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Inside UConn Traditions
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Features

125 Years of UConn

This edition of UConn Traditions features a special 14-page section focusing on the 125th anniversary year of UConn. The section, which begins on page 23, is based on a multimedia exhibition now on display in the central gallery of the Wilbur Cross Building on the main campus in Storrs. For more information about UConn's 125th celebration and related activities, go to the special anniversary Web site: www.uconn.edu/125.

Written by Patti Fazio '90 (CLAS), '92 M.A; Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS); and Kenneth Best.

UCONN
125 YEARS

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Old Whitney Hall, the first building used by the Storrs Agricultural School in 1881.
A Message from the Editor

Benton's Quiet Heroism Still Present at UConn

This edition's special section on UConn's 125th anniversary year got me thinking about one of Connecticut's unsung heroes whose presence is still felt in Storrs. Good Night, and Good Luck, the Oscar-nominated film about journalist Edward R. Murrow's battle with U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy, focuses on the beginning of the end of McCarthyism, the mid-20th century political tactic of accusing individuals of supporting subversive activities by means of unsubstantiated personal attacks. Absent in the film, and most writing about it, is the presence of the person who was among the first to oppose the Wisconsin senator and his tactics—William B. Benton, the former U.S. senator from Connecticut and UConn trustee from 1953-1973 for whom The William Benton Museum of Art is named.

The Benton family bequeathed one of the most complete collections of works by the American artist Reginald Marsh to the University of Connecticut shortly after the senator's death in 1973, at age 73. His legacy at UConn is substantial, as students, faculty and visitors to The Benton Museum can attest, as they view exhibitions by major artists from throughout the world. But it is only one aspect of a remarkable life.

Benton began his career in advertising in 1921 and just eight years later he and his business partner, former Connecticut Gov. Chester Bowles, established what would become one of the world's largest advertising agencies, Benton and Bowles. A foray into higher education and the later purchase of the Encyclopaedia Britannica occupied Benton before he became U.S. assistant secretary of state from 1945 to 1949. He was appointed to the U.S. Senate to replace Raymond Baldwin, who resigned in 1949. Two years later Benton faced down McCarthy.

In Washington, Benton emerged early as one of the leaders opposing McCarthy's anti-communism hysteria tactics and in 1951 he introduced a resolution calling for the Wisconsin senator's expulsion from the Senate. McCarthy responded with attacks on Benton, who lost his 1951 bid for election to the Senate. It was another three years before Murrow's CBS broadcasts helped to end McCarthy's methods.

Retired from politics, Benton returned to the publishing business, where he produced the celebrated 54-volume Great Books of the Western World series and then later purchased the Merriam Company, publisher of Webster's dictionaries.

The legacy of William Benton—advertising executive, politician, art collector, editor, publisher—is still alive at UConn today. For a more detailed look at Benton's biography go to the following Web site: www.benton.uconn.edu/history.htm
Using the lessons of the past as a guide for today

One hundred twenty-five years may seem like a long time, but in the lifespan of a great university, it is barely a beginning. Here in our region, Yale dates its origins to 1701, Harvard to 1636, Brown to 1764, and Wesleyan to 1831. When the institution that later became the University of Connecticut first opened its doors as the Storrs Agricultural School in 1881, those private institutions had been around for a generation or more. Even among our counterpart New England flagship public institutions, UConn is a relative newcomer: Only the University of Rhode Island is younger than we are and by just seven years.

Still, a century and a quarter is time enough for some important things. For the University of Connecticut, it has been time enough to earn designation as Connecticut's land grant university and, later, as a sea grant and space grant university as well, time enough to grow from six young men in the entering Class of 1881 to 11,009 men and 12,176 women enrolled as of fall 2005, time enough to broaden its mission from an important but narrow focus on agriculture to a contemporary focus on several dozen disciplines. 215,413 students have received degrees in 125 years, assisted by many thousands of learned faculty and dedicated staff. Every one of them benefited from their association with UConn. Many of them—probably more than the number that realized the fact—contributed in equal if not greater measure to our progress. A century and a quarter is long enough to establish a set of shared traditions, a common heritage, and a special role in the national and state community.

All of this gives us cause to pause, reflect and celebrate. What better time than in this anniversary year to learn about the achievements of generations past—or to examine how this remote outpost of vocational training morphed into one of America's most distinguished public universities? The wonderful exhibits on display in Storrs and many of the articles in this issue of Traditions give us an opportunity to explore that story of transformation.

We can best honor an inspiring history, however, not by standing in awe of what went before but by using the lessons of decades past as guides for what our university can do now and in decades to come. In a world characterized by increasingly rapid change, it is reassuring that our fundamental mission of teaching, research and service to the wider community remains constant. The application of that mission, however, must keep pace with the needs of a new century, in terms of economy, technology, social structures and modes of artistic expression.

UConn's past offers many lessons, but the greatest may be that an institution of higher learning can remain true to its identity while changing its focus to adapt to a rapidly changing world. In honoring that achievement in years past, we set a standard for ourselves in the years yet to come.

Princess O'Brien

The 125th anniversary exhibition is on display in the center gallery of the Wilbur Cross Building.
125th celebration kicked off with inspiring recollections

Alfred Rogers, '53 (CLAS), '63 J.D., couldn't hold back his emotions as he recalled being a UConn student in the early 1950s, one of a small number of minority students on campus at the time, and the sense of community he found.

"At Storrs, in '49, exclusion by color or race was not a factor," he said during the Jan. 25 kickoff of UConn's 125th anniversary celebration. An African American, Rogers had been accepted enthusiastically into UConn's Phi Epsilon Pi, a white, Jewish fraternity, but his application was rejected by the national governing body. Outraged, the UConn chapter threatened to secede from the organization and "worked tirelessly" recruiting other chapters to do the same. "Ultimately, but not right away, the national chapter backed down," he said.

The stand taken by Rogers and his fraternity brothers represents an important milestone in UConn history.

"The experience with Phi Epsilon Pi was an example of a team of committed Americans who were determined to strike a blow against intolerance and bigotry on their watch," he said. "The decades of the 1940s and '50s were a period of social and economic change. After the war, the world would never be the same.

"Industrial mobilization brought an end to the depression of the 1930s. Returning vets had a greater opportunity for higher education and a larger piece of the American pie. African Americans, many of whom moved from the agricultural south to work in northern cities, would stake a claim for equality and greater opportunities."

But, Rogers said, "Patterns of discrimination denied them economic and social equality. Although laws did not mandate segregation, tradition and practice often brought about the same results."

Rogers said he decided to join Phi Epsilon Pi because he liked the fraternity members. "I was impressed by their candor. Many were vets of World War II. I truly enjoyed their company.

"The lessons I brought away—there were several—never judge a man by the color of his skin. If you want to achieve something, make a plan, establish a set of objectives, analyze your resources, establish strategies and give it your best shot."

Rogers spoke before the opening of an exhibition of 125 years of UConn history on display during 2006 in the center gallery of the Wilbur Cross Building. He received a standing ovation at the conclusion of his remarks.
Runowicz leads American Cancer Society

Carolyn Runowicz '73 (CLAS), director of the UConn Health Center's Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center and a nationally prominent expert in gynecologic oncology, became president of the American Cancer Society this past November. She is the first breast cancer survivor to become president of the ACS and has devoted her career to advances in the treatment, early detection and prevention of cancer, including serving as the first female president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists.

Supreme Court Justice Scalia to Lecture at School of Law

Antonin Scalia, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, will spend two days at the UConn School of Law on April 11-12 as the 2006 Day, Berry & Howard Visiting Scholar and Jurist-in-Residence. Justice Scalia will deliver a lecture to students and invited guests during his visit and also teach two classes, one in administrative law and one in constitutional law. He is the second Supreme Court jurist to visit UConn in recent years. Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg delivered the Day, Berry & Howard lecture in 2004.
Big East titles, tournament play highlight fall

The fall season of UConn athletics resulted in another successful year as three teams advanced to NCAA tournament play and Husky squads won two Big East regular season and two conference tournament titles.

The men's soccer team won the Big East tournament title and finished the year with a 15-4-1 record. Under head coach Ray Reid, UConn advanced to its eighth consecutive NCAA tournament, making it to the third round. Julius James '08 (CLAS) was a first team All-America pick while O'Brien White was a Freshman All-American. Junior Moshe Shalcon '07 (BUS) was a second team Academic All-America selection.

Head coach Nancy Stevens and the UConn field hockey team won both the Big East regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the NCAA national quarterfinals with a 17-6 record. Laura Puddle '06 (CLAS) was a second-team All-America selection while Rebecca Helwig '06 (CANR) was a third team selection.

The UConn women's soccer team and head coach Len Tsamitis compiled a 15-5-2 record to win the Big East Division A title. UConn played in the NCAA tournament and remains just one of two teams, along with North Carolina, to play in all 26 NCAA Championships. Elizabeth Eng '09 (CLAS), Brittany Taylor '09 (CLAS) and Meghan Schnurr '08 (PHR) all were named to the All-Big East Conference first team.

First-year head coach Holly Strauss '05 M.A. led the Huskies volleyball team to five wins in the team's final six matches en route to a 15-13 record. Jenny Neelands '06 (CANR) was named to the All-Big East Conference second team.

Head coach Ron Dubois and the golf team finished in a tie for third place at the ECAC Championship, third at the New England Championship and won the team title at the University of Hartford Invitational. Senior Jason Parajeckas '07 (CLAS) was the individual medalist at the New England Championship and the Hartford event.

The women's cross country team under Bill Morgan won the Blue Devil Invitational held in New Britain, Conn., and the men's cross country team under Greg Roy won the Ted Owens Invitational—also in New Britain.

In men's tennis for head coach Glenn Marshall, the duo of Jeff Klar '09 (BUS) and Nate Carvalho '09 (ENG) won the B Doubles title at the UConn Invitational and women's team standout Alison Koch '09 (ED) won the D Singles at the Quinnipiac Invitational.

The UConn football team finished 5-6 overall and sold out all six games at Rentschler Field. Linebacker James Hargrave '06 (CLAS) was a first team All-Big East pick and defensive tackle Rhema Fuller '07 (CLAS), defensive tackle Deon McPhee '06 (CLAS) and tight end Dan Murray '07 (CLAS) made the second team.
Neag School creates fund for student soldiers

The Neag School of Education has created an education fund for UConn students who are either current U.S. service members or veterans who have served in Afghanistan or Iraq.

The funds, which may be used for tuition, course materials, and other education expenses, are also available to family members enrolled in the school.

"If we can make life a little easier for these folks who have given up so much in their personal lives to serve our country, then this investment is worth every dollar we can raise for it," says Neag Dean Richard Schwab.

The Neag Veterans Fund was created by the Dean's Advisory Board. The board, comprising 21 leaders in business, education and government, including U.S. Rep. John Larson and State Rep. Lawrence Calero ’79 (CLAS), provides feedback to the dean on strategies and issues related to the school.

The idea for the veterans fund came about after Schwab conveyed a story to his board about Dirk Olmstead, a Hartford elementary school teacher and student in the UConn Administrator Preparation Program who was called up for duty in Iraq in 2004.

Several months into his tour, Olmstead e-mailed UConn asking if it would be possible to have a textbook sent to him. During his off-duty hours, he hoped to continue his studies to help take his mind off the dangers of duty and the family and students waiting for him back at home. Within days, Schwab arranged for a box of textbooks, along with a UConn shirt and jacket, to be shipped to Iraq.

