

VERMONT TECH

OUR FACULTY

Thank
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thank you

This issue of your Alumni Magazine is dedicated to the faculty of Vermont Tech, past and present, but this is **YOUR** magazine, so we'd like to offer our thanks for two examples of our alumni engaging with your alma mater:

THE FALL 2019 CAREER FAIR WAS A SUCCESS!

Over 30 Vermont Tech alumni represented their career fields and are proof of our **99% placement rate of graduates** finding careers in their field of study or furthering their education.

Thank you for coming back and supporting future alumni in their job search, we hope to see you again in the spring.



VERMONT DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION (VDHA)

VDHA is a professional organization representing dental hygienists in the state of Vermont. In 2018, The VDHA gathered the community and raised over \$800 that supported the community outreach branch of the VDHA and Vermont Tech's Molar Mobile. Vermont Tech has also hosted VDHA Spring Continuing Education where they provided courses on dental health and hygiene. Not only does Vermont Tech support VDHA, four out of the five Officers are Vermont Tech graduates (see page 14)

STEPHEN "TINY" SPACE, AG 1954

Stephen was raised in Glen Rock, NJ, moving to Dummerston in 1960. Although graduating from Vermont Tech in Agriculture, he was known for his mechanic skills and his generosity, always fixing other people's cars and machines. Caring and kind, he was always willing to help anyone in need.

In 2017, upon his passing at age 85, Stephen stipulated in his will that his house and property was to be sold and all proceeds – **over \$200,000 after expenses** – go to Vermont Tech to start a scholarship in his name, known as the Stephen Space Scholarship Fund. This will be awarded annually to admitted students needing financial aid.



Stephen will always be in our memories, and Vermont Tech is grateful for our generous alumni.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear VTC Alumni,

Vermont Tech has over 35 programs offering certificates, associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, and master's degrees, and prides itself on having all of them offered with hands-on, applied learning. Not only does VTC have eleven campuses and distance sites, we still offer small class sizes with a 15:1 average student-to-teacher ratio. For 2018, your Vermont Tech ranked 7th for Best Undergraduate Teaching (US News & World Report). It is hard to surpass the fantastic faculty - and the staff who support them - that have contributed to the success of the college.

Our alumni have kindly spoken about how the faculty at Vermont Tech have inspired them within their field of study and life endeavors. Some alumni are still in close contact, and I am so thankful for the dedication of our employees to our students, alumni, and to Vermont Tech.

Throughout this issue, read about past faculty who helped create the college where it is today and current professors who strive to continue that legacy. Catch up with what your classmates are up to, meet our new Deans, and read past students' memories of their professors and what advice those faculty have to their alumni!

Small college. Big outcomes.

Patricia Moulton
President



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VERMONT TECH

Brent Sargent started in 1995 at Vermont Tech as an educator. He taught courses in English Composition, Logic, and Business Ethics. While teaching, he was also running the education and training program at IBM as the manager, and because of the program's growth, they were renting extra rooms in a Williston complex. Noting the need for more space and program development, it became part of the college's ten-year strategic plan to expand the Randolph Center campus to Chittenden County. Thus the Williston campus was designed and Brent became its Associate Dean. He described starting it as a "work in progress" because for the next 12 years, they took three to four rooms and expanded it to five separate buildings - four academic and one residential - to be the campus it is today. He communicated that even though it was "challenging and consuming, they hired a wonderful staff." He noted **Jean-Marie Clark** for



leadership and **Chris Beattie** for running facilities and IT—aspects that made creating the Williston campus, "exciting and proud of what they accomplished."

Brent noted that the students "were wonderful right from the beginning." Starting with about 30 students, he said that working with them was "the best part of the whole experience."

With his love of teaching and working with students, Brent is still doing part-time work at Vermont Tech instructing two courses a semester while teaching at the Community College of Vermont. He also worked alongside Interim Academic Dean **Allan Rodgers** as an assistant to aid in the transition and office work.

Brent was recognized for his generous support of the Nursing Program and his efforts on attaining the award-winning simulation technology by having the lab named for him: The Dr. Brent Sargent Nursing Simulation Lab, for his diligence and dedication to the college.

Then

Today, Brent realizes the importance of education in his multiple roles, and believes that Vermont Tech is a great institution. Although he knows he doesn't have to tell Alumni that, he stresses

"to boast about it and give to support it...don't be afraid to give back." He also encourages Alumni to "keep learning and keep expanding your skill base... and while you have a great foundation of education, always keep your options open for more ... it's incredibly important in today's professional world."

FACULTY, **BRENT SARGENT**, RELAXES IN HIS WILLISTON OFFICE.

Pat Menchini became the Director of the Vermont Tech Nursing Program in July of 1994. With three programs at four locations, Pat changed the accreditation history and unified the separated programs under one entity, all while teaching Anatomy and Physiology at Vermont Tech. She saw how the accreditation was working first hand: the hours of class time changing from 45 hours to 180 hours in a semester. In 1998, "we graduated our first class of Associate Degree Registered Nursing students!"



RETIRED FACULTY, DEAN, AND INTERIM PRESIDENT, **PATRICIA MENCHINI**, ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH HER GRANDSON AT HER HOME IN RANDOLPH.

Pat was instrumental in expanding the nursing program to more sites and adding Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Therapy. In 2003, Pat became the Associate Dean of Allied Health while continuing as Director of Nursing. In this new position, with the help of President **Allan Rodgers**, she expanded the nursing program to ten more locations. A year later, in 2004, they admitted their first Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Therapy classes, which helped develop the Allied Health Department.

