Emphasizing the value of teamwork, cardiothoracic surgeon Frank Ittleman, M.D., expressed his profound gratitude on behalf of UVM and Fletcher Allen Health Care to a donor who recently gave $1 million for a professorship in his name. The Frank P. Ittleman Professorship in Cardiothoracic Surgery will help the College of Medicine and Fletcher Allen Health Care attract and retain a nationally recognized cardiothoracic surgeon to the greater-Burlington community.

“This gift is a testament to the excellent care Dr. Ittleman and our cardiothoracic surgical team provide to each and every heart patient who comes to Fletcher Allen,” said John R. Brumsted, M.D., president and CEO of Fletcher Allen Health Care.

According to Ittleman, several years ago the donor, who requested anonymity, had a cardiac problem that required surgery and he became the patient’s surgeon. Later, a close friend of the patient’s needed emergency heart surgery and coincidentally Ittleman also was that person’s surgeon. Both did well and those positive experiences became the impetus for the donor’s generous gift.

“I am humbled, proud, and pleased. I do want to make clear, however, that this gift is not about me—it is a reflection on the institution as a whole and all the people who work here every day,” said...

Frank Ittleman, M.D.
The Future is Bright

Donors to UVM are making a significant difference in our ability to promote financial access for students through scholarships and graduate fellowships. As Rachel Johnson, Bickford Green and Gold Professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, noted in her keynote speech at winter commencement in December, during the last four years, donors have provided more than $22 million in new scholarship support to students. Dr. Johnson also exhorted the newest alumni to give back themselves when they can—laying the groundwork for additional scholarships in the future. This collective embrace of current and future students by our donors is a powerful investment in higher education, and we are pleased to feature some of our newest scholarships in this issue of Impact.

Of course, not every donor chooses to give to scholarships—and we are grateful for support directed to other priorities on the campus as well. From technology for our highly competitive nursing program, to faculty support at all of our colleges, to funding for the impending Billings Library renovation, private donors are advancing the teaching, research, and outreach mission of the University of Vermont on a daily basis and in a substantial way.

We are tremendously excited about what promises to be another noteworthy year in the University of Vermont’s ongoing upward trajectory, and we look forward to sharing many new stories in 2013 of how donors advance our institution’s mission. For now, we pause to look back on 2012, reflect on the significant progress we have made, and thank you for your continued support.

I hope your holidays were filled with joy, and, on behalf of all my colleagues at the UVM Foundation, I extend our very best wishes for a new year that finds you safe, happy, and healthy.

Sincerely,

Richard Bundy, President and CEO
Celebrating Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise

A $100,000 gift from School of Business Administration alumnus David Aronoff ’86 and his wife, Jessica, helped launch the first Business Pitch Competition in October. The money was used for the inaugural Student Experiential Learning: Case Competitions that was held during Reunion & Homecoming Weekend.

“Business plan competitions provide important opportunities for students to integrate their learning across a variety of functional areas,” said Aronoff, who is a general partner at Flybridge Capital Partners. “Winning or losing the contest doesn’t matter as much as the experience the students gain from developing their own ideas into concrete plans, presenting them in a public forum, and working in teams.”

The competition, which was attended by more than 100 people, gave five finalists a chance to present their ideas to prominent alumni and members of the business community to compete for cash prizes toward their entrepreneurial innovation.

SBA senior Max Ebenstein, founder of Doorack, won the competition and received $3,000 to start his business along with a free entry to compete in the MassChallenge, a $1 million global accelerator program.

“Through case competitions, the University gains valuable insights that can help it tune their MBA program,” added Aronoff. “Judges, usually with very relevant backgrounds, give immediate feedback to students, which provides a unique learning opportunity to help students with both academic and professional development.”

“Case and business pitch competitions provide our students with the opportunity to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and sharpen analytical and presentation skills,” said Sanjay Sharma, SBA dean. “We are extremely grateful to David and Jessica for their donation.”