Advisory board members Cheryl Dickinson and Anita Torrizzo soon organized a fund-raising event in Torrington. An audience of 50 people gathered at the Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts for a colorful demonstration by UConn lecturer and floral designer Louise Pastormerlo. More than $5,000 was raised. The board hopes to raise more funds through future events and individual donations. To make a donation, contact Terry Gellin, director of development for the Neag School: tgellin@foundation.uconn.edu. To apply for funding, contact Christine North in the dean's office: christine.north@uconn.edu or 860-486-6186.

UConn Health Center magazine debuts

UConn Health Center is a new magazine that details the story of the programs, innovations and activities that have established the Health Center as a leader in the field of medical and dental education, research and clinical care. The magazine, to be published three times a year, will explore the critical interconnections between research, education and clinical care. UConn Health Center’s audiences are Health Center alumni, donors, opinion leaders, members of the health care community, faculty, staff, volunteers and students.
UConn chefs reach a Boiling Point before Food Network cameras

For the past six years during the break between semesters, UConn Dining Services has conducted Boiling Point—the UConn version of Iron Chef America, the popular Food Network program that is a competition between teams of chefs preparing a menu of dishes based on a secret ingredient in a race against time. On Jan. 13, 2006, the Food Network, which had learned of UConn's competitive program, brought its cameras to Putnam Refectory for a daylong food extravaganza that began with a recipe contest and a cake decorating competition. The winner of the recipe contest goes on to represent UConn in regional competition sponsored by the National Association of College and University Food Service (NACUF). Last year's recipe winner was Lisa Charbonneau, who teamed up for this year's main event with Patsy Potvin and Amy Maloney.

11:45 a.m.
A large crowd of spectators has arrived. They alternately watch the recipe judges evaluate the morning contest, mill around display tables sampling the dishes and observe the decorated cakes.

Noon
The main event judges arrive: Linda Giuca, food editor of The Hartford Courant; Wayne Norman, WILL-AM host and radio analyst for UConn basketball and football broadcasts; Greg Hopkins, director of dining services at Connecticut College; and former UConn professor and noted author Wally Lamb '72 (CLAS), 77 M.A. They look hungry.

12:50 p.m.
After the teams film several takes for a Food Network promotional announcement, groups are introduced to the audience. When Boiling Point began in 2000, there were six teams of three chefs. Now there are 15 teams.

1:05 p.m.
The secret ingredient, concealed by a drop cloth, is wheeled out for the audience. "This is not your standard cafeteria fare," says Robert Landolphi, a UConn dining services manager, whipping off the cloth to display a wide selection of venison cuts. To accommodate the 15 groups of competitors, teams come out every seven minutes to learn the ingredient and begin cooking.

1:15 p.m.
While the first contestants descend upon the kitchen, Azu of West Hartford chef Michael Kelley teaches a mini-course, filling the room with the smells of pan-seared tuna with wild mushroom Pad Thai, and baby pumpkin/balsamic hazelnut butter.

Above: Chef Scott Chapman indicates which vegetables he would like to use during the Boiling Point competition in Putnam Refectory.

Below: Chef James Watt prepares Napoleon cheesecake mousse.

Right: Venison medallions served with vegetables and rice.
2:30 p.m.
Maloney, Potvin and Charbonneau enter the busy kitchen and are elated to learn that the secret ingredient is venison. They have been considering various possible meats and fishes and strategizing how to handle each. They have decided to serve risotto, a Charbonneau specialty, with whatever meat must be prepared. Maloney concentrates on the entree. Potvin begins preparation by gathering vegetables.

2:40 p.m.
The judges are introduced, and they sample the first dish—stuffed venison with an herb and almond crust accompanied by julienned vegetables with fennel—prepared by Lorraine Kjellquist, Denny Hartigan and Scott Chapman, one of the South Campus dining hall teams. They are relaxed as they present to the judges.

5 p.m.
After a long afternoon of noshing, the judges emerge with their verdict: bacon-wrapped cranberry Marsala venison loin prepared by Malony, Potvin and Charbonneau. It is a doubly special day for Charbonneau, who also repeats as the winner of the recipe contest for her Gulf Coast ragout in a hushpuppy bowl. In March she will represent UConn at the regional NACUFS competition at Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration in Ithaca, N.Y.

To see UConn on The Food Network, go to: http://howdayyouronchef.com

— Jim H. Smith

Global commerce center opens at UConn Stamford

A center that will focus on research and scholarship related to global and international commerce is being established at UConn's campus in Stamford.

The Center for Globalization and Commerce will engage in empirical and applied research over a wide range of academic disciplines with global partners in industry, business, government, education and commerce in Stamford and throughout Fairfield County.

"The center's focus will be at the Stamford campus where there will be access to multinational businesses and corporations and a growing international and immigrant population and where resources are going to be readily provided by the Stamford Chamber of Commerce," says UConn Provost Peter J. Nicholls.

The Stamford area is home to many global companies, including Pitney Bowes, Purdue Pharma, UBS—a Swiss bank—and the soon-to-be opened headquarters of the Royal Bank of Scotland, among others.

The center will provide opportunities for faculty exchanges and research collaborations with colleagues at universities around the world and will provide students with opportunities for fieldwork and internships.

"Stamford is the strongest international trade center between New York and Boston, and the new center will help promote this fastest growing segment of our business community," says Jack Condlin, president and chief executive officer of the chamber.

The center will also create a teaching and learning environment for workshops, seminars and lectures offered by business faculty, professionals and community members.

STEM cell expert named to lead UConn Laboratory

UConn's commitment to stem cell research has been enhanced with the appointment of Ren-He Xu, a leading expert in growing human embryonic stem cells lines, as director of UConn's new human embryonic stem cell core laboratory. Xu's principal research has explored the mechanisms that govern the early fates of human embryonic stem cells and the self-renewal and differentiation of human embryonic stem cells. The ability to grow stem cells in the laboratory and, someday, direct them to become specific kinds of cells, has the potential to revolutionize transplant medicine and underpin lifelong treatment for a host of diseases, especially cell-based disorders such as diabetes, Parkinson's disease and some forms of leukemia.

Xu, a developmental biologist who has published more than 25 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals, is currently a senior scientist at the WiCell Research Institute, a private laboratory affiliated with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Xu will become a faculty member of the UConn Health Center's department of genetics and developmental biology, with a joint appointment at the Center for Regenerative Biology in Storrs.

Last year, a team led by Xu discovered a way to eliminate animal materials from human embryonic stem cell cultures. The discovery was the focus of a special commentary in the journal Science.
INVESTING IN
the Future

Gladsteins establish chair in human rights

A faculty chair in human rights has been established in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with a $1 million endowment by Gary Gladstein '66 (CLAS) and his wife, Judith.

The endowment is funded through the Marsha Lilien Gladstein Foundation and augments the couple's previous support for UConn's human rights programs, which includes a visiting professorship and funding for faculty initiatives.

"We see the opportunity at UConn to raise awareness of the student body and faculty to numerous human rights issues present in our society," says Gary Gladstein, a senior consultant at Soros Fund Management in New York, where he previously served as chief operating officer. "Lack of awareness and respect for the human rights of others, whether in a social, financial, governmental, or educational context, continues to be a major problem in the world today."

Richard A. Wilson, a professor of anthropology and a noted international scholar in the study of human rights, is the first holder of the Judi and Gary Gladstein Chair of Human Rights. Since joining the UConn faculty in 2003, Wilson has directed the University's Human Rights Institute, which annually hosts a major international human rights conference, coordinates the study of human rights at UConn, and promotes multidisciplinary research on human rights issues.

Wilson recently published an edited collection called Human Rights in the War on Terror, based on the Institute's inaugural conference in 2004. He is also the author of works on political violence and social movements in Guatemala.

"We have been working hard over the past two years to establish UConn as an international center for the study and teaching of human rights," says Wilson. "The generosity of the Gladsteins allows us to take our work to the next level."

"Gary and Judi Gladstein have been a driving force behind the development of human rights programs at UConn," says John K. Martin, president of the UConn Foundation. "This significant gift further elevates the University's international profile in this important field of study."

Roselle Moore

Anthem supports dental services for underserved

A $350,000 grant from Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation will support a partnership between the UConn School of Dental Medicine and the Charter Oak Health Center, Inc., in Hartford that will provide access to oral health services for uninsured and underinsured residents in Connecticut. The dental school has supported Charter Oak previously with community-based clinical training for UConn postdoctoral dental residents and predoctoral dental students. The partnership will triple the number of dental patients currently being served by UConn and Charter Oak, says Peter Robinson, dean of the dental school.

PROFESSOR'S GIFT HELPS GRADUATE STUDENTS

Stuart Sidney is a mathematician with a mission—to gather support for a new Mathematics Graduate Fund that he and two colleagues in the UConn mathematics department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have established.

Sidney, a professor of mathematics, donated a monetary award bestowed upon him by the UConn Alumni Association, which recognized him with its Award for Excellence in Teaching at the graduate level. The amount raised is expected soon to reach the $10,000 minimum level for faculty-established endowments.

The Mathematics Graduate Fund will extend Sidney's lifelong interest in mathematics by helping the department competitively recruit graduate students and provide the "extras" that help retain and reward top students, such as paying for travel to conferences.

Sidney says building endowments at UConn, where he has worked since 1972, is a good philanthropic investment. "It's kind of fun—a new world for me," he says. "You have to think about what your priorities are and how you can make a difference. UConn has been a very good place for me, and if I can help UConn students, that's great."

The Mathematics Graduate Fund was established by Sidney; Michael Neumann, mathematics department head; and Manuel Lerman, professor of math sciences and director of the mathematics graduate program.

Sidney and his wife, Joan Seliger Sidney, a poet and author with ties to UConn, have also established an endowed fund in Judaic studies in memory of Joan's parents.
SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

News

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

Distinguished composer leads music department
Kenneth Fuchs, a distinguished composer and scholar, is the new chair of the UConn department of music.

"UConn is extremely fortunate to attract an arts administrator of the stature of Kenneth Fuchs to our campus," says David Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts. "His rich experience will be valuable to the future of our students and to the future development of the musical arts on this campus."

Fuchs previously was director of the School of Music at the University of Oklahoma. He also served as dean of students and academics at the Manhattan School of Music and assistant to the director of performance activities at the Juilliard School in New York City.

His most recent recording features conductor JoAnn Falletta and the London Symphony Orchestra performing three of Fuchs' original works: An American Place, a 19-minute work for full orchestra in one movement; Eventide, a 21-minute concerto for English horn, harp, percussion and string orchestra; and Out of the Dark, a 15-minute suite for chamber orchestra, inspired by three paintings by abstract expressionist artist Helen Frankenthaler.

The disc received Grammy nominations in the Best

Instrumental Soloist Performance with Orchestra category for English hornist Thomas Stacy's performance of Eventide and the Best Classical Producer category for Michael Fine.

Fuchs says he will use his experience recording his compositions with the London Symphony Orchestra to teach UConn students about "the years of practice and patience it takes to perfect their craft, as well as the ever-changing industry side of music."

A concert of works by Fuchs, performed by the American String Quartet, opened the 50th season of UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts last September.

Fuchs is a member of the Commission on Accreditation of the National Association of Schools of Music; the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers; the American Symphony Orchestra League; and the College Music Society.

College of Continuing Studies

New pottery studio expands classes
A newly expanded UConn pottery studio has enabled the Community School of the Arts (CSA) to expand its programming, offer more classes, and attract and retain advanced art students.

CSA is a national model for music, performing and visual art instruction for students of all ages, especially youth, that is sponsored by the College of Continuing Studies in cooperation with UConn's School of Fine Arts. CSA offers art and music camps during the summer and school vacations and offers instruction at a number of public schools throughout the state to complement existing music education programs.

