



JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

to the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees

MAY 31, 2012



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We had an exceptional Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 12, under bright blue skies — the first time in years we've had sun on our special day. We awarded more than 350 B.A./B.S. degrees, 55 graduate degrees, and 10 A.A./A.S. degrees. Our keynote speaker, Vermont Supreme Court Justice Beth Robinson, shared her experiences as Vermont's leading advocate for marriage equality, calling on students to stand up for their beliefs and never be afraid to "take on the impossible." Joining her on the podium were our three student speakers: **Jessica Pafumi** (B.A., outdoor education), **Byron Fletcher** (B.A., history — External Degree Program) and **José Chepe Cuadra** (M.F.A.). We were pleased to have VSC Chancellor Donovan, Trustee Chair Gary Moore and Trustees Heidi Pelletier and Peter Wright with us as well.



Justice Beth Robinson

We've received several pieces of good news since our last report to the board. As you'll read in this report:

- Our Athletics Department has received two three-year grants, one of which will be used to support leadership opportunities for our student-athletes and alcohol awareness among our student body as a whole.
- The Vermont Genetics Network has renewed grants supporting three major research projects at JSC in which undergraduates are involved: the asthma and exercise study conducted under **Hans Haverkamp**; the investigation into microbial communities living in a pond at an abandoned asbestos mine led by **Liz Dolci**; and research on humor development in infants led by **Gina Mireault**. The renewed funding underscores the quality of research being conducted at JSC under the aegis of these talented professors, as these grants have become extremely competitive. As well, Gina's "laughing babies" research will gain more national exposure in October when the PBS science program NOVA airs a segment on laughter, for which Gina was interviewed in early April.
- We just received word that the Upward Bound program at JSC — the longest-running program of its type in Vermont — has received a five-year federal grant at a time when only 780 of 1,500 applications submitted nationwide were funded. As director **Tony Blueter** put it, "The grant reflects not only the commitment Johnson



State College has made to Upward Bound students, it speaks to the success of the program itself — and of the local students who have worked so hard to achieve their post-secondary goals.”

- We showcased our newly renovated Visual Arts Center (VAC) the day of the April 19 Board of Trustees meeting at JSC, and our arts program as well as our new facility have been getting a great deal of attention since. Most notably, the weekly “ARTSbvt” section of the Sunday *Burlington Free Press* featured the VAC, the JSC fine and performing arts programs, and the Vermont Studio Center in its May 13 issue. The three-page spread (click here for online version) included an essay by our own Ken Leslie, who noted in part, “Something magical indeed has been going on here — all the programs, artworks, performance and venues adding up to far more than their sum, and ready for even more.”

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ken Leslie (Fine & Performing Arts) has been invited to work in residence at the Upernavik Museum in Upernavik, Greenland, in January and February 2013. Ken calls this a “dream-come-true way to kick off my sabbatical!” Upernavik is a town of fewer than 1,200 inhabitants, and the museum — the oldest museum in Greenland — maintains a residence for an artist and writer working on projects relevant to Greenland.

Tania Bacchus (Environmental & Health Sciences) participated in a two-day workshop sponsored by the National Science Foundation March 29-30 titled “Science: Becoming the Messenger.” The workshop focused on developing clear, compelling messages

that “convey accurately to, and resonate with, non-scientific audiences.” It also provided practical advice for incorporating presentations, new media (e.g., Twitter, blogs, Facebook) and videos. Participation on the second day of the workshop was by special invitation only. Also in March Tania was asked by UVM’s College of Agriculture & Life Sciences to serve as an external reviewer for a proposal on “Climate Adaptation and Mitigation in the Lake Champlain Basin of Vermont,” which was submitted to the UVM Food Systems Spire program. Finally, in early April Professor Bacchus was notified by Vermont EPSCoR that two undergraduate students (one from JSC and one from Lyndon State) had been funded to work with her this summer on her ongoing climate-research project.

