

THANK YOU DEAN FOOSE!



“RANDY”

Who’s peeking out from over the stairway,

Smiling at everybody he sees,

Passing out cash and lottery tickets,

Everyone knows it’s Randy.

Who’s tripping down the streets of the Law School,

Running the Chase Race, sneakers and suit;

Flipping the steaks and burning the burgers,

Everyone knows it’s Randy.

And Randy’s our C.F.O.,

We’re sorry to see him go,

He’s leaving Lorraine and snow,

Flying far away, off to Honolulu,

Who’s at the state house, way down in Concord,

Everything’s golden under that dome,

Sponsoring bills and answering roll calls,

Everyone knows it’s —

[loud voice announcing] REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT
A. FOOSE!

Everyone knows it’s Randy!

Dear Dean Foose:

Upon my arrival as the new Dean I found, to my delight, an old hand as Vice President for Finance. Randy Foose has the perfect combination of skills for VLS: deep experience as CFO at a number of educational institutions, a passion for the good, a keen interest in our students, and great intelligence.

Randy has overseen the administrative work in all the non-academic departments. Despite the great challenges of dealing with a new Dean, major building projects across campus, the sale of South Royalton House, restructuring the IT Department, and taking on the elected post of New Hampshire state representative, he has kept the operations of VLS on an even keel.

Randy has also been a wonderful counselor. He has a curious mind, interested in how we can do things better and more efficiently. At least once a week we spend an hour together planning ways to make this a still better place.

I have been very lucky to have had Randy at my side as we, together, chartered my course as Dean.

Geoffrey B. Shields
President and Dean and Professor of Law

TURN THE FOOSE LOOSE!!!! This small sleepy private law school would never know what hit it when they hired Dean Foose. And now that he is retiring, the school will never be the same. Dean Foose at VLS has become as common as pecan pie at a church picnic but his retirement will go down as well as Aunt Lulla May's tuna surprise casserole. Life will go on at VLS and just maybe we will have frequent FOOSE sightings from time to time. See you later old friend.

Alex Manning

My first week on campus, almost 10 years ago this week, I remember peeking out the window of Financial Aid Office. It was December, you were walking across the lawn from Whitcomb House in your suit and tie and black overcoat, just like the "big man on campus."

You indeed are the "big man on campus." You have been nothing but supportive to your staff, your colleagues, and students. You have lent a shoulder to whine on, an ear to bend, advice, a twizzler, Dots or two, and always, always the warm smile and awesome sense humor we have all grown to love as nothing but Randy Foose.

We will forever miss you.

Theresa Johnson

Ever since Randy Foose started at VLS, he's been participating in the Chase Race as part of the Deans' Dream Team. At first I got a kick out of him always wearing a suit to speed walk in the race, no matter what the weather! But the last few years he's been dressing in his Patriots attire (including mask!), and I have really gotten a kick out of wondering what he'll be wearing. I hope just because he retires that he doesn't stop supporting the Chase Race.

I enjoyed working with Randy. He was always very supportive in my personal and professional life, and he was always very encouraging. I will never forget the holiday parties with him dressing as Santa Claus and holding my children. Thanks, Randy, for all the warm memories.

Carol Flint

Randy has guided us through so many tough issues. He is primarily responsible for the success (i.e., both financing and construction) of the Cornell Library, Oakes Hall and the renovation of Debevoise. During his tenure he also supported and vigorously pursued our strategy of acquiring important contiguous properties in South Royalton as opportunities to do so arose. If any individual deserves to be singled out as the architect of our physical facility at VLS, it is Randy Foose.

If Randy had done nothing more than succeed in the areas noted above, his legacy at VLS would be enduring. But he has done so much more, although I will only touch on a few of the high points. Randy has encouraged students, both with his counsel and, at times, with quiet financial help. He has worked to support our Board of Trustees, and to help us understand the complicated financial issues facing us. His work with the Town of South Royalton has enabled us to keep the lines of communication open for our mutual benefit. As the primary architect of the JACOB process, Dean Foose found a way to bring all the constituencies at VLS into the budget process on a continuing basis, to our great advantage. Finally, to his credit, he has mentored and developed the expertise of his staff, to the extent that we can have great confidence in the future, even after he steps down from his present position.

