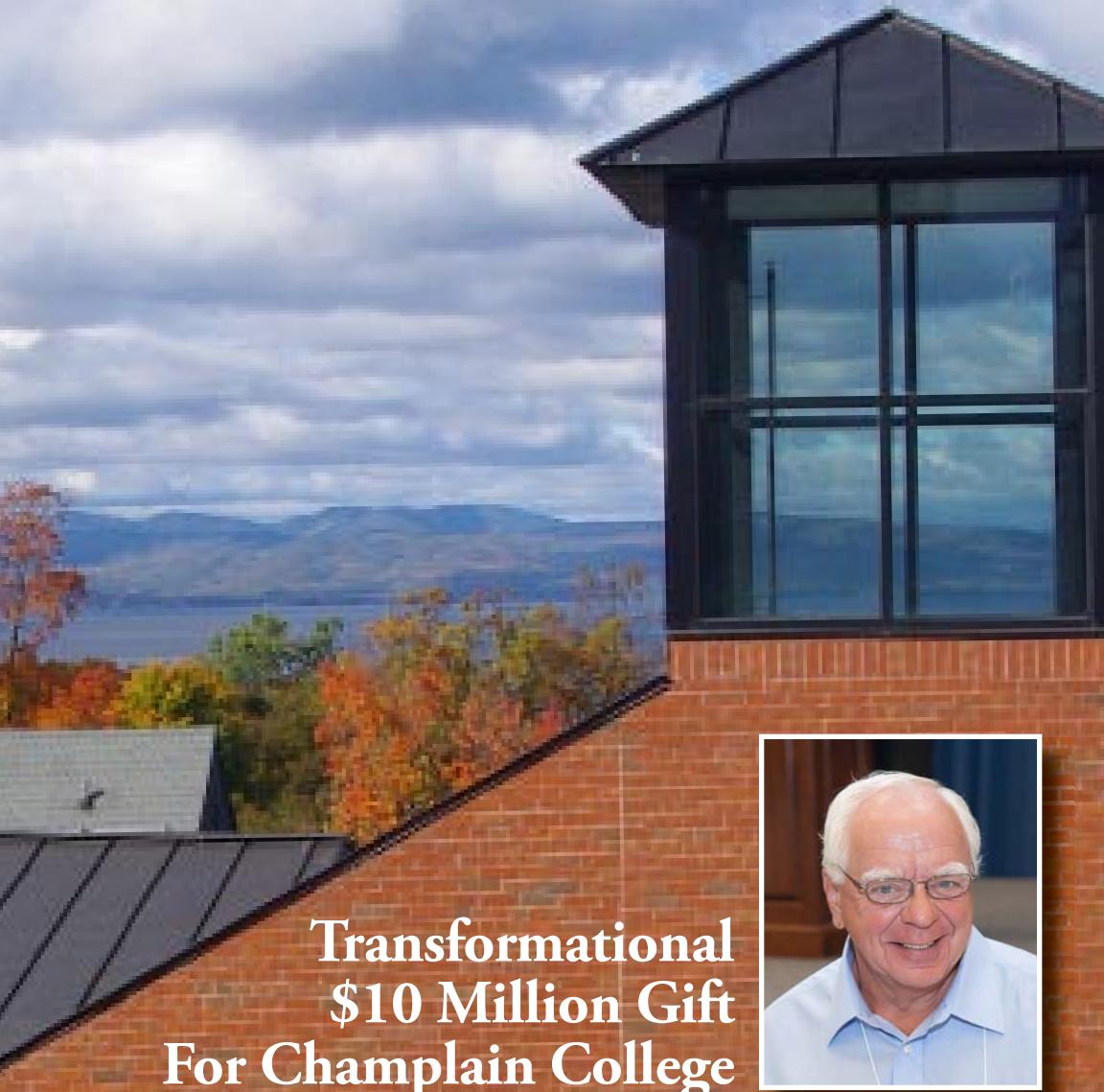


# Champlain View

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS & FRIENDS

OF CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE

Fall 2012



**Transformational  
\$10 Million Gift  
For Champlain College**



## The Robert P. Stiller School of Business

**The 2K 4 2M Alumni Challenge Begins**



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A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS & FRIENDS OF CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE



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**On the cover:** Robert P. Stiller, founder of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. **Below:** The 2012-13 Champlain Admissions Student Ambassadors at Perry Hall.



## 2012 Board of Trustees

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER |

Hello from the Hill,

What an autumn we are having. The academic year has begun and the fall semester seems to be flying by. In August, we welcomed more than 600 first-year students to campus. If average SAT scores can be construed to be a measure of potential, then this group of men and women has record potential!

However, the class of 2016 was sorely challenged just four days after arrival when Peter Cernansky, a promising member of the incoming class, suffered a fatal injury while longboarding without a helmet. This tragic loss set a somber tone. The loss has bonded and united the class as they move on with their college careers. Additionally, Champlain has begun to work with the City of Burlington to champion a new helmet ordinance.

In late October, many Champlain friends, families, and alumni were severely challenged by Hurricane Sandy as it tore through the Eastern seaboard. Vermont was spared from major impact this time, but concern for friends and family in less fortunate areas was palpable across campus.

This fall term is witness to a record number of Champlain students participating in study abroad—currently 91 undergraduates are spending the fall semester outside the country. In that spirit, the Board of Trustees elected, for the first time, to hold their fall meeting in Montreal. The meeting included a remarkable panel presentation that featured Thierry Vandal, president and CEO of Hydro-Quebec, speaking about generating green energy. It was a wonderful, informative event full of energizing possibilities and readily demonstrated the inherent value of study abroad.

On the heels of the Montreal meeting came a historic announcement of a transformational \$10 million gift to the College from the Stiller Family Foundation. In recognition, the College has renamed the Division of Business the Robert P. Stiller School of Business. This generous gift is the largest in Champlain's history.

The gift comes with one very significant challenge. Two million dollars of the portion devoted to capital projects is offered as a challenge gift. In order for Champlain to fully realize this portion of the gift, it must receive 2,000 alumni donations—of any amount—by June 30, 2013. We have named it the *2K42M Challenge* and I sincerely hope that you will help us meet it with a financial gift of support. *More details on page 6.*

The Stiller Family Foundation's gift allows us to move ahead more aggressively to foster economic vitality in Vermont and the region through distinctive education in our business programs. It also brings us much closer to finishing our campus Master Plan, which right-sizes the campus for our 2,000 traditional undergrads, and provides funding for new facilities, classrooms, and student dining in the Communications & Creative Media addition planned adjacent to Hauke Family Center. And finally, it reaffirms that Champlain's Robert P. Stiller School of Business is both excellent and distinctive.

We are all enormously indebted to Bob and Christine Stiller for this wonderful vote of confidence in Champlain. With the support of both you and them, we are very optimistic about our bright future and our ability to continue to be of significant benefit to the students who choose to attend Champlain.



**President David F. Finney, left, and Robert P. Stiller, founder of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters**

  
Dr. David F. Finney, President



Champlain College President David F. Finney

# Champlain College Receives \$10 Million Gift from the Stiller Family Foundation

**Division of Business to Be Named the Robert P. Stiller School of Business  
In Recognition of the Largest Donation in the College's 134-Year History**

**Story & Photos by Stephen Mease**

Robert P. Stiller, founder of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, wants to improve business education with many of the tools he used to empower, develop, and engage the people in the two successful companies he built.

On October 22, Champlain College received a \$10 million gift from Robert and Christine Stiller through the Stiller Family Foundation. It was also announced that the College will name its business school the Robert P. Stiller School of Business.

In announcing the gift and new name, Champlain President David F. Finney said the Stiller School of Business will be a national leader in teaching strength-based management practices such as Appreciative Inquiry (AI) and building thinking skills, personal competencies, and capacity. "We are grateful, beyond measure or words, to the Stiller family for their generosity and for the confidence this investment demonstrates in us," Finney said at the press conference.

"Robert Stiller built Green Mountain Coffee Roasters into one of the most financially successful companies of the past 25 years, embracing and leading business in

making the world a better place with its focus on social responsibility and by providing a great place to work. A key aspect of their management practice was using Appreciative Inquiry (AI) techniques," said Finney.

"Then, he partnered with us in 2011 to hold an Appreciative Inquiry Summit at Champlain to explore how the College can improve its support of, and impact on the Vermont economy through, partnerships and training. Appreciative Inquiry is a whole-system, strength-based approach to change that has been applied in thousands of organizations worldwide. AI works with the whole system in an organization, engaging people at all levels of an organization as well as its stakeholder community, and is particularly effective for organizations facing rapid change or growth."



**Provost Robin Abramson**

Finney added that this gift will allow Champlain's graduates in Business to join the ranks of a growing number of business schools that teach Appreciative Inquiry, including Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management and Pepperdine University. The Stillers' gift "will

create a competitive advantage for Champlain's graduates and for Vermont's businesses and entrepreneurs. Their generosity will enable us to continue to engage with Vermont businesses, organizations, and communities to help drive success via effective management and leadership."

The gift—the largest in the College's 134-year history—will also support Champlain College's \$25 million comprehensive *Vision. Innovation. Passion.* campaign. The Stiller School of Business will receive funding for two endowed faculty chairs as well as an endowment fund for the development of programs based on positive psychology management theory and practice. Funding will also support capital projects.

"We have great faith in Champlain College. What [it has] accomplished over the past 20 years is truly remarkable, and we have full confidence in its leadership and faculty. We want to help Champlain accomplish its goals and vision to become the finest small, professionally and globally focused college in the United States. We wish to show our support with a transformational gift," the Stillers said.

"When you seek to understand and focus on what works, you can form and empower your dreams and make a plan to realize them," said Robert Stiller. "We believe that to redefine business, it is necessary to introduce new thinking into how business is taught to the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs. This is particularly important with regard to the role of the individual within the context of all stakeholders in a corporation or a community."

