

# VERMONT TECH

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## SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & COMPUTING

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## VERMONT TECH



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

These are exciting times at Vermont Tech and I am delighted to share just a few updates!

This fall saw a **substantial increase** in our incoming, first-year class making up for the enrollment losses last fall year due to COVID. We are still addressing COVID, but are back in full face-to-face delivery! I am pleased to say we successfully achieved a **99% placement** rate over the last five years, including the class of 2020 that graduated in the pandemic!

We are nearing completion of our exciting new **"Advanced Manufacturing Center"** (AMC) in Morrill Hall! This major expansion of our AMC allows students to engage in development, design, manufacture, post-processing, and quality assurance and control like we have not had before. This provides expanded capability for student learning as well as public/private partnerships with manufacturers doing prototypes, small-batch manufacturing, and product testing working with our students. We so grateful to Senator Leahy for helping to make this funding happen so we could build this amazing new Center! Check out the story on page 8 for more information.

We continue to see growth in our nursing programs. Funding this year from the Vermont legislature is enabling **40-45 new seats in partnership with long-term care facilities** in Vermont. Pressure for us to grow all of our allied health occupations continues. Like so many employers right now, we, too, are challenged to find needed instructional talent for these programs given the demands in health care fields right now.

Excitement is building about the transformation of the Vermont State Colleges. As you hopefully know, Vermont Tech is merging with Castleton University and Northern Vermont University to create one new university, the **"Vermont State University"**, with campuses in Castleton, Johnson, Lyndon, Randolph Center, Williston, and satellite nursing sites in multiple locations. The "unification" work is being completed by planning teams from across the Vermont State Colleges System, comprised of folks currently doing the work for each institution. It is a bottom-up process focused on following best practices for university administration, academic programming, and student life with student success at the forefront of all we do. **Expanding access and achieving affordability** are additional "pillars" of the new university. It is exciting to think of the broad array of programs that students at the new university will be able to access when we are one institution!

While a lot is changing, a lot is staying the same. **Vermont Tech programs are NOT going away!** Our academic programs remain in high demand. While the new university will involve administrative efficiencies, our programs are not moving, closing, or changing substantially. We WILL be expanding access through multiple modalities while maintaining our impressive outcomes; like our latest award for having the best software engineering bachelor's degree by Study.com! Our students will have access to Castleton and NVU programming and alumni networks. Our scholarships will remain with our programs as intended by those who set them up and contribute to them.

Please do stay in touch with us! It was great to see many of you at Homecoming this past September. I hope to see more of you next year!

Patricia Moulton  
President

## WELCOME KELLY BOULAN



You may remember Kelly from Homecoming 2019 ...and now she's back and managing all our alumni and development services. Welcome back!

## UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION TODAY!

Soon we will begin sending transformation updates and we don't want you to miss a thing! Please update your information on our alumni survey: [vtc.edu/alumni-survey](https://vtc.edu/alumni-survey)

### DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

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We can't wait to see you in 2022!

# Thank you

## WAYS YOU HELP VERMONT TECH

We wanted to take some time to thank all of our alumni who have been supportive and committed to Vermont Tech. Especially during these past years with the pandemic, coming to support Vermont Tech during the campus closure scare, and now during the VSCS transformation. **You are part of the reason Vermont Tech is Stronger!**

- 1. Your generous donations and gifts** – Vermont Tech is always striving to better the school and the student experience. Your contributions have helped fund projects on campus and continuing education for our students, who will one day be successful alumni like you!
- 2. Volunteering your time** – while past years have been less eventful, we did have a great 2021 Homecoming/Alumni Day where alumni volunteered their time to better the event: see more on page 12.
- 3. Going to events** – participating in VTC's events helps better the occasions by offering your support, like cheering on our Knight's Varsity teams. Find out more on the athletics website: <https://athletics.vtc.edu/>
- 4. Sharing your news** – completing the **Share Your News** survey on the alumni website is a great way to stay connected and for us to see what awesome things our alumni have accomplished. Don't be bashful and tell us what you have been up to since graduation! Alumni News on page 16.
- 5. Word of mouth** – the best marketing Vermont Tech could ever receive is sharing your love of VTC. Thank you for engaging the community and sharing with others why you chose Vermont Tech!



# MEET OUR STUDENTS



**DEVIN TINGLE**  
CLASS OF '21 | RENEWABLE ENERGY

An out-of-state student, Devin chose to come to Vermont Tech because "it is one of the first and few schools to offer renewable energy as a 4-year Bachelor of Science degree." His favorite class is Manufacturing Processes, where he's learning how to use machines, which are used to create working air motors. His favorite part of being at VTC is "the people – faculty, staff, and students all want you to succeed, and they do everything they can to help you do so." He expressed how Key Student Services assisted him by setting up his financial aid, "so I could study worry-free." Devin was awarded the Florence Weil Memorial Scholarship, Transfer Housing Scholarship, and the Bridges to Vermont Scholarship, which support him to focus solely on his education. When asked about what he hopes to see in the future on campus as an alum, he mentioned wanting to come back to see the "new lab spaces in full operation, since I will be graduating before their full installation and use." Currently, you'll find Devin hanging out in the physics lab in Morrill, where he goes to talk to one of his favorite teachers, Sally Caldwell. Devin is also very involved on campus as he is a committee member for past and this year's Homecoming Weekend, Planeswalkers Club member, and a Residential Assistant (RA)!



**CASSANDRA PELKEY**  
CLASS OF '22 | ARCHITECTURAL  
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Working toward her Bachelor's in Architectural Engineering Technology, Cassie chose Vermont Tech because she values the small college experience, getting to know the students and professors on a personal level. She explained, "My favorite part about VTC is the tight-knit community and having close relationships with most staff and students. It makes it feel more like home [and] I am proud of how respectful people at VTC are." On the Randolph campus, you'll mostly find Cassie at the Morrill studio spaces because that's where the drafting tables are. She says, "they also make great desks since they're so big!" She uses that space to study or work on projects for her classes like her favorite class, Architectural History. "It was very interesting learning about architectural styles and how the time period and available materials affected how buildings were formed." You'll also find her on the soccer field, not only as a defense player, but the Captain of the Women's Varsity Soccer Team, which played during this year's Homecoming! She's also involved in ASHRAE club, intramural soccer, and is an RA at the Randolph campus. For the future of Vermont Tech, she hopes that "VTC sticks around for the students like me who prefer hands-on learning and close relationships with their peers."



Learn more about Scholarships and the impact they have on our future generation of students by visiting [vtc.edu/scholarships](http://vtc.edu/scholarships)



**XAVIER CLARK**  
CLASS OF '23 | COMPUTER  
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

In the Computer Software Engineering program, Xavier chose Vermont Tech because it was the best option in comprehensive schooling and was affordable for him. "I wouldn't have been able to attend VTC without student aid." Scholarships like VSAC, the Pell Grant and the VAST Forward grant benefited him greatly. Now attending Vermont Tech, he added, "the faculty at VTC are all extremely knowledgeable in their fields. I couldn't think of a better college to attend to learn as much as I have." Attending the Williston campus, Xavier loves to use the study rooms around the campus as a quiet place for him to "push through some schoolwork." Some of that school work would be from his favorite classes, like Craig Damon's Object Orientated Programming course, where he had his first real foray into code design. Also, Jeremy Ouellette's Software Engineering Project class, which "was a great start to working on large projects with partners". Xavier is busy doing an internship at Harris Computers, where he does software regarding video billing. He explained that his manager directly emailed Craig and Jeremy about the internship opportunity and they forwarded it on to Xavier. He said, "it's a great opportunity and pairs well with my schoolwork – I often will learn something in class and then realize why it's important at work." In the future, he hopes Vermont Tech continues to be a source of quality education, as it has been for him.



**FAST FACTS:**  
Our Computer Software Engineering program has 100% Placement Rate and a \$105,590 Projected Median.



**ANNA NOBLE**  
CLASS OF '21 | RENEWABLE ENERGY

Having already attained an associate degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology, Anna is now working toward her Bachelor's in Renewable Energy. She chose to get her education at Vermont Tech because "I was looking for a school that would allow me to get some hands-on learning". That's why she really enjoyed a class in the Civil and Environmental Technology program that studied hydraulics and hydrology. "I've always found the movement of water to be super cool; making and adjusting small ditches as a child was a good way to pass the time." A hands-on learner from the start, she's currently using those skills in the classroom and at an internship at All-Earth Renewables. You'll find her in Renewable Energy labs in Green Hall on the Randolph campus most of the time. She's grateful for the scholarship opportunities that Vermont Tech offers.



