



VERMONT

— STATE COLLEGES SYSTEM —



VSCS Student Advisory Council

Meeting: 10/20/2022

Agenda



Building Unique Campus Identities



Community-Engaged **Scholarship and Learning**



Workforce Development: Micro-Credentials

Building Unique Campus Identities



What can be said about every campus, what it means to be a part of Vermont State University:

- Student centered approach.
- Provides career ready skills.
- Cultural hubs that are part of the Vermont community.
- Helps students realize dreams and goals through personalized approach to education.
- Will have in person plus learning opportunities serving as a local access point for multiple VTSU academic programs.
- Have dedicated faculty and staff who center student success.
- Students will gain knowledge and confidence to be engaged citizens.
- Campus locations are near/in Vermont's natural beauty.
- Small class sizes.

The following language was generated from what we have heard so far from students, staff, and faculty. We want your feedback to ensure we are capturing the campus identities accurately.

Vermont State Castleton

Vermont State's Castleton Campus, nestled within a classic New England village on 165 acres in southwestern Vermont, offers a welcoming environment for academic, athletic, and artistic discovery. Just outside the greater Rutland area, the campus is home to the state's first institution of higher education and the only public four-year college experience in this part of Vermont.

With an array of liberal arts and in-demand professional programs and a 28-team-strong athletic program, you'll stretch your mind and your body within a supportive culture of engaged faculty, staff, and peers that draws international students, too. Spartan Pride runs deep, extending beyond the playing field, court, or slope to the relationship-based education and ethic of community engagement that permeates Castleton life.

Surrounded by opportunities to meet and collaborate with others through the arts, clubs, and intramural sports, you'll learn and explore as you develop abundant skills that will fuel your future. A large and active alumni network along with graduate programs in business, nursing, athletic leadership, and more will help take your career to the next level.

The mountains and lakes close to campus offer beautiful spots to enjoy all Vermont has to offer, including hiking, skiing, fishing, and just relaxing, while the nearby Killington-Pico Resort is home to the university's Resort & Hospitality Management program.

Guiding Questions

- What are the strengths of the campus (academic programs, facilities, co-curriculars, community engagement, location, etc.)?
- What is distinctive about this campus?
How can we build on that to be attractive to students?
- What is the story of your campus and how will you tell it?
- What is something you are most excited about at this campus?
- Vermont State's vision starts "*Vermont State University's commitment is to the success of every student.*" What represents this commitment at this campus?
- Is there something you would change, or correct?

Vermont State Johnson

Vermont State's 350-acre hilltop Johnson campus offers views of the northern Green Mountains, with stunning Sterling Mountain the backdrop for both outdoor concerts and commencement. Academic excellence and inclusivity are both hallmarks of the Johnson experience, and you'll find an environment that celebrates free-spirited students, a place where you can be yourself and explore what you want to do with supportive faculty and staff to help every step of the way.

The Johnson campus's liberal arts foundation and commitment to social justice and activism meld with all of the academic programs here. With an emphasis on creative, fine, and performing arts, teacher education, psychology, science, wellness and holistic health programs, and the opportunity to design your own interdisciplinary studies program or pursue graduate studies in our well-known counseling and teacher education programs, your courses will inspire your future.

Recharge in a hammock in the pine forest or wander the on-campus trails. Connect with new friends through athletics, intramural sports, and clubs. The campus offers easy access to excellent skiing and riding, hiking, and biking, as well as the internationally renowned Vermont Studio Center just down the hill in the village.

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Vermont State Lyndon

Vermont State's Lyndon Campus is located in the heart of the Northeast Kingdom, a region steeped in outdoor adventure and entrepreneurial spirit. The 195-acre hilltop campus, offering the only four-year college experience in this part of the state, attracts students who are "doers" — in their program and in the communities and businesses that make up this region.

From science labs and the animation studio to the weather center, News7, and the music recording studio, you'll delve into experiential learning as part of your program. Academic programs at Lyndon prepare students for a range of professional opportunities in such fields as outdoor adventure and education, atmosphere sciences, climate change science, communications, the music industry, and more. The Learning and Working community approach to education pioneered here will enhance your learning and help launch your career through internships and paid work opportunities in your field with businesses and nonprofits from mountain resorts to schools and agencies.

As the cultural center for the region, Lyndon draws the community to campus for student and professional performances and gallery exhibits as well as athletic competition. You'll have a full mix of activities to join here including intramural sports and clubs, and on-campus trails and snow and skate parks offer spots to unwind and just relax. The mountain biking, skiing, and climbing that the northern Green Mountains and White Mountains of New Hampshire are known for are all easily accessed, with some locations just minutes from campus.

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Vermont State Randolph

Vermont State's 544-acre Randolph Campus is located in the heart of central Vermont, with ready access to the mountains, resorts, and arts the region is known for. Home to our state-of-the-art Advanced Manufacturing Center, the Randolph campus offers a variety of in-demand technical and healthcare-related programs, including nursing, veterinary technology, automotive technology, architectural, civil, mechanical, and manufacturing engineering, renewable energy, agriculture and more, all with the guidance of a supportive and connected faculty.

Known for programs with a strong return on investment, the Randolph campus attracts students at all entry points — certificate programs, associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees, with many in-demand programs leading to 100% job placement soon after graduation.