Provost and Chief Academic Officer of the College Robin Abramson said the Stiller

## How the Gift Will Be Used

The \$10 million gift is to be made over the next five years and supports the College's comprehensive campaign initiatives. The Stillers have asked that funds be used to:

- Create two endowed business school chairs to help secure talented faculty in management with expertise in positive psychology management theory and practice such as Appreciative Inquiry—\$4 million.
- Create an endowed fund to produce Appreciative Inquiry programs and training for Vermont and regional companies and organizations—\$2 million.
- Fund capital investments in Perry Hall and a new Center for Communication & Creative Media adjacent to the Hauke Family Center. Includes the \$2 million 2K42M Alumni Challenge to increase annual giving participation by Champlain College graduates—\$4 million.

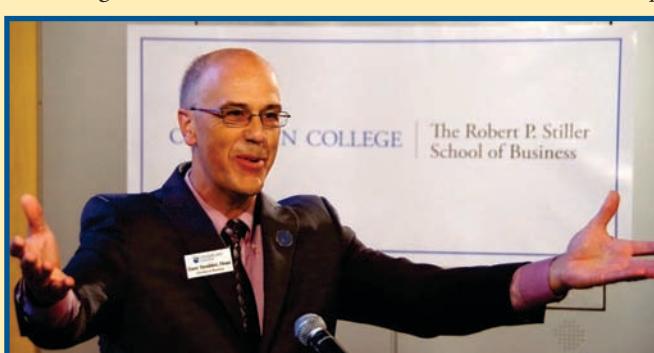
gift will "enable us to continue to utilize innovative teaching models that are the cornerstone of our business division."

For Business Dean David Strubler, "It's more than a donation, because what Mr. Stiller is giving us is his name and his philosophy, and that is why it is such a great gift."

Strubler notes that he hopes to expand the business program to have 600 undergraduate students and 200 master of business administration students. "When you leave here you're ready for work, you're ready for life, you're ready for anything," he added.

"Only by listening to others can we expect to meet employers' current and future workforce needs—knowledge, flexibility, leadership, global connectivity—while also ensuring that our students and alumni succeed over the course of their working life," Finney said.

"It is our hope that because of this gift, graduates of Champlain College's Stiller School of Business will benefit from a distinctive business education that will positively influence them personally as well as their organizations throughout their careers," Robert Stiller said.



**Business Dean David Strubler**

# CHAMPLAIN CHALLENGE 2K42M



The Stiller family, from left, David G'12, Julian, Christine, Christian '12 and Bob Stiller.

## 2,000 Champlain Alumni Gifts Will Result in \$2 Million Challenge Grant From Stiller Family Foundation

*Part of the \$10 million gift from the Stiller Family Foundation is a \$2 million challenge grant to encourage alumni giving. Senior Director of Advancement and Campaign Tere Gade spoke with Bob and Christine Stiller about their gift to Champlain College:*

### What inspires you to invest in Champlain's future success?

Our two sons, Christian '12 and David G'12, are both alumni of the school, and their experiences at Champlain College made us greatly appreciate its methods and practices. We strongly believe in Dave Finney's vision for Champlain and his philosophy about a career-focused, entrepreneurial education—a mission and vision apparent at every level of the institution, from classroom to boardroom. Under his leadership, Champlain College mirrors the adaptive change model so apparent in many entrepreneurial ventures. We like seeing that spirit in the higher education sector. Simply, we see our own history mirrored in Champlain's current growth and direction. Perhaps most importantly, we believe in the students. The students we've met over the years at Champlain are goal-oriented, inspired students who are passionate about building their future.

You've given generously to Champlain College over the years through our Single Parents scholarship program and to the *Vision. Innovation. Passion.* campaign. What makes your philanthropy unique is that you often make the gift a challenge grant. When we needed to raise more scholarship support for the Single Parents Program, you stepped up with a \$100,000

**challenge to other scholarship donors.  
Why did you choose to challenge  
Champlain's alumni to give?**

The Stiller Family Foundation is dedicated to helping people help themselves. At Champlain we are committed to helping build institutional capacity and sustainability through a broader base of support to encourage and create momentum for others to give and be inspired. We recognize that the future of any college rests with the success and generosity of its alumni, so we've taken this opportunity to encourage Champlain's alumni to participate. If 2,000 alumni make gifts to Champlain, regardless of the size of their gifts, we will give \$2 million. This challenge makes even a \$1 gift really a \$1,001 investment in Champlain. It's a win-win.

This challenge is simply, but powerfully, a catalyst for turning individual gifts into collective energy. The individuals who support Champlain have altered the landscape of the College and have had a lasting impact on the lives of every student. Alumni who give complete that circle and make an immediate impact on current students and the faculty and programs that shaped their futures. Alumni giving augments every aspect of the educational experience. We understand this and would like to see this challenge flourish.

**“This challenge makes even a \$1 gift really a \$1,001 investment in Champlain. It’s a win-win.”**

—Bob & Christine Stiller

Increased participation from alumni boosts national rankings, which draws talented students to Champlain and increases the value of all degrees ever conferred at Champlain. Alumni gifts help garner attention from corporations and foundations that provide even more funding for the College.

**What would you say to our alumni to motivate and inspire them to give?**

We all share a connection with Champlain College. Yours is a very

**The Stiller Family Foundation is dedicated to helping people help themselves.**

**The foundation was established by the family of Bob and Christine Stiller and their three children, reflecting their shared passion for improving people's lives in meaningful, sustainable ways.**

**The majority of the foundation's work is focused on Vermont, and provides support to programs and organizations relating to education and community development through organizations including Champlain College, King Street Center, Burlington City Arts, and Rebuilding Waterbury.**

special one. You will always be a member of the Champlain alumni no matter where you go in this world. Take pride in Champlain College, your alma mater. Participate in its continued success. This gift is about making every gift count, no matter the size. We hope you will all stand up and be counted. This gift is about growing the Champlain community and getting alumni involved in more meaningful ways.

Alumni are ultimately responsible for the ongoing success and well-being of their alma mater, making sure it does well—that it continues to adhere to the guiding principles of the institution, while changing to meet current times.

**What motivated you to place a high value on education in your philanthropy?**

We believe that true empowerment is enabled by education, and making education more available and innovative is something that can materially change lives. Rather than replicating what many great organizations are doing to provide short-term relief to those who are in need of help, we are focused on helping them acquire the knowledge and skills that they need to support themselves for life.

**Learn more about the  
Stiller Family Foundation at  
[www.stillerfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.stillerfamilyfoundation.org)**

***Help us meet the 2K42M  
Challenge by June 30, 2013!***

***Call us at (802) 383-6662  
Visit [www.champlain.edu/2K42M](http://www.champlain.edu/2K42M)***



# Student View

## Q&A

### Ariel Grover '13

Howie Le '10, left, and Ariel Grover '13 shared their life-changing stories of being Vermont First scholars with guests at Champlain's Vehicle for a Better Life event in June.

**A**riel Grover '13 is no stranger to change. She spent her childhood moving around between the homes of family members and foster families with her five young sisters. Thankfully, the majority of her adolescence was spent in one home with her grandmother in Arlington, Vermont. "My high school class was made up of 38 students. I liked knowing everyone and being looked up to," she recalls. After meeting with an admissions counselor from Champlain, taking a tour, and receiving a Vermont First scholarship, she knew it was the school for her. "The College made it seem like they wanted me here, and I really wanted to be here. It was the perfect fit," she says. During her first year as a Psychology major, she attended the Emerging Leaders Retreat. Surrounded by other student leaders, Grover was inspired to get involved and make a difference at Champlain.

We spoke with Grover about her experiences and how she chooses to make the most of her time at Champlain:

#### What roles have you had in your time at Champlain College?

After attending the Emerging Leaders Retreat, I applied to be a peer advisor in the Life Experience & Action Dimension (LEAD). In the past three years as a PA, I've facilitated "Strategically Marketing Yourself" workshops and cultural simulations, and I am helping create the new service track within LEAD. I have been a resident assistant, have worked at Physical Plant and the HUB, and I am currently a student ambassador and the vice president of the Student Government Association.

Staying busy keeps me motivated, and I enjoy each of these commitments; they are incredibly rewarding and have helped me grow into the passionate person I am today. I also had the honor of speaking on behalf of Vermont First scholars at the Vehicle for a Better Life benefit this summer. It is one of my fondest memories.

#### Your support groups must be incredibly proud; what does this mean to them?

My family hasn't had much to be proud of, so this is huge. It's so fulfilling. I like having people

recognize me and thank me for my contributions to the school, and on the rare occasion when I'm told that I inspire someone, I remember, this is why I do what I do.

#### You described yourself as passionate. What are you passionate about?

As a Psychology major, I really love people. Everyone I've met at Champlain brings something unique to the College and has helped me grow. As a student leader, I really want to help others find their passion and motivation to help the College progress.

*"My passion lies within helping others find their passion."*

#### What is your favorite thing to do at Champlain?

I love taking advantage of Student Life's outings: free movie nights, bowling, white-water rafting trips, the trip to NYC, apple picking, and many others. Singing karaoke at the Grind open mic night is always fun, and I like to shoot hoops with friends when I find some free time.

—Kayla Hedman '14

## Faculty Profile

# Laurel Bongiorno

*“Hmm...my favorite children’s book,”  
pondered Laurel Bongiorno.*

*“I can’t just pick one.”*

As the program director of Champlain’s master of education degree program, Bongiorno is dedicated to leading others toward teaching and administration of early childhood education. “The program is unique because it meets national needs specific to early childhood education and offers a residency at a national conference,” she said. “With the exception of the residency, the entire program is online and uses a project-based format.”

Bongiorno is a huge supporter of playtime as part of learning, and believes in the motto “Work hard, play hard” herself.

**Recent awards:** She’s the 2012 Edward Phelps Lyman Professorship winner for her dedication to students and Champlain College through a record of service and excellence in teaching and advising and through work on faculty and College committees. Her piece “My View: Let Preschoolers, Kindergartners Play to Learn” was featured on CNN’s Schools of Thought blog.

**Other activities:** Curriculum committee, institutional wellness committee, governing board at the Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children, just to name a few.