This past fall, CSA added a preschool family clay class for parents and children ages 3 to 6 and a morning studio class. Additional classes include a family clay workshop (ages 6 and up); classes for teens and adults, including beginning and advanced wheel throwing classes; and a workshop for raku, a soft, low fired type of pottery. Classes are limited to eight students for individual attention.

"With the new studio, it's easier and more efficient to work, and the quality of students' work has gotten better," says Heather Bunnell, CSA arts coordinator and pottery instructor. "Students now have a much more functional layout to work within, more table space to spread out, individual storage for their work, and a community friendly space to work in."

The expanded studio includes additional lighting and sinks, a new kiln room and expanded storage space.

Each year more than 1,100 residents of eastern Connecticut, ranging in age from 6 months to 90 years old, participate in CSA classes in music, art, theater and dance led by UConn School of Fine Arts faculty, lecturers and graduate students.
School of Law

Law professor advises prosecutors of Hussein

Prosecutors trying Saddam Hussein in Iraq are receiving expert counsel from UConn law professor Laura Dickinson, who is providing assistance to the Iraq War Crimes Tribunal.

Dickinson is one of three U.S. law school faculty members working with the U.S. Department of Justice Regime Crimes Office in Iraq.

"It's very important for trials to take place, because accountability and reconciliation for the widespread human rights abuses that occurred during the Hussein regime are essential for Iraq to make a transition to democracy," she says.

Dickinson teaches classes in international human rights at the School of Law, including one focusing on the trial of Hussein and others accused of having committed atrocities in Iraq.

"As professors, we advise students who are writing research memos on legal issues in war crimes law that are likely to be relevant to the trial of Saddam Hussein and the others who are being tried before the court," says Dickinson.

She notes that the path to justice in the trials can be a difficult one.

"For the trials to promote accountability and reconciliation in Iraq, it's important for Iraqis to feel that they have some ownership of the process," says Dickinson, noting that the Sunni population in Iraq may question the legitimacy of the trial because most of the judges are Shiite or Kurds.

She initially became interested in the field while still in law school and eventually traveled to the Caribbean with a group of students and lawyers interviewing migrant workers who were being rounded up and deported. Dickinson worked on a petition on their behalf to the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights. Ultimately, Cuban migrants were sent to the U.S., but Haitians were deported.

Dickinson previously served as a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justices Harry A. Blackmun and Stephen G. Breyer and later as senior policy advisor to Harold Hongju Koh, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor under President Clinton.

School of Pharmacy

Heart treatment drugs shown to reduce diabetes risk

A study by UConn researchers has revealed that two classes of drugs commonly used to treat heart disease and high blood pressure also significantly reduce patients' risk of developing diabetes, the top cause of blindness, kidney failure and non-trauma-related amputations in the United States.

The study, published last fall in the journal Diabetes Care, combined results of 11 clinical trials involving more than 66,000 patients. It found that taking an ACE inhibitor or an angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) reduced patients' risk of developing type 2 diabetes by 22 percent.

The study, a meta-analysis of relevant published clinical trials, found that ACE inhibitors and ARBs are equally effective in preventing diabetes.

"This is the first study to show conclusively that these drugs, commonly used to treat patients with high blood pressure, heart disease, or heart failure, can actually prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes, a rapidly growing health threat in the United States," says Craig Coleman, assistant professor of pharmacy and one of five investigators involved in this study from UConn's schools of pharmacy and medicine.

The American Diabetes Association reports 1.3 million new cases of diabetes are diagnosed annually in the United States in people 20 years of age or older. Previous studies have shown that ACE inhibitors and ARBs slow the progression of kidney disease in those who already have diabetes, but individually those studies did not show the drugs' ability to prevent diabetes. Until now, physicians could only recommend diet and exercise or drugs that regulate blood insulin levels to control pre-diabetes, Coleman says.

Often patients at risk of diabetes also have high blood pressure, heart disease or heart failure. For those patients, their physician's drug of choice to treat the existing condition should be either an ACE inhibitor or an ARB, based on this study, the researchers concluded.

Coleman says a healthful diet and regular exercise regimen are still the top strategies for preventing diabetes, but this discovery shows there is another effective treatment as well.
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Prestigious accreditation awarded
The UConn School of Nursing has been re-accredited for a 10-year term by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the national accrediting agency for nursing schools.

“This indicates that we’re doing everything we should be doing to educate the nurses of tomorrow, and it says that we’re doing it well,” says Laura Cox Dzurec ’74 (NUR), dean of the school. “It was especially gratifying to hear Connecticut health care providers telling the accrediting team how impressed they were with the UConn graduates they’ve hired.”

During the accrediting team’s three-day visit early last year, interviews were conducted at hospitals and health care agencies across the state, with alumni of the School of Nursing, employers, faculty and staff in the school, University administrators, students and others.

Kathe Gable, director of community and public relations at the school, says there were more than 700 applications this year for approximately 100 seats in the freshman class. Overall, there are about 640 undergraduates enrolled in the school, more than 80 master’s degree candidates, and more than 30 students pursuing doctoral degrees—an important number because national agencies are predicting a shortage of 40,000 to 60,000 nurses as America ages in coming decades, and there will be a greatly expanded need for faculty to teach budding health providers.

The accreditation team gave the school’s bachelor’s degree and master’s degree programs solid marks in all four areas of emphasis and in all 39 elements that comprise those areas. The areas of emphasis include alumni and employer satisfaction, demonstrated effort toward quality improvement, amount and quality of resources committed to the program, faculty qualifications, and resources provided to students; and the school’s fit within the University’s mission.

Doctoral programs are not examined by the CCNE.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Scandals spur accounting curriculum changes
A revised accounting curriculum is being developed at UConn to better prepare students for required changes in financial reporting practices at publicly traded companies resulting from approval of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

The new federal regulations make corporate finances more transparent, strengthen internal controls and hold executives responsible for financial disclosure. The law was approved following the Enron and WorldCom scandals.

The curriculum redesign is being developed with a three-year, $140,000 grant from PricewaterhouseCoopers, one of the “Big Four” accounting firms trying to cope with a tidal wave of calls for help from clients who must comply with regulations that became effective with fiscal cycles that began after April 15, 2004.

UConn accounting courses will integrate topics for meeting new corporate governance standards, including those introduced by the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation, starting with students in their sophomore year and continuing through their junior and senior years.

“Globalization and information technology have radically changed the way business is conducted and have created new risks,” says Mohamed Hussein, professor and head of the accounting department, who is directing the curriculum redesign. “While we are always changing the curriculum, big scandals put urgency on reform in several areas all at once.

“The changes put tremendous new responsibilities on auditors. Now accountants are the people who safeguard capital markets and who have a critical social and economic function.”

Companies face looming deadlines for implementing parts of the new law. As a consequence, the hiring of experienced financial talent is increasing rapidly with firms seeking knowledgeable accounting professionals to sort through the labyrinth of new regulations.

Hussein says UConn has awarded 120 undergraduate degrees and 80 master’s degrees in accounting annually in recent years, with most joining public accounting firms.

“We are hiring more top students to keep pace with the changing marketplace. UConn is a priority school for recruitment in our region,” says Mark Gelinas, manager of campus recruiting for PricewaterhouseCoopers. “We plan to continue hiring many students from UConn because of the quality of the School of Business.”
School of Dental Medicine

Renowned periodontist brings global perspective to dental school

Maurizio Tonetti brings a global perspective to his new position as professor and chair of UConn’s division of periodontology and head of the department of oral health and diagnostic sciences at the School of Dental Medicine. He previously worked in Italy, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, where he most recently led the department of periodontology at University College London as part of the British National Health Service.

UConn’s ranking as the number one dental school in the United States and the integration of the dental and medical schools drew him to the UConn Health Center.

“The dental school is a critical component of the UConn Health Center, and that is clearly expressed by the leadership. At UConn, it is ‘the School of Dental Medicine,’ not a ‘school of dentistry.’ It is more than just a difference in names—it makes a huge difference in the philosophy of the school. It goes back to European traditions that dentistry is a medical specialty.”

Tonetti says he wants to improve patient care while increasing the emphasis on clinical research programs.

“The two are intertwined,” he says. “Patient care benefits if you are at the forefront of new technologies and treatments. And there’s a better chance of adopting the newest innovations if you are the ones who are actually developing it.”

Tonetti says his position at UConn incorporates his varied interests and skills in particular: His research helps satisfy his thirst for scientific exploration and being head of the department often calls for his diplomatic talents.

“He has an incredible reputation among his peers in the clinical research area,” says Peter J. Robinson, dean of the dental school.

Adds Thomas Taylor, chair of the department of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials, and skeletal development: “Maurizio is one of the most famous periodontists in the world. It was an absolute coup that we were able to recruit him. He will make the rest of us better simply by our association with him.”

School of Allied Health

Walking state employees toward fitness and health

A group of 128 state public health workers walked from their office in Hartford to the Grand Canyon and back last summer—without ever leaving Connecticut.

The employees were among the first to take part in ConnectiFIT, a worksite health promotion program designed for state agencies by Pouran Faghri, associate professor of health promotion and allied health.

Walking designated city routes in teams of five or six during their lunch hours and breaks for 10 weeks, the employees far exceeded their goal of logging enough miles—more than 2,500—to reach the Grand Canyon. When the program ended, they had covered enough ground for the return trip to Hartford and a second excursion back to Arizona. In a second program, employees used an interactive Web site to plan and track their walking routes.

The health department is the first state agency to implement the program, funded by a grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Another four state agencies are expected to try ConnectiFIT soon.

“We’re trying to encourage people to be healthy and active at work rather than just preach to them about being healthy and active after work,” Faghri says. National surveys have revealed that more than half of Connecticut residents are overweight or obese, and 85 percent of state residents are at risk for health problems such as heart disease and diabetes due to lack of physical activity, says Faghri.

ConnectiFIT also uses a number of resources such as a Web site, a regular newsletter, seminars, screen savers and posters to promote awareness of healthy behavior.

There are 250,000 state employees in Connecticut who could benefit from the program, but Faghri hopes employees will take their new healthy habits home to their families.

“We hope to expand ConnectiFIT to other agencies and employers as part of our efforts to achieve a healthier, happier and more productive state workforce,” says J. Robert Galvin ’96 M.P.H., commissioner of the state department of public health.
NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Reading scholar named to Neag Chair in Special Education

A leading authority on positive behavior support for children with emotional and behavioral disorders has joined the Neag School of Education as holder of the newly established Carole J. Neag Chair in Special Education.

George Sugai will help the Neag School develop its plan for the Center for Behavior Education and Research. His move to UConn from the University of Oregon establishes a partnership with Oregon’s nationally respected Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Center, which assists 30 states and 4,000 schools in identifying, adapting and sustaining effective, school-wide disciplinary practices.

Sugai has authored more than 75 peer-reviewed journal articles and two college textbooks, among other publications, and has received more than $25 million in research and training grants during his 20-year career.

“The Neag endowment offers a wonderful opportunity to continue our research, support the start-up of the new center, build upon our national team of collaborators, work with some of the nation’s brightest graduate students, and expand the reach of the national PBIS center,” Sugai says, who remains as PBIS co-director with Rob Horner of the University of Oregon.

At a time when schools are under mounting pressure to raise test scores, research—including Sugai’s—shows a definitive link between academic achievement and school environment.

“The tendency is to ‘get tough’ when problem behaviors occur, rather than investing in the prevention of problem behaviors,” he says. “We fail with these students because their academic potential, creative talents and individual strengths are often overshadowed by their social behavior challenges.”