Three JSC faculty members have received grants from the Vermont Genetics Network for 2012-13: **Hans Haverkamp** (Environmental & Health Sciences), who

will use the grant to continue his research on exercise in asthmatics; **Gina Mireault** (Behavioral Sciences), who will continue her research on humor in infants; and **Elizabeth Dolci** (Environmental & Health Sciences), who will continue her research investigating microbial communities at the Vermont Asbestos Group mine.

Hans Haverkamp (Environmental & Health Sciences) attended the annual spring meeting of the Northeast American College of Sports Medicine in Boston in March, and he will chair an oral-communications session on “the respiratory system during exercise” and present a poster at the national meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine May 30 to June 2. The abstract for his presentation will be published in *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise*. As well, he will become the Vermont representative for the American College of Sports Medicine in November.

Leslie Kanat (Environmental & Health Sciences) is a new member of the Board of Directors for Fairewinds Energy Education Corp. in Burlington. The mission of Fairewinds, a nonprofit organization founded in 2008, is to educate the public about nuclear power and other energy issues. Les also served as an external reviewer for Norwich University’s Department of Geology self-study that included a two-day visit in April to the campus to interview administrators, faculty, staff and students. In another capacity, he participated in a mid-April

conference on Fragile X syndrome in Worcester, MA, that focused on hyper-arousal and sensory integration.

Back in January, **Brad Moskowitz** (Environmental & Health Sciences) gained recertification for his Wilderness First Responder credential, spending three days with JSC students enrolled in **Sawyer Alberi’s** Wilderness First Responder class. More recently Brad attended the Association for Experiential Education’s northeast regional conference, where he participated in several workshops, including “Exploring Social Justice through Experiential Activities,” “Moral Dilemmas for Experiential Educators” and “Challenge Course Management.” Professor Moskowitz also arranged for students enrolled in the Ropes Course leadership class to be evaluated by professionals from High Five Adventure Center so they could test for “Level 1 Challenge Course Practitioner Certification,” a national professional qualification. Nine of the 12 students enrolled received the credential.



Bill Doyle (Humanities) attended and presented information about Vermont at a leadership forum at Brown University May 10-12. The conference, presented by the State Legislative Leaders Foundation and Brown University, focused on “restoring the people’s trust in government.” Participants discussed legislative leadership and the vital role it plays in defining who we are as a people. Bill was one of 40 legislative leaders invited from the U.S.

A “Vermont Arbor Day” commentary by **Russ Weis** (Education) aired on Vermont Public Radio April 30. Russ stressed the fact that Vermont’s Arbor Day falls midway between the birthdays of two inspiring women — Wangari Maathai and Rachel Carson — who both in their own way tremendously advanced the cause of environmentalism.

Alice Godin (Library) attended a library-leadership workshop at the Howe Public Library in Hanover, NH, May 13. Sponsored jointly by the Vermont and New Hampshire Library associations, the event brought together 80 academic and public librarians interested in improving their management and planning skills. JSC Faculty Librarian **Joe Farara** provided the welcome and introductions.

Ray Brior (Library) was nominated to chair the Vermont Library Association’s Intellectual Freedom Committee, a group that has strongly advocated First Amendment protections in libraries and in education. Ray assumed leadership of the committee at the Vermont Library Association Annual Conference, which took place at St. Michael’s College May 22.

Ellen Hill (Experiential Learning) and Scott Johnson, executive director of the Lamoille Family Center, co-facilitated a March 22 training for the Snelling Center’s Vermont School Leadership Project. Their session on “Inspiring Transformative Partnerships” examined how leaders and partners can collaborate to create meaningful

results that “turn the curve.”