I am pleased to acknowledge Randy's invaluable contributions to VLS over the course of his career and I am glad that he will continue to work with the school on a part-time basis in the future. I am proud to call Randy my friend. I join all of Randy's friends at VLS in wishing him all the best in his retirement. Knowing Randy, there will be many exciting opportunities and achievements awaiting him in the future.

Scott Cameron, Chairman of VLS Board of Trustees

When I came to Vermont Law School, I did not meet or know of any student who had the same unique interests as myself. But once I meet you, I felt comfortable discussing a lot of issues that no one else understood fully.

I want to personally thank you for your time, your effort, and your devotion in listening to me. You have definitely made a difference in my life as far as my future. Thank you so much and I wish you well.

Jehmal Hudson, Class of 2006

How very privileged I am to have worked with you for the past 4+ years. Your positive and patient management style, combined with the highest level of professionalism imaginable, along with an amazing sense of humor, has set a high standard here at Vermont Law School. Your ability to stay above the fray is so admirable. I'm proud to be able to say I've not heard you utter a single negative comment about any individual. (Yes, I have noticed your eyes rolling in exasperation once or twice!)

Here's to continued personal and professional successes as you enter a new life chapter.

See you around campus,

Peg Trombly

Randy, the man who never lets us forget his name!

-Ann Debevoise

Two Bookends

Dean Foose:

For the past five years, you and I have been like two bookends. We have kept VLS together through thick and thin. The task certainly has not been easy. New books have come, some were discarded, and sometimes the shelf was in complete disarray. Yet we remained. Even though our offices have always been on opposite ends of the hall, like true bookends, we stuck together to resolve every problem that arose.

You've taught me that haste makes waste and to respond rather than to react and I want you to know that I am truly grateful. You will truly be missed!! Though the title of vice-president will pass to someone else, no one could ever replace you as a bookend. I guess that's contrary to what I've always told you. "You Ain't Nuthin."

The Bookend You're Leaving Behind,

SAJ

Foosisms

- Help me to understand....
- Thank you for coming to work today.
- I'm going to see my good friend....(insert name here)
- Shirley – You Ain't Nuttin'
- Awesome!
- Are we having fun yet?!
- (With hand extended) Randy Foose
- Here's Randy....
- Sugared down
- As I was wandering these halls...
- Hallway conversations
- I'm going to go do something now that no one else can do for me...
- HR, the evil empire

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Ode to Randy Foose

by Linda Smiddy

With pencil red and eyeshade green

Counting each and every bean

He keeps school budgets lean and mean.

—Bean counter Randy Foose!

The budget process is now transparent

A change from times when its course seemed errant

It's so open now that complain we daren't

—That financial Randy Foose!

Each fall sports weekend he made the news.

For running togs, he'd always choose

A three piece suit with wing tip shoes.

—Deans' dream team Randy Foose!

As Patriots' fan he never pulled a punch,

He stayed upbeat through every tailgate brunch

Cheerleading for the Brady¹ Bunch.

—That diehard Randy Foose!

At school golf outings, torrents of rain

Blowing in from that distant plain in Spain²

Never dampened his spirits or washed out his game.

—The trooper, Randy Foose!

When the maestro says, "Strike up the band!"

He'll take a partner by the hand

And dance away to swing band land!

—Got rhythm, Randy Foose!

As facilities planner he stands tall.

The proof's in Oakes and Debevoise Hall

And a master plan that's guiding all.

—The builder, Randy Foose!

Students flock to his business class

To learn just why stock markets crash,

And when investors should take a pass

—Professor Randy Foose!

Ten years ago, in antiquity,

We still pushed paper. Now, all can see

We hum with wireless technology.

—Our high tech Randy Foose!