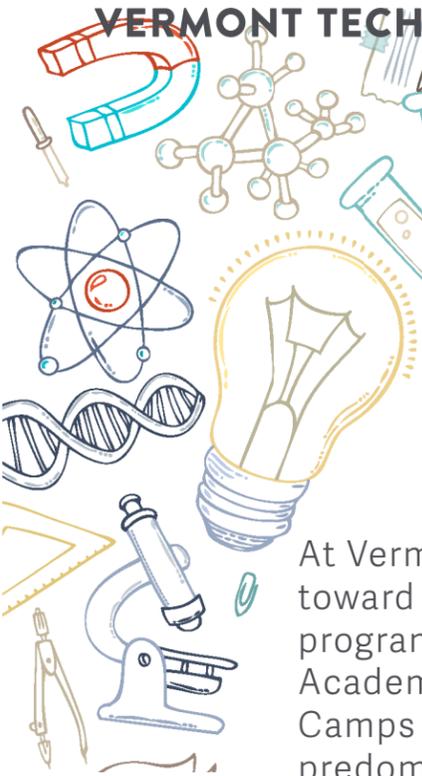
Read more student and alumni stories online at [vtc.edu/we-are-vtc](http://vtc.edu/we-are-vtc)



**HILARIE MITCHELL**  
CLASS OF '25 | COMPUTER  
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Hilarie chose Vermont Tech for "the small class sizes, affordability, and variety of degree choices, especially in the computer science field." She went on to say, "VTC has an intimate feel that most large universities don't have. My professors are great: engaging, responsive, and helpful. I'm proud of VTC's reputation, especially when I come in contact with alumni who are thriving in their careers because of the education and training our college has provided." Working toward her Bachelor's in Software Engineering, Hilarie loves the Java and Introduction to IST courses she's currently taking because "I love to code and problem-solve, but also highly enjoy learning about the history of computing." As an adult learner with dependents, Hilarie has received "a considerable amount of aid to help pay for my education. Being a member of the Coquille Indian Tribe, I have also been able to tap into assistance through their education program." She says that "having the financial resources allows me to focus more on my education, rather than expenses. I am able to maintain part-time employment comfortably, without the stress of trying to work full-time to pay for my classes." She also emphasized, "it's never too late to pursue your passion and there are great resources out there!" When asked if there was anything else she would like to add, she exclaimed, "I'm just really grateful to be a part of the VTC Community!"

# STEM EDUCATION



At Vermont Tech, we participate in, and host events, targeted toward high school students who want hands-on learning in programs like: Women Can Do!, Rosie's Girls Camp, Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), and Coder Camps for both boys and girls. Statistically, STEM degrees are predominately male, so Vermont Tech is striving to encourage more diversity within the majors.

## Camps

### VERMONT WORKS FOR WOMEN

We host programs like Women Can Do! and Rosie's Girls camp. On the Vermont Works for Women website, they explain their mission "Vermont Works for Women helps women and girls recognize their potential and explore, pursue, and excel in work that leads to economic independence." They focus on "moving women into employment success, investing in girls, the next generation, and advocating for large-scale culture change for women and girls."

[www.vtworksforwomen.org/](http://www.vtworksforwomen.org/)



HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CHECK OUT A FIRE TRUCK DURING A WOMEN CAN DO! CONFERENCE AT VERMONT TECH. (THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN PRIOR TO COVID-19)

### CODER CAMPS

The Vermont Tech Coder Camp is a day camp designed for youth who want to learn about software development and experience making a program of their own creation. Campers work with Vermont Tech faculty and student counselors who have extensive experience with software development and inspired learning with a wide variety of students. Campers learn to program using SCRATCH, a friendly and robust programming language tool developed by MIT. The camp experience includes a strong education component with computer labs each day to work on the development of a program, a field trip to a local software development company, and with physical activity that will reinforce the labs with logic, team building, and some good old-fashioned fun.



A FEMALE CAMPER ENJOYS SOME ONE-ON-ONE INSTRUCTION DURING CODER CAMP HELD ON OUR WILLISTON CAMPUS. (THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN PRIOR TO COVID-19)

## VAST

Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) is an independent, accredited high school experience exclusively for high school seniors. At VAST, students receive a high school diploma and complete a year of college at the same time. VAST students may attend either the Williston or Randolph Center campus as commuter students or they can reside in the first-year student residence hall, on the VAST wing, with another VAST student as a roommate. **Learn more at [vtc.edu/vast](http://vtc.edu/vast)**



TOM ZANI, '13 VAST GRADUATE IS NOW WORKING AT VTC - FIND HIM ON PAGE 19 IN ALUMNI SHARE YOUR NEWS!

## VTrans

Vermont Tech and VTrans have partnered to offer the National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI), a Science, Technology and Math (STEM)-focused program for junior high/middle and high school students. It takes many different skills to manage Vermont's transportation systems. From engineers and maintenance workers, to environmental scientists and safety experts, VTrans employs workers from lots of different backgrounds. For example, did you know there are VTrans employees who study bats? Yes, bats! Find out more by watching, "What Do Transportation Professionals Look Like" video on our website: [vtc.edu/VtransWorkers](http://vtc.edu/VtransWorkers)



MARY O'LEARY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, STANDS IN THE MIDDLE AMONST A GROUP OF SUMMER CAMPERS. (THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN PRIOR TO COVID-19)



## VERMONT TECH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING

394

Total students enrolled

35

Total women enrolled

9%

of students are women



PROFESSOR JOHN KIDDER SHOWS OFF ONE OF THE NEW MACHINES TO ALUMNI ON HOMECOMING

# ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Vermont Tech is building an Advanced Manufacturing Center on the Randolph campus!

Combined with Vermont Tech's existing manufacturing equipment, the Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) will include large scale metal and polymer 3D printing, manual machining, advanced machining (5-axis CNC), design digitalization, EDM processes, heat treatment, post-processing, and advanced metrology and metallurgy. The AMC will be run by the Vermont Manufacturing Collaborative (VTMC), with the mission to accelerate the adoption of advanced manufacturing in the industry by building strong collaboration between education and companies in need of

advanced manufacturing capabilities.

The AMC will offer students hands-on experience with leading-edge technologies and be a non-biased resource to help companies understand which new technologies may be right for their businesses. The equipment will be integrated into classes over the next few semesters.

Leading the Vermont Manufacturing Collaborative is Barry Hulce, the VTMC Executive Director here at Vermont Tech. Joined in June of 2021, Barry founded a company that designs and manufactures adaptive devices

utilizing 3D printing technology. "With a passion for advanced technology and helping people overcome challenges, the VTMC roles offer a wonderful combination of both," he described.

## CONSTRUCTION

The manufacturing spaces at Vermont Tech have undergone significant changes to become the Advanced Manufacturing Center. To host leading-edge technology, the site has required space transitions, advanced fire suppression, new secure networks, and utility upgrades including power, air, water, and argon. The building infrastructure in most rooms is nearly complete with electrical installation being the final activity.

## ADVANCED MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT

The Advanced Manufacturing Center will offer businesses and students access to leading-edge equipment to support product ideation, design, rapid prototyping, characterization, material testing, and manufacturing.

## FUTURE TECH AT VERMONT TECH

Our future work has three components; standing up a functional Advanced Manufacturing Center, understanding and delivering the services and skillsets businesses need most, and developing an educational path for all learner types.

We anticipate that the AMC and a core set of equipment will be operational in early 2022 with a handful of people trained. At that time, we will be ready to begin technology integration into teaching curriculum and developing new learning opportunities. For educational engagement, we strive to become a "lighthouse" that draws diverse learners towards STEM exploration and hopefully a rewarding career in advanced manufacturing.

