



JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

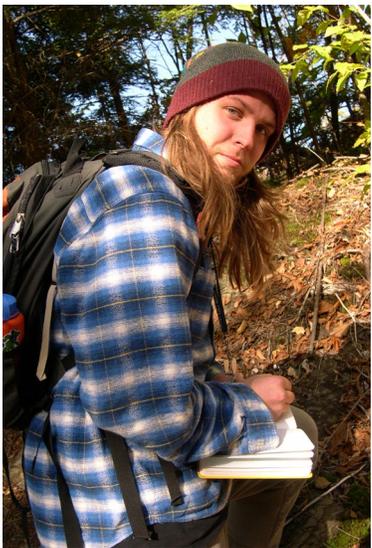
to the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees

DECEMBER 13, 2012



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As we approach semester's end, campus is bustling with concerts, recitals, exhibits and other events. With performances by our Chorale and Chamber Singers, our music ensembles, dance club, concert band and more, it's hard to choose a favorite event, but a highlight for me is always the recognition dinner and celebration for our December graduates and their families. The intimacy of this event allows me to recognize students individually from the podium, learn a bit about their journey, and applaud their achievements at JSC. It always serves to remind me that we have much to be proud of at our small college.



Following Thanksgiving break, on Monday, Nov. 26, I presented a mid-year "State of the College" address to JSC community members. I touched on our many accomplishments as well as the challenges we face in these economically trying times. My presentation and the questions that followed underscored the reality that student recruitment and retention is a job for us all, whether student, faculty or staff. My remarks are available online by clicking [here](#).



We have received word that our External Degree Program (EDP) will receive a 2013 "New England Higher Education Excellence Award" from the New England Board of Higher Education. One program in each of the six New England states is selected annually for a state merit award in recognition of "excellence in promoting college readiness and success for the students of New England," and EDP captured the Vermont award. EDP is our statewide bachelor's-degree completion program for students with 60 or more credits, with classes and degrees available online as well as on weekends in Montpelier, Rutland, St. Albans and Winooski. JSC's success should be shared with Community College of Vermont, a true partner in delivering our EDP programs to Vermonters.



A family is all smiles at last year's dinner and reception for JSC's December graduates.

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



**Bob Genter** (Environmental & Health Sciences) gave a presentation at the JSC Greening Summit on “Microbial Source Tracking as It Relates to Land Use in the Lamoille Valley.” He also met with the board members and concerned citizens of the Jericho/Underhill water district to discuss fluoridation of drinking water.

**Les Kanat** (Environmental & Health Sciences) was one of five facilitators at a day-long “Climate Change Scenario Workshop” in Burlington in early November. The workshop was funded by the Research on Adaptation to Climate Change grant. More than 120 people from state government, local businesses, institutes of higher education and other organizations attended the event. In addition, in October Dr. Kanat participated in a conference on Fragile X syndrome at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington; accompanied 14 students on a trip to southern New Hampshire to attend the 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference, where they and 350 other geologists and geology students spent an intensive weekend devoted to field geology and a discussion of the evolution of the Green Mountains; and participated in the Vermont Educational Opportunity Program at Vermont Tech. As if that wasn’t enough, Les also hosted 22 students from Wolcott Elementary School last month. The students learned to use compasses and handheld GPS units to locate themselves on topographic maps, examined rocks and minerals, used the rock saw in the JSC rock lab, and discussed the composition of galaxies.

**Hans Haverkamp** (Environmental & Health Sciences) attended the northeast regional meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) in Rhode Island Nov. 8-9. As the recently inducted Vermont representative for the northeast region of the ACSM, Dr. Haverkamp chaired an oral communications session and introduced one of

the speakers. Hans also is on the program committee for the ACSM annual meeting that will take place in Indianapolis this summer. Recently he submitted a grant proposal to the American Lung Association to support his ongoing research into how breathing volume and rate during exercise affect lung function and airway size in asthmatic adults during exercise.

**Gina Mireault** (Behavioral Sciences) appeared in the Oct. 10 episode of “NOVA scienceNOW” on PBS called “What Makes Us Human?” Together with JSC undergraduates, her infant-humor study seeks to understand how babies learn what is funny. Filming for Gina’s segment took place last May in Boston, at MIT’s Early Childhood Cognition Laboratory, with show host David Pogue.