Ellen was the lead organizer for the sixth annual JSC Extended Classroom Experience Showcase, which was held April 13 in conjunction with Admissions’ annual JSC 101 Open House. The event celebrates learning beyond the classroom, including



internships, student field work and lab-based research, study travel, field trips, student teaching, service-learning, civic engagement and independent studies. In addition to the many students, faculty and staff from JSC who attended, we hosted 216 visitors from seven states. Thirty-three presenters or groups of presenters representing programs across campus displayed and discussed their work. One visitor’s evaluation summarizes JSC hopes for this annual event: “I love the combination of current students showcasing their work and prospective students. I love learning about what our students are doing in their classes [and beyond]. I think this event continues to be a huge selling point for JSC!”



Martha Lance, Rose Modry, Sue Ordinetz, Clyde Stats, Carolyn D’Luz, and Karen Madden (all Academic Support Services) attended the New England Educational Opportunity Association’s annual conference in Stowe April 5-6. Karen organized the event along with Jennfer Jones, director of Upward Bound at Castleton State. Karen introduced Senator Bernie Sanders, who delivered the keynote address and received the NEOA’s Claiborne Pell award. The conference included a panel comprised of college presidents and VSC Chancellor Tim Donovan, who discussed the need to reframe the value of education.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

JSC’s student newspaper, *Basement Medicine*, received a 2011-2012 first place scholastic newspaper award from the American Scholastic Press Association.

Beginning the last week of May and continuing for 10 weeks over the summer, five student interns began working with **Robert Genter** (Environmental & Health Sciences) to monitor water quality in streams of the Lamoille, Missisquoi and Winooski watersheds: **Allison Compagna, John Dawkins, and Abigail Murphy** from JSC, **Dedeo Corynne** from St. Michael’s and **Rebecca Rickert**

from Lyndon State. Their summer internships, for which each has been awarded \$4,000, are supported by a \$20 million grant from the National Science Foundation to VT-EPSCoR entitled “Research on Adaptation to Climate Change.” As a result of this grant, JSC received funding to establish a water-analysis laboratory to process samples gathered during the research.

Three undergraduate students will work this summer in the lab with **Hans Haverkamp** (Environmental & Health Sciences): **Andrew Klansky**, **Adriane Morrison-Taylor**, and **Jeni Demar**.

JSC students **Erika English** and **Jaclyn Baker** presented their research on “A Distinct Microbial Community at the Vermont Asbestos Group Mine” at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, March 31. Their research was funded by the Vermont Genetics Network and the Oakland Foundation.

JSC also was well-represented at the annual Undergraduate Student Career Day sponsored by the Vermont Genetics Network April 18. **Kristen Malzac** presented on “Parental humor style as a predictor of

infant attachment security”; **Andrew Klansky** presented “Effects of variable pre-exercise lung function on ventilation during exercise in asthmatic vs. non-asthmatic adults”; and **Erika English** and **Jaclyn Baker** presented their findings to date on “A distinct microbial community at the Vermont Asbestos Group Mine.”

In April **Autumn Santor** (Biology, 2011), who assisted **Liz Dolci** with her research while a student at JSC, assumed a new position as microbiology lab technician for the Vermont Department of Health.

Graduating students from the Associates of Arts in Technical Theater program are heading off to a variety of jobs. **Madeline Gibbons** will be front-of-house manager at a theater in Colorado, while **Taryn Glasser** is working as production manager for a local dance company before heading off to Concord, NH, to work at the Verizon Center and the Capital Theater.

Having just returned from Rwanda, JSC student **Ally Bataille** (Health Sciences and Education/PE) and her friend Elena Bilodeau from St. Michael’s College shared their experiences as volunteers with *Les Enfants de Dieu*, a program for street children in Kigali, with members of the



JSC faculty and staff turned out in force for the annual Corporate Cup 5K in Montpelier, snagging this photo op with Governor Shumlin shortly before the race. Missing from the photo are a dozen or more people from JSC who participated as well.

JSC community on April 24. A silent auction of fabrics and Rwandan crafts raised money for their ongoing work.

On May 3, students in the spring Food & Beverage Management class (HTM 3010) hosted “Cultivate,” a pop-up restaurant in Stearns Dining Hall. Under the direction of executive chef **Leonard Cheung** and marketing manager **Lucy Aylward**, the sous-chef **Joe Flynn** served a pair of dishes comprised of seasonal ingredients to an enthusiastic full house of patrons.

