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The UConnomy: Stabilizing force

BY STEFANIE DION JONES '00 (CLAS) As projections for the national economy appear gloomy, UConn is playing a stabilizing role in the state's economy and contributing to the long-term economic viability of Connecticut.

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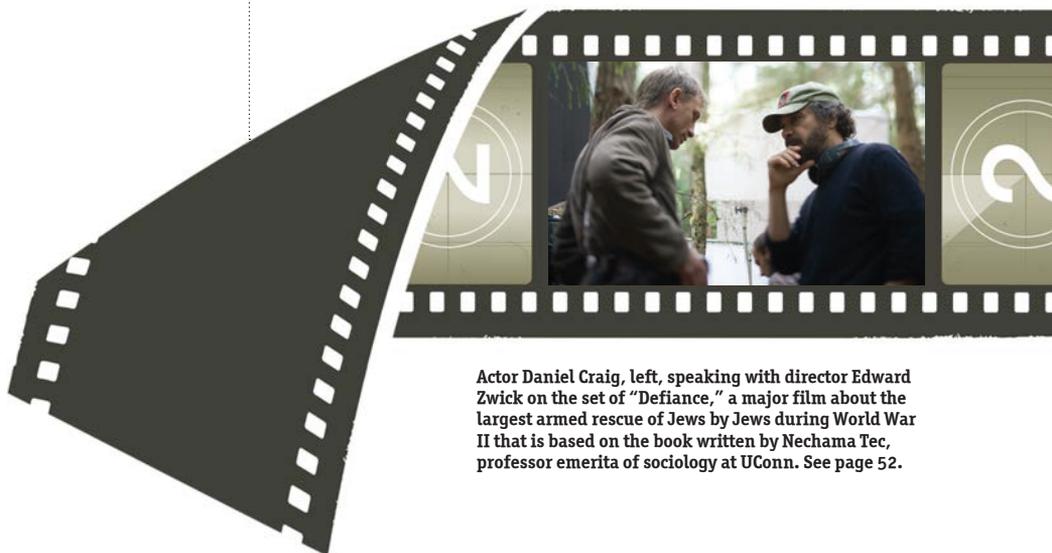


Disabilities no barrier to campus life

BY MARY HOWARD More than 1,000 students use the services of the Center for Students with Disabilities, which provides support to those with learning disabilities and other special needs.

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Actor Daniel Craig, left, speaking with director Edward Zwick on the set of "Defiance," a major film about the largest armed rescue of Jews by Jews during World War II that is based on the book written by Nechama Tec, professor emerita of sociology at UConn. See page 52.

EDITOR

Kenneth Best

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

David Bauman, Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG), Nan Cooper, Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS), Gary E. Frank, Kristina Goodnough, Karen Grava '73 (CLAS), Mary Howard, Michael Kirk, Lauren D. Lalancette, Ron Meshberg, Colin Poitras, Emily Rosenkrans '09 (CLAS), Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS), Jim H. Smith, Karen Singer, '73 (CLAS), John Sponauer '92 (CLAS), Richard Veilleux, Lucinda Weiss

ART DIRECTOR

Jordanna Hertz

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Peter Morenus

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Frank Dahlmeyer '10 (CLAS), Derek Dudek, Sean Flynn, Naftali Hilger, Paul Horton, Grant Miller, Peter Morenus, Lanny Nagler, Andrew Rothenberg, Stephen Slade '89 (SFA), Spencer Sloan, F.J. Gaylor, Judy Griesedieck

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Tina Modzelewski

DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Scott Brohinsky '76 J.D.

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Lisa R. Lewis

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Patti Fazio '90 (CLAS), '92 M.A.

MANAGER OF MARKETING SERVICES

Patti Fazio '90 (CLAS), '92 M.A.

MANAGER OF CREATIVE SERVICES

Leonard P. Blanks Jr. '86 (SFA)

EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Christine Dias, Mike Enright '88 (CLAS), Jessica McCarthy, Stephen Rhodes, Art Sorrentino '75 (CLAS), Lucinda Weiss, Dana Wilder

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Send address changes to The University of Connecticut Foundation, Records Department, Unit 3206, 2390 Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269.

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UCONN online: www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu



From the EDITOR

If you don't know where you are going, you might not get there

Thomas Edison, hailed as the Wizard of Menlo Park, N.J., knew something about convergence. "Good fortune is what happens when opportunity meets with planning," observed Edison, who in addition to inventing the electric light bulb and phonograph, was a pioneer in establishing the first industrial research laboratory.

The great progress made by the University of Connecticut in all areas of campus life, since the early days of the blueprint for UCONN 2000 to the proposals for 21st Century UConn, stands as an example of how good planning results in good fortune. Support from the General Assembly for UCONN 2000 and the additional investment of private support from alumni, businesses and friends of the University have been rewarded with a reputation as one of the top-ranked public research and teaching universities in the nation. The logical question to ask: Where do we go from here?

The answer is in the new academic plan for UConn, approved this past fall by the Board of Trustees. The plan relies on a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to moving the University to the next level of academic excellence. An important aspect of the plan emphasizes directing resources to strong core programs and areas of potential excellence that also contribute to Connecticut's economic and workforce development, something critical in these days of tight budgets. The plan, which covers 2009-2014, has six goals:

- Engage undergraduates in an intellectually challenging and diverse learning environment;
- Sustain and develop select graduate and professional programs of national and international distinction;
- Enhance UConn's contributions to the state, nation and world;
- Ensure a diverse community that recognizes and celebrates individual differences;
- Collaborate with partners in the public and private sectors;
- Establish administrative, infrastructural and budget systems designed to efficiently realize the goals of the plan.

There are many specific objectives within the plan, including raising the SAT scores of admitted freshmen from 1200 this year to 1270, increasing the number of graduate and professional programs ranked in the top 25 among public institutions, adding 145 new faculty members, increasing the alumni giving rate – already high among other universities – from 21 percent to 25 percent, and moving from No. 26 to the top 20 among public institutions in the *U.S. News & World Report* national rankings.

As we learned from UCONN 2000, taking a complex institutional plan from the printed page into the real world requires time, and it may be necessary along the way to make adjustments. But the most important thing is that there is a good plan to follow. Or as another wise man who took up residence in New Jersey, Yogi Berra, once opined: "You've got to be careful if you don't know where you're going 'cause you might not get there."

Opening Shot



International MVP

Donald Brown '09 (ED) ran for 261 yards on 29 carries to lead UConn to a 38-20 victory over the University of Buffalo in the 2009 International Bowl in Toronto. Brown, who led the NCAA in rushing during the regular season, was named the game's Most Valuable Player.

From the PRESIDENT

Facing budget challenges

THE STATE AND THE UNIVERSITY

Like the majority of states, Connecticut now confronts very serious budget challenges. Although it's difficult to predict accurately how this crisis will affect the University's funding, its programs, students and employees, I do know that the impact will be substantial.

The Governor has proposed a budget plan for the next biennium, and the General Assembly is discussing the plan, along with a range of possible solutions not included in the Governor's proposal. These discussions will likely continue into the summer before budget decisions and the appropriation for UConn are made.

I'm meeting with state officials and legislators to find the best ways for UConn to work with the state as we all face these challenges together. Like other state agencies and the citizens we serve, UConn will have to make sacrifices. We must do our part to help the state absorb the deficit and are approaching this daunting task with strategic analysis and innovative thinking. Our most important principle is to protect, to the extent possible, the outstanding quality of our programs and our students' access to them.

Last November I appointed a special task force of faculty, staff and administrators to review current operations, seek efficiencies and identify opportunities for enhancing revenues outside of state appropriations and tuition/fees. This task force recommended measures to realize savings and revenues of approximately \$5 million to \$7 million by the end of fiscal year 2010. Added to the \$12 million in permanent savings we've already generated in FY09, this



PAUL HERRON

is an impressive result. We are implementing these steps immediately.

In an additional effort to shield our programs of distinction, I've convened a Committee for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Programs. This committee is charged with identifying our most outstanding graduate and professional programs and recommending strategies to ensure their ongoing vitality. It will report to me later this year.

We need to protect the programs and activities that make UConn an important asset to the state. This edition's cover story, which describes UConn's contributions to economic development, reports that every state dollar allocated to UConn generates a \$5.05 increase in Connecticut's gross domestic product. In addition, the combined operations of UConn and our Health Center result in a net financial gain to the state coffers of more than \$76 million each year. And, in 2008, we leveraged the state's \$456 million

President Michael J. Hogan in the SS&C Technologies Financial Accelerator, located in downtown Hartford, part of the UConn School of Business.

in support to bring an additional \$713.5 million into the Connecticut economy. The full report is on the following UConn Web site – <http://www.uconn.edu/uconnomy>. I hope you'll take a look. It's as much about the leadership and contributions from you – our many alumni, employees, students and friends – as it is about the University.

UConn remains inherently sound. It retains its standing of leadership among other public universities across the country. Together with the talent and commitment of our faculty, students, staff and, of course, our alumni and friends, we work from a position of strength. I'm convinced of that.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hogan".

Michael J. Hogan
President

Your LETTERS

40 Under 40

I just read "40 Under 40" and it is one of the best pieces I have ever seen published by the University. It is inspiring. Thanks.

Lew Rome '54 (CLAS), '57 J.D.

I found the story very heart-warming and inspirational. Lani Fortier's story flew off the page and hit my heart and soul. The world is fortunate to have people with such character and selflessness. We are all fortunate to have at least one tie to Ms. Fortier: our association with the University of Connecticut and the impact it had on our lives. Thank you for brightening my day, my holiday and introducing me to such a



wonderful human being.
David A. Gang '80 (BUS)

I would like to congratulate you for such a wonderful and interesting issue. It's great to see how much UCONN alums have contributed to our world. Gracias y exitos.

Bessy Reyna '72 M.A., '82 J.D.

Surely narrowing down a list to only 40 from "hundreds of nominations" was a challenge.

Nevertheless, you managed to include several lawyers and actors and basketball players, but not even one member of our Armed Forces. If the goal of the project was to highlight the accomplishments of rising leaders in the major career fields you neglected to include the most important one of all.

Ronald M. Bernard '67 (BUS)

Editor's Note: Two members of the group selected were veterans of military service, as noted in their stories.

Veterans Memorial

As a National Guard member recently returned from Iraq, I was very pleased to see



the Alumni Association had donated a memorial in honor of our fallen classmates. I am very proud to be an alumnus of UConn and look forward to visiting the memorial in person. Thanks for sharing that news.

Keith J. Kay '94 (BUS)
SSG, 5/19th SFG(A), CO ARNG



30 years of One Ton Sundae

The annual One Ton Sundae began in 1979 when ice cream from the popular Dairy Bar was piled up on a table so students could make their own sundaes during Winter Weekend. The tradition continued in February with the 30th anniversary of frozen treats warming up a winter's day.

PETER MORENUS

Around UConn

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PETER MORENUS

Prairie named Marshall Scholar

Michelle Prairie '09 (CLAS), a UConn Presidential Scholar with a 4.0 GPA in economics, is one of 40 Marshall Scholars named by the British government. She will spend the next two years in the United Kingdom studying for two master's degrees in development economics. Scholarships are extended to "intellectually distinguished young Americans, their country's future leaders." Prairie is the only student at a public institution in New England chosen for a Marshall this year and only the second

UConn student to receive the honor. Other Marshall Scholars from the Northeast include students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard, Boston College, Princeton and Middlebury. Former Marshall Scholars include Roger Tsien, a 2008 Nobel Prize winner in chemistry, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer and *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman. UConn's first Marshall Scholar was Virginia DeJohn Anderson, '76 (CLAS), professor of history at the University of Colorado.

BGS gets facelift

The 30-year-old Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) is getting an academic facelift by creating an interdisciplinary major that will help meet changing needs in the workplace.

The move is consistent with a number of recent developments, including an emphasis on interdisciplinary education in UConn's new academic plan and the increased value being placed by employers on interdisciplinary education, says Peter Diplock, director of the BGS program.

The BGS interdisciplinary major must fall broadly under one of seven approved themes, which include human services, social science, arts and humanities, society and justice, diversity and multiculturalism, community and public engagement, or international.

The BGS program is the fourth-largest degree program at UConn and enrolls about 1,000 students annually, primarily at UConn's regional campuses, most of whom are balancing school with work and/or providing care for their family.

BGS students range in age from 21 to 78. Although every BGS student is unique, most arrive at UConn with 60 earned credits or an associate's degree and a GPA of 3.0, says Diplock.





FRANK DAHLMEYER

New dean for Neag

The Neag School of Education will change leadership this summer when Thomas DeFranco, associate dean for the past six years, takes the reins from Richard Schwab '78 M.A., '80 Ph.D. Schwab is stepping down after 12 years to return to teaching and will continue his work with CommPACT Schools, an urban school reform model he helped establish.

"Under the visionary leadership of Rich Schwab, the Neag School has experienced impressive growth, and its national rankings reflect that growth. We need a leader who can keep that momentum going," says Provost Peter J. Nicholls. "Dr. DeFranco is a great asset to the School and the University. He has a national reputation in teacher preparation, and he successfully managed much of the Neag School's day-to-day operations with the guidance of Dean Schwab."

DeFranco, a professor of curriculum and instruction who holds a joint appointment in the math department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is credited with leading successful collaborations between the Neag School and K-12 districts in the state and with pioneering

joint ventures between schools and colleges on the UConn campus.

A passionate mathematician who began teaching at the elementary and secondary levels, DeFranco earned a bachelor's degree from State University of New York at New Paltz, a master's degree from Seton Hall University and a Ph.D. from New York University. He taught math at St. John's University in New York and later mathematics education at the University of Hartford.

He joined the UConn faculty in 1991 and was named a 2001 Teaching Fellow, one of the University's highest honors. Last year, he received the American Association of University Professors' Teaching Innovation Award. He is co-director of the Center for Research in Mathematics Education and his research focuses on math problem solving and on the teaching and learning of math.

Theatrical Collaboration

Christian Levatino '98 (SFA) performed the title role in the 2008 Burbank, Calif., production of "Woyzeck," the story of a working-class German soldier driven to violence. The play was directed by Robert McDonald, professor of dramatic arts in the School of Fine Arts, who adapted the play, which is considered among the most influential in German theater.



ANDREW ROTHENBERG



GRANT MILLER

UConn voices at The White House

The CONN-MEN, one of the University's widely popular a cappella student singing groups, performed as part of the 2008 holiday season tour celebrations at The White House in Washington, D.C. The group was hosted by Anita Bevacqua McBride '81 (CLAS), former chief of staff for First Lady Laura Bush and Assistant to the President.

New dental implant center for UCHC



LANNY NAGER

and precisely captures 3-D and 2-D images of jaws and teeth.

“We offer patients today’s best technologies as well as the highest quality care from leaders in the field of dental implant therapy,” says Center director Donald Somerville ’97 D.M.D., an accomplished prosthodontist who has lectured extensively at national and international professional organizations about advances in dental implant techniques.

UConn has been at the forefront of dental implant care, education and research for many years. The new Center for Implant & Reconstructive Dentistry will support many research initiatives, including projects funded by the National Institutes of Health, to improve dental implant and restorative techniques, promote bone growth and develop new materials for implant prostheses. It brings together research initiatives from the School of

Dental Medicine and the New England Musculoskeletal Institute, UConn’s signature program in bone biology.

“Our specialists with the New England Musculoskeletal Institute and the UConn School of Dental Medicine are leading innovative research initiatives to improve care,” says Somerville.

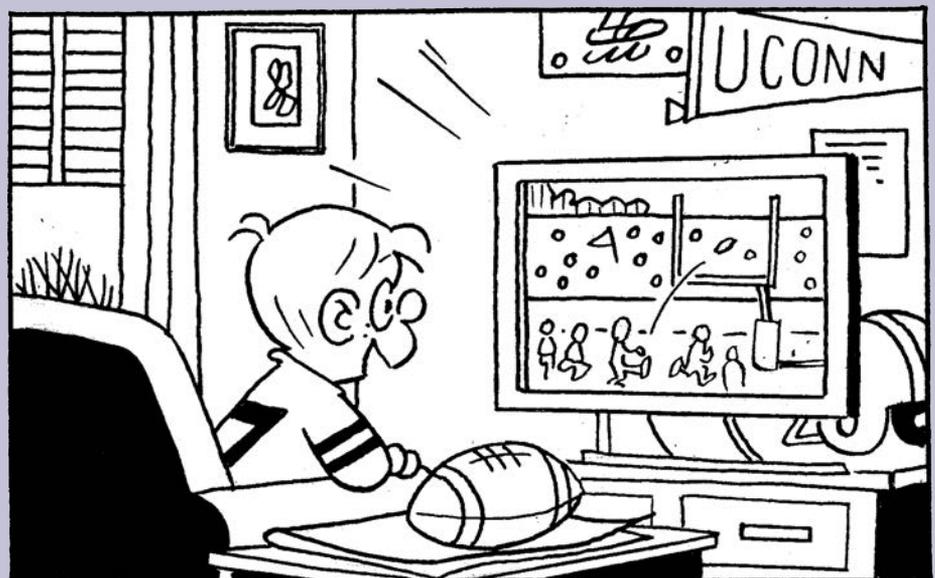
National and local studies, including a 2007 UConn survey, report very high patient satisfaction rates with dental implants. Many patients reported increased comfort and confidence with talking, chewing or smiling.

A new Center for Implant & Reconstructive Dentistry has opened at the UConn Health Center with a team of nationally recognized experts who provide a full range of dental implant services.

The Center has eight state-of-the-art treatment rooms and sophisticated equipment, including a tomography unit that quickly



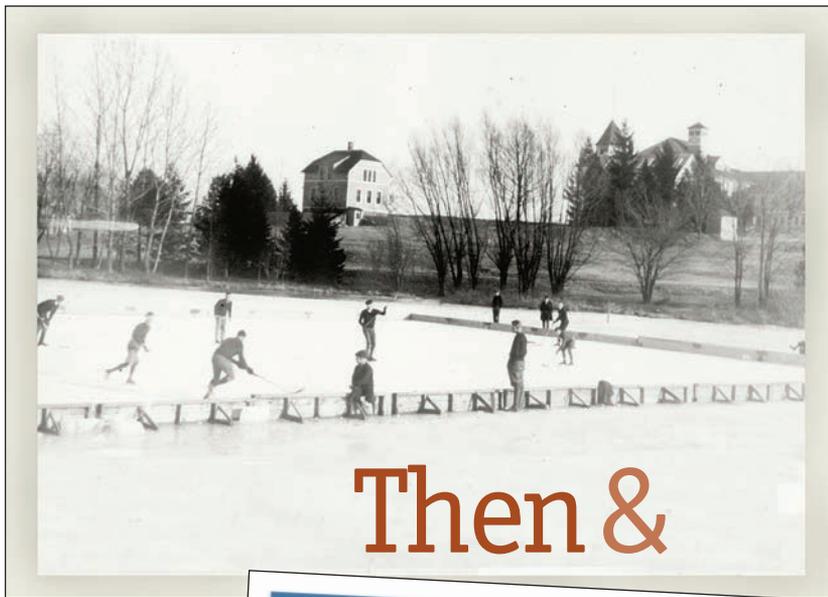
Recent panels of the popular syndicated comic strip “Hi and Lois” have featured a UConn banner on the wall and a UConn shirt. We wondered how this happened. The answer: Robin Browne ’09 (GLAS), the daughter of comic artist Chance Browne and his wife, Debra, is a student at the Storrs campus. Readers of “Hi and Lois” often see references to well-known Connecticut landmarks near the Browne’s Fairfield County home. The comic strip appears in 1,100 newspapers worldwide. It is written by Brian and Greg Walker and focuses on the family life of the Flagstons – Hi and Lois and their children, teenager Chip, twin youngsters Dot and Ditto and baby Trixie.



Icy North Eagleville Pickup Game

Winter at UConn has meant playing hockey outdoors on the ice pond on North Eagleville Road for more than a century. Once known as the Duck Pond, the small body of water in front of the Chemistry Building today is called Swan Lake. In the black-and-white photo below, dated circa 1900, students set up benches to help mark their rink.

Earlier this year as temperatures dipped well below freezing, students shoveled snow off the ice to mark their rink boundaries, set up goals and chose sides before squaring off in a pickup game.



SEAN FLYNN



Student nurses complete clinical work in Africa

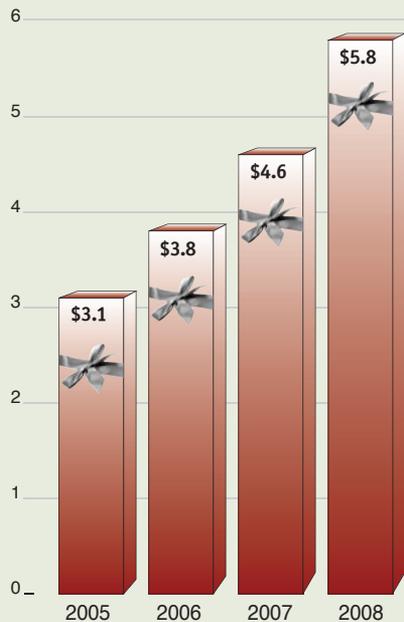
Carrie-Ellen Flanagan '09 (NUR) was among 14 undergraduate students from the School of Nursing who completed their clinical studies this past fall by working in labor and delivery wards in Cape Town, South Africa.

The students worked under the supervision of Lisa-Marie Griffiths, assistant clinical professor of nursing, and Arthur J. Engler, associate professor of nursing, who guided the students in their clinical studies in Cape Town with a particular focus on childbearing and child rearing.

The students supplemented their clinical work with readings about African history, current culture, politics and how South Africa today has left behind the notorious civil-rights atrocities and apartheid of its past.

UConn
By the Numbers

Foundation Annual Fund Gains



The University of Connecticut Foundation passed its Annual Fund goal by 15 percent in 2008, with a record \$5.8 million, which was \$1.2 million over the previous year. The Foundation raised \$56.6 million through new gifts from corporations, foundations and other sources, including \$18.3 million from alumni.



Husky bars for troops

U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT 2nd) '78 J.D. distributed UCONN Husky chocolate bars, donated by Munsons Chocolates of Bolton, Conn., to United States military personnel during a trip to Iraq in December.



Inside look at U.S. Justice Department

Former New York City mayor and presidential candidate Rudolph W. Giuliani, right, and Kevin J. O'Connor '92 J.D., former U.S. attorney for the District of Connecticut, participated in a School of Law panel discussion on “40 Years Inside the Department of Justice” moderated by Evan D. Flaschen '82 J.D., a partner with Bracewell & Giuliani LLP.