Richard Schwab, UConn dean of education, says UConn’s planned Center for Behavior Education and Research will expand the mission of the national center and serve as an umbrella for research, outreach, grant writing and doctoral training. Sugai hopes to establish a 15-member research team that will be directly linked to the center.

When I graduated from medical school in India in 1969, I wanted to do research,” Rajan says, “but there was no role model of the physician-researcher. All the investigators at the research institutions held Ph.D.’s rather than M.D.’s. When I said I wanted to do basic bench research, they told me I should go to the U.S., so I came to this country and started my career as a basic researcher.”

Thirty-five years later, he is committed to encouraging and mentoring talented Indian physicians who may prefer to investigate medical issues rather than treat patients.

Members of his team from UConn include Scott Wetstone ’79 M.D., associate professor of community medicine and health care and director of health affairs policy planning at the UConn Health Center and Steven Delaronde ’96 M.P.H., ’97 M.S.W., adjunct assistant professor of community medicine and health care.

Research possibilities abound in India, considering that some diseases have been found to behave differently there than in other developed countries. Further, other rare diseases, such as leprosy, have been identified there as well.

Wetstone says if a disease behaves differently in India and researchers can determine why this occurs, it can have important implications for prevention and early diagnosis both there and in other countries.

The team has visited medical schools in Bombay, Madras, New Delhi and other cities. India’s official response to the initiative has been positive. The Indian government now offers 500 fellowships for physicians to participate in summer research projects.

Prof. T.V. Rajan, rear center, meets with medical students in India to discuss research projects.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Moving India’s physicians toward research

A UConn Health Center physician-researcher has put together a team that may change the way population-based and clinical research is conducted in India.

During the past four years, Thiruchandurai V. “T.V.” Rajan, a professor of immunology, has led a team of faculty members to India to visit medical schools and conduct workshops for students on how to conduct population-based and clinical research.

Traditionally, Indian medical school graduates become clinicians, not researchers. Rajan’s team offers the young doctors an alternative way to improve the health of India’s vast population.
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Scientists discover genetic key to hardier plants

A team of scientists led by Roberto Gaxiola, UConn assistant professor of plant science, has discovered a genetic key to growing plants that are more productive and more drought-resistant and can live in soils low in nutrients.

The researchers from UConn, Purdue University and Pennsylvania State University are the first to successfully test in cells a 30-year-old hypothesis explaining the movement of a primary growth and development hormone through plants. The findings were reported in the Oct. 7, 2005, issue of Science.

Gaxiola is a specialist in manipulating plant proton pumps for crop improvement. He determined with his colleagues that one of three proton pumps found within plant cells plays a critical role in growth and development of plant root and shoot systems.

The proton pump controls cell division, expansion, and hormone transport in plants. Previously it was believed that this one particular proton pump had an extremely limited function, but Gaxiola’s team found that manipulating the single gene that encodes this pump significantly enhances the transportation of the primary plant growth hormone called auxin. The gene over-expression resulted in plants with stronger, more extensive root systems and as much as 60 percent more foliage.

“This discovery has the potential to revolutionize agriculture worldwide,” says Gaxiola. “This over-expression regulates the development of one of the most important parts of the plant, the roots. A plant with larger roots is a healthier and more productive plant because, with a larger root system, the plant is able to get water and nutrients from larger soil areas.”

Additional contributing authors are UConn doctoral candidates Jisheng Li, Haibing Yang, Soledad Undurraga and Mariya Khodakovskaya.

Gaxiola says that early experiments to duplicate the results in other crops, such as tomatoes, rice, cotton and poplar trees, indicate that the team’s discovery could have implications for increasing the world’s food production and aiding global reforestation efforts. He predicts that within the next five years there will be a “boom” of crops genetically engineered using his team’s approach.

School of Family Studies

Cultural differences affect child behavior

Cultural differences in childrearing practices during infancy appear to affect babies physically as well as emotionally, UConn researchers have found. The differences may also have implications for the way children behave once they reach the classroom—possibly even their risk for developing conditions such as attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder.

Family Studies Dean Charles M. Super and Professor Sara Harkness are concluding a six-year study of the effects on human development of cultural differences in childrearing in the U.S. and the Netherlands. The study was funded by a $1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, and the preliminary findings have spurred replication studies in Spain, Italy and, most recently, Korea.

Super and Harkness began their research while living in the Netherlands. It was during this time that they observed that Dutch culture stresses concepts such as rest, regular routines and cleanliness as the cornerstones of childrearing as opposed to the American emphasis on attention and stimulation.

They tracked 60 sets of infants and their primary caregivers in each country from the third trimester of pregnancy through the children’s second birthdays.

Using a variety of data—including recordings of the infants’ daily activities and measuring babies’ heart rate and levels of the stress response hormone cortisol—the researchers measured how much the infants slept, how much stimulation they received from their caregivers while awake and how quickly the babies reacted to normal daily stresses.

They found that where ample rest and a calming environment throughout the day are emphasized, babies cried less readily when upset and exerted more control over their emotions. Physically, they also had lower heart rates and levels of cortisol when confronted with stressful situations such as a parent’s temporary lack of attention.

“The Dutch emphasis on calmness does appear to carry into the classroom and affect behavior and children’s attention spans,” Harkness says.

Super says, “Clearly, different sets of cultural beliefs and assumptions in childrearing do have profound effects on human development.”
Professor involved with shaping space exploration policies

When the shuttle Discovery passed through Earth's atmosphere into space last July, it marked the first launch of an American space shuttle since the 2002 Columbia disaster. Few were closer to the situation than Amy Donahue, assistant professor of public policy at UConn.

Three years earlier, Donahue was one of those in the fields of eastern Texas searching through the wreckage of Columbia, which disintegrated during its return flight to Earth, killing all seven astronauts aboard.

Donahue was appointed to serve on the Stafford-Covey Return to Flight Task Group, which was charged with assessing NASA's response to the Columbia tragedy and readiness for a return flight to space, by then-NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe.

It was not the first time her doctoral program mentor from Syracuse University had asked her to serve the space program. Following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, O'Keefe asked her to serve at NASA to develop its role in the new mission of homeland security, where Donahue went on to become a technical advisor to the new U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Some have suggested that the space program continue only through unmanned robotic flights, removing any danger for astronauts. Donahue, who serves on a standing NASA aerospace safety advisory panel, is committed to the continuation of the space program with human beings at the helm.

"As a pragmatic matter, the sensitivity of the human mind and fidelity of human hands far surpass the capabilities of the robots we can build now or will be able to develop any time soon," she says. "But more than that, human exploration of space is really about fulfilling our thirsty spirits and satisfying our immense curiosity.

"It's about extending ourselves and expanding our being," she says. "It's about reaching beyond the confines of our current condition. To achieve, we need to strive."

Perceptions of childhood explored in book on children and law

Nancy Steenburg '02 Ph.D., assistant professor of history at UConn's campus at Avery Point, has long been interested in how and why the law evolved the way it did, especially as it relates to the legal standing of children.

As a doctoral candidate at UConn, she wrote her dissertation on children and criminal law. Steenburg's continuing research into Connecticut's legal history with regard to minors has resulted in a book, *Children and the Criminal Law in Connecticut, 1635-1855: Changing Perceptions of Childhood.*

"Connecticut was Puritan, and in the 1600s, the thinking was that children were evil—everyone was evil—and totally soaked with original sin," she says. "By the 1700s, there's a softening of that. There was a recognition that you couldn't treat a child the same way you could treat an adult. I theorize in the book that it's partly the influence of the Enlightenment."

Steenburg's book documents a period of history when assumptions about children's legal understanding resulted in children being held to adult standards of behavior. She further argues that understanding how a society treats its least powerful members is crucial to understanding that society as a whole.

Steenburg says there is still dissatisfaction today with the way the state handles youth offenders, as the debate about levels of accountability that can be assigned to children of various ages continues.

While other researchers have drawn conclusions from looking at Connecticut statutes, Steenburg brings to light new information by closely analyzing hundreds of court cases involving minors through documents at the Connecticut State Library in Hartford. She offers a more nuanced interpretation of the legal treatment of children who were accused of theft, arson, murder, and breach of public order and who were victims of physical and sexual abuse.

"I found it absolutely fascinating," she notes, "especially the voices of the children that came through."
**School of Engineering**

*Revolutionizing electrical systems with novel microchip technology*

A UConn researcher is developing new microchip technology that could revolutionize electrical systems in everything from computers and cell phones to airplanes.

Nearly all powered equipment operates by using electrical signals to work. Typically, a semiconductor optical device is limited to using a special purpose photonic circuit without standard circuit functions. Conventional electronic circuits operate only with electrical signals because optical devices cannot be incorporated within the same structure. Therefore the advantages of optical signals are not available for use in conventional integrated circuits.

Geoffrey W. Taylor, professor of electrical and computer engineering, is working to integrate both light-generating and light-detecting functions into a single chip of a semiconductor that already contains the electronic circuit functions. Taylor’s work is considered groundbreaking because so many different systems, such as aircraft and computer towers, rely on both electrical and optical devices to function, requiring masses of wiring connecting the various systems. Many of these functions could be replaced with optical fibers or wave-guides coupled to a small microchip.

The critical—and essential—element of Taylor’s work is creating a laser to function within his new chip so that a low-cost integrated circuit can be made.

“The ability to realize the laser together with complementary electronics is essential,” Taylor says. “The optical links require much less power, so much higher speed chips are possible, which translates to higher speed systems.”

He says the interchangeability of electrical and optical signals “will change the way in which circuits and systems are designed.”

Taylor has been working on the research for more than 20 years, first at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey and since 1994 at UConn. He says a demonstration model should be ready sometime later this year.

**School of Social Work**

*Institute encourages political activism*

UConn’s Institute for the Advancement of Political Social Work Practice is celebrating its tenth anniversary on the evening of April 21 with a special program that will recognize the naming of the Institute for its founding director, Nancy Humphreys.

Humphreys, a professor of social work and former dean of the UConn School of Social Work, is a pioneer in advocating the growing role of social workers in politics. The Institute is the only one of its kind in the United States.

“The Institute is an outgrowth of the increasing awareness in the profession, as a whole, of the need for social workers to become more active in the political process in order to influence decisions about the funding of programs for services,” Humphreys says.

A watershed moment for social worker involvement in politics came with the signing of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, which included provisions for certain public agencies to register those eligible to vote when they apply for services. Private agencies are also encouraged to assist clients in voter registration.

“We have data that shows that if you get people registered, they vote that first time,” Humphreys says. “Social workers are committed to empowering their clients to become more efficient and functional participants in the social system.”

The Institute has developed an annual two-day Campaign School to educate social workers and other interested social services workers about how political campaigns work and how to get involved with them. The program has been replicated for groups in Kansas and Nebraska. A Florida session will take place this year as well.

The Institute also developed legislative handbooks for social workers in Connecticut and Massachusetts, with one currently in development for Pennsylvania, Humphreys says.

She notes that three Connecticut state legislators are School of Social Work alumni: State Sen. Edith Prague ’75 M.S.W., assistant president pro tempore; House majority leader Christopher G. Donovan ’80 M.S.W.; and Rep. Kenneth P. Green ’79 M.S.W.
Students

Lenhart is a busy man around campus

SUBOG president juggles leadership, studies and dreams

It is hard to believe that UConn has only one Kevin Lenhart '06 (ED) because he seems to be everywhere: Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) president, resident hall community assistant, athletic marketing representative, fraternity member, Husky Ambassador, Coca Cola campus manager and, oh yes, a sports management major.

When Lenhart graduates in May, he will have been one of the most involved students from his class.