**Favorite quote:** “In play a child is head and shoulders above himself.” – Lev Vygotsky



**Favorite hobby:** Motorcycle riding with her husband.



**Favorite toy:** Blocks.  
Any kind of blocks.



**Favorite children’s book:** She loves reading *Caps for Sale* and the picture book *Quick as a Cricket* to children.



Bongiorno has a wonderful sense of humor, an infectious laugh, and an engaging smile. This sparkplug is passionate about everything she does and is an incredible asset to Champlain.

Bongiorno’s collection of lanyards from various conferences where she has presented.

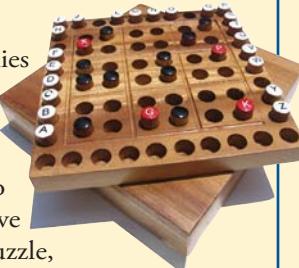
Read the full interview online at  
[www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu).

—Kayla Hedman ’14

## Professor's Game Sharpens the Mind

Champlain College online Continuing Professional Studies Professor **Allyn Kahn**, of New Port Richey, Florida, has received multiple awards for the puzzle he developed to help his chess students improve their decision making. The puzzle, Mentagy, is now available as a hardwood game board, as a puzzle book, and on a digital puzzle platform through an app called Puzzazz.

For more information, visit [www.mentagy.com](http://www.mentagy.com)



**COMMUNITY GIVING:** Champlain College's Community Fund raised \$37,000 for the **United Way of Chittenden County** through 118 employee pledges—the most ever raised.

**MICROSCOPES DONATED:** The College's Division of Information Technology & Sciences donated 40 microscopes to local schools this fall when the College upgraded its equipment used in science courses.

## White House Cites Financial Literacy Center Efforts in Report

Thirty-two teachers from across Vermont have been crunching numbers and learning about how to teach personal financial lessons in the classroom. The five-day professional development opportunity at Champlain College was designed to help Vermont middle school and high school teachers in a range of subjects gain competencies in teaching on personal finance topics, such as credit, budgeting, and investing. Merchants Bank has made a \$125,000 grant to fund the program over three years.

Champlain's efforts to increase the financial capabilities of college students and develop additional training opportunities for K-12 teacher training also earned notice in a report issued by the White House titled "Every American Financially Empowered: A Guide to Increasing Financial Capability among Students, Workers, and Residents in Communities."

**John Pelletier** (at right), director of the Center for Financial Literacy at Champlain College, attended a summit on financial capability and empowerment in Washington, D.C., hosted by the White House in early May. He was among some 100 experts from across the government, private, education, and nonprofit sectors who shared innovative ideas on how to raise Americans' financial capability levels, with a particular focus on younger Americans.



## Imagine College

Champlain College welcomed 28 high school students from Vermont, Massachusetts, and New York to campus July 6-11 for "Imagine College," a six-day summer immersion program designed to help students see attending college as an attainable goal and give them tools to navigate the college process.

Imagine College is a pilot outreach program designed by **Ame Lambert**, director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to meet goals that emerged from the Champlain College Summit last year. That summit focused on lifelong engagement, Champlain's 2020 Diversity and Inclusion goals, and the needs of the state as identified through bodies like the Vermont P-16 Council.

Of the students who applied and were accepted into the program, 19 were from Chittenden County, Vermont, and nine were from New York City and Boston. There were 11 males and 17 females; 10 were seniors, 12 were juniors, and four were sophomores. Two were recent high school graduates still contemplating their professional future. "I have to know what I really want and conquer my fears in order to take on the world," said Ars Sybelle Sambou Bayonne, a senior from South Burlington High School.

"I really enjoyed the [Imagine College] program. It helped me understand so many things about college, like why I really want to go, where I want to go, what I really want to do there, and what kind of friends I would like to be with. Everybody was awesome: the leaders, mentors, professors, staff in the dining hall, and my peer students," continued Bayonne. "The program made me a new person. I will never ever forget what Imagine College has done for me."



## Endangered Alphabets



Artist/writer and director of the Champlain College Professional Writing Program **Tim Brookes** has spent the past three years tracking down and working to preserve some of the world's most endangered alphabets by tracing down the few people who can still read and write in these vanishing scripts, then carving pieces of text in



**ART AT WORK:** Robert P. Stiller School of Business Dean **David Strubler** and his wife, **Ann**, were part of a fall community concert with the Burlington Ensemble. The event included a faculty and student art presentation to raise money for scholarship programs.

Vermont tiger maple (shown above) to preserve these remarkable, beautiful, exotic letterings and draw attention to the need to preserve cultural identity. The Endangered Alphabets Project has since become a global cause celebre, appearing at Yale University, Cambridge (UK) University and Barcelona University with future appearances scheduled in Australia, Thailand, England, Ireland and at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. in June 2013. To learn more about the project, visit [www.endangeredalphabets.com](http://www.endangeredalphabets.com).

# Personalized Access To Higher Education

*A Less-Expensive Way for Adults to Earn an Online Degree*



Champlain College was named the 2012 Best of the Best Business for "Training or Professional Education" by the *Champlain Business Journal* Reader's Choice Awards. Award winners gathered for a photo this fall.

**C**hamplain College's Continuing Professional Studies division will offer a new Personalized Access To Higher Education (PATHe) program in January with the goal of making earning a college degree more affordable and faster.

"PATHe recognizes that people bring different levels of skill, experience, and time to the pursuit of higher education," said Champlain College President David F. Finney. "The world of online education is constantly evolving, and we now have a more flexible and personalized approach that removes many of the barriers adult learners often encounter in completing their educational goals."

"The program is geared for adults who have put off earning a college degree because they fear college is too expensive, takes too long, and is out of reach for working adults with families and other serious responsibilities," Finney continued.

"A PATHe advisor will work with students to create the shortest PATHe to their desired degree based on life, work, and prior college experiences. PATHe advisors can help identify ways to earn up to 90 credits toward a bachelor's degree, leaving only 30 required credits (10 upper-level courses) to earn through our seven-week online classes," explained Mika Nash, academic dean of the Continuing Professional Studies Division.

"We feel that every Champlain student is unique," Nash said. "Adults are not just older 18-year-olds. Because of work and life experience, many are already expert in many subjects. PATHe ensures that motivated students, especially those with past college credits or military experience, can stay on track and earn a degree faster and more affordably than ever before. The advisor is what makes this program different. You are never just on your own to learn."

And for adult learners who prefer a more traditional structured approach and regular deadlines, CPS will continue to offer accelerated seven-week online courses that are led by award-winning instructors and have weekly opportunities to interact with classmates. "You'll have an academic advisor to help you along the way, whether it's helping you choose which courses to take next or assisting you when life throws new challenges your way," said Nash.

## Champlain's PATHe offers:

- Free access to online courses.
- Inexpensive, self-paced learning, assisted by an academic advisor.
- Traditional instructor-led seven-week online courses.
- Tests to earn college credits for existing skills and knowledge.

**Champlain offers online courses leading to degrees and certificates in a full range of areas including business, accounting, computer forensics, and healthcare information technology. Visit [online.champlain.edu/pathe](http://online.champlain.edu/pathe), call (877) 772-2265 or e-mail [cps@champlain.edu](mailto:cps@champlain.edu) to learn more about PATHe.**

# Juniper Hall

## New Rooms with a View

**Juniper Hall, named for an island in Lake Champlain, is the newest residence hall.**

The first of three new residence halls on campus opened for students this fall. Ninety-five second-year students moved into Juniper Hall in August. The \$7.7 million, 29,200-square-foot building features a full-kitchen area, natural stone fireplace, wood floors, geothermal heating and cooling, study space on each floor, bike storage, shared laundry, a ski-tuning area, and beautiful views of Lake Champlain and the building's namesake, Juniper Island.

The hall was designed to be flexible and efficient, and to architecturally complement its neighboring residences on South Willard Street. The east elevation of the building is brick to mimic its Victorian mansion neighbors, Whiting and McDonald Halls. The building is on track to receive LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

PC Construction (formerly Pizzagalli Construction) began work on the four-story project in May of 2011. Juniper is the first of three new residence halls being built in the southwest quadrant of campus to create a more enclosed community for future students.

The College expects to break ground on Juniper Hall's two sister residential buildings, Valcour Hall and Butler Hall, in March 2013, said David Provost, senior vice president for Finance and Administration, with expected occupancy in the fall of 2014.

**(At right)** The west elevation is clad in sheet metal, adding a contemporary touch to the classic Victorian architecture of the neighborhood. **(Below)** The main gathering room and fireplace.



3rd Annual

# Discover Ireland

**July 5 – 14, 2013**

Champlain College invites faculty, staff, alumni, parents, friends and their guests to experience a 10-day tour of Ireland.

**WHERE:** The Republic of Ireland & Northern Ireland.

- View spectacular countryside and west coast
- Experience Irish culture and history
- Enjoy Irish food, music and dance
- Visit the Champlain Dublin academic center

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** 3-4 star quality for overnights outside of Dublin and corporate-style apartments with kitchens in Dublin. Travel will be by luxury coach.

**COST:** The cost is \$1,650\* not including airfare to Dublin, Ireland. The tour covers lodging, transportation, most meals, excursions and admission tickets to planned events. If you prefer a single room then add \$150. Travelers should budget \$150 for other meals and snacks.

**SIGN UP:** First come, first served. Space is limited to 25 participants.

**FOR INFORMATION** Please contact Dr. Stephen Robinson, Director Champlain College Dublin, [srobinson@champlain.edu](mailto:srobinson@champlain.edu).

**TO REGISTER** and to place your deposit, contact Kathy Lynn, Office of International Education, [lynn@champlain.edu](mailto:lynn@champlain.edu), 802.865.6485.