Ryan Joy (Biology, 2012), JSC male athlete of the year, capped his stellar JSC career by being voted NAC East Men’s Tennis Player of the Year as well as being named to the NAC East First Teams in both singles and doubles. All league coaches vote on the honors. Ryan’s classroom record is even more distinguished than his accomplishments on the tennis court and soccer field. After working this summer at a UVM laboratory, the *summa cum laude* graduate will begin a Ph.D. program there.

Hillary Alexander Emick (2005, Integrated Environmental Science and Political Science) will enter the Environmental Life Sciences Ph.D. program at Arizona State University in Tempe this fall. The interdisciplinary doctoral program offered by the School of Life Sciences provides training in several complementary fields focusing on interactions between organisms (plant, animal or microbe) and their environments. Hillary will study geological structures currently formed by microbes. Her research, focusing on methodologies for identifying chemical evidence of biological activity in the geological record, is being conducted under ASU’s “Follow the Elements” NASA Astrobiology Initiative.

Instructed by **Brad Moskowitz** and **Mark Puleio** (both Environmental & Health Sciences), students in JSC’s Winter Expedition course traveled to Idaho for an eight-day backcountry ski trip during February break. The students gained skills and knowledge pertaining to



Leonard Chung and Joe Flynn put the finishing touches on one of the special dishes prepared at “Cultivate,” the May 3 pop-up restaurant in Stearns Hall.

avalanche phenomena, snow science, field forecasting, the natural and cultural history of the Sawtooth region, and backcountry travel and guiding techniques. All received their Level 1 Avalanche Certification as endorsed by the American Avalanche Association.

This year graduating counseling students did such an outstanding job during their internships that several were offered paid positions at their internship sites, including Lamoille County Connections, Northwest Counseling Services, and Washington County Counseling.

Twenty-two students, faculty and staff visited Havana in early April as part of JSC’s interdisciplinary course “The Art and Culture of Cuba.” Traveling under a general license, the group spent a week exploring the cultural treasures of Havana, including museums, artist studios, and amazing architecture and performance venues. Final projects, including paintings, photographs, videos and poetry, were exhibited at the College May 6.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

ATHLETICS & RECREATION

Department Receives Two NCAA Grants

JSC has been awarded two grants from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) totaling more than \$136,000 that will support the expansion of programs and leadership opportunities for student-athletes and enable the JSC to create the position of assistant director of athletics for external and internal communications.

JSC was one of just 15 institutions nationwide selected to receive a three-year NCAA “CHOICES” grant, which will be used to promote alcohol awareness and expand leadership opportunities for the College’s 132 varsity athletes starting with the fall 2012 semester. In addition, Johnson student-athletes will help promote healthy choices throughout the student body as a whole.

“Our receipt of the CHOICES grant is the result of a rich collaboration among JSC staff, faculty and students,” said **Camille Campanile**, departing coordinator of student-athlete development at JSC. “We will use the grant to educate, support and empower our student-athletes to make choices concerning alcohol that are healthy, safe and legal, and to actively engage them in promoting positive choices to their fellow students through peer advocacy and mentoring.” Media campaigns, community outreach and events offering alternatives to alcohol use will be featured as well.

The second NCAA grant, a three-year “strategic alliance” matching grant, supports member institutions seeking to create full-time professional opportunities for minorities and women. JSC will use the grant to create a new assistant director who help lead Johnson’s intercollegiate athletics program, manage the sports-information and marketing needs of JSC’s 12 varsity teams, and assist with development and alumni relations. As Director of Athletics **Jamey Ventura** notes, “The grants will allow Johnson State College Athletics to continue to enhance the experience of our student-athletes and grow our programs in line with the mission of the College.”