Alumni names sought for military Roll of Honor

The University is working to create a Roll of Honor to remember alumni who died of wounds or injuries sustained while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. Any former student who earned at least 12 credits from UConn qualifies as an alumnus.

A Memorial Committee is seeking help in gathering names from all wars and conflicts in which the United States has been engaged since the founding of the University as the Storrs Agricultural School in 1881. UConn archives have provided many names up through World War II and the Korean War, but there is little documentation for the Vietnam era, which the U.S. military dates from the mid-1950s, when advisers were first deployed to the Southeast Asian country of South Vietnam, into the period from 1964, following the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution to the end of hostilities in the mid-1970s.

Anyone who may have information about UConn alumni who died during the Vietnam War, or any other war or military engagement in which the United States was involved, is encouraged to send the information to Betsy Pittman, University archivist at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, 405 Babbidge Road - Unit 1205, Storrs, CT 06269-1205, or by e-mail: betsy.pittman@uconn.edu.



Shaman grave found

UConn archaeologist Natalie Munro is part of a research team working with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem that discovered a 12,000-year-old grave in Israel containing the remains of a woman which provides some of the world's earliest evidence of a religious practitioner.

Munro, associate professor of anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, says the interment rituals and the method used to construct and seal the grave suggest that it is the burial site of a shaman – one of the very earliest on archaeological record and the oldest ever found in that region. The grave includes 50 complete tortoise shells and select parts of other animals, including a wild boar, an eagle and a cow as well as a complete human foot that is not her own. Carbon dating of the site established the period when the woman lived.

The grave was discovered near the Sea of Galilee, about 6 miles from the nearest known settlement. The woman was one of the Natufians, the first people to routinely bury their dead, but the grave was distinct from that period or those preceding it.

“What sets her gravesite apart from others is the multitude of animal parts placed near and around her,” says Munro. “This provides strong evidence that she held a unique position in her society and is very likely an early shaman.”

The research results were published this past fall in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.



Archaeologist Natalie Munro working on the site of a 12,000-year-old grave discovered near the Sea of Galilee in Israel. Inset: Drawing of the burial site thought to be that of a shaman.

Building medical info data

The School of Pharmacy will join with the Connecticut Pharmacists Association and a newly created network of Connecticut pharmacists to build an electronic medication information exchange for the state that proponents hope will be a major step forward to improve health care delivery while reducing health care costs in Connecticut.

The overall goal of the program is to improve patient health and quality of care for Medicaid patients, as well as reduce overall health care costs. In other areas where such programs have been implemented, participating employees visited local hospital emergency departments at a rate one-third the national average. Their employers' direct medical costs declined by between \$1,622 and \$3,356 per participant and one employer had an average reduction in program participant sick days of 41 percent.

The pilot program was funded to determine how well pharmacist-led medication management and adherence programs would work in Connecticut and how pharmacists can assist the state in developing a comprehensive electronic health and medication information exchange database.

The database will contain all of a patient's pharmacy insurance claims, his or her medication prescription record, lab test data and notes about potential medication allergies, over-the-counter medications, herbal supplements and past medication adherence rates. This electronic health information will then be available to any licensed health care professional seeing the patient at a hospital, emergency room, clinic, pharmacy or other health care location.

The program will use \$781,000 from a federal grant to the Connecticut Department of Social Services to develop comprehensive medication profiles for 1,000 Connecticut Medicaid patients and medication therapy management and adherence pilot programs for 200 Medicaid patients. The School of Pharmacy will report its findings in 2010.



NATALIE HILGER

Breakthrough in stem cell lines

Connecticut's vision to move forward with a pioneering stem cell program has been rewarded with a milestone reached by UConn scientists who created two new human embryonic stem cell lines that are being made available to academic researchers to study the therapeutic potential of the cells.

The ability to provide human embryonic stem cell lines is essential for investigators to make discoveries that can be translated into new treatments and cures for diseases and was a primary factor when the state committed \$100 million to fund stem cell research and training programs over 10 years.

The Stem Cell Investment Act approved by the General Assembly made Connecticut the third state in the nation to provide public funding for embryonic and human adult stem cell research. Funds awarded in April 2007 were used to establish a \$2.5-million Human Embryonic Stem Cell Core laboratory at the UConn Health Center.



The state's early funding for UConn's Stem Cell Core laboratory at the UConn Health Center led to the development of two new lines of embryonic stem cells.

LANNY NAGLER

"When we committed \$100 million over 10 years there were some who asked 'Is it worth it?'" says Gov. M. Jodi Rell. "The world-class researchers and scientists in Connecticut are answering that question just 18 months after receiving funding. We are getting great returns on that investment, and we know the possibilities for health care therapies from this cutting-edge research are limitless."

"Connecticut has emerged as a national leader in stem cell research and it didn't happen by accident," says Senate President Donald E. Williams Jr. "Three years ago we passed legislation that set the course for where we are now. The investment will

continue to pay dividends, especially for Connecticut's economy, and it is critical that we make its survival one of our highest priorities as we balance the budget."

The UConn Stem Cell Core facility serves as a storage, distribution and training center where researchers are developing new human embryonic stem cell lines and new stem cell technology. The facility has served as a training ground in stem cell culture for more than 100 researchers and graduate students and continues to provide technical support for research and training throughout the state.

For more information, go to <http://genetics.uhc.edu/stemcell/index.htm>.



PETER MORENUS

Sociologist recognized by Alumni Association

Nancy Naples, professor of sociology and women's studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received the 2008 UConn Alumni Association Faculty Excellence in Research Award in Humanities and Social Sciences for her extensive contributions to the field of sociology. A prominent scholar, she specializes in gender; feminist theory; the intersectionality of race, class and gender; community sociology; social movements; social policy and qualitative methodology. She devotes her time not only to research but also to her students as well, mentoring graduate and undergraduate students in the sociology and women's studies programs. She also serves as the president-elect of the Society for the Study of Social Problems and has served as president and vice president of Sociologists for Women in Society.

M.B.A. rank moves up

UConn's full-time M.B.A. program in the School of Business is now listed in the top ranks of M.B.A. programs in the United States according to *Business Week* Best B-Schools rankings for 2008.

The program is ranked in the top 45 M.B.A. programs in the United States, among the top 20 public institutions nationally and remains the No. 1 public M.B.A. program in New England.

Business Week also ranked the UConn M.B.A. program 16th globally and seventh nationally in the "return on investment" (ROI) category. When surveyed, UConn business graduate students raved about the program's great value.

"We're very proud of the strides our program has made," says Christopher Earley, dean of the School of Business. "We're particularly excited about our ROI ranking, which confirms what we've known for years: that the smart money comes to UConn."



FRANK DUHMEYER

APA honors James O'Neil

James M. O'Neil, professor of educational psychology in the Neag School of Education and professor of family studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received the 2008 Distinguished Professional Service award from the American Psychological Association for his cumulative research on male gender role conflict. The award was presented through the APA's Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinity, of which O'Neil is a founder. A recognized expert on gender role conflict, he created the Gender Role Conflict Scale, a widely used measure of men's conflict with their gender role.

Researchers study addiction treatment

Researchers in the School of Social Work have received funding for three studies directed at improving outcomes of criminal offenders released from prison. The research is supported by a five-year \$3.5-million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Linda Frisman '72 (CLAS), research professor in the School of Social Work and director of research for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, is principal investigator of the project, which will be conducted through the Connecticut Criminal Justice Drug Abuse Treatment Studies Center, one of nine such centers in the United States. Her project co-director is Daniel Bannish, director of behavioral health with the Connecticut Department of Correction.

The research focuses on prisoners who have addictive disorders and how to best continue treatment once inmates are returned to the community at large, says Frisman.

"We're studying how best to use already established evidence-based practices," she adds. "We're especially interested in the community re-entry transition. That's where prisoners can either make it or break it. We have to start using procedures that will maximize their chances of success."

The first study will examine ways to employ evidence-based practices successfully in assessment. Subsequent studies will focus on evidence-based practices in treatment and HIV/AIDS prevention. The research should reveal the best ways to implement these practices more widely.



Up close and personal at the Super Bowl

Kyle Carney '11 (CANR) won the 2008 Toro Super Bowl Sports Turf Training Scholarship, earning the second-year turfgrass science student the opportunity to participate in Super Bowl XLIII helping National Football League turf specialists prepare the game field and practice facilities at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla. As part of his application, Carney produced a booklet with photographs depicting how he created a mini 20-by-20-foot NFL field in his parents' backyard, complete with a hand-painted Super Bowl XLIII logo.



LARRY NAELER

Laurencin honored by chemical engineers

MEDICAL SCHOOL DEAN RECOGNIZED FOR RESEARCH IN TISSUE ENGINEERING

Dr. T. Laurencin, vice president for health affairs at the UConn Health Center and dean of the medical school, has been named among “100 Chemical Engineers of the Modern Era” by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE).

The recognition from the world’s leading organization for chemical engineering professionals acknowledges Laurencin’s work in tissue engineering to develop materials to promote bone repair and wound healing.

Laurencin, who also has an appointment as a professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering in UConn’s School of Engineering, specifically was recognized by AIChE for developing

a novel polymer-synthesized, ceramic composite-based system for bone repair and in vitro evaluation.

“Dr. Laurencin has helped to expand the boundaries of chemical engineering and its influence on emerging technologies...”

An orthopedic surgeon as well as a chemical engineer, Laurencin has focused much of his research on the development

of materials to assist in treating orthopedic trauma and performing reconstructive surgeries and arthroplasties. The synthetic materials are biodegradable polymers or plastics made from specific compounds that are absorbed into the body as part of the healing process.

“Dr. Laurencin has helped to expand the boundaries of chemical engineering and its influence on emerging technologies through his research and training activities in regenerative medicine and advanced polymer synthesis,” says Mun Y. Choi, dean of the School of Engineering. “We are very fortunate to have someone of his stature and reputation as a colleague at UConn.”

Gift expands TEAI

Travelers will commit up to \$1.6 million to expand the successful Travelers Education Access Initiative (TEAI) at UConn, a program designed to enhance academic, outreach and diversity programs at the University.

The program, established by TEAI in 2007 with gifts totaling \$630,000, improves access to higher education for underrepresented populations and builds awareness about careers in insurance and finance.

“UConn is uniquely positioned to help Travelers remove barriers to higher education and careers that underrepresented students face,” says Marlene Ibsen, vice president of community relations at Travelers. “Travelers and UConn are structuring a comprehensive approach that we believe is a formula for success.”

The inclusive program offers a wide range of efforts, such as mentorship and youth outreach in Greater Hartford school districts. Scholarships are a signature component of the Travelers initiative for students who demonstrate a commitment to multicultural diversity through leadership in activities at UConn or in their communities, as well as opportunities to help

Segerson named to Austin Chair

Kathleen Segerson, a professor of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been named by the Board of Trustees to hold the Philip E. Austin Chair for a three-year term. The chair was established with contributions made in honor of Austin, who stepped down last year after serving 11 years as president of the University. Segerson, who specializes in environmental and natural resource economics, law and applied microeconomics, joined the University in 1986 and served as chair of the economics department from 2001 to 2005.



PETER MORENIUS

enhance their educational experience and improve retention through graduation.

“The TEAI program helps us by supporting community and school-based efforts to keep students on the path of achievement from middle school to a rigorous high school curriculum,” says UConn President Michael J. Hogan.

This new commitment strengthens the longstanding partnership between UConn and Travelers, which employs more than 700 UConn alumni.

Endowment starts new fellowship

A new graduate fellowship endowment is supporting graduate training in clinical psychology, with priority given to students with an interest in studying the effects of family dynamics or childhood disorders on personality development in children.

The endowment was created with a \$150,000 gift from Carolina Herfkens, widow of psychology professor J. Conrad Schwarz, who died in 2003. Schwarz joined UConn’s psychology department in 1972, serving in the clinical division, and was the founder of UConn’s on-campus Psychology Services Clinic, a training facility for graduate students in clinical psychology that provides campus-based mental health services.

Much of Schwarz’s research examined the effects of family dynamics on personality development in children. Remembered for his commitment to graduate education, he published more than 100 papers during the course of his career. He maintained a private clinical practice while advising many students.



PETER MORENIUS

Internationally known artist Werner Pfeiffer donated his installation sculpture “Endangered Species” to the Homer Babbidge Library. Located in the Bookworms Cafe, the work, created from used books, includes sealed and mutilated books, making a compelling statement about the power of the written word and censorship.

Gift supports women's basketball

Although she did not participate in athletics while pursuing her accounting degree at UConn, Colleen Gruner '82 (BUS) was an accomplished high school athlete and feels that involvement in sports was important to her life's success.

"Particularly when you play team sports, you learn traits like leadership, communication skills, collaboration and how to work toward common goals. These are skills that you can use throughout your life," says Gruner, director of finance at Aetna US Healthcare in Hartford, Conn.

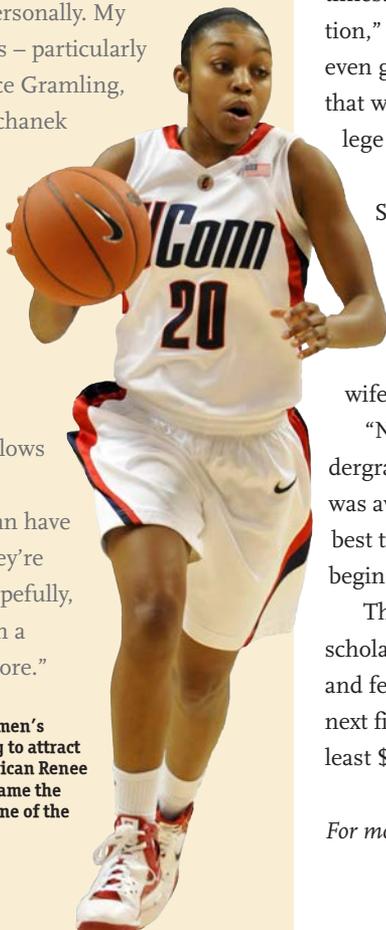
Gruner recently made a major gift to the UConn women's basketball program, which continues her more than 20 years of support to UConn athletics and the School of Business. She is a member of the Charles and Augustus Storrs Circle of the Founders Society at the UConn Foundation, which honors donors whose cumulative gifts and pledges total between \$250,000 and \$499,999.

"Basketball brought national prominence to an already good school. The entire University has benefited from its athletic success," she says. "It has helped UConn to recruit better students and student-athletes, attract donors and build up the entire University. I had a very positive experience at UConn, both academically and personally. My experience in the School of Business – particularly with accounting Professors Lawrence Gramling, Mohamed Hussein and Richard Kochanek – has given me the foundation for a successful career."

Gruner credits the women's basketball team with energizing alumni and fans, including her whole family, from an out-of-state niece who listens to UConn games on the Internet, to her 89-year-old father, who faithfully follows the Huskies.

"The women who play for UConn have become role models," she says. "They're succeeding on and off the court. Hopefully, I'm giving these great young women a chance to succeed and grow even more."

The Gruner gift will assist the women's basketball program in continuing to attract talented players such as All-American Renee Montgomery '09 (CLAS), who became the first active player recognized as one of the Huskies of Honor in February.



Presidential Challenge to spur scholarship giving

UConn President Michael J. Hogan earlier this year established a new Presidential Challenge program to raise \$100 million in private funding for scholarships and graduate fellowships.

As an incentive to donors to participate in the program, Hogan says the University will use \$50 million in existing scholarship funds to match scholarships awarded from new gifts to the UConn Foundation by contributors. The program has already attracted two major donors, a parent and an alumnus.

UConn parent Margaret Keane is chief executive officer of GE Retail Consumer Finance; her son, Brian Hajdarovic '11 (CLAS), is studying communication sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. GE provided Keane with a performance award that allows her to make a gift of \$15,000 to a charity of her choice. In addition, she added a personal gift of \$10,000, which is matched by \$10,000 from the GE Foundation, creating a \$35,000 endowed scholarship.

"My son and I have been talking a lot about how students at UConn are really struggling financially in these very difficult times. I have always been a strong believer in public higher education," Keane says. "The President's Challenge match provides an even greater incentive to give now because of the additional dollars that will be available to help deserving students complete their college studies."

The alumnus, Doug Donaldson '73 (ED), vice president of Subway Development Corporation of New England, has given \$35,000 to the program.

"The matching funds from the University were the deciding factor in our decision," says Donaldson, a member of the School of Nursing's Advisory Board, who, with his wife, Lynn, gave the gift for nursing scholarships.

"Nursing students graduate with the highest debt load of any undergraduate major at UConn. Given that the President's Challenge was available to make our money go further, we felt now was the best time to make a gift that helps the School of Nursing and may begin to address Connecticut's growing shortage of nurses."

The Presidential Challenge Fund will use existing University scholarship funds to match spending allocations of new scholarship and fellowship endowments generated by private funds over the next five years. To qualify for the program, endowed gifts must be at least \$25,000 and non-endowed gifts must be at least \$10,000.

For more information go to: www.foundation.uconn.edu.

JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
860-486-4226
www.jorgensen.uconn.edu

April 16
NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC OF RUSSIA

April 23
COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET

April 26
CINDERELLA
Children's music

May 1-2
THE LETTERMEN
Folk music



THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER

Summer hours, M-F 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Closed Sat & Sun
860-486-2516
Gallery
Indigenous Voices from Within: the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center collection of Aztec, Mayan and Incan codices. Through May 15

Train Wreck: Railroad Crashes, Calamities and Catastrophes in Connecticut
May 26-Oct. 9

Teale Lecture Series
April 2: "Sun Tzu and the Art of War: How the Battle of Museums to Survive Has a Negative Impact on Nature and the Environment," Michael Mares, Sam Noble.

Year of Science Darwin Bicentennial Colloquium Series
April 15: Darwinian Medicine by Paul Ewald, University of Louisville.

WILBUR CROSS GALLERY
Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Permanent Exhibit: The UConn Story: The History of the University of Connecticut.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
T-Sat. 10 am-4 pm
860-486-4460



Permanent Exhibit: Human's Nature: Looking Closer at the Relationships between People and the Environment

Registration and Fee Programs:
Drawing Nature Under the Microscope: Virge Kask, scientific illustrator, UConn EEB, April 4, 10 a.m.-12 noon; Soapstone Carving: Cheri Collins, April 25, 10 a.m.-12 noon; Preserving Our Harvests: Canning: Cheryl Rautio, UConn Extension program coordinator, and Cameron Boum, antique expert, April 25, 10 a.m.-12 noon; Special Tour: Masks and Puppets from Latino Culture: John Bell, Ballard Puppetry Museum, April 26, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Free Programs: Genocide, Environment, and Agricultural Sustainability: Russell Schimmer, UConn Natural Resources Management and Engineering, and UConn School of Law April 5, 3 p.m., Biology/Physics Building, Room 130; Saturday Afternoons at the Museum: Fruit and Vegetable Chemistry, April 4, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Children in grades 1 through 5, accompanied by an adult.

ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY GREENHOUSES
860-486-4052
Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

UConn Alumni Association
888-UC-ALUM-1

June 5-6
ALUMNI WEEKEND

For updated information about activities, scheduled exhibitions and museums, go to <http://www.uconn.edu/attractions/>.



BALLARD PUPPETRY MUSEUM
860-486-4605
Hours: F-Sun, noon-5 p.m.

April 26-Nov. 29

"Titeres: Latino Puppet Traditions" and "Toy Theaters of the World."

J. ROBERT DONNELLY HUSKY HERITAGE SPORTS MUSEUM
860-486-2240
Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

National Champions Gallery, Connecticut Basketball Rotunda, Motor City and International Bowl Displays, UConn All-Americans, NCAA Championship Trophies.

HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY
860-486-2516
Summer hours, M-Th. 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; F, 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m.

UConn in Color, 1939-1950s
Gallery on the Plaza, May 26-Oct. 9

The Universe in Color: Astrophotography by Rob Gendler
Stevens Gallery, May 26-Oct. 9

Connecticut Wilderness: Recent Sculptures by Randall Nelson
Stevens Gallery and West Alcove, Through May 15

CONNECTICUT REPERTORY THEATRE
860-486-1629

April 23-May 2
HAIR
Tribal Love Rock Musical
Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre

WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART
860-486-4520
T-F, 10-4:30 p.m. Sat-Sun, 1-4:30 p.m.

April 4-May 10
2009 MASTER OF FINE ARTS EXHIBITION

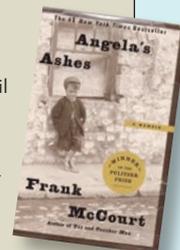
Through May 10
YEAR OF SCIENCE EXHIBITION: ANATOMICALLY CORRECT: MEDICAL ILLUSTRATIONS, 1543-2009

Regional Campus Happenings

TORRINGTON

All events start at 6:30 p.m., are free and open to the public and take place in the Francis W. Hogan Lecture Hall at the Torrington campus.

Litchfield County Writer's Project: April 15, Frank McCourt, *Angela's Ashes*; April 17, poet Susan Kinsolving and actor Jack Gilpin read selected work of Tennessee Williams; April 29, Charles Van Doren discusses Pulitzer Prize winners: his father, Mark Van Doren and his uncle, Carl Van Doren; May 1, authors Ann Leary, Marie Bostwick and Lauren Lipton.



GREATER HARTFORD CAMPUS

Library Building Auditorium
Maxwell Shepherd Memorial Concert Series, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
University of Connecticut Jazz Band, Earl McDonald, Director

Art Gallery
Through April 17
Paintings by Michelle Murelli

May 11-June 30
Summer Group Show

Life in the throw circle

MCMILLIAN AND DUBS DISCUSS SHOT PUT STYLE

Tynisha McMillian '10 (CLAS), a political science major, holds the UConn women's record for throwing the shot put and won the 2007 ECAC Outdoor Championship. She qualified for the 2008 NCAA Championships during the past indoor season. Andrew Dubs '09 (ED), a coaching and administration major, is a co-captain of the men's track team and serves as president of UConn's Student Athletic Advisory Committee. He won consecutive Big East Championships in 2007 and 2008. The two student-athletes discussed life inside the seven-foot circle that serves as the launching pad for shot put competition.

What should people know about throwing the shot put?

Tynisha: It's not as easy as it looks. It's not just throwing.

Andrew: It takes a lot more than people think. There's more behind-the-scenes work.

How did you decide the shot put would be your event?

Tynisha: Basketball was my first sport, but the coaches came to find me in high school and asked me to throw. That's all I can see myself doing now.

Andrew: I played soccer, but in elementary school my church youth organization had a track team. I was a long jumper, but the coach said because I was tall I should try throwing. I've been doing it since sixth grade.

How much time do you spend on technique versus strength training?