In 2006, Pat took on another role as the Interim Academic Dean and a year later became the Dean of Academic Affairs from 2007-2012. In 2010, Pat took on one more role: she became Interim President and helped the Board of Trustees look for a permanent candidate.

Now

When working at Vermont Tech, teaching was still her favorite part as she loved interacting with the students. Reminiscing on a time when she checked in on one student asking how things were going and the student said, "Things are going pretty well, the

only problem the patient had was that he struggled to chew up his suppository!" Noting the horrified look on my face, the student said, 'Gotcha!'" Pat noted that Vermont Tech staff/faculty really know how to take care of students, reporting to her if a student wasn't doing well and Pat said, "It was easy to grasp serious issues early." With her background in Psychiatric Nursing and noting the small class sizes, it made it attainable to reach every student with passion.

Recently, Pat made a speech at the May 19 Commencement, celebrating the 25th year Nursing has been a major course of study at VTC and the 15th year for both Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Therapy programs. She was surprised by President Patricia Moulton with the Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters.

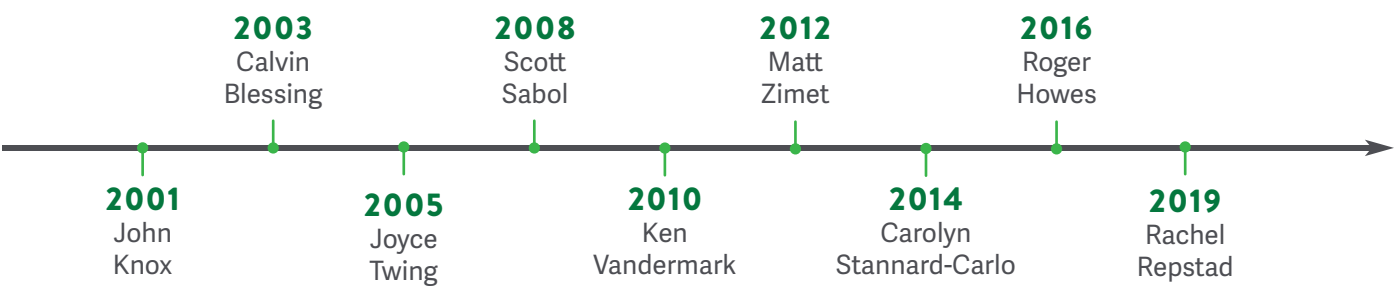
Pat encourages Alumni to donate to your college and if not, at least stay connected. "If you know students coming to Vermont Tech, talk it up and tell them it is a gem of a college."

Harry Wirtz Master Teacher Award



The Wirtz Award celebrates the legacy of Harry Wirtz, who was a professor of civil and environmental engineering technology. The award is presented to a faculty member who stands as a role model for other faculty members and conducts themselves with the highest academic standards. Professor **Rachel Repstad** was selected as the **2019 Wirtz Award recipient**. Professor Repstad has been a faculty member since 2005 and represents the **highest standards of teaching excellence and student engagement**.

Award Timeline



New Dean of Students

Vermont Tech welcomes **Jason Enser** as the newly appointed **Dean of Students**. Enser most recently served as Dean for Student Affairs at SUNY Adirondack Community College, Associate Dean of Students at Clarkson University, as well as an instructor for leadership courses.



Enser says he came to Vermont Tech because of the **size, mission, and the people**. He aims to create meaningful student engagement opportunities that **support student retention**. He added, "I really value the education Vermont Tech can provide to our students, as well as develop career-ready graduates to enhance the local workforce." Jason

Enser supersedes John (Jay) Paterson, who served as Dean for six years.

New Dean of Academic Affairs

Dr. Ana Gaillat has been named the Dean of Academic Affairs, and she began in May. Her candidacy was recommended by the college's search committee and approved by the President in March.

Dr. Gaillat has excellent credentials and was an engaging candidate. She has extensive experience at other colleges and a scientist's mind that she will bring to her work at Vermont Tech.

The search committee noted that the many candidates each had unique strengths that would benefit the college but that, "Ana Gaillat rose to the top among our community in feedback surveys," which were submitted by employees and students.

Dr. Gaillat will continue the college's work toward preparing for the **2020 accreditation visit from the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE)**, our national accreditor. She will also lead the academic plans that inform the college's **2023 Strategic Plan**, including implementation of a reorganization of its departments into five schools. (see back cover for more information)



Retired Faculty
GOOD-BYE IS ALWAYS HARD



ROGER HOWES
RETIRED, 2017

In January of 1999, Roger received a faculty position at Vermont Tech teaching Mechanical Engineering. During this time, he helped progress the Senior Capstone Projects, where seniors take a real world problem - that even Roger doesn't know the answer to - and create a real-world solution. This became his favorite class to teach because, "watching their projects come together, and most [students] couldn't wait to show what they had done in their presentations." Currently, Roger is still teaching a Forestry class called Burls to Boards. He is also known for his bad puns, and you could always find Roger dining with the student population, because it was, "always fun and different life stories came from that." Now, Roger still has the sign students made for him stating one of his famous quotes, "Every problem can be solved with proper application of heavy equipment." He still lives by his advice, "Go to work every day to a job you love. That's the key." His 'payday,' as he calls it, is having students visit him from years past.