The Judges

Competitors were given five minutes to present their ideas before taking 10 minutes of questions from the distinguished panel of judges. The judges, from left, included David Aronoff, general partner at Flybridge Capital Partners; Bill Stenger, co-owner of Jay Peak; Max Ebenstein, SBA senior; Jim Keller, president of Green Mountain Business Consultants; Lisa Groenveld, COO and co-owner of Logic Supply; and Peter O’Connell, president of Champlain LLC.

Family Business Awards

The School of Business Administration honored alumni and Vermont-based businesses that have overcome the challenges of succession to achieve lasting success. The Family Business Awards were judged by Greg Bourgea, co-managing partner of Gallagher Flynn & Co.; Scott Carpenter, past president of Key Bank, Vermont; Steven Grossman ’61, former CEO of Southern Containers; John Hall ’85, chief operating officer of Rachael Ray Inc.; and Robin Tauck ’77, president of Robin Tauck & Partners.

2012 Winners

FIRST GENERATION AWARD
UVM Foundation board member Stephen Ifshin ’58 and his son, Adam, co-owners of DLC Management Corp. The award recognizes UVM founder-led firms with multiple family members in ownership or operations.

MULTI GENERATION – U.S. BASED AWARD
Richard Luff ’90 of Sagamore Golf, Inc. The award recognizes completing at least one generational transfer within the family.

VERMONT LEGACY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Michael Rainville of Maple Landmark Inc. The award recognizes outstanding and lasting success for a Vermont-based family business.
Welcoming New Members

In early October, 13 new members of the Foundation Leadership Council were inducted at a luncheon during the Foundation Board of Directors meeting. UVM President Tom Sullivan addressed the initiates by saying, “We are lucky to have people like you to advise and guide us. As we combine our efforts, we will be well-positioned to move UVM to the next level of excellence.”

New council members join the 36 inaugural members who were inducted in October 2011. Council inductees are selected for their philanthropic involvement and interest in advancing UVM and must be a member of the Ira Allen Society, which comprises UVM donors at the highest level.

A position on the leadership council is a prerequisite for consideration to be elected to the Foundation Board of Directors. “The council was established to provide a platform to engage the institution’s most passionate, influential, and accomplished alumni and friends,” Foundation President and CEO Rich Bundy told the group.

Eugene Kalkin, chair of the Foundation Board of Directors, added, “As new council members, you join an esteemed group of alumni and friends whose mission is to secure and manage private support for the benefit of the University of Vermont to ensure it remains high among the nation’s premier small research institutions.”

Ira Allen Society Challenge

Annual members of the Ira Allen Society play a critical role in the success of the University of Vermont, providing continuing, steadfast support year after year. During the past year, the UVM Foundation has developed a new plan for the Ira Allen Society that includes enhanced recognition and increased gift levels. The Ira Allen Society now recognizes annual gifts of $2,500, an increase from the former $1,000 level.

In an effort to raise even more funds for the University and give a boost to the new gift levels, Donald “Don” McCree ’83 and his wife, Gabriele “Gabby” McCree, have offered a challenge to annual members of the Ira Allen Society. The McCrees have extended a $100,000 challenge if 100 current annual members of the society increase their commitment from the former $1,000 level to the new $2,500 level.

Those who meet the McCree challenge and increase their support as annual members of the Ira Allen Society will not only be helping current students, but will also enjoy many opportunities for ongoing engagement with the University of Vermont. They will be sent special “insider” communications about campus and given opportunities to attend private Ira Allen Society events both on campus and regionally.

A gift of $2,500 or more in any one year qualifies a donor as an annual member of the Ira Allen Society. This includes all cash gifts and corporate matching gifts as well as credit for donor-advised funds and private foundation gifts.

A Tradition of Giving

Don McCree ’83 has given to UVM every year since he graduated, starting small and then growing his gifts. His motivation? “Simply said, I just love this place.”

Leadership and giving have been consistent themes in McCree’s life, going back to his student days. He held several leadership positions while attending UVM and has been involved with a number of philanthropic boards since graduation. McCree has continued offering his guidance at UVM as a founding member of the UVM Foundation Board of Directors and member of its Finance and Investment Committee.
The University of Vermont Foundation

Palliative Care Collaborative

Holly and Bob Miller Fellowship to Advance Palliative Care

A passion and concern for the community is the motivation behind the most recent gift to UVM from Holly and Bob Miller of Burlington. The Palliative Care Collaborative, comprised of the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the UVM College of Medicine, Fletcher Allen Health Care, and the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle counties, received a $100,000 gift from the Millers to fund the Advanced Practice Nursing Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Care.