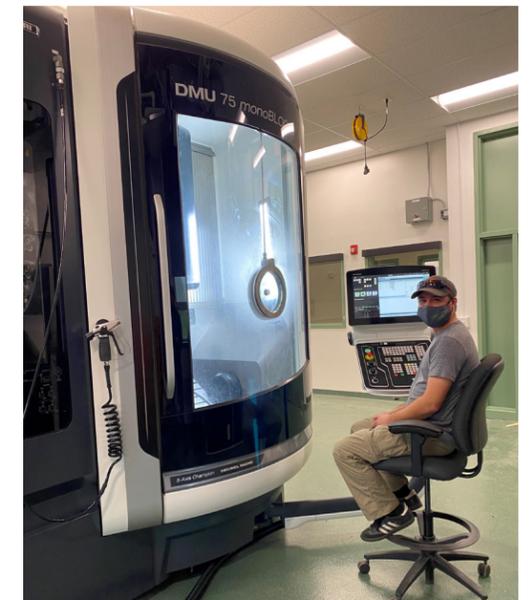
Barry would like to thank many of you who helped envision this public-good collaboration and those who are actively helping to stand up the Advanced Manufacturing Center at Vermont Tech. Several Vermont Tech alumni have contacted Barry and offered to help in different ways and this is hugely appreciated! Through your networks, knowledge sharing, and donations, this endeavor will be a fantastic resource for businesses, future employees, and the supporting communities! This is an amazing opportunity for Vermont Tech, and Barry looks forward to working closely with many of you.



ABOVE LEFT: ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER DIRECTOR, BARRY HULCE, HOLDS A MASTER'S DEGREE IN TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURSHIP FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, AND CERTIFICATIONS IN LEAN 6 SIGMA, PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL AND BALANCED SCORECARD PROFESSIONAL.

ABOVE RIGHT: BARRY SHOWS OFF THE EOS M 100 MACHINE THAT HAS BEEN RECENTLY ADDED TO THE CENTER.

BELOW: TOM ZANI, '13 VAST GRADUATE, AND NOW THE ADVANCED MANUFACTURING LAB ENGINEER SITS AT THE DMG MORI DMU 75 – A 5 AXIS CNC MILL. IT USES SUBTRACTIVE MANUFACTURING TO MAKE CUTS INTO A RAW BLOCK OF MATERIAL UNDER COMPUTER CONTROL. UNLIKE TRADITIONAL MANUAL MACHINING AND 3 AXIS CNC'S WHICH ONLY CUT IN THE X, Y, AND Z AXIS, THE DMU 75 CAN ALSO MAKE CUTS IN THE A AND C ROTATIONAL AXIS. IT'S AN INCREDIBLE PIECE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY THAT THE AMC IS VERY LUCKY TO HAVE.



## EQUIPMENT BREAK DOWN

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Design Digitalization | CAD, generative design, 3D scanning                                       |
| Advanced Machining    | DMG Mori DMU75 5-axis mill, Makino U6 wire EDM, GF20 EDM drill            |
| Metal Additive        | EOS M100 and M290 (DMLS), ExOne 25Pro (Binder jet)                        |
| Polymer Additive      | Essentium HSE 280i, 3D Systems ProX 6100 and Figure 4, MarkForged X7      |
| Heat treatment        | Anneal, stress-relief, and sinter capable furnaces                        |
| Post-processing       | Cut, grind, and polish tools  |
| Metrology Machine     | Nikon CT scanner, Scanning Electron Microscope, Coordinate Measuring      |
| Metallurgy            | Testers – Hardness, microhardness, impact, stress-strain, and compression |



## SALLY CALDWELL

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SCIENCE; BS, NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Coming to Vermont Tech in 1999 was an easy choice because of her strong family ties here. Sally enjoys teaching at Vermont Tech because of the students, explaining, "I enjoy helping the next generation along their career path. We will leave this world in their hands." She loves getting to know them as individuals and stated, "it is a pleasure to watch students develop the insight, methods, and confidence to tackle the subject matter." She mainly teaches physics to freshmen; in the photo above, students Paul Banta and Alex Lanpher, both CET '23, are in Physics I – Conservation of Mechanical Energy, where they are investigating whether or not energy is conserved for a mass in free fall. "Every semester there will be a few students who will tell me of a real-life experience when they used physics. Sally enthused, "Another great reward is when former students tell me how much they liked my class, which means a great deal to me!"



## MICHAEL MARCEAU

PROFESSOR IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTROMECHANICAL; BS, MS, UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

In fall of 2002, Michael started his career at Vermont Tech, and expressed how he gets to combine both engineering and teaching, stating "I get to practice both of my passions." Currently, Michael teaches multiple courses; and while he said all of them are his favorite classes to teach, he did say, "...I do enjoy working with the freshman and getting them engaged in engineering", further explaining, "seeing their eyes light up when things happen, even when smoke occurs, which happens from time to time." He also said that working with the four-year degree students on their senior projects is fun because "I enjoy shepherding them along in their projects and I think alumni are



## PETER CHAPIN

PROFESSOR IN COMPUTER & INFORMATION SYSTEMS; BS, WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE; MS, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS; PHD, UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Peter has been working at Vermont Tech for 35 years (starting in 1986) and he exclaimed, "It's my dream job!" He really likes to teach the elective courses like the Computer Networking class because students get to learn about routing and switching in the lab, doing various configurations, and then using the simulation software to test them. One major project he helped delegate was the 2007 VTC CubeSat Laboratory. Students in the CIS and ECET departments built and programmed small spacecrafts (small enough to hold in your hand) to launch into space using SPARK/Ada programming language. In 2013, it was launched and stayed in orbit for two years! He mentioned that it was exciting to show that they could actually make it work and it demonstrated that the SPARK/Ada technology is there. He said it's great for students because they took them to conferences and NASA centers – "As well as it just being a cool project!"

### NOTE TO ALUMNI:

*He said, "this might not be new information, but in this field, you continuously learn new things...it's really important to process new stuff and constantly expand." You could end up being an expert in a technology that doesn't even exist yet. So, don't focus so much on the detail technology, but the basic concepts", he clarified.*

impressed with what students can do with the results." He also encourages "lunch-box lectures" - to bring in people working in the engineering profession and talk to students about the industry. What he loves about working with Vermont Tech students is "It's really getting to work with them because they are very hard workers...I would always pull resumes, [when working for IBM], from VTC alumni because I knew they were high-quality folks...they have the right mix and skills and those were people I wanted to contact."

### NOTE TO HIS ALUMNI:

*"Your contributions are tax-deductible!" He said excitedly. "Just think back to when you were a student here at VTC and the challenges you faced – you can make a difference for classes." Even if it's not donating money, donate your time like doing the 'lunch-box lectures' "[we want] to see you on campus and tell us about your experiences so that way you can reach out to the next generation of students."*



## VERMONT TECH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING

# MEET OUR FACULTY



## JEREMY OUELLETTE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AND DEPARTMENT CO-CHAIR IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS; BS, ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY; PH.D., DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Professor Ouellette joined Vermont Tech in 2012. What Jeremy loves about his job is, "I have a chance to make a meaningful difference for students' lives." He emphasized that when he did summer teachings at Dartmouth, he didn't feel the impact that he does teaching first-generation Vermonters who use their education to improve their lives. He went further stating, "every year we're turning out 300-plus new members of Vermont's middle class and that shouldn't be ignored." Currently, Jeremy loves teaching Intro to Programming, which he's been doing for seven years. He loves taking students' negative thought processes about 'programming is really hard,' and showing them that they can do it!

### NOTE TO HIS ALUMNI:

*To his alumni already in the professional world, he asks, "keep growing and learning things... if we did our job right, you learn how to tackle new problems – keep doing that, because your learning doesn't stop after you graduate." Most importantly, he stressed, "if you feel VTC made a meaningful difference in your life, let us know and let legislators know because it's important to show that educating students is the goal and how our alumni impact the community is not the "splashy stuff" like new labs."*



## BAKER AL BAHRI

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS; BS, UNIVERSITY OF BAGHDAD, MS AND PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Introducing Baker, a new Assistant Professor in Computer & Information Systems and Electrical/Electromechanical Engineering Technology at the Williston and Randolph campuses at Vermont Tech! Just starting teaching in August 2021, Baker is not short of experience working in related fields. Having a dream to be an electronic engineer from high school, Baker now holds multiple degrees in this area. He chose Vermont Tech because, "VTC is a good environment to combine the theoretical study with the practical applications", explaining, "most of the courses at VTC are oriented to the practical side where the applications can be found," which Baker enjoys. Currently, he is working on the Human-Robot Mapping Systems project. He is trying to develop this for the students because he wants to introduce and build the lab to expand robotics learning. Baker thinks it's very important to build on your knowledge, "don't just stop at your degree; even if you are working you need to keep reupdating yourself... technology is always changing."

### NOTE TO ALUMNI:

*Although new to Vermont Tech, Baker knows how important it is to stay engaged with your school. "You need to keep a relationship with the Vermont Tech...staying connected can help in many ways." He explained that being involved can lead to finding jobs and many other connections that can further your career, education, and so on. "Don't forget us, as there are always ways to help."*



Congratulations Classes of '70 & '71 as we celebrated both 50th reunions this year!