"UConn is like a big cruise ship in a comfortable little section of Connecticut," says Lenhart, who is from New Tripoli, Pa., a small town near Allentown. "There are more than 300 clubs and organizations, plenty of sports and recreation, and varied dorms and dining halls. When you come to UConn you're in uncharted waters, but when you leave in four years you have taken advantage of opportunities and really expanded your horizons."

Outside of his studies, being SUBOG president is one of Lenhart's biggest

Lenhart believes that his involvement in UConn activities paved the way for his paid internship in sports management with the Connecticut Sun.

responsibilities. There are more than 150 social events a year at UConn, from Homecoming to comedy nights. It is the responsibility of the SUBOG board to recommend and help plan the programs out of a $600,000 activities budget.

As UConn's interim director of student activities, M. Kevin Fahey is the student advisor who works most closely with Lenhart. Fahey says he has never seen a student juggle so many activities at once.

"I've worked with hundreds of great kids, but nobody has been as involved as Kevin," Fahey says. "It's terrific because you have an opportunity to put students in leadership positions, have them set goals, and help them achieve their goals. It prepares them for the real world by complementing anything they learn in the classroom with hands-on practical experience. Kevin can balance it all pretty well."

Lenhart believes that his involvement in UConn activities paved the way for his paid internship in sports management with the Connecticut Sun, the women's professional basketball team based in Uncasville. There, he was responsible for community relations, helped run special events and coordinated Read to Achieve, as part of a WNBA reading initiative. Former UConn stars Nykesha Sales '98 (BUS) and Asjha Jones '02 (BUS) play for the Sun.

One of his projects for the Sun was a silent auction to benefit the March of Dimes that raised about $4,500.

"One lady paid $700 for a tour of the locker room, and I'm thinking, 'Hey, I'm just an intern,'" Lenhart recalls. "But I did it and it was a great experience."

After graduation, Lenhart hopes to intern with an NBA team in pursuit of what he believes will help lead to a career in sports management.

— Alix Boyle
Setting her sights on a career in marketing

Internship sets James to follow family footsteps into business

Business issues often dominate mealtime discussions at the home of Elizabeth James '07 (BUS). Her mother works for Merrill Lynch, and her father runs his own private investment company.

But it wasn’t until James completed her first year at UConn that she began to realize she wanted to follow in their footsteps.

After graduating from Greenwich High School in 2003, James spent a semester at Hobart and William Smith College in upstate New York. “It wasn’t the right fit,” says the 21-year-old UConn junior.

Returning home, James went to work at J. Crew, was a lifeguard at a local country club and volunteered at Greenwich Hospital.

In 2004, James decided to give college another try, signing up for three classes at UConn’s campus in Stamford as an undecided major within the Academic Center for Exploratory Students.

James took a full load of courses during the spring 2005 semester, and discussions with her advisor helped to identify a growing interest in business.

“I loved it,” she says. Professors were always available to help you out.”

During her first week of school, James joined the Husky Ambassador program and soon was leading visitors on campus tours.

James took a full load of courses during the spring 2005 semester, and discussions with her advisor helped to identify a growing interest in business.

The curiosity escalated last summer, when, through UConn’s student career services, James landed an internship working with the owners of six Cold Stone Creamery franchises. “They became mentors to me,” she says.

Under their tutelage, she soared, writing press releases touting new ice cream flavors and developing “theme nights,” coupon programs and other promotions. Raffles offering winners a free year of ice cream, for example, produced entry bins brimming with business cards, from which James compiled e-mail contact lists.

James employed a “grassroots approach” to herald the arrival of a new Fairfield store. “We went to parks and baseball fields and businesses, handing out free samples,” she says.

“When I came back to campus in fall 2005, I wanted to pursue a career in business with a concentration in marketing,” she says, adding she took six classes, was accepted into the Honors Program and decided to transfer to the main campus in Storrs for the spring 2006 semester.

Uneasy about the larger Storrs campus, and “really nervous I’d be a number,” James quickly introduced herself to each professor.

“I told them I came from UConn’s campus in Stamford and wanted to do well, and they all said their door was always open. So it wasn’t as scary as I thought.”

James would like to become a Husky Ambassador in Storrs and hopes to join the UConn women’s soccer club team, a sport she enjoyed in high school. Cold Stone Creamery wants her back this summer, but she may try another internship offer, this time from Merrill Lynch. James plans to work for two years after graduation, then pursue an M.B.A.

“My dream is to work for Nike and do all the marketing for their sportswear,” she says. With her goals now firmly set, she might just do it.

— Karen Singer ’73 (CLAS)
Twenty years ago, Walter Woodward '01 Ph.D., was an advertising whiz and a successful Nashville songwriter. One night he and his wife, Irene, sat to discuss the classic midlife question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Irene was a homemaker with an art education degree, but she wanted to be a veterinarian. Walter's dream job was to become a historian.

Woodward had studied English and history at the University of Florida, where he also expanded his developing interest in music by performing with various groups. After graduation he went to Nashville, where he penned two Top 10 country hits in the early 1970s for torch balladeer Billie Jo Spears.

He also began writing advertising jingles, sparking a highly successful 25-year career that brought many industry honors, including eight Chio Awards for radio commercials for clients such as McDonald's, Rubbermaid and Pizza Hut and a pair of Emmys for documentary music.

Yet Woodward could not resist the lure of history, especially after he developed and hosted a National Endowment for the Humanities-supported program on Colonial Williamsburg, in 1995. He decided to pursue a doctorate in early American history at UConn while working as director of education and information technology at Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth, Mass.

After completing his doctorate in 2001, he joined the faculty of Dickinson College, in Carlisle, Pa., until 2004, when he was named the fifth Connecticut State Historian. It was a homecoming of sorts for Woodward, whose affection for Connecticut began when he was a boy spending summers at his grandfather's Columbia Lake home.

"Connecticut has an important role in the industrial revolution in America," he says about his appreciation for the state's history. "Inventor entrepreneurs such as clockmaker Eli Terry, inventor Eli Whitney and gun maker Samuel Colt developed the machine tools and production processes that made the Connecticut River Valley the Silicon Valley of the 19th century."

As state historian, he both teaches at UConn and serves as a resource to the General Assembly concerning questions involving state history, such as providing assistance to Rep. Michael Cardin '94 (CLAS) when he sought to restore the historic statue The Genius of Connecticut at the state Capitol building.

Woodward is also charged with promoting Connecticut's considerable historic and heritage resources by serving as an ombudsman for state historical organizations, speaking to the public and linking people and organizations. An example is the Heroism, Nationalism and Human Rights conference held earlier this year at UConn's Thomas J. Dodd Center. Woodward helped bring together a range of scholars for the conference, which coincided with celebration of the 250th anniversary of American Revolution hero Nathan Hale's birth. It also occurred during the UConn premiere of a new play written by UConn drama professor Carlton Molette about Prudence Crandall, who integrated a school for girls in Connecticut.

Overall, serving as Connecticut's historian is a position for which Woodward appears to fit perfectly both professionally and constitutionally. As for his wife, Irene went back to school and is now a practicing veterinarian in Manchester.

— Jim H. Smith
Teaching adults about how they learn

Kehrhahn learns from her students as they also learn

For Marijke Kehrhahn ’76 (SFA), ’80 M.A., ’95 Ph.D., teaching is a two-way street. She hopes to learn as much from her students as they will from her.

As director of teacher education and associate professor of adult learning in the Neag School of Education, Kehrhahn walks a tightrope. She must use her intimate knowledge of how to teach adult students while standing before a class filled with adults pursuing doctoral degrees who have similar responsibilities in corporations, government and other organizations.

Kehrhahn’s success as a teacher of adult students is evident by the high number of her students who complete their studies and go on to subsequent high achievements.

Nationally, the rate of completion among all doctoral students is documented at around 60 percent or less, says Barry G. Sheckley, Ray Neag Professor of Adult Learning and head of UConn’s department of educational leadership. “Because of the dedicated, committed and innovative approaches Marijke uses, the rate of completion for her students is higher than 90 percent,” he says. “They also complete their work with distinction. Several of her students have won national research awards for their dissertation work.”

“What makes adult learners different from children is that they are very problem focused,” Kehrhahn says. “Children will learn just about anything, and they should. Adults see their learning in the context of their lives and what it is they need to know. They are more practical learners. They want to learn about things that are going to make their lives better, make them a better person or do their jobs better.”

A key factor in adult education is that students bring a great deal of prior life and work experience into the classroom.

After receiving a bachelor’s degree in dramatic arts and a master’s in special education from UConn, Kehrhahn was a classroom teacher in Windham, Conn. She then became a staff development specialist for the state Department of Mental Retardation and then director of staff development before moving to the state Department of Education as a professional development consultant. She returned to UConn to pursue a doctorate in adult and vocational education, where in 1995 she became an adjunct professor and later a full-time member of the faculty. She was named director of teacher education in 2004.

Kehrhahn says a key factor in adult education is that students bring a great deal of prior life and work experience into the classroom and that it is important to respect that knowledge. “What they have already learned is the foundation for what they will learn in the program and what they have learned can contribute to others,” she says. “Together we’re going to develop our knowledge base where theory and research meet field practice.”

Kehrhahn uses technology such as WebCT and e-mail as a teaching tool in class and outside the classroom as a way for students to stay connected. “Technology doesn’t do the teaching, but it’s certainly a tool that you can put to good use,” she says.

In addition to her teaching and advising responsibilities, Kehrhahn serves as project director for Technology for Leadership and Learning in Connecticut, a program that works to improve educational administrators’ proficiency in using technology to facilitate change in schools. The program is funded with a $2 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. — Julie Reiff
A Timeline of UConn History

Beginning with a gift from the brothers Charles and Augustus Storrs of Mansfield in 1881 to establish the Storrs Agricultural School, the University of Connecticut has evolved over 125 years into an academic powerhouse and today has a reputation as one of the top public institutions in the United States.


2004: Football team wins Motor City Bowl in Detroit. Campaign UConn concludes, exceeding its goal by raising $471.1M.

2000: Marine Sciences program is first Sun Center of Excellence for Oceanography.


2005: Master's degree in homeland security is created.

UConn's Presidential History

Provoking Thought

The educational roots of the University of Connecticut began in agriculture in 1881 and continued to grow over more than a century to include the arts, business, engineering, fine arts, medicine, science, social work, law, education, social sciences, the humanities and an array of health care disciplines. UConn has become a leading national institution of higher learning with more than 27,500 students, 120 focused research centers and institutes throughout its campuses and a diverse faculty and staff numbering nearly 9,000.

The academic heart of UConn began with 800 books, most of them donated from the private collection of Charles Storrs and housed in Old Whitney Hall. Later the library moved to Beach Hall and then to the Wilbur Cross Library. Today the Homer Babbidge Library is the hub of the UConn Libraries, which form the largest public research collection in the state with specialty collections in humanities and the sciences. The collection includes more than 3 million volumes, the largest public map collection in New England, 1.8 million units of microform and an array of electronic information sources.

The UConn School of Social Work opened in 1946. Today on its campus in West Hartford the school provides students with the skills to assist diverse clients and communities and is the only social work program at a public university in New England to offer a doctoral degree.

### ACADEMIC FIRSTS

- **1883**: Two-year certificates awarded
- **1915**: Bachelor's degrees awarded
- **1920**: Master's degrees awarded
- **1949**: Ph.D.'s awarded
- **1951**: University Scholars begin
- **1956**: Phi Beta Kappa installation
- **1957**: Honors (now Scholars) Day
- **1981**: Honorary degrees established

The expansion of science programs began with classes in surveying and mechanical drawing before a four-year mechanical engineering program was established in 1915. Civil and electrical engineering programs were added in 1935 at Connecticut State College.
In 1939 the University of Connecticut was officially chartered in legislation signed by Gov. Raymond Baldwin. Soon the various academic departments were organized into the University's initial group of schools and colleges—Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Studies, Education, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Law, Pharmacy and Engineering.