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** (*checks made payable to Champlain College*)

November 30, 2012 ..... Deposit to hold your space, \$550

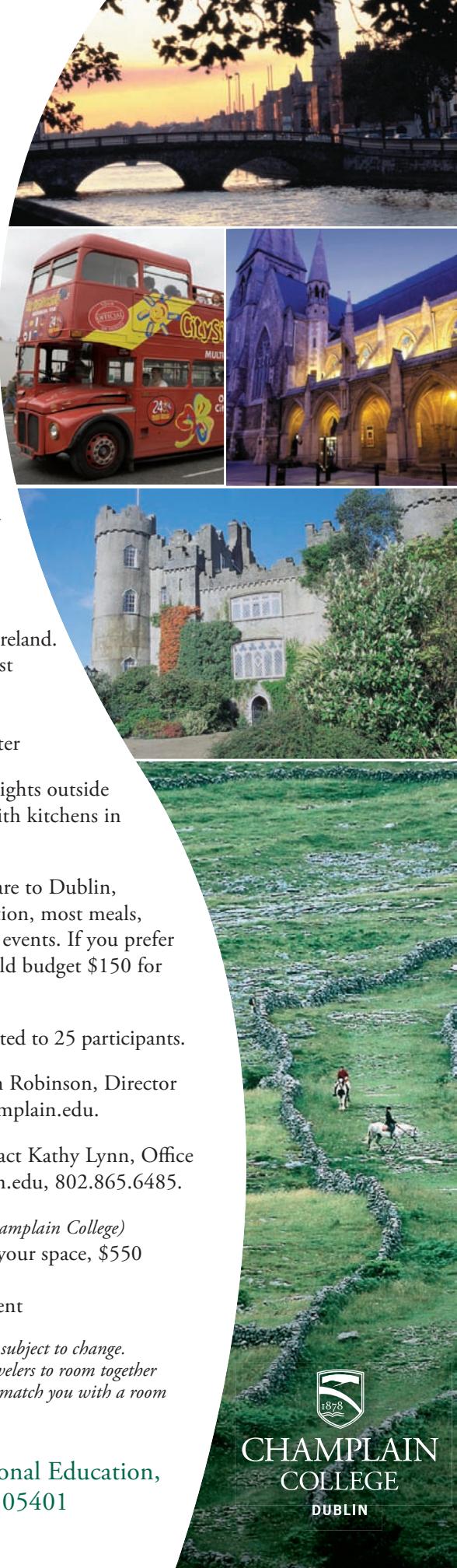
February 15, 2013 ..... \$550

April 1, 2013 ..... \$550 final payment

\*Price is based on current exchange rates and may be subject to change.

Champlain College will attempt to match single travelers to room together if requested, but there is no guarantee. If we cannot match you with a room partner then the single supplement fee will apply.

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**CHAMPLAIN  
COLLEGE  
DUBLIN**

# TURNING INTERNS INTO EMPLOYEES

BY JEFFREY GANGEMI

Kathleen Barnes '09 built upon the skills she gained as a student, intern, and recent graduate to land her job with Alchemy and Science in Burlington.

**W**hen Kathleen Barnes '09 landed an internship at Magic Hat Brewing Company during her senior year at Champlain, it was a dream come true. Still, when a full-time position opened up at the Burlington-based craft brewer toward the end of her internship, the company tapped a more experienced person to fill the role.

Some three years later, when Barnes heard that Alan Newman, the cofounder of Magic Hat, was starting a new craft beer operation called Alchemy and Science, she successfully applied for the communications specialist position.



# ... CHAMPLAIN EXPERIENCES

"We were impressed with Kat when she interned with Magic Hat a few years back. And she had taken the intervening years to strengthen a skill set in social media and public relations that was exactly what we were looking for. It was an easy hire," said Newman, who is a fixture in the Burlington craft beer scene with his trademark yellow glasses.

A 2009 PR graduate, Barnes had indeed been building her skill set. She'd worked in digital and social media marketing for the maker of Choose Your Own Adventure Books in Waitsfield, Vermont, in the Champlain College Office of Advancement, and then at the marketing communications firm Kelliher Samets Volk (KSV) in Burlington. "In each position I've taken since graduation, I've been able to add more and more tools to my tool belt," Barnes said.

As important as her expanded skill set was, Barnes said the connections and skills gained from her Magic Hat internship were absolutely critical to landing her current job at Alchemy and Science. "I maintained a relationship with [Magic Hat cofounders] Alan [Newman] and Stacey [Steinmetz] and I have a lot of friends that still work at Magic Hat. Every step I've taken since that internship has taken me to where I am right now," said Barnes, whose new job includes promoting the beer brands that Newman and company are developing, including House of Shandy Beer Company and Angel City Brewery.

As Champlain professors and administrators continue to embrace real-world experience for students, they are creating unprecedented demand for

Champlain interns. At this October's campus internship fair, about 60 Burlington-area employers came looking for student talent.

National Life, the Montpelier-based insurance company, is one of Champlain's top recruiters. Mike Beaulieu '11, a Business graduate, is one Champlain grad who successfully parlayed an internship experience into a full-time job at the firm.

Beaulieu, a 29-year-old Army National Guard veteran, met a National Life recruiter when he was running the Handsome Potato food cart on Church Street. Once he got in the door, he went above and beyond the call of duty, met as many people as possible, and eventually landed his current role of internal sales associate. "Champlain played a major role in me getting a job here, because it focused on being practical in the workforce and not just learning out of a book," said Beaulieu.

## Real-World Experiences

Students in all four Champlain academic divisions are eager to step into real-world work environments. Of the seniors who responded to a 2012 pre-graduation survey, 71 percent indicated that they had held "career-relevant" internships or part-time jobs during their senior year.

More than ever, those interns are using the skills they've developed at Champlain to extend and transform their temporary or part-time work experiences into full-time jobs. More than 50 percent of seniors questioned in the survey said that interning with their current employer had given them a leg up on securing a full-time job.



# OFTEN LEAD TO JOB OFFERS.

Barnes credited the real-world experience she gained at Champlain—especially through in-class projects with local businesses that she said gave her legitimacy when interviewing with Magic Hat—with helping her land her current job. Still, getting ahead requires drive and determination, especially in a tough job market. “Champlain provides you with the tools to get a job and to be successful, but how you use those tools is what really matters,” said Barnes.

Champlain students are showing real tenacity in pursuing their desired careers. Among 2011 Communication & Creative Media grads surveyed by Career Services, 70 percent are employed in a job somewhat or very related to career goals. In the Education & Human Studies division—and also in the Business division—that number reached 94 percent.

Because it is a professionally focused school, Champlain’s community, not just Career Services, but also professors, deans, and alumni, has a clear mission and clear goals to rally around. In August, Assistant VP of Career Services Sarah Potter and the Champlain Career Services staff presented their annual career report at a College-wide town hall meeting.

At most schools, the event would have been a cloistered activity, run almost entirely by Career Services staff. But that wasn’t the case at Champlain. “There was full engagement. This wasn’t just a thing for Career Services,” said Potter. “We all have an investment in the career success of our students.”

Champlain’s real-world focus has given the school something of a reputation. “I am a fan of Champlain—they seem to be teaching useful skills for the modern world—with a focus on how to execute them in the real world,” Newman said.

## Producing Work-Ready Grads

Work-ready Champlain grads are attracting attention not only from employers like Newman, but also from the State. About six months ago, the Shumlin administration created the Office of Creative Economy to help facilitate job growth in creative fields like advertising, software development, and marketing.

“It’s important to be identifying and growing those parts of the economy, not only because they’re high-paying, but because it’s a demographic of professionals that’s important to keep here in the state,” said Joe Bookchin, director of the new office. According to the most recent Champlain employment report, 55 percent of the class of 2011 stayed in Vermont after graduation, up from 49 percent in 2009.

Bookchin and his team are working with Champlain’s Career Services department to facilitate closer connections with gaming companies, particularly those in Montreal. With Champlain’s help, Bookchin believes Vermont could become another hotbed for game development, benefiting from the high salaries and educated workforce the industry brings with it.

Of course, not everyone stays in Vermont.



**For 160 Champlain graduates, the place they studied became their workplace after Commencement.**

**Caitlin Pierce '09 (right) hopes to hire an intern to help grow her fashion blog business.**



Some industries demand that Champlain graduates leave the state in search of good jobs.

In the emerging field of digital forensics, for example, the Washington, D.C., area is ground zero for job opportunities. Even though 2012 Champlain grad Megan Percy took advantage of multiple Vermont-based internship opportunities with the Vermont Department of State's Attorneys and with the College's Leahy Center for Digital Investigation, she took a full-time job as a cybersecurity forensic analyst with defense contractor TASC, Inc., in Chantilly, Virginia.

Percy said there is huge demand for forensic examiners, particularly because the field is still so new, and there aren't many people who have degrees in the field. "Anytime there's a crime on a computer, a cell phone, or a digital camera, there's digital evidence. We're the people who go in, find it, and make sure it never happens again," said Percy.

A self-described people person, Percy said she plans to eventually get into the management side of digital forensics by pursuing her online MBA degree at Champlain. The program offers a specialization in Digital Forensics.

Percy said Champlain started prepping her

for work the day she stepped onto campus in her first year. That level of preparation—coupled with the quality of the school's program in digital forensics—gives her great confidence in her classmates. "In a couple of years, if I'm in charge of hiring, they'll all be from Champlain," she said.

Real-world experience and engaged professors give Champlain students an undeniable edge in the marketplace. "The difference between Champlain Game Design students and those coming from art school is that Champlain students are already work-ready. They're not expecting a big amount of training," said Daphne Walker, assistant director of Career Services at Champlain.

Caitlin Pierce '09 agreed. "Anyone I've spoken to in the professional world about Champlain has only glowing things to say," said Pierce. "[Champlain grads] come in and have the skills, and it's just sort of giving them guidance instead of fully training them. You don't have to baby them," she said.

A marketer at White River Junction-based consulting firm Resource Systems Group (RSG), Pierce said she felt completely prepared to enter the job market when she graduated three years ago. Unlike Barnes and Percy, Pierce didn't intern with her

current employer, but rather started off working for RSG on a part-time basis doing administrative work.

Now she runs RSG's Burlington office and serves as the assistant to the new marketing director. She also writes a fashion blog called Wore Out, [www.woreoutblog.com](http://www.woreoutblog.com), that she started two years ago to "document the challenges of being a fashion-forward individual in icy Burlington." Now she's hoping to hire a Champlain intern to help produce content for the blog and take it to the next level.

