A new year, a new Foundation

The University of Vermont began a new year and a new chapter in its fundraising history January 1, with the formal start of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College Foundation, Inc.

The Foundation was incorporated in March 2011 with the sole purpose of securing and managing private support for UVM. It will devote itself to raising financial support for the academic and related priorities of the University, including gifts that will build a supplemental endowment.

“This alliance has broad implications for the financial health of the University, and its impact will be felt throughout the institution,” said UVM Interim President John Bramley. “With the establishment of the University of Vermont Foundation, UVM has signaled its intent to become more engaged in the broader scope of American philanthropy.”

The UVM Foundation is an independent organization governed by its own Board of Directors and assisted in its work by a volunteer Foundation Leadership Council comprising major donors. Foundation responsibilities include identifying and nurturing relationships with potential donors and other friends of UVM; soliciting cash, securities, real and intellectual property, and other private resources; and acknowledging and stewarding gifts in accordance with donor intent.

“We couldn’t be more pleased with the way the UVM Foundation has come together in the last year,” said UVM Foundation President and CEO Richard Bundy. “With an outstanding Board of Directors and Foundation Leadership Council in place, capable and experienced fundraising staff, and a strong and expanding base of engaged donors, we’re eager to take the University to a new level of philanthropic support.”

Alumnus J. Brooks Buxton ’56 generously funded a collection of watercolor paintings created by Schwartz/Silver Architects that depict a restored Billings Library. The collection is currently on display in the Waterman Building. See story on the renovation plans on page 2.
A New Era

I am tremendously excited by the official launch on New Year's Day of the University of Vermont Foundation, an organization committed to securing and managing private support for the benefit of the University of Vermont.

Establishment of the Foundation was driven by the rapidly changing economic realities of higher education—a decline in federal and state support and a tuition model approaching its upper limit and threatening the ability of our students and their families to afford a UVM education. Given those realities, private support plays a critical role in our ability to realize the full potential of a great institution. As I write, the campus community is in the process of identifying a set of strategic fundraising priorities that will guide the planned upcoming comprehensive campaign.

Private support has a significant impact on our University—hence we have chosen Impact as the name of this publication. A great example of that impact can be seen in the generous gift announced at Reunion and Homecoming Weekend from Donald “Don” H. McCree ’83 and his wife, Gabrielle “Gabby” McCree, to support scholarships. The couple established the McCree Family Scholarship Fund with a half-million-dollar gift in 2006 and decided to double that commitment with a new $1 million gift to be divided equally between their named scholarship and UVM's general scholarship fund. Senior Alema Turajlic speaks for many when she says that she “would not have been able to attend UVM without the generosity of the McCrees.”

The launch of the UVM Foundation ushers in a new era of philanthropic opportunity at our University, and we look forward to engaging you in a future conversation about your support for UVM.

Sincerely,

Richard Bundy, President and CEO

RESTORING A NATIONAL HISTORIC TREASURE

Libraries are the very heart of intellectual life at every great university.

At the University of Vermont, its first library—Billings Library—will soon be returned to its roots and once again become a vital center in which research and scholarship flourish. The Billings Library served as the University library from 1885 until 1961. As a cornerstone of the library infrastructure, Billings Library will help meet the information needs for the 21st century. The University community, Vermont, and even the world will benefit from what takes place within its elegant walls.

Preserving this national historic treasure is a high priority of the University and the new University of Vermont Foundation. More than $3 million of the needed $9 million to begin this project has already been raised. The Billings Renovation Project ushers in a new era for a historic UVM building, extending its storied role in the life of the University.

The restored Billings Library will house Special Collections, including rare books, manuscripts and the Wilbur Collection of Vermontiana. Two additional academic units will also locate in Billings Library—the Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies and the Center for Research on Vermont.

To learn more about the Billings Library Renovation Project, please contact Amy Shea at Amy.Sheauvm.edu or visit uvmfoundation.org/billings

OUR MISSION

The mission of the UVM Foundation is to secure and manage private support for the benefit of the University of Vermont.