**John Miller** (Fine & Performing Arts) presented an artist’s talk on Oct. 18 to open his compelling exhibit of landscape photography called “Human/Nature” at JSC’s Julian Scott Gallery.

In October a new display of contemporary paintings by regional artists opened at the Lamoille County Courthouse in Hyde Park. Among the works are those by **Marie LaPre Grabon** and **Marjorie Kramer** (both Fine & Performing Arts). Many of these pieces have been shown previously — including at the Bowery Gallery in New York City and the Greek Institute in Cambridge, Mass.



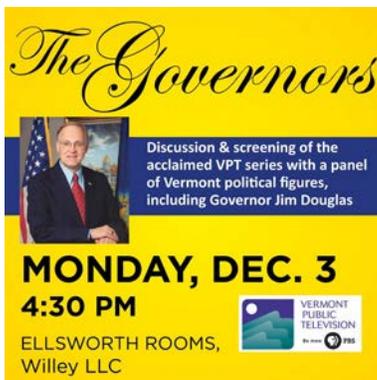
The Lamoille Economic Development Corporation has elected a new slate of officers for 2013. The new president is **Jim Black** (chair, Business/Economics), who also serves as a founding board member of VermontEntrepreneur.org.

**Jeff Angione** (Library) is putting his background in commercial radio to good use in reviving WJSC (90.7 FM), the College radio station. Since its re-launch at the start of the fall semester, the station has brought new student and community voices to the broadcast booth, and online streaming of its programming has attracted listeners even from Australia and Sweden.

**Linda Kramer** (Library) worked with Jeff Angione to promote National Information Literacy Awareness Month. Their book-centered spotify.com playlist was a popular feature on the Willey Library Facebook page.

**Alice Godin** and **Pam Gelineau** (Library) have implemented two more article-delivery options for interlibrary loan called Odyssey and Article Exchange. Alice attended an Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) webinar to learn how to update the library's OCLC constant data and otherwise prepare for the implementation of the organization's new WorldShare platform.

**Joe Farara** (Library) recently served on a New England Association Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation team for Worcester State University in Massachusetts.



Charles Pizer, community engagement director of Vermont Public Television (VPT), wrote President Murphy to convey his gratitude for the excellent job by **Emily Neilsen** (First-Year Experience) in coordinating the Oct. 25

panel discussion and screening of the documentary *Half the Sky* at JSC. The JSC-VPT partnership also sponsored a screening of VPT's original series "The Governors" at JSC on Dec. 3. Former Vermont Governor Jim Douglas served on the panel for that event, which was coordinated with the help of **Bill Doyle** (Humanities).

**Karen Madden, Clyde Stats, Rose Modry, Martha Lance, and Carolyn D'Luz** (all Academic Support Services) attended the 2012 Vermont Educational Opportunity Programs (VEOP) conference at Vermont Tech Oct. 9. Clyde participated in a roundtable discussion with area Admissions staff on support programs available for low-income and first-generation college students.

**Rose Modry** (Academic Support Services) has received word of her acceptance to the 2012-13 New England Educational Opportunity Association's (NEOA) 2012

Leadership Institute, at which a select group of TRiO professionals come together for three multi-day sessions aimed at enhancing leadership and networking skills.

Every two weeks, **Tom Fondakowski** (Sodexo) and staff work with JSC staff and students to present a free lunch to Johnson residents as part of the "Johnson CommUNITY Meal" program. On Nov. 13, they prepared and served a traditional Thanksgiving dinner of turkey and all the trimmings.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A multi-page article and photo spread about the impressive barn murals painted by graduate **Tara Goreau** (B.F.A. 2011) in Jeffersonville, Hardwick and elsewhere — including at the site of the award-winning Jasper Hill Cheese Co. in Greensboro — was featured in the Oct. 20 *Burlington Free Press*.