## A Cycle of Grads Hiring Grads

Champlain grads hiring other Champlain grads is a growing trend. Take the experience of Liz Muroska and Alicia DiMartini. In 2009, Muroska transferred to Champlain from the University of New Hampshire. She's from Hinesburg, Vermont, and when she decided that she wanted to study PR, she looked to Champlain because of its great reputation.

At her first internship at a company called ThoughtFaucet, Muroska planned local social media and web analytics events. By networking in the community, she heard about People Making Good (PMG) PR and its founder, Nicole Ravlin.

With resume and interviewing help from the Career Services office, Muroska landed a fall internship at PMG that "was unlike any that I'd ever heard about."

"This wasn't one to come to and get a cup of coffee or fetch lunch. On the first day, we were writing and pitching and contacting media. They threw us right in," she said.

Muroska graduated in December 2011 without a job offer. But she accepted some freelance assignments with PMG and eventually came on full-time this past April. She now manages relationships with clients like Rare Tea Republic, Walkers Shortbread Ltd., and Boloco.

Alicia DiMartini is another Champlain alum who leveraged her senior year internship into a full-time job at PMG after graduating in 2009. In fact, she hired Muroska through the company internship program that she co-manages.

Though DiMartini said PMG recruits from St. Michael's College, the University of Vermont, Champlain, and all throughout New England, they "have good luck at Champlain—the interns always seem very prepared in terms of looking for career experience and building their portfolio. Champlain is also excellent at getting students acquainted with social media." DiMartini and Muroska agree that that sets them apart in the job market.

"Branding yourself in the right way online and through social media would be a top priority for students about to graduate. Social media is part of PR, and it's what we do every day," said Muroska.

She also recommends developing close relationships with professors at Champlain like Nancy Kerr, who often have connections with area businesses, and



**Champlain's connection at People Making Good (PMG) PR is strong: (l-r) Brittany Southwick '12, Liz Muroska '12, Alicia DiMartini '09 and founder Nicole Ravlin, who teaches at the College.**

can offer advice and support. Professors including Rob Williams, Nancy Kerr, Eric Ronis, and Jim Ellefson have also helped encourage more alumni interaction, said DiMartini. And their facility with social media has helped create an ever-stronger network of alums—in Burlington and beyond.

It's that cycle coming back around again. Champlain's engagement begins on campus from the moment students arrive. And it continues as they first enter the workforce as interns, and then again as full-time employees.

# Intern Success Stories



Lindsey DeBerry '14 stands in front of V Magazine in New York City.

*Here's a sampler of internships Champlain College students are using to advance their careers ...*

## **Lindsey DeBerry '14, Graphic Design & Digital Media and Professional Writing**

Ever since I was young, I've wanted to get involved in the world of fashion and music magazines. This past summer as I was going into my junior year, I decided that I wanted to get a start with some real-world experience in the field that I want to pursue.

***"Champlain has given me the technology proficiency and basics to succeed in my field."***

John  
Desmond  
'13  
(standing)  
and the  
Hireland  
team at  
Champlain's  
Dublin  
campus.



I applied and got into an internship program through the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) and was offered an internship at *V Magazine* after an interview there.

*V* is primarily a fashion magazine, also involving categories such as art, music, and film.

It was a dream come true to live in New

York and get to be behind the scenes of such an inspirational magazine every day this summer! As an editorial intern, I had duties including aiding and assisting in all editorial tasks associated with building the magazine issues; this meant helping with boards and binders, managing page plans, and conducting research for use by the company. Additionally, I promoted magazine issues through social media and online publication—I blogged for the magazine's website (including a feature blog piece), prepped blog pieces, solely maintained the company's Tumblr site, and kept a daily blog to bring cultural news to the editorial department. As I am a Graphic Design

major, I worked with the graphic design team on creating PDFs for meetings and inspirational purposes. I also performed receptionist duties, assisted in the distribution process, and participated in staff meetings.

Champlain's close-knit community gives me the support and inspiration that I need to succeed in the field that I aspire to be in. I am lucky to go to a school where the professionals care so much about the uniqueness of each and every student. Here at Champlain, I am a name and not just a number to my professors and faculty advisors.

### **John Desmond '13, Marketing**

Interning at Hireland was a great experience because it bridged the gap between being a Vermont college student and being a global employee. I was able to utilize Champlain's international connections by speaking with faculty at the Dublin campus to learn about what internship opportunities would be available in Dublin, which eventually put me in contact with the founder of Hireland and my (future) internship supervisor, Lucy Masterson. Less than a week after landing in Dublin, I was accompanying Lucy on meetings with web developers and posing for a photo shoot to accompany Hireland's press coverage.

The highlight of my atypical internship experience was when I pitched a collaborative promotional campaign plan to the editor of the *Irish Times*, which was featured in the BBC documentary *Coming Here Soon: Ireland, Lost and Leaving*. My involvement with Hireland continued to yield incredible opportunities the following semester in Burlington when I presented Hireland's success to the Irish ambassador, H.E. Michael Collins, and invited him to make a personal contribution to the collaborative project with the *Irish Times*.

### **Grant Parker '13, Game Design**

Last summer I had the opportunity to be a part of the internship program at LucasArts in San Francisco. LucasArts is the video game development group of Lucasfilm Limited, George Lucas's film production company that was just bought by Disney for \$4 billion.



Grant Parker '13, by the Han Solo prop from *Star Wars* at LucasArts in San Francisco this summer.

***"Champlain has given me everything that I need as a BFA graphic designer."***

My role was a level designer working on preproduction of the *Star Wars 1313* video game. I was doing the same work as the full-time designers and truly felt like part of the team.

As one of 42 interns throughout the divisions of Lucasfilm this summer, I was able to attend presentations by the directors of each division of the company, attend events at Skywalker Ranch, and expand my network. After proving my skills, I was asked to stay on as a level designer through the fall, but I wanted to complete my senior year at Champlain in hopes that I could return to LucasArts at some point in my future career.

This practical experience has been the most important part of my Game Design studies to date. It allowed me to learn more about the video game industry faster.

My advice to other students is to take Champlain up on its resources. Through Career Services workshops, I learned how to market myself as someone who can adapt quickly and intelligently defend the reasoning behind my work.

—Compiled by Kayla Hedman '14

**C**hamplain College honored its top faculty, adjunct professors, and staff during its annual recognition evening in May. The top awards, which each include a \$5,000 honorarium, are determined by the Board of Trustees annually from nominations submitted by faculty and staff.

**The Francine Page Excellence in Teaching Award** honors an adjunct faculty member who has shown dedication to students and excellence in teaching. The 2012 recipient is **Michael Miceli** of the Continuing Professional Studies program, who has taught undergraduate and graduate courses online and in the classroom.

**The Elizabeth A. Durick Staff Service Award** recognizes a staff member for professionalism, initiative, and dedication. The 2012 award was presented to **Kyle Dodson**, director of the Center for Service and Civic Engagement.

**The Edward Phelps Lyman Professorship** honors a Champlain College senior faculty member for a record of service and excellence in teaching and advising and for work on faculty and College committees. **Laurel Bongiorno**, director of the College's master of education degree program, earned

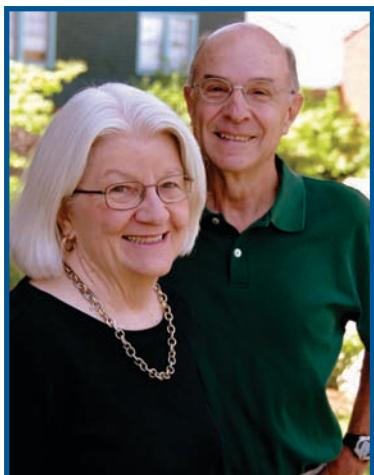
## Irish Ambassador Visits

Champlain College's connection with Dublin and Ireland was highlighted as the Vermont Council on World Affairs hosted a visit by Irish ambassador to the United States His Excellency Michael Collins (center). He spoke on campus and enjoyed a reception at Hauke Family Center featuring Irish music and dancers. Ambassador Collins also met with Champlain students and toured several area businesses including Dealer.com.

# HONORS

the professorship for her creation of the new M.Ed program as well as her involvement in the faculty senate and other committees relevant to her leadership positions on campus. (*See profile on page 9*)

**Also earning recognition in 2012:** Staff Council Innovation Award to **Jennifer Sweeney**, director of Life Experience & Action Dimension, and Staff Council Service Award to **Christina Erickson**, coordinator of the Sustainability Program.



**Edith K. Templin and Walter J. Luchini** were named faculty emeriti in 2012. Read their full bios at [www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu).

## FACULTY EMERITI

At Champlain College's 134th Opening Convocation in August, President David F. Finney honored two retired professors, **Walter J. Luchini** and **Edith K. Templin**, with faculty emeritus status. The status honors retired Champlain College faculty members who had a distinguished career excelling in the multiple roles of the professoriate: teaching and student engagement, institutional service, professional development, scholarship, and collegiality, and who served a significant portion of their careers at Champlain.



# & AWARDS

## Distinguished Citizen 2012

**Winthrop H. Smith, Jr.** of Warren, Vermont, was honored at Convocation as the 51st Champlain College Distinguished Citizen for his engagement, dedication to service, and philanthropy in Vermont.

Smith's message to the Class of 2016 was very clear: "Over the years I have observed that those who succeed and are comfortable with their lives learned their ABCs early in life and live by them. The ABCs I am speaking about are reflected in three words: Attitude, Belief, and Commitment."

"I see young men and women who all have the opportunity to find their passion, to excel at it, and to live life fully and successfully," Smith said. While at Amherst College as an undergraduate, Smith discovered a love for skiing at the Mad River Valley with college friends. Smith purchased Sugarbush Resort in 2001 and is its principal owner and president.

Smith earned his MBA in finance from the Wharton School and enjoyed a 28-year career in investment banking at Merrill Lynch International, spent traveling to more than 80 countries.

