

# Seek To Do More

News From The Snelling Center for Government

Winter 2007

*“Our pride in Vermont and its history is one of our strengths...It is an exceptional quality which encourages Vermonters to seek to do more than might otherwise seem possible.”*

*- Governor Richard A. Snelling*



*The mission of the Snelling Center for Government is to foster responsible and ethical civic leadership, encourage public service by private citizens, and promote informed citizen participation in shaping public policy in Vermont.*

130 South Willard Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
(802) 859-3090  
(802) 859-3094 fax  
[www.snellingcenter.org](http://www.snellingcenter.org)

**Charlie Smith**  
President

**Colleen Oettinger**  
Assistant to the President

**Katelyn Ritchie**  
Administrative Assistant

**Glenn McRae**  
Director, Policy Development

**Susan McCormack**  
Director, Leadership  
Development

## Spotlight: The Year in Review

2007 has been a busy and productive year. Among other things, we have surveyed extensively on whether Vermont leaders should be elected to four-year terms, and will report to the legislature in January; we are supporting the Commission on the Future of Economic Development in its work to develop Vermont's next strategic economic development plan; we are assisting with Vermont's long range transportation plan, and have launched a project seeking a more strategic approach to setting and financing transportation priorities; and we are very proud to have restored the Vermont School Leadership Project, an essential professional development program for experienced mid-career education professionals.

The work of the Snelling Center is unique and important to Vermont. From civic leadership development to engaging citizens in important public policy discussions, we reinforce Vermont's legacy of democratic participation, civil discourse, and thoughtful leadership. We look forward to 2008 with enthusiasm and optimism for Vermont!

## 2007 Leadership Highlights

### Vermont School Leadership Project

After a two-year hiatus, the Vermont School Leadership Project came back better than ever with a class of 21 dedicated educators, thanks to generous support from Chittenden Bank, Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, and John and Susan Casella. For a complete class list, please visit: [www.snellingcenter.org/Leadership/Vermont School Leadership Project/ Current Class](http://www.snellingcenter.org/Leadership/Vermont_School_Leadership_Project/Current_Class).

### Vermont Leadership Institute

We welcomed the 13th Vermont Leadership Institute class in September. The VLI Class of 2008 is comprised of 27 outstanding leaders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors across Vermont: [www.snellingcenter.org/Leadership/Vermont Leadership Institute/Current Class](http://www.snellingcenter.org/Leadership/Vermont_Leadership_Institute/Current_Class). We are grateful for the support of our major leadership underwriters: Key Foundation, the Vermont Community Foundation, and the Evslin Family Foundation.

### Rozo McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship Fund

This spring, the VLI Class of 2006 established the Rozo McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of their classmate, State Representative Rozo McLaughlin, who passed away in the fall of 2006. In her memory, a \$500 scholarship will be awarded each year to the incoming VLI associate who best exemplifies Rozo's spirit and commitment to improving life in Vermont.

### The Alumni Lounge is Open!!

The Alumni Lounge is up and running. Visit the site at [www.snellingcenter.org/Alumni Lounge](http://www.snellingcenter.org/Alumni_Lounge) and update your record, catch up with other alums, check out events and opportunities, or post an item yourself.

# 2007 Policy Projects

## Term Length Project

The Vermont Senate is committed to hearings on the issue of whether Vermont should amend the constitution to give the governor and other officeholders four-year terms. Accordingly, the Snelling Center stepped up the project activities, including public debates, presentations, extensive surveying, and on-line polling. A summary report of the findings will be presented to the legislative committees in January.

## Commission on the Future of Economic Development

In August, the Snelling Center for Government was chosen to coordinate the activities of Vermont's Commission on the Future of Economic Development (CFED). The CFED is charged with the responsibility for developing Vermont's five-year strategic economic development plan. This is an exciting project which seeks to balance and harmonize many interests and perspectives.

## Transportation Funding

Vermont's roads and bridges are deteriorating to a point where, in too many cases, preventive maintenance is ineffective. The result is either extraordinary expense to rebuild or, ultimately, the abandonment of some assets. Through public meetings, group discussions, and surveys, the Snelling Center will explore what choices are most acceptable to the public in order to establish a clear strategic plan for improvements.

## Vermont Primary Tracker

The Snelling Center is one of the community partners supporting Vermont Public Television's Vermont Primary Tracker, an on-line information exchange and resource focused on Vermont's March 4th presidential primary.

For more information about these projects, please visit our Web site at [www.snellingcenter.org](http://www.snellingcenter.org)

## SCG NEWS

### SCG Board Elects New Officers

At its Annual Meeting in early November, the Snelling Center's board of directors elected the following officers for 2008:

- Nancy K. Port, Chair
- Tom Evslin, Vice Chair
- Thomas Little, Secretary
- J. Churchill Hindes, Treasurer

The board also acknowledged with gratitude the work and leadership of Stephen C. Terry, who has served as board chairman since 2004.

.....  
*The Snelling Center  
Staff wishes you the  
very best for 2008!*  
.....

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!

### January 19, 2008 Jason Moran at the Flynn!!

The Snelling Center is proud to sponsor Jason Moran and The Bandwagon's *Milestone*. Masterful jazz pianist-composer Jason Moran comes to the Flynn with a theatrical, multimedia jazz suite inspired by the work of conceptual artist Adrian Piper. To learn more about the program, please visit [www.flynncenter.org](http://www.flynncenter.org).

Not only does this promise to be an incredible evening of music, but it will also benefit the **Vermont Leadership Institute**. A portion of the special \$60 ticket price will be a tax-deductible donation that will support VLI. With this benefit ticket, you will also be invited to attend the Snelling Center / VLI pre-concert reception.

**To purchase tickets, please visit the SCG Web site at [www.snellingcenter.org](http://www.snellingcenter.org)  
or call us at (802) 859-3090.**

*Please visit our Web site [www.snellingcenter.org](http://www.snellingcenter.org)*

#### 2008 Board of Directors

NANCY K. PORT, CHAIR	TOM EVSLIN	J. CHURCHILL HINDES, PH.D.	KEVIN G. O'DONNELL	DIANE B. SNELLING
DAVID COEN	VAL GARDNER	THOMAS A. LITTLE	MALCOLM F. SEVERANCE	MARK H. SNELLING
JOHN W. EVERITT	CHERYL HANNA	RICHARD C. MARRON	JOHN G. SIMSON	STEPHEN C. TERRY