We've gathered here from near and far

To sing the praise of a super star

And say thanks to a friend who's without par

—Our colleague Randy Foose!

12/1/05

¹ Tom Brady, that is.

² See, e.g., *My Fair Lady*, Lerner & Lowe



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Dear Dean Foose:

Hail, as you prepare for the delicate transformation from your inimitable vice presidency and full-time senior guruship into a time as senior advisor-mentor in the VLS community and as an emerging figure of promising consequence on the New Hampshire political scene! This is a time to celebrate your years with Vermont Law School and to wonder how it will be possible to proceed without your full-time stewardship for its welfare.

Since 1993, you have been a stalwart leader of VLS, contributing singularly and with high effectiveness to the maturation of the School during a time of significant challenges and changes. As chief financial officer, you brought professionalism to all areas of budgeting and planning, and created business discipline to all non-academic affairs. You were a steward for the admirable transformation of the physical plant in award-winning style. You developed a high degree of credibility and trust with a wide array of outside organizations, from architects to investment bankers to accreditors and regulators. You worked with patience and collegial finesse with the spectrum of inside stakeholders, from students and staff to faculty and directors. Your fine hand was visible in the enhancement of alumni relations and institutional development as well as in the structure and process of the strategic planning that made such a difference in the last three years.

You taught courses and advised students, and you chaired the Board of Woodbury College; and thus you brought an academic perspective and unusual credibility to your administrative tasks. You brought to VLS the benefits of your persistent search for best practices, your wide reading, and your outside relationships. Beyond that, you have been a good listener and convincing communicator.

You have my respect and gratitude, Randy, not the least for your wise mentoring of Lorraine Atwood. I have thoroughly enjoyed my years as your friend and colleague in VLS financial affairs, and I wish you high success in your new political life.

With warm regard,

John Hennessey

I had not trusted many individuals in administrative positions until I met Dean Foose. In all honesty, things didn't go so well with administrators at my previous university when students happened to have a disagreement over school policy. There, students often felt the appropriate response was to make our point known in a rather hostile fashion because that was the only possible means of success – victory through shaming. Coming to VLS, it was a great breath of relief to meet a leader like Dean Foose.

Most of my involvement with Dean Foose has dealt with the issue of placing our endowment into socially responsible investments. When I arrived at VLS, the advocacy efforts were already underway and I was amazed to see the extent of Dean Foose's involvement. He would stay extra hours in the evening to sit down with students and talk with us, not to us, about our and his concerns. He served as an amazing facilitator. Most impressively his honesty and genuine efforts made us respect the slow administrative process instead of using aggressive politics.

I learned more from Dean Foose than I have from most of my classes while in law school. Working and meeting with him taught me patience, which soon paid off in other endeavors that I became involved with. In the future, I will not be so quick to judge administrators. Instead I will pay them the respect that Dean Foose paid VLS students and hopefully earn it back just as he has.

David Byer

It's reading period, fall semester 2003. Mysteriously and unbeknownst to many of my friends and classmates, I suddenly take sick to the point of delaying my final exams and returning home. For three days I recoup at Fletcher Allen Hospital in Burlington.

The phone beside my hospital bed rings. It's my second day there and I'm ready to go home. I don't know why I'm sick. What's worse, the doctors don't either. I pick up the phone, it's probably my mom. I know she's anxious. I'm a thousand miles away from home, undiagnosed and out of her reach. She's probably wondering who's looking out for her child.

"Hello." I know it's mama.

"Jerry? How are you feeling?" It's Dean Foose.

I understand that Dean Foose is retiring and although I wish he would stay, all things must change. But in this changing time, VLS should never forget his regard for tradition in the midst of progress, his civility when confronted with discourtesy and his steadfast commitment to the person within the student, staff, faculty or administrator.

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day,
I'd rather one should walk with me than just show the way,
For the eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear,
Advice may be misleading, but examples are always clear.

-Unknown

Thank you Dean Foose, for walking with VLS and for being the change you would like to see in the world.