JSC art students recently had an exhibit of their paintings at Muddy Waters Café on Main Street in Burlington. The show ran Nov. 5 through Dec. 3. The students and **Ken Leslie** (Fine & Performing Arts) dedicated the show to Marc Awodey, who taught at JSC's Visual Arts Center for 10 years and died unexpectedly in October. Marc made the initial contact at Muddy Waters a few years ago, paving the way for JSC painting students to exhibit their works there.

The JSC Chamber Singers, under the direction of **Bethany Plissey** (Fine & Performing Arts), participated in the Vermont Collegiate Choral Consortium in November. The series of three performances of Fauré's *Requiem* included singing groups from Castleton, Middlebury, St. Michael's and UVM as well as JSC. It is the only intercollegiate music event of its type in Vermont.

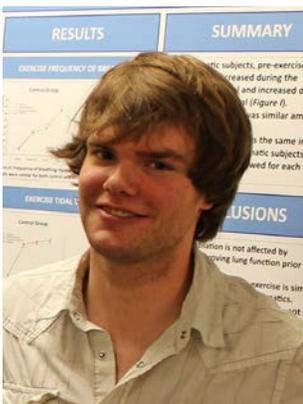
Following JSC's Nov. 1-3 run of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, three JSC student actors were selected to advance to the regionals of the Kennedy Center's American College Theater Festival competition. **Marcus Provost, Samantha McBride** and **Adam Pilarski** will represent JSC at the competition in January on Cape Cod.

In early November **Karen Uhendorf** (Environmental & Health Sciences) and 15 students seeking their teaching

licensure in physical education attended the annual conference of the Vermont Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (VAHPERD) in Stowe. The students attended workshops on a range of topics related to their future careers, and each presided over one session at the conference. The students mingled and shared ideas with other college students as well as K-12 teachers, health educators, specialists from the Vermont Department of Education, and higher education professionals. Also attending were 13 JSC physical-education alumni who remain professionally active.

A highlight of the conference was the awarding of the Outstanding Future Professional (OFP) recognition to JSC junior **Allison (Ally) Bataille**. A student member of the VAHPERD executive board, Ally presented a workshop titled “Physical Education in Another Culture: Rwanda, Africa” to a packed audience. Last spring, Ally volunteered at a boys’ school in Rwanda, where she taught English and physical education, helped organize a school library, and distributed clothing and school supplies to local students. As the OFP awardee, Ally will be partially supported by VAHPERD to attend the Eastern District convention in Pennsylvania in February 2013.

**Andrew Klansky**, one of the undergraduate research assistants working with Dr. Hans Haverkamp at JSC, submitted an abstract at the fall meeting of the northeast regional chapter of the American College



of Sports Medicine. Titled “Effects of tidal volume on bronchial tone during variable intensity exercise in asthmatic adults,” the abstract was selected as one of six finalists for the undergraduate student competition. Andrew prepared and delivered an excellent presentation at the event.

**Samantha Flint** put out a call to JSC students to join her in a new mentoring opportunity that pairs a JSC student with a Lamoille Union Middle School student. “Discovery Program Mentoring” provides opportunities for middle

school students who are struggling in school to excel emotionally, socially and academically in a smaller setting.

Professors **Ken Leslie** and **Mary Martin** (Fine Arts) accompanied six senior B.F.A. students to Chicago for an art trip extraordinaire designed by Professor Martin. They took in the Chicago Art Institute, Magdalena Abakanowicz’s *Agora* in Grant Park, the Field Museum’s African Art exhibition, the Museum of Contemporary Photography, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the



Pilsen neighborhood for the *Día de los Muertos* exhibition at the National Museum of Mexican Art, INTUIT (the Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art) and the River North and West Loop Gallery Districts — and posed for a photo in front of Anish Kapoor’s “Bean” (above) in Millennium Park. In a serendipitous turn of events, Ken discovered that a colleague he worked with 10 years ago in Atlanta is now the studio coordinator for the Columbia College Chicago Center for Book and Paper Arts. That connection led to an extensive personal tour of the papermaking, printmaking and artist book design studios for the center’s M.F.A. program. By all accounts, it was a truly rewarding and eye-opening experience for our students.