Smith is a member of Champlain College's Bring Your Own Business (BYOBiz) Executive Advisory Board as well as serving on the board of many other organizations. Through both his family foundation and Sugarbush, Smith is a frequent sponsor of charity events and donated to various Vermont charities last year, including Tropical Storm Irene rehabilitation efforts.



**Winthrop H. Smith, Jr.**



### The Emergent Media Center Receives Ambassador Award

Champlain's Emergent Media Center was given the Ambassador Award at the Sixth Annual Vermont Tech Jam, sponsored by Seven Days and the Vermont Technology Alliance, for being a leader in technology, blending business and learning.

# ALUMNI NEWS

## We want your news:

Share the news of your life with *Champlain View's* Class Notes—we want to hear about your new jobs, professional accomplishments, and honors. Send your information to [alumni@champlain.edu](mailto:alumni@champlain.edu), or by mail: Champlain View Class Notes, Champlain College, Office of Advancement, 163 South Willard St., Burlington, VT 05402-0670.



The Zonta Club of Burlington presented the Single Parent Program with a check for \$4,700 that was raised during the annual spring Spelling Bee on campus.

**'59**

### NEWS

**Carol (Pearson) Lewis** has retired after 15 years at Wake Robin in Shelburne, VT.

**'66**

### NEWS

**Vicki (Blye) Lockman** recently retired after 34 years at Hinman Straub P.C.

**'67**

### NEWS

**Laurie Schacher Wohl** recently retired from Citi where for the past nine years she was a vice president of business continuity and project management. This is her second company to retire from, having already retired in January 2003 from American Express after almost 24 years there. She is looking forward to enjoying herself and not worrying about her next conference call. She has started quilting and looks forward to taking up even more hobbies, and volunteering regularly to help out her community.

**'68**

### NEWS

**Dorothy (Vincent) Underkoffler** retired in June after being employed for 26 1/2 years at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale, PA.

**'75**

### NEWS

**John King**, president & CEO of Vermont Public Television, was inducted into the Vermont Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame at the association's Annual Awards Dinner. He joined VPT in 1987 and has served as president and CEO since 1998. He also serves on the PBS Board of Directors and has served as chairman of the Vermont Television Broadcasters Co-location Association. He is credited with helping to form a strong bond between public and private broadcasting in Vermont.

**'76**

### NEWS

**Monica Kelliher-Hamby** retired in October 2011 after 33 years of employment with the government.

She now volunteers at the local hospital and also is a hospice volunteer. Monica finds it really rewarding to be concerned with individuals and their quality of life, and feels fortunate to be able to donate her time to worthwhile projects. She and her husband plan to move back to New Hampshire.

**'80**

### NEWS

**Josephine Caycedo** is in the process of creating a global women's website to be launched in 2012. The website will be a resource where any woman, no matter what age, will be able to access information about anything woman-related. Through social fundraising and special and unique events, she aims to create an interpersonal network online and in vivo, for sharing knowledge, interests, and expertise.

**'84**

### NEWS

**Mariann Carlson** recently accepted a new job with Curtis 1000, helping clients in Maine, the seacoast of New Hampshire and the north shore of Massachusetts.

**Jo Anne M. Precourt** was recently promoted to senior tax accountant at Danaher Attig & Plante PLC.

**'85**

### NEWS

**Sarah Spencer** won the 2012 Small Business Administration's Vermont Women in Business Champion of the Year Award. She started her Internet marketing and web design firm, Got Clicks, in 2007. She was featured in the June 2012 issue of *Vermont Business Magazine*.

**'88**

### NEWS

**Lisa Spinelli** has joined Main Street Homes, in Midlothian, VA, as a new homes consultant.

**'89**

### NEWS

**Christina Fay** is the owner of Cookies by Christy, based in Essex Junction, VT.

**'91**

### NEWS

**Josie Palmer Leavitt** has recently been hired by the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Northern Vermont as its new executive officer.

**'93**

### BIRTH

**Clifford Wanner** and **April Wanner**, a son, Miles Thomas Wanner, Milton, VT, March 20, 2012.

**'94**

### BIRTH

**Kelley (Forrest)** and **Tim Merrow**, a daughter, Ava Grace, June 30, 2011. She joins big brother Logan.

**'97**

### BIRTH

**Tara Greenfield** and **Bart Greenfield**, a son, Killian Charles Greenfield, Milton, VT, March 28, 2012.

**'98**

### BIRTH

**Nathan Patenaude** and **Margreth Bostwick**, a daughter, Harper Lynne Patenaude, Fairfield, VT, March 30, 2012.

**'99**

### NEWS

**Rebecca B. Guenther** has recently been promoted from HR manager to firm manager at the Burlington law firm of Paul Frank + Collins, and is now in charge of the business operations of the 55-employee company.

**'00**

### ENGAGEMENT

**Kara Elizabeth Johansson** and **Ronnie Matocinos Collantes**, A Nov. 24, 2012, wedding is planned.

**'01**

### NEWS

**Matthew McCarthy** was hired by Crowley Webb, a marketing communications agency in Buffalo, NY, as an assistant account executive.

**Julie (Morris) Collins** was promoted to buyer for Day's Jewelers in Waterville, ME.

# MEET THE NEW ALUMNI RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Hannah K. Campbell joined Champlain College this fall as the new alumni relations director. She is thrilled to be part of the Champlain community and is eager to connect with as many Champlain alumni as possible. "I am impressed with the vibrancy, passion, innovation, and enthusiasm. Alumni are an integral part of the College's history and of its future, and I look forward to working together in the many years to come," she said.



An eighth-generation Vermonter, Campbell was born in Burlington and graduated from Burlington High School in 2001. Her father is a small business owner, and her brother has coached baseball in Burlington for many years. After college in New Hampshire and six years in New York City, she is happy to finally be home again.

She comes to Champlain from two institutions with outstanding alumni programs: Cambridge University (U.K.) and Cornell Medical College. These experiences provided her with a strong foundation from which she could draw to strengthen and expand Champlain's alumni program.

"You can expect a continuation of many beloved Champlain traditions, as well as new and exciting events for alumni," she added. "As a Champlain graduate, you are a vital resource for our current students as they complete their educations and begin their careers. There will be frequent opportunities to mentor and engage with them so that we can be true to our mission of providing a comprehensive, innovative, and purposeful education for every graduate."

**Campbell can be reached at (802) 860-2747 or by e-mail at [hcampbell@champlain.edu](mailto:hcampbell@champlain.edu).**

## Save the Date!

*Champlain College  
Winter Alumni Reunion  
February 22-23, 2013*

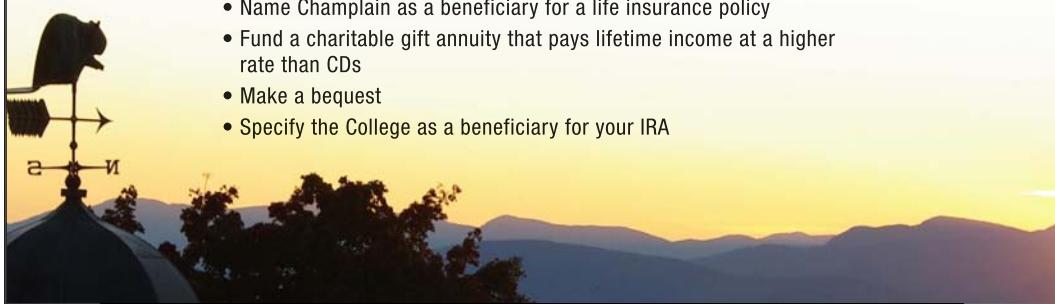
*Watch for your invitation*



## Planning ahead? Don't leave Champlain College behind.

It's easy to include the College in your will or estate plan:

- Name Champlain as a beneficiary for a life insurance policy
- Fund a charitable gift annuity that pays lifetime income at a higher rate than CDs
- Make a bequest
- Specify the College as a beneficiary for your IRA

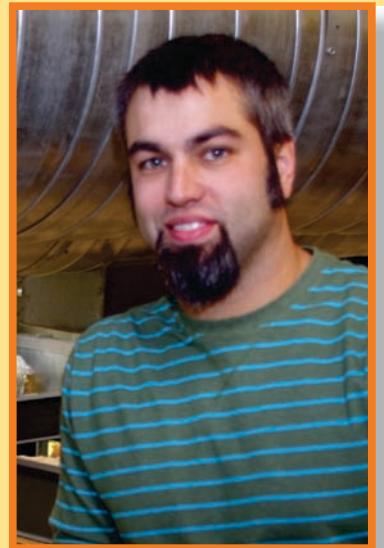


**Most gifts qualify for a gift tax deduction and/or reduced estate taxes. Contact Evan Smith, Gift Planning Office, (802) 865-5427 or toll-free (866) 421-7170, [plannedgiving@champlain.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@champlain.edu).**



## Brent Demers '04

Brent Demers '04 really understands the market: City Market, that is. Demers is the facilities manager at City Market, a community-owned food co-op in Burlington, Vermont, where, together with his five-member team, he handles the janitorial services, refrigeration, HVAC, equipment repair, grounds, energy efficiency, waste management, building improvement design and execution, and problem solving and creative thinking. Facilities make the whole structure viable. "Facilities supports each department so that they can work efficiently, resulting in high performance throughout the entire store," he explained.



Demers graduated from Champlain with a degree in Marketing Management. "I have always worked in the food retail industry and have enjoyed many aspects of it that directly relate to marketing. I use my degree every day, from working with our merchandising team helping to create innovative displays in-house, to exchanging inefficient lighting for intelligent LED lighting systems, and gaining PR from other companies that follow City Market's lead."

Demers has also become an expert in sustainability. He explained that City Market supports the local economy and food system because the co-op provides local organic food at a fair price. More than 4,000 customers shop at City Market every day, and Demers

ensures that each of them has a positive experience.

He notes that

food produced by industrial agriculture has to be transported over thousands of miles, significantly increasing the carbon footprint of food production. Carbon emissions can be reduced by buying locally. "The support of local foods is an important part of sustainable living," he stated. "Being more reliant on our own renewable energy sources and ensuring our sustainable future should be the [Vermont] focus."

