

## Vermont Campus Compact Statewide Awards Recipients and Finalists

### Commitment to Service and Engagement Award

*This award is given to one student per VCC campus for both the breadth and depth of his/her community involvement.*

#### **Nick Balfour, University of Vermont**

In the Community Service Scholarship Program (CSSP), Nick has completed over 300 hours of service: coordinating dinner at the Ronald McDonald House, running the Burlington marathon, and organizing a benefit for Sarah Holbrook Community Center, and has led the CSSP with planning monthly meetings and service projects. Nick's residency in the Dewey House for Civic Engagement increased his focus to become an agent of change and speaks to Nick's commitment to seek out service opportunities in all areas of life. Nick has been a leader and participant in Alternative Spring Break (ASB) and Trek, UVM's First-Year Orientation. Nick is ASB site leader this year, bringing a focus to poverty and homelessness.

#### **Kayla Billings, College of St. Joseph**

As founder of the Environmental Club at CSJ, Kayla has led campus wide recycling efforts, and worked with Casella Waste Management Corporation to place recycling bins in each dorm room and every office. She recreated habitats for the native bird population at key locations on campus, and influenced environmental policies on campus, including her successful campaign to make the dining halls tray-less. Kayla's "Haunted Trick-or-Treat" brought over 100 children and their families to campus and will now be an annual event. Through Student Government, she has staunchly supported numerous community activities and has advocated for more funding of community service activities.

#### **Amy Branstetter, Norwich University**

A sophomore, Amy is already NU's AmeriCorps Team leader, overseeing an 18 member SERVE team that collectively serves over 5400 hours of indirect and direct service at over a dozen local non-profits and increases student volunteerism. Amy oversees the program's application and selection process, training and orientation, site placement, supervision, and assessment. She revived and currently advises the Buddy Up Youth Mentoring program and was Student Leader and Trip Organizer for one of Norwich's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) Trips this year, returning to New Orleans. Amy also traveled to Nicaragua with the NU Vision Abroad service-learning program last summer.

#### **James Mabior, Johnson State College**

James's passion and personal history led him to found his own NGO, Werkok Youth Development Association (WYDA) which aims to provide clean water and a healthy living environment in villages across the New Sudan. James uses his independent path towards his business degree to focus on growing WYDA. He has developed a strong advisory board, a state of the art website, organized fundraisers and other special events. Even while devoting hundreds of hours to WYDA, James is involved elsewhere, offering support to other Sudanese refugees, participating in the International Club, and serving as a Eucharist Minister at the St. Andrew Church in Colchester.

#### **Shawn McMore, Community College of Vermont**

Shawn, a Criminal Justice Major, serves on the CCV Statewide Advisory Board and has organized and recruited fellow student participation in local initiatives: voter registration drives, Harvest for Hunger, and more. Shawn facilitated a Nurturing Fathers Program for single fathers on parole or probation, and held workshops and discussions on domestic violence through the Vermont Police Academy. Shawn also participated in an Alternative Weekend in Hartford CT, and regularly mentors and organizes events for at-risk youth through the Trio program. Shawn is an active service volunteer through his church, working in the soup kitchen and delivering meals to the elderly and infirm.

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### **Mike Nosek, Southern Vermont College**

Mike is among the most engaged students at SVC as an active member of the Student Activities Squad, Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Student Government, and more. Recognizing a need to provide more athletic opportunities for non-intercollegiate team SVC students, Mike took the initiative singlehandedly to develop and organize an intramural program at SVC. Mike has participated in and helped organize many service projects, including serving dinner for the Coalition for the Homeless, organizing Toys for Tots, fundraising, and participating in an Alternative Break this spring.