Jerry Edwards '05

Generally-Dean Foose is a kind man with a kind heart.

Specifically-His business accounting class has awakened the entrepreneurial spirit within me. He has taught me that financial capital can be the catalyst to progressive and dynamic change.

Olaseni Bello
MCAB President
Class of 2006

Wishing you the very best, Randy! The entire Vermont Law School community will miss you. Thank you for all you've done for the school and for your individual encouragement and support. I look forward not only to seeing you at the law school next year, but also to hearing the updates from the N.H. Capitol - and beyond!

Warm regards, Matthew Houde

The bottom line: I would want Foose on my side. The man is crazy smart with numbers and he always wears a suit. Enough said. Dean Foose is never afraid to show off his casual humor or confident charm. Watch out New Hampshire and make way: FOOSE CROSSING AHEAD. Dean Foose, may the road rise to meet you.

Hart Knight

Dear Dean Foose:

Randy Foose is a true asset to VLS. He's the kind of person who loves students. He always brought a sense of expertise and with a touch of humor to my interactions with him. He genuinely listened to student concerns about dollars and cents at VLS. I found him to be a formidable opponent (especially when I was arguing for lowered tuition), but I always felt that he respected my opinion. He is politically savvy, and the citizens of New Hampshire are lucky to have him as a representative. I am sad for VLS to lose him because he was a true asset to the institution. He was a great colleague and, more importantly, a good friend. The Foose is loose! Happy trails, Dean Foose.

Sincerely,
Clancy DeSmet
JD 2006/MSEL 2003
Student Trustee 2004-2006

I want to echo Clancy's comments about Dean Foose. To say he is an asset to our community is an understatement. One of the reasons our school sustains itself as a fine institution is Dean Foose. Over the past year, I had the privilege to discuss at length plans for the South Royalton House with Dean Foose, and I always felt his deep commitment to serving Vermont Law School. Yet, despite his departure, I am confident Dean Foose will continue to promote this great place in every way possible, even though he will be one state away. Although we are losing a pillar, Dean Foose laid a strong foundation for our school to continue its growth, expanding its potential, and allowing us to reach new heights. I wish him the best, and hope to have the opportunity to work on the same team once again.

Joe Griffo

I have just one parting thought for Randy, good job on and good riddance to SOROHO. Randy displayed the patience of Job on that one and I hope that he can put the ghost of the building that haunted his entire tenure at VLS to rest when he leaves. As a "thank you" for all the years of unparalleled service, I think we should bronze a replica of SOROHO that could be used as a paperweight or doorstop! I will miss Randy and his great counsel very much.

Janice A. Forgays

Dean Foose he has been so memorable each time I have met him. He has always been extraordinarily kind and funny. He has always asked how I was doing and truly wanted to know the answer. He is one of the great deans of the school and will be remembered as such.

Sincerely,
Jessica Newhart

Dean Foose embodies the spirit of Vermont Law School. He treats every student like a colleague and genuinely concerns himself with the students' welfare. I would like to personally and publicly thank Dean Foose for his continuing support for the Socially Responsible Investing Initiative here at VLS. His dedication inspires us all to dream big and never stop trying. You will be sorely missed Dean Foose. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.
Best Wishes,
Jes Biamonte

Shortly after I joined the VLS Board, I got my "tutorial" on VLS from you. You were a great tutor—no surprise, what with your airline background! You have been the consummate professional in handling the affairs of VLS, and a pleasure to work with. I will miss you. But New Hampshire will gain new vitality as you pursue the new career. And keep your hands off Killington!

Sincerely,
Ed Colodny

Although I will certainly miss Randy's leadership at VLS, as a resident of New Hampshire, I am delighted that he will be spending his expanded free time as one of the too few voices of reason in the New Hampshire legislature. I only hope that he will return once a year for repeat performances as the arrogant Mr. Cummings!