The Advanced Practice Nursing Fellowship is a critical education and clinical care component made possible by the Millers, who recognize and support the needs of end-of-life and palliative care patients. The availability of palliative care for all Vermonters is a priority service goal for the Palliative Care Collaborative and for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, which prepares advanced practice nurses.

“Holly and Bob Miller truly understand the critical need for palliative care services as this leadership gift certainly demonstrates,” said Patricia Prelock, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. “This gift paves the way for making a real difference in this important area of health care.”

“We are excited about the opportunity to support this unique and rare collaboration,” said Holly Miller. “Our gift for this nursing fellowship is given in the spirit of a tribute to these four institutions that have come together to identify the greatest needs around palliative and end-of-life care for our community. We truly believe that this will make a meaningful difference in patient care.”

The percentage of U.S. hospitals providing inpatient palliative care services increased an estimated 125 percent between 2000 and 2008, highlighting the critical need for preparation of health care professionals who are specialty trained in palliative care. Recruiting such practitioners has been a challenge for Vermont hospitals. This fellowship will address the needs and goal for access to quality palliative care for all Vermonters.

“The generosity of the Millers to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and to their vision for ensuring high-quality supportive care for those in need is extraordinary,” added Prelock. “Their support will help us ensure a much-needed focus in palliative care for nurse practitioners for years to come.”

For nearly 30 years Holly Miller has been an advocate for the thoughtful and supportive care of individuals nearing the end of life. She was a founding director of the Vermont Respite House and has served on a number of community boards and committees. With a primary focus on palliative and end-of-life care, Miller is a hospice volunteer, a member of the Noyana Hospice choir, and a longtime member of the Madison-Deane Initiative, all of which are programs within the VNA’s umbrella of end-of-life care services.

Three Benefits of Preparing Practitioners

1. Greater patient-family case management and coordination
2. Safe and effective management of patients’ complex and changing symptoms
3. Advanced practitioner registered nurse support for physicians, nurses, and social workers to provide the highest quality bedside care to patients and their families

Palliative care is specialized medical care for people with serious illnesses and aims to improve quality of life for both the patient and family. It focuses on providing patients with relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of a serious illness—whatever the diagnosis.
No. 1 Fan Creates New Space for Women’s Hoops

Ask any member of the women’s basketball Catamounts who is their biggest fan, and you’re likely to get the same response: Malcolm LeVanway. For years he’s attended every home game, acted as a one-man cheering section for the Catamounts, and been a volunteer booster who has played a key role in the 50/50 raffle sales effort on the team’s behalf.

“We really consider him part of our team,” says coach Lori Gear McBride. “He’s come with us on bus trips and he knows all the girls. The girls all love him.” That sentiment was very much in evidence following an exhibition game with Franklin Pierce on Saturday, Nov. 3, as the team threw a surprise party for LeVanway on the occasion of his 81st birthday.

The venue was the team’s newly refurbished locker room in Patrick Gymnasium—a project made possible by a gift from LeVanway himself. “We couldn’t be more thrilled,” says McBride. “It really is a wonderful thing that he’s done for us.”

The women’s basketball locker room space had been a weak point for the program for a long time. The space was inadequate for team meetings and training sessions because it was divided into two rooms, neither of which could accommodate the whole team in one sitting. The renovation project made possible by No. 1 fan LeVanway was a complete overhaul of the space: floor-to-ceiling and wall-to-wall, with new furniture and carpeting, lockers, showers, lounge area, and even kitchen equipment.

As to the birthday unveiling, “It was a very pleasant surprise, and I just didn’t know what to say. It was very emotional,” LeVanway says.

UVM women’s basketball is quite simply his passion in retirement, he says, and he also has made a provision in his will to establish the Malcolm LeVanway Scholarship to provide annual support for UVM women’s basketball players.