JOHN O'DONNELL, JR.
RETIRED, 2019

John began teaching Chemistry and Physics at Vermont Tech in 1984. His favorite class to teach was Physics I because he liked getting first-semester students and seeing them evolve over time. While he was getting to know students, John also enjoyed making the material visual, using common examples like tossing a ball in the classroom...which maybe had something to do with him becoming the baseball coach for six years in late '80s and early '90s. Working at Vermont Tech for over 35 years, John's advice to alumni is, "Enjoy life - have plans, but don't be in a rush." John is now newly retired and using his time to travel to Canada with his wife and visit their three-year-old grandson.

FACULTY
PROFILE

BRAD
MILLER



PROFESSOR **BRAD MILLER** (FAR RIGHT), JOINS STUDENTS (FROM LEFT) WILLIAM FRETWELL, DAVID WOOLAVER, AND JARED WHALEN FOR A PHOTO IN FRONT OF THE BREAKERS, NEWPORT, RI.

Connecting with students is something Brad Miller enjoys, and it is why he became involved in the AIAS (American Institute of Architects Students) Club. He travels with students to regional cities like New York City, Montreal, Newport, and Providence to see historical buildings and tour museums and schools, like the Rhode Island School of Design. These trips cost nothing for the students as it is funded by the club budget and fundraising, done by the students themselves. (A popular event is water pong tournaments on campus; in the past they have sold mugs with professors' faces and their famous quotes on them.)

Brad believes in being immersed into cultures and experiencing sites, buildings, and stories. With the AIAS Club being so popular, retired faculty Barbara Conrey started the Euro-Classroom, which Brad now continues. The course is now known as the Architectural & Cultural Study Abroad (ARH 2210) course. "This course immerses students in the literature, art, and architecture of a foreign city

combined with a guided travel tour to an overseas location, designed to enrich and broaden student perspectives in our increasingly global world." Faculty and students spend 10 days in cities such as Barcelona, Munich, and Venice.

The most recent trip was to Italy and Greece, touring Florence, Pompeii, Sounion, and Delphi, known for the Temple of Apollo, the Amphitheater, and the "center of the universe" rock. What he and the students really enjoyed was the ability to see ruins, like one of the four sites for Olympic Games, all while getting great views and having fun! A favorite moment was traveling to the tip of Greece, where they had a delicious Greek meal in Sounion, which is widely known for their beautiful sunsets. Brad reminisced, "It was worth the far trip from Athens."

When asked what advice he had for alumni traveling, especially abroad, he warned, "People who want to go see these places, you need to start thinking about it now! Twenty years from now, these famous sites and



SANTA CROCE, FLORENCE, ITALY.



THE COLOSSEUM/FLAVIAN AMPHITHEATER IN ROME, ITALY

beautiful cities may have a lottery of who can come, with population on the rise." He explained how the Grand Canyon has already started this notion: a lottery of how many people can camp down at the bottom of the canyon. He also advised, "Travel in May. There are less crowds, comfortable weather, and great prices on tickets." Brad happily shared that living on the east coast, tickets to Barcelona are as low as \$400 round trip, "cheaper than a Colorado ticket!"

A Professor and Department Chair for Architectural Engineering Technology, Brad is beginning his 30th year at Vermont Tech and looks forward to leading more educational trips with students!



THE PARTHENON, ATHENS, GREECE

Joyce came to Vermont Tech in 1989 after teaching high school for 15 years. Hired on to help start the Business Technology Management Associates degree, she later expanded it to become among the first bachelor's degrees at the Williston campus. She did not stop there, developing the second online degree in BSN, after Dental Hygiene. She reminisced on the small class sizes, as it was a brand new program, "starting Williston was awesome...having eight students in my class made it a small community which created a supportive atmosphere."

Joyce has been teaching for 31 years at both the Randolph Center and Williston campuses, and currently all of the programs she helped create are still offered. They have not lost the small classroom feel, as students are highly involved and great team workers. Working at both locations gives her the opportunity to work with all of Vermont Tech's Business Students and one of the many reasons why she was nominated by students for the Robert Wonkka Award.

Joyce loves teaching, especially freshman, because of the excitement of getting to mold new students. "I love interacting with students and watching them grow personally and professionally." What she pointed out specifically was, "I like believing in the students before they even believe in themselves and showing them how to do it." Staying connected with students and alumni is important to her, so much so that she is friends with graduates on social media.

"I love interacting with students and watching them grow personally and professionally. I like believing in the students before they even believe in themselves and showing them how to do it."

— Joyce Twing

in the 'Pay it Forward' movement. "Always be mindful and be present in the moment because the moments fly by far too quickly." She thanks alumni for choosing her a favorite professor, insisting, "The pleasure was all mine."



FACULTY
PROFILE

JOYCE
TWING

PROFESSOR **JOYCE TWING**, WRITES NOTES ON THE BOARD FOR ONE OF HER MANY BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT COURSES.



Congratulations
Class of 1969
on your 50th
reunion!



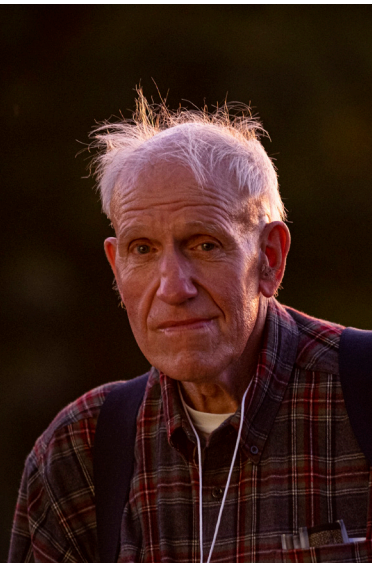
Every third Saturday of September, we combine Family and Alumni Day on the Randolph Center Campus, and this year was a blast!