Cathryn Nunlist

When I first matriculated into VLS, it felt as if I was in a strange and foreign place, alienated from everything that was southern to me. Everyday was filled with constant trials and tribulations, until one day I met Dean Randy Foose. Dean Foose was 6 ft. 3 inches of personality and style (except when he wore a long socks and shorts outfit during the Chase Race!). He stopped me as I was en route to buy my daily chocolate chip cookie and we talked about common issues and his experiences in North Carolina. At that point, I began to feel comfortable with this former N.C. resident. But the one thing that really made me feel at home was at the conclusion of our conversation, Dean Foose gave me a handshake like all my friends down south. It was then and only then that I knew Dean Randy Foose was a member of the "Cool Guys" Fraternity. Thanks Dean Foose for making a "Down South" country boy feel at home.

Chris Middleton

My favorite memory of Dean Foose deals with a comical event between Dean Foose and me. We still laugh when we meet in the halls of Vermont Law School. When I met Dean Foose during orientation in August 2004, I knew we would get along well. We were engaged in conversation and in some way we began to talk about weight and size. Dean Foose told me I was tall and slim and I did not have to worry about weight. In return I said "I am not slim." Then, he made a reference to someone being larger than he. I said "Oh, really?" I was merely engaging in dialogue with a questioning tone. From that point on, every time I saw Dean Foose in the halls of VLS or wherever, he would say "Oh, really?" This happened regardless of who he was talking with or what he was doing. He even told me "when you graduate and your name is called, I will say 'oh, really?' as I hood you." This is my favorite memory of Dean Foose and I will always remember him for his jovial demeanor. Best wishes and enjoy your retirement.

Sincerely,
Robert "Robbie" Gordie

I have Dean Foose for Business Accounting. He has made a very "dry" class fun. The word that best describe him are: Assets-Liabilities= Owners Equity.
Thank you Dean Foose. We will miss you.
Earlene Rivera

RAF
December 7, 2005
Lie heavy on him, Earth, for he
Laid many a heavy load on thee!

So ran Alexander Pope's epitaph for Sir John van Brugh, architect of many of the great British houses of the 18th Century. It fits Randy somehow, but I'll have to work on the context. Meanwhile, we have come to praise Randy, not to bury him—except in the rush and overflow of our admiration and affection. Ah, Foose, I said, when we first interviewed each other in the Concord Holiday Inn, he on the way to who knows where, I en route to size up, and be sized up by, VLS. No, he said, he wasn't the inventor of Foos-ball—more's the pity—but we knew, he and I—that Concord was one drab and dreary place to meet on a winter day—as he has now had ample opportunity to rediscover. We also guessed that it would work, and it did, for eight years that sped by because we were having so much fun.

And fun it was—the deans' meetings, the budget meetings, the finance committee meetings, the planning committee meetings, the SoRoHo Committee meetings, the staff meetings, the faculty meetings, the Board meetings, the SBA meetings, and—oh, did I mention the deans' meetings. But it wasn't all "fun" as we administrators define it—what others call "work," or "purgatory." Lots of it was play—the Chase Race Deans' Dream Team, lost on the NY subway, tennis with assorted stars, Santa and his elf, chili and egg nog, and of course the annual exchange and periodic sharing of the true elixir—straight from the Tower of London.

But look what we achieved! Lights in the parking lots, technology that frequently works, phones that almost always work, composting toilets that have to work, cool paint jobs, and a few other minor successes, like the assembly of a competent and loyal staff, development of a budget process that (often) produced balance or at least insight, the Law School's first Moody's rating—all achieved with an attitude—in a good way, of course—a cheerful smile, a light word and a good word for faculty and staff colleagues and students, not to mention the Barons of the Town, and a willingness to labor on until the job was done.

And about that load, Mr. Pope: Randy reassembled the shards of a shattered Oakes Hall plan that allowed us to go forward to complete that great architectural success, thanks to his constant attention to the planning process and every detail of design and construction. With the same perseverance and attention, he carried us through the planning and execution of the Debevoise Hall renovation—in both cases showing the good sense to embrace every idea of architect Kielman and environmental consultant Rosenbaum, and to ignore most of my suggestions. We would still be sheltered in tents and yurts if Randy had not been here to keep these essential projects moving.