“I was never married, never had any children, and I always sort of thought it would be nice to have a daughter,” he says. “I sort of adopted that team as … they’re my daughters … and it’s just been a pleasure doing it.”

“It really is a wonderful thing that he’s done for us.”

COACH LORI GEAR MCBRIDE
**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 Dr. Mimi Reardon, who is a member of the UVM Foundation Board of Directors.

**MILDRED “MIMI” A. REARDON, M.D. ’67**

Born in Boston and raised in Massachusetts, Reardon now considers herself a Vermonter. A resident of Williston, Reardon received an M.D. degree (cum laude) from UVM in 1967. She did an internal medicine residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and then a fellowship in hematology and oncology at UCLA. In 1971, she returned to Vermont to practice internal medicine at Aesculapius Medical Center (for 27 years) in South Burlington, while being actively involved with the teaching programs at the College of Medicine. During her career, the Wilbur Society member became the first woman president of the Vermont Medical Society and was a founder of the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, the statewide initiative to evaluate and measure quality in health care. Reardon became the first associate dean of primary care at UVM College of Medicine in 1993 and was responsible for improving primary care access across the state, particularly in rural areas. She also initiated the statewide AHEC (Area Health Education Center) program supporting community health improvement and health education throughout Vermont. While she retired in 2011 as clinical professor emeritus of medicine, she continues to be involved through volunteer roles in the College of Medicine, the UVM Foundation, and the University.

**WHY GIVE BACK TO THE UNIVERSITY?**

“UVM helped me to develop my potential. I have a responsibility to give back and to encourage others who benefited from their UVM education to do so, too. Private gifts ensure a legacy for future students to reach their potential.”

**POINTS OF PRIDE**

Reardon is proud to have been involved in establishing the Freeman Medical Scholars Program in 2000. This program gave scholarship support to 442 UVM College of Medicine students between 2000 and 2012 to encourage and assist in practicing medicine in Vermont, especially its least-served areas. Although many of those scholarship recipients are still completing their post-graduate training, 85 of them are now practicing in Vermont in each of its 14 counties. This program also supported College of Medicine graduates from before the year 2000 who had significant debt. Between scholarships and educational-loan-repayment awards, over 300 physicians, or approximately 20 percent, of those practicing in Vermont have been aided by this program. That also has paved the way for the Freeman Foundation Legacy Medical Scholars Program to continue to provide scholarship assistance to medical students.

**HONORED**

The Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Foundation awards an annual $10,000 “Dr. Mildred Reardon Scholarship” to a third-year medical student at the UVM College of Medicine.

**COMMUNITY BOARDS**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont
Wake Robin Board, Vermont Health Foundation
Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden & Grand Isle Counties

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

Service to Medicine and Community Award, UVM Medical Alumni Association, 1990
Mastership Award, American College of Physicians, 1998

Distinguished Service Award, Vermont Medical Society, 1998
A. Bradley Soule Award, UVM Medical Alumni Association, 1999
Laureate Award, Vermont Chapter of the American College of Physicians, 1999
Founder’s Award, Vermont Medical Society, 2004
“Local Legend” designation from the National Library of Medicine, 2005
Outstanding Alumni Award, Northeastern University, 2006
Concurrent Resolution honoring Dr. Reardon, Vermont Legislature, 2007