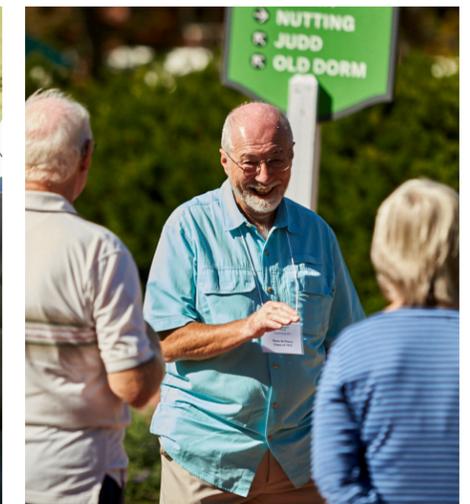


Due to COVID, last year's Homecoming was canceled. This year, we were lucky to be able to have a wonderful event with gorgeous weather! We focused on not only Alumni and Family day, but we also honored the 2020 and 2021 graduates who did not get to participate in an in-person ceremony in May, welcoming our new alumni.

Attendees enjoyed apple picking; farm and lab/classroom tour (like the Mobile Nursing Lab); mini-golf; Varsity Men's and Women's soccer games; and the classic alumni turkey dinner in the Morey Dining Hall. Alumnus **Ben Ashford, ATT '13**, showed off the skills that he acquired from VTC and came with his hand-built race car. Another alumnus showing off his degree was **David Silloway, 1966 AG**, who came with his tractor and gave everyone hayrides!

In addition, we received a generous donation from alumnus **David Hillman, CET '75**, and another considerate donation from **Roderick Hayden, MEC '70**, to support alumni events and Vermont Tech! We thank everyone for a great Alumni Day. Your contributions are critical to supporting all of the programs and campuses that make up Vermont Technical College.

Next year's Homecoming Weekend is already scheduled for **September 24, 2022** and is a very special one, as it will be the last Vermont Tech Homecoming before the transformation to Vermont State University in 2023. We hope to see you there to celebrate Vermont Tech and the name transformation!



TOP LEFT PHOTO: FAMILY AND FRIENDS ENJOYED A WAGON RIDE PULLED BY **DAVID SILLOWAY, AG '66**.

TOP RIGHT: A CUTE BABY HELPS HIS DAD PICK SOME APPLES IN THE ORCHARD.

CENTER LEFT: FRIENDLY GAMES WERE PLAYED ON MOREY GREEN!

CENTER RIGHT: PRESIDENT PAT MOULTON HELD A SPECIAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY FOR 2020 & 2021 GRADUATES DURING HOMECOMING.

BOTTOM LEFT: **DAVID SILLOWAY, AG '66** MADE HIS OWN SIGN AS HE WAS PULLING HIS FAMILY WAGON! MANY THANKS DAVID!

CENTER BOTTOM: PRESIDENT MOULTON POSES WITH 2021 GRADUATE **CURTIS STEINS** DURING THE HOMECOMING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY.

BOTTOM RIGHT: MEMBERS FROM THE CLASS OF 1971 CHAT AND LAUGH TOGETHER DURING HOMECOMING.

# A GENERATION OF VERMONT TECH KNIGHTS AT WINCHESTER PRECISION TECHNOLOGIES

A 1974 Vermont Tech graduate in Mechanical Engineering, Barry Bordner uses his degree to this day at Winchester Precision Technologies, as the President and Chief Executive Officer. He works alongside Aaron and Dan Bordner, also Vermont Tech alumni.

## ABOUT WINCHESTER PRECISION TECHNOLOGIES

Winchester Precision Technologies was originally founded as Winchester Roll Products in 1984 with roots in the comprehensive engineering, manufacturing, and repair of industrial rolls used by the paper, plastic, and textile industries. Today, Barry explains, "We are a custom manufacturing company. We do welded fabrications and metal forming and most of what we make are intensively machined components on a very large scale. Winchester Precision Technologies has CNC lathes as large as 86 inches in diameter by 621 inches long. Horizontal milling machines as large as 8 by 30 feet for their operating window, and we have vertical boring mills that go as large as 180 inches in diameter and 10 feet tall. We do a lot of work in the pulp and paper industry, the chemical process industry, and we do a lot of work for the national research laboratories like Los Alamos and Sandia. Lastly, we also support the United States Military, primarily with our program making sub-safe components. We are just a very large scale albeit "small-company" custom manufacturing operation."



**BARRY BORDNER, MEC '74**

He expressed that his time at Vermont Tech was, "A blast! I was concerned about going to a small-town college with more cows than residents, but really enjoyed the curriculum and study because it was all things I was interested in." What he really appreciated was the strong math

background he received during his education. He stated, "When I got there, I was behind the curve and Vermont Tech was great because all the personal help you could get from the faculty helped me catch up to speed." His main takeaway was the "real grasp of the law of physics, the applied calculations, and the ability to use that engineering skill to go out into the world and apply to what we actually do now." Barry values the associate degrees available at Vermont Tech, explaining, "associate programs give the people that go [to VTC] a big foundation, which is respected by the industries and the general engineering community at large in New England." An example himself, with an associate degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Vermont Tech, he decided, "the heck with it, I'm going to work". He originally chose to come to Vermont Tech because he didn't want to commit to a four-year degree before going into the workforce. Now, he is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Winchester Precision Technologies. He definitely recommends Vermont Tech because "the curriculum is very strong [and] gave me a real advantage as I went into the work life." He is also proud that his brother, youngest son, and nephew have all graduated from VTC.



**AARON BORDNER, MEC '09**

As the Quality Assurance Manager, Aaron's role is to oversee the quality aspects of certain projects and to ensure product specification compliance. He also verifies "what we are supposed to be doing" versus "what we say we are doing". He explains, "Quality is an overarching

term; it basically touches every single part of our projects in our business." Right now, he clarifies, "we have a military project for the Coast Guard, with a very tight tolerance. Some of the runouts are to 50 millionths of an inch...we measure that with very sensitive equipment that we have to send out to calibration labs and are certified to national institute standards." Aaron earned his degree at Vermont Tech and uses a lot of the math taught in the classrooms at his job. What he really liked about Vermont Tech was the "hands-on approach they have with their shop classes and the atmosphere [made it possible] to be able to succeed." Before Vermont Tech, Aaron spent a year at a large university and he said, "It did not work out." When he got to Vermont Tech he declared, "there was more help and support [at VTC] and I could go to a teacher instead of a Teacher's Assistant (TA)...the intimate group aspect was perfect for me." He remembers Roger Howes, a former professor in the Mechanical Engineering department, now an adjunct professor in the Agriculture department at VTC, and recalled, "He was great! For our senior project for engineering, we ended up making a black walnut crusher and he was very supportive...helping further our project by making suggestions that ended up helping us make a better product." Outside of the classroom, Aaron used the snowmobiling trails around campus and snowboarded on the VTC ski hill. A proud Vermont Tech graduate, he voiced, "I absolutely recommend Vermont Tech!"



**DAN BORDNER, ELM & MEC '18**

As an Engineer at Winchester Precision Technologies, Dan is involved with coordinating measuring machines, along with CAM software programming for CNC programming, and does various inspections: checking projects before they leave the building and examining materials

when they come in. His experience at VTC helped him with his career today. "The biggest thing I've taken are all the math skills that were beaten into my head for years; I mean there was a lot of treachery with that, but then came reward." He further explained, "I can go through all the equations on a big equation the same way and get to the end and be confident with it." He really loves how Vermont Tech has small classrooms, "classes aren't as big so you talk to everyone in your class in the first week compared to being in a room with 300 students...and your professors know you by the end of year." Dan also mentioned, "The great thing about VTC is all the great people around - everyone was friendly and more people were your friends than not." His favorite memories are being a part of the Men's Varsity Soccer team for four years and the ski hill at the Vermont Tech Randolph campus.

Barry, Aaron, and Dan are great examples of how Vermont Tech graduates are successful in their field of study - exhibiting our 99% placement rate! Barry has also been donating to Vermont Tech through Winchester Precision Technologies for years; supporting Vermont Tech and the future of our students.

This year, Barry has graciously gifted \$1,000 in support of new computers for the mechanical labs here at VTC! Trying to raise over \$40,000 for this effort, Barry's contribution is a great step in achieving that goal.