### **Ria Shroff, Middlebury College**

Ria confesses her “tremendous desire to allot as much time to volunteer and service opportunities as I do to my academics...I struggle every day to apply my academics to real life.” As president of the International Students Organization, Ria developed programs to help international students adjust and feel welcome, organized a weekly international storytelling and song series for children at the local library, and created resources for parents regarding international opportunities for their children. Ria has been a Community Friend for three years and a coordinator this year. Ria has been involved with the Farm Workers Coalition, teaching English and helping Mexican migrant farmworkers with translation services.

### **Michael Stefanowicz Saint Michael's College**

Michael has been an active participant and leader in Saint Michael's MOVE office, having co-coordinated the Special Events Program for three years, organizing numerous one-time service opportunities for his peers – Servathons, Blood Drives, community fundraisers, and more. Michael founded the Parent to Parent (now Vermont Family Network) Walkathon, which raised more than \$16,000 its first year. Michael is also very involved with the Edmundite Campus Ministry on campus, serving as a Eucharistic Minister, team member, Rector of two retreats, and a Peer Advisor. Michael is also a member of the College Founders Society, and is senior class president.

## **Vermont Teddy Bear 2007 Student Citizen Award**

*The award, presented by The Vermont Teddy Bear Co., recognizes exceptional volunteer leadership efforts by college students across the state. The award carries a reward of \$1,000 to the student, a corporate gift of \$1,000 to the non-profit organization where the student serves, and a \$1,000 gift to the institution the student attends. VCC uses our annual statewide recognition as an opportunity to publicly honor last fall's Vermont Teddy Bear winner and finalists in front of a full audience of their mentors and peers.*

### **Finalists**

#### **Andrew Brolsma Castleton State College**

Andrew has been an America Reads mentor and tutor at Castleton Elementary, providing homework help and recreational activities for sixth grade boys and tutoring first graders in reading and vocabulary. Andrew coordinated a massive school supply collection for children in Afghanistan, educating the entire CSC community about the cause, generating widespread participation and contributions of money and supplies, and working with the Vermont National Guard to arrange for their safe transport by cargo plane.

#### **Hiba Fakhoury Middlebury College**

As one of only two women and the only volunteer on the Middlebury Fire Department, Hiba has devoted more than 500 hours to service and training. Hiba also serves as a WomenSafe volunteer 10 hours a week counseling sexually or domestically abused women. Hiba has been involved with student government, as a First Year Counselor, as chair of the Model UN chapter at Middlebury and more.

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### **Zachary Garafolo Southern Vermont College**

Zachary is deeply engaged in the democratic process, serving as an elected official in his hometown of Natick, Massachusetts. Zach works in numerous ways to increase civic involvement at SVC, as Student Government Vice President and through the campus newspaper. He has been a Resident Assistant, tutored in the Success Center, spearheaded a debate effort, and got students registered to vote.

### **Kelsi Powers Community College of Vermont**

Kelsi has been a VCC AmeriCorps member serving the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, where she has increased responsibilities related to food collection and distribution and recruited fellow CCV students to serve and support food drives and fundraisers. Kelsi is a member of the CCV Student Advisory Board through which she has initiated a film and discussion series, organized MLK Day service projects, is a new student ambassador, and participated in an Alternative Break to Hartford, CT.

### **Recipient**

#### **Sarah Smith Saint Michael's College**

Since her first-year Sarah has participated in the Best Buddies program for people with intellectual disabilities, eventually taking on leadership and adding group field trips, crafts, practice with a Saint Michael's athletic team, and "Buddy Idol." Sarah was successful in being one of 25 sites to host a fundraiser for Best Buddies International and earned Saint Michael's the honor of being named a Chapter of Excellence as a result. Sarah is also active in other service programs - as a pre-orientation service program or TREK leader, and as co-coordinator of the Special Events program in the MOVE office, helping to organize one time service projects for students such as blood drives, serve a thons, and more. Sarah has also participated in three extended service trips to Kentucky, Dominican Republic, and India and will this year return to lead the trip to the DR.