Andrew: I'll practice an hour with Coach [Ted] Gibbons and then on my own I'll break down each phase of the technique – coming out of the back of the ring, the sprint across the ring and then the power position to throw – making sure I'm always getting in the right position and knowing how it feels.

Tynisha: With the glide, it's recovering the right foot – getting it underneath so you can have that lower body power to push up.

Apart from throwing technique, how do you train to build power?

Tynisha: I do box jumps to make sure the right foot tucks underneath. The legs are where you generate all the power in the glide. You also have to worry about not shifting your weight too



early, making sure you get both feet down at the same time as soon as possible.

Andrew: Most throwing events are more legs than upper body. If you can't squat 500-600 pounds, you can't throw it that far. I do explosive lifts and a lot of leg work.

What is your routine before a competition?

Andrew: I'll start getting prepared an hour and a half before a meet. Fifteen to 20-minutes before the event starts they allow you to start throwing. I try not to talk to anybody. I like to be kind of quiet and

not let other events distract me.

Tynisha: I'm pretty much the same. I try to visualize what I'm going to do. During the event, it's all about the ring and the shot put. Afterward, I'll talk to people.

During a competition do you look at the leader board and distances to see where everybody is?

Tynisha: I think about what I have to do to get the distance, which is my technique. If I'm in second place, I don't really think about the distance, but instead I'll think about what I'm not doing right.

Andrew: I always want to throw as far as I can and get a personal record. There are only two meets a year when I care what place I get – the Indoor and Outdoor Big East Championships. I want to get points for my team and win.

Is there a track event you wish you could do?

Tynisha: The long jump. I always joke around with my coach about that.

Andrew: I've always wanted to pole vault.

What events do you watch when you are done competing in a meet?

Andrew: I like to watch our 800-meter guys run.

Tynisha: The sprinters. We have so many on our team at such a high level.

Husky[STATS]

BOUNTY OF FALL HONORS & RECOGNITION

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Three runners competed in the NCAA Regional Championships: Scott Johnson '11 (CLAS), Andrew Judd '12 (CLAS) and Luke Albertson '12 (CLAS).

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Five runners competed in the NCAA Northeast Regional Cross Country Championships: Rebecca McCollum '09 (CLAS), Kaitlin Vaughn '09 (CLAS), Sara Leslie '10 (CLAS), Meghan Bowden '11 (CLAS) and Courtney Dinnan '12 (CLAS).

FIELD HOCKEY

The team reached the first round of the NCAA Championships. Jennifer Kleinhans '09 (ENG): Longstreth/NFHCA Division I All-America, first team; All-Mideast Region, first team; 2008-09 Big East Female Scholar Athlete of the Year. Lauren Aird '09 (CLAS): Longstreth/NFHCA Division I All-America, third team; All-

Mideast Region, first team. Lindsey Leck '09 (CLAS): All-Mideast Region, second team. Meghan Wheeler '09 (CLAS): All-Mideast Region, second team. Melissa Gonzalez '11 (CLAS): Longstreth/NFHCA Division I All-America, third team; All-Mideast Region, first team; All Big-East, first team; 2008 Team USA, Pan American Junior gold medal.

FOOTBALL

The Huskies won the 2009 International Bowl, defeating Buffalo 38-20. Donald Brown '09 (ED): MVP, 2008 International Bowl; Sporting News All-America, first team; Associated Press All-America, second team; Walter Camp Football Foundation, second-team; Big East Offensive Player of the Year; All-Big



East, first team. Darius Butler '09 (CLAS), Will Beatty '09 (CLAS) and Cody Brown '09 (CLAS): 2009 Senior Bowl; All-Big East Team, first team. Dahna Deleston '09 (CLAS) and Julius Williams '09 (CLAS): Texas vs. The Nation All-Star Team. Moe Petrus '11 (CLAS): Sporting News All-Freshman Team.

MEN'S SOCCER

The team reached the third round of the 2008 NCAA Championship. O'Brian White '09 (CLAS): NSCAA/adidas NCAA Division I Men's All-America, third team; NSCAA All-Northeast Region, first team; All-Big East, first team; 2008 Big East Offensive Player of the Year. Tomi Stahl '10 (CLAS): NSCAA All-Northeast Region, first team; All-Big East, first team. Akeem Priestley '09 (CANR): NSCAA All-Northeast Region, second team; All-Big East, second team. Dori Arad '09 (CANR): 2008 UConn Big East Scholar

Athlete Award.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Stephanie Labbe '09 (ED): NEWISA All-New England, first team; NSCAA/adidas All-Northeast Region, third team; All-Big East, first team; All-Big East 2008 Goalkeeper of the Year; NEWISA Senior Bowl. Brittany Tegeler '09 (ED): NEWISA All-New England, second team; All-Big East, second team; NEWISA Senior Bowl. Elizabeth Eng '09 (CLAS) NEWISA All-New England, second team; NEWISA Senior Bowl. Lauren Ebert '10 (ED): NEWISA All-New England, second team. Kacey Richards '11 (ED): NEWISA All-New England, second team; All-Big East, second team. Annie Yi '10 (ED): All-Big East, third team.

VOLLEYBALL

Annie Luhrsens '12 (CLAS): AVCA 2008 Regional Freshman of the Year for the Northeast.

Road to Final Four passes through Storrs

In early February, the men's and women's basketball teams both held the No. 1 spot in the weekly Associated Press rankings for the first time since the historic 2003-04 season, when Storrs was transformed into the focal point of the basketball world with twin No. 1 rankings and UConn later became the first university to win both NCAA basketball championships in the same year.

The first time UConn topped both the men's and women's rankings was on Feb. 13, 1995, just weeks before the women's team won the first of its five NCAA championships with a perfect 35-0 record. During the 1998-99 season both teams were ranked No. 1 for six weeks and the season culminated with the men's first NCAA championship. Both teams held top rankings in the pre-season polling for 1999-2000.

Three years later, the Huskies were the pre-season favorites in both AP rankings and jointly held the top spot for five weeks early in November and December 2003, before ending the season by bringing two more NCAA titles back to Gampel Pavilion in April 2004.



STEPHEN SLADE

Perfect 'Huskies of Honor' Induction

The 1994-95 NCAA National Championship team, which finished the season with a perfect 35-0 record, was inducted into the "UConn Huskies of Honor" on Nov. 16 during halftime of the UConn-Georgia Tech game before a crowd of 8,871. From L-R: associate head coach Chris Dailey '99 M.A., assistant coach Meghan Pattysen-Culmo '92 (CLAS), Jill Gelfenbien '95 (SFS), Jennifer Rizzotti '96 (CLAS), Kelley Hunt-Gay '98 (CLAS), Carla Berube '97 (CLAS), Brenda Marquis-Wilson '99 (CLAS), Nykesha Sales '98 (BUS), head coach Geno Auremma, Kara Wolters '97 (CLAS), Sarah Northway-Maria '97 (CLAS), Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS), Missy Rose '97 (ED), Jamelle Elliott '96 (ED), '97 M.A., and Kim Better-Thompson '96 (ENG). Unable to make the ceremony were Pam Webber-Mitchell '95 (ED) and assistant coach Tonya Cardozza, now head women's basketball coach at Temple University. Four members of the team were among the first group of 2007 inductees to the "Huskies of Honor" as All-Americans: Lobo, Rizzotti, Wolters and Sales.

Researchers seek to find cause of MS

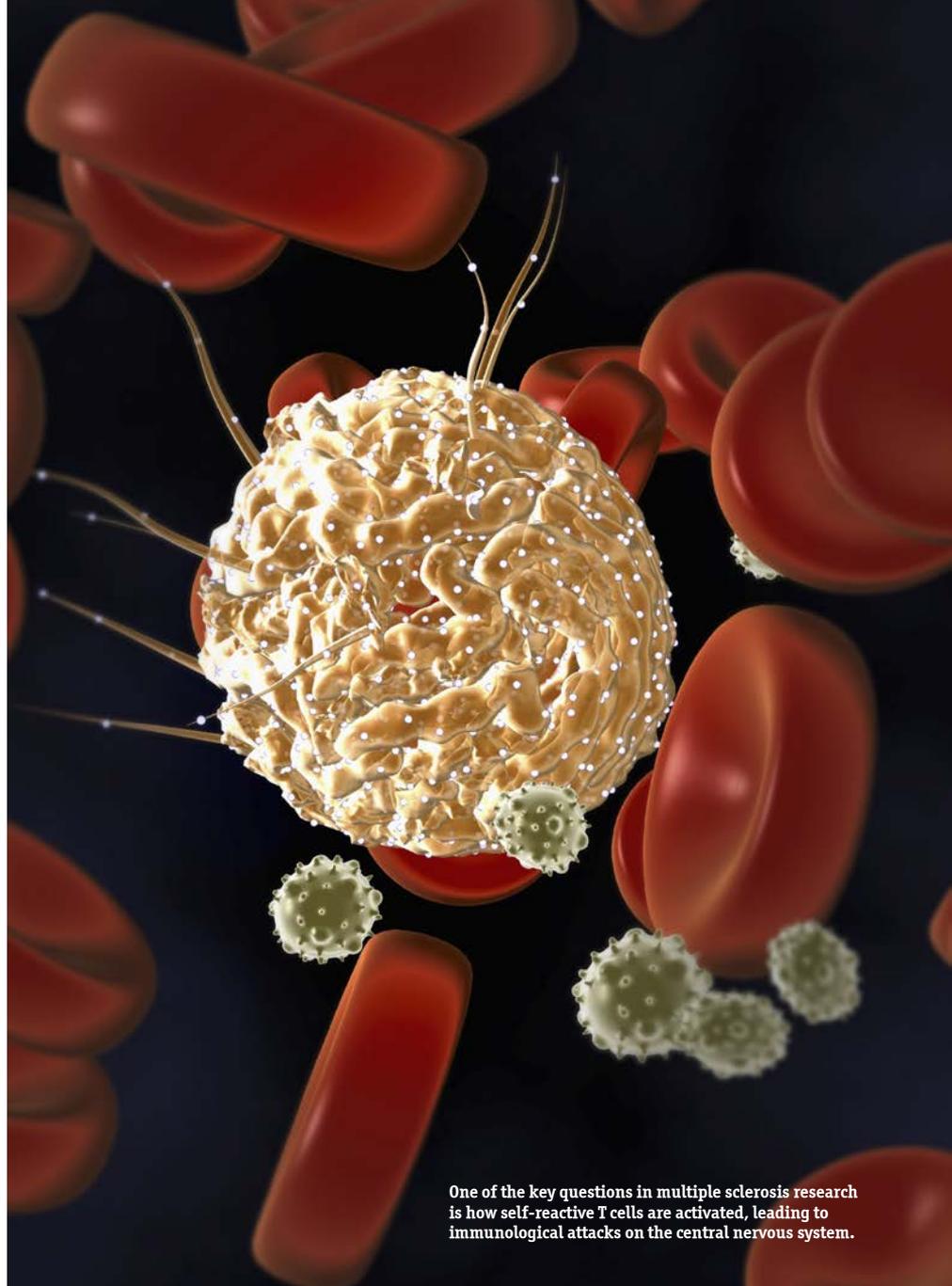
EXAMINATION OF BACTERIAL STRAIN HOLDS PROMISE

Robert Clark, associate professor of immunology at the UConn Health Center, has spent his career studying autoimmune diseases, disorders that can affect nearly all parts of the body when the immune system turns rogue and attacks itself.

He is particularly interested in white blood cells known as lymphocytes, or T cells, which play an important role in the immune system. These cells have dual personalities: While they are critical in fighting infections and perhaps tumors, they are also suspected of being significant culprits in autoimmune disorders, including multiple sclerosis (MS), a chronic neurological disease that affects the central nervous system.

“MS is thought to be, at least partly, a T cell attack on the central nervous system,” Clark explains. “When T cells attack, the result is inflammation and destruction.” Most people who suffer from MS experience periodic symptoms. While the disease then goes into a dormant state, recovery from each flair-up is often not complete; hence the potential progressive nature of the disease.

“What is unclear,” says Clark, “is whether the immune system is acting appropriately, launching an ultimately destructive attack because of some hidden infectious organism in the central nervous system, or whether it has become unregulated for some reason and is attacking normal self tissue.”



One of the key questions in multiple sclerosis research is how self-reactive T cells are activated, leading to immunological attacks on the central nervous system.

For years, Clark had probed this second theory, studying the function of T cells and how they are activated in testing with

Frank Nichols, professor of periodontology, left, and Robert Clark, associate professor of immunology, are collaborating on research.



rodent models. Like many researchers, he pondered what disease-associated viruses and bacteria outside of the central nervous system might trigger the immune system dysregulation and implosion that results in MS.

Then four years ago, Clark began to think about the possibility of a hidden cause following a serendipitous conversation with Frank Nichols, a professor of periodontology and researcher of gum diseases at the UConn School of Dental Medicine. In the 1990s, Nichols had discovered that many

bacteria, while commonplace in the body and generally benign, produce lipids – fatty compounds – that may cause inflammations in other parts of the body. Nichols has recently found these lipids in the blocked arteries of people suffering from atherosclerosis, suggesting there might be a link between the bacteria and the inflammation leading to arterial damage.

Clark and Nichols decided to collaborate on research, funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, which now has zeroed in on a single strain of bacteria so commonplace it exists in nearly everyone’s body. Clark and Nichols have discovered that the lipids produced by this bacterial strain can dramatically increase the severity of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), a model of multiple sclerosis developed for laboratory mice. “Even when the dose of this compound is extremely low, the impact is significant,” says Nichols.

“The importance of these studies,” says Clark, “lies in their potential not only to identify a new mechanism for how autoimmune diseases are initiated, but also to help develop new therapies for those diseases.”

Other significant research focused on the cause of MS is being conducted by UConn researchers Rashmi Bansal, associate professor of neuroscience, and Stephen Crocker, assistant professor of neuroscience, whose individual research projects focus on myelin, the protective coating that insulates nerve fibers called axons and is important for efficient transfer of nerve impulses.

When myelin is damaged or destroyed by immune attack, nerves cannot communicate with each other and the debilitating consequences of MS

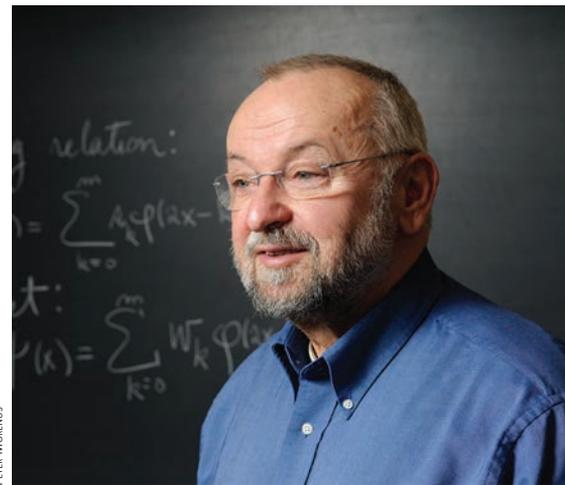
begin. The long-term severe disability in MS results as axons that have lost their myelin sheath are also damaged.

Supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Bansal is examining the role of a protein called Fibroblast Growth Factor, which regulates the cells that produce myelin. Because high amounts of this protein are also found in areas of the nervous system where myelin has been damaged, she suspects that this normal biological factor that has gone awry may be a part of the MS puzzle.

Fibroblast Growth Factors send signals to myelin-producing cells through three different receptors. Bansal’s earlier research revealed different results depending upon which receptor was involved. Her research raises important questions upon which a great deal of MS research pivots: Is it good or bad to have Fibroblast Growth Factor present in MS lesions? Is it likely to play a role in repairing myelin damage? Or is it more likely to damage axons? Bansal’s primary research seeks to resolve such questions by using mice that are missing the genes for one or more of the Fibroblast Growth Factor receptors.

Crocker’s research – also funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society – studies myelin damage by focusing on a different protein, known as Tissue Inhibitor of Metalloproteinases-1 (TIMP-1). This protein blocks key enzymes secreted by immune cells that help movement of blood cells into the brain, where they can cause myelin damage and injury to the brain. Crocker and his team are studying the primary functions they believe to be important in TIMP-1.

— Jim H. Smith



PETER MORENUS

Madych honored for math research

Wolodymyr Madych, professor of mathematics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received the 2008 Alumni Association Faculty Excellence in Research Award in Sciences in recognition of his fundamental research in the field of mathematics. Trained in the mathematical area known as classical harmonic analysis, he focuses his research in approximation theory, which has had a deep impact in areas such as artificial intelligence and the Radon transform, which constitutes the mathematical basis for tomography devices such as CAT scanners. In addition to his research, Madych provides academic and mentoring support to his undergraduate and graduate students.



Prabhakar Singh, director of the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center, discusses the prominent alternative energy researchers who have joined the Center as part of UConn's Eminent Faculty Program at a Hartford news conference with Donald E. Williams Jr., right, president pro tempore of the Connecticut State Senate.

Eminent Faculty named for energy research

Six top alternative energy researchers associated with the state's Eminent Faculty Program have joined the School of Engineering, including the new director of UConn's Global Fuel Cell Center.

The Eminent Faculty Program provides \$4 million in state funding to create a public-private partnership designed to attract researchers skilled in commercialization and technology transfer to UConn to promote economic development and enhance training of energy workers and entrepreneurs in the state. The program also allows UConn to purchase equipment for their laboratories.

As part of the partnership, three major Connecticut energy companies – UTC Power of South Windsor, the Northeast Utilities Foundation of Hartford and FuelCell Energy of Danbury – contributed a combined \$2 million as an industry match.

"The Eminent Faculty Program has given Connecticut the opportunity to provide national leadership in the development of sustainable and environmentally sound energy alternatives," says UConn President Michael J. Hogan. "This new research team

in sustainable energy will build upon the strength of UConn's Global Fuel Cell Center and bolster Connecticut's emerging alternative energy industry."

The six faculty members, who hold appointments in the School of Engineering, bring with them a diverse array of expertise and experience. Among the institutions represented in their collective backgrounds are Westinghouse Electric, FuelCell Energy, the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the NASA Center for Advanced Microgravity Materials Processing. The initiative is also expected to help Connecticut meet the state's goal of reducing fossil fuel consumption by 20 percent and replacing it with clean or renewable energy sources by 2020.

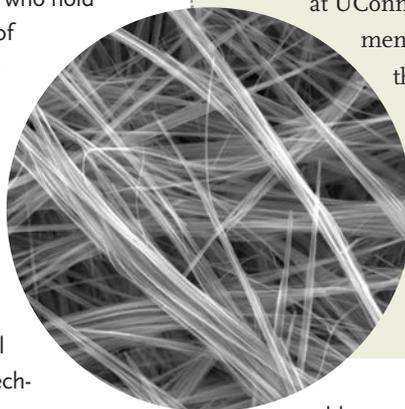
The six faculty are:

- Prabhakar Singh, director of the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center and UTC Chair Professor of Fuel Cell Technology in the Department of Chemical, Materials and Biomolecular Engineering;
- Hanchen Huang, professor of sustain-

New 'quicker picker-upper'

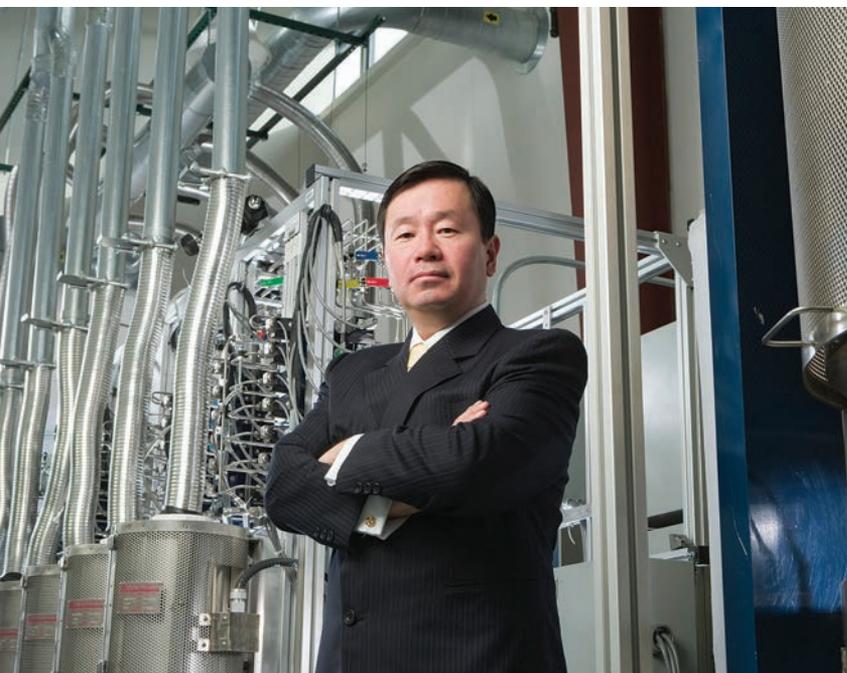
UConn scientists have helped to create a membrane made from an interwoven mesh of nanowires that can absorb up to 20 times its weight in oil, allowing it to absorb industrial discharges from seawater. Steven L. Suib, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and his former graduate student, Jikang Yuan, Ph.D. '07, collaborated with colleagues at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to create the membrane, which was the subject of a report in the scientific journal *Nature*. The material used in the study, which was initially developed

at UConn by Yuan, is a membrane or paper that can be recycled many times and has applications in oil recovery and the filtering and purification of water.



able energy who will join the Department of Mechanical Engineering in August;

- George Rossetti, Jr., associate professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering;
- Brian Willis, associate professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering;
- William Mustain, assistant professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering and
- Tianfeng Lu, assistant professor of mechanical engineering.



LARRY NIELER

Choi studies fire suppression in space

A research experiment developed by Mun Y. Choi, dean of the School of Engineering, is being conducted aboard the International Space Station.

Choi has been working on the issue of combustion and fire suppression in space since 1994. The first phase of this current research – which he is conducting in conjunction with NASA, Princeton, the University of California-San Diego and the University of California-Davis – will investigate the behavior of isolated fuel droplets under microgravity conditions. The second phase will investigate flame extinction, soot formation and radiative heat transfer.

“Fire behaves much differently in microgravity environments than it does on Earth,” says Choi. “On Earth, smoke rises from the flames, but aboard a space shuttle, it would disperse in all directions because of the absence of buoyancy. This makes locating the source of the fire and extinguishing it much more difficult.”

Quenching a fire in space requires new methods that will not only put the fire out efficiently, but also prevent harm to astronauts in the enclosed environment, Choi says.