In honor of **Delbert Haskins, Class of 1969** we recognized Delbert's generous bequest by dedicating the new Delbert Haskins'69 Environmental Engineering & Renewable Energy Lab.

Alumni from 1944 to 2019 enjoyed hayrides, apple picking, Cow-Plop Bingo, cider pressing and doughnuts, the log-saw cookie-cutter challenge, Women's & Men's varsity soccer games, Vermont Tech farm tour, renewable mini-golf, a new corn-hole tournament, and a great alumni turkey dinner in the Morey Dining Hall!

To finish up the day, alumni gathered on the Clarke Patio for the All Alumni Party, with great hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and new Vermont Tech Knights pint glasses.

John Morin, EET '84, commented, "I saw so many engaging activities... while next year won't be a reunion for me, I would love to bring our grandchildren to take part. Also, the dinner was amazing! I had the time of my life."



TOP LEFT PHOTO: FAMILY AND FRIENDS ENJOYED PLAYING RENEWABLE MINI GOLF ON THE MOREY GREEN.

TOP RIGHT: JIM PULLMAN, '69 ENJOYS THE SUNSET AT THE ALUMNI SOCIAL EVENT AT THE END OF EVENING.

BOTTOM LEFT: FRIENDS STOP TO POSE WITH OUR KNIGHT – AND THEIR LITTLE DOG TOO!

CENTER RIGHT: PRESIDENT PAT MOULTON POSES WITH DELBERT HASKINS' FAMILY, DAVID AND MARY JENNETT AND ELLEN MATHESON, INCLUDING THE NEW PLAQUE PREPARED FOR THE LAB NAMED IN HIS HONOR.

BOTTOM RIGHT: CURRENT STUDENTS TRY THEIR HAND AT MAKING LOG "COOKIES."

CLASS NOTES

Charles Russell, MET '66 & DFM '74, retired this past year after 30 years of Agriculture Sales and 13 years as a Dairy Farmer. Charles and his wife, Sandy (Nolan), still live on the farm in Randolph Center. Together they share seven children and 13 grandchildren, and they're second oldest, Caleb, has a hay business called Russell Ag LLC, where he and Charles produce 7,000 to 12,000 small square bales of hay per year. Charles shared, "I always enjoy running into fellow grads and look forward to seeing more in the future."



Using his degree from Vermont Tech, **Stephen D. Smith, MEC '73**, had an extensive work history. From 1973 to 1979, he was a Senior Draftsman, Designer, Senior Designer and Mechanical Engineer at Stone and Webster Engineering working with various Nuclear Stations. From 1980 to 1984 he was a Senior Consulting Engineer at Technical Aid Corporation providing pipe support designs for multiple Nuclear Power Plants. From 1984 to 2017, Stephen was employed at Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG Nuclear LLC) as a Senior Engineering Designer, Safety Review Engineer, and lastly a Lead Nuclear Regulatory Auditor and Team Leader retiring in 2017. He notes, "I was able to achieve these career positions due to the excellent quality and disciplined education from Vermont Tech."



Stephen Tucker, ABT '89 started a new career as Laconia's next school superintendent! After graduating from Vermont Tech, he pursued further education receiving his Bachelor's degree in History from Plymouth State University and then a Master's in History from the University of New Hampshire. He received a certification as a history teacher and certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Educational Leadership. He stated, "I have seen the district through different lenses; as a coach, advisor, and member of the community, administrator, and a teacher. Seeing it through the lens of a superintendent will be different... I'm honored and humbled to be Superintendent of these schools because I know we have people who care." Stephen has three children - Lydia, Carson, and Caden - with his wife Mitzi who teaches Physical Education in the school district.



Dulcie Griffith, VET '96, a legacy to **Ed Griffith, 1963 Agriculture alum**, has been working at Benson Farm as the Farm Manager, where they keep 2,000 sheep on 650 acres of land and employ over 50 people. Working with the Binding Site, a firm that sells kits that physicians use to diagnose illnesses such as immune system disorders, the sheep provide an essential ingredient for those kits: blood plasma. Dulcie explains, "To generate the antibodies, we immunize the sheep with very



small quantities of the protein we want our reagent to measure." She feels confident that anyone who understands the company's high animal-care standards and mission to fight diseases, such as cancer, would support their work. Dulcie notes, "It is amazing that our sheep and colleagues here in Vermont are helping lead the world in new technologies to help patients fight cancer." She emphasized, "This is a unique career that was built for me on the foundational education of my Veterinary Technology degree. It's important for vet techs and ag students to know there are many opportunities out there when they graduate [as] I never would have imagined working for a company that is making an incredible difference in people's lives, while still being able to be fully immersed in animal care, science and agriculture."

Tim McKinnon, CPE '00, was appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and as a member of the Board of Directors at CloudCheckr. As a President and CEO at Sonian, and having leadership positions at Endeca, Microsoft, and Fast Search, Tim has had over 20 years of software industry experience at companies building innovative and disruptive technology.



Do you have news to share?

We want to hear from you for the Summer issue. Go to the vtc.edu/alumni page and click on Class Notes, or email your story and photos to alumni@vtc.edu.