Ryan Joy

A Successful Spring

The College’s 132 student-athletes experienced success this year in the classroom, on the playing surfaces and in the community. Student-athletes earned 24 awards during honors convocation, and 51 student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher while participating in community service. The department held a first annual national student-athlete day celebration to recognize their achievements.

All three spring sports — softball, men’s lacrosse, and men’s tennis — qualified for the NAC playoffs. Softball lost a hard-fought game with Castleton in the quarterfinals. Lacrosse freshman **Nash Garceau** was a two time recipient of NAC Rookie of the Week honors.

Men’s tennis had a particularly successful season. The team was 4-1 in the NAC East and 10-3 overall in New England on its way to a second consecutive appearance in the NAC East Finals. Second-year coach **Laura Laramee** was voted by her peers as NAC East Coach of the Year, and senior **Ryan Joy** was named conference player of the year. Ryan posted a 3-2 mark at first singles and was a perfect 5-0 in first doubles in NAC East play. As noted earlier, he was named First Team All-Conference in both singles and doubles, while seniors **Alen Turan** and **Kyle Young** earned Second Team All-Conference in doubles to round out the awards.

Spotlight on Athletic Training

Our Athletic Training staff contributed greatly to the success of our student-athletes this year. Head trainer **Renee Breault** and assistant trainer **Betsy O’Rourke** provided 2,493 treatments to our student-athletes this year, ranging from preventative-injury measures (taping ankles, applying heat and encouraging stretching), to rehabbing injuries with exercises, ice and electronic stimulation. Renee has emerged as a leader within the department, looking for ways to improve the student-athlete experience. This spring she developed a

relationship with Norwich University’s athletic-training program that enabled two student interns to work with her at JSC. She also serves as the department’s senior women’s administrator, advisor to the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and a member of the department’s senior decision-making team.

SERVE

SERVE Fri Program

The year’s final installments of this weekly program were the annual Drop & Swap program, at which students helped sort and organize 120 bags of donated clothing to be redistributed to the local community, and a clean-up day in Highgate at an apartment complex where JSC alum **Zach Johnston** runs an environmentally focused after-school program.

Blood Drive

Following the fall drive, which was JSC’s most successful in 23 years in terms of units produced, the spring drive netted 133 units, making it the most successful spring semester drive since 1990. Nineteen JSC students volunteered to help keep the event running smoothly.

Break Away

Over the April break three groups of students traveled across the country to spend their week engaged in service. Twelve students traveled to Catalina Island in California to help the local conservancy agency rebuild after wildfires destroyed campsites. The group also helped with trail maintenance/construction and invasive plant removal. At the same time, 11 students traveled to an urban farm in Washington, DC, where they built gardens, constructed greenhouses and raised awareness about local food systems while working with children. Another group of 12 students stayed at a day camp for children and adults with disabilities in Chesterfield, VA, where they led art and nature activities for campers.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)

The last report described the success of the annual SGA-sponsored Casino Night, which benefits the United Way of Lamoille County. The College subsequently received a letter from Executive Director Dawn Archbold indicating

that the total proceeds — \$1,270 — represented the largest amount the event had ever raised for her agency. Archbold noted how much she values the partnership with JSC and its students.

The Senate finished off the year with several projects that will be completed this summer, including the installation of new bike shelters, updated laundry services in the residence halls, and the placement of new trees on campus as a gift of the class of 2012. SGA members also attended the May 1 “Put People First” rally in Montpelier to raise awareness about student debt and state spending on higher education.



New executive officers have been elected for the 2012-13 academic year: **Shane Bouthilette** and **Colin Santee** will serve as president and vice president, respectively.

RESIDENCE LIFE

A successful year in which residential students gave their experience high marks seems to be paying early dividends, as housing deposits from returning students are 20 percent higher than last year at this time.

The fall will see a number of pilot programs in Residence Life, including a “Living Learning Community” associated with a first-year seminar and a wing dedicated to Wellness & Alternative Medicine students. In addition, VSAC

is providing \$12,000 in Gear-Up funds to support six student peer mentors who will live in residence halls and lead associated programming.