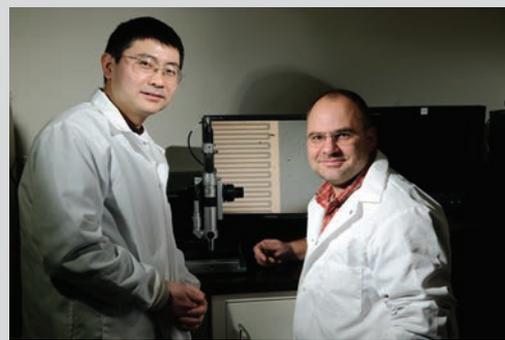
“We’re evaluating different gases that are able to extinguish a fire in that environment, such as helium or carbon dioxide, that will get the job done without causing respiratory problems for those on board,” he says. “There is an urgency to ensure that astronauts are protected from fire and to develop better methods of putting fire out.”



Developing a ‘nose’ to ‘sniff out’ explosives

A multidisciplinary team of researchers headed by engineering professor Yu Lei is working to develop an electronic “nose” system to detect explosives. These UConn scientists hope their effort will lay the groundwork for a hand-held unit that could be used by officials to inspect the luggage of passengers boarding a plane, for example, or mounted on a small robotic vehicle to “sniff out” land mines.

With a three-year grant of almost \$800,000 from the National Science Foundation, a team led by Lei, an assistant professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering in the School of Engineering, hopes to develop real-time arrays of ultra-sensitive sensors that can sniff out even trace quantities of explosives.



PETER MORENUS

Other UConn researchers include Christian Brückner, an associate professor of chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Ali Gokirmak, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; Krishna Pattipati, a professor of electrical and computer engineering; and Yushan Yan, professor of chemical and environmental engineering at University of California-Riverside.

The researchers are focused on developing the science behind a miniaturized sensing device capable of detecting potential explosives with greater speed, selectivity and accuracy than ever before. They envision a device that will accurately and quickly distinguish and identify compounds commonly found in explosives.

Lei and his team hope the project will help the nation attain a greater level of security in a variety of venues, including airports, bus terminals and post offices.

Man of the people

WASHINGTON, D.C., INTERNSHIP MOVES MIKE MITCHELL TO HELPING OTHERS

“**M**y dream job would be working on policies that provide every person with a chance to make it economically,” says Michael Mitchell II '10 (CLAS). “I think the incubation of ideas, which is one thing, is important – implementation is another.”

As a junior, Mitchell is on the fast track to learning how to make his dreams a reality. An Honors student with a double major in economics and political science, he spent this past summer in Washington, D.C., interning for U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts. He was one of 24 students selected nationally by the Institute for Responsible Citizenship, a nonprofit organization that brings together America’s most promising black male college sophomores to develop in them a lifetime commitment to public service.

As part of the internship program, Mitchell attended three-hour classes three evenings a week, after working full days. One was a seminar on professionalism in the work world, another focused on federalism and politics and a third dealt with economic theory.

“I’m even more interested in public service now than I was before the internship,” he says. “It was great being with a bunch of students my age who want to be a part of changing things. I would love to work somewhere to influence economic policies, particularly as they affect minorities, women and urban areas.”

Among the people he met during his time in Washington were interns at two think tanks, the Brookings Institution and



The Heritage Foundation, with different ideological perspectives.

“A think tank could be a great place to work,” Mitchell says, “not because they lean left or right politically, but because they’re venues where you can work to effect change.”

In Storrs, Mitchell has made the most of this enthusiasm for bringing about change. An active member of UConn’s Sophomore Honors Community Council, he spent two semesters working on a service project to raise awareness of the disparity between educational achievement in wealthy versus impoverished areas, particularly within Connecticut. He also received the University’s Emerging Leaders Award after he launched and edited the Sophomore Honors Community Newsletter, which covers the achievement gap and other local, state and national education topics.

“It was more rigorous than I expected, yet fun and rewarding,” he says of the newsletter, which he published twice monthly throughout the academic year.

With a year left before graduation, Mitchell continues to seek valuable experiences outside the classroom. He returned this spring to Washington, D.C., to serve as an intern for Congressman Jim Himes, the newly elected representative from Connecticut’s 4th district, through both UConn’s Honors Congressional Internship and the Institute for Responsible Citizenship program.

“I want to educate myself so that not only am I knowledgeable regarding ideas for helping people – but also how to go about doing it,” says Mitchell, whose future plans include pursuing a master’s degree in public policy while earning a law degree. —Lauren D. Lalancette

In pursuit of excellence on and off the field

Jennifer Kleinhans '09 (ENG) rarely lets things get past her. As a three-time All-American in field hockey, Big East Defensive Player of the Year and Big East Academic All-Star, she is the last line of defense before the UConn goalie.

But Kleinhans also doesn't let opportunity pass her by in the classroom or in life.

That's why the biomedical engineering student jumped at the chance to spend a semester at the National University of Singapore, where she continued her studies as one of seven students selected to study there as part of a UConn Study Abroad program.

"Everyone I talked to said 'do it.' It didn't take much pressure for me to apply," she says.

Kleinhans calls the experience "probably the most interesting thing I've ever done," and described the program as a unique opportunity to go to Asia, study and continue progress toward her engineering degree, while speaking English.

"I was able to see the country from the inside as a student, take classes, live with locals and be part of their world," she explains. "When you come back you see things differently. Some of the things in America are always here and you never think of how great they are."

Interested in engineering, physics and math, Kleinhans always knew she would pursue studies related to technology. She chose biomedical engineering because "there's a human component and you can help people."

Born and raised in Germany, Kleinhans grew up playing soccer, but when she joined two friends who took up field hockey, she was hooked. "At first it's quite difficult because you're trying to hit a ball with a stick – and that's kind of an odd concept right there," she says.

Overcoming that challenge may have seemed easy compared with competing with the time demands of an elite student-athlete while also pursuing one of the most rigorous programs in engineering. "When you walk around as an athlete saying you want to be an engineer, some people question your sanity," Kleinhans says with a smile.

"Jennifer has balanced her excellence in academics with a star role on the UConn field hockey

team," says her advisor John Enderle, who is program director and professor of biomedical engineering. "She is an amazing person."

Adds UConn Hall of Fame field hockey coach Nancy Stevens: "Jennifer exemplifies the very best qualities of the scholar-athlete. Everyone associated with our program respects Jennifer's commitment to excellence in everything she does."

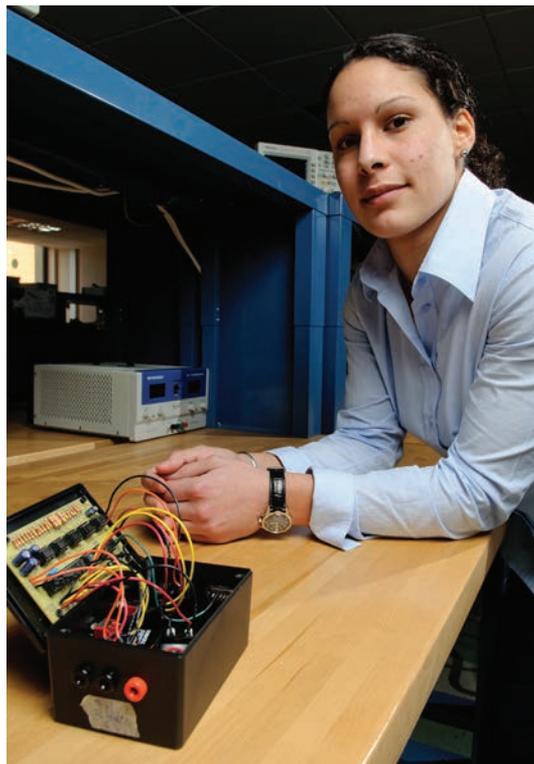
After graduating in May, Kleinhans expects to conduct motor control research in graduate school, which will be aided by the \$4,000 scholarship she won being named the 2008-09 Big East Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

"Researchers are trying to build robotic hands and it turns out it's a lot more difficult than they thought," she says. "There's a load of questions that haven't been answered yet – or haven't even been asked – and I just find that exciting."

— Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG)

"A think tank could be a great place to work," Mitchell says, "not because they lean left or right politically, but because they're venues where you can work to effect change."

DEREK DUDER



Jennifer Kleinhans '09 (ENG) in the senior engineering laboratory in the School of Engineering.

PETER MORRIS

PEACE CORPS

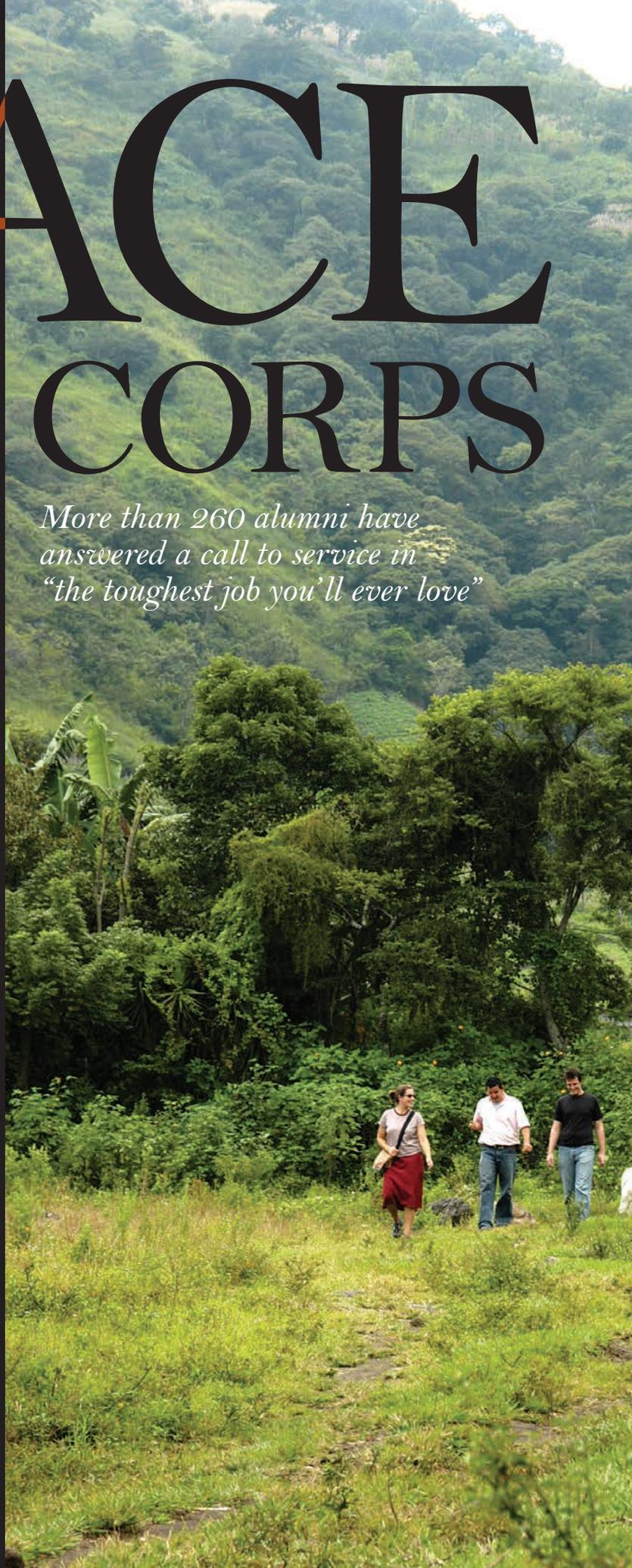
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More than 260 alumni have answered a call to service in “the toughest job you’ll ever love”

By Ron Meshberg

The job requirements are not for the fainthearted. Applicants must be willing to leave behind family, friends, job security, live in a remote corner of the world, make do without running water or electricity, overcome language and cultural barriers and even face the possibility of being in harm’s way.

It has been described as the “toughest job you’ll ever love” and 195,000 Americans have answered the call to serve as Peace Corps volunteers since the program was launched in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy. Among those who have served are 263 UConn alumni as well as dozens of University faculty and staff, many of whom were assigned as teachers and agriculture workers. The Peace Corps now assigns almost 25 percent of its more than 8,000 volunteers to work on health-related issues, including monitoring the well-being of their own group of volunteers.





“It made me feel part of a bigger world.”

—Ann O’Connell ’85 M.S.

And it will come as no surprise that Peace Corps volunteers often run into unexpected challenges that test both their mettle and persistence to find solutions to those obstacles.

Mark Tapper ’82 (CLAS) served from 1982 to 1984 just south of the Sahara Desert in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, where temperatures average 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Assigned to work with rice farmers on improving harvests and reducing soil erosion through irrigation, he quickly came to realize the challenges of the job.

“In the first six months I had 13 different projects fail,” he says. “I had to be medically evacuated twice. I had a long list of tropical illnesses and lost about 80 pounds.”

Tapper, now a psychiatric nurse in Vermont, discovered that the villagers needed wood for cooking. In response,

he initiated projects to plant trees and vegetable gardens and devised a slow-burning wood-conserving stove, which he showed villagers how to build.

Brendan Williams ’01 (BUS) was stationed from 2002 to 2005 in a rural village in southwest Kenya as part of a micro-finance project. Feuding and questionable bookkeeping by local authorities made the initiative difficult. Like Tapper, he found it necessary to adapt his assignment to the needs of the region.

Williams knew that clean drinking water was a critical issue in Africa, where contaminated water can lead to severe illness and death, so he worked with schools and medical facilities to install tanks that captured rainfall runoff. He also became an HIV/AIDS counselor and helped sustainance farmers get basic supplies, such as seeds for planting.

"I stayed for three years and found the whole experience really rewarding," says Williams, who today is an accountant in Oregon.

Other volunteers have found themselves adjusting to similarly unexpected circumstances. Kelly Searle '05 (CANR) was in the East African coastal nation of Mozambique teaching high school biology just three months after learning Portuguese, the nation's primary language. Then, a teacher shortage left her as the only qualified biology instructor in the school with responsibility as the head of the science department.

Peace Corps volunteers were evacuated.

Sherk had dreamed of eventually becoming a professor of English literature. "That would have been a beautiful career, but after the Peace Corps I felt compelled to address the more immediate needs of poverty and health," says Sherk. Today, she is a senior program officer for Management Sciences for Health, an international public-health non-profit organization based in Cambridge, Mass.

Service in the Peace Corps also provides lasting impressions of the role the United States plays on the world stage, as it did for U.S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd

strengthen America's national security."

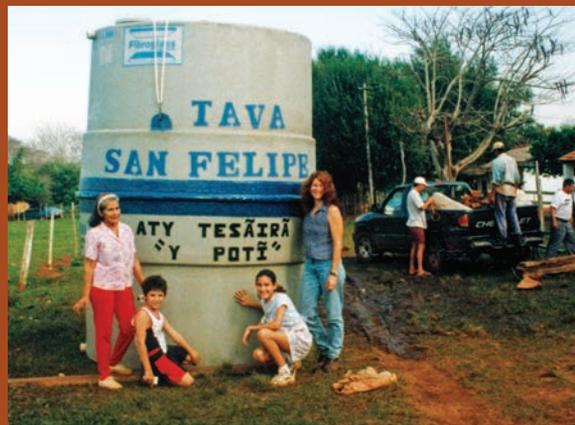
Penny Newbury '80 (CLAS), '83 M.A. had a unique life-changing Peace Corps experience. At the age of 40, she was serving as executive director of a social service agency in northeastern Connecticut, waiting for her fiancé to retire and join her as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya. Her plans were thwarted when a terrorist bombing of the American Embassy in Kenya's capital of Nairobi forced the Peace Corps to suspend work in that country and, around the same time her fiancé died in a hunting accident. Six months later Newbury accepted a Peace Corps assignment in Paraguay,



Karen Sherk '00 (CLAS) with some of her students in Madagascar, where she taught English to adults and to middle school and high school students.



Chris Starace '95 (CLAS) in the Republic of Benin in West Africa.



Penny Newbury '80 (CLAS), '83 M.A. served in Paraguay, working with local government officials to impart principles of participatory democracy.

"I learned to work with different people, to cross language and cultural barriers and achieve a common goal together," says Searle, now a researcher in ophthalmology at Duke University Medical Center.

For Karen Sherk '00 (CLAS), the Peace Corps changed the direction of her life. She was sent to Madagascar, the island nation off the east coast of Africa, to teach middle school, high school and adult English classes and where she hosted an English-language radio show. She asked for a third-year extension, with plans to become a Peace Corps Volunteer Leader for the region. But Sherk never fulfilled that role. When a disputed election created a politically unstable environment, all

of Connecticut, who spent two years (1966-68) as a volunteer in the rural village of Moncion in the Dominican Republic.

"My service gave me not only an understanding of the leadership potential of the United States when we engage with the international community on every level, but also respect for the multitude of good works that average Americans perform every day when they commit themselves to service, both at home and abroad," Dodd says. "Now, more than ever, we must remember why this program is so important: Because the Peace Corps and its volunteers not only help those in need, but they also help build bridges of mutual understanding and trust, which in turn

which was emerging from a long history of totalitarianism.

Newbury, one of several volunteers sent to impart principles of participatory democracy in a number of municipalities, went to Santiago, a southern border town of about 8,000 people. Working with the mayor, council members and neighborhood commissions, she offered insights into how government can help people and how municipal employees have a responsibility to serve their community.

Meanwhile, as Paraguay struggled to issue its national budget, Newbury helped Santiago generate its financial statements using computers. Word of her efforts reached higher government officials, who

TEACHING IN THE LAND OF DRACULA

By Mike Nork '06 (CLAS)

I am from Higganum, Conn., and graduated UConn with a bachelor of arts in history. I am currently a Peace Corps volunteer in Lugoj, Romania.

My initial decision to join the Peace Corps came after volunteering to help with recovery efforts in New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. I went there in March 2006 with a group of about 50 UConn students. We achieved something tangible, and that felt great. I was only in New Orleans for a week, but I'll always remember my time there as one of the most positive experiences of my life.

I saw the Peace Corps as a huge learning opportunity. I knew it would afford me opportunities for self-discovery as well as discovery of the wider world. Before joining the Peace Corps, I hadn't traveled much. However, I wanted to understand another cultural perspective; to immerse myself in an unfamiliar setting.



Mike Nork '06 (CLAS), left, with other teachers during an apple-bobbing contest held as part of a Halloween party last October in Romania, where he teaches English.

asked Newbury to continue her work with municipalities in the country's northern regions for another year.

Newbury believes she had the best of both worlds as an older volunteer. "I try to tell anyone who will listen about my experience and the incredible benefits of being a volunteer," she says.

With its new motto: "Life is calling. How far will you go?" Peace Corps service does not always end when volunteers return home. Chris Starace '95 (CLAS), for instance, served two years in the Republic of Benin in West Africa, located between Nigeria and Togo, working as a teacher.



Ann O'Connell '85 M.S., second row center, with her students in Dodma, Tanzania, on their graduation day in May 1989.

"I saw the Peace Corps as a huge learning opportunity."

My primary assignment is teaching English. I occasionally write American culture pieces for the local newspaper. My latest article highlighted Bela Lugosi, who was born in the town of Lugoj and is known as the actor who made Dracula famous. I've recently started giving English lessons to young children between the ages of 6 and 12.

I've been in Romania for more than a year and a half, and I've seen the full spectrum of Romanian life – how people think, live, joke and how they view Americans. Not only have my experiences abroad made me appreciate what I gave up to come here, but they've also strengthened my sense of American identity and made me proud to say, "I'm an American." I'm considering staying in Romania after my service is finished to continue working with the local community.

Nork blogs about life in Romania at <http://norkinromania.blogspot.com/>.

Today, he teaches high school French and Spanish in Ossining, N.Y., and also runs a Web site called Friends of Benin (<http://www.friends-of-benin.org>) that is devoted to "keeping the Peace Corps/Benin experience alive."

In addition to writing a memoir of his service in 2004, Starace returned to Africa to make a documentary film, "Discovering Benin," which is available through his other Web site, Fon is Fun (http://www.geocities.com/fon_is_fun/). Fon is the native language of the region.

"The Peace Corps helped me learn how to work in a diverse community," says Starace. "In many ways it has defined who I am today."

U CONNOMY

University drives state economy



By Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)

At a time when projections for the national economy appear gloomy, the University of Connecticut is playing a stabilizing role in the state's economy and contributing to the state's long-term economic vitality. A nine-month economic study released earlier this year indicates that ongoing operations at the University added \$2.3 billion to Connecticut's gross domestic product in fiscal year 2008.

Using Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI), a widely used structural economic forecasting model, Stanley McMillen, chief economist at the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, found that for every state dollar allocated to UConn, including the Health Center, more than five dollars is added to the state's gross domestic product (GDP). He also writes that, as a result of ongoing University operations, Connecticut businesses experience \$3.2 billion in new sales.

"The University is a very significant economic factor for the state of Connecticut," says McMillen. "It employs a lot of people and creates an educated workforce for Connecticut businesses and state government. There's a ready source of highly talented people coming out of this system, and they're all the type of people this state needs."

Among the study's findings:

- UConn receives total state support of \$456 million and, as a result of that support, attracts an additional \$713.5 million to the state's economy;
- More than 29,000 jobs are generated in the state by the University;
- Nearly 70 percent of UConn graduates remain in Connecticut, contributing to the state's knowledge-based workforce and economy;

- The University received nearly \$200 million in sponsored grants in 2008, including more than \$92 million for biomedical research at the UConn Health Center.

Throughout the state, citizens benefit from UConn's presence, whether the University is partnering with private businesses to help boost the economy, serving as a vital resource for state agencies and their clients or reaching out across Connecticut to assist in protecting the health of citizens and the environment.





Above: The Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Law Clinic at the UConn School of Law.

Opposite page from left: The GE edgelab at UConn's Stamford campus; biomedical researchers Liisa Kuhn and Jon Goldberg at the UConn Health Center; and solar panels produced by UConn engineering professor Geoff Taylor's Opel, Inc., a Connecticut-based company.

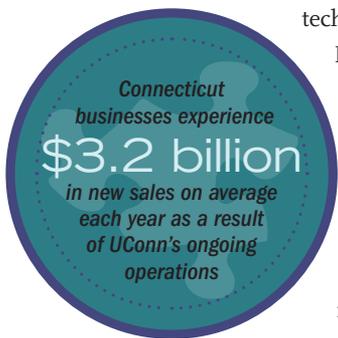
Partnering with Businesses

From family owned business operations to the Fortune 500 corporations headquartered across Connecticut, a myriad of businesses form the foundation of the state's diversified economy. UConn fortifies this business community by teaming up with innovative partners to help pioneer new products and build more viable businesses.

Major corporations join forces with the University to solve industry problems. High-tech firms enjoy access to lab facilities.

Even emerging companies turn to UConn for advice on legal issues.