Over the second half of the 20th century, additional schools were added and five regional campuses were established to transform UConn into a statewide educational and economic force.

The University of Connecticut has grown over the past 125 years to become New England's top-ranked public university with more than 170,000 alumni throughout Connecticut, the United States and the world. Each year, nearly 6,000 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees are conferred.

The UConn Honors Program has attracted some of the nation's top students who demonstrate high levels of intellectual creativity and motivation. Approximately 250 students from the top 4 percent of their class now enroll in the program each year. UConn's chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society has recognized more than 4,000 high achieving students since it began in 1956.

From the opening of a chemistry laboratory at Storrs Agricultural School in 1887, students have used some of the latest technology available in the classroom. Today's classrooms and laboratories include state-of-the-art computer technology and cutting-edge scientific equipment in classes ranging from plant science and business to education and medicine.
New Discovery

From pioneering agricultural science in the 19th Century to cutting-edge research in the 21st Century, UConn has been a center of breakthroughs that has impacted the nation and the world. With focused research centers and institutes that conduct inquiries into subjects ranging from population and vital statistics studies to the development of cancer vaccines, annual sponsored grants have grown from $1 million in 1960 to more than $184 million in 2005.

In 1888, Wilbur O. Atwater, director of the Storrs School Agricultural Extension Station, working with his colleague Charles D. Woods, conducted research into how nitrogen is assimilated by plants. Their findings, widely published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, have been credited with helping to initiate efforts to revitalize depleted soils throughout the world.

Arthur Schwarting and his UConn School of Pharmacy colleagues isolated the sedative chemicals in a root from India known as Withania that was similar to tranquilizer drugs of the early 1960s. The research was undertaken for potential use as an "incapacitation agent" under sponsored research from the U.S. Army.

In 1936, Prof. N.L. Whetten, left, with Walter McKain, directed research that produced one of the nation's first studies recognizing suburbanization as a major sociological phenomenon. Building upon their groundbreaking study, research into social sciences and humanities continued and led to the establishment of UConn's first formal area studies center, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies in the 1940s.

Charles Waring, center, led innovative research into liquid rocket fuel that was part of the UConn Rocket Institute in the 1960s, under what was known as "Project 25" in the chemistry department of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A pioneer in his field, Waring served as technical director of the U.S. Naval Ordnance Test Station in China Lake, Calif., and as a member of the U.S. Army Scientific Advisory Panel during the dawn of the Space Age.

In 1936, Prof. N.L. Whetten, left, with Walter McKain, directed research that produced one of the nation's first studies recognizing suburbanization as a major sociological phenomenon. Building upon their groundbreaking study, research into social sciences and humanities continued and led to the establishment of UConn's first formal area studies center, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies in the 1940s.
The UConn Health Center has 40 designated centers and departments dedicated to improving human health and patient care as well as to expanding the understanding of disease. There are nearly 350 active clinical trials of drugs and treatments underway at any given time, from compulsive gambling and alcohol abuse to cancer prevention and treatment.

During the academic year 1913-1914, Connecticut Agricultural College offered its first course in genetics, believed to be the first organized college genetics course offered in the United States. In 1914, Prof. Albert Blakeslee photographed 175 military cadets for a living histogram to illustrate height distribution that was used extensively in genetics textbooks. In 1996, UConn biologist Linda Strausbaugh coordinated a new photo that not only updated a classic UConn science project but also illustrated the changes in height distribution after 80 years.

The Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center opened in 2002 as part of the School of Engineering and is the nation's largest academic facility dedicated exclusively to developing non-polluting energy cells in a cost-effective manner.

Xiangzhong "Jerry" Yang of the Center for Regenerative Biology in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources directed the research team in 1999 that developed scientific techniques leading to the birth of the first cloned cow, named Amy, and set the stage for a planned stem cell program in 2006.

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center was established in 1995 to support the University of Connecticut's mission of teaching, research and service. It acquires, preserves and makes accessible specialized research collections for students, faculty, staff, scholars and the general public and supports the development and promotion of public programs, exhibitions and conferences.

Elmo Roper, left, who helped pioneer public opinion research in the 1930s, established an academic research facility at UConn dedicated to the study of public opinion. Today the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research is the largest public opinion research library available in the world, assisting international social science research and supporting rigorous training and publications programs.
Vibrant Community

For alumni, recalling their days at UConn often means remembering specific places, events and people. Throughout the years, a variety of campus traditions have come, gone or evolved to reflect their times. Others, such as life in the residence halls and in the classroom, and visits to campus by international and nationally known figures remain a vital part of the vibrant community that links all UConn alumni.

Beauty pageants were popular on college campuses throughout the 1940s and 1950s. Elaine Bart was selected as Miss University in 1955.

Four friends gathered for a 1916 photo in a typical residence hall room in Storrs Hall. From left: Frank P. Miller '16, Leigh Minor '16, Sylvester Meade '17 and Paul Manwaring '19.

Greek life at UConn dates back to the University’s earliest days. Fraternities were founded in 1892. Sororities, organized in the 1930s, prospered in the 1950s, including this group of sorority sisters from 1952.
The annual Oozeball Tournament, in which volleyball is played on a mud court, was launched in the 1980s and quickly became a popular part of Spring Weekend.

UConn traditions have evolved over the years to reflect their times. Homecoming has featured football, floats (below right), food and the crowning of a king and queen, including UConn's royal couple from 1988, Michael Nelson '88 and Heather Sherman '88.

A rope pull competition between the freshman and sophomore classes began in 1901 and continued until around 1970.

The Campus Community Carnival helped raise thousands of dollars for charity for more than 40 years. Students from fraternities, sororities and residence halls operated dunking booths, kissing booths and a variety of carnival games, such as the pie-in-the-face contest in 1957.

Students from Holcomb Hall performed during a 1945 War Bond Carnival to raise money to support the military during World War II. From left: Ann Hayden '48, Myra Haspel '46, Ellen Kelley '48 and Mary Carpenter '46.
During the 1960s and 1970s, student activism addressed national issues, including support for voting and civil rights for all Americans, left, and opposition to the war in Vietnam, below left.

The student radio station is one of the oldest continuing student organizations on campus. Originally known as WABL when it began in 1922, WHUS has reflected the music, life and times of UConn for nearly 85 years.

Ice skating on the Duck Pond, now known as Swan Lake, was among the winter escapes for students in 1904.

Among the dozens of clubs and organizations on campus that have provided outlets for a variety of student interests are the Chess Club, above left, and the Outing Club, 1970.

The UConn campus has provided students with any number of ways to relax, including sunbathing in 1941.

One of the most popular and enduring student vocal groups at UConn was the Black Voices of Freedom. Today, the Voices of Freedom includes participation by students of all races.
Creative Expression

Outside the rigors of the classroom, the UConn community has enjoyed intellectual stimulation, varied entertainment and cultural activities for more than a century. International and national figures in politics, academia and the performing arts have appeared on campus venues including the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, William Benton Museum of Art, Nale Katter Theatre, von der Mehden Recital Hall, Ballard Institute and Puppetry Museum and Connecticut State Museum of Natural History.

Student theatrical productions have been a staple of campus culture from the 1924 performance of A Full House at Hawley Armory by the Dramatics Club to the 1966 student production of Plautus' Braggart Soldier.

Student, faculty and professional musicians have performed on campus for more than a century. The College Orchestra is seen in a 1904 performance.

The roots of the William Benton Museum of Art can be traced to the Connecticut Agricultural College and the art collection bequeathed by Charles L. Beach, president of the college from 1908-1928. Today the museum presents diverse and widely acclaimed exhibitions, lectures, recitals and readings. The Museum has an exceptionally fine collection of more than 5,500 works including drawings, watercolors, prints, photographs, sculptures and paintings, such as the acclaimed Helen de Septeuil, by the American Impressionist Mary Cassatt.

Some speakers and entertainers who have visited UConn include Eleanor Roosevelt, 1943; Buffalo Bob Smith, 1963; B.B. King, 1972; Steve Martin, 1977; Abbey Hoffman, 1986; Oprah Winfrey, 1987; Spike Lee, 1993; Mikhail Gorbachev, 1996; and Maya Angelou, 2004.
Huskymania

In 1881 there was little time for recreational activities as students were required to perform physical farm labor. The requirement was phased out around 1890, and soon students began forming teams for baseball, football and ice polo, which would become ice hockey. These humble beginnings gave rise to Huskymania, the term that represents Connecticut's enthusiastic pride in UConn athletic teams and a standard of excellence on and off the field. To date, more than 1,000 student-athletes have been selected to Academic All-Star teams, and more than 200 student-athletes have been named to All-America teams in a variety of sports.

Jane Weber '51 (ED) was the national archery champion from 1949 to 1951, and one of the reasons UConn won more than 15 national archery championships in the 1940s and 1950s.

Since first being introduced in 1934, the image of Jonathan the UConn Husky has changed over the years on team uniforms, flags and apparel.

The women's soccer team has been a national power for more than 25 years, playing in every NCAA tournament, competing in eight national semifinals and four finals and winning nine Big East championships. A standard of excellence was set in the early 1980s by sisters Tara '84 (ED), '86 M.A. and Moira Buckley, '84 (ED), who each were named as All-Americans—Tara was honored four times and Moira, UConn's all-time scoring leader, was named three times.

UConn men's basketball began in 1901, and its proud history was celebrated in 2000 with the selection of an All-Century team that brought together five generations of Husky players, from Walt Droppo '48 (CLAS) and Art Quimby '56 (ED), '68 M.A. to Ray Allen (1993–96) and Richard Hamilton (1996–99). In 2005 Head Coach Jim Calhoun, who led the team to the 1999 and 2004 NCAA titles, was recognized with the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Football was one of UConn's earliest teams and the leading campus sport in the 1920s to the 1950s. Bob Donnelly '41 (CLAS), left, was captain of both the 1940 football team and the 1940–41 basketball team and namesake of the J. Robert Donnelly Husky Heritage Sports Museum. With its move in 2003 to Rentschler Field in East Hartford, the team made its first ever post-season appearance in a bowl game in 2004, winning the Motor City Bowl in Detroit.
The women's basketball team, which originated in 1902, won its first NCAA championship in 1995 with a perfect 35-0 record, led by All-Americans Jen Rizzotti '96 (CLAS) and Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS), who also was the National Player of the Year. The rise of UConn as the nation's top women's basketball program is symbolized by student-athletes such as three-time All-American Svetlana Abrosimova '01 (BUS) and two-time National Player of the Year Diana Taurasi '05 (CLAS), who helped UConn to win four more NCAA titles between 2000 and 2004. The Huskies set an NCAA record by winning 70 consecutive games between 2002 and 2003.

Over the years, a wide variety of teams were organized, from rowing and ice hockey to swimming, track and field, and golf. Field hockey began as a recreational sport in 1925 and became a varsity sport in 1974. In 1981, field hockey won UConn's first-ever NCAA championship, winning again in 1985, led by three-time All-American Tracey Fuchs '88 (ED). Since 1995 UConn has won 66 Big East championships in a variety of sports.

UConn made history in 2004, when it became the first school to win both the NCAA Division I men's and women's basketball championships in the same year.