Students in the first-year seminar “A Call to Action” taught by **Ellen Hill** (Experiential Learning) engaged in a service-learning project with the Lamoille Family Center (LFC) and community members to brainstorm ways that the LFC’s future home could best serve the

community. Ideas included creating a play space for parents and children, providing place-based education, convening conversations on family and community well-being, ensuring universal access, and expanding positive youth activities. Earlier in the semester, LFC Executive Director Scott Johnson visited the seminar to provide an orientation to LFC’s mission and programs.

Students, faculty and staff have donated artwork now on display in the College’s Julian Scott Gallery through Dec. 16. Sales of these “hang ready” pieces of art will benefit the Visual Arts Fund at JSC.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### UPWARD BOUND

On Saturday, Nov. 10, over 80 students from 10 Vermont high schools gathered at JSC for the fifth annual “High School Greening Leadership Summit” sponsored by the Upward Bound program at JSC. Students participated in a variety of workshops and presentations, and school teams shared their ideas for “greening” their schools and competed for a grand prize of \$1,000.

Teams had prepared written proposals in advance and elaborated on them at the summit via both a creative and a formal presentation. Students also participated in a “Jeopardy”-type quiz, and attended a workshop with Bob Genter, JSC science professor. A team from

Missisquoi Valley Union High School won both the formal presentation and the grand prize with their proposal to power school buses with biodiesel fuel. The team from Lyndon Institute won the creative presentation, while the team from Brattleboro High School took first place with the written proposal.

As in previous years, the summit generated positive regional attention and was the subject of a front-page article and photo in the Morrisville-based *News & Citizen*.

### OFFICE OF FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE (FYE)

More than 80 first-year students attended an informal check-in before Thanksgiving break with Margo Warden, FYE director, in Governors Hall, the first-year student residence. More than halfway into their first semester at JSC, an overwhelming majority of students said that they feel very much a part of the JSC community. Student responses to a questionnaire they completed at the event will inform tutoring and other programming in the halls.

### RESIDENCE LIFE

Residence Life continues to expand on programs offered in the residence halls. A number of campus departments have utilized “lobby talk” events to promote their services and offerings. The department again took the lead on organizing Alcohol Awareness Week in October, which saw both increased departmental partnerships in delivering programming and increased student attendance at events.

In addition, there has been further growth in living/learning communities on campus. We currently offer three intentional residential communities. The most structured of these is for students enrolled in the first-year seminar “Art of the Social Imagination,” who reside in Martinetti Hall, where they will soon install an exhibit of their work. Jeff Bickford, assistant director of Residence Life, accompanied the class on a field trip to the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art and the Williams College Museum of Art.

A grant-funded living/learning community for science students came together late in the summer. The resident assistant has incorporated elements of the syllabus



The team from Lyndon Institute, winners of the Creative Presentation award at the 2012 High School Greening Leadership Summit

into her floor programming, and the associated faculty member has facilitated in-hall discussions. This group will be expanded next year. Another group comprised of students in the wellness and alternative medicine program has been working with a faculty member and residential staff to try to realize elements of a learning community. Looking ahead to next year, the department hopes to build on these communities and add new ones, including a possible student-athlete community.

## JSC COUNSELING & HEALTH CENTERS

JSC's new nurse practitioner, **Lori Koshowski**, coordinated a flu-vaccination clinic on campus for students with the help of Rite Aid pharmacy in Morrisville. More than 30 students took advantage of the opportunity to receive their vaccine.

Staff helped plan and carry out events during Alcohol Awareness Week on campus in October, and they continue to write a regular "Words of Wellness" column in *Basement Medicine*. Recent topics addressed seasonal affective disorder and the latest scientific research on smoking marijuana. In addition, counseling director **Cynthia Hennard** and interns **Sarah Palmer**, **Sandy Ryan** and **Kris Connolly** have maintained a presence around campus, offering information and facilitating conversations in classes, residence halls and other venues. Self-help links and related information on the Counseling Center web page have been updated as well.