Students here are committed to practical, hands-on learning and are active in a variety of clubs, from astronomy to robotics, as well as participate in and root on our athletic teams. Located a short drive from downtown Randolph, you can access regional mountain biking trails right from campus, ski on our own ski hill, and even pick apples from the on-campus orchard!

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Vermont State Williston

Vermont State's Williston Campus is just outside Burlington, the state's largest city, and its bustling cultural scene alongside Lake Champlain.

The Williston campus offers in-demand programs known for a strong return on investment in such fields as professional pilot technology, aviation maintenance technology, computer science, dental hygiene, radiologic science, and nursing. Most students commute or take part in low-residency programs at this campus, with convenient access from the highway and to services of all kinds. Our Randolph campus is an easy drive from Williston, offering access to additional tech-based credential and degree programs.

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Community-Engaged Scholarship & Learning

Professional and Career Development



What is Community-Engaged Scholarship & Learning (CESL)?

- Faculty and students work with community partners to co-envision solutions to local and global problems
- Community partners could be from government organizations, nonprofits, or companies
- CESL opportunities could be embedded in courses, service-learning projects, or internships





Examples

Applied Psychology & Human Services B.S. at Lyndon: complete two placement opportunities, with one occurring as early as your second year. Students will complete an 80-hour fieldwork placement and a 270-hour senior-level internship placement during the program.

Recent service-learning projects have included:

- Creating a mental health information and support website for local middle school students, teachers, and parents (with a focus on the stressors of the pandemic)
- Developing and implementing campus-wide sexual assault awareness and prevention programming
- Collaborating with an alternative high school to provide graduating seniors with life-skills modules
- Partnering with the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging and the NEKCOA Telecare Program to run hands-on community service projects that assist the elderly.

Examples continued...

Education B.A. Early Childhood & Special Education (ECSE) at Castleton: complete 60 hours of fieldwork in early childhood education and 120 hours of fieldwork in special education (60 hours with Birth to Age 3 children and 60 hours with Age 3 to 6 children) — in addition to a semester of student teaching.

- Past student experiences included working with the Rutland Autism Family Group to provide exciting play opportunities at Rutland's Children's Museum, Wonderfeet, for children with Autism.
- ECSE students in the Infant and Toddler course are currently completing fieldwork at the West Haven Children's Choice Childcare Center LLC.
- Our collaboration with Leap Frog Nursery School and Rutland County Parent-Child Center gives ECSE students experience with young children with various abilities at childcare and preschool sites.

Questions for Students:

- Do you see community engaged learning as something that would be helpful in your program?
- Is it something you would be interested in or have already engaged in?
- What potential challenges do you see for students who take part in community engaged learning?
- What benefits do you see for the Vermont communities VTSU is based in?
- Do you think this would make VTSU more attractive when recruiting future students?
- For CCV students specifically: would this make you more interested in attending VTSU after graduating from CCV?



Workforce Development

Career Readiness and Micro-Credentials



How to be Career Ready?

- Strong academic preparation
- Professional development through:
 - Connections Gen. ed. (portfolio)
 - Community-Engaged Scholarship & Learning program
 - Acquisition of micro-credentials, credentials and licenses
 - Non-curricular activities (e.g., clubs)



What are Micro-Credentials?

- A certificate, badge, nationally-recognized skill/credential, or license recognized by employers
- Could be stand alone or embedded into courses so you will graduate with not just a degree, but experience and credentials as well
- Gained through apprenticeships or other opportunities for learners both engaged in degree and nondegree course work



Examples of Micro-Credentials and Credentials

- CPR
- Entrepreneurship
- Excel Applications
- Python
- MetLab
- Quantitative skills
- Introduction to Statistics
- 3-D Technology/Printing
- Digital Marketing
- UX/UI





Current Examples

- **Outdoor Education, Leadership, and Tourism NVU:**
 - In the mountain resort management program, students increase career options with our certifications in **outdoor emergency care, CPR**, and other in-demand specialties.
 - Through hands-on learning experiences, internships, and faculty connections, students are prepared to start their careers in adventure education and resort management jobs.

Examples continued...

Electrical and Plumbing Programs at VTC: registered apprenticeship program. Registered apprenticeship is an industry driven, high-quality career pathway. It enables employers to develop and prepare their future workforce, and individuals to obtain paid work experience, classroom instruction, and **a portable nationally recognized credential.**

- Through these programs, students meet the classroom requirement to sit for the **Vermont State Journeyman Licensure Exam.**
- Apprentices are required to complete 144 hours of classroom instruction each year of apprenticeship. During this time, apprentices work on-the-job under a master electrician/plumber to obtain the required 8,000 on-the-job hours required to sit for the Vermont Journeyman's Licensure Exam.

Questions for Students

- What are your thoughts on embedding micro-credentials?
- Can you see the benefit for your current program?
- What value would this model have for you?
- What value would this model be for future employment opportunities – for both you and employers?
- Do you think this would make VTSU more attractive when recruiting future students?



Upcoming Project: Portal

- Currently Portal usage example: Sept 2022, we had 340,125 sessions and 572,807 page views
- Want to put together a sub-group to gather feedback on how the student experience of the Portal is and how might we improve it.
- Raise your hand now, or put your name in the chat, and you will be reached out to at a later date with more details.



**Vermont State
University**

Any final questions?

Thank you so much for attending!