OUR VISION

The vision of the UVM Foundation is to provide meaningful engagement opportunities for donors that maximize their philanthropic investment in the University of Vermont toward the realization of the University's aspiration to remain among the nation's premier small research institutions.

FUNDING THE FUTURE

• The UVM Foundation exists solely to benefit the University of Vermont, serving as the preferred channel for all private contributions to all areas of the University.
• The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors responsible for overseeing the Foundation’s property and assets and directing the business and affairs of the UVM Foundation.
• The affiliated Foundation provides the University an opportunity for engagement with its most committed and capable supporters.
• As state support declines as a percentage of the University’s total operating budget, private contributions from alumni and friends are increasingly necessary for UVM to fulfill its mission of world-class education, research, and outreach to Vermont, the nation, and the world.
• The UVM Foundation and the UVM Alumni Association are partners in encouraging the full participation of alumni and friends in advancing the University of Vermont.

IMPACT is published by the University of Vermont Foundation for alumni and friends of UVM. Questions or comments may be directed to impact@uvmfoundation.org or 802-656-3945.
At its annual leadership retreat at the Stoweflake Resort in February, the UVM Alumni Association Board of Directors endorsed a plan to institute a dues-based membership structure combined with enhanced services to alumni, with a target startup date of July 1, 2013.

The plan was developed by an ad hoc work group of the Alumni Board charged with reviewing best practices at other institutions and recommending a course of action. In deciding on the membership dues model, it sought to preserve current services to alumni while providing significant enhancements to dues-paying supporting members of the UVM Alumni Association.

Enhanced membership services could include special pricing on Alumni Association merchandise, preferred access to UVM athletic events, and discounted rates at local and national hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, retail establishments, and entertainment and recreational venues. All of the revenues generated would be reinvested in the Alumni Association to support programming for UVM alums nationwide.

Alumni Association President Ted Madden ’92 said the new membership structure will in no way diminish the benefits available to those who do not choose the enhanced membership. “As alums, we are all part of the UVM family,” he said. “It’s important that everyone recognize we’re not taking anything away from what exists now for alums, just providing a broader range of benefits.”

Also at the retreat, the directors heard updates from UVM Foundation President and CEO Rich Bundy and UVM Interim President John Bramley. A joint work group of the Alumni Association and UVM Foundation boards shared a proposed set of revised bylaws for the Alumni Association, highlighting a proposal that the Alumni Association become a standing committee of the UVM Foundation Board of Directors.

Alumni Association President Ted Madden ’92 and Krissy Pisanelli ’97, vice president, at the annual leadership summit at Stoweflake Resort in Stowe.

Senior Alex Howe skates up a hill at Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe during the UVM Winter Carnival. Following the carnival, the UVM ski team was invited to mingle with members of the Alumni Association leadership at an après-ski reception.

What will be your UVM Legacy?

“While at UVM, Library Special Collections drew me in. It pleases me to help UVM, by way of my will provision, collect and preserve historic books and documents for generations of UVM students to come,” shares Joy Fagan ’66. Watch for a full profile of Ms. Fagan in the spring issue of Vermont Quarterly.

If you’d like to find out more about how you can include UVM in your estate plans, please contact:

Becky Arnold
Associate Director of Planned Giving
802-656-9535
888-458-8691 (toll free)
Becky.Arnold@uvm.edu
Foundation Leadership

The Foundation Board of Directors and the Foundation Leadership Council provide volunteer leadership to the Foundation and University through their philanthropy, service, skills, networking, knowledge, and strategic business acumen. The Council was established to provide a platform to engage the institution’s most passionate, influential, and accomplished alumni and friends. Members of the Foundation Board of Directors are also members of the Foundation Leadership Council.

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

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Winchester, MA

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Demarest, NJ
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The inaugural members of the UVM Foundation Leadership Council were formally inducted in an October 2011 ceremony in Billings Library.
MAZUZAN SCHOLARSHIP

A Dream Pursued

Third-year medical student Gwen Fitz-Gerald’s connections to the University of Vermont run deep—besides the seven years she has spent on campus, her siblings, father, grandparents, and great-grandfather have all called UVM their alma mater.