Through these mutually beneficial collaborations, business owners, UConn faculty and students are coming together to raise Connecticut's competitiveness to an unprecedented level.



Advancing Research and Innovation

On the research front, faculty and students are making breakthroughs in a wide range of disciplines, from engineering to education and in promising new scientific fields such as stem cell and fuel cell research and nanotechnology. Supported by more

than \$200 million in sponsored research grants and awards in 2008 alone, the leaders of these University research efforts are poised to bring to the marketplace invaluable discoveries that have the potential to foster business development and attract industry, as well as positively transform the everyday lives of citizens in Connecticut and beyond.

UConn scientists are hard at work learning what makes stem cells grow, how to affect their development and, ultimately, how to turn them into therapies to treat a host of diseases. The state-of-the-art Stem Cell Institute facility at the Health Center campus now serves as home for collaborative new stem cell research, uniting UConn's scientists in unlocking the promising secrets of stem cells. Earlier this year the Institute announced that its researchers had already created two new human embryonic stem cell lines (See p. 12). Faculty advancements into nanotechnology – in which materials are examined and manipulated on a molecular scale – hold enormous potential in diagnosing and treating disease, strengthening military defense capabilities and building far more sophisticated electronics. UConn is



Above from left: The Connecticut Repertory Theatre in the School of Fine Arts; raising bees to produce honey for use in campus dining halls as part of UConn's environmental sustainability program; shoppers participating in an outreach program in Hartford that is part of the Connecticut Center for Eliminating Health Disparities Among Latinos Program.



Bottom of opposite page from left: UConn students participating in the Husky Sport Program at Clark Elementary School in Hartford; biomechanics surgery at the UConn Health Center.

actively pursuing these and other scientific endeavors, which promise to transform lives and lead to positive impacts on a global scale.

Protecting Health and the Environment

Preserving the environment and promoting the health of Connecticut's citizens are crucial to the well-being of Connecticut's economy. UConn supports advanced research in the public interest that will help lead to a healthier workforce and, ultimately, greater productivity. Scientists across the University are investigating renewable energy sources such as solar energy and biodiesel production. Students are actively engaged in promoting more sustainable ways of campus living. Others are teaching underserved parts of the state how to live more active, healthful lives. Environmental sustainability initiatives are of great importance to the University, which has implemented a range of policies, integrating green thinking into campus building construction, buying local produce and raising bees for honey production.

Building Tomorrow's Workforce Today

UConn – Connecticut's flagship institution of higher learning – draws top students and distinguished faculty to its campuses year after year. As of fall 2008, more than 29,000 full-time undergraduates and graduates were enrolled at UConn's campuses statewide. Graduating with degrees in programs as diverse as engineering, education, fine arts and medicine, many of these

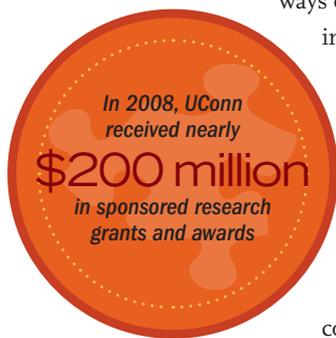
students will serve as the foundation for much of Connecticut's future workforce.

The University equips these graduates with the knowledge they need to become among the state's most highly skilled professional workforce, corporate leaders and entrepreneurs – who meet the needs of citizens throughout the state and help attract industries that offer greater economic opportunity. In fact, it is estimated that 7 out of 10 UConn graduates remain in Connecticut upon graduating, putting their knowledge and innovation to work across the state; thus growing the economic strength of Connecticut. Serving as doctors and dentists, shaping government policy, running thriving businesses, realizing scientific breakthroughs and teaching schoolchildren, this well-educated workforce ensures that Connecticut thrives in today's increasingly competitive market.

Enhancing the Quality of Life in Communities

With a long-standing tradition of public service, the University supports hundreds of outreach programs and partnerships that enhance the social and economic welfare of Connecticut's communities. Students from UConn, including the UConn Health Center, contributed more than 31,000 hours to volunteer work in 2008 – from providing *pro bono* tax assistance and legal representation to mentoring children from inner-city neighborhoods to providing medical care in neighborhood health clinics.

At the same time, UConn's contributions to fine arts, athletic and recreational activities energize the Connecticut economy



7 out of 10
UConn graduates
remain in Connecticut
upon graduating

Since 1986,
worldwide licensing
of Husky products has
generated more than
\$200 million
in retail sales

and enhance citizens' quality of life. University museums, performing arts venues, sporting events and other cultural programs each year attract upward of 1 million people to UConn's campuses. UConn athletic events

alone annually draw more than 320,000 enthusiastic Husky fans to Hartford's XL Center for basketball games and another 225,000 to East Hartford for Division I football at Rentschler Field. More than 100,000 tourists, residents and students visit the UConn Dairy Bar annually to enjoy dozens of flavors of UConn's homemade ice cream. Attendance at theatrical performances and workshops at the Connecticut Repertory Theatre – the theatre production group of UConn's School of Fine Arts – annually exceeds 20,000 patrons. Altogether, visitors exploring these many events generate \$18 million in new revenue for the state each year.

“UConn's economic impact reaches across the state,” says McMillen. “No other Connecticut institution of higher learning matches the far-reaching effect that UConn has on the state, its communities, individuals and industries.” “Institutions of higher education, and particularly public research universities, are uniquely positioned to assist their states and our nation as a whole in driving economic innovation and growth,” says UConn President Michael J. Hogan. “This report substantiates why UConn is a sound and necessary investment in the future of our citizens and our state.”

Full report available at <http://www.uconn.edu/uconomy>.

Shaping Connecticut's future

The 2009 economic study, which describes the support UConn provides to the state, demonstrates the variety of programs that touch industries across Connecticut. Researchers are forging new and collaborative partnerships across the University's campuses. Citizens have come to depend on the broad range of health, education and other outreach services provided by students and faculty. And residents and visitors alike continue to enjoy the University's contributions to a finer quality of life through arts, athletics and recreational programs.

Most importantly, the University continues year after year to produce a continuous stream of talented, knowledgeable professionals who keep the state of Connecticut moving forward. In 2008, UConn educated more than 29,000 students and awarded nearly 7,000 degrees. Yet the University's presence extends far beyond the thousands it educates and graduates.

For instance, UConn buys more than \$312 million annually in goods and services in Connecticut, which has the dual benefit of helping to lower prices and stimulate local businesses across the state. UConn students help to boost the state's economy as well, injecting \$430 million annually through consumer spending across Connecticut.

The University also is shaping and strengthening the state's economic, social, cultural and natural landscape. Industry leaders, fledgling companies, fellow higher education institutions and state agencies are among those that turn to UConn as a resource for talent and innovation, a partner in scientific and medical research and a generator of well-prepared recruits.

“As a public research university, the University is well positioned to assist Connecticut in stimulating economic development,” says Michael J. Hogan, UConn president. “Our faculty, students and graduates make unique contributions to Connecticut, driving innovation, staying engaged in the community and enriching day-to-day lives of citizens throughout the state. The University's presence has never been more significant.”



Disabilities no barrier to campus

The Center for Students with Disabilities provides academic and social support for more than 1,000 students

By Mary Howard



Nicholas Rotondo '09 (CLAS) barely made it out of high school. Diagnosed in elementary school with a learning disability that impacts memory retrieval, he believed he could not do well academically.

"I was in a rut. I had no confidence," says the senior history major from Groveland, Mass. "If someone told me in high school that I would go to UConn and graduate, I would have told them they were crazy."

One of more than 1,000 students who receive assistance from the University's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD), Rotondo is now studying for his law school entrance exam and enjoying his college experience in Storrs. "At UConn, I overcame some major hurdles," he says.

Life

After all his friends left for college, Rotondo decided to enroll in his local community college, mostly out of boredom. Though he had a difficult first year, his second year was better. After getting his first "A" on a test, Rotondo thought, "Okay, let's keep this up."

His resolve to do well in school was strengthened when he was detained by police for five hours after a traffic incident and no charges against him were filed. "I decided I was going to be lawyer and defend kids like myself," he says.

Rotondo improved his grades at his community college, gaining admission to UConn. After struggling again in the classroom, he sought help from CSD to maintain his new academic standard. CSD provides him with a notetaker, allows him to take tests on a computer and gives him extended time on exams. Rotondo says what surprised him was that the help he received went beyond academics. "People here not only care about you academically, but they care about you as a person," he says.

Each week Rotondo meets with Manju Banerjee, associate director of CSD, to discuss his academic progress. But their discussions usually go beyond classroom issues. "Sometimes we do schoolwork. Sometimes we talk about life," he says. "She has my best interests in mind, and I've never had that [in school] before."

The Center's mission is to enhance the college experience for students with disabilities. Students with psychiatric issues – such as major depression or attention-deficit disorder – comprise the majority of students receiving assistance, but the Center also helps students with chronic health issues, such as cancer or epilepsy as well as those with physical and learning disabilities, says Donna Korbel, director of CSD.

While high schools are required to identify students with special needs, colleges are

not, says Korbel. At UConn, once the student submits documentation to establish his or her eligibility for services, each case is reviewed individually and the Center, in collaboration with the student, comes up with a plan. CSD has seven professional staff members and 12 students who work inside the office, with the nearly 290 work-study students who serve as notetakers, readers or scribes.

"We can't guarantee success. We guarantee access and we also try to give students the tools they need to become successful," Korbel says. "You can't do this work in isolation. We're fortunate to have had such tremendous institutional support. Many students with disabilities tell us that being at UConn is the most independent they've been in their entire lives."

Alumni who used CSD services while attending UConn point to the Center as a key factor in their academic and career success.

"The staff there really believed in me," says Joe Kaddis '90 (BUS), '97 M.B.A., who earlier this year was named vice president of sales for Authoria, a leading vendor for human resources software in Waltham, Mass.

Before he was diagnosed with dyslexia in the early elementary grades, Kaddis was characterized as intellectually challenged. Dyslexia is a learning disability that involves severe difficulty with language, especially with reading. Kaddis says that he reverses letters and numbers, has difficulty with short-term memory and navigating directions, and is a slow reader, though with excellent comprehension. When he was ready to apply to college, he and his parents did extensive research on university programs for students with disabilities.

"UConn was by far the best," he says. "I had a Ph.D. candidate assigned to help me, and the focus was on developmental, not remedial help."

During his undergraduate years, he also

"Many students with disabilities tell us that being at UConn is the most independent they've been in their entire lives."
—Donna Korbel, CSD Director

met weekly with a graduate assistant who helped him identify his challenges and develop strategies to overcome them. Kaddis was given extended time on tests and used a computer for exams.

His skills in business became apparent as an undergraduate. Kaddis, who majored in marketing and communications, sold personal computers door-to-door and at the campus store through an internship with IBM. With classmate and childhood friend Oliver Phippen '90 (BUS), who is now chief technology officer at GE

He also found support outside the classroom. For six years, he was a Husky cheerleader, serving as team captain for two years. Cheerleading coach Neal Kearney was impressed with Johnson, who did everything he needed to on the team, including catching his partners during tumbling routines. "You would have never known he had a visual impairment," Kearney says.

Director Donna Korbel, left, chats with students in the Center for Students with Disabilities in the Wilbur Cross Building.



FRANK DAHLMEYER

Johnson completed his doctoral degree in audiology at UConn last year and is now an audiologist in Scottsdale, Ariz., running two offices.

While each student may have different needs, CSD works to provide a path toward success, as in the case of Justin Miller '11 (CLAS), a human development and family studies major who says that if he didn't ask for help, "I'd be stuck in bed all day."

Born with Type II spinal muscle atrophy, Miller cannot use his legs and has limited use of his arms. As soon as he rolls his wheelchair through the CSD doorway, he is cracking jokes. "It puts people at ease," says Miller, who calls himself "Super Cripple" and

Asset Management, Kaddis founded Outreach LD, a program to encourage students with learning disabilities to apply to college. UConn students with learning disabilities also spoke at various Connecticut high schools, sharing their experiences and answering questions. In many ways, this program was a precursor to CSD's extensive outreach activities to promote post-secondary education for all qualified students with disabilities.

Like Kaddis, Gary Johnson '04 (CLAS) chose UConn based on the strength of CSD. Johnson, who was left legally blind at age 2 following an automobile accident, admits that he would not have been as successful academically without the Center. While at UConn, he used large-print texts or books on CD, his tests were either enlarged or given to him by a reader and he used a notetaker in class.

"It was just a matter of taking advantage of what was offered," Johnson says. "My parents taught me from an early age that I could do anything I want...except play baseball."

sports several tattoos that incorporate the handicapped symbol.

Because of his physical limitations, Miller needs assistance around the clock. His motorized wheelchair gets him around campus, and a group of personal care assistants help him with everything from dressing and bathing to answering his cell phone. Wide doorways in his ground-floor dorm room accommodate his chair. Miller's best friend from home helps him during the evening.

"A lot of people told me it would be difficult for me to go to college," he says, but after his first meeting with the Center's staff, Miller says he knew he would be able to pursue a degree. "I have a lot of people here who care about me."

The personal care and attention that students receive from CSD is a reason for the Center's success. "This doesn't feel like a job," says CSD's Banerjee. "It's our shared passion."

For more information about the Center for Students with Disabilities and a full list of services, go to: <http://www.csd.uconn.edu/>.

Pioneering voice

LYNN BLOOM WRITES HER FIRST AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL WORK

As a Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of English and the University's first Aetna Chair of Writing, Lynn Z. Bloom has been a pioneering voice in the field of composition studies for more than 20 years.

So it is no surprise perhaps that Bloom's first autobiographical work – *The Seven Deadly Virtues and Other Lively Essays – Coming of Age as a Writer, Teacher, Risk Taker* (The University of South Carolina Press, 2008) – celebrates her iconoclastic style.

Bloom's memoir is a compilation of 15 rich and colorful essays – some 18 years in the making – that describe her trials as a chronic nonconformist and female scholar; her once “forbidden” marriage to a man of Jewish descent; and her life as a teacher, wife, mother and grandmother. Her warm personal tales are laced with humorous,

“In my mind, I am always taking risks. I don't think you ever grow intellectually if you don't take risks...”

insightful and often inspirational accounts of the risks and rewards she encountered as an artist living and writing on the edge, including having had her telephone tapped by the FBI while she completed the first biography of Benjamin Spock, the famed pediatrician and peace activist.

A master essayist known for her



Lynn Bloom discusses writing with students in a class at the William Benton Museum of Art.

PETER MORENUS

lively and provocative writing style, Bloom believes the traditional structures surrounding academic expression – her seven deadly virtues – stifle personal creativity. She urges her students and readers to avoid the traps inherent in the deadly virtues of duty, rationality, conformity, efficiency, order, economy and punctuality so often affiliated with academic prose.

“I am not out to supplant virtue with vice, though that is always tempting,” Bloom writes in the book's introduction. “But to propose, in essay after essay, an alternative set of lively virtues to replace the deadly.

“Duty and Helpfulness have their place, though I have busted up more than one romance and quit more than one job over issues of servility, sexism and second-class citizenship,” Bloom quips in the book's opening lines. “I would augment these with anger and defiance.”

Her other “alternate” virtues are honesty, risk-taking, independence of mind and spirit, originality, rigor, energy and having fun.

“One of the things that I would like people to take away from the book is to feel that they can take risks,” Bloom says. “In my mind, I am always taking risks. I don't think you ever grow intellectually if you don't take risks...If I had done what my professors had told me to do, I wouldn't have had a very good time. I might have gotten a job, but my work wouldn't have been original and I wouldn't have been happy.”

Once challenged for her innovative essay style, Bloom says she is now being called upon to write personal essays for academic journals looking to diversify.

“I find that heartening because that validates a lot of what I've been trying to do with routine academic submissions for the past 20 years,” says Bloom, who is teaching a graduate course in rhetoric and composition this spring.

The author of 28 books and more than 150 articles, Bloom is preparing changes for two book manuscripts, one about the history of the essay and another about the rhetoric of food writing. — Colin Poitras

Historian on the ground

OVERMYER-VELÁZQUEZ TAKES STUDENTS TO WHERE HISTORY IS MADE



Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, associate professor of history, makes a point to his students in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Teaching students about how history has shaped the culture of a nation and influenced modern issues is often a challenge in the classroom. Students of Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, a specialist in Latin American history, however, are offered a unique firsthand opportunity to gain insights into the culture of Mexico.

For the past two years Overmyer-Velázquez, associate professor of history in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has taken a small group of upperclassmen majoring in history to Oaxaca, Mexico, for a three-week immersion course into Mexican culture.

“Migration is the thematic focus, and I encourage them to imagine themselves as part of the global economic flow between the U.S. and Mexico,” he says.

While in Oaxaca, the students live with local families, take intensive Spanish language classes and conduct research in the city itself. They also visit indigenous artisan villages as well as a migrant village where 50 percent of the people have migrated to the United States for work. In addition to students earning three history credits and one foreign language credit through the course, Overmyer-Velázquez notes that the real value is in these students’ personal experiences, which continue to enrich their work in the UConn classroom well after they return from Mexico.

Born in Chicago to a mother who migrated from Mexico and a German-American father from Ohio, Overmyer-Velázquez grew up in Canada, where he

studied German literature and history at the University of British Columbia and worked for two years after college on an exchange program between indigenous Canadian and Mexican youth. After earning a master’s degree and Ph.D. in history from Yale, he taught at several other schools, including Pomona College and Wesleyan University, where he finished his first book, *Visions of the Emerald City: Modernity, Tradition and the Formation of Porfirian Oaxaca, Mexico* (Duke University Press, 2006), which was named best book of the year in 2007 by the New England Council on Latin American Studies.

Overmyer-Velázquez, who joined the UConn faculty in 2004, now teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on the history of modern Mexico, modern Latin America and U.S. Latinos and serves as director of UConn’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He recently started an interdisciplinary service learning program for honors students, which brings in speakers in health, law and other disciplines to talk about migration. Overmyer-Velázquez says that the program teaches the students “to think critically and places them to work in the community.”

Overmyer-Velázquez is working on his next book, *Bleeding Mexico White: Race, Nation and the History of Mexico – U.S. Migration*, which also will be published by Duke University Press. He is editor of *Latino America: State-by-State* (Greenwood Press, 2008) and of the forthcoming *Beyond the Border: The History of Mexico – U.S. Migration*, part of a series for Oxford University Press.

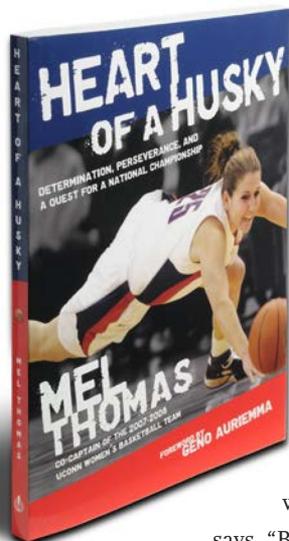
— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)

Thomas describes 'Heart of a Husky'

Following the disappointment of losing during her junior year in the regional of the 2006-2007 NCAA women's basketball championships, Husky co-captain Mel Thomas '08 (BUS) hoped to write a storybook ending to her college career by winning a national championship in her senior year. Without telling anyone, she decided to keep a journal during her final season at UConn.

"I always had in the back of my mind to do a book," says Thomas, who would suffer a season-ending knee injury. "When I got hurt, I decided to pursue it a bit more."

Thomas' book, *Heart of a Husky* (Keen Custom Media), covers her lifelong passion for basketball from her days as a youngster, success as a high school player, recruitment to UConn and her years as a Husky. In a breezy narrative laced with humor that covers the 2007-2008 season, Thomas offers insights into the close bond that develops among members of the women's basketball team as well as the lessons student-athletes learn during their time with Hall of Fame Coach Geno Auriemma, who wrote the foreword to the book.

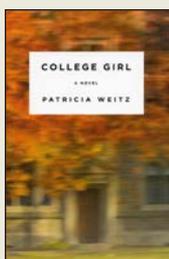


Now playing as a professional in Ireland, Thomas says it was difficult to write almost every day with all of the demands she faced as a student-athlete on a nationally ranked and highly visible team.

"The fact that we're so busy all the time keeps you focused and motivated to get everything done. It was hard on top of doing homework, reading, practices and going to class," she says. "But it was nice sometimes to find time to vent to the paper and get all of my emotions out. It kind of was like self-therapy."

Thomas' book brings to life the trials and tribulations faced by her team during a challenging season led by a head coach known to pull no punches in talking about where his players need improvement.

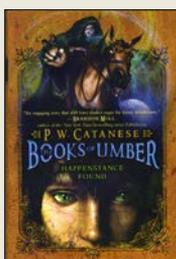
"Coach Auriemma tells you the way it is. He doesn't sugarcoat anything. He never promised me anything when I was being recruited. He's really blunt with all of his players," she says. "We're like a family. We disagree sometimes. We also have a lot of fun. That's why we all have such a great and open relationship with him."



College Girl
Patricia (Brown) Weitz '95
(CLAS)
(Riverhead Books)

When Natalie Bloom transfers to the University of Connecticut from a community college, she thinks she has arrived. However she

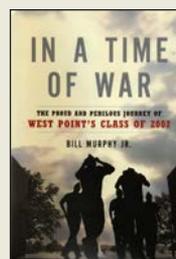
is ashamed of her working-class background and intimidated by her new classmates. Worse still, she has practically no experience with sex – a fact that only increases her insecurities and social withdrawal. That is, until she meets Patrick, a handsome, confident senior, her fantasy of a cultured, intellectual Prince Charming – and everything changes. In her debut novel, Weitz offers an insightful, keenly observed portrait of campus life and the many pressures – economic, academic, social – that are funneled into its culture.



Happenstance Found
P. W. Catanese '83 (CLAS)
(Simon & Schuster)

In the first of the planned Books of UMBER trilogy, 12-year-old Happenstance awakens in a cave with no memory of who he is or how he got there.

Soon a mysterious trio arrives to take him away: the explorer, Lord Urr; the shy, one-handed archer, Sophie; and Oates, whose brute strength is matched by his cursed honesty. Desperate for clues in his unfamiliar surroundings, Hap accompanies the extraordinary UMBER on dangerous and unusual missions. Catanese packs a great deal into his sixth fantasy novel – rich characterizations, surprising twists and man-eating worms – as he chronicles one young boy's quest for answers.



In a Time of War: The Proud and Perilous Journey of West Point's Class of 2002
Bill Murphy Jr. '97 J.D.
(Henry Holt and Company)

Drawing on more than 200 interviews with the officers, families

and colleagues of the West Point class whose future changed after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Murphy's experiences as an embedded reporter with the military in Iraq provide moving accounts of young men and women learning to carry a tremendous amount of responsibility. In this vivid and sometimes heartbreaking book, Murphy tells a powerful story about courage, honor and what war really means to the soldiers whose lives it defines.

— Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG)

Alumni News&Notes

From the Alumni Association

As the world faces economic uncertainty, we recognize that career networking continues to be a top priority for many of our alumni. In a recent survey of UConn alumni, we learned that “networking” and “career services” were two of the most important services that the Alumni Association can provide.

The Alumni Association offers a number of helpful tools to help you expand your alumni network. Whether you are connecting to find old friends or make a new business contact, you will find fellow Huskies willing to help.

1. Register for the Husky Alumni Network at UConnAlumni.com/HAN:
 - Update your information so friends and colleagues can contact you.
 - Connect with alumni in the Career Network and search by company, industry or job title to find another alum in your field who may be willing to give career advice.
 - Sign up for a free, permanent UConn alumni e-mail address to use on a resumé.
 - Search job opportunities and post your resumé.
2. Contact one of our International Alumni Ambassadors if your career interests will take you abroad. You'll find the full list at UConnAlumni.com/international.
3. Get involved with your local chapter or school-based alumni society. You'll find alumni with common interests. A full list of chapters and societies is available on our Web site under “Get Involved.”
4. Attend alumni events to expand your circle of friends and colleagues. All our events are listed on our Web site.

The Alumni Association is able to offer these services because of the support of our loyal members. As we all face difficult economic times, I hope we can count on your ongoing support through membership. It is your support that enables us to build a stronger Husky Alumni Network.

Lisa Lewis
Executive Director, UConn Alumni Association

Connecting Alumni. Supporting Students. Strengthening UConn.

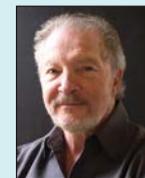


Fred Reid '51 (CLAS) is retired and living in Santa Fe, N.M., after practicing there for 50 years as an optometric physician and engaging in local politics.

Camille Lavieri Forman '55 (CLAS) is the editor of *The Glen Ridge Gazette*, a publication of the Glen Ridge Cooperative in Storrs, Conn.

Robert Lavoie '55 (ENG), a retired U.S. Air Force colonel who was commissioned from the Air Force ROTC program at UConn in 1955, celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with his wife, Jeanne.

Garland Reedy '55 M.A. and his wife, Bev, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April 2008 in Venice, Fla.



John DeFrancesco '58 (CANR) is a full-time oil painter living in Monument, Colo.

Domenic Cicchetti '59 (CLAS), '60 M.A., '65 Ph.D., senior research scientist and biostatistician at Yale University School of Medicine, is a Fellow in the American Statistical Association.

1960s

Donald Bottaro '60 (BUS), volunteer at J.D. McArthur State Park and docent for Whitehall Flagler Museum in Palm Beach, Fla., cruised the Bahamas for the past 10 years with his wife, Florence, on their sailboat. He retired from Pratt & Whitney as a procurement manager.

Ann-Marie Corbett '60 (CLAS) teaches reading courses at Glendale and Overdale Community Colleges in Arizona.

Barbara Campbell '61 (CLAS), '77 Ph.D., an adjunct professor at the

1930s

David Baumstein '38 (CLAS) returned to West Hartford, Conn., after 35 years in Boca Raton, Fla. He received a master of social work from University of Pennsylvania, was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of London and an assistant commissioner for the State of New York.

done for almost 30 years at the Greene County (Pa.) Fair.

Jonathan Hutchinson '43 (CLAS), '65 6th Year enjoys gardening with his wife of 62 years, Betty, with whom he has seven children.

Malcolm Platt '46 (ENG) is happily retired for 22 years after a career designing submarines with Electric Boat. He and his wife, Margaret, live in Lisbon, Conn.

1940s



John Gapen '41 M.A., a retired country agriculture agent at Penn State University, judged the harvest of wool, hay, grains, corn and sunflowers, as he has

Edmund Chrostowski '49 (CLAS) retired after 47 years as a journalist and now is editor emeritus of the *New Canaan Advertiser*, for which he writes two weekly columns, “From the Crow’s Nest” and “Fifty Years Ago.” He lives in Ridgefield, Conn.

Lewis Greist '49 (BUS) and his wife welcomed their 11th great-grandchild on July 4, 2008. The couple lives in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Stan Mattes '49 (CLAS) is retired and enjoys playing golf, driving his 1961 M.B. 190 SL and watching his great nieces play soccer in Henderson, Nev.

1950s

Jeremiah Wadsworth '50 (CANR), received the 2006 Book of Golden Deeds from the Farmington, Conn., Exchange Club, which is presented to individuals who exemplify community volunteerism. He celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary with wife, Lois, in August 2007.

UConn Greater Hartford Campus, in June 2008 visited the U.N. Millennium Development Village at Mayange, Rwanda, which was established with the goal of eradicating extreme poverty.

Kenneth Gold '61 (CLAS) received the Rotary International Paul Harris Award from the Wayne, N.J., Rotary in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the organization and embodiment of the Rotary's ideal of "service above self." He served for many years as communications director of Rotary District 7490.

Francis Dillon '62 (BUS) is the author of *The Photograph*, a novel about Cold War memories, lost love and unsolved deaths, published in August 2008 by Booklocker.

Irene (Deikis) Zemaitaitis '62 (CLAS) and her husband returned to the United States in Fall 2008 after living in their native Lithuania for 13 years.

Ted Haddad '63 (CLAS) is the new chief acquisition officer for the U.S.

General Services Administration after serving as senior advisor in the GSA.

Thomas J. Marchione '63 (ENG), '78 Ph.D. is an adjunct professor in the department of global and community health at George Mason University.

Judith Warren '63 (CLAS), '64 M.A. has retired as project manager from the Volpe Center in Cambridge, Mass.



Susan (Klasson) Zareski '63 (NURS) retired as director of nursing at El Camino College after 39 years of teaching and administration. She lives in Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., with her husband of 44 years, **Norm Zareski '61 (ENG)**.



Raymond Boyington '64 (CLAS), '69 M.S. retired after 42 years as a teacher in San Francisco, most recently at Lick-Wilmerding and San Francisco University High Schools.

Jerold Wanosky '64 (CLAS), a retired school administrator, has been appointed to the Milford, Conn., Police Commission. He previously was chairman of the Milford Board of Education and served two terms as a member of the Board of Alderman.

Vincent Ciarpella '65 (BUS), retired vice president of operations, Esco Corp., and retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, teaches in the professional degree program and at the School of International Affairs at Washington University in St. Louis. He also teaches in Webster University's international joint M.B.A. program at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, China.

Jeffery Dorwart '65 (CLAS) retired in December 2008 after 38 years as a history professor at Rutgers University. He is the author of *Invasion and Insurrection: Security, Defense and War in the Delaware Valley 1621 – 1815*, published by the University of Delaware Press in August 2008.

Janet Linley '65 (CLAS) is a piano teacher at a local community arts center in Sanibel, Fla.

Francis Gwazdauskas '66 (CANR), professor of dairy science at Virginia Tech, is the 2008 American Dairy Science Association Fellow, which recognizes members of the ADSA dairy foods and production divisions who have rendered distinguished service to the dairy industry for more than 20 years.



Richard DiPentima '67 (CLAS), '74 (NUR), recently retired after a career in public health, was elected in November as a state representative to the New Hampshire General Court, the state legislature. He lives in Portsmouth, N.H., with his wife, Catherine.

Jacqueline Dembar Greene '67 (ED) is the author of the newly released picture book *Nathan's Hanukkah Bargain* (Pelican). She has written more than 30 picture books for young readers, including historical

Breaking new ground in emerging markets

In the more than a dozen years since she returned to Taiwan from Storrs, **Lih-Chyi Wen '93 M.S., '96 Ph.D.** has established a career as an environmental economist who continues to break new ground in one of the world's emerging regions.

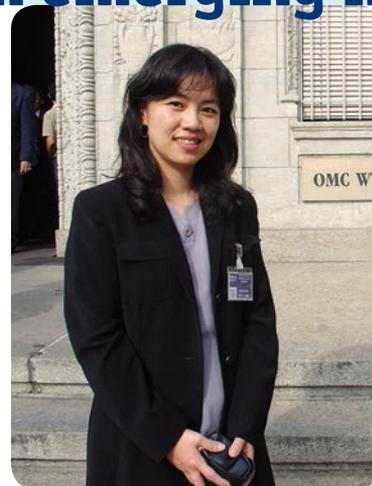
Like the rest of the world, the island nation of Taiwan is wrestling with the economic, environmental and social impact of global climate change. Wen, deputy director and research fellow in the International Division of the Energy and Environmental Research Center at the Taiwan World Trade Organization, is playing a crucial role in proposing new economic and environmental policies to aid her country. This Center was established to coordinate interdisciplinary research in energy and environmental studies, including energy security, energy demand, resource recycling, climate change, water resources and sustainability development.

"Lih-Chyi has combined her economics training and her passion for environmental issues and used them to understand and improve environmental management in her home country of Taiwan, which faces numerous environmental challenges as its economy grows," says Kathleen Segerson, Philip E. Austin Professor of Economics, who served as Wen's advisor at UConn.

The respect is mutual. Wen says the key to her success at Storrs was the support she received from the faculty, particularly Segerson. "She not only has a brilliant, analytical mind and great originality, which is evidenced throughout her teaching and research work, but she also takes care of graduate students as if

they were her own kids," Wen says.

"Global climate change and energy scarcity have become the important challenges for human beings in the 21st century," says Wen, who heads a team of 40 researchers. "We need to determine how we get balance between climate change, energy scarcity, economic growth and sustainable development."



One way she is helping to find the answer to such important questions is serving as an organizer of the 4th East Asian Symposium on Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, which was held in March 2009 in Taipei, Taiwan, and jointly sponsored by the Taiwan WTO and several universities and scholarly associations in East Asian nations.

The author of two books and dozens of commissioned articles on environmental policy as well as economic policy, Wen was named one of 2008's Rising Stars in Taipei by the Central News Agency, selected by a 10-member panel of university presidents.

— Gary E. Frank

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

novels, non-fiction books and short stories.

Robert Klancko '67 (ENG) received a 2008 Honorary American Degree from the Future Farmers of America in recognition of his exceptional service to agriculture and agricultural education. The award was

presented during the FFA national meeting in Indianapolis.

Christine (Lobeck) Lodewick '67 M.A. received the "Spirit of Dr. King Ridgefield Community Service Award" in January during the Dr. Martin Luther King Day celebration in Ridgefield, Conn., recognizing her 22 years of service as a volunteer and board member with A Better Chance of Ridgefield, the local branch of a national organization that refers academically talented students entering grades 6 through 11 to some of the nation's finest independent and public schools to be considered for placement and financial aid. The recognition also included her service to UConn as a member of the Women's Leadership Council of the UConn Alumni Association.

Michael Scheinblum '67 (BUS) received a 2008 President's Call to Service Award from Volunteer Florida, recognizing his more than 15 years of service to the Miami-Dade community.

Jason Traiger '67 M.A., senior technical writer at Eclipsys Corporation, is the creator of Wishes Houses Crafters and a member of the John Payne Music Center jazz ensemble.

Jack DeWitt '68 M.A., '73 Ph.D., professor of English at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, is the author of *Almost Grown*, released by Paper Kite Press, who was featured in the November issue of the *American Poetry Review*.

Carol Milardo Floriani '68 (NUR) is a hospice nurse in Easley, S.C., after retiring from a career in nursing management.

Donald Hoffman '68 (ED), former associate dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Kentucky and professor emeritus of art, is CEO of Help U Retire, a company dedicated to assisting mature adults through the downsizing process.



Roger Pressman '69 (ENG), '76 Ph.D. completed the seventh edition of *Software Engineering: A Practitioner's*

Approach (McGraw-Hill), the world's most widely used textbook in software engineering, and is the co-author of *Web Engineering* (McGraw-Hill). He lives with his wife, Barbara, in Boca Raton, Fla.

1970s



Tim Jerman '70 (CLAS) was elected to a third term in the Vermont legislature in November. He retired from the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in June after 31 years of service, most recently as director of human resources. He lives in Essex Junction, Vt., with his wife, Theresa, and stepson, Trevor.

Magdalena "Bessy" Reyna '70 M.A., '82 J.D. received the 2009 Outstanding Latina Award from the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education in recognition of her contributions to literature and Latino culture at the organization's conference in San Antonio in March.

Lance Olsen '71 (SFS) lives in Missoula, Mont., where he co-founded and leads a listserv for climate researchers, wildlife researchers, wildlife conservation professionals and students in related specialties.

John Rossi '71 M.S., '76 Ph.D., president of the Oligonucleotide Therapeutics Society and co-founder of Calando, was appointed as chair of the advisory board at Dicerna Pharmaceuticals.

Ron Edwards '72 Ph.D. retired after 30 years as a professor of mathematics at Westfield State College in Massachusetts. He now is a sculptor in a studio he shares with his wife, painter Judy Edwards.

Susan (Ingardia) Gabriele '72 (SFS) is the first female president of the Brookfield (Conn.) Lion's Club and the recipient of the Lion's Knight of the Blind Award, recognizing the organization's work to raise funds to aid sight- or hearing-impaired individuals.

Richard D. Gray '72 (CLAS) is the vice president and chief financial officer for the University of

Connecticut. He previously was executive director of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority for 12 years.

Caleb Nichols '73 J.D. practices law through the Law Offices of Caleb L. Nichols, based in Erie, Pa., and covering western Pennsylvania.

Regina Poltrack '73 (CLAS) was promoted to manager, internal audit, at KPMG, an accounting and consulting firm in Montvale, N.J.

Nicholas Palermo '74 (CLAS) marked his 22nd year as a trial lawyer and leader of the full-service firm, the Law Offices of Nicholas Palermo in downtown Boston. He lives with his wife, Grace, and their children in Sudbury, Mass.

Stephen Verchinski '74 (CANR), program coordinator for boating safety and education for New Mexico State Parks, received the Directors Award for his continued outstanding work with the division. He is also the recipient of an award from the N.M. Zia Divers Club for rescuing a fellow scuba diver at Catalina Island.

Thomas Ingrassia '75 M.A. is owner of Tom Ingrassia Productions, which was recognized by StartupNation as one of the top businesses in its annual Home-Based 100 competition.

Martin Burke '76 (BUS) married Sandra Baird on May 31, 2008, in Montgomery, Vt.

Susan Glickstein '76 (CLAS) is an officer in the international division of M&T Bank in Baltimore, Md.

Thomas Jeffrey '76 (ENG), a senior engineering Fellow at Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems, is the author of *Phased-Array Radar Design: Application of Radar Fundamentals*, released in October 2008 by SciTech Publishing. He has been with Raytheon for 25 years.

Grant Berry '77 Ph.D. retired as dean of development at Pennsylvania College of Technology, in Williamsport in January 2001.

Mark Gould '77 (CLAS) is a Connecticut Superior Court judge assigned to the Meriden Superior Court through August 2009.

We want to hear from you!

Let your fellow UConn alumni know about the milestones in your life. Keep your friends and former classmates up to date by sending information and, if possible, a photograph.

Mail to:
Alumni News & Notes
University of Connecticut
Alumni Association
2384 Alumni Drive, Unit 3053
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- The Alumni Association awards \$100,000 annually in scholarships to deserving UConn students.
- The Alumni Association honors UConn faculty and alumni through our annual awards program.
- The Alumni Association keeps alumni and friends connected through events, networking opportunities and the Husky Alumni Network.

These are just a few of the ways that the Alumni Association promotes its mission of "connecting alumni," "supporting students" and "strengthening UConn." Revenue collected through membership dues directly supports these and other programs that help us build a stronger alumni base.

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Arthur Koeller '77 (CLAS) is a manager at Fluor Corporation in Greenville, S.C.

Susan Pearson '77 (SFS) is a full-time homemaker in La Luz, N.M., where she lives with her husband and their five children.



Jo Ann Simons '77 M.S.W. was appointed president and chief executive officer of the St. Coletta & Cardinal Cushing Schools of Massachusetts. She previously was executive director of the Arc of East Middlesex.

David Barnett '78 (CANR) is the new president and CEO of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Mass. He previously served as executive vice president at Mount Auburn.

Christopher Bates '78 (CLAS) retired in 2008 after 30 years as a Green Beret in the U.S. Army, serving in a variety of positions throughout the world culminating with an assignment as the principal advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Counter-Terrorism in Baghdad, Iraq. He lives in Tampa, Fla.

Tom O'Flaherty '78 M.A. retired to California after 25 years practicing criminal defense and appellate law in Iowa and federal courts.



Geoffrey Smith '78 (CLAS) is vice president of risk management at Iron Mountain, Inc., a leader in records

management and data storage, and serves as deacon at Old North Church in Boston.

Hope Toelken '78 (CLAS) is a personal banking account executive in the retail lending team at Putnam Bank in Gales Ferry, Conn.



Cynthia Basil Howard '79 (CLAS) was appointed director of development for the Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools in Bloomfield, Conn.

Keeping Popular Mechanics on track in today's turbulent world of publishing



Bill Congdon '75 (BUS) sits in the eye of the storm raging within the publishing industry, as print media continue to struggle finding advertising profitability in an increasingly online world. As the publisher of *Popular Mechanics*, Congdon leads a magazine whose purpose has not altered since it began in 1902.

"Our mission statement hasn't changed – explaining, understanding and using technology," he says in his midtown Manhattan office. "Obviously the mix of technology has changed. In 1902, the thought was some day every home will have electricity. In 1996, it was that some day every home will have the Internet."

After graduating with a marketing degree from UConn, Congdon worked briefly at a computer company before moving to an upstart boating publication, *Offshore New England*. He earned an M.B.A. at Cornell University and spent six years in sales and marketing positions at *Golf Digest* and *Tennis Magazine* before joining Hearst Magazines in 1989, where he held a variety of sales and marketing positions for titles, including *Motor Boating & Sailing* and *Esquire*. In 1992, he moved to *Popular Mechanics*, where he held several posts before being named publisher in 2003.

Under Congdon's leadership, *Popular Mechanics* remains one of the top 75 magazines in

publishing, with a monthly audience of 1.2 million subscribers and newsstand sales that outpace other male audience magazines, including *ESPN: The Magazine* and *Sports Illustrated*. He says that a key to this success was the early move to integrate the print magazine with its online edition.

"We've been totally integrated online since 1995. We were one of the first magazines to have a Web site," Congdon says. "*Popular Mechanics* is a media brand. We embraced the Internet from the start. A lot of print people saw the Internet as a competitor, as a threat. The way we look at it is we're content providers. We need to make sure we can distribute good content in ways people want it."

Congdon relishes the challenge of keeping *Popular Mechanics*, which is published in 10 languages, a vital publication for its readers and its staff. He says the magazine is also establishing alliances with advertisers and cable television to create new content and programming on its Web site, with video links to products and technologies it covers.

"I think after the economy comes around all the media slices of the advertising pie will be a little leaner; it will be more competitive," he says. "If you can provide really good content that people need or want and an environment for an advertiser's message, that's going to be the key." — *Kenneth Best*

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Colleen Murphy Davis '79 (SFS) was named senior litigation counsel in the Tampa Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida. She has been an assistant U.S. Attorney with the Department of Justice since 1995 and previously served as a trial attorney in the Middle District of the Florida Violent Crimes Unit.

Debra (Fish) Kaye '79 (NUR) was promoted to senior nurse case manager in the medical and specialty services department at Liberty Mutual in Wallingford, Conn.

Dawn Leger '79 (CLAS), '80 M.A. is director of community resources and also volunteers at Central Connecticut Senior Health Services, Inc., in Southington, Conn.

Tom Marshella '79 (BUS) is managing director and co-team leader of Moody's Corporate Finance Group in the Americas. He previously served as a team managing director for the diversified manufacturing, construction, home building, gaming, lodging and restaurant sectors. He has also led Moody's leveraged finance efforts since late 1996.

Darryl (Campagna) McGrath '79 (CLAS), a teacher in the journalism program at the State University of New York, Albany, is writing a book on New York State's endangered bird populations.

Mike Tamborrino '79 (BUS), '88 M.B.A. specializes in federal sales for Owl Computing Technologies in Ridgefield, Conn. He ran his 31st half-marathon in October 2008.

1980s

James Countryman '80 (ENG) has started several multiple sclerosis groups in Montpelier, Vt., where he lives with his fiancé. He previously worked for Perkin-Elmer and was recognized by Yale, where he completed a seven-year fellowship, for his exemplary research in geophysical fluid dynamics.

W. Brewster Earle '80 (CLAS), president of Comfort Systems USA Energy Services in Windsor, Conn., was appointed the first chairman of the National Green Building Committee of Associated Builders

and Contractors, the national trade association representing merit shop contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and related firms in the United States.

Lisa (Panella) Eells '80 (ED) is principal of Gaffney Elementary School in New Britain, Conn., a pre-kindergarten through fifth grade school that showcases achievement through the arts.

Ed Springer '80 (ENG) joined Cameron Engineering & Associates, LLP of Woodbury, N.Y., as senior structural engineer.

Ron VandenDolder '80 (CLAS), environmental, safety and security manager for Coca-Cola, was awarded three patents as well as certification as a safety professional, certified hazardous materials manager, and certified maintenance manager.

Jonathan Bagg '81 (ENG), a certified Six Sigma black belt and quality auditor, was promoted to principal quality engineer at Medtronic in the diabetes division in Los Angeles.

Carmella Cassetta '81 (BUS) is the senior vice president and chief information officer for Corinthian Colleges in Santa Ana, Calif., a company recently awarded the CIO 100 Innovation Award for its innovation in the use of technology to solve business projects.

Jim Condon '81 (CLAS), executive director of the Vermont Association of Broadcasters, was re-elected to his third term representing the Town of Colchester in the Vermont House of Representatives, where he is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee.



Christine Gedney '81 (ED) a program manager for Spectrum, a Hampton, Va.-based defense consulting company, received an Annual Performer Award from the company. She previously served 22 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Del Gordon '81 (CLAS), a senior software and systems engineer with Northrop Grumman Corporation in Sierra Vista, Ariz., received the

Alumni Weekend, June 5-6, 2009

Come home for Alumni Weekend 2009! We invite you "back home" to a place where lifelong friendships began and special memories abound. Although the landscape of the campus has changed, "True Blue" pride remains everywhere.

An exciting schedule of events has been put together that includes family friendly activities, feature presentations and plenty of UConn traditions that can be shared by all generations of Huskies. On Friday evening, there will also be a special celebration for the Class of 1959.

