



River Valley Community College Presents Presidents' Awards Sponsored by Campus Compact for NH

River Valley Community College, Claremont, presented Presidents' Awards to student Richard Hebert, Professor Joseph Perron and Kathi Terami and the Upper Valley Business & Education Partnership at a state-wide awards ceremony sponsored by Campus Compact of New Hampshire earlier this month. The Presidents' Awards celebrate the work of community service and civic responsibility on college campuses across the state. Campus Compact for New Hampshire is a statewide consortium of college and university presidents and private sector partners who are united in their commitment to the civic purpose of higher education.

Richard Hebert received the Presidents' Leadership Award for outstanding contributions to community service, service learning, and/or civic engagement efforts on campus. He will graduate from River Valley Community College in May with a Certificate in Human Services. Hebert serves the greater Claremont community as an AmeriCorps volunteer in the Victim Assistance Program with Turning Points Network, Inc., a Claremont-based non-profit organization whose mission is to end all forms of domestic and sexual violence and stalking. He has served as a therapeutic outreach specialist for Healthcare and Rehabilitation Services in Brattleboro, VT. ,a day-camp for children with emotional and behavioral difficulties. He also holds a degree from Keene State College and has worked many years in geophysical sciences.

Joe Perron won the President's Good Steward Award, presented to a member of the faculty administration or staff who has contributed professional expertise in service to the wider community and who has significantly advanced public service on campus. He is a professor in both the Occupational Therapy Assistant and Adventure Recreation Management programs at the College and presents college students with environments where they can practice what they've learned in class or at clinical sites. He also supports RVCC Student Senate in program planning and execution. Perron models civic engagement and community service. He gives

his time to many organizations and individuals in and around Claremont and the Upper Valley including Meals on Wheels and Maplewood Nursing Home. He coaches area youth hockey, and volunteers with Arrowhead Recreation programs in Claremont, Lebanon Parks and Recreation, and Claremont Parks and Recreation. He was recently honored at the Vermont Governor's Conference for Recreation. Joe's many contributions on campus and off campus model the spirit of civic engagement and selflessness.

Presented with the Presidents' Community Partner Award, Kathi Terami leads the efforts of the Upper Valley Business & Education Partnership (UVBEP) as they enhance teaching and learning by making educational experiences relevant to students and their futures. UVBEP serves as a bridge between the classroom and the world outside the classroom by linking community schools with local employers. UVBEP has provided service learning and civic engagement opportunities for River Valley Community College students interested in sharing their time and expertise with children in Claremont elementary schools and the Claremont Middle School. RVCC students participate in literacy programs with elementary school children, and mentoring programs with Claremont Middle School students. UVBEP makes possible these important connections that promote civic engagement with RVCC students and college exploration with children of the greater Claremont community.