**CALENDAR**

**February 15**

Boston Men’s Ice Hockey vs. Northeastern, 6:30-8:30 pm

**February 24**

Miami UVM Admitted Student Reception, 6:30-8:30 pm

**April 10**

Chicago UVM Admitted Student Reception, 6:30-8:30 pm

**April 18**

Burlington Graduating Women’s Dinner, 5-8 pm

**April 24**

UVM Scholarship Dinner, 6-8:30 pm

**April 25-26**

UVM Foundation Board of Directors Meeting

For details and to register, visit us online: alumni.uvm.edu
Dr. J. Donald Capra and his wife, Patricia Capra, of Oklahoma City, Okla., have made a generous provision in their estate to benefit the University of Vermont College of Medicine. Capra, who earned his undergraduate degree at UVM in 1959 and his M.D. from the UVM College of Medicine in 1963, said the gift is in memory of his parents, Richard and Mary Capra, of Barre, Vt., and an expression of his gratitude to them. “I am forever grateful to my parents for introducing me to the concept of going to college early in life,” he says. "My medical degree from the University of Vermont has allowed me to have a productive life and see the world.” Capra’s parents came to Vermont from Italy as children, in the first decade of the 20th century. “My grandfather was a stonemason in Barre,” said Capra. “My father worked as an electrician/derrick operator in Barre at Comolli and Company his entire working life. My mother was a homemaker and raised my sister, Carolyn, and myself.” Although not formally educated, his parents appreciated and emphasized education as a priority for their children.

On graduating from the UVM College of Medicine in 1963, Capra was awarded the William Brown Alumni Prize, named for a former dean of the College of Medicine, and the UVM Century Award. An academic physician specializing in immunology, he held the Edwin L. Cox Distinguished Chair in Immunology and Genetics at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and directed its Molecular Immunology Center from 1990 to 1997. In 1997, he was asked to serve as the third full-time president of the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, a moderate-sized research institute in Oklahoma City. Since his retirement in 2006, Capra has been consulting widely for pharmaceutical firms in the field of immunology.

Capra met his wife of 54 years, Patricia, when she was a nurse at Mary Fletcher Hospital and he was an undergraduate student. Patricia went back to school mid-career to earn a Ph.D. from UT Southwestern and became an academic clinical psychologist at the university, where she served as vice chair of the Department of Psychology for 15 years.

“As a former foundation president,” Capra said, “I know how wonderful it can be to get an estate gift and have the flexibility to do whatever is needed and necessary.” In his role at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, he helped to raise more than $100 million.

“My wife and I decided to make this type of unrestricted gift to UVM so that a future dean could use the funds where he or she sees fit. My hope is that upon our deaths, there will be enough money in the account to name a chair for my parents. I think that a Richard and Mary Capra Chair in the College of Medicine would make visitors stop, every once in a while, and wonder who the Capras were—Italian immigrants from Barre, Vt., whose son graduated from medical school and wished to honor them for lives well-lived.”

Scholarship for International Students Broadens the UVM Experience

International students bring a different voice, world view, and experience to campus that broadens everyone’s understanding of the complicated world in which we live. In August, two generous donors who’ve been involved with social justice relief work in Ethiopia created the Asfaw Yemiru Scholarship for Social Justice to provide assistance to a worthy student from Ethiopia. Their $50,000 endowment will ensure a perpetual scholarship focused on international students; if no student from Ethiopia is enrolled, then priority will be given to students from Africa.

“UVM has very few scholarships specifically restricted to international students—especially for those who enroll from Africa,” says Chris Lucier, vice president for enrollment management. The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, named the scholarship for Asfaw Yemiru, an Ethiopian educator and children’s rights advocate who received the
Reidel Scholarship Honors Environmental Leader

The University of Vermont and the friends and family of the late Carl H. Reidel, founder of the environmental studies program at UVM and nationally recognized environmental policy advocate, have established an endowed scholarship fund in his name to benefit students in the Honors College who are pursuing an interdisciplinary education.

The Carl Reidel Scholarship Fund was established to provide support for off-campus internships, research projects, general support for supplies and travel, or other expenses for undergraduate students in the Honors College who demonstrate the interdisciplinary, experiential, and collaborative attributes exemplified by Reidel as determined by the dean of the Honors College.

Reidel, who died on Nov. 3, 2011, of pancreatic cancer, started the nation’s first university-wide interdisciplinary Environmental Program at UVM in 1972 and led it to national prominence until his retirement in 2000 as university professor emeritus of environmental policy.

After his graduation from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor’s degree in forestry and wildlife science, Reidel took a job with the U.S. Forest Service as a district forest ranger in Nevada, Utah, and California and later as chief of public information for the Intermountain Region. He also served as a 2nd Lt. in the Army National Guard in Nevada and Utah from 1959 to 1966 before receiving the honor of two Bullard Forestry fellowships to Harvard and a Master of Public Administration degree from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1964.