Other Alumni Weekend activities include:

- "Time Traveler: A Scientist's Personal Mission to Make Time Travel a Reality," by professor Ron Mallett
- "Behind the Scenes" tours of Gampel Pavilion and The Burton Family Football Complex and Mark R. Shenkman Training Center
- Painting "The Rock"
- Honoring M. Kevin Fahey's 30 years of service to students
- BBQ lunch, featuring the One Ton Sundae

A full schedule of the weekend's events can be found at UConnAlumni.com/alumniweekend.

2008 Webmaster of the Year award from the Astronomical League, a national organization that promotes the science of astronomy.

Tom Kaiden '81 (CLAS), chief operating officer at the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, is leading the Alliance's new initiative, Engage 2020, to double regional cultural participation by the year 2020.



Jamie Morton '81 (BUS) teaches part time at a Sacramento, Calif., college and has worked at a homeless shelter for almost seven years.

Paul Tortland '81 (CLAS), '84 M.A., president of the Connecticut

Osteopathic Medical Society and an athletics team physician at the University of Hartford, was elected to the board of directors of the American Association of Orthopedic Medicine. A private practice physician in sports medicine, he also served as team physician for the U.S. figure skating team at the international Junior Grand Prix event in Courchevel, France, last August.

Michael Drabik '82 (CANR) is a regional sales manager for Optronics and his wife, **Linda (Romine) '82 (SFS)**, is a mechanical engineer for Bose. They celebrated 25 years of marriage with their daughter Maya, family and friends.

Helen Bennett Harvey '82 (CLAS), '83 (CLAS), adjunct professor at Southern Connecticut State University, is the city and state editor at *The New Haven Register*. She lives in Orange, Conn., with her husband, Peter, and their children.

James Hupp '82 M.D. is the founding dean of the School of Dentistry at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. He previously served as dean of the School of Dentistry at the University of Mississippi.



Susan Jewell '82 M.S. is the author of *Gators, Gourdeads, and Puffings: A Biologist Slogs, Climbs, and Wings Her Way to Save Wildlife*, her third book, released in November 2008 by Infinity Publishing. She freelances as an environmental writer while working as a biologist on national endangered species issues for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, D.C.

Ruth (Miller) Parish '82 (SFA) was selected to participate in Digital '08: Imagination on Behalf of Our Planet, Art & Science Collaborations, Inc.'s, 10th International Competition and Exhibition of Digital Prints. The show opened at the New York Hall of Science on Oct. 4, 2008, and ran through Jan. 25, 2009.

Karen Vanderhoof-Forschner '82 M.B.A., '07 LL.M., a consultant and chair of the board of directors

of the Lyme Disease Foundation, was the speaker at Muskingum College's graduate commencement and received an honorary doctorate from the college in recognition of her 20 years of volunteer service and law education in health care and insurance.

Peter Cavaliere '83 (BUS), a freelance television producer and director, joined Fox Business Network in Manhattan. He won a Sports Emmy Award for his work with NBC Sports Olympic Unit and currently lives in Secaucus, N.J.



Lisa Davis '83 (NUR) received the 2008 Annual Collaborative Spirit Award from the Northern Connecticut Black

Nurses Association, which recognizes individuals who support the efforts of the association through quality health care services and education to the community.



Tracey Flynn '83 (CLAS), '85 M.A., associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Quinnipiac

University in Hamden, Conn., received a 2008 Excellence in Teaching and Service to Students Award from Quinnipiac.

Michelle (Reineke) Mann '83 (CLAS) and her husband, Craig, announce the birth of a son, Craig Michael, on Sept. 27, 2006.

Victor Milione '83 (CLAS), partner and practice group leader for the Financial Restructuring & Bankruptcy Group at Nixon Peabody LLP, has been named co-chair of the Commercial Finance Committee of the Bankruptcy and Business Law Sections of the Boston Bar Association.

Rafael Santiago '83 J.D., '83 M.B.A., the managing member of the Santiago Law Group, LLC, in Hartford, Conn., and a former president of the Hispanic National Bar Association, received the University of Connecticut Law School Alumni Association's Public Service Award.

Mark Barra '84 (BUS) is the president of Global Financial Consulting LLC, a global financial consulting firm helping banks manage their troubled loan portfolios, which recently opened a domestic division to assist Connecticut Banks.

Rosemary Keating Leitz '84 (BUS) was promoted to senior counsel in the federal regulatory practice of Northeast Utilities, providing legal support to the company's electric transmission businesses. She lives in West Hartford, Conn., with her husband, **Jeffrey Leitz '83 (CLAS)**, CEO of Walbridge Capital Advisors, and their son, Desmond.

Jamie Meyers '84 (CLAS), '93 M.B.A. is vice president and chief Medicare actuary at Humana in Louisville, Ky.

Melissa (Anderson) Piurkowski '84 (BUS) married Stanley Piurkowski in April 2007. She is an associate finance manager at Unilever US in Trumbull, Conn.

Michèle Singh-Roy Chaplick '85 (CLAS) received a master of arts in teaching from Sacred Heart University in August 2008 and is a graduate of the legal studies program at the University of Hartford. She has 18 years experience as a corporate paralegal, specializing in intellectual property and corporate law, and lives with her family in Westport, Conn.

Andrew Rose '85 (ENG), '86 M.S., associate professor of civil engineering technology at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, received the University's President's Award for Teaching Excellence.

Mark D. Rubino '85 (BUS) joined KPMG as an associate general counsel, supervising internal investigations, after 15 years as a federal prosecutor.

Ellen (Wallace) Calderone '86 (NUR), a critical care nurse at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain., received a 2008 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing.

James Purcell '86 (ENG) is senior vice president and branch manager of Medina Consultants, P.C., in Hamilton, N.J., a civil

engineering and land surveying firm with offices in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Connecticut. He is active in the New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers, the American Council of Engineering Companies of New Jersey, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Society of Highway Engineers. He lives in Lawrenceville, N.J., with his wife, Cheryl, and their two children.

Emeka Nwadiora '87 M.S.W., a member of Anita Gordon Bell and Associates, a small psychological group practice in Philadelphia, teaches human behavior graduate courses at Temple University's School of Social Administration and hosts the talk radio program "The Pan Africa Show" in Philadelphia.

Marie (Charette) Winiarski '88 (CLAS), a manager for SendOutCards, based in Salt Lake City, lives in Simsbury, Conn., with her husband and two sons.



Pam (Montanaro) Kendrick '89 (ED), an English teacher at North Haven (Conn.) Middle School, was named 2007-2008 Teacher

of the Year in North Haven and was a finalist for the 2008 Connecticut Teacher of the Year. She lives in North Branford with her husband, Dave, and their children, Andy, 8, and Alyssa, 5.

Kimberly McClure '89 (CANR) married Will Brinton in July 2007 and welcomed their first child, Anna Theresa, in May 2008. She owns the veterinary practice Country Companions in Bethany, Conn., where one of her colleagues is **Sarah Murray '00 (CANR)**.

John Terwilliger '89 (ENG) was promoted to senior geophysicist at Brigham Oil & Gas, L.P., in Austin, Texas.



Holowaty is No. 1 on Division III diamond

Bill Holowaty '67 (ED), '69 M.S. ranks first among all active NCAA Division III baseball coaches as he enters his 41st season as head baseball coach at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, Conn. He has won four national championships (1982, 1990, 1998 and 2002) and is one of only 45 coaches to win as many as 1,000 games. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2002. A professor of health and physical education at Eastern, he has led his teams to 1,249 wins, averaging 37 wins per year.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Deborah Wolf '89 6th Year serves as advisor to the director of special education in the Ministry of Education located in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, after retiring from her position as elementary principal at Howell Public Schools in Howell, Mich.

1990s

Kenneth Broder '90 (CLAS) and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of a daughter, Mia Julianna, who joins sister, Sarah Isabella. He is a dentist who lives and practices in Stamford, Conn.

Susan Dunton '90 Ph.D. is the new provost at Fisher College in Boston, with almost 25 years of experience in higher education administration, most recently as associate dean at Lesley University in Boston.

Tanya Geerken-Mattson '90 (CLAS) and Mark Mattson were married on Feb. 29, 2008. The couple lives in Erie, Pa.

Brett Lipeles '90 (BUS), founder of Exhibit and Display Consultants in Providence, R.I., is the author of *Professional Exhibit Manager's Handbook*, published by Aardvark Global. It is a comprehensive guide to planning trade show exhibits.

Janice Miller Potter '90 Ph.D. is the author of *Psalms in Time*, a collection of poetry published by Finishing Line Press in December 2008.

Anne (Halloran) Tortora '90 (ED), '90 (SFA) is director of bands at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md.

Stanley Bator '91 (BGS) married Phuong Nguyen on June 21, 2008. The couple lives in Stratford, Conn.



John Casey '91 (CLAS), land use attorney with Robinson & Cole, was elected to the board of directors of Connecticut Legal Services, a non-profit civil law firm. He is involved in various philanthropies, including Lawyers for Children America, the Connecticut Cruise Ship Task Force and the New London Education Foundation. He lives in Groton with his wife and two children.

Donald Costello '91 (CLAS) was promoted to lead optometrist at the West Bank facility of Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans. He lives in New Orleans with his wife, Courtney.

Julie (Spiers) Donahue '91 (CLAS) and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of a daughter, Margaret Rose, on Sept. 30, 2008, who joins sister, Katie.

Kristin Edmonds '91 M.A. is a winner of the 2008 IdeaBounce, a collaborative environment that helps to bring ideas to the marketplace at the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies

of Washington University. She operates Mindfullgames.com, which sells research-based vocabulary training games.

Judith Jacques '91 (CLAS), '92 M.S., molecular biologist at Dyax Corp. and head of the Cooperative Education Program with Northeastern University, was named as one of the *Who's Who in Cambridge, Mass.*, among executives, professionals and entrepreneurs.

Erin (Flaherty) Mancuso '91 (CLAS) and her husband, **Nicholas Mancuso '92 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of a son, Zachary Heron, on Oct. 22, 2008. He joins big sisters Emma, 4, and Maya, 2. The family lives in Colchester, Conn.

Chris Melillo '91 (ED) is the principal at Shepherd Glen Elementary School in Hamden, Conn. He lives in Milford, Conn., with his wife and two children.

Lori (Stephens) Mulligan '91 (ED) and her husband, Chuck, announce the birth of a daughter, Anna Charlotte, born April 15, 2008. She joins a sister, Blair. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.



Charles Pickett '91 (CLAS) took a two-year break from his Boston-based freelance editing and copywriting company, PickettMedia, to enlist in the U.S. Army. He recently completed a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 814th Multi-Role Bridging Company, 46th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy), 1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.

Michele (Obman) Soulek '91 (BUS) and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their son, Oliver, on March 4, 2008. The family lives in Casper, Wyo.

Rene St. George '91 (BGS) retired from his career as a detective with the Bristol (Conn.) Police and now lives in Savannah, Ga.

Mark Ulrich '91 (CLAS), '05 M.A. was promoted from major to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Special Forces on July 1, 2008. He is stationed in Fort Wentworth, Kan.

Laura (Dameron) Wilson '91 (SFS) married Chris Wilson on August 16, 2008. The couple lives in Gahanna, Ohio.

Phil Almquist '92 M.B.A. recently joined Clement Pappas in Carneys Point, N.J., as a marketing associate.

Grace (Lim) Baccay '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Francis, announce the birth of a daughter, Natalie Ann, on June 27, 2008. Natalie joins brothers, Wesley, 5, and Oliver, 2, at their home in Chappaqua, N.Y.

Thaddeus Chrzanowski '92 (BUS), '03 M.B.A. is vice president at Paulson Training Programs, a provider of educational software for the plastics industry in Chester, Conn.

Tricia Dinneen Priebe '92 (CLAS) is co-owner of Innovate & Organize LLC, a legislative grassroots, association management and issues management company. She lives in North Haven, Conn., with her husband and two children.



Kitty Foord '92 M.A., associate professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato, and coordinator of graduate programs and professional development in teaching and learning, is the co-author of *Professional Learning Communities: An Implementation Guide and Toolkit*, published by Eye on Education.

Karen (Lagasse) Schumann '92 (NUR) and Michael Schumann announce the birth of a daughter, Sarah Grace, born April 9, 2008. She joins brother, Aidan John, 6, and sister, Elizabeth Rose, 4. The family lives in Milford, Conn.



Shanyelle (Hawkins) Young '92 (CLAS) received the Top Producer Award in sales, commission and number of transactions by Gillette Real Estate in Windsor, Conn.

Beth Taylor Mack '93 (ED) announces the birth of a son, Jason Andrew Mack, on Aug. 7, 2008, who joins brother, Ryan, 3.

Abbreviation Key

School and/or College for baccalaureate degrees:

CANR – College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

SAH – School of Allied Health and Sciences

BUS – School of Business

SFA – School of Fine Arts

ED – Neag School of Education

ENG – School of Engineering

SFS – School of Family Studies

BGS – General Studies

NUR – School of Nursing

PHR – School of Pharmacy

RHSA – Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture

Graduate/professional degrees:

M.A. – Master of Arts

M.S. – Master of Science

M.D.S. – Master of Dental Science

M.B.A. – Master of Business Administration

M.F.A. – Master of Fine Arts

M.M. – Master of Music

M.P.A. – Master of Public Affairs

M.P.H. – Master of Public Health

M.S.W. – Master of Social Work

M.S.P.T. – M.S. in Physical Therapy

Ph.D. – Doctor of Philosophy

D.M.A. – Doctor of Musical Arts

J.D. – Juris Doctor

M.D. – Doctor of Medicine

D.M.D. – Doctor of Dental Medicine

Pharm.D. – Doctor of Pharmacy

6th Year – Sixth-Year Certificate



Financing the business of television

Rick Baran '93 J.D./M.B.A. will you tell you that his combined degrees from the University of Connecticut suit him perfectly.

"My UConn J.D./M.B.A. was definitely a steroid for my career – the opportunities it created and the doors that have opened have been huge," says Baran.

Last year, Baran's education and experience caught the attention of the CBS Corporation. CBS named him executive vice president and chief financial officer of CBS Television Stations, which owns 29 local stations nationwide. It is Baran's first job in the communications industry.

"The absolute best part of my new job is I'm learning something new all the time," he says. "Applying solutions to complex issues is a skill that was fostered at UConn. Sometimes things work, sometimes they don't, but being able to apply past experiences and fast-action plans to the unprecedented legal and business landscapes we're faced with now is just a blast."

Before joining CBS, Baran used his eclectic mixture of fiscal

and legal experience for five and a half years at Tyco International, where he served as its first-ever corporate ombudsman and, later, as chief financial officer for its global infrastructure and environmental consulting business, Earth Tech. Prior to that, he served for more than a dozen years at General Electric in a wide range of leadership roles, most notably as global chief financial officer of GE's Hydro Electric and Power Turbine installation businesses.

While juggling a job and a growing family early in his career, Baran decided to pursue the UConn dual-degree program. Baran originally wanted to pursue a path in contract law; he found the first-year contracts course taught by Richard S. Kay, the Wallace Stevens Professor of Law, particularly helpful.

"Professor Kay made that one hour in class seem like five minutes," Baran says. "It was all I'd hoped it would be when I signed up for the four-year program."

Baran also found Glen Chu-Richardson, former M.B.A. program director in Hartford and now director of UConn's Tri-Campus program, valuable to his success in the program.

"He was somebody I could go to for advice and he'd say, 'OK, here's the straightest path between where you are and where you need to go,'" says Baran. "My time at UConn was a lot of work, but also tremendously rewarding!" — *Gary E. Frank*

Kara (Heller) McDonald '93 (BUS) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of a son, Jack Ronan, on March 3, 2008. He joins sister, Ava. The family lives in Dublin, Ireland.

Jon Pedersen Sr. '93 (BUS) was recently named senior vice president and controller for Warner Music Group in New York City.

Kevin Ryan '93 (CLAS) is director of Web and interactive marketing at the University of South Carolina Beaufort in Bluffton, S.C. He previously was co-owner of Low-G Marketing, a Web design and search engine optimization firm.

Bob Sartoris '93 (CLAS), '95 M.A., assistant principal at Cheney Tech in Manchester, Conn., for the past six years, was named Assistant Principal of the Year for the Connecticut technical high school system. He lives in South Windsor with his wife, Meaghan, son, Graeden, and twin daughters, Sarah and Kellie.

Gavin Blawie '94 M.B.A., senior vice president and senior director at BBDO New York City, was named lead on the worldwide Monster.com account, directing agency teams

in New York, Amsterdam and Hong Kong in creating integrated marketing communications in over 25 countries.



Jennifer (Toelke) Bourret '94 (BUS) was promoted to director of risk at Constitution Corporate Federal Credit Union in Wallingford, Conn.

Jonathan Hayes '94 (BUS) is senior vice president of Bank of America's Corporate Treasury Finance department. He lives with his wife, Kristen, and their son, Ryan, in Huntersville, N.C.



Bani Mallick '94 M.S., professor of statistics at Texas A & M University, was named a Fellow of the Institute

of Mathematical Statistics for his contributions to Bayesian classification and regression, nonparametric hierarchical modeling, survival analysis, spatial statistics and time-series modeling.



Denise (Plante) Terry '94 (CLAS) is acting associate pastor at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ in Sanibel, Fla.

John Auchterlonie '95 (CLAS), '02 M.S. is a vice president of accounting at SAC Capital Advisors in Stamford, Conn. He and his wife, **Maria (Vicino) '95 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of a son, Michael Anthony, in May. He joins brothers John, 4, and Joseph, 2.

Carol Jeanne Coombs '95 M.S.W. opened a new private psychotherapy practice in Worcester, Mass., which treats children, adolescents and adults.

Daphnie (Mercado) Deleo '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of a daughter, Claudia, who joins sister Raquel.

Jennifer (Galvin) Fitting '95 (CLAS) and Todd Fitting announce the birth of a daughter, Hailey Elizabeth, on May 2, 2008, who joins brother Ryan Benjamin, 2. Jennifer completed her master's degree in

school counseling in 2005 and is a counselor at Guilford High School in Guilford, Conn.

Beth (Hatterman) Gillin '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of their son, Cal Vincent, on Aug. 26, 2008. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

Rick Greenberg '95 (CLAS) and **Jessica (Tottenham) '95 (SAH)** announce the birth of their third son, Jordan Jeffrey, on Jan. 4, 2008, who joins his brothers Jayson, 4, and Justin, 2. The family lives in Branford, Conn.

Lara Herscovitch '95 (M.S.W.) is the 2009-10 Connecticut State Troubadour, who serves as an ambassador of music and song to encourage cultural literacy and promote the State of Connecticut. She is completing work on her fourth album, which will be released later this year.

Jennifer (Tracy) Humes '95 (BUS) and Michael Humes announce the birth of a son, Griffin Tracy Humes, on July 16, 2008. Griffin joins brother, Carter David, 2.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Maggie (Conway) McGillicuddy '95 (CANR) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Grace, on July 16, 2008, who joins brother, M.J., and sister, Katie. Maggie teaches science at Torrington High School.



Brad Southwell '95 (CLAS) is a sales engineer with discover-e Legal, LLC in Portland, Ore., a provider of electronic data

discovery software and services to law firms and corporations.

Mike Tortora '95 (BUS) is director of international compliance and control at the Pepsi Bottling Group in Aliso Viejo, Calif.

Christopher Bieszczad '96 (CLAS) is senior product analyst, catastrophe management, at Travelers in Hartford, Conn. He received his M.B.A. from Albertus Magnus College on June 24, 2008.

Jessica (Ryan) Burn '96 (CLAS) married Gray Burn on Aug. 30, 2008. She is manager of tech industry advisory consulting at Forrester Research in Cambridge, Mass.

Deborah Gabinelle '96 M.B.A. started a professional organizing business, Insightful Solutions, in West Hartford, Conn., which specializes in designing and implementing organizing solutions for corporations, small businesses and home-based entrepreneurs.



Sujit Ghosh '96 Ph.D. worked as a statistician for the XXIX Olympics sailing boat event with a team from North Carolina

State University and in collaboration with the Qingdao Metrological Bureau in China. His main task was to predict wind speed, which is critical in deciding whether to hold the sailing event on a given day.

Curtis Grundler '96 M.B.A. is vice president of finance, Asia Pacific, for Targus, located in Hong Kong. He previously was senior director of North America at eBay.

Sarah Jones '96 (ED), director of student activities at Manchester High School in Manchester, Conn., is executive director of the Connecticut Association of Student Councils and serves as Connecticut's representative to

the National Association of State Student Council Executive Directors.

Jacqueline Pennino Scheib '96 J.D., partner at Robinson & Cole specializing in intellectual property and technology law, joined the board of trustees at The Children's Museum in West Hartford, Conn.

Wayne Bragg '97 M.B.A. is a full-time in-residence instructor for the University of Connecticut M.B.A. program.

Lisa Casper '97 M.B.A. was promoted to senior vice president, group financial officer, at Webster Bank in Waterbury, Conn. She was previously vice president, business unit financial officer.

Deborah (Mooney) DiNicola '97 B.F.A., '04 M.B.A. and her husband, **Eric DiNicola '02 M.B.A.**, announce the birth of their daughter, Lindsey Margaret, on Nov. 14, 2007. The family lives in Brookfield, Conn.

Heather (Traverse) Esposito '97 (NUR) and Andrew Esposito announce the birth of a son, Andrew Joseph, on July 27, 2008 in Concord, N.C. He joins brothers Dylan, 6, and Derek, 1, and sisters Madison, 5, and Hailey, 3. Heather

is an RN at CMC-Northeast in Concord, N.C., where the family lives.

Andrea McGrath '97 M.B.A. recently became the director of the Center for Applied Philanthropy/The Fund for Sustainability in Boston, after graduating with an M.P.A. from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Brian McQuide '97 M.A. is an assistant professor of political science at the University of Idaho after receiving his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Illinois.

Alyse (Colombo) Moore '97 (BUS) and her husband, Daniel, announce the birth of a daughter, Cora Mackenzie, on April 18, 2008. Cora joins a sister, Lily, 2. The family lives in White Plains, N.Y.

Jennifer (Kim) Morenus '97 (SFA), and her husband, Peter Morenus Jr., announce the birth of a daughter, Grace, on Oct. 5, who joins big brother, Petey. She is assistant to the vice provost at UConn and her husband is photo editor of *UConn Magazine*.

Kathy Patterson '97 (NUR), owner of Yanceyville Primary Care, her solo nurse-practitioner practice, received

Alumni Traveler



Normandy, France
April 27 – May 5, 2009
The magnificent architecture, riveting history and stunning countryside of the Normandy region are yours to explore on this travel adventure that encompasses the beauty and culture of this fascinating region.