### **Engaged Community Partner Award**

*This award is given to one community partner per VCC member campus that has worked to support the civic mission of their partnering campus.*

#### **Nature Conservancy (Mary Droege), Castleton State College**

The Nature Conservancy partnership dates back more than ten years, when students volunteered for tree planting and water chestnut programs. The Conservancy now provides learning opportunities about the natural environment and preservation and partners with several service-learning classes. Bill Kuehn's First Year Seminar works with the Conservancy to clean up dump sites at local rivers and watersheds; Bill's Introduction to Sociology students analyze social and economic factors contributing to pollution. Mary Droege, Director of Ecological Management and Restoration, now teaches an Introduction to Botany class with a service-learning component, further deepening ties.

#### **Lamoille Valley Chamber of Commerce, Community College of Vermont**

The Lamoille Valley Chamber of Commerce supports CCV's programming, marketing ideas, class presentations, and connection to community resources. It has provided internship and training opportunities for students and been integral to the development of community-based learning projects. Chamber members offered feedback for a Small Business management class; made recommendations for a Buy Local project for a Macroeconomics class; and provided education and support for an e-commerce survey conducted by a Principles of Management class.

#### **United Way of Addison County, Middlebury College**

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The long standing partnership with United Way of Addison County (UWAC) incorporates service, student internships, joint programs, fundraising, and includes Day of Service, Days of Caring, Financial Stability Outreach Day, Addison County poverty internships and more. The collaboration between Middlebury's Alliance for Civic Engagement, UWAC and People of Addison County Together (PACT) formed the Addison County Poverty Task Force, which laid the foundation for ongoing work to address poverty and housing. UWAC, ACE and PACT collaborate to address community needs, and UWAC co-director Kate McGowan provides leadership on critical issues and is a vital contact for Middlebury's outreach efforts.

### **Marsha Hoffman, Norwich University**

Marsha has worked with the Norwich Service Learning program for two years as a Corp Consultant as well as a community partner liaison, where she helps to connect the Norwich service learning program to local non-profit organizations. She has been instrumental in promoting the program and has reached out to new partners and established new partnerships; made an assessment of community partner needs; helped broker new partnerships, such as with the History and Communications Departments and Brown Public Library; and helped revive the Civic Reflections Program.

### **Champlain Elementary School (Chaska Richardson and Nimo Girreh), Saint Michael's College**

For many years, Champlain Elementary School has hosted and mentored student teachers from Saint Michael's College. Recently, English Language Learners (ELL) Coordinator Chaska Richardson and Family Liaison Nimo Girreh created an innovative new partnership for students in an Anthropology service-learning course at Saint Michael's. Through the dedication and organization of these community members, valuable relationships are being forged as students have become buddies and mentors for children as well as support-systems for refugee families outside of school.

### **Wonder and Wisdom, Sterling College**

The "Wisdom and Wonder" After-School Program provides activities for underserved Lakeview Elementary students in grades 4-6 such as one-on-one or small group homework assistance to develop positive behaviors, and outdoor/indoor games and activities. Sterling College regularly supplies student mentors to the program and in turn, Sterling students: develop a love for learning and working with children; foster active and creative minds in otherwise bored "latch-key" kids; hone communication skills by coordinating with program staff; and experience working in team situations with students and staff.

### **Eric Peterson/Oldcastle Theatre, Southern Vermont College**

As Executive Director of Oldcastle Theatre, Eric has long been engaged in bringing live theatre into the lives of SVC students. This past year Eric has been particularly active in integrating his work into SVC programs and activities. He places service-learners as a Quest for Success community partner, brings Oldcastle performances to campus or SVC students to Oldcastle productions, and this fall brought his actors to campus to perform improvisational skits for new students and parents on issues of drugs, alcohol, sexual relations and other timely topics.