If you would like to support the fund and add to Barry's gift, please visit [vtc.edu/donate](http://vtc.edu/donate) or email [alumni@vtc.edu](mailto:alumni@vtc.edu)



# ORAL HISTORIES

**Alumni recorded their memories of their time attending VTC during the 2021 Alumni Homecoming**

**Donald Jordan, EET '66:** Starting his life in Connecticut, Donald went to a vocational school, which sparked his yearning for technical learning. When he moved to Vermont, he chose Vermont Tech because he loved the hands-on learning, small campus, and the “professors who were willing to spend whatever time with any questions and needs.” At Vermont Tech, Donald recalled learning how to play pool in Old Dorm, JV Basketball, and the radio club. After graduating from Vermont Tech, Donald went on to get further education at University of Vermont. He emphasized that even though he went on to another school, he really appreciated his time and education at VTC, especially because of the staff and faculty, expressing that his education at VTC gave him more skills than he originally thought. Ending his oral history, Donald noted, “I think Vermont Tech is an excellent school and it has a good record of [students] being able to get employment after they finish.”

**James Pullman, AG '69:** recalled his first day at Vermont Tech by remembering meeting a professor on campus. His mother turned to his father and said, “Bill, I think we’ve met someone here to keep Jim in line.” Jim admits, “It turned out to be very true.” He fondly remembers other professors like George Wellman, the Farm Manager at the time. Jim said one of his fondest memories was George saying, “Pullman, I’ve been told a man who both wears suspenders and a belt had a really sad experience.” Jim said, “that was the

beginning of a wonderful friendship.” Jim decided to attend Vermont Tech because his family had a farm and he wanted to run the family business. In his time at Vermont Tech, he enjoyed the maintenance department and would help them on the weekends. One particular moment he remembers was when another student decided they wanted to see how the sprinkler system worked and lit a cigarette lighter to the fusible plug, making water spray everywhere. He said they ended up mopping up the water until two in the morning and “[it] made an awful mess.” One thing Jim kept reiterating was that Vermont Tech was welcoming and the faculty and staff were always there, stating, “If you were away from home for the first time, you were in good hands.”

**Bob Hooker, EET '71:** As a more hands-on learning student, Bob started taking shop classes in high school and over the years, he realized he was “more comfortable doing physical things instead of cerebral things.” Once he started working with his hands, he decided to go to technical school and Vermont Tech was his first choice. Earning his degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, Bob graduated from Vermont Tech and started working at IBM in Essex Junction – noting that this opportunity was because of his education at VTC. During his time on campus, Bob talked fondly of working with the radio station club. He stated, “I was fascinated with it...they had turntables, 8-track tape players, shelves of brand-

new record albums...we were in seventh heaven with all the free record albums.” He even remembered the faculty advisor at the time, Chris Moore, expressing how relatable Chris was and how much experience he had in the industry, especially teaching Electronics 101. Reminiscing, Bob also talked about how there would be 600 students on campus, and when the weekend came, they would all disappear. He really liked having the whole campus to himself and having the small community. When asked what one of his favorite stories was, he replied, “one that I can put on tape...let’s see...” He brought up how coming from a school with all nuns, he was very impressed with the faculty on campus, saying how teachers were specialists: refreshing and interesting. One professor he spoke fondly of was Angus Murray. He remembered how he worked there for around 42 years and at that point realized that he had taught three generations of one family in his time at VTC. Also, that Angus “always had a cigarette in his hands.” When Bob visited the 2021 Homecoming, he noticed that there are no longer individual mailboxes for students and said he was glad VTC is changing with the times. His advice to current students is “take advantage of your opportunities here...it’s fun to have drinks on the weekend, but if you’re going to come here and spend the money, you should pay attention and get as much as you can from your professors and time here.”

successful education, which I applied to my careers.” Andy was also very involved at Vermont Tech during his time here, doing extracurricular activities like Varsity Soccer, intramurals, and Winter Carnival “Color My World.” Soccer became a lifelong hobby and he was in a competitive regional league for a few years, coached at one of the VT high schools, and was a USSF soccer referee for many years. He hopes to see Vermont Tech “survive and thrive! Continue to provide Vermonters an educational opportunity they and the state need, and can use for a lifetime.”

**Stephen Smith, MEC '73,** Stephen noted, “VTC dramatically and exceptionally



## Do you have news to share?

We want to hear from you for our next issue. Go to [vtc.edu/alumni](https://vtc.edu/alumni) and click on Share Your News or email your story and photos to [alumni@vtc.edu](mailto:alumni@vtc.edu).

changed my life. My life and career would never have been accomplished without my VTC-disciplined education.” Not only does he credit VTC for his accomplishments, he also loves Vermont Tech because of “the reverence and respect all professors and students had for each other. I was extremely proud to graduate from VTC, which resulted in me obtaining a Mechanical Designer position with Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation in Boston, MA. My VTC degree also was highly recognized by Northeastern University and they readily accepted me to continue my Mechanical Engineering education there.” He is happy to see that Vermont Tech received the grant for a new manufacturing center from Senator Patrick Leahy. Stephen retired in 2017 after 34 years with Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) in New Jersey. Now, you can find him in his woodworking shop, where he is making nice home novelty items as gifts and doing radio-controlled model airplane flying. “Mostly, I am now focusing on spending more quality time with my wife and giving her the love and attention she deserves for all the extraneous hours I spent at work away from home over the past 30 years. We are going on many cruises and enjoying retirement life.” Stephen recently gave a generous gift toward the Advanced and Mechanical Engineering Computer Labs to support maintaining advanced technology for our students in the classrooms!

**Andrew “Andy” LaMothe, ABT '76,** “For a kid from a large family with very limited financial resources who was good at math, but not very studious, VTC seemed like a good fit.” Andy now believes it was a good fit, as he loved the campus. “The location is so beautiful, and I really liked the small class sizes and the commitment of the professors; people like Mr. Whalen, Joe Kittel, Marvin Rogers, and Walt Satre.” He lived in Keenan dorms and he also spent a lot of time in the gym, on the field (where he played football and street hockey), and in the orchard. Now, Andy is working for IBM in IT Sales. He has been employed there for 45 years! He expressed, “being part of this amazing industry has been so rewarding. I’ve worked as a technician,

customer education instructor, associate engineer, software engineer & consultant, systems engineer, sales rep, and sales manager.” With this in mind, Andy said, “I’d recommend VTC to anyone graduating high school who is looking for a great start to their working or academic life. In the 21st century, everyone should have a background in science and technology to help them make informed decisions.” With all of his successes in the workforce, Andy has been married for 42 years and has three grown kids. You can also find him volunteering as a Cub Scout Leader and as President of his HOA for 20 years. Andy noted, “I’m happy to see Vermont Tech is now part of Vermont State University – I believe the need for STEM education is as important as ever. I hope VTC keeps expanding the degree offerings and make it as affordable as possible.”

**Dean Pratt, EET '76,** “By the time I finished at VTC, I understood that it would be up to me to learn, and to not be just a passive vessel into which information was poured, but to pull the information out of my professors in my pursuit of knowledge. From that point forward, I asked a lot of my professors to share their knowledge with me, and it served me in spades throughout my career.” Dean’s favorite part of Vermont Tech was, “my fellow students...my class had a broad range of age, backgrounds, and experience and, as has been typical of the other two schools I graduated from, I learned at least as much, if not more, from my fellow students as my professors. I’m not sure if it’s pride, but my time at VTC has proven to be some of the best money I invested in my education, including a bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado and a master’s degree from UCLA. Both are highly regarded schools, but neither one exceeded the fundamental knowledge I garnered at VTC.” Dean was involved in the Tennis Club and worked as a Residential Assistant (RA). “Being an RA forced me to up my negotiation and diplomacy skills.” He stated, “following graduation from UCLA, I worked as a project superintendent for a general contractor where we did work for LA’s avant-garde architects, people like Frank Gehry and Morphosis. With that experience under

my belt, I felt I knew enough to give clients a legitimate service and I’ve had an architectural practice in Los Angeles for thirty-one years doing custom residential work almost exclusively.” Now married to a fellow UCLA student in 1991, they have a son together. Dean finished by expressing, “My time at VTC was not only invaluable for the academic education I got there, but it allowed me time to mature and garner a much better understanding of my goals and how to get there. I’d just turned eighteen when I started at VTC and I had no clear idea of where I wanted to end up. I don’t think I’m an outlier in that regard. At that age, most people are way too young to truly know what they want to do with their lives and VTC exposed me to a discipline that I thought might work for me, and gave me a solid foundation on which to build to get ahead, no matter what I chose to do. That was invaluable.”