Staff and students also are pleased to see physical improvements coming to the halls in the form of bathroom renovations and a new front-of-house office for Residence Life office in Arthur Hall.

COUNSELING & HEALTH CENTERS

Nurse Practitioner **Jeanie Cass** is leaving JSC after several years to return to cardiac care, her passion. She will be greatly missed, particularly for the connections she established on campus and the extensive educational outreach she offered, often in conjunction with Counseling Center Director **Cynthia Hennard**. Cynthia was recently pictured in the Morrisville *News & Citizen* taking part in a panel discussion in Stowe on domestic and sexual violence hosted by the Clarina Howard Nichols Center.

UPWARD BOUND

Upward Bound Director **Tony Blueter** has received word from Senator Leahy's office that the JSC program has been awarded a five-year federal grant with annual funding of \$456,000, representing a total award of more than \$2.2 million. This year's grant cycle was the most competitive in decades, and our success is a testament to the program's 40-year record of achievement in helping first-generation and low-income students succeed in college. The program recently hired Lyndon State graduate **Courtney Corvelo** as its new assistant director and bid farewell to longtime program assistant **Bonnie Griswold**, who has retired after 25 years of service to JSC.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

JSC has been busy compiling information requested by auditors with O'Conner & Drew, which is conducting its A-133 audit. The auditors were on campus May 21-23.

Results for third quarter of FY12 were transmitted to the central office in April. We are finalizing our FY13 budget and will be transmitting that to the central office by the end of May.

PHYSICAL PLANT

The JSC Physical Plant had a busy spring as usual preparing the grounds for Commencement 2012 and gearing up for summer projects. Annual sprinkler, fire alarm and generator inspections are under way, as is a tune-up of our campus refrigeration and air-conditioning systems.

This year's big summer project is the renovation of the bathrooms and the Resident Assistant suite in Arthur Hall. Other campus improvements include work on the Alumni Clock Tower plaza, new interior lighting and improvements to the entrance of Dibden Center for the Arts, dam repairs at Lower Pond, and the installation of additional bike racks on campus.

CONFERENCE & EVENT SERVICES

There's certainly no rest for the CES staff at this time of year. The office organized and hosted numerous events, including the April Board of Trustees meeting and the "Grand Re-opening" of the Visual Arts Center that same day, the annual JSC Career Fair, JSC 101 Admissions Open House and the Extended Classroom Experience Showcase, the annual Drop & Swap, a visit by guidance counselors taking the Consortium of Vermont Colleges bus tour, a presentation by Socially Responsible Businesses, Honors Convocation, the Junior High Jazz Fest, the JSC Athletics banquet, and several other events for the Student Government Association and students involved in the Break Away program.

As always, the department concentrated heavily on end-of-semester activities, including our largest event of the year, Commencement. In addition, CES has been preparing for a very busy summer camp and conference season that will bring to campus the Burklyn Ballet, Talent Development Institute, Vermont Legal Aid, Green Mountain Youth Symphony, Vermont Soccer School, Upward Bound and numerous sports camps for youth — all returning for another season at JSC.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Assistant Chief of Technology **Sally Searles** retired May 10 after 34 years of service to JSC. Sally's time here was highlighted by her technological leadership in the

1990s that brought the Internet to campus. Her hard work provided the College with a solid foundation in computing that has benefited us for many years. A search for Sally's replacement was launched in April. We have been pleased with the quality of the candidates interviewed to date.

The IT Department has several projects planned for this summer including the reimaging of all computer labs, installation of new computers in the McClelland and Martinetti computer labs, and the reassignment and upgrade of computers for part-time faculty and staff. In addition, the College will be installing wireless access points in all residence halls, upgrading its email system and developing new materials for student self-service.

ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

ADMISSIONS EVENTS

This spring Admissions hosted numerous group visits to campus — including 15 schools and 477 students — all coordinated by staff assistant **Andrea Bourdeau**, who worked with teachers, school and VSAC counselors and program directors to plan day visits for groups large and small. These visits typically include a tour, presentation, an activity with faculty and/or JSC students, lunch in the dining hall and, for some, a special activity in SHAPE. We are grateful to professors **Karen Uhlendorf**, **Brad Moskowitz** and **Ken Leslie**; staff **Dannielle Spring**, **Allie Cunningham** and **Wendy Velander**; and **James Consentino** of ARAMARK for helping to make each a success. Admissions counselor **Joye Lyon** wrote a mini-grant in conjunction with St. Michael's College and the Crown Point Central School to bring 8th graders from Crown Point, NY, to campus, where they worked with Professor Ken Leslie on a bookmaking project in our new Visual Arts Center.

One of the last Admissions events of the semester was the annual visit by the Consortium of Vermont Colleges' bus tour. Twenty-nine counselors from as far away as California visited 18 colleges during their week in Vermont, stopping at JSC April 23. Following breakfast and remarks by President Murphy, they were treated to



Jacob White (right) and Tyrone Shaw, professors in the Writing & Literature Department at JSC, describe the department's work to prospective students and parents during the JSC 101 Admissions Open House and Extended Classroom Experience Showcase in April.

a Q&A session with student panelists **Ashley Carrington** ('12, psychology major), **Ryan Joy** ('12, biology), **Amara MacKillop** ('14, education), **Patrick Rainville** ('14, education) and **Kylie VanEtten** ('13, mathematics). The counselors then toured campus and left behind their evaluations, which included the following comments:

- **On the campus tours:** *"I enjoyed seeing the new art building...great to see classes in session to see how they ran."*
- **On presentations:** *"Always great learning from students; their stories. I appreciated the biology major who elaborated on his opportunities."*
- **On the campus:** *"Tidy, easy to navigate, impressive beauty even without the vistas on a cloudy day... inclusive, welcoming, vibrant."*

With spring travel behind us — Admissions counselors have attended national and regional college fairs since February — we look ahead to events for the 2012-13 year. These include our upcoming **Summer Preview Days** on July 20 and August 3, which kick off our recruitment activities for the fall 2013 incoming class. We hope to attract students and families who might be vacationing in the area and want to get a jump start on the college-search process. Other special summer events include our **Transfer Days** (May 18 and 21; July 18 and 19), which make it possible for transfer students to get an admissions decision on the spot.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

As of May 11, overall fall applications are up slightly. Transfer and EDP deposits are up significantly, while first-year Vermont deposits still lag behind last year's numbers. We continue to hear from students and parents seeking additional grant and scholarship money in order to make the commitment to enroll.

It's a bittersweet time of year watching our seniors graduate. This year, Admissions said farewell to eight seniors who have provided hundreds of campus tours, mailed thousands of packets of information and spent hours entering data, phoning prospective students and serving on student panels. We could not do our work without their enthusiasm, commitment and passion for JSC. We will greatly miss **Alycia Brodeur, Lynne Dumais, Madeleine Gibbons, Jessica Pafumi, Warren Ramsey, Claudette Reyes, Ira Tillberg** and **Sara-Ann Wolf**.

We will soon be saying goodbye to Associate Director of Admissions **Rebecca Pastor**, who is moving on after seven years of excellent work and leadership in the Admissions Office. Rebecca coordinates the JumpStart Program, organizes our Accepted Student Day programs and off-campus receptions, and works with staff across the campus to assemble our "deposit packets." From traveling to Vermont high schools, to developing a "placement" system for incoming first-year students, to overseeing our e-communications, Rebecca has taken on challenge after challenge. We will miss her "let's get it done" attitude and willingness to go above and beyond. We wish her the best in her next adventure and thank her for her service to JSC.

FINANCIAL AID

We are pleased to announce that JSC's application to continue receiving Title IV funding (i.e., the federal program of grants, loans and work-study) from the U.S. Department of Education has been approved. Colleges must reapply every six years.