### **Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, University of Vermont**

UVM launched a Campus Kitchen Program, which salvages and turns unused food on campus into nutritious meals and distributes them to the Food Shelf and elsewhere, feeding as many as 50 clients and growing. The Food Shelf enables numerous service and service learning opportunities for UVM students. A Human Development class organized Hunger and Homelessness Week programming; a Public Communications class is creating a marketing video; and Nutrition and Food Science students are interns. The partnership has helped the Food Shelf expand its programs while allowing students to increase food systems sustainability and understand of the effects of poverty and food insecurity.

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### Campus Leadership for Civic Engagement Award

*This award recognizes one faculty, staff, or administrator on a VCC member campus for his/her leadership in advancing public engagement as a critical component of his/her higher education institution.*

#### Finalists

##### **Bill Hegman, GIS Specialist and Teaching Fellow, Middlebury College**

Bill works closely with faculty, staff and students to design GIS projects that enhance learning, and oversees student internship placements with multiple community partners, such as statewide trail groups, a local fire department, organic farms and a private equity firm. Recently, Bill began a “food mapping” project; students use GIS to visualize the origin of a typical meal served in the dining hall. Bill has demonstrated the versatility and richness of integrating civic engagement into the classroom, modeling success for other departments while developing student and institutional thirst for real-world challenges.

##### **Jan Rouse, Assistant Director, Center for the Support and Study of the Community, Castleton State College**

Jan manages America Reads, Meals on Wheels, Alternative Spring Break, and the Community Service Club, and numerous other projects. Jan provides Center outreach both on and off campus, is a critical link to new student volunteers, and has established structures and trainings that professionalize the Center. Jan developed CSC’s Vermont Scholars Mentoring Program which places over 100 college mentors at Castleton Elementary School, enough for every 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grader.

##### **Daniel Cantor Yalowitz, Associate Dean for Special Projects, Southern Vermont College**

Daniel developed the “Quest for Success” First-Year Program that provides a structured academic experience with a service-learning component and is now required for degree-enrolled freshman. He identified a variety of community partners and organizes regular meeting with students, faculty, and partners to ensure reciprocity. Daniel has contributed greatly to strong partnerships with the greater Bennington community and a culture of engagement at SVC.

#### Recipient:

##### **Amy Stuart, Coordinator of Academic Services, Community College of Vermont (Burlington)**

Since 1999, Amy Stuart has taught a variety of courses at CCV, all with mandatory service-learning components. She has served as a member of CCV’s Civic Engagement Committee since its inception in 2000, and been an integral part of promoting community-based learning and providing training for staff and faculty. Amy led the Civic Engagement Committee in organizing a service-learning themed convocation for three successive years, and developed and facilitated a Community-Based Learning workshop for CCV instructors, now providing it annually. She initiated or coordinated the Harvest for Hunger, Salvation Army Dinner, and the International Food Festival at the Burlington CCV campus, and most recently she is creating a proposal to support instructors in developing service-learning opportunities around the Fall 2009 Harvest for Hunger theme. She has sought out opportunities to bring in grants, present at conferences, and otherwise attract resources that enhance community service and service-learning opportunities for students at CCV. Her efforts and accomplishments do not stop here, but suffice it to say Amy has been a driving and persistent force for institutionalizing community-based learning at CCV.

### Award for Excellence in Community-Based Teaching

*This award is given to one faculty member from a VCC member campus who has made public service an integral part of their teaching, to the benefit of both students and community.*

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### **Finalists**

#### **Diane Byrne, Education, Norwich University**

Diane is a member of the Norwich Service Learning (NUSL) Consulting Corps. Her ED 234 Instructional Strategies class assists students in Barre and Northfield Schools, and students from her other courses work hundreds of service-learning hours with the Northfield Boys and Girls Club. Diane led the Teacher Education Club's efforts to establish an international service-learning project with Gambia University.

#### **Patricia Delaney, Sociology/Anthropology and Gender Studies, Saint Michael's College**

Patricia incorporates service-learning into at least three of her anthropology courses. In her Introduction to Cultural Anthropology course, students are paired with children and adults from Somalia, Congo, Vietnam, and Sudan at three different organizations, where they provide mentoring, educational and/or recreational support while applying strategies of anthropological research in rich cross-cultural settings.