**Kenneth “Ken” Green, MEC '81,** Vermont Tech was recommended to Ken for the reputation of the engineering degree offered. Once he obtained his degree, he started a new job. From there he went to get his four-year degree in engineering and said, “the additional two years for the bachelor degree merely expanded what I learned at VTC, I didn’t learn anything new. After obtaining that degree, my career skyrocketed.” Now at the closing stage of his career, Ken stated, “I have been enormously successful compared to where I could have been had I not had VTC on my resume. The success I’ve had is something I wish on every student that commits themselves to a VTC education.” His time at Vermont Tech, Ken said his favorite part was “the culture of success in the VTC community. That culture helped me to focus and be a winner. I am most proud of my VTC education and experience, and will share that before I share my later bachelor degree in engineering from another school.” At Vermont Tech, Ken worked on the farm, “my job was to take the farm truck, chain saw, fuel and a means to sharpen the saw, out to the hedgerows and cut the trees down. I was instructed to fell the trees into the hedgerow to prevent damaging the row crops. I enjoyed that

# SHARE YOUR STORIES

**Andrew “Andy” Aldrich, CET '72,** Working in home building for 45 years, some of Andy’s hand-built homes won the Better Homes Awards from VT HBA! When he was working at VT Innkeeper for 20 years, he was also recognized as Innkeeper of the Year by VT Innkeepers Association. Keeping busy, Andy was also involved in multiple boards and committees like Northern VT Home Builders Association, Stowe Area Association, Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association, and NH-VT Christmas Tree Growers Association.

After all his success, Andy is currently retired and works on his farm, sugaring and cutting Christmas trees. “I am restoring my historic (according to VT Div. Historic Sites) 1890-1900 barn...just can’t put that hammer down.” He also just recently found out that his maple operation is the second facility in Vermont to be certified by the State of Vermont for maple production! Andy is glad that he went to Vermont Tech, as he stated, “The school wanted me there (versus some others did not) and wanted me to have a

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job immensely." Ken went on to boast about VTC saying, "I think of VTC as a state treasure. It is a fabulous investment that Vermont makes for its youth and then for the benefit of the employers in the area. While times change with a new name and the joint venture with a couple other small Vermont colleges, I hope that the political leaders in the state realize the treasure they have with this school and continue to support it."

**Elaine Holt, ABT '82**, Looking for an architectural program and a school in Vermont, Vermont Tech became Elaine's choice. "I was glad it was a 2-year program for the associate degree. The tuition was also affordable." While here at VTC, Elaine was involved with AIA Student Chapter, basketball, cheerleading, and she spent a lot of time in the Architectural Lab. She said her favorite part of VTC is, "the quality of the education. VTC has a great reputation in the industry and it's a 4-year program crammed in two years." She further explained, "my Architecture and Building Technologies associate degree has served me well since I graduated in 1982. I have been in the Facilities Management field for 35+ years designing office and lab spaces and working with contractors. Since relocating to New Mexico in 2012, I am currently employed at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, another small college in a rural setting, in the Facilities Management Department. I am the Special Projects Coordinator and use AutoCAD to maintain the space files for the department and design/construction drawings for small projects on campus. I am also responsible for construction warranties and project management." In 2020, Elaine became a Certified AutoCAD User, and this year became a certified ADA Coordinator. On a more personal note she has also become a grandmother in August of 2020! She ended by saying, "I have many fond memories of my time at VTC. Lifelong friends made, great teachers, beautiful campus, and that Vermont fall foliage! I have no regrets with my choice of college."

**Bradley "Brad" Clark, EET '86**, In 1984, Randolph Center was the only campus when Brad was going to Vermont Tech. He chose to come here because he really liked the rural setting; the approach of the two-year degree that provided

hands-on and theoretical learning; and the reputation of graduates getting a job soon after they graduate "which I believe at the time, the placement rate was 95-97%." Brad said that what he liked the most at Vermont Tech was "the view to the east from the parking lot of Morey Hall. It is such a great view into the valley. The other things I enjoy seeing are the sculptures made by Paul Calter, who was my Calculus teacher at VTC." He was also involved in IEEE and, through the college, became a CPR instructor. "I assisted the college nurse with teaching CPR to students." After graduating from Vermont Tech, "I went on to get a bachelor's degree in Engineering Tech from UNH. My first job exposed me to working with computers and database software, and I enjoyed it. I changed my career path to working with computers and have been doing this for the last 31 years. I am now working at DR Power Equipment, as an IT Applications Administrator. I perform many different roles at my job, from desktop support to some database administration." Married in 1994 to his wife, Sandra, they have two kids together. He has been involved with the Addison Volunteer Fire Department since 1982, and has been Chief since 2019. While he's a little disappointed that the name of Vermont Tech is changing, he said, "I am quite happy to hear the Randolph Center campus will continue to be used as a campus. I'm sure the alums of the Vermont School of Agriculture felt the same way about a name change when it became VTC."

**John Leggett, BUS '00**, "When the time came to decide what I wanted to do after high school, VTC checked all the boxes I was looking for. It had smaller class sizes, technical courses that covered several areas of engineering, high placement rates after graduation, and it was not too far from home." He also explained "...tuition was very affordable compared to other universities in the area. The cost of my two-year program at VTC would have been comparable to one year at any of the other colleges. This was another high point for me attending VTC." When attending, he said his favorite parts were "the engagement level of the teachers and students, and the dedication it took to succeed. Every day I was learning something new, and I never felt like we were just going through the motions. You

were expected to set the bar high and have the drive to consistently improve yourself, and when you nailed that project or test, it made it all worth it. That standard is something I still hold myself to every day and I have VTC to thank for that." John is impressed with Vermont Tech and the wealth of programs that are relevant to the local job markets, stating, "the partnership between Vermont employers and the college is a direct pipeline to the future success of our state. I hope to see this partnership continue and leverage the Williston and Randolph campuses for more frequent touchpoints with local companies. The need for technical training increases every day in the manufacturing industry and in many others." Now John is using his degree at the Keurig Dr. Pepper manufacturing plant, a current Employer Partner of VTC, in Essex Junction as the Site Director. "I have been working at KDP for a little over seven years now, in various leadership positions, and I am truly thankful to be working with such a great team. Working at KDP has opened so many new and exciting opportunities for my career and seeing the growth of the company over the last few years has been a truly amazing experience." John can't thank VTC enough for his time there, "...and how well my experience and training prepared me for a solid start to my professional career. The teachers I worked with throughout both programs were top notch and their passion to see you win was inspiring. My kids are not too far away from starting the process of college scouting, and there will be one college I'll be placing at the top of their list: Vermont Tech!!" In his spare time, John and his wife are active in their kid's sport teams. As a coach, John expressed, "coaching is a truly great experience that I would recommend to anyone. In my opinion, being a coach at the youth level goes beyond the game and creates a great opportunity to really instill strong values, integrity, and teamwork in our younger generations."

**Amanda Williams, VET '10**, As an alumna and current employee at Vermont Tech, Amanda spends a majority of her time in the Vet Tech labs. After graduation, Amanda took the Vet Tech National Exam and became a Certified Veterinary Technician. She worked in small animal practice for 7 years, and then returned to

Vermont Tech as a Program Technician in the Vet Tech Department. Not only did she choose Vermont Tech because of the Vet Tech program offered, but also because many of her family/friends are alumni, so she trusted that she was going to get a quality education. Amanda said, "Now I get to help students master their hands-on skills in lab and ensure the quality care of the animals we have here on campus." She explained that if it wasn't for the numerous scholarships and grants, she would not have been as financially stable, and that they "covered the bulk of my tuition. Some smaller scholarships helped me purchase textbooks and other school supplies." She was happy to announce "I was able to graduate Vermont Tech with no student loans, plus was able to find my job in my field immediately upon graduation. There was instant reward for my hard work, and no stress about having to pay back a large amount of debt." Now Amanda is living in Randolph with her husband and two daughters, Hailey and Brynn, and, of course, adopted animals like their dog Dutchie, who she rescued through Vermont Tech when she was a student here! Looking forward, Amanda hopes that with the new transition into Vermont State University, that we continue to offer an affordable education and perform upgrades to our facilities where needed. That's why, she emphasized "Donations towards scholarships, even small donations, can make a big difference in the lives of current students and future college students. I encourage my fellow alumni to consider donating here at Vermont Tech."

