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Acknowledgements

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As TVC Executive Board, we are honored to offer the 41st volume of The Vermont Connection Journal. The spirit of The Vermont Connection and the community that comes with it undeniably supported this particular volume to come to fruition, just as it has for each of its predecessors.

We extend gratitude to the incoming and returning members from all HESA cohorts who participated in the production and editing processes of the journal. Without their constructive feedback and affirmation of the journal submissions, the 41st journal would have not been possible. Thank you to the Journal Production Committee, Roselvy Flores (HESA '20), for contributing her talents in the final review of the journal. We also want to thank librarians Daniel DeSanto and Frederick Pond for their support in streamlining and continuously improving the journal production process. A special thank you goes to Dr. Brian Arao (HESA '04), Dr. Rosemary Perez (HESA '01), and Arnelle F. Sambile (HESA '19) for offering their gifts in the form of compelling forewords and a reflection for the journal.

We would like to express our greatest appreciation to our staff advisors, Eric Carnaje (HESA '16) and Cristina Vega (HESA '15), who offered tremendous support throughout the year. We are also deeply grateful for our HESA faculty — Dr. Jason C. Garvey, our Faculty Advisor and HESA Program Coordinator, Dr. Tracy Arámbula Ballysingh, Dr. Deborah Hunter, and Dr. Tiffanie Spencer. TVC has greatly benefited from the support and encouragement of our staff advisors and faculty.

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During Phone-A-Thon this year, TVC raised more than \$12,000. The funds will enable relevant social, educational, and professional development opportunities for current and future HESA students as well as support the following year's journal. Therefore, we are extremely grateful to every alumnx, friend, and supporter of the HESA program who made a contribution to this year's drive. We would also like to thank the UVM Foundation, especially Kevin F. Morgenstein Fuerst, for guiding and supporting our fundraising efforts throughout Phone-A-Thon and beyond. We are also grateful to Lori McPeters and Kathryn Meader (UVM '15) who assisted with Phone-A-Thon marketing materials and administrative logistics. We appreciate Daphne Wells (HESA '06) for allowing us to use the Student Life suite for Phone-A-Thon and supporting current students late into the night, uplifting us on social media, and providing spiritual and physical nourishment. She has gone above and beyond by excellently engaging alumnx for the upcoming HESA 50th anniversary. A special thank you to Cristina Vega, Jilliene Rodriguez, and Erika Nestor (HESA '99) for making calls as alumnx of the HESA program.

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As we prepare for the 50th anniversary of the HESA program in 2020, we would also like to thank the members of the HESA Reunion steering committee: Queena Hoang (HESA '13), Dr. Rick Gatteau (HESA '95), Jilliene Rodriguez, Cristina Vega, Dr. Erika Nestor, Jo D. Wilson (HESA '21), and of course Dr. Kathleen Manning, HESA Faculty Emerita and committee chair. Moreover, we extend our gratitude to Sarah Lenex (HESA '10) and Eileen Dudley (UVM '92, '14) for assisting the committee with creating this monumental reunion. We additionally thank TVC 40 Executive Board for sharing their wisdom with us and for laying a foundation for a successful year. Last but not least, we want to extend our utmost gratitude to you for being part of The Vermont Connection. As an Executive Board, we look forward to the future of the HESA program and its contributions to the world, and we are deeply appreciative of the collective work put in to creating The Vermont Connection.