Even deeper than her connection to UVM is Fitz-Gerald’s commitment to a career in medicine, which started when she was just a child watching “Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman” on television, and continued through getting her emergency medicine technician license while in high school, and earning her undergraduate degree in sociology, with a concentration in medicine and health care.

In addition to the support of her family and friends, Fitz-Gerald is helped in the attainment of her medical education by generous scholarship philanthropy—she is the recipient of the John Mazuzan, MD ’54, Scholarship, which was established to honor the former chair of the Department of Anesthesiology by his friend, James Andrew.

“The cost of higher education continues to rise, and having scholarships available, through the generosity of the Burlington and UVM community, means so much to me,” says Fitz-Gerald. “I am honored to be a beneficiary of the community’s support and encouragement.”

PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

Involving and engaging key donors in fundraising activities carried out on behalf of the University of Vermont is a key objective of the University of Vermont Foundation. That takes leadership, and the UVM Foundation is fortunate to count among its assets some of the most talented and experienced volunteer leaders one could hope to assemble. UVM Foundation Impact invites you to make their acquaintance through these occasional “Profiles in Leadership.”

EUGENE AND JOAN KALKIN

Eugene and Joan Kalkin are among the University of Vermont’s most dedicated and committed volunteer leaders, dating back to Eugene’s student years as a member of the Class of 1950. Eugene is the first chairman of the Board of Directors of the University of Vermont Foundation, and Joan is an inaugural member of the Foundation Leadership Council.

EUGENE KALKIN

UVM 1950
B.A., Psychology
1998 Honorary Degree

JOAN KALKIN

UVM 1998
Honorary Degree

AS A STUDENT

Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity; The Cynic; John Dewey Club; Hillel; Advanced Military; International Relations Club, Bernard Baruch School of Business, City College of NY, 1951

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Chairman of the Board of Directors, University of Vermont Foundation, 2011–present
Retired President and Founder, Kalkin & Company, Great Eastern Linens, Linens ‘n Things

UVM ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Legacy of Leadership Award, 2001
Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award, 1990
UVM Trustee, 1986–92
Honorary Board Member, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources, 2008–present
Board Member, School of Business Administration, 1984–91
Board Member, College of Arts & Sciences, 2000–07
Co-Chair Emeritus, National Campaign Steering Committee, 2001–07

Read more about the Kalkins in the spring 2012 issue of Vermont Quarterly.
Mieders making a muckle

It may be just a small thing in their eyes, but Wolfgang and Barbara Mieder’s leadership gift gives a big boost to the fundraising effort on behalf of UVM’s Alumni House project. “Many a mickle makes a muckle,” Wolfgang says with a modesty admirable in a man once anointed by *Smithsonian* magazine as the world’s top proverb expert. “It’s a Scottish proverb that means many little things make a big thing.”

The Mieders’ gift will name the Wolfgang and Barbara Mieder Faculty Lounge in the new Alumni House. The couple was excited to learn about the Alumni House project when it was first announced several years ago—especially so after touring the building. “Immediately I thought, ‘This is for us,’” he says. “We were taken by the idea of giving to the faculty lounge as a place for faculty, and emeriti in particular, to spend some congenial time together and have an identity on campus.”

The Mieders like the fact that opportunities to participate in the multi-million-dollar project are available at various giving levels. “It gives us a way to show our appreciation for what UVM has meant to us all these years,” Wolfgang says. The professor of German and folklore in the Department of German and Russian, which he chaired from 1977 to 2008, is now in his 41st year on the faculty. Barbara recently retired after many years as a teacher of German and Latin at Milton High School in Milton.

Mieder finds it particularly appropriate that the Wolfgang and Barbara Mieder Faculty Lounge will showcase books by UVM faculty and alumni authors. “It will lend an academic flavor to the building,” he says, and reinforce the connections returning alumni feel to institutional traditions and faculty spanning many years. “It’s important that we have some spaces like that on campus. I think the whole building is a fabulous idea.”