**Elizabeth Whooley, LAH '08, BUS '10**, During her time at Vermont Tech, Liz was an active member of the VTC Gun Club – shooting at the skeet range and doing community service like food drives and stacking firewood. After graduation, Liz spent one year continuing her experience in the landscape/horticulture field and then switched gears to get a business degree. After two years working as a Medical Secretary at Gifford Medical Center, she landed her current career at Vermont Tech as the Assistant Director of Financial Aid and has been there for eight years now! She still enjoys the Randolph Campus and likes to visit the orchard, the wooded path by the President's house, and admiring the many flower gardens.

Looking back at her time at Vermont Tech, Liz noted that she received federal student aid and scholarships when attending, which helped her attend VTC full-time without working and "I was able to put all my efforts to succeed in my education." Now working in the Financial Aid department, she expressed "as someone who has been on both the receiving and giving end of scholarships, I can truly attest to how grateful and thankful students are to receive the funding they need to obtain the degree they are seeking." She is also happy to announce that after VTC, she got married and has two children, ages 3 months and 3 years!

**Adam Whitney, DPT '12**, Vermont Tech was Adam's choice not only because of the Diesel Technology program, but also for Randolph's beautiful town and the VTC campus, where he spent most of his time in the diesel technology building. His favorite part of his academic learning was the hands-on aspect. "We could work one-on-one with professors and the classrooms were small; I would recommend VTC Randolph to everyone! I hope one day my kids will attend VTC!" Receiving the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) scholarship, Adam stated, "any funding would help make the college process easier for any student." Now, using his degree, Adam is working for Champlain Valley Equipment as a On Road/Shop Service AG Technician at the St. Albans store. He is excited to share the news that he recently got married to his wife Eve (Hayes) Whitney on July 31, 2021 after 8 ½ years of dating! You can find both Adam and Eve Whitney attending alumni events like the Alumni Dinner Cruise!

**Thomas "Tom" Zani, VAST '13**, "I decided to go to VTC after growing up in the area using the facilities and participating on the FIRST robotics team that used to be sponsored by VTC. Growing up I had always heard about the VAST program from friends and family and it seemed like a great opportunity to get ahead in my college career." Tom was able to have his tuition fully covered as a VAST student since the program is state-funded. He then used his full year of credits in technical skills from VTC to finish his schooling at the University of Maine. Tom's favorite part about Vermont Tech

is "the small classroom environment with so many advanced technological opportunities so close to home. I'm most proud of the new Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) we are in the process of getting set up." Tom would love to see the campus grow and expand with the new addition of the AMC. As an Engineer for the AMC here at VTC, Tom is also a part-time owner of a sign shop with his family. In addition, he is involved with the Randolph community by teaching swim lessons, helping with science camps, and coaching soccer. "I find great joy in helping the kids learn a wide range of skills. It is incredibly rewarding to see them improve over the years."

**Alexander Schramm, CIT '15**, Currently employed at Red River, a full solution company based out of Claremont, NH, Alexander has held multiple positions, but now is a Wireless Design Engineer. Alexander explains, "I design, implement, and validate wireless systems for large hospitals, federal agencies, educational institutions, and major corporate entities across the US. I've worked physically in well over 30 states (and counting), and have performed other remote works in 5 different countries." He said that his degree at Vermont Tech helped him get to his current position with assistance from a fellow alumni friend, **Niloc Quimby, CIT '13**! Alexander stated, "the Cisco sponsored lab was a wonderful investment in real-world experience at VTC. Many of the skills in networking and routing protocols were current at the time, and helped with certification directly out of college. This enabled better work opportunities and a higher pay out of the gate." He expressed that he chose to go to Vermont Tech because "it was touted as having a 98% placement rate for jobs upon graduation; this had proven to be true in my years attending... Vermont Tech returned that investment in spades." He also loves Vermont Tech because "it was the gateway to my personal and professional success. I am deeply appreciative of the time and effort my advisors and teachers have spent to help me achieve my goals and growth." At Vermont Tech, Alexander said that, "the heritage, friends, and connections along the way are what make me proud of Vermont Tech." Now, Alexander is traveling 8-9 months out of the year with his company and he maintains an image

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consultant side business, “which allows me to practice a personal passion of menswear to help others self-actualize themselves in a business and personal setting.” As an alum of VTC, Alexander hopes that “opportunities I was afforded through the amazing placement program are maintained, as well as the maintaining of the Cisco networking partnership. This provides a serious edge on employability after graduation in the IT fields.”

**Emma Saucier, MEC '17, MET '19,** A first-generation college student, Emma received the TriO scholarship. “Being a first-generation student, one of the things that I thought about the most was the cost. It helped alleviate the stress of if I could or could not pay it off. It also allowed me to be able to travel twice.” Not only receiving scholarships, Emma was a TriO Mentor, Peer Tutor, RA, and was on Student Council. She spent most of her time, however, in the Morrill Labs (3D printing room and CNC). “We did most of our work there and it was a great place to collaborate and get help from peers. This also made it a social place some days to hang out between classes.” She expressed her favorite part of Vermont Tech was, “the people! I genuinely felt that I mattered and that my professors cared about us and our education. The shared practical industry knowledge that is necessary to be a productive member of the workforce. I am really proud that the college graduate students are able to start contributing to their new jobs right away.” Currently working on her master’s degree in Industrial Engineering, you can also find Emma working as a Quality Engineer and GKN Aerospace. “My work focuses on using Zero Defect tools to improve the quality of our airfoils. I also am the chair of or PFMEA technical committee for our global engines group.” That’s why she chose Vermont Tech because, “I knew I could graduate with a good job, and not be in a large amount of debt and also have the skills necessary to back up my degree” She further explained, “I choose Vermont Tech because of the small classroom size and the job placement rate, along with the high ROI. Hands-on learning was also important to me as I knew that doing things practically would benefit my learning style the most.” Using her degree to this day, Emma said, “I hope that the campus and enrollment

in the Manufacturing programs begins to grow. VTC is a small school with a lot to offer, we have top-notch labs and professors that are giving you the skills to walk into fantastic postgraduate opportunities.”

**Cierra Favreau, VET '18, BUS '20,** Vermont Tech was Cierra’s decision to attend because of the proximity to home, but most importantly, the small class sizes “as we were able to get more one-on-one time with professors.” She ended up loving VTC, “my favorite part of Vermont Tech was the atmosphere. As soon as you step foot on campus, you’re welcomed by familiar faces. I also really enjoyed meeting and becoming good friends with a lot of students. It was also a smaller campus, so you don’t feel overwhelmed by the number of the buildings or like you’re going to get lost.” She ended up at the Student Campus Center the most, explaining, “between basketball games, the snack bar, and bingo, I was there quite often. The racquetball court was also very fun to visit with my roommate!” You could have also found Cierra in the Vet Tech club helping pet bathing clinics for the local community; an RA, and she was involved in soccer her junior year. Currently, Cierra is now employed as a Veterinary Technician at a small clinic in Brandon, VT since 2020. “I plan to move south soon and get into animal physical therapy. The ultimate goal is to use my two degrees together to open an animal clinic that specializes in physical therapy.” Cierra said that Vermont Tech was “my home away from home the four years I was there. I am thankful to have had such a great college experience and come out with two great degrees that I can use my whole career. I hope to see students have the experiences that I had. Hands-on learning is a key part in developing career skills for the future. VTC also has many events and fun activities all year round to enjoy by yourself or with friends.” She is recently engaged to her boyfriend, who she met at Vermont Tech, **Scott Durkee, CPM '20!** They have two cats and a new poodle puppy named Grizz.

**Jason McClure, GET '19,** Jason chose Vermont Tech because VTC is not only a school, but part of a community. He

went on to say, “I was a teenage father and went straight into the workforce. Without VTC offering ways for non-traditional student like me to grow and learn, I would not be where I am today.” Jason is currently employed with the same company that he apprenticed with, GE Aviation in Rutland, VT. “With the classroom education VTC provided, mixed with the hands-on experience that was offered in my apprenticeship, I have had so many great opportunities.” Jason has held many positions at GE Aviation like the Machinist and NC Programmer in the toolroom department. He said, “my degree in General Engineering Technology helped me receive a position as a Machining Process Engineer. And now I am gravitating to the business side of manufacturing. I am currently in a Production Analyst role.” Jason is the first in his immediate family to get a degree! “I am now furthering my education and am in the Applied Business Management program at VTC. With all of the help and support given to me through my apprenticeship and finishing my GET degree, there was no other school I would think of to further my education.” Additionally, Jason was able to give back to the apprenticeship program by teaching for Vermont Tech at GE Aviation. “As I have moved up in positions, I have had to recently give that up due to there not being enough hours in a day. But am so proud I got to teach and hopefully be part of someone’s journey the way others were for me.” He wanted to personally thank Jeff Higgins, Joyce Twing, and Carrie Wright as they “have been a great help to me whenever I need guidance.” His hope is that Vermont Tech “will survive the many challenges our Vermont schools have faced over the past couple of years; continue to be an opportunity for all types of students no matter what their background is; partner more with our local business and communities to move Vermont into a bright future for all of us.” Although he loves Vermont Tech, he said his biggest success has been “this year I have married my best friend and the person who has helped support me through much of my journey.” And to everyone reading the magazine, “never stop moving the ball in your game of life.”