Walt Dropo '48 (CLAS) and Meredith "Moe" Morhardt '59 (ED) are considered among UConn's greatest athletes. Dropo was a three-sport athlete, excelling in baseball, basketball and football. He later went on to play with the Boston Red Sox. Morhardt holds the distinction of being the only Husky student-athlete to be named an All-American in two different sports—soccer and baseball in the 1950s. Their legacy of excellence in baseball and soccer continued with three national soccer championships, five NCAA College World Series appearances and a record-setting baseball season, for the most number of wins, in 2005.
Across Connecticut

As Connecticut's land grant university, UConn has expanded its commitment to serve all citizens of the state with the inception of extension courses in 1939. By providing access to quality education on five regional campuses located across Connecticut, UConn contributes powerfully to the state's prosperity and quality of life.

Extension courses began in 1939 in Waterbury, where a campus was established in 1946 at Leavenworth High School and the local YMCA. In 2003, a new campus opened in downtown Waterbury as part of the city's revitalization.

UConn classes were first held in Stamford in 1951, and a campus opened a year later. In 1998 UConn's new downtown campus opened, offering a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs with a focus on business and technology.

The UConn Health Center opened in 1973 and includes John Dempsey Hospital, the UConn Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine and world-class research laboratories. Today, the Health Center is home to 300 physicians serving more than 115,000 patients annually.

The Torrington campus began its operations at Torrington High School in 1957. A new campus opened in 1965, which today is home to UConn’s Tri-campus American Studies program and the highly regarded Litchfield County Writers Project.

UConn’s Greater Hartford presence began with extension courses in 1939. Today it enrolls the highest number of undergraduate students of any regional campus and includes graduate programs and focused research at the School of Social Work in West Hartford (1946), School of Law in Hartford (1943) and the School of Business Graduate Learning Center and SS&C Technologies Financial Accelerator in downtown Hartford (2003).

The UConn campus at Avery Point opened in 1967 on the former summer estate of business magnate Morton Plant. A recent $50 million renovation includes a new marine sciences and technology building, renovation of the historic Branford House, and an enhanced Student Union on a seaside campus dedicated to oceanography education.
Recent works by alumni and faculty

Connecting with Clay at the UConn Co-op

Suzy Staubach, manager of general books at the UConn Co-op, is not only an avid reader, but also the author of a new book, Clay (Penguin Group US), which traces the use of clay throughout the centuries.

The book’s subject is something that Staubach knows viscerally as both a potter who has her own kiln and as a gardener. But her interest in clay also includes a wide variety of historical applications.

“Clay is crucial to the computer and space industries, to biotechnology, to the publishing industry, for water clarification, and for a wide range of manufacturing processes,” she says in the book.

“The potter’s wheel was the very first machine. With the invention of pottery came cooking and storage vessels, ceramics, the discovery of alcoholic beverages, the oven, clay tablets for the first written communication, irrigation for agriculture, vast trade networks, plumbing, sanitation, and its use as an incredibly durable building material.”

One of the most common materials on Earth, clay is something Staubach has been thinking about for a long time.

“As a bookseller, I believe I have seen every book even remotely connected to clay,” she says. “I have been saving tidbits and facts and notes for years because I thought that I would write about it someday.”

When the day came, however, there was a lot of pressure.

“I wrote two chapters and an outline, and an agent took the project on,” Staubach says. “Three publishers were interested in it. But when it came time to sign the contract, I was given just over a year to get it done. It was horrifying!”

Soon, Staubach was at her desk every morning at 4 a.m., working on the book at home before coming to work.

As the project moved forward, she stored more and more information on index cards that were stacked neatly throughout her house. Piles of books were sorted for easy fact checking, and soon the project was all consuming.


Writing is not new for Staubach, who has been a regular contributor to Fine Gardening, Mother Earth News, Old Farmer’s Almanac, and Parents.

Now that Clay is written Staubach plans to return to the kiln where she likes to make simple, functional pottery used as table and garden ware. — Karen Grava ’73 (CLAS)

Also of Interest

The Maltese Murders

Jerry Labriola
(Welcome Rain Publishers)

The James Bond of medicine enters the scary world of bioterrorism in the third book focused on the adventures of doctor-detective David Brooks, the alter ego of retired UConn Health Center Prof. Jerry Labriola. When the inventor of an inhaler that would prevent the effects of any bioterror attack is murdered, Brooks, along with his detective girlfriend and cabdriver sidekick, become nearly overwhelmed by a series of twists and turns in the wake of a trail of dead bodies. Adding spice to the plot is a backdrop of international intrigue, national security and the now real-world issues of genetic engineering, cloning and super germs.

Evolution of the Insects

David Grimaldi ’79 (CLAS)
(Cambridge University Press)

Insects are the most dominant and diverse creatures on Earth, having inhabited our world for most of its existence. Grimaldi, curator of invertebrate zoology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, and his collaborator Michael S. Engel, traveled the continents extensively, examining and collecting insects and million-year-old insect fossils. Highly readable and extensively illustrated, Evolution of the Insects brings together the evolutionary history of insects and examines the diversity of the living species. There is something here for everyone—students, scientists, naturalists and collectors. It is the ultimate bug book.

The Great Justices 1941–54

William Domnarski ’83 J.D., ’84 M.A.
(University of Michigan Press)

The president makes appointments to the Supreme Court of the United States, expecting them to be sympathetic to his values and ambitions. However, once on the bench, the jurists can, and often do, change course as they begin an intellectual battle over individual rights and federalism that has had a lasting impact on the nation. In a timely book, Domnarski examines how four men appointed to the Supreme Court by Franklin D. Roosevelt worked through their personal battles and Constitutional issues. It offers insight into why court appointments remain a political minefield today. — Kenneth Best
Searching for a way to limit the effects of stroke

Sandra Hewett’s research is driven by the effects of stroke on her family

The complex nature of a stroke was brought to worldwide attention earlier this year when news organizations followed the health of Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon after he suffered a stroke.

The kind of stroke Sharon suffered—a hemorrhagic stroke, which causes bleeding into the brain—is relatively rare. A far more frequently occurring medical emergency is an ischemic stroke that leaves many survivors with serious disabilities. The only FDA-approved drug treatment for ischemic stroke is the clot-buster TPA, which must be administered within three hours of an ischemic stroke to unblock the clot.

More than 700,000 Americans will suffer a stroke this year alone.

Sandra Hewett, whose grandfather died and whose mother was disabled following a stroke, is an associate professor of neuroscience at the UConn Health Center, researching ways to minimize damage from ischemic strokes. She has been conducting stroke research since her days as a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, nearly 15 years. Hewett and her husband and colleague, assistant professor of neuroscience James Hewett, share a laboratory at the UConn Health Center and often collaborate on projects.

When a stroke occurs, the flow of blood to a particular area of the brain is disrupted. Brain cells affected by the blockage die because the blood supply is their sole source of oxygen and nutrients.

Sandra Hewett, associate professor of neuroscience at the UConn Health Center, is researching ways to minimize the damage from ischemic stroke.
It happens very rapidly, and brain cells literally excite themselves to death,” Hewett explains. The early stages of stroke trigger the release and accumulation of glutamate, an amino acid that normally serves as a neurotransmitter but in high concentration sets off another series of chemical reactions that can lead to the death or dysfunction of cells.

Although there is little hope for survival of cells in the core of the stroke, damage may progress into the adjacent area, known as the penumbra. The penumbra contains cells that have been partially damaged but may still be restored.

“Strokes happen very rapidly, and brain cells literally excite themselves to death,” Hewett explains. The early stages of stroke trigger the release and accumulation of glutamate, an amino acid that normally serves as a neurotransmitter but in high concentration sets off another series of chemical reactions that can lead to the death or dysfunction of cells.

Although there is little hope for survival of cells in the core of the stroke, damage may progress into the adjacent area, known as the penumbra. The penumbra contains cells that have been partially damaged but may still be restored.

“It’s very exciting. I’ve always wanted my work to be clinically relevant, to make a difference in the world. We’ve made progress, but we won’t have an answer or a cure tomorrow.” — Sandra Hewett

Hewett's research is focusing on how inflammatory enzymes known to be present in the stroke's penumbra contribute to the degeneration of brain tissue after a stroke. Working in collaboration with New Jersey based Onconova Therapeutics, she has tested a number of their proprietary compounds—designated as COX-2 inhibitors—to offer anti-inflammatory protection. "If you inhibit inflammation you can decrease stroke-mediated brain injury," Hewett says. "What we’re trying to do is find out when the inflammatory enzyme becomes activated and how it causes cell death."

“It’s very exciting,” Hewett says. “I’ve always wanted my work to be clinically relevant, to make a difference in the world,” adding she hopes her discoveries will prompt Onconova or other pharmaceutical companies to develop more clinical trials. “We’ve made progress, but we won’t have an answer or a cure tomorrow.”

She says one of the challenges of stroke research is that it is difficult to design clinical trials because there is so much individual human variation in post-stroke neurological damage. That translates into a process that is time-consuming and expensive, which has caused many pharmaceutical companies to discontinue stroke research, Hewett says. To hasten the journey from lab bench to bedside, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is providing grants to academic researchers to help defray research costs for clinical trials.

“Sandra simply bubbles over with enthusiasm about science, whether doing her own lab work, teaching students one-on-one, or in a larger lecture setting,” says Richard Mains, professor and head of the department of neuroscience at the UConn Health Center. “Her work on stroke models has a very obvious clinical-human impact. In addition, she serves as the current director of the Neuroscience Graduate Program, a role well suited to her enthusiasm, scientific breadth and people skills.”

Hewett has turned down offers to work for pharmaceutical companies, preferring to conduct her own research and help teach UConn medical students—whom she calls “the next generation” of scientists—about the molecular mechanisms and treatments of stroke. — Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)
News & Notes

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Let your fellow UConn alumni know about the milestones in your life. You can keep them up to date by sending information and, if possible, a photograph, to Alumni News & Notes, University of Connecticut Alumni Association, Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269; by fax to 860-486-2849; by e-mail to alumni-news@uconn.edu; or online at www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu

Reunions

Save the Date
June 2-3, 2006


Mark the dates on your calendar! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 2 & 3, 2006. Schedule includes tours of campus, keynote speakers, New England Clambake and much more. Check your mail in April for registration information or check our Web site, www.uconnalumni.com, for program updates.

Special Interest Reunions

Interested in getting reconected with that special group of UConn friends during reunion weekend? Let the Alumni Association help. If you have a specific group (i.e., fraternity, sorority, student organization, etc.) that you would like to get together, contact Kim Lachat ‘90. Call 860-486-2240 or toll free 888-UC-ALUM-1. Or by e-mail at reunions@uconn.edu.

1930s

John Blum ‘37 (CLAS) ‘39
M.S. lives at the Falcons Landing Retirement Community in Sterling, Va., where he plays violin in a string quartet. He also plays with the Reston Chamber Orchestra and McLean Symphony. He volunteers once a week with kindergartners at a local elementary school.

1940s

Alfred Marder ‘48 (CLAS) addressed the annual global meeting of the Local Authorities Organization in Caracas, Venezuela, in January as chairman of the New Haven (Conn.) Peace Commission.

William Zimmermann ‘49 (CLAS) celebrated his 85th birthday on July 17, 2005, with his wife of 59 years, three children and four grandchildren.

1950s

Patricia Hubbell ‘50 (CLAS) published two picture books for children in 2005, [Title of book]. Her book was named a finalist for the national Children's Crown Gallery Award. She and her husband, Harold, live in Easton, Conn.

Dorothy (Gannon) Hellstrom ‘52 (CLAS) has an exhibit of paintings, Lighthouses on Shingles, at the Exeter Public Library in Exeter, Mass.

Bob Guinesssey ‘56 (BUS) and Sallie (Tarvin) Guinesssey ‘57 (SFS) live along a golf course in Wilmington, N.C. He retired as president of LE Smith Glass, and she works part-time as a bank teller for Wachovia Bank. They have five daughters and 21 grandchildren.