## SERVE

### Mentoring

A focus on maximizing mentoring opportunities for students has led to the following initiatives under the direction of AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer **Samantha Flint**:

- *America Reads*: We have partnered with Cambridge Elementary school to place JSC students with small groups of elementary students to work on improving the youngsters' reading skills. We currently have four America Reads mentors who work with 20 students a week, with plans to recruit additional mentors.
- *Laraway Homework Club*: This is a weekly after-school opportunity for students at the local Laraway Family Center school to come to campus and

receive homework help and benefit from positive social interactions. The JSC mentors have expressed interest in expanding their focus to include college-access activities such as campus tours and assistance with preparing resumes, admissions essays and applications. Currently five JSC students are working with up to five Laraway students each week.

- *Discovery Program*: Currently in the development stage, this new partnership with Lamoille Middle School will pair JSC students with middle school students in a unique, hands-on learning program that gives students and mentors the freedom to determine their core activities. Mentors will be asked to commit to at least one day a week. We hope to have four mentors to work with six students.
- *DREAM*: Another new program also in the development stage, DREAM focuses on working with youth from a particular housing development. It will be based on campus, with participants coming to JSC after school for a few hours of programming. Seven JSC students are preparing to work on this initiative.

### Recent Service Activities

- *American Red Cross Blood Drive (10/25)*: We had 146 donors, yielding 138 productive units of blood, at our fall blood drive in SHAPE. The blood donated at our drive could help up to 414 people in need. Thirteen student volunteers kept the drive running smoothly.
- *Firewood Project (11/2)*: JSC students stacked wood at the Firewood Project in Morrisville and at the home of a community member who was very grateful for the help in preparing for winter.
- *Gleaning for the Vermont Foodbank (11/9)*: JSC students pitched in at Pete's Greens in Craftsbury, gleaning more than 300 pounds of kale that was donated to the Vermont Foodbank.
- *Thanksgiving Basket Project with the Johnson Food Shelf (11/15)*: The JSC community rallied to provide 17 Thanksgiving baskets and collected enough monetary donations to purchase items for an additional 22, for a total of 39 baskets. The Johnson Food Shelf had a goal of 60 baskets, and we were proud to fulfill more than half of the community need.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

The SGA continues its practice of expecting members to design and “own” a project to benefit the greater campus. Self-identified projects currently in development include expanded hours in the Stearns Student Center, providing better student access to transportation, and finding additional effective ways to share information on campus.

SGA President **Shane Bouthillette**, in conjunction with the Vermont State Colleges Student Association, met with Governor Shumlin and Secretary of Administration Jeb Spaulding Nov. 13 to push for an increase in the state appropriation for higher education. SGA members plan to hold an informational rally on this topic on campus in the near future.

## ATHLETICS & RECREATION

Our seven fall sports teams have wrapped up their season, and men’s and women’s basketball is now in full swing. Student-athletes have been actively involved in campus life and local community activities, and our intramural, recreation and exercise programs continue to attract broad participation from students, faculty and staff. With the support of our NCAA Choices grant, the department has provided programs on leadership, community values, and drug and alcohol education to the entire JSC student body.

Our director of athletics and recreation, **Jamey Ventura**, continues his work growing the size and competitiveness of JSC’s athletics programs. As a new member of the President’s Council, Jamey has volunteered for the enrollment-management subcommittee and drafted an athlete-enrollment plan detailing how those efforts will support the College’s overall enrollment efforts. He and his staff meet monthly to discuss student recruitment as well as programming and support services that enhance the retention and graduation rates of our student-athletes.

The department also has a new staff member, **Elaine Harvey**, who will focus on strengthening the relationship



between JSC and its athletics alumni, developing strategic fundraising initiatives to support the growth of our athletics programs, and sports information and publicity. Her position is made possible by a three-year “strategic alliance” grant from the NCAA.

### *Fall Season Wrap-Up*

Our women’s soccer team, men’s and women’s cross country teams, and men’s golf team competed in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) championships. First-year golfer **Kevin Dwyer** tied for the lead after day one and finished just out of the top 15 in the tournament. Women’s soccer lost a hard-fought 2-0 quarterfinal match against eventual NAC champion Castleton State; senior **Ally Bataille** and junior **Amanda Frawley** made second team all-conference. In women’s cross country, sophomore **Jill Porter** made second team all-conference and went on to compete in the NCAA New England Regional, where she was the ninth NAC finisher. On the men’s side, freshman **Brendan Walsh** also qualified for the NCAA Regional and was the NAC’s 15<sup>th</sup> finisher. We were especially pleased to have three squads earn NAC team sportsmanship awards. Women’s volleyball and tennis each earned an impressive fourth consecutive sportsmanship award and were joined this year by men’s soccer.