## IN MEMORIAM

**Wayne Morse**  
Agricultural Technology, '45

**John Willard Eaton**  
Agricultural Technology, '59

**Eric Goudey**  
Electrical Engineering, '83

**John Moulton, Jr.,**  
Agricultural Technology, '68

**Eric Richard Noel,**  
Automotive Technology, '95

**Sheldon Hooper,**  
Automotive Technology, '99

**Constance Diane Cortez,**  
Practical Nursing, '19

## FACULTY/STAFF IN MEMORIAM



**Professor Emeritus Bryon Angell, Department Head of Electromechanical Engineering Technology; 1928-2021**

Professor Angell was the grandfather of current Program Technician in our Vet Tech Program, **Amanda Williams.** And Great-Uncle to Assistant Director of Financial Aid, **Liz Whooley.**

Alumni: If Professor Byron Angell was a faculty member you were close with and want to support his commitment to Vermont Tech and our students/Alumni, please consider donating to the Susan Angell Enos Scholarship to help further educate Vermonters in the School of Engineering and Computing in his memory.



**Brenda Churchill Flint, BUS '97**  
Upon graduating from high school, Brenda attended Vermont Tech on a full-tuition scholarship where she earned her Associate of Applied Science in Business Technology & Management. She later received her Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Johnson State College. Brenda had an unmatched work ethic. She had just begun a new position as Controller for VTC

and CCV. Prior, she was director of Business Services and associate controller at Vermont State Colleges, Office of the Chancellor for five years and a staff accountant for eight years at VTC. Her career began at Dubois and King, working as a staff accountant for 11 years. In her spare time, she helped run Sky View Farm Dairy and Maple Sugaring. Formerly a Brookfield town auditor for six years, she began her two year-term as a Select board member of financial controls for the town of Brookfield this past July. Brenda was taken suddenly and many will miss her.

The Brenda Churchill Flint Memorial Scholarship was developed at Vermont Tech in her honor. This scholarship will benefit students in the business program.



**Asher Henderson, CSE '14 & '16**  
Asher was a critical member of our Information Technology team, providing thoughtful and caring support to not only the Randolph and Williston communities, but to our nursing and remote sites, too. Asher was always willing to tackle a project or problem and showed a willingness to adapt, learn, and grow.

Asher was mostly quiet, very reflective, and if you were willing to give the time and space you would discover that Asher had great ideas, great experience, and cared – a lot. Asher was smart, capable, and thoughtful. He will be truly missed.

Asher had a deep love for his cat, Morris. Morris became a member of our team, showing up in our team Zoom meetings, showing up on the road as Asher supported remote sites, and we know provided much love and snuggles in Asher’s life.

Asher was an employee and alumnus of VTC. Asher found community in VTC and was a committed member, caring daily for the well-being of others.

The Asher Henderson Memorial Scholarship has been developed at Vermont Tech in his honor. This scholarship will benefit students in the software engineering program.

**Donations to these scholarships — and many others! — can be found online at [vtc.edu/Donate](https://vtc.edu/Donate) or send a check to: PO Box 500, Randolph Center, VT 05061**

Vermont Tech and GlobalFoundries (GF) have established an Employer Partnership Program (EEP) “which offers GF employees the opportunity to further their education at Vermont Tech in undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs at discounted tuition rates. For Vermont Tech, partnering with GF brings experienced professionals to the campus, broadening the learning experience for current attendees and providing a pipeline of new students,” stated Vermont Business Magazine.

currently has 22 participants in the program, which allows employees to take one course per semester for three years, giving them the core courses needed to achieve half of an electrical engineering technology degree. GF also has a strong recruiting presence on the Vermont Tech campus for both full-time employment and summer internships.

“We are pleased to expand our partnership with GlobalFoundries, a key Employer Partner with Vermont Tech, which supports both organizations,” said Vermont Tech

President Patricia Moulton. “By providing greater access to current employees of a major regional manufacturer, Vermont Tech will continue to support the workforce needs of an industry so important to our state and region,

aligned with the college’s advanced manufacturing core competency.”

Today, Vermont Tech has multiple partnerships from GW Plastics, GS Precision, GE Aviation, and more. We are continuously adding new partnerships and welcome any businesses, companies, or employers that are interested. Not only does it benefit our community and workforce, but it benefits students directly. We encourage our alumni to present this information to their employers, if you have not done so already. It’s a great resource to train the incoming workforce in exactly what you need! See a great example on page 18, an alumni feature of John Leggett, Class of 2000.

**You can learn more about this program at [vtc.edu/EmployerPartner](http://vtc.edu/EmployerPartner)**



**FAST FACT:**

*In the School of Engineering and Computing there are:*

- **8 Bachelor’s degrees**
- **8 Associate degrees and...**
- **5 Certificates**

# VERMONT TECH | GlobalFoundries™

## STRENGTHEN EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP

Vermont Tech offers this program to give employers the opportunity to help train and shape the workforce that will move their industries forward and keep their local communities vibrant. The EEP leverages support from Vermont employers to furnish students with financial resources to obtain a college degree. Participating businesses and organizations play a key role during every step in the process: providing career guidance, meaningful workplace experience, and the opportunity to start working immediately following graduation. Employers benefit by developing a pipeline of local students who are trained in a relevant degree program and are engaged in both their workplaces and their cities or towns.

As stated in Vermont Business Magazine, “There are more than 150 Vermont Tech graduates on our team, many in leadership positions. Within the last two years alone, we have hired nearly two dozen Vermont Tech alumni and interns,” said Pradip Singh, Vice President and General Manager of GF Fab 9. “This education partnership agreement further strengthens our relationship with Vermont Tech and gives our employees a great opportunity to enhance their education and careers.”

GF’s previously announced Technician Apprenticeship Program, developed in partnership with Vermont Tech. GF



# 2022 ALUMNI EVENTS

| DATE         | EVENT                                    | LOCATION                             | TIME                | INFO  |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| February 1-3 | Vermont Farm Show                        | Champlain Valley Expo                | 8:30 am – 5 pm      | Visit us at our booth and receive a free gift!  |
| February 12  | Alumni/Senior Night Basketball Games     | SHAPE Center, Randolph Center Campus | 10 am – 3 pm        | Play pick-up, get a free lunch, and watch varsity basketball with a chance to win swag/prizes!        |
| Date TBD     | Advanced Manufacturing Center Open House | Randolph Center Campus               | TBD                 | More info coming soon! Visit <a href="http://vtc.edu/alumni">vtc.edu/alumni</a>                       |
| March 9      | Career Fair                              | Randolph Center Campus               | 10 am – 2 pm        | <a href="http://vtc.edu/career">vtc.edu/career</a>  |
| May 14 & 15  | Vermont Tech Commencement                | Randolph Center Campus               | Various             | Can you volunteer? Email us!  |
| June 25      | Alan Curler Memorial Cruise              | Spirit of Ethan Allen, Burlington    | 6 – 9 pm            | Lake Champlain cruise, dinner, and DJ. Register at <a href="http://vtc.edu/cruise">vtc.edu/cruise</a> |
| July 13      | Knights Scramble Golf Tournament         | Montague Golf Course, Randolph       | 9 am Shotgun Start  | Play a round of golf and support VTC's Athletic Dept  |
| September 24 | Homecoming Weekend                       | Randolph Center Campus               | Afternoon & Evening | Alumni Day with fall activities   |

Clip for your fridge or bulletin board



**STAY IN TOUCH!** | [vtc.edu/alumni](http://vtc.edu/alumni) | 802 728 1258 | [alumni@vtc.edu](mailto:alumni@vtc.edu)

# VERMONT TECH

Development & Alumni Relations  
PO Box 500, Randolph Center, VT 05061

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# WE'RE HIRING!

Are you looking for a rewarding career at your alma mater? Check out our job listings online at [vtc.edu/work](https://vtc.edu/work)

