



RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENT & ALUMNI

Noting Activities & Accomplishments Since JSC's Previous Report to the Board

DECEMBER 11, 2014

FACULTY & STAFF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Bethany Plissey (Fine & Performing Arts) conducted the Johnson State College Chamber Singers November 20-22 as part of the Vermont Collegiate Choral Consortium project. Performances took place at Middlebury College, Castleton State College, and St. Michael's College. The JSC students performed two selections alone, *Hodie Christus Natus Est* composed by Francis Poulenc and *Bogoroditse Devo* by Estonian composer Arvo Pärt. The masterwork of the evening performances, José María Vitier's *Misa Cubana*, was performed by 150 singers from Castleton, Johnson, Middlebury and St. Michael's, joined by an orchestra and professional soloists.

Work by former faculty member **Peter Heller**, who taught painting at JSC from about 1969 until his retirement in 1989, is on display at Burlington City Arts November 21 – January 24, 2015. A lengthy story about the show appeared in the November 19 *Burlington Free Press*.

Michael Zebrowski (Fine & Performing Arts) presented a paper, "Observation Tower: Building an understanding of site and place," at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Northwest annual conference October 15-18 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The conference "Working Out" dealt with the practice of design/build in both architectural practice and pedagogy. Observation Tower was a student project at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. The paper presented explored the project as a case study for design/build as a teaching model for studio production and learning for the art and architecture undergraduate student in a liberal arts context.

Published photographer **Greg Petrics** (Mathematics) has an exhibit of his outdoor adventure photos hung in Stowe's Picasso. The exhibit will be up at least through November.

Bill Doyle (Humanities), recently re-elected to his 24th term as Senator for Washington County, was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Vermont Historical Society. His 14 county video documentaries will be completed this semester. These videos show JSC students interviewing citizens of each county and have been shown on VPT. Bill co-sponsored the bill requesting that state funding go back to 50% for the state colleges, as it was in the 1980s.

He plans to work with other legislators to expand the early college program.

The Ellsworth Trust celebrated its 30th anniversary with an intensive, short-term residency by Joanne St. Lewis, a law professor at the University of Ottawa. She is the first and only black woman to be elected as a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, the governing body for over 41,000 Ontario lawyers in its 217-year history. Professor St. Lewis arrived October 20 and visited nine classes across the College; had lunch and dinner Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with faculty and students; talked with individual students about their plans; and departed on October 24.

Leslie Kanat (Environmental & Health Sciences) participated in the 106th meeting of the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference, held October 9-12 in the Boston area. Ten students from the department joined him for the conference.

In early December, Professor **Gina Mireault** (Psychology) traveled with her Evolutionary Psychology students to Clark University for a session with the special collections librarian focused on the original papers of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung. From there, they journeyed to Harvard Medical School and the Warren Anatomical Museum in Cambridge, MA. This trip was made possible by the President's Fund for Excellence in Teaching & Learning.

Henrique Cezar (Business & Economics) opened "Comedy Night at Johnson" on October 23 with a comedy routine about his experiences as a JSC professor.

Linda Kramer (Willey Library) attended the 11th annual Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy, which was held in Savannah, GA, from October 9-11, 2014. Linda attended sessions on faculty/librarian cooperation; online tutorial construction; the Common Core curriculum; revising the information literacy standards for higher education; instructional design; and authentic assessment.

As part of the Willey Library's information literacy outreach, **Jeff Angione** updated the College's Information Literacy Awareness Radio Program, an hour-long

program featuring research strategies mixed with book-themed popular songs that ran regularly on WJSC-FM during October. Jeff also arranged the recording and statewide distribution of Rusty DeWees's public service announcements on behalf of Information Literacy Awareness Month.

Lisa Kent (Willey Library) has been receiving high marks for her work as an embedded librarian in 23 online courses.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Senior **Vanessa Cousins** and alumna **Abby Maurice**, class of 2014, appeared in the Lyric Theater production of the Mel Brooks musical *The Producers* on the Flynn MainStage in Burlington November 13-16.

JSC art students have visited several area art venues as part of their studies this semester. Advanced Sculpture students, under the supervision of **Michael Zebrowski** (Fine & Performing Arts), visited Stowe's Helen Day Art Center and subsequently received individual feedback as a final critique of their work from Center director Nathan Suter. **Ken Leslie** and **Mary Martin** (both Fine & Performing Arts), as part of the learning community "Art and Human Dignity," took students to Bread and Puppet Theater in mid-September and then on a tour of Ken's home studio. Ken, Mary and **Victoria Zolnoski** (Fine & Performing Arts) subsequently accompanied students in the learning community on a docent tour of the Hood Museum's "Witness: Art of the 1960s" and a visit to the Dartmouth Library's Orozco murals.

Ben Simone, **John Dabrowski** and faculty advisor **David Plazek** (Humanities) are moving forward with "The Politics Club." They have registered to be a club with the Student Government Association and have started planning an annual undergraduate JSC journal that is tentatively scheduled to start in spring 2015.

Also under the supervision of David Plazek, a model UN team has been assembled for Harvard's National Model Union in February 2015. JSC will represent the country Eritrea.

JSC junior **Alyssa Slaimen**, this year's student member of the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees, did a live interview on Vermont Public Radio on November 4, during the hour-long "Vermont Edition" program and followed that up a week later with an on-air interview on WGDR-FM, broadcast from Goddard College.

Cara Conroy received a grant from the President's Fund for Excellence in Teaching & Learning to attend an anime convention called Bakuretsu November 14-16 in Colchester. She is studying Anime in response to an ethnographic assignment in her Introduction to Cultural Anthropology class taught by **Kaja Tretjak** (Behavioral Sciences). Bakuretsu is a convention where anime fans, writers, and voice actors get to meet one another. There are panels, lectures, discussions, as well as art galleries including original and fan-made art. Another significant part of anime culture is cosplay, when people make costumes and attend conventions as their favorite characters.

On November 21, **13 members of the JSC Dance Club** joined members of Lamoille Union Dance Club at the high school for a Benefit Dance Showcase, with all proceeds going directly to the Lamoille Area Cancer Network.

The Lamoille Family Center promoted **Carol Lang-Godin** (2002, Psychology) to be its Children's Integrated Service (CIS) Program Manager effective October 1, 2014. In her new role, Carol oversees a team of Family Center staff and contracted providers to ensure a seamless system of home visiting services to children and their families. She has been a member of the Lamoille Family Center since 2006, serving as a Developmental Educator with the Early Intervention team as well as providing Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Consultation and Education.

As JSC mourns the loss of 2013 alum **Alyson Finn**, friends and family have come forward to start a new scholarship in her honor. While at JSC, Alyson restarted the women's rugby club and served as their captain, leading them to victory as national champions in 2011. After graduation she continued to serve her team as a mentor and assistant coach. Her friends and family have created a scholarship to be awarded to a returning student who is a member of JSC's Rugby Club and shows the same spirit and dedication to the sport as Alyson.