Graduating Senior Trip
May 14 – 24, 2009
Students have the opportunity to celebrate their UConn graduation by visiting Europe's centuries-old landmarks in London, Rome and Paris.

Explore the Tuscan and Lazio Regions of Italy with Geno and Kathy Auriemma
June 7 – 16, 2009
Spend four days exploring the wonders of Florence and the Tuscan countryside before enjoying four days in magnificent Rome.

Norway Fjordlands
July 28 – August 5, 2009
Stand along the fjords and contemplate the colossal glaciers that carved

dramatic gorges and the sparkling, deep blue inlet waters that is the majestic, rugged beauty of Norway.

Classic China and the Yangtze
October 28 – November 11, 2009
This relaxed, well-paced journey combines monumental Beijing, a cruise on the fabled Yangtze, fascinating Xian and cosmopolitan Shanghai. You'll meet local people and experience both ancient and modern China.

The Blue Voyage – Legendary Turkey and the Turquoise Coast
October 5 – 20, 2009
Starting in Istanbul, Turkey's cultural



and spiritual heart, you'll travel south to the sacred battlefield of Gallipoli, ferry across the Dardanelles to Troy and explore the wealth of Greco-Roman ruins at ancient Pergamum. After a full day at Ephesus, you'll cruise for five days aboard your privately chartered gulet yacht throughout the exquisite Turquoise Coast before ending your journey in the beautiful seaside resort of Antalya, with side trips to ancient Perge and Aspendos.

For information on all UConn Alumni Association opportunities, call (888) 822-5861 or visit our Web site at UConnAlumni.com/travel.

the Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing on Oct. 17, 2008.

Nikole (Hansen) Ruddy '97 (BUS) and her husband, **Mike Ruddy '97 (SFA)**, announce the birth of a daughter, Julia Marie, on Jan. 27, 2007, in Manchester, Conn.

Pam (Gruchacz) Wingren '97 (SAH) and her husband announce the birth of their son, William Samuel, on March 21, 2008.



Robin (Aronson) Carr '98 M.F.A. is an associate professor of voice and acting in the Department of Theatre and

Dance at the University of Southern Mississippi, as well as a member of the Actors' Equity Association and the Lessac Training and Research Institute. She lives in Hattiesburg, Miss., with her husband, Matt.

John Dutchover '98 (BUS) and Lisa Dutchover announce the birth of a daughter, Lillian Rose, on July 13, 2008, in New York, N.Y.

Jane Ellen Gauthier '98 (BGS) is director of dental education programs at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, Mass.

Keith Hirokawa '98 J.D., '03 M.A. is in his second year as an associate professor at Texas Wesleyan School of Law in Fort Worth, Texas, after receiving an L.L.M. from Lewis & Clark Law School and practicing environmental and land use law for several years at Erikson & Hirokawa PLLC, in Vancouver, Wash.

Nader Jalili '98 Ph.D., associate professor of mechanical engineering at Clemson University, received the 2008 Murray Stokley Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest distinction awarded to faculty in Clemson's College of Engineering and Science.



Nicole (Burilla) Joslin '98 (NUR), '03 M.S. and her husband, Troy, announce the birth of a daughter, Gianna Rose, on Sept. 27, 2007. Nicole is an adult

nurse practitioner at Somerset Health Care in Glastonbury, Conn. The family lives in Tolland, Conn.

Jennifer (Skillen) Megna '98 (PHR) and her husband, Damian, announce the birth of a son, Cameron Phillip, born July 18, 2008, who joins sister, Julia, 3. The family lives in Framingham, Mass.

Kit Moya '98 M.A., '03 6th Year and his wife, Holly, announce the birth of a son, Luke Alejandro, on Oct. 5, 2007, in Glastonbury, Conn. Luke joins a brother, Logan, 8.

Richard Nizker '98 (BUS) works as systems engineer for Home Depot in Atlanta, where he lives with his wife of three years.

Melissa (Ross) Silberberg '98 (ED), '99 M.A. and **Matthew Silberberg '97 (SAH)** announce the birth of a daughter, Emily Barbara, born April 20, 2008. Emily joins sister, Sarah, 4, and brother, Ryan, 2. The family lives in Manchester, Conn.

Jonathan Zupnik '98 (BUS) is divisional merchandise manager for television, audio and video for Sears Holdings Corporation, based in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

Alicia (Heffernan) Almeida '99 (CANR), '06 D.M.D. and her husband **Roberto Almeida '98 (BUS)** announce the birth of their first child, Alexander John, on June 12, 2008.

Karen Dahl '99 (CLAS) and Brian Reich announce the birth of a son, Henry, on Nov. 16, 2007, in Boston.

Agustin Margary '99 (CANR) married **Irene Checchin '00 (CANR)** on July 20, 2008. Agustin is a property agent for the Connecticut Department of Transportation. Irene is a seventh-grade science teacher at Dodd Middle School in Cheshire, Conn. The couple lives in Waterbury, Conn.

Melissa (Koerner) Reeve '99 (SFS) and **Jason Reeve '97 (ENG)** announce the birth of Morrison Alice, on July 26, 2008. Morrison joins brother, Cooper, 2. The family lives in Marlton, N.J.

Kerry Riek '99 (ENG) is a project controls engineer with PBM, a manufacturer of private label infant formula in Georgia, Vt.

Shannon (Browne) Robke '99 (CLAS) and her husband **Jeff Robke '99 (ENG)** announce the birth of their first child, Emma Shannon Robke, on Oct. 11, 2008. The family lives in Apex, N.C.

Jennifer Suozzo '99 (CLAS) is senior producer for MSNBC/NBC News, producing two hours of live, daily news coverage, including "MSNBC Live" hosted by Andrea Mitchell, NBC chief foreign affairs correspondent. She lives in New York City.

2000s

Chenoa (Kristof) Anderson '00 (CLAS) and her husband, David, announce the birth of their first child, daughter, Riley Noel, on March 21, 2008. Chenoa received her master's degree in special education in 2008 from Southern Connecticut State University.

Amy (Weber) Doucet '00 (ED), '07 M.B.A. and Michael Doucet announce the birth of a daughter, Olivia Katherine, on June 20, 2008, in Danbury, Conn.

Peter Karp '00 (BUS), a corporate training consultant for Aetna in Middletown, Conn., married Jocelyn Warmoth on July 26, 2008. The couple lives in Cromwell, Conn.



Scott Lafferty '00 (CLAS) was promoted to senior case manager in the quality assurance department of The Law Offices of James Sokolove in Boston.

Christy (Luysterborghs) Lindsay '00 (CLAS) and **Bruce Lindsay '97 (CANR)** announce the birth of their first child, son, Burke Franklin, on Feb. 4, 2008.

Jeff Boisvert '01 (BUS) and **Kim (Carlucci) Boisvert '01 (BUS)** announce the birth of their daughter, Megan Anne, on Aug. 13, 2008. The family lives in Stratford, Conn.

Kevin Chamberlin '01 (PHR), '03 Pharm.D. and **Annik (Carrier) Chamberlin '02 (PHR), '04 Pharm.D.** announce the birth of a son, Gavin William, on Sept. 12, 2008, who joins sister, Grace Ann.

Patrick Laros '01 (CLAS) and his wife, Marisa, announce the birth of a son, Dominic Louis Laros, on July 23, 2008. He joins brother, Benjamin, 2.

Keri Marchitto '01 (CLAS) married George Blanco in November 2008. She recently earned a master's degree in animal science from North Carolina State University.

Jason Rojas '01 (CLAS) and **Sarah (Gaudreau) '00 (BUS)** announce the birth of their second child, Stella Genoveva, on Aug. 31, 2008, who joins sister, Addison, 2. Jason is director of community relations for Trinity College in Hartford and was recently elected state representative for the 9th Assembly District. Sarah is pursuing a master's degree in school counseling at Central Connecticut State University.

Matthew Ross '01 (CLAS), '07 M.A. and **Chalise (Nettleton) '02 (CLAS), '03 (ED), '04 M.A.** announce the birth of a son, Nathaniel Alden, on April 22, 2008.

Trevor Sykes '01 (CLAS) married **Sara (Hauser) '02 (CLAS)** in October 2007. He is a chiropractor at Living Health Chiropractic in Annapolis, Md., and she works for Women for Women International in Washington, D.C. The couple lives in Annapolis.

Lisa (Racanello) Bergner '02 (BUS), '03 M.S. married Justin Bergner on Aug. 23, 2008, in East Norwalk, Conn. She is an accountant at GE Energy Financial Services. The couple lives in Stamford, Conn.

Christopher Collibee '02 (CLAS), assignment editor for Channel 3 Eyewitness News, married Kimberly Gaughan on June 7, 2008. The couple lives in East Hartford, Conn.



Jocelyn Fillian '02 (CLAS) married **Stephen Doré '05 6th Year** on April 12, 2008. She is an audiologist in Danbury, Conn., and he is a sixth-grade math teacher in Wilton, Conn. The couple lives in Danbury, Conn.

Chris Giannos '02 (CLAS), a chiropractic physician, opened

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his practice in Norwalk, Conn., in August 2008.

Maurice Headley '02 (BUS), '07 J.D. is an associate with Shipman & Good LLP in Hartford, Conn., after serving as a law clerk at the Connecticut Superior Court.

Scott Bores '03 (BUS) was promoted to manager of accounting research and policy at Mirant Corporation in Atlanta.

Dan Brooks '03 (BGS) joined the Royal Bank of Canada Capital Markets as the IT help desk manager in New York City.



Franz Kellermanns '03 Ph.D. was promoted to associate professor of management and named Henry Family

Notable Scholar at Mississippi State University.

Michael Lenkowski '03 M.S., a certified public accountant, was promoted to accounting and audit

manager at Blum Shapiro, an accounting and business consulting firm in West Hartford, Conn.

Jennifer Stimets '03 (SFS) married Robert Randall on Aug. 2, 2008, at YMCA Camp Shepard in Smithfield, R.I. The couple lives in Cumberland, R.I.

Jeff Valentino '03 (CLAS) is the business development manager for Web.com in Jacksonville, Fla. He and his wife, Natalie, announce the birth of twin girls, Ella and Ava, in November 2007.

Justin Fink '04 (CLAS), owner of Charter Oak Renovations in Glastonbury, Conn., is the new products editor for *Fine Homebuilding*. He also teaches adult education at Manchester Community College and is crew leader with the Middlesex, Conn., chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

Michael Harrington '04 (CLAS) is in his second year as director of the Tulane Athletics Fund at Tulane University in New Orleans.

Naveed Khan '04 (CLAS) and his wife, Hajera Qureshi, announce the birth of their first child, Yusut Ahmed Khan, on March 28, 2008. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

Doreen Stanco '04 (SFS) is a speech-language pathologist at Overlook Hospital in Summit, N.J., after earning a master of science degree from William Paterson University.



Martha Kirk Swartz '04 Ph.D., professor and associate dean for clinical and community affairs at Yale University School

of Nursing, was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing as a Fellow on Nov. 8, 2008.

Kymberly (Moran) Sylvestre '04 (SAH) is a science teacher at Weymouth High School. Her husband, **Ross Sylvestre '04 (CLAS),** is an assistant vice president with Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC in Boston. The couple lives in Sharon, Mass.

Diana Norma Szokolay '04 (CLAS), '07 M.A., a poet, dancer and visual artist, is the co-director of the Cambridge Writer's Workshop and the co-founder of Sounds in Bloom, a poetry, music and dance collaborative that gives workshops as well as performances.

Frank Vitucci '04 (BGS) is a district manager in New England and New York Metro regions for Emerson Process Management, which helps process industries to better manage plants through automation systems, consulting and industry expertise.

Amanda (Burgess) Cannada '05 (CLAS) married **Ronall Cannada '05 (ED), '06 M.A.** on June 28, 2008. She is the assistant for UConn's H. Fred Simons African American Cultural Center and he is a social studies teacher at Windsor High School in Windsor, Conn.



Julie Daly '05 (SFS), program manager for Hartford Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs, was named one of the 2008

Hartford Business Journal's "40 Under Forty." She serves on the advisory boards for the Connecticut Forum, Hartford Stage Springboard and InternHere.com, and is the Entertainment Committee Chair for the American Cancer Society's 2009 Hartford Relay for Life.

Brad Ellis '05 M.B.A. is vice president at Venture Banker in New York City after serving previously as vice president of sales at GE Capital, Life Science Finance.

Lauren Fogarty '05 (SFS) is director of extended learning time at the Gardner Pilot Academy in Boston after graduating in 2008 from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.



Saulius Polteraitis '05 J.D. is an associate attorney at Foley, Baron & Metzger in Detroit, focusing on medical

malpractice claims, general negligence and premises liability matters. He previously was an associate with McKeen & Associates, a personal injury firm in Detroit.

Jacqueline Rossi '05 (BUS) and her husband, Christopher Spiers, announce the birth of their son, Jason Hubbard Spiers, on March 19, 2008. Jacqueline is the business manager of Fields of Dreams, Inc., in North Stonington, Conn.

John Albanese '06 M.B.A. was promoted to master sergeant with the Connecticut State Police, where he has worked for 17 years. He also is executive officer for Troop H in Hartford, Conn.

Emily Croce Bihl '06 (CLAS) and **Anthony Bihl '06 (BUS)** were married on Aug. 16, 2008, at Corpus Christi Church in Wethersfield, Conn.

Aaron Burton '06 (PHR), '08 Ph.D. and **Katie (Costanzo) Burton '06 (CLAS), '08 M.A.** were married on May 16, 2008 in Wallingford, Conn. Members of the wedding party included **Chris Antoszek '06 (PHR), '08 Ph.D., Ryan Matte '06 (ENG)** and **Alyssa Montauti '06 (NUR).**



Growing Success in the Family Garden

Hart's Greenhouse and Florist is not only a successful family business, but it is also a UConn family story. The Harts – Dave '78 (RHSA) and Joyce (Burr) '79 (RHSA), '82 (ED) – opened their garden center in 1986 in Canterbury, Conn. Specializing in locally grown products, Hart's Greenhouse and Florist spread across eastern Connecticut with additional locations in Norwich and Brooklyn. The Hart family also grew with Jessica '05 (CANR) and Christopher '05 (CANR), who each pursued horticultural studies at UConn before going to work full time in the business. From left: Dave, Jessica, Christopher and Joyce in their Canterbury greenhouse as they prepare for the 2009 growing season.



Amy Bytell '06 (BUS) was promoted to manager of media at the Law Offices of James Sokolove in Newton, Mass.

Edith Carson '06 (CLAS), an intern with the marine mammal center in Petersburg, Alaska, spent the past year in Nahant, Mass., Moorea, French Polynesia, and Santa Catalina, Calif., in Northeastern University's Three Seas program, where she is currently working on a master's in marine biology.

Luke Thompson '06 (CLAS) is a process engineer at ATI Casting Service in LaPorte, Ind., which produces gray and ductile iron castings used for locomotive engine blocks and rotor hubs for wind energy.

Rena (Owens) Way '06 M.S.W. is the founder of the non-profit organization C.A.D.E.S. (Christian Adult Day and Evening Services), which helps people transition back into the community after incarceration by offering substance abuse counseling, housing and employment assistance, food and clothing.

Alexandra (Pilarczyk) Whatton '06 (CLAS) married James Whatton on Sept. 9, 2007, at UConn's campus at Avery Point. She is the coordinator in the admissions office at Eugene Lang College in New York City.

Brian DeMarco '07 (BUS) joined Barnum Financial Group as a financial services representative in Shelton, Conn.

Veronica Gilbertie '07 (CANR) is a clinical dietician at Health Central, a hospital in Ocoee, Fla., and at Osceola Regional Medical Center in Kissimmee, Fla.



Kent Golden '07 M.A., owner and lead designer of Golden Multimedia in Hamden, Conn., recently created interactive touch

screen kiosks at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History about the famous "Zallinger" dinosaur mural. He is a full-time faculty member in the media production department at Quinnipiac University.



Jill M. O'Connor '07 M.S. is a licensed certified public accountant working in the auditing and tax divisions of Marien and Company in Norwich, Conn.

Kenneth Seder '07 (CLAS) received his master's degree in mathematics education from the University of Bridgeport, Conn., and is pursuing a career as a teacher.

Tiffany (Jordan) Wika '07 M.M. and Norman Wika '04 M.M., '07 D.M.A. were married on July 12, 2008, at the Key West Garden Club in Key West, Fla. The couple lives in Tahlequah, Okla.

Jeremy Curtis '08 (BUS) joined Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife, as a financial services representative in Wethersfield, Conn.

Michelle Dann '08 (CLAS) began 10 months of full-time service with the National Civilian Community Corps, an AmeriCorps program, on Nov. 3, 2008.

Michael Eiben '08 (CLAS) joined Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife, as a financial services representative.

Kathryn Ann Hoffmann '08 (CANR) is an environmental scientist at GeolInsights in Middletown, Conn.

James Lefebvre '08 (BGS) was promoted to production supervisor at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Rouses Point, N.Y., after working at Wyeth in various positions for 17 years and completing his degree at UConn in May.

Lauren Moldoff '08 (HDFS) is pursuing her master's degree in school psychology at Marist College.

Alyssa Moss '08 (CLAS) began 10 months of full-time service with the National Civilian Community Corps, an AmeriCorps program, on Nov. 3, 2008.

Charlene Perez '08 (BGS) received the 2008 Outstanding Continuing Education Student Award from the Northeast Region of the University Continuing Education Association. She was promoted to community

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Shirley Robison '33
 Louise Johnson '36, '52
 Isaac Blonder '38
 Kenneth Hungerford '40
 Richard W. Michaels '43
 Margaret A. MacKenzie '44
 Helen Molloy '44
 Frank Rogers '45
 Gordon King '46, '48
 Michael Hourigan '48
 Edmond Barrieau '49
 Eugene R. Solon '49
 Henry T. Mazon '50
 Donald Molchan '50
 Joseph Spalla '50
 Alan B. Taylor '50
 Henry Kardys '51
 Stanley Barall '52, '57
 William Lampe '52
 Raymond Castoldi '53
 Frederick Cook '53
 Francis Fisher '53, '55, '62
 Ellen Hoyt '53
 Wilbur Stratton '53
 Conrad Eaton '54
 Jean Grady '54
 Joseph Scrivano Jr. '54
 Peter A. Bonee '55, '55
 John Carezza '55
 Matthew K. Garvey '55
 George Kalinowski '55
 Margery McBurney '55, '63
 Jane I. Pacelli '55
 Charles Rohde '55
 Gerard Roy '55
 Richard O. Walsh '55
 Henry Ask '56
 Adelaide Dollin '56, '60
 Frederick O. Newman '56
 John Valli '56
 Marilyn DeGross '57
 William Scully '57
 Lester Charles Albee '58
 John Fahey '58
 Anthony J. Lynch '58
 Michael Tobin '58, '64
 Irene Sweeney '59
 George Magrath '60

Paul Morrison '60
 Felix Berardo '61
 Paul Madden '61
 William Polowy Sr. '61
 Elvira Testa '61
 Albert Lindia '62, '72
 Judith Godfrey '63
 Suzanne Juros '63
 Stephen Stabach '63, '68
 Thomas J. Sullivan '63
 Julius Watstein '63
 William Campbell '64
 Joseph Berube '65
 Bernard Blum '67
 Oscar Poriss '67
 Hester Bakewell '69
 William Hogerty Jr. '69
 Edward Neumann '70
 Stephen Ruskin '70
 Abigail Bogie '72
 A. E. Ericksen '73
 David McDonald '73
 Robert Steinberg '73
 John R. Anderson '74
 Etty Schreiber '74
 Louise Marquis '75
 Karen Bonavita '79
 Steven Zetye '79
 Mark Bucheri '80
 Lt. Christopher D. Caron '80
 Alicia M. Harrington '81
 Kathleen Leiner '81
 Peter Vannucci '82
 Nicholas Fedorka '83
 Wendell Piehler '85
 Lois Przech '85
 Peter Celona '86
 Simon Attle '87, '91, '96
 Karen Best-Parrish '90
 Robert Pare '92
 Jennifer B. Tomasello '93
 Andy Duzy '02
 Walter Coady '03
 Donald Thomas Restivo Jr. '04

STUDENTS

Mark Peters '09
 Bertozzi Mposo '12

school director for the Village for Families & Children within weeks of obtaining her degree.

William Purcell '08 (CANR) is a soil conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service in Norwich, Conn.

Beth Wesalo '08 (CLAS) is a research supervisor at Bruno & Ridgway in Lawrenceville, N.J., which ranks among the top 100 market research firms in the United States, conducting research studies for a range of businesses, including pharmaceutical and medical device companies, consumer products and retail companies, law firms and professional associations.

Sociologist's book goes to the movies

When Nechama Tec, professor emerita of sociology at UConn's Stamford campus, set out to correct a distortion of World War II history, she did not foresee that a book of historical scholarship would become the basis of a major Hollywood film. However, more than 15 years after her book, *Defiance*, was published, the story of the largest armed rescue of Jews by Jews during World War II is now known by millions of people throughout the world.

Tec, a two-time nominee for the Pulitzer Prize and a leading scholar on the Holocaust, says her motivation for writing *Defiance* was to correct the prevailing image of European Jews as victims who went passively to their deaths. Tec's research for the book included review of archival materials, direct interviews with members of the Bielski Partisans and other World War II resistance groups and an interview with Tuvia Bielski in his Brooklyn home in 1987 just two weeks before he died.

Tec says the self-educated Tuvia typified the unlikely yet charismatic leaders that arise in times of social upheaval. "He filled the room with himself, he had so much charisma even right before his death," she says.

The film "Defiance" traces the story of the Bielski brothers, who led a group of Jewish partisans that lived in the forests of the Soviet Union and carried out acts of sabotage against German troops. Tuvia Bielski is portrayed by Daniel Craig, best known for his role as the new James Bond, and Zus Bielski is portrayed by Liev Schreiber, one of the nation's leading stage actors. The film is directed by Edward Zwick, who earned an Academy Award for his work on "Shakespeare in Love," and who previously directed "The Last Samurai" and "Blood Diamond."

Scenes from "Defiance," based on the book of the same name written by Nechama Tec, professor emerita of sociology. The center photo is a scene with actors Daniel Craig, left, and Liev Schreiber, who portray two of the three Bielski brothers.





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In good company

Hall of Fame Coach Jim Calhoun acknowledges fans as he enters Gampel Pavilion for the first time after earning his 800th career coaching victory, which was marked with the unveiling of a new banner during Senior Night. Calhoun became only the seventh coach in Division I history to reach the 800-win mark, joining Bob Knight, Dean Smith, Adolph Rupp, Jim Phelan, Mike Krzyzewski and Eddie Sutton.