Demers recalled how much Professor Jim Ellefson influenced him at Champlain. "I remember he always worked with students to become better writers; I think it was his care and attention to individual students that made him stand out," Demers said.

Demers also worked closely with Beth Fitzgerald in Student Life, and he planned and coordinated events for other students, much as he does at City Market today. "She would always push me to stay active with events and, in turn, that has allowed me to gain so many new experiences," he recalled.

Since he works in the neighborhood, Demers occasionally returns to campus. He recently discussed the job market with students in Professor Jay McKee's capstone class. He reminded students that volunteer work, social networking, and remaining informed are the keys to success. He has also made contact with Christina Erickson to discuss Champlain College's sustainability initiatives.

Exemplifying the entrepreneurial spirit of Champlain, Demers encouraged recent graduates and job-hunting alumni to "find ways to differentiate yourself from all of the other applicants" and to utilize the resources at Champlain: "Champlain helped me build my resume and tailor cover letters."

In addition, Demers found personal success at Champlain. "The College played a huge role in the direction of not only my career, but my life; it is where I met my wonderful wife, Kate," he said with a smile.

—Christina Etre '14

**'02****BIRTH**

**Michael Nurczynski and Arielle (Schwartz) Nurczynski**, a daughter, Mika Nurczynski, Boston, MA, March 29, 2012.

**ENGAGEMENT**

**Michael H. Burgoyne and Lisa Marie Gallina**. A Dec. 1, 2012, wedding is planned.

**'04****BIRTH**

**Elizabeth (Boozan) Small and Eric Small**, a son, Danyon Carter Small, Burlington, VT, August 20, 2012.

**MARRIAGES**

**Jessica Clodgo and Matthew Hribar**, September 3, 2011.

**Robin Falk and Brady Ryan**, August 2011, in southern Vermont.

**Justin Pelletier and Clarissa Hernandez**, May 6, 2011.

**Sara Peake** and Dominick Massino, May 19, 2012.

**NEWS**

**Justin Pelletier** works at Walker Myers Insurance and Risk Management, in San Antonio, TX. He has six years in the insurance industry.

**Robin (Falk) Ryan** moved to Boston in 2005 and went to school for photography. She then started her own photography company in 2008, Robin Falk Photography.

**'05****ENGAGEMENT**

**Laurel J. Sawyer and Keith Robbins**, October 13, 2012.

**NEWS**

**Laurel J. Sawyer** works as a paralegal at Haddleton & Associates, P.C. in Hyannis, MA.

**Heather Caisse** returned from living in Paris for two years to take a job as manager of development for the American Lung Association of the Northeast.

**'06****BIRTHS**

**Angela Fitzgerald and Thomas Fitzgerald**, a daughter, Caragh Jane Fitzgerald, St. Albans, VT, April 10, 2012.

**Elly Haven** and **Joshua Markle**, a son, Tres Myron Markle, Burlington, VT, April 5, 2012.

**NEWS**

**Rebecca Colley** has been accepted into the Design for Social Innovation program at School of Visual Arts in Manhattan

**Chris Ellingwood** started working for Champlain College as an adjunct instructor in addition to his full-time job as a manager at CPA firm BerryDunn.

**'07****BIRTH**

**Shauna Lee** and **Alastair Lee '09**, a son, Tucker Lee, Boston, MA, September 7, 2012.

**NEWS**

**Jason Di Vece** co-owns Burlington Bytes with Peter Jewett. It is a company that builds affordable websites using Wordpress.

**Becky Piaseczny** is a graphics manager at Yipes! Corp.

**Chad Somerset G'07** was hired as chief information officer at Vermont Health Insurance Co-op.

**'08****NEWS**

**Brighid Buzzell** was appointed membership manager of the

Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce.

**Ian MacDowell** accepted a position with R/GA in Austin, TX.

**'09****BIRTH**

**Shauna Lee '07 and Alastair Lee**, a son, Tucker Lee, Boston, MA, September 7, 2012.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**Lauren Boncek** and **Andrew Polhemus**, July 2012.

**Megan Mettin** and **Benjamin Mercer '10**. A summer 2013 wedding is planned.

**NEWS**

**Jeffrey D. Bartley** joined MyWebGrocer as a junior analyst on the insights team.

**Jessica Ingram** moved back to her hometown of Yarmouth, ME, along with her boyfriend and pup. She is now an accountant for the veterinary pharmaceutical company Putney, Inc., in Portland, ME.

**Katherine Maund** has started at Ethology in Portland, OR, as a content marketing specialist.

**Michael Ummarino** wrote a book titled *The Hellfire Complex*. It is a young adult contemporary superhero novel that takes place in an alternate version of Champlain and Burlington. It is the first in a multi-part series that he is planning.

**Ginger J. Vieira** spoke on e-coaching at the Medicine 2.0 conference in Boston in September, and will be keynote speaker in November at the American Diabetes Educators of Utah conference.

**Krysta L. Voskowsky** is earning an MFA in Creative Nonfiction at Emerson College in Boston, MA.

## Accounting Excellence Scholarship Dynamic Duo

The Accounting Excellence Scholarship is a permanent endowment fund that honors the tradition of teaching excellence at Champlain College. Thanks to the generous donations of alumni and friends, the College has awarded \$2,500 scholarships to Jennifer Martin '13 and Jennifer Sullivan '14—two accomplished Accounting students who have demonstrated great professional promise.

"I would like to thank the supporters of the Accounting Excellence Scholarship. I hope that I will make you proud of supporting my education and professional advancement. I will continue to work hard at Champlain and strive to be the best person I can be; academically, professionally, and as a citizen of the world."—**Jennifer Sullivan '14** (at left)

"This scholarship is a great contribution to my education. I am extremely grateful. I hope that all who have contributed to this fund know how much they are respected and appreciated by students who receive this award."—**Jennifer Martin '13** (at right)

Please consider making a gift today by using the secure online site  
<https://secure.champlain.edu/annualfund/> and selecting the Accounting Excellence Endowed Scholarship or calling (866) 421-7170. Your gift will be matched in the 2K42M Challenge.



She is currently writing a memoir, works as a freelance writer, and keeps a travel blog at [www.krystavoskowsky.com](http://www.krystavoskowsky.com). During the summer of 2012, she resided in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia while teaching English as a second language to young students with the nonprofit organization Travel to Teach.

**Doma Sherpa and Lakpa Lama** opened a new restaurant, Sherpa Kitchen, located on College Street in Burlington, VT.

## '10

### BIRTHS

**Lindsey Dion and Mark Dion**, a daughter, Hadley Nicole Dion, Winooski, VT, March 28, 2012.

**Corrie (Kotulak) Fitzgerald and Jason Fitzgerald**, a son, Colton Richard Fitzgerald, Middlebury, VT, March 30, 2012.

### ENGAGEMENTS

**Benjamin Mercer and Megan Mettin '09**. A summer 2013 wedding is planned.

**Heather A. Funk G'10 and Chester A. Clark**. An August 2013 wedding is planned.

### NEWS

**Corey Grenier** was hired by Seven Days as a marketing and events manager.

**Nichole Magooen** was given an Alumni Leadership Award in 2011.

**Caitlin Patey** finished cycling across the country with a nonprofit called Bike & Build to raise money and awareness for affordable housing.

**Scott Steinford G'10** was promoted to president of Doctor's Best Inc.

**Craig Winslow** recently launched

[blog.craigwinslow.com](http://blog.craigwinslow.com) following the launch of his website [www.craigwinslow.com](http://www.craigwinslow.com). He also works at JDK Design in Burlington, VT.

## '11

### BIRTH

**Martha (Bishop) Murdough and Peter Murdough**, a son, Gavin Murdough, South Burlington, VT, February 17, 2012.

### NEWS

**Heather Barrett** was hired by Vermont Woods Studios as a marketing assistant.

**Alaina Castillo** has joined Union Street Media as a web designer.

**Heather Conover** was hired as a content designer at Carabine Studios in Aliso Viejo, CA.

**Bryce Coster** works as a lead artist developing a role-playing game called Aura Tactics.

**Shane D. Mispel** has been promoted to store manager of the TD Bank located in Barre, VT.

**Theodore Schwinden** has accepted a job as an account executive at Gorkana, located in New York.

**Eric Barie G'11** has been named regional marketing director for Frontier Communications, with responsibilities for marketing the company's assets across the Midwest. He earned his MBA from Champlain, and previously worked as senior marketing manager for FairPoint Communications.

**Philip Breen G'11** has been hired by Liberty Mutual as a sales representative.

## '12

### NEWS

**Marguerite Dibble** founded her own game development studio, Birnam Wood Games, located in Burlington, VT. She was featured in a *Seven Days* article about women in gaming.

**Patrick DiMambro** has been hired by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency as a staff accountant.

**Allyson Locke** is working at Union Street Media as an Internet marketer.

**Thu A. Nguyen** has been hired by SymQuest Group as an SQL report writer.

**Melissa Sheketoff** has been hired as an associate producer for the WCAX news program "The :30."

**Christina Sbarro G'12** graduated in the inaugural class of the Emergent Media MFA program and now works as an emerging media strategist at JDK Design in Burlington, VT. She's also excited to announce her first book, *A Field Guide to Now: Notes on Mindfulness and Life In the Present Tense*, just released by Skirt! Books (Globe Pequot Press). Sbarro wrote the book while in the third semester of the Champlain MFA program.