The following year Reidel moved his family back to Minnesota where he earned a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in natural resources policy and administration. This marked the beginning of a long and influential career as a professor and nationally recognized environmental policy advocate on the faculties of Minnesota, Williams, Harvard, Yale, and eventually UVM, where he put the university at the forefront of the environmental movement by pushing cutting-edge environmental policies that are now standard practice. Reidel’s legacy was honored on the 20th anniversary of Earth Day, when he was awarded the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Environmental Master Award along with U.S. Sen. Robert Stafford.

Reidel loved teaching and interacting with students during his 35 years as a professor and appreciated hearing from students as their careers have helped the environment and conservation. The purpose of the scholarship fund is to continue supporting students who share Reidel’s lifelong passion for learning and interdisciplinary study.

For information about contributing to this fund, please contact Jeffrey Moreau, executive director of annual giving programs, at 802-656-3227 or jeffreymoreau@uvm.edu.

World’s Children’s Prize and the Global Friends’ Award in 2001 for his 50 years of fighting for the rights of children.

“This scholarship illustrates the importance of opening our doors to students from developing countries,” Lucier says. “We hope the recipients will take full advantage of their UVM education as a way to a productive and successful life. We also see the benefit to UVM because the student’s presence here allows for a richer learning environment for all.”

The Yemiru Scholarship also represents a step on the pathway to success outlined by UVM President Tom Sullivan in his installation remarks in October—investing in people by providing access to success for all of our students through increased financial aid and scholarships that support a high-achieving and diverse student body.

In 1957, as a 14-year-old, Asfaw Yemiru started his first school for children living on the streets, after he himself had been living on the streets from the age of 9, working as a child laborer. He believes education is the only way to help poor children improve their lives. Today, tens of thousands of poor children have received an education in one of Yemiru’s schools, and he has offered support to their families by providing money and milk. The schools, where children also learn about farming and other practical skills, are free.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

President of the American Forestry Association
Vice president of the National Wildlife Federation
Director of the National Parks Association
Vice president of the New England Environmental Policy Center
Board member of Forest Watch
Governor’s Council of Environmental Advisors
Vermont House of Representatives (D-Addison)
Donor’s Love of France Benefits Scholarship Students

If you described Ruth Willard Redhead as a Francophile and lifelong learner, you’d be right. The alumnus, who earned a bachelor’s degree in education in 1945 and a master’s degree in French in 1954 from UVM, as well as a doctoral degree from the University of Minnesota in 1971, has spent her life teaching and learning, and recently established a scholarship in her name to help the next generation of UVM students pursue their dreams.

The Willard French Scholarship to benefit the Department of Romance Languages and Linguistics was created last spring with an estate gift of $100,000. Redhead established it because “UVM provided me with such a good start,” she said. “I have such wonderful memories of my time at UVM and really appreciate all that it provided me.”

Redhead’s teaching career has taken her to schools in Illinois, Kansas, Texas, Ohio, Kentucky, and South Dakota. While dedicating her life to teaching and her students, she always kept her hand in a lifelong passion for France and everything French.

In 1990, Redhead published “Themes and Images in the Fictional Works of Madame de Lafayette,” a book about the 17th-century French writer whose work “La Princesse de Clèves” is regarded as the first psychological novel. Like Madame de Lafayette, who often returned to Paris from her husband’s chateau in Auvergne, Redhead returns regularly to Paris.

Redhead began teaching at Marshfield High School in Vermont and West Lebanon High School in New Hampshire. Starting graduate work at UVM, she told Professor Paul D. Evans that she wished she could go to France, and he said, “You can.” And she did. She chose to study at the University of Grenoble at the suggestion of Professor Malcolm Daggett, her major professor in French. When she returned to the states, she taught at Lincoln College in Illinois and completed an M.A. at UVM, where her thesis was on the 19th-century French novelist Stendhal. In 1955, she returned to spend another year at the University of Grenoble and then taught at Fort Hays Kansas State College. Later she settled in South Dakota, where she retired after 30 years of service from South Dakota State University as distinguished professor emeritus of French.

“This generous gift acknowledges the role of the French legacy in Vermont and gives our most talented French students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the French language, literature, and culture,” said Cristina Mazzoni, professor and chair of romance languages and linguistics.