### *Programming*

Funded by our NCAA Choices grant, programming in October focused on leadership training, drug and alcohol education, and the JSC community values. One of our activities was a substance-free tailgate party hosted with the help of Sodexo before an October soccer game. The last three weeks of our student-leadership series included discussions on student/leader balance, substance use and safe peer intervention, and event planning and organization. Conversations in the residence halls have focused on the JSC community values. Students are encouraged to pick one of the six values from the posters hanging throughout campus and create a watercolor depicting it, with pictures to be displayed in SHAPE.

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) sponsored a moonlight volleyball tournament during Alcohol Awareness Week and held a Halloween-themed “kids night out” in SHAPE that attracted children from the

local community who participated in rock climbing, gym games, a dance and Halloween crafts. SAAC also helped serve the Johnson CommUNITY Thanksgiving meal and donated eight Thanksgiving baskets to families in need. Another SAAC accomplishment is the new “Badger Den” seating section at home games. This is a designated “fan zone” focused on cheering on our varsity programs while promoting sportsmanship.

### *SHAPE & Recreation*

Open 88 hours a week, the SHAPE Center continues to serve as a hub for JSC and the greater Johnson community. The fitness center sees consistent use by community members in the mornings and evenings, by JSC employees during lunch hour, and by students throughout the day. It is a welcoming place for swimmers, climbers, and people of all fitness levels to come together.

SHAPE aquatics programming picked up in October. This is the second fall that we have offered a JSC “children’s fun team swim” comprised of 12 swimmers of various abilities who meet twice a week for four weeks. JSC also is hosting beginner swim lessons through the American Red Cross. Both Level 1 and Level 2 classes are at maximum enrollment. The classes are mentored by two community members and taught by JSC students.

Among our intramural programs, basketball, volleyball and dodge ball are especially popular. Recreation programming has included whitewater rafting in Maine and our fourth annual “rail jam” during Alcohol Awareness Week, which involves relocating the rails from our campus snowboard park to the quad, trucking in loads of snow (obtained from area skating rinks), bringing in a DJ and lighting the event so riders can test their skills well into the evening.

### *Public Safety*

Public Safety identified three immediate projects during a recent strategic planning session: offering first-aid training to the JSC community, increasing departmental efficiency by consolidating forms and implementing more online tools and, after a successful fall offering, hosting social events to give students the opportunity to interact with staff in an enjoyable and informal setting.



Bethany Harrington of the Admissions office, shown here with Officer Mount, was the first person honored by Public Safety’s new recognition program. A former EMT, Bethany came to the aid of a Sodexo employee who was seriously injured in a fall earlier this semester.

At the suggestion of Officer **James Mount**, the Public Safety has initiated a recognition program through which the department can acknowledge JSC community members who have “gone beyond the call of duty” in helping to keep the College safe.

## **BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

### **BUSINESS OFFICE**

Spring 2013 course registration began Nov. 12. The Business Office is sending correspondence reinforcing the use of the e-commerce billing site and alerting students to the spring payment deadline. The first-quarter financial package for FY 2013 has been submitted to central office.

### **PHYSICAL PLANT**

Department staff have been preparing campus for the winter and planning for work to be performed during summer 2013. The most critical project scheduled is a modest renovation of McClelland Hall, which is expected to include sprinkler systems, upgrades for code compliance and some improvements to teaching and learning spaces.



This stunning rainbow appeared above campus the afternoon of Oct. 31, as rains from Tropical Storm Sandy began to dissipate.

In addition, the department is preparing its first proposal for the Green Revolving Fund. We are seeking to replace our high-pressure sodium exterior lighting with energy-efficient LED lighting. We hope to eventually replace all our exterior lighting with this technology.

Work planned during the December break includes electrical work in Arthur Hall, renovations to the Media Arts Research Studio (MARS) lab in the Willey Library & Learning Center, completing the College’s water operations and maintenance plan, and working with the Vermont Department of Transportation to install a GPS station.