#### **Jennifer Isabell, Faculty, Community College of Vermont (Morrisville)**

Jennifer's "Principles of Management" students developed a web-based marketing/e-commerce project for the Lamoille Valley Chamber of Commerce. Her Macroeconomics class focused their class work in a "Buy Local" campaign, and a Microeconomics project focused on family well-being in the community.

#### **Bill Kuehn, Sociology, Castleton State College**

Students in Bill's First Year Seminar partner each year with the Nature Conservancy to clean and maintain a local nature trail, as well as perform a sociological analysis of what they find. Research Methods students develop service-learning projects to address issues on campus. As one of Castleton's most senior faculty so dedicated to service-learning and to making it available every year in a "general education" course for freshmen non-majors, Bill serves as an inspiring role model for junior faculty.

### **Recipients**

#### **Jay and Meg Ashman, Community Development and Applied Economics, University of Vermont**

After years of integrating service-learning into their curriculum and supporting community-based approaches to sustainable development, Meg and Jay Ashman created the Belize semester abroad program in sustainable development. Requiring their participation 24/7 for a semester, the program includes an intensive project-based service learning course. The program partners UVM students with students from Belize's Galen University and 5-7 local non-profits each year for classes and service-learning experiences related to sustainability, communications, and community development. Students engage in projects related to HIV/AIDS, microenterprise development, waste management, education, computer literacy, and more. Unlike many service-learning abroad trips, this course extends over a semester and Meg and Jay carefully integrate meaningful service-learning prior to and upon students' return from their work in Belize as well as in their other courses.

#### **John Elder, Environmental Studies and English & American Literatures, Middlebury College**

For years, John has taught a number of courses that link student learning with local issues, in particular with regard to nature and the sense of place in Addison County and Vermont. In his most recent course "Portrait of a Small Town," John shaped the course with his students where they were able to "delve into the character of Starksboro ... spending hours every week interviewing, walking around and beginning to understand the landscape." Students interviewed town residents, who shared their values, concerns, pride, memories and aspirations for their community and identified what was most meaningful to them. Students retold the stories using video, print, and orally and culminated with a presentation to a large crowd at a town meeting, and a story in the *New York Times*. The town plans to use the presentation to document its values, as well as guide decisions about its future. Because of his passion for "extending and enriching the classroom," and his belief that connecting student learning to local community issues is

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a powerful teaching tool, John has offered to coordinate the New Faculty Training Workshop to incorporate community-based teaching, and hosts faculty discussion sessions.

### **Engaged Scholar Award**

#### **Finalists**

##### **Elizabeth Maier, Justice Studies, Norwich University**

Elizabeth became a member of the Norwich Service Learning Consulting Corps after integrating service learning into three of her Criminal Justice classes which produced a booklet for sexual assault victims, examined the feasibility of expanding public transportation in Northfield, and worked with the New Hampshire courts. She has been a key faculty to sustain and support service-learning this year.

##### **Ernesto Mendez, Plant and Soil Science, University of Vermont**

Ernesto helped found the Community-Participatory Action Research (C-PAR) network at UVM and is committed to advancing C-PAR and for promoting engaged scholarship. Participatory Action Research involves the community as full partner in the research process and emphasizes outcomes for the public good. Ernesto has partnered for 10 years to improve the livelihood of coffee farmers in El Salvador, his native country. Ernesto also strives to cultivate the values and skills of engaged scholarship in the many graduate students he advises, as well as in his teaching.

##### **Jacob Park, Business Strategy and Sustainability, Green Mountain College**

In addition to innovative research regarding sustainable development, environment and climate change, Jacob regularly integrates businesses, non-profits, and community groups in his courses. Jacob's students have developed a business plan for a Nature Conservancy nursery; worked with the Council on the Future of Vermont; and helped the utility CVPS strengthen marketing for their Cow Power program.