Brooke Gladstone, VAST '03, VET '04, BUS '07, and her husband **William Gladstone, DFM '08**, work on a multigenerational family farm, called Newmont Farm, where they are milking 1,400 cows daily. With new RFID chip technology using tiny radio frequency identification on each cow's ear tag, farmworkers can "read" the chips, which are similar to the ones embedded in the covers of U.S. passports. The program helps determine when the cows' diet changes, identifying health problems, pregnancy, and if they have given birth. Brooke stated, "we want to know that our food is safe. This really helps us track every single cow on our farm and helps solidify our records." She calls it, "like a FitBit for cows." While both Gladstones are checking all this data on their smartphones, they are also taking care of their daughter, Maddie (pictured below).



In March, **Travis H. Beebe-Woodard, LPN '07, NUR '08**, was honored with the 2019 Distinguished TCRN award, Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing as a top honors. Working at University of Vermont Medical Center in the Emergency Department, Travis has many accomplishments including earning his, BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, and TCRN. He thanked Vermont Tech for the Nursing Program, and Professor & BSN Department



Chair, Carolyn V. Stannard-Carlo, MSN, RN, "[They] are a big part of the nurse that I am today and the approach I bring to my work, thank you for everything you taught me!"

Andrew Birch, DFM '07, is featured on the Farmlove-SleevesUp blog with Cabot Cheese website. While studying agriculture at Vermont Tech, Andy started donating blood stating - "I think it's important to give back and when I was a college student, it was an easy way I could do that since I didn't have money to donate, or a lot of time. We've all got blood inside of us!" Now living in Derby, Vermont, with his wife Sarah and two daughters, Hannah and Ida, they donate blood regularly and bring Cabot cheese samples to his local blood drives as donations. Andy is proud of the roles he's been able to play to get the Cabot American Red Cross donation team up and running.



bird houses at 14 and at 16 doing contracting business, to now being a five-year owner of Enfield's Powder Hollow Brewery. He began home brewing at 19 starting his hobby in his dorm room at VTC. After working sometime in commercial contracting, he knew he wanted to be his own boss, stating, "I knew there was no chance I was going to work for somebody forever. I decided it wasn't for me and opened

Michael McManus, CPM '10 knew he wanted to run his own company from a young age. Selling handmade

up my first brewery." Now, he will be expanding his operation to downtown Middletown with a second location where customers can enjoy growlers, cans of beer, pints, flights and samples.

DEW Construction recently announced that they promoted **Taylor Woodward, CPM '10**, to Executive Vice President! Receiving his bachelor's degree from Vermont Tech and having over 14 years' experience in construction management contributed to his accomplishment. Starting as a laborer, he was a carpenter, field engineer, project engineer, estimator, business development manager, project manager, and now the Vice President. Taylor lives in southern New Hampshire with his wife Amanda, son, Ethan, and dog, Kody.



Esther Covey, AET & SDT '14 married **Ethan Persons, CET '10** on September 15, 2018 at the Vermont Granite Museum in Barre, Vermont. Congratulations on your one year anniversary!

Steve Schubart, AG '16, decided to attend Vermont Tech because it "stood out because it had real world experience, dedication to production agriculture, and curriculum I would need to succeed in business." He says, "Vermont Tech is the kind of place that gives back what you put into it. On top of the hands-on education I received from my professors and the Vermont



CLASS NOTES

Tech Dairy staff, I had access to many different off-campus learning opportunities on farms." Before graduating, Steve and classmates took a trip to North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, where he was offered an internship and then full time job opportunity at one of the leading bovine genetics companies. In 2016, Steve became a

successful entrepreneur and started Grass Cattle Company, LLC, now the Executive Director. "I get to work with many of the Northeast's finest grass-fed beef farmers and ranchers... I'm proud to be a part of the local food system that helps bridge the gap between the individual farmer and wholesale market access."

VDHA OFFICERS - VTC ALUMNAE



VDHA PRESIDENT
Brittney Gendreau
RDH '10 & '12 DHY
Brittney received her associate degree in 2010, and then her bachelor's in 2012 in Dental

Hygiene. She has been working at the Community Health Centers of Burlington since 2010. In the summer of 2014, Brittney volunteered in Nepal for two months teaching English.



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Heather K Blair,
RDH, BSDH, MPH
'09 & '11 DHY
Heather graduated from Vermont Tech Dental Hygiene

with her associate degree in 2009 and her bachelor's in 2011. She was awarded the Dorothy Wooton Outstanding Clinician Award and the Dental Hygiene Peer Recognition Award and was inducted into the Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society in 2011. Heather currently works as a part-time educator at Vermont Tech, works with Champlain Valley Head Start, and is a Tooth Tutor in elementary/middle schools.



PRESIDENT ELECT
Erica Gates
RDH '11 DHY
Erica already had her bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont with a

double major in Neurobiology & Psychology. She then continued her education at Vermont Tech, graduating with an associate degree in Dental Hygiene in 2011. She is currently working in a private practice located in Cambridge and lives with her husband and son on their dairy and beef farm.



SECRETARY
Daisy Giroux
RDH '17 DHY
Daisy graduated from Vermont Tech in 2017 with an associate degree in Dental Hygiene.

While in school, she received the Vermont Dental Hygienists Association Spirit Award. She currently works at Timberlane Dental Group as a pediatric hygienist, where she enjoys working with a variety of families of many different cultures and backgrounds.