Your Legacy to UVM
For information about making a bequest or estate gift to UVM, please contact Becky Arnold, director of planned giving, at 802-656-9535, 888-458-8691 (toll free), or becky.arnold@uvm.edu.
Bright, motivated, and deserving students are the face of scholarship at UVM. These four students—David Ramada, Eliza Novick, Rob Rudy, and Dennis Mahoney—are able to take full advantage of a UVM education because of scholarship support. It is the engine that drives affordability and ensures the University can recruit and retain an exceptionally talented student body. To read more about these and other worthy and accomplished students, visit uvmfoundation.org.

Setting High Goals in Life

After a standout soccer career at Essex High School in Vermont, DAVID RAMADA dreamed of attending UVM so that his tight-knit family would be able to attend his home games. He was relieved to find out that his UVM dream would be made possible through the generosity of John Frank, UVM Class of 1979, who established a scholarship to help students in the business school. As the recipient of the Frank Scholarship, Ramada acknowledges that scholarship support has reduced the financial burden on his family and allowed him to take full advantage of the knowledge and opportunities available at UVM.

The Finance Honors Seminar, one of the business school’s signature experience courses, is one such opportunity. As a participant in this invitation-only course, Ramada and his classmates traveled to New York City to meet with top executives at Morgan Stanley and present two case analyses. “This exposure will make all the difference when it’s time to take that first step inside the door of a company,” said Ramada.

As the goal keeper on UVM’s varsity soccer team, Ramada has worked hard to stay at the top of his game both on and off the field. He is ranked first in his class, was inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society last spring, and still finds time to serve as a teaching assistant. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Travis Roy Foundation.

With graduation on the horizon, Ramada knows he is fortunate to be debt free. The philanthropic support he received at UVM will allow him to enter the real world without the burden of student loan payments. Ramada will no doubt continue to set his sights high and that first step inside the door may very well lead him on the path to becoming a CEO.

JUST FOR FUN—Favorite Ben & Jerry’s flavor? “Cookies and Cream.”

A Strong Connection

ELIZA NOVICK believes in giving back. As the director of Volunteers in Action, a student organization promoting awareness of social issues and strengthening the connection between learning and service, Novick oversees volunteer opportunities that provide a vital link between UVM students and the greater Burlington community.

Novick was the beneficiary of some much-needed help when it came to her out-of-state tuition and cites her scholarship package as a big consideration in coming to UVM. “It is comforting and reassuring to know I’m not a financial burden on my family. I’m fortunate to be able to study here and know that scholarship donors are supporting me.” As the recipient of the C.V. Starr Foundation Scholarship, Novick recognizes the importance of philanthropy and describes the ripple effect it causes. “The positive impact that this gift creates is immeasurable and just continues to spread,” she said.

In Novick’s case, she is a Spanish language volunteer and tutor in the Writing Center. She chose a double-major in sociology and Spanish in the College of Arts and Sciences to match her interest in the development of immigration policy, particularly where it intersects with human rights in a globalized world. She plans to put her Spanish major to more good use when she studies abroad in Spain this spring.

In the meantime, Novick is soaking up all that UVM has to offer. “I have a wonderful, exciting, colorful life here at UVM, and I would not be able to be here without the Starr Foundation’s support. I can’t wait to find out what the rest of this year has in store for me.”

JUST FOR FUN—Favorite Ben & Jerry’s flavor? “My friends give me grief about this because it’s so plain—strawberry in a waffle cone.”
Chatting From the Heart

The one thing senior Ruby Madden wants people on the other end of the phone line to know is that their annual gifts make a real difference in the lives of UVM students. As a Chatty Cat, Madden’s job is to call alumni, parents, and friends and explain how their financial support helps keep a UVM education affordable and accessible to all deserving students. Madden, who received the Patrick Family Scholarship and the Wilbur Scholarship for each of her four years at UVM, finds that most people want to donate. “They just want to know where their money is going.” Having witnessed classmates forced to leave school due to financial strain, her appeal to donors comes from the heart.

Visit uvmfoundation.org to learn more about the Annual Giving Program.