## In Memory of Our Fellow Alumni and Friends

*These members of our alumni family have passed on and will be remembered warmly by their friends, family, and alma mater.*

**Sylvia M. Casey '40**

**Gloria A. Conant '44**,

March 11, 2012

**Willard F. Chamberlin '48**,

June 16, 2012

**Norman J. Hammond '49**,

Wilson, NC, April 27, 2012

**Patricia M. Lawrence '51**,

May 25, 2012

**Robert M. McClure '52**

**Dorothy C. Cota '61**,

Aug. 27, 2012

**Gary C. Mathon '62**,

Aug. 15, 2011

**Robert Bates '62**,

Hanover, NH, Sept. 9, 2012

**David C. Hurlbut '63**,

St. Albans, VT, March 18,

2012

**Doreen J. Byrd '63**, June 3,

2011

**Arthur B. Sanborn '65**,

August 23, 2012

**Donald G. Lambert, Sr. '66**,

May 30, 2012

**Dolores H. Keller '66, P'07**,

Burlington, VT, April 15, 2012

**Bob B. Davenport '67**,

Cavendish, VT, Sept. 9, 2012

**James P. Allen '67**, Trustee

Emeritus, Jan. 8, 2012

**Joyce R. Meunier '71**,

April 30, 2012

**James B. Coons '72**,

Middlebury, VT, April 16, 2012

**Shirley R. Austin '73**

**Chris J. Rockwood '76**,

June 2, 2012

**Douglas R. James '78**,

March 5, 2012

**Kevin P. Ohl '80**,

May 29, 2012

**Bradley A. Moorby '81**

**Phillip J. Aiston '81**,

August 27, 2012

**Diane Mongeon '82**,

June 4, 2012

**Deborah J. (Humphrey)**

**Carter '83**, Grand Isle, VT,

April 6, 2012

**Kyriakos L. Toulis '83**,

May 30, 2012

**Margery Moore '90**,

July 18, 2012

**Patricia Rasmussen '91**,

Aug. 4, 2011

**Deborah L. Mason '94**,

Aug. 10, 2011

**Donald D. Dickey G'09**, West

Lebanon, NH, May 8, 2012

**Deana M. Higgs-Gordon '10**,

'89, July 29, 2012

**Nicholas W. Booth '12**,

Jan. 24, 2012

**Louis R. Mazel, Trustee**

Emeritus, March 28, 2012

**Ian C. Maurer, student**,

July 21, 2011

**Miriam H. Wall, Trustee**

Emerita, July 7, 2012

**Peter C. Cernansky,**

student, Aug. 30, 2012

**Sarah Barthel '06 and Josh Carter**

## Sarah Barthel '06

**S**arah Barthel '06 is one half of the band Phantogram, with Josh Carter, a beat-heavy indie pop duo. Phantogram first came on to the music scene in early 2010 with the release of its album *Eyelid Movies* (Barsuk), which was lauded by both underground and

mainstream press, from *Pitchfork* to *Alternative Press*, *Spin* to NPR. You can experience videos and their music at [www.phantogram.net](http://www.phantogram.net). Barthel recently chatted with Sarah Bunnell '05, Champlain's new annual giving director, and gave us the lowdown on what life is like now from New York City, where she lives and writes music when not touring.

### **What was your major and how did it lead you to where you are now?**

I studied Graphic Design and mainly focused on photography and video. The time I spent at Champlain allowed me to grow as an artist on many different levels. Champlain offered a wide variety of options and I took advantage of them all. I spent my time learning photography, graphic design, web design, drawing and video, film study, acting, and singing.

### **Who was your biggest influence here at Champlain?**

Definitely my photography teacher, Natalie Stultz. She showed me how to look differently at photographs and at art in general. I use what she taught me with my career as a musician when writing songs every day. When our band first started out, I used skills acquired at Champlain to take press photographs, build our website, and design the merchandise for our band.

### **What does Champlain mean to you now?**

My years at Champlain College were some of the best times of my life. It was a place where I was able to really discover myself and where I realized how strong my passion for art was. The College community was very unique and with it being a small school, I never felt like a number, but instead a valued student and friend to my classmates and even my professors.

### **What are a few of your favorite memories from Champlain?**

My best friends from college and I spent a lot of time hanging out at the cafeteria—at the time, Hamrick Hall. We became good friends with the lunch ladies and they got to know us well. We had so many great laughs there. I also loved living in McDonald Hall, where I lived during my sophomore year. Everyone in the house became really good friends with one another. Literally, every single one of us! Lastly, one of my video projects involved making a documentary about a certain subject. I made a “mocumentary” about freestyle walking and how serious the “sport” was. It ended up being a pretty hilarious 15-minute video that to this day I love showing people.

### **What other skills or lessons did you gain from Champlain?**

I learned to take advantage of whatever resources I had available. I learned that the professors were my friends and not my enemies and they were there to help me with any kind of problem I had, personal or educational.

### **What kind of advice would you give to incoming students, or students about to graduate and move on to the real world?**

Take advantage of every possible experience and grow from it. Get to know your professors and take the time to have conversations with them outside the classroom. Build relationships with your classmates, all of them. Everything makes an impact on the person you become, so be open to new experiences.

—Sarah Bunnell '05 & Molly Ritvo



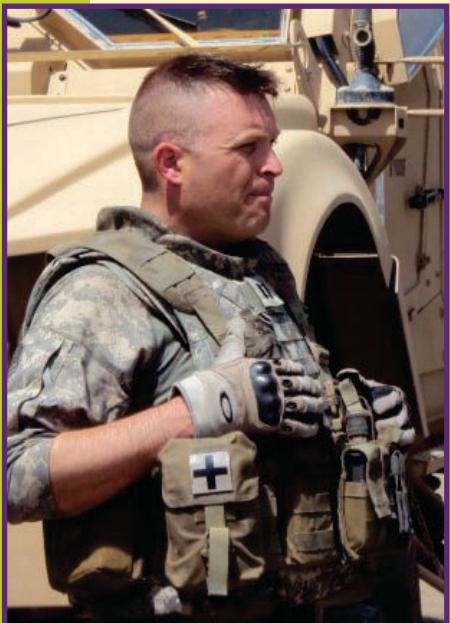
## Christopher Gookin '99

You might be surprised to know that before alternative education was mainstream, Champlain College was already serving the nontraditional learner. Cpt. Christopher Gookin '99 exemplifies the spirit, passion, and commitment of Champlain students.

He arrived on campus in the fall of 1996 "by way of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Army," said Gookin. After a number of years of both active and reserve service, he was ready for a different kind of challenge, an intellectual challenge. Although richly educated beyond the traditional college classroom, Gookin understood that attending college after military service would have its unique challenges. "I had taken numerous classes at numerous institutions, but I didn't have a firm grasp on how college worked," he said.

Recalling his initial connection with the Office of Admission, Gookin said that "they took me by the hand" and worked with him to create a personalized education plan "that fit me as a nontraditional student." He noted that the staff at the Office of Admission, registration, and bursar "went out of their way to explain how processes work" and even "brought me over and introduced me to

*"The importance of giving back to Champlain College in support of veterans and the Yellow Ribbon Program cannot be overstated. Veterans are an integral part of the fabric of our communities."*



the next staffer in the process." To a military man about to become a full-time student, this was familiar behavior that affirmed his understanding that he belonged at Champlain.

While at Champlain, Gookin lived in a fraternity and served as an Orientation leader. "My fraternity brothers at the Lambda Iota Society helped me maintain my close connection to Champlain," he said. Gookin then earned a master of education degree in student leadership. Today, 12 years after graduation, Gookin is the deputy public affairs officer for the Vermont National Guard. Additionally, he serves as the 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's medical planner, as well as the aide-de-camp for the adjutant general of Vermont. With all these

titles, Gookin is a surprisingly modest guy who enjoys traveling and exemplifies the entrepreneurial spirit of Champlain. "Champlain focused and refined all of my skills," he remarked. "In a time before there were nontraditional programs, Champlain was already leading the way."

Over the course of his career, Gookin has deployed four times, to Kosovo, Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan, during times of persistent conflict and unrest. He credits the skills he honed at Champlain in helping him deal with these

challenges. “One constant I have experienced is that I am developing relationships with the citizens of these countries,” he recalled. “Engaging with them and utilizing many of the skills I gleaned as a Communications major at Champlain has convinced me that while all politics are local, communication is global.”

Gookin used his communication and relationship-building skills recently in Senegal when he traveled to Africa with a small delegation from the Vermont National Guard. “Senegal is one of the Vermont State Partnership Program countries,” he explained. “The other is Macedonia. This partnership program is a 65-nation, 20-year-old initiative that provides unique partnership opportunities between the United States and other countries.”

Although observing some native African wildlife was part of the experience, it was certainly not the goal. “We began with a meeting at the U.S. Embassy in Dakar,” Gookin said. “Our group was there to ensure that Vermont’s goals for the state partnership provided an excellent overview of the embassy’s problems, personnel, and initiatives.” Gookin, who currently lives in Georgia, Vermont, and his team also attended meetings with the Senegalese chief of defense and the minister of defense and Senegalese military peers, and attended the graduation and commissioning of the Senegalese Military Academy.

Thinking globally and connecting locally defines Gookin’s purpose. He values the concept of giving back—both to his country and to Champlain. “The importance of giving back to Champlain College in support of veterans and the Yellow Ribbon Program cannot be overstated,” he said. “Veterans are an integral part of the fabric of our communities. Their experiences, maturity, and selfless service add diversity of opinions and ideas at Champlain and the wider world, and their presence provides their fellow students a valued perspective and better prepares everyone to tackle difficult issues that affect all of us.”

—Molly Ritvo

To learn more about Champlain College’s Yellow Ribbon Program, visit [www.champlain.edu/yellow-ribbon-program.html](http://www.champlain.edu/yellow-ribbon-program.html)



## Veterans Memorial Dedicated

To support the more than 100 veterans and their family members taking courses full- and part-time at the College, a memorial honoring the service and sacrifice of Champlain College veterans has been placed adjacent to Aiken Green in between Foster and Wick Halls.

On Nov. 12, the Veterans Memorial Committee of Champlain faculty and staff held a memorial dedication highlighting Champlain’s participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program, which provides a significant tuition waiver for veterans who qualify for assistance.

Speakers at the event included Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin, former Vermont Gov. Jim Douglas, Digital Forensics professor Cristian Balan (*at the podium*), Brigadier General Steven Cray (who is also the parent of a Champlain student), Provost Robin Abramson, and Chair of the Champlain Board of Trustees Laura Dagan.

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