IN MEMORIAM

CLASS OF 1940 - 1950

John Lasell
AG 1944

Robert "Bob" D. Denton
AG 1947

Robert Harold Fairweather
AG 1949

CLASS OF 1951-1960

Roger Ralph LaRock
AG 1953

Merton Lewis "Doc" Garland
AG 1954

Raymond Roberts
AG 1954

David L. Osborne
AG 1955

John Willard Eaton
AG 1959

Orin Arthur Adams
AG 1959

Sherman "Sherm" Somerville
HT 1959

Theodore "Ted" Dodge
AG 1959

CLASS OF 1961-1970

John W. Douglas
EET 1964

Gary M. Houston
MEC 1966

CLASS OF 1971 - 2010

David Carleton Hamlen
AG 1972

Mark Arthur Couture
MEC 1970 & 1971

Michael "Mike" J. Clark
CET 2002

FACULTY & STAFF

Frank Romano
Faculty, Business & Manufacturing Departments

Michael "Mike" Taylor
Library Staff



2020 ALUMNI EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	INFO
May 16 & 17	Vermont Tech Commencement	Randolph Center Campus	Various	Can you volunteer?
June 11	Knights Scramble Golf Tournament	Rocky Ridge Golf Club, St. George, VT	8:30 am	Award ceremony and lunch at end of tournament
June 27	Alumni Dinner Cruise on Spirit of Ethan Allen	Burlington, VT	6 pm	Lake Champlain cruise, dinner, and DJ
September 19	Homecoming Weekend	Randolph Center Campus	Afternoon & Evening	Alumni Day with fall activities

5th Annual Knights Scramble

Celebrating our 5th Annual Knights Scramble golf tournament on June 6th was a great way to kick off summer with VTC Alumni. Enjoying a great game of eighteen holes at Rocky Ridge Golf Club in St. George, with warm weather, made way for Vermont Tech's Knight Scramble to be a huge success!

We wanted to personally thank **PC Construction** as our Knight Sponsor and **The Tech Group** as our Squire Sponsor for supporting the event and Vermont Tech Athletics.



Lake Champlain Dinner Cruise

With 100 guests on board, we set sail on the Spirit of Ethan Allen and enjoyed a beautiful summer night on Lake Champlain. On June 22, alumni enjoyed dinner, drinks, and dancing, making it a trifecta of fun! **Ted Hinckley**, being the graduate of the earliest class (1954) and farthest traveled made him the best candidate to win the Vermont Tech Flannel Stadium Blanket (photo below)!



Clip for your fridge or bulletin board



YOUR favorite FACULTY



Courtney Banach
Dairy Farm Mgmt, 2016

Courtney was referred to Vermont Tech in high school by an alum! **Kim Crowe's** Animal Disease course was her favorite class because it was most applicable to her future work and the hands-on labs gave her the opportunity to practice the procedures. She also enjoyed **Chris Dutton's** courses, "he always knew how to make class a great time and wouldn't stop teaching until every student understood the concept at hand, no matter if it meant full chalkboard drawings to dancing on tables to act out ruminant nutrition." She hopes that faculty, "keeps inspiring students...and push them to be the person you think they can become and continue to give them every opportunity you can as it makes the biggest difference in the real world."



Matthew Holmes
Electrical Eng., 2001

From high school Matt knew he was interested in audio electronics, which lead him to Vermont Tech. **John O'Donnell, Jr.** was a professor Matt enjoyed because he would use real world examples in the classroom. "He would bring his hockey stick and puck to class, shoot the puck across the room and have us calculate acceleration and velocity of the puck." Matt's favorite class was physics because not only would John would keep the content interesting and students engaged, he also showed obvious effort and thought towards his students, which Matt is very thankful for.



Denver Wilston
Electromechanical, 2004

Denver worked closely with **Roger Howes**. In Roger's Manufacturing Processes class, he learned the importance of attention to detail and that there is more to manufacturing than simply making something. Roger "conveyed concepts that made sense to me as a young grease monkey... [He] provided the foundation for me to become a professional who understands practical application." Denver fondly remembers Roger "deliberately quenching our freshly brazed parts and letting us find out the hard way they were too hard to drill to demonstrate the hardening of steel." He is thankful for Roger's teaching methods and knowledge.

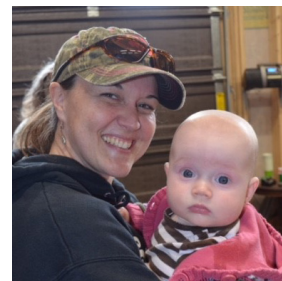


Keith Gingue
Architectural Eng., 2009

Keith is thankful for **Scott Sabol** at Vermont Tech "because he has multiple ways of explaining things so that I could understand them... even if it meant spending time in his office to fully grasp it." Keith described how Scott would never give direct answers, always asking "have you looked at it this way? Or have you thought about this?" and those sessions really helped prepare Keith for everyday life in the engineering profession. One class he really enjoyed was A/E Management 4020 because it gave insight into the non-technical side of an engineering firm, which became useful in his day-to-day professional career. "I would not be where I am today if not for my time and affiliation with Vermont Tech. I was not only prepared knowledge-wise, but also [received] real world exposure that I will continue to apply."