### CONFERENCE & EVENT SERVICES

As always, the list of events sponsored by and held at the College since our last report is quite extensive. A few of the highlights include the fifth annual Greening Summit, guest readings by nationally acclaimed authors, our second annual Performing Arts Festival, our fall blood drive for the American Red Cross, and the Vermont high school volleyball championships.

Among the many events taking place in December is our annual end-of-semester reception for December graduates and their families, which takes place Dec. 19.

### ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

We are happy to have our “road warriors” back in the office. **Elga Gruner, Joye Lyon, Julie Noyes, Tommy O’Connor,** and **Patrick Rogers** spent eight weeks visiting hundreds of high schools and attending college fairs. In all, staff attended more than 600 events during this time. We’re also grateful to part-time Admissions recruiters **Katherine Albright ’11** and **Jessica Pafumi ’12**, who traveled to high schools in New England and surrounding states, and to JSC staff members **Lori Adams, Clyde Stats** and **Michele Whitmore**, who volunteered to help us out at college fairs this fall.

As we continue to explore new markets, our travels took us to national college fairs in Boise, Chicago, Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Washington, D.C. We also attended a performing arts college fair in Boston. Unfortunately, several events, including the New Jersey National Fair in Atlantic City, were rescheduled or cancelled due to Tropical Storm Sandy. In addition to visiting all Vermont high schools, targeted out-of-state high schools and college fairs, the Admissions staff participated in three online college fairs via College Week Live (CWL). This is our second year partnering with CWL, which gives

us more exposure to prospective students throughout the U.S. and internationally. We are scheduled for other online events via CWL for the spring semester, including “Paying for College” and “Transfer Day.” We also are working with several other companies, including Hobsons, Minority Recruit Online, Varsity Outreach and Zinch to create a stronger online presence and attract students from diverse backgrounds.

With more than 10,000 high school students having requested information about JSC, **Bethany Harrington**, **Andrea Bourdeau** and other Admissions staff and student workers have kept busy entering data, sending out mailings, making personal calls to follow up with students, and hosting visiting students and families.

The many activities and events Admissions has hosted or participated in since our last report include:

- JSC Performing Arts Festival for high school students (Friday, October 19)
- Admissions Information Session (Saturday, Oct. 27)
- Transfer Information Session (Saturday, Nov. 3)
- High School Volleyball Tournament in SHAPE (Saturday, Nov. 3)
- Fall Open Houses (Saturdays, Oct. 20 and Nov. 10)
- Brattleboro Boys & Girls Club (Monday, Nov. 12)
- Whitehall (NY) High School visit (Tuesday, Nov. 13)
- Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans High School visit (Wednesday, Nov. 13)
- Minority Recruit Online visit (Thursday, Nov. 15)
- Guidance Counselor Breakfast at JSC (Tuesday, Nov. 27)
- Champlain Valley Union High School visit (Wednesday, Nov. 28)
- Guidance Counselor Breakfast off-campus in Norwich (Thursday, Nov. 29)

This month we are hosting Early Admission Day programs for students seeking an on-the-spot decision. Admissions counselors also are following up with their contacts at Vermont high schools to arrange on-the-spot

decision days at their sites (so far Lamoille Union, North Country and Vergennes high schools have invited us to come), and groups are coming from Stowe High School and VSAC for our on-campus events. In January, we’ll host our annual Transfer Day events (on Jan. 9, 10, 14 and 15) to accommodate last-minute transfer applicants for spring 2013.

We’re off to a good start as reflected by these year-to-date numbers in Admissions:

- Compared to this time last year, for spring (2013) admission, applications are up 8.9% and deposits are up 65%.
- Also compared to this time last year, for fall (2013) admission, applications are up 17%.

For many students and families, of course, cost continues to be a deciding factor in choosing whether to enroll. Our Financial Aid staff works closely with Admissions to “package” students’ financial aid as early as possible so families can have clear information about costs and expenses, which we are committed to keep as low as possible. Our theme for the year is that enrollment and continuing student success are college-wide responsibilities. With that said, our dedicated Admissions and Financial Aid staffs are out in front, and we are grateful to them all.