##### **Greg Winterhalter, Humanities, Southern Vermont College**

Greg's has long been known in the greater Bennington area as a community-based scholar/artist. He integrates his diverse experiences into his SVC courses seamlessly, and supports students to become empowered artist/activist learners. His course projects have included an "Arts and Meditation Trail" and a mural – now on display in Tennessee – for the American Chestnut Foundation's twenty-fifth anniversary.

#### **Recipient**

##### **Patricia Siplon, Political Science, Saint Michael's College**

Patricia has placed the integration of teaching, research, and service at the heart of her professional life. She consistently welcomes students to participate in her research as well as pursue their own engaged scholarship. Patricia's academic and research interest is aimed at addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis, where through her courses students provide direct and indirect service to understand and address the issue locally and globally. She has authored books and articles and presented numerous times on the subject, and her writing was key to shifting attention on HIV/AIDS as a primarily medical issue to a political and economic one. Patricia mentors students through social justice clubs such as the Student Global AIDS Campaign, the Campaign for Childhood Survival, and the Student Trade Justice Campaign. She has taken students on MOVE service and service-learning trips to Kenya and Tanzania, and she exemplifies global citizenship by supporting many community partners domestically and abroad, including the Ilula Orphan Program of Tanzania.

### **Campus/Community Partnership Award**

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### **Champlain Elementary School (Chaska Richardson and Nimo Girreh), Saint Michael's College**

This long existing partnership has recently deepened since English Language Learners (ELL) Coordinator Chaska Richardson has carefully orchestrated service-learning projects for Patricia Delaney's Anthropology students that benefit many children in countless ways. Champlain School's Family Liaison Nimo Girreh also connects Saint Michael's students directly with refugee families outside of school to support their adjustment to life in America. Students mentor children, tutor adults in improving their English, provide homework help and translation assistance, help refugee families navigate social systems to access services, and more. In turn, these experiences provide a degree of learning for St. Michael's students that would be impossible to achieve in the classroom. Through this partnership, other programs have become involved, such as the VNA Family Room, King Street Youth Center, Association of Africans Living in Vermont, and Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. The impact of this expanding partnership is becoming more visible: high school aged girls who have been involved are performing better in school; Somali Bantu mothers are attending English language classes more frequently and with increasing confidence; young "buddies" who visit campus as part of the program talk about what they plan to study when they go to college. This multi-faceted, multi-layered partnership is truly reciprocal as it provides opportunities for ongoing growth and learning for all involved.

### **Madeleine M. Kunin Public Service Award**

*This award distinguishes one remarkable student from a VCC member institution for his/her outstanding public service and leadership, demonstrated through a spectrum of efforts. Through their sustained involvement, the recipient establishes a linkage of their service to a larger social context and a commitment to community impact. The recipient of this award models deeply ingrained civic responsibility and leadership, evidenced by initiative, innovative approaches to community issues, and effective community building.*

### **Finalists**

#### **Justin Garritt, Castleton State College**

Justin Garritt is head mentor for the College for Every Student Mentoring Program at Castleton Elementary School, where he regularly puts in up to 20 hours per week supporting and planning events for the mentors and mentees, coordinates 100 mentors, and mentors three boys. In addition, Justin is the athletic director at Castleton Elementary school; he delivers Meals On Wheels, and is vice president of the Student Association, in addition to several other extra-curricular activities.

#### **Meghan Jaid, Saint Michael's College**

Meghan coordinates the International Outreach Homework Club and Vermont Adult Learning Center programs for the MOVE office at SMC, afterschool and weekly mentoring programs that connect students to refugee children and adults. Meghan formed a club on campus to raise awareness and funds for the New Sudan Education Initiative and is a service-learning scholar on campus. Through her Peace and Justice Seminar this spring, Meghan collected signatures on behalf of the Civilian Claims Act.