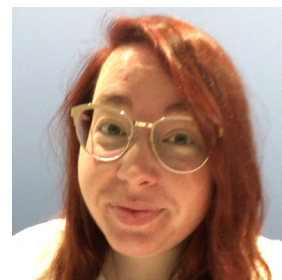
Jeff Gagne
Architectural Eng., 1987

Though he graduated over 30 years ago, Jeff still remembers faculty that he valued. **Robert Wonkka** (deceased) and **George Reis** (deceased). Wonkka taught calculus and Jeff said, "he made it interesting to learn." Reis taught electronics and Jeff recalls how the professor was excellent at being able to relay the subject matter over to the students. Remembering his time at Vermont Tech, Jeff said that both faculty "were very caring and made the students feel wanted."



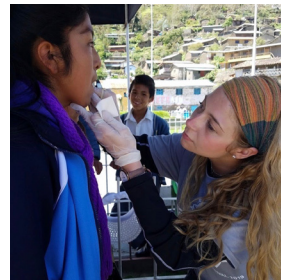
Elizabeth Whooley
Landscape, 2010

While attending Vermont Tech, Liz had multiple professors she loved like **Roger Howes**, **Pamelia Smith**, and **Greg Hughes**: "they were very engaging and knowledgeable...always available when I needed extra help and never 'beat around the bush' when it came to teaching the material." A current employee of Vermont Tech, as the Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Liz sees **Greg Hughes** in the hallway and still to this day his "Hello" to Liz is always, 'Elizabeth Rose' and her "Hello" back is 'Greg Hughes.'



Patty Danahy
Architectural Eng., 2013

Patty couldn't pick just one favorite faculty, "I can say if you gave me a Mount Rushmore of beloved professors the faces of **Barbara Conrey**, **Terry Murphy**, **Chris Reilly**, and **Scott Sabol** would be carved into it." She loved taking a class trip to Montreal with Conrey; an ASHRAE trip to Dallas with Reilly, where she received her first post-college career; Murphy for his story telling; and going to Sabol's final exam all dressed like him, "his face was priceless when he realized what we had done." One of her favorite memories during senior year was getting as many of the AE students she could round up to take a picture of them "studying" in the library (see page 3 to check out that photo). Through all Patty's fond times, she wanted to thank all the faculty for their guidance and support, and for still being great resources to this day.



Breeky Bartlett
LPN, 2019

With a true love of caring for others, Breeky is continuing in the nursing program this fall. She explains, "You really have to be a patient's support system, advocate, best friend, and even family member." That's one reason she chose **Amanda Perkins** as her favorite professor because "she really showed passion in her caregiving and teaching roles." She explained that Perkins is kind, patient, and pushes them to be the best nurses they can be. What Breeky emphasized was the foundation of knowledge that Perkins helped create and how she will carry that with her through her career.



David Mahoney
Highway Tech, 1959

David was taking one of the first years that Vermont Tech offered the Highway course. Using his GI Bill, he graduated from Vermont Tech and started working for the Highway Department. David retired after 34 years and visiting from Florida, David took a recent tour of Vermont Tech and recalled memories about what it was like back in the 1950s. He spoke of only having a couple of buildings on campus, namely Old Dorm, where they kept the concrete mixer. David recalled some of his professors like **Ned Harron** (deceased), "a good fella and knew what he was talking about." What he liked the most is that the professors had done the work before teaching – which Vermont Tech still offers to this day. Sixty years after graduation, David was pleased to see all the changes on campus and loved meeting President Patricia Moulton.



Gary Novosel
Architectural Eng., 1985

After working over 23 years in Process Control/IT with Alcoa in Massena New York, Gary recently jumped on an opportunity to work for International Paper's Ticonderoga Mill as a Mill IT Manager. He expressed, "Even though my career path changed course after leaving VTC, the solid foundation laid there continues to pay dividends to this day." He specifically recalls and thanks **Russell Mills**, English Professor, and his Technical Communications class expressing, "[This was the] single course that has benefitted me the most throughout my career." He even quoted one of Russ's famous sayings, "Be clear, be concise."



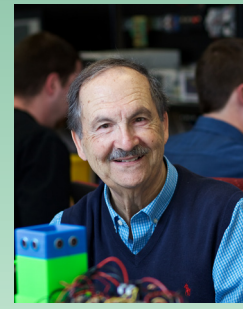
SCOTT SABOL, PE
*Department of Architectural
 Engineering Technology*

As the Co-advisor for ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers) at Vermont Tech, Professor Sabol has helped students place first in the northwest region competition. What he enjoys teaching most is the ARE 4050 – Fundamentals of Engineering Exam Survey class, where he gets to go over a little of everything that an engineering student learns. Missing his former students, he encourages alumni to “let your professors know what you’ve been up to – stay connected with VTC and let us know how you’re doing professional and personally!” You can remember him wearing a white button down shirt, doing the Fig Newton Dance, and heal dropping the floors.

DR. JOHN KIDDER
*Department of Mechanical
 Engineering Technology,
 Renewable Energy*



What brought John Kidder to Vermont Tech? Wanting to work in smaller schools, and most importantly, teaching with hands-on lab work. When he started working at VTC in 2002, he wished he had the engineering programs that are taught here while he was in school. He loves having small class sizes and hands-on lab involvement not only for himself, but for the students as well, especially in his Statics, Strengths, and Materials class where students build and learn how to make materials strong enough for multiple projects. Outside of the classroom, Dr. Kidder helps the Ski and Snowboard Build Club make their own skis and boards on machines built by senior class capstone projects. With his obvious passion for Vermont Tech, he urges alumni, “tell people about Vermont Tech and the programs we offer - especially the engineering degrees!”



