the year 2050 and think about the conversation you want to have with them."

Using these storytelling techniques, DearTomorrow is making climate change personal, a core focus of the international forum and emphasized by former EPA head Gina McCarthy during her keynote address.

"If you remember the first time your child was handed to you, my revelation was, 'how can I be so in love with someone I just met' right? You fell in love. But the other thing is that it terrified me. Because no longer was the world just mine or was my happiness just mine alone, it was my responsibility to keep them happy and to keep them healthy because if they weren't, my world fell apart. That's what climate change has to be about," said McCarthy.

Back at UVM, Shrum draws on her experience as a social entrepreneur in her ongoing research and teaching in community entrepreneurship. Catch her at Burlington's FlynnSpace on May 22 where she'll be giving a Pecha Kucha style talk on her research and public outreach work with DearTomorrow.



Left to Right: Cathleen de Kerchove, Women's International Forum (WIF) Board member, Belgium / Les Enfants the Panzi co-founder, Representative Donna Bullock (PA State Rep), Latica Tomašić-Kickert, Women's International Forum (WIF) President, Austria, H.E. Juliane Bogner Strauss - Minister of Women, Families and Youth of the Republic of Austria, Vanessa Huac, Telemundo/NBC Adriana Arriola, Paraguay, Women's International Forum (WIF), Paraguay, Jill Kubit, DearTomorrow co-founder and director, Andrea Mlynárová, Women's International Forum (WIF), Slovakia, Trisha Shrum, University of Vermont and DearTomorrow co-founder.

# HONORS DAY 2019



Family, friends, students, and faculty gathered in Morrill Hall on April 19th to celebrate the successes and honorees of CDAE Honors Day

## **Scholastic Recognition**

Recognition of the top ten percent of all seniors with a major in Community Development & Applied Economics based on cumulative grade point average.

### *Recipients:*

Kirsti Blow  
Anna McAneny  
Chandler Brandes  
Betsy McGavisk  
Meghan Brown  
Katherine McGrath

Alexandra Esposito  
Katherine Robinson  
Laurel Howe  
Haley Stern  
Nathan Lantieri  
Audrey Tuck

## **Faculty Award**

These awards are presented to the graduating senior(s) as nominated by and chosen by the CDAE faculty.

### *Community Entrepreneurship*

Recipients: Max Muller & Yi Li

### *Community & International Development*

Recipient: Betsy McGavisk

### *Public Communication*

Recipient: Mallory Curtis

## **Engaged Scholar Award**

This award is presented to an outstanding student who has translated their high level of academic achievement into meaningful contributions to "real world" community development.

Recipients: Annie McAneny & Brandon Tracy

## **Thomas F. Patterson, Jr. Faculty Award**

This award recognizes an enduring track record in Teaching Assistant and mentoring by a CDAE faculty member.

### *Presentation of Thomas F. Patterson, Jr. award to student*

Recipient: Brie Quinlan

### *Presentation of Thomas F. Patterson, Jr. award to Faculty*

Recipient: Sarah Heiss

## **CDAE T-shirt Design**

Recipient: Riley Karl



## HONORS DAY 2019



### Distinguished Undergraduate Research Award Recipients

Jane Kolodinsky and Kelly Hamshaw with recipients: Meghan Vogel, Anna McAneny, Nathan Lantieri, Macallan Rogers (L to R)



### Internship Award

This award recognizes their ability to incorporate classroom learning skills and professionalism into an internship

Recipients:  
Hannah Albert (left)  
Emily von Weise (right)



## CDAE BY THE NUMBERS

The **Community Development and Applied Economics Department (CDAE)** is part of the **College of Agriculture and Life Sciences** at the **University of Vermont**. CDAE supports sustainable local, regional, and international communities through transdisciplinary research, education, and outreach that serve the public interest.

### Community Development and Applied Economics 2019 Graduate Student Enrollment

MS in CDAE and MPA: 50

### Community Development and Applied Economics 2019 Undergraduate Student Enrollment

Majors: 460

Public Communication: 219

Community Entrepreneurship: 122

Community International Development: 119

Minors: 500

### Research Funding - Fiscal Year 2018:

\$790,110

## SUPPORT CDAE

The Community Development and Applied Economics Department engages our high-achieving students with Vermont communities and beyond. Your donation will help the Department continue to build partnerships and stronger communities for all of us. Annual gifts from alumni and friends at all levels do make a difference. Please consider supporting the Department with a donation of any size. Gifts may be made online at the Development Office's secure website:

[alumni.uvm.edu/giving](https://alumni.uvm.edu/giving)

**\*\*Please specify CDAE in the "Other" category.\*\***



# PUBLICATIONS

- Anderson, C.L., Reynolds, T.W. (In Press, 2019) "Measurement choices with consequences: How we measure yield, crop diversity and smallholders can mischaracterize contributions of agrobiodiversity to smallholder livelihoods." In: Bailey, A. (Ed.) *Agrobiodiversity, Risk and Resilience: First Agrobiodiversity Index Report*. Bioversity International.
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## SERVICE LEARNING, CONTINUED

worked really hard to make that happen. These efforts contribute to the sustainability of our campus, but aren't necessarily labeled as such."

According to Conner and his student co-authors, campuses like UVM are increasingly placing sustainability at the center of their operations, but tend to under-communicate the societal and economic components of sustainability. The researchers suggest universities should strive to promote a more holistic and nuanced understanding of sustainability and more concrete initiatives to foster sustainable behaviors and culture.

"The research emphasized the importance of communication – coming both from our office, and through our partners. We're always looking at sustainability as multidimensional, but that idea is not getting to students. The survey results show that students want UVM staff to make clear the links among social justice, ecological health and sustainable development in addressing topics that might otherwise be labeled 'environmental,' such as recycling and low-carbon transportation," said Thompson.

### Research to impact

The UVM Office of Sustainability has had a long partnership with Conner and his course, whose research in past years has helped inform campus policies about ending bottled water sales and campus dining operations.

"Our campus is really a living laboratory in how we think about the realistic manifestations of sustainability. Engaging students in the process enables them to be exposed to the complexities involved in campus operations and policies," said Caylin McCamp, education and outreach coordinator for the Office of Sustainability.

In 2013, driven by student activism, UVM became one of the first public universities to end the sale of bottled water on campus. As the initiative was being developed, Conner's class conducted a similar campus-wide assessment of students' beverage habits and opinions that informed the administration's decisions on how best to implement the policy.

"My hope is that my students see it as more than a class. First and foremost, I want what we learn to be used and for our community partners to take action," said Conner.

As for Lantieri and McGavisk, the class has given them a new perspective on sustainability issues and has set them up for success in their next research endeavor – both are part of the UVM Honors College and are busy working on their senior theses.

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