Randy, VLS has risen as a result of your sound business sense, your continued and cheerfully undertaken labors, your understanding of our possibilities and how to achieve them, and the loyalty, friendship, and devotion that you have constantly shown to the institution and its community. So, now it's time to turn New Hampshire around!

LKW

I was sitting in class one day, staring out at the river, when I noticed that Dean Foose was just outside the classroom window, bending over and picking up trash in the front lawn. That's when I realized how cool this guy really is. He may wear a serious suit every day, but deep down he's a hilarious, enthusiastic, creative, lawyer-loathing environmentalist, just like the rest of us.

Katie Rebholz
 SBA President

Dear Dean Foose:

When I think about Randy's tenure as Dean / Vice President and his relationships and oversight of the Buildings and Grounds Department, one of the primary things that come to mind is his great talent for "TEAMBUILDING"

A careful, thoughtful leader in so many ways, Randy has always made it a priority to recognize B&G contributions to the community at every opportunity. Under his guidance and unflagging support, we have gained the confidence of the community and grown into an effective, cohesive, and well-respected department.

His experience, foresight, and political skills have played a major role in forging the vision for the future, our campus master plan. This work-in-progress will serve to guide us to a fully evolved campus with green, well-designed, user-friendly facilities.

Randy's dedication and leadership as a Dean, a Vice President, and a strong proponent of a greener campus have served the institution above and beyond the norm, and we all have benefited from his deep commitment. Thank you, Dean Foose. The Guys in B&G

Sir Winston Churchill said "we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." I believe this is true and if ever there were a living testimony of this, his name would be Randy Foose. Dean Foose has given so much to the Vermont Law School community during his tenure. I could talk about all that Dean Foose has done for the many students who have walked through the doors of VLS, but instead I'd rather thank him for opening the door for one. I will always remember the insightful advice, constant support, infectious humor and of course, the Reese's Peanut Butter Cups that only he could provide. Before I left VLS, Dean Foose said that I was a wonderful highlight to his life and to the life of the law school. Now upon hearing of his retirement, I share those same sentiments with him.

Candi Jones, Class of 2005

forum.

STAFF

Brian Sodergren
 Editor-in-Chief

Agnieszka Lech
 Managing Editor

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Thanks for the Memories, Dean Foose



Dear Dean Foose:

Vice President Randy Foose and I have worked closely together for four and half years. In this time I have come to know him as a leader, a mentor, and an individual.

As a leader, Randy consistently asks if he is seeing everything there is to see. Is he pushing hard enough at an issue to come up with the right response? Randy is a connector of people. One of his favorite books is *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell, which stresses the importance of networking. (The book's subtitle is "How Little Things Can Make A Big Difference.") This networking creates and communicates ideas. Randy enhances his perspective, and thus his leadership, by looking outwards to other institutions. He has been involved in numerous organizations over the years. I know that he has made not only a lasting impact on Vermont Law School, but on many professional organizations in higher education as well.

Randy knows the importance of developing and encouraging staff and students. A colleague of mine remarked that what he learned from Randy helped

him to secure a better job. Randy once asked me if he was tough to work for. He said that others said this. I nodded. But, he is also fun and full of life. I have enjoyed working with Randy. His intelligence and humor have helped to facilitate tough assignments and ease the burden of tight deadlines.

Randy cares deeply for people. He lights up at the mention of his family. He spends weekends taking care of his four grandchildren. He also cares about the individuals he works with. As the Comptroller, my view is rather unique and I know Randy tries to accommodate and help those who knock on his door. I extend many thanks to Randy for all his efforts in mentoring me. It will be a challenge to fill his shoes (and suits), but I will try to stay on the path. I wish him well in his political endeavors. Vote for Randy.

Lorraine H. Atwood
Comptroller