DR. RALPH ESPOSITO
*Department of Electrical/
 Electromechanical
 Engineering Technology*

Dr. Esposito became involved at Vermont Tech because he enjoyed engineering as an applied science and not strictly theoretical teaching. Working as an Adjunct from 1997 to 2002, he became a Full Professor in 2002. He appreciates working at VTC because he can devote his time to teaching and to the students, rather than research and writing papers. He also values that the core courses have a lot of lab time, giving the students a chance to have hands-on experiences. Teaching Electronics has become a favorite course, as Ralph explains, “it shows you can combine various components to perform a variety of interesting and useful electrical functions like power supplies, operational amplifiers, signal filters and so on.” Ralph emphasizes alumni to, “remain in contact and involved with your school. It’s important to show appreciation for what they have done for you.”



**AMANDA PERKINS,
 DNP, MSN, RN**
Department of Nursing

After getting her associates degree from Vermont Tech in 2002, Amanda was working in a lab. Missing the person-to-person interaction and loving science, she went back to VTC and received her LPN and RN nursing degrees. From there she started orienting students as a nurse, loved the teaching aspect, and soon she was hired as a Professor at Vermont Tech in 2010. What Amanda loves about working with students in the nursing program is that they are, “motivated and ready to learn.” Even though she enjoys all of her classes, her favorite, she admitted, was clinical training. This is where nursing students are going into care settings like hospitals and nursing homes, with assigned patients, and working hands-on interaction doing assessments, wound care, and other related work. The best part about this class is, “they get to take what they learn in the classroom and get to use it in real world situations early on.” By the end of the year they are pretty much doing it on their own with minimal oversight. When she’s not teaching nursing she spends time with her family, husband **Anthony Perkins**, 2003 alumnus, and daughter **Paige Perkins**, 2019 alumna. With a family full of Vermont Tech graduates, her advice to alumni is, “Don’t stop learning about what you love after you graduate... especially for the nursing program - go as far as you can with your educational degree.”



PROFESSOR PROFILES



JOE WITT
*Department of Construction
 Management*

An Alumnus himself, Joseph received his Civil Engineering degree all while teaching Construction Management courses at Vermont Tech. After graduation, he was asked to come on board full time and has been here ever since! While it was his first time teaching college, he expressed how he had a fresh perspective and applied knowledge of the field to help students connect to real world scenarios like in his Residential course, where new students get to use tools and learn basic construction and safety in the workplace. He really appreciates the ability to connect with all the students in the small class sizes and staying in touch with them later on, explaining how he visits construction sites and the Superintendent will be a graduate of his program. “Being able to see former students running million dollar job sites and making a livable wage is a wonderful thing and warms my heart – I’m very proud of them.” One thing he wants to pass on to alumni: “Enjoy your life everyday...don’t work yourself to death – don’t get stuck at one job, if you don’t like it, get out...safety is a big deal.” He also notes that he would love alumni to get hold of him and update him on your successes.



DR. KIM CROWE
Department of Agriculture

Kim Crowe was teaching fourth-year vet students when she realized she loved the teaching aspect and applied to Vermont Tech in 2013. Now working with students full time, specifically on farm animals, her favorite class to teach is Large Animal Diseases and Reproduction because it goes over the concept of nutrition and prevention techniques, like feeding and breeding, to avoid disease treatment. She is an advocate for teaching students quality animal care by going over preventative care standards and making them higher, hoping the students will bring it into their workplaces and industries as graduates. Kim and her students visit at least 15 farms to show the various aspects of farm management, build relationships with local farmers, and testing parlors. Recently, these incoming students got to experience diagnosing an abscess, which isn’t very common, and treat the wound under Kim’s supervision. During school, Kim is the Faculty Advisor for the Dairy Club, where they work on events like Kiss the Cow, Women Can Do! – Hello Cows, RTTC Mastitis Labs, and even the Homecoming Festival where you can find them working the cider press and Cow-Plop Bingo!



GREG HUGHES
*Department of Business
 Technology & Management*

Working at Vermont Tech for 31 years, Greg noted “I am grateful for having had the opportunity to spend this much time at Vermont Tech. Spending this time teaching students at VTC has been one of the true privileges of my life.” He goes on to explain that Vermont Tech attracts many good, hard-working students who are willing to work to develop their professional skills. He uses an example of his favorite class, Business Law, where he notes that students come with their own perceptions about the legal environment of business, “It’s very rewarding to observe them as they learn how the legal world is a dynamic process that reflects the changes in our society.” A word of advice to his past and current students is, “to take some time out of your busy schedule and focus on some of life’s simple pleasures.” Even though the students make Vermont Tech wonderful, he also stated that he often tells others of the beautiful campus and nice faculty/staff that he gets to work with.



RUSSELL MILLS
Department of English

Starting at Vermont Tech in 1981, Russell has been teaching here for 38 years! His favorite part about teaching at Vermont Tech is the students. Especially his freshman English course. “I get to know so much about my students by reading their papers and journals...I see great change from the start of the semester to the end. The reason I’m in this line of work is because I want to help students develop their abilities and gain confidence, and I see that happen in freshman English more than in any other course.” Which leads into his advice to alumni to always keep developing your abilities and finding new abilities to develop. “You went to college to do those things and there’s no reason you can’t keep doing it for the rest of your life.” He loves learning new and improved ways to teach, and emphasizes that alumni should continue to get better and what they love best.

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