Mieder envisions the faculty lounge as a place current or emeriti faculty will come to know as their “little corner of the campus” for relaxed conversation over a cup of coffee shared with alums, students, and staff.

He hopes that other faculty and staff will consider giving to the Alumni House project or other UVM priorities that will be part of the University’s next campaign. “All of us can chip in a little bit,” he says. “It isn’t the amount. It doesn’t even have to be money. It’s important to show that UVM employees are involved in all of these important efforts. That is something where we all can make a difference.”

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**GREEN & GOLD**

Green & Gold Chair Bud Ockert ’58 and Hank Shaw ’59, vice chair, express their gratitude to the more than 1,000 Green & Gold members who have so generously donated more than $868,000 so far this year to UVM. “We are within reach of our $1 million donor goal,” said Ockert. “Thanks to all of you!”

**REMEMBER** Green & Gold classes of 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, and 1957 will be coming back to campus this fall, October 5–7, 2012, for their class reunions, or June 8–10 for College of Medicine alums.

**REUNION**

October 5-7, 2012
LARNER MEDICAL SCHOLARS SAY “THANK YOU”

Established in 1985 by Helen and Robert Larner, M.D., a 1942 University of Vermont College of Medicine alumnus, the Larner Endowment Fund has provided financial support to over 1,000 UVM medical students for more than a quarter of a century.

In setting up the fund, the Larners were guided by a small set of very clear goals. They wanted to provide significant support for financially needy and superior students at the UVM College of Medicine, help as many medical students as possible, and create a culture of “giving back” that would continue to develop the fund as its recipients and others moved into their professional lives.

Today, the Larner Fund is fulfilling its mission with yet another generation of students engaged in earning their medical degree at the College of Medicine. The Larners have consistently made regular additions to the fund and, true to original expectations, many of those former low-cost loan recipients have returned the favor by giving back to the fund with their own generous donations.

“My hope is that the Larner Fund will inspire its beneficiaries to think about giving back, if only in modest ways, even before they graduate,” said Larner, who celebrated his 94th birthday in January at his home in California. In early November, a group of medical students—all Larner Fund scholars—posed for a special photo, which they sent to Larner to thank him for his generosity, along with personal notes and video recordings of individual messages of thanks.

A SCHOLARSHIP CHANGES A LIFE

Graduating senior Laura Richards is a good example of how scholarship support changes lives. The Pittsburgh native was a little hesitant about coming all the way to Vermont and leaving her family four years ago, but because of the Presidential Scholarship she received each year, she made the leap and has never looked back.

“It’s rewarding to know that the effort I put into my studies in high school allowed me to come to UVM on a scholarship. The support has definitely made it a little easier on my family,” says Richards, who has a double major in animal science and Spanish, with a minor in music.

Richards’ coursework shows the breadth of classes available to students with varied interests. She chose animal science because “UVM has a great program, with the farm on Spear Street and the Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge.” Richards especially likes her Spanish classes because of the professors. “It’s been one of my favorite subjects. The professors are just fantastic.” She has a minor in music and was inspired by music professor Ray Vega’s “Intro to the History of Jazz.” “I have been taking classical piano lessons since I was 4, but when I took Ray Vega’s class my sophomore year, I ended up taking jazz piano lessons the remainder of my time at UVM—it’s part of my minor. It’s great.”

Richards also earns a little extra cash by working as a student in the Chatty Cats office, which runs the phonathon for the Annual Giving Office in the UVM Foundation. “When I call alumni and friends, I am always so interested to hear what they’re doing with their UVM degrees, and they seem to enjoy hearing from me about my time as a student. I think it helps remind them of their student days.”

“I always keep my own scholarship assistance in mind when I’m working at Chatty Cats. I truly am so grateful to those alumni who are helping students like me stay in school by supporting us in whatever way they can. I have friends who wouldn’t be able to afford their education without help. It’s meaningful and it changes lives.”
Visit our website for the latest on UVM’s new era of philanthropy.

- Learn about our leadership
- Find an area to support
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