The Financial Aid staff is busy making awards to students enrolling at JSC this summer and in the fall and working with Admissions to review requests for additional aid. We are employing 29 students on campus this summer through the work-study program.

Honors Convocation and our new scholarship-awarding and reviewing process went well. Financial Aid Director **Lisa Cummings** worked with **Melissa Weinstein** (web editor), **Lauren Phillie** (development director) and others to make the process more efficient and user-friendly both for applicants and for faculty who provide letters of recommendation.

DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

ALUMNI AFFAIRS

We are pleased to welcome JSC alum **Lisa Baranyay**, class of 1994, to our staff. As our new database manager, Lisa will be learning to use our constituent database (Raiser's Edge) to its fullest capacity in order to improve and increase our communication with alums. Lisa is attending extensive trainings and focusing first on data cleanup and training people how to properly use the system. Lisa will also assist the development director in identifying where to focus our fundraising efforts.

In April, several alums living in Connecticut came to an Admissions reception held near Hartford and spoke to prospective students about their experiences at JSC. The week before, alums living in New England were invited to a special performance by the JSC Chamber Singers in Windham, Maine.

We recently launched an electronic newsletter to keep alumni and donors informed about the JSC happenings. In the interest in making it an email everyone looks forward to receiving, we are soliciting feedback from the recipients so we can populate future e-newsletters with news. So far we've received rave reviews!

The Alumni Association will hold a summer BBQ with the Vermont Lake Monsters on Thursday, June 28, at Centennial Field in Burlington. Alumni, staff and faculty are invited to bring their friends and family out for a fun night at the ballpark.

MINAERT GOLF TOURNAMENT

Registration is under way for the 28th annual Johnson State College Minaert Open. This year's tournament will

take place on Friday, June 1, at the Stowe Country Club and will feature a four-person scramble format with a shotgun start. All proceeds will go toward enhancing our varsity locker rooms.

2012 HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS

The Athletics Hall of Fame board met several times over the winter to choose this year's inductees. They have chosen one team, one honorary member and three individuals, all of whom will all be inducted at a ceremony on September 22 during Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend.

HONORS CONVOCATION

JSC's 2012 Honors Convocation took place April 24 in Dibden Center for the Arts. The ceremony was preceded by a tea party connecting scholarship donors with award recipients and followed by a dinner to honoring this year's three Alumni Association award winners:

- Distinguished Faculty Award: Dr. Gina Mireault**
Gina joined the JSC Behavioral Sciences faculty in 1992. She is an avid researcher into such topics as emotional development in childhood, childhood grief after parental loss, and temper tantrums as a manifestation of childhood anxiety. Assisted by several students at JSC, Dr. Mireault currently studies the perception and creation of humor in infants from 3 to 12 months old.
- Distinguished Alumni Award: Susan Collins, '70**
Susan attributes her success in the field of education to the education she received at Johnson State College. After graduating from JSC, she received an M.Ed. from the University of Vermont and Reading Recovery certification from Lesley College. She helped start the first kindergarten in Eden and was its first teacher. She is proud to be from a family of educators, with her mother, maternal grandmother and grandfather each devoting 30-plus years to education. Now retired after 32 years, having spent her final time as librarian at Swanton Central School, Susan is an active member of the JSC Alumni Council.
- Distinguished Staff Award: Sally Laughlin**
Sally retired as JSC's director of development and alumni relations in January after nearly 18 years of



service to the College. During her time at JSC, Sally not only worked steadily with the Alumni Council, the Scholarship Committee and the Ellsworth Trust, she provided enduring guidance to many JSC committees as well as to the entire JSC community — all while significantly building support for the College through grants and donations.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

In addition to hosting summer alumni events, working on a number of grants, and maintaining communication with JSC alumni and donors, we will be busy finalizing plans for Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend in September. This year we are combining this event with Family Weekend, planning to bring a variety of exciting new activities to campus (fireworks, anyone?) and inviting community members to join in the fun as well.