#### **Rayna Rogowsky, Middlebury College**

Rayna volunteers regularly with the National MS Society, and has helped coordinate and plan several benefit Walks. Rayna is a hotline and office volunteer and intern at WomanSafe and has researched domestic violence in Vermont and in the Balkans. Rayna has been a leader on campus for Alternative Breaks, February Orientation, Deliberative Dialogues, MidView social justice orientation, Hillel, is a member of the Task Force on the Status of Women, and more.

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### Recipient

#### **Courtney Yasmeen Gabaree, Johnson State College**

Courtney arrived at Johnson State having already served more than 2,000 hours of service in high school. Courtney completed 900 hours as a Bonner Leader with Laraway Youth and Family Services where she coordinated community needs; created and maintained a database to connect at-promise youth to service opportunities; coordinated a fundraising event with the Lamoille Valley Hunger Coalition, and more. Courtney became Volunteer Night Manager at the Clarina Howard Nichols Center where she provides hotline, court and shelter advocacy for sexual and domestic violence victims. She also created a domestic violence training video, strengthened volunteer trainings and has been asked to join their Board of Directors. Last summer Courtney provided case management support to survivors of sex trafficking at Polaris Project headquarters. Courtney founded a student group "A Global Partnership: Students for Children's Rights," that promotes awareness to end human trafficking and is advocating for anti-human trafficking legislation in Vermont. Courtney has helped coordinate the Bonner Leader Program, and recently led an Alternative Break trip to help rebuild New Orleans.

#### **The Marc vanderHeyden Service to Vermont Award**

*The Marc vanderHeyden Service to Vermont Award will be given for the second year by the Vermont Campus Compact Board of Directors to a distinguished individual with ties to Vermont who — through his or her actions, scholarly or professional work, and/or sustained civic engagement, has influenced, inspired and motivated others.*

#### **Bill McKibben, Ripton**

Bill is an American environmentalist and author who frequently writes about global warming, alternative energy, and the risks associated with human genetic engineering. Since writing for the New Yorker and **The End of Nature**, regarded by many as the first book for a general audience about climate change, McKibben has written numerous books and articles, including his 2007 book, Deep Economy: the Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future. Bill continues as a prolific writer on climate change issues having recently published a recent book (The Bill McKibben Reader, spring 2008), numerous articles and OpEds for magazines and newspapers such as *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Orion Magazine*, *Mother Jones*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Granta*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Outside*, etc., while also actively contributing on a number of blogs.

Bill was also the originator of the Step it Up campaign which on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2007 motivated thousands of people, totaling 1400 demonstrations in all fifty states, to demand that Congress cut global warming emissions 80% by 2050. Following the success of Step It Up, Bill is helping to lead college-aged students and others throughout Vermont, across the nation, and around the world to help launch 350.org, a global movement to solve the climate crisis aimed at reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million, the level scientists have identified as the safe upper limit. Its mission is to "inspire the world to rise to the challenge of the climate crisis--to create a new sense of urgency and of possibility for our planet." To promote this work his recent travels have taken him to China, Italy, Trinidad, Sweden, and Canada.

Bill worked on the Middlebury campus this past fall with a first year seminar (FYSE1239), Global Warming Solutions, speaking and participating in a class-connected blog exploring what students learned from their conversations in class and how their academic work sparked their own new ideas for finding global warming solutions. As a Scholar-in-Residence at Middlebury, Bill continues to be deeply involved with the College's Environmental Studies program and has also had a series of interactions with other Vermont colleges and universities:

- Gave the commencement address for the Community Colleges of Vermont graduation on June 1, 2008.

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- Lectured to incoming students at UVM's Honors College, as well as debated in favor of local food and energy at UVM's first Janus Forum debate this year.
- Spoke at Vt. Law School, and many public and private high schools and middle schools throughout the state.
- Has received honorary degrees, among local institutions, from Green Mountain College and Sterling College.