John DeFrancesco ‘58 (CANR) retired as a public relations consultant to devote his time to oil painting.

1960s


Holger Lundin ‘60 (CLAS) serves as chairperson of Sterneret of Wethersfield, Conn., a group of retired men and women who help seniors learn to use computers. He and his wife, Judy, live in Wethersfield.

Dave Novis ‘60 (CLAS) retired in 2002 after starting four weekly community newspapers in Princeton, N.J., and Santa Barbara, Calif. He lives in Santa Barbara with his wife, Irene, in a home he built.

Rhoda (Steege) Kriesel ‘61 M.A. works with technology commercialization for venture capital companies and technology entrepreneurs in New Jersey.

Joel Mandell ‘61 (CLAS) ’66 J.D. is special counsel of commercial services for CAIC, a bar-related title insurance underwriter in Rocky Hill, Conn. He was elected to his seventh term as a member of the Simsbury (Conn.) Board of Selectmen and is serving his fourth term as Deputy First Selectman. His wife, Ellen Solomon Mandell ‘64 (SFS), was recently selected as a Simsbury Hometown Hero for her continued service to the town.

Katharine Neville ‘62 (SFS) was elected as the 25th president of the Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary. She is the owner of Kathrine’s Gardens, a garden and floral design company in Woodmont, Conn.

William O’Connor ‘62 (BUS) was recognized as an outstanding course leader by the American Institute for CPCU and the Insurance Institute of America. He is a project manager at St. Paul’s Traveler’s Insurance Company in Hartford, Conn. He lives with his wife, Patricia, in West Hartford. They have two children.

Rochelle Tel ‘63 (CLAS), ’68 Ph.D. was named a Senior Fellow at RTI International in Research Triangle Park, N.C. She is the research director of life sciences and

Abbreviation Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates</th>
<th>Graduate/professional degree abbreviations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CANR – College of Agriculture and Natural Resources</td>
<td>M.A. – Master of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANS – School of Allied Health</td>
<td>M.S. – Master of Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAS – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>M.D. – Master of Dental Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUS – School of Business</td>
<td>M.B.A. – Master of Business Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFS – School of Allied Health</td>
<td>M.F.A. – Master of Fine Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>SFA – School of Fine Arts</td>
<td>M.M. – Master of Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAS – College of Education</td>
<td>M.P.A. – Master of Public Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG – School of Engineering</td>
<td>M.P.H. – Master of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFS – School of Family Studies</td>
<td>M.S.P.T. – Master of Science in Physical Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>BG – General Studies</td>
<td>Ph.D. – Doctor of Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR – School of Nursing</td>
<td>D.M.A. – Doctor of Musical Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHR – School of Pharmacy</td>
<td>J.D. – Juris Doctor</td>
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<tr>
<td>RHA – Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture</td>
<td>M.D. – Doctor of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSW – School of Social Work</td>
<td>D.M.D. – Doctor of Dental Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pharm.D. – Doctor of Pharmacy</td>
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<td>6th year = Sixth-year certificate</td>
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Buzas discovers major findings in a small world

At age 71, few scientists can match Martin Buzas '58 (CLAS), who has conducted almost half a century of prolific research. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed works. He is finishing a 30-year study of Florida's Indian River Lagoon, the most biologically diverse estuary in North America. He has a paper due out later this year, but in the meantime he has begun measuring biodiversity patterns in the waters around New Zealand.

"Most people my age are retired," Buzas says. "I still work full time because I love what I do. It's sort of like getting paid for your hobby."

Buzas is curator of the department of paleobiology at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. After graduating from UConn, Buzas earned a master's at Brown and a doctorate at Yale, where he wrote a dissertation on foraminiferal distribution patterns within Long Island Sound. Considered a model piece of scientific research, it is still used as a benchmark of the water's overall health and an accurate measurement of anthropogenic change. He then turned down a lucrative job offer from an oil company to be a curator at the Smithsonian.

For more than 40 years at the Smithsonian, Buzas has maintained and expanded the largest and most significant micropaleontological collection in the world. Last year he received the Joseph A. Cushman Award for outstanding contributions to the field of foraminology, the study of ancient, tiny, single-cell marine organisms that construct shells.

Toxicology and senior program director of reproductive and developmental toxicology at RTI.

Joseph "Butch" Wandy Jr. '63 (BUS), inventor of the Prismatic Imaging photo technique, was commissioned by the Rellexite Corp., of Avon, Conn, to install three large pieces of art in his series titled Prisms + Light + Space. He lives and works in East Hartford, Conn.

Evelyn Marshak '64 (CLAS) retired after 34 years of teaching and now reports for The Prospect Pages, a monthly newspaper in Prospect, Conn.


Christopher Pitt '65 (CLAS) has retired as president and CEO at Northwest Community Bank in Winsted, Conn., after 42 years in the Connecticut banking industry. He and his wife, Beth, live in West Simsbury, Conn.

William Schneider '65 (CLAS) retired from selling wine at a vineyard off the central coast of California. He lives in San Francisco, Calif., and Ubud, Bali, Indonesia, where he makes wine for private collectors.

Alan Shafer '65 (CLAS) retired from IBM Corporation after 35 years and is vice president and CEO of Intelligent Business Systems Group, Inc., of Celebration, Fla. The company provides software to small-business development agencies affiliated with the U.S. Small Business Administration and similar government entrepreneurial support organizations from other countries.

Tom Bowler '66 (ED) was on the Pennsylvania Bar Institute faculty for two seminars in 2005. He presented with two other attorneys in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia on the topic of "Liability Issues in Playgrounds, Gyms, Playing Fields & Physical Education Classes." He retired from the Vernon, Conn., public school system in 1999, where he taught elementary physical education for 33 years.

Ken Golden '66 (ENG) is the president of QBS Consulting, Inc. He lives in Northborough, Mass., and has two daughters.

Robert Krantz, Jr. '68 (CLAS) retired from the U.S. Department of State after 35 years of government service.

"They are about a half millimeter or the size of a grain of sand," says Buzas. "As a matter of fact, when you lay on a beach a lot of those grains of sand are actually foraminifera. They've been around for about 500 million years. That's a very long geological record." Besides pure academic inquiry, Buzas says, the study of tiny organisms can help to answer big questions in the fields of climatology, ecology and evolutionary studies.

Buzas says his rise to the top of his profession began in the basement of UConn's Holcomb Hall, a residence hall. "That's where the geology department was," says Buzas. "It was great because we were only seven or eight majors. So although you had this huge university around you it was just like going to a small, intimate school." — Ron Meshberg
GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY IN MANY WAYS

Marilda Gandara '80 J.D., president of the Aetna Foundation has an insider's perspective on corporate philanthropy at both the national and local levels.

One day will find her attending a presidential reception at the White House and the next serving food at a local Connecticut soup kitchen. After using the morning to review a grant application for a disease prevention program in North Carolina, Gandara may speak in the afternoon to Hartford's Spanish American Merchants Association about access to affordable health care.

In 2004, the Aetna Foundation awarded more than $17.5 million in grants, placing Gandara in a position where she can truly affect people's lives.

"I feel a strong sense of responsibility in utilizing this opportunity to do as much good as possible for communities," she says. Gandara joined Aetna in 1978, when Latina lawyers were a rarity. She blazed a career path that included work in environmental law, real estate and corporate planning before moving to the foundation in 1996.

"I certainly never set out to be a role model," she says. But her nearly 30 years of business experience has brought accolades, among them being named one of the "Top 50 Latinas in American Business" by *El Diario la Prensa* and a listing in *Hispanic Business* magazine’s 2005 Corporate Elite directory of 25 influential Hispanics in American corporations.

In Connecticut, she is just as well known for her volunteerism. She serves on the boards of both the United Way of the Capitol Region and the Wadsworth Atheneum and is the appointed finance trustee for the state-controlled Hartford Board of Education.

Gandara says that of all her volunteer efforts, she finds economic development work the most compelling—an affinity based on her experiences as an immigrant. Her family came from Cuba when she was 10, and her parents created a new life in the United States by becoming small business owners. She says, "I just like that whole idea of helping people grow through the development of small businesses in the community."

Gandara says her appreciation for the UConn Law School is also connected to being an immigrant who found what seemed almost too good to be true: "Here was this wonderful, world-class institution where I got an affordable and a fine education—it was both." — Leslie Virostek

Chris Donovan '69 (SFA) directed the *Golden Globe Awards* on Jan. 16, 2006, on NBC. He also directed the *Independent Film Spirit Awards* on IFC and AMC on March 4, 2006.

1970s

Barbara Poltrak '70 (ED), '72 M.A. has retired after teaching elementary education for 34 years in Stamford, Conn., and Guilford, Conn.

Alan Bratton '71 (CLAS) retired as a financial analyst after 30 years in the treasurer's office at the University of Cincinnati. Alan had gender reassignment surgery and became Aoife Bratton.

Kathleen Reardon '71 (ED), professor of management at the University of Southern California, recently published the book *It's All Politics: Winning in a World Where Hard Work and Talent Aren't Enough.*

Donn Friedman '72 (ED), '79 M.A., '85 6th year, was recognized as the 2005 Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Schools. He is in his 11th year at Lincoln Middle School in Meriden. He lives in Glastonbury with his wife, Cindie (Haemer) '77 (CLAS), and children, Jacob, 21, and Eliza, 18.

Christine Gelineau '72 (CLAS) won the Richard Snyder Award from Ashland Poetry Press with her first collection of poetry, *Remorseless Loyalty.* The book cover was designed by her sister, Janine Gelineau '77 (SFA).

Christine is an adjunct assistant professor of English and the assistant director of the Binghamton Center for Writers at the State University of New York. Janine is a photographer and graphic artist in the video communications office of the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. She lives in Vernon, Conn.

Jay Sher '72 (CLAS) was inducted into the American College of Dentists, a nonprofit organization of dentists who have exemplified leadership and contributed to dentistry and society. He and his wife, Gini, have three daughters and live in Livingston, N.J.

Steven DeMorro '73 (ED) is the vice president of human resources and recruitment for Publicis Selling Solutions in Blue Bell, Pa.

John Lochman '74 Ph.D. is the Saxon Chair of Clinical Psychology at the University of Alabama, where he received the Blackmon-Moody Outstanding Professor Award.

David Carlson '75 (BUS) is the senior vice president and director of taxes at Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., in Hartford, Conn. He and his family live in Farmington, Conn. His daughter, Heather '08 (SAH), is a sophomore at UConn.

Jacquelyn Joseph '75 (CLAS) is the executive vice president for academic and student affairs at Cuyahoga Community College in Ohio. She moved to Cleveland, Ohio, with her husband, Ray, in May 2004.

Rob McCullough '76 (CLAS) is a realtor at Prudential CT Realty in Wilton, Conn.

Drew Crandall '77 (CLAS) is the 2006 president of the Connecticut Valley chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). He lives in Ellington, Conn., and is the owner of KEEP IN TOUCH, a marketing and media business in Vernon.

Patrice (Raccio) Hughes '77 (CLAS), '80 MA published her third novel for young adults, *Open Ice,* in November 2005. Her second novel, *The Breaker Boys,* was named as a notable book for 2005 by the National...
Alumni Association
Call for Nominations

Do you know an outstanding alum or faculty member?

The UConn Alumni Association has established awards to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions by alumni, non-alumni and faculty. The UConn Alumni Association is proud of these achievements and welcomes the opportunity to extend recognition through our annual awards program. To obtain a nomination form and a list of past recipients, visit the UConn Alumni Association Web site at www.uconnalumni.com. Deadline for 2006 nominations is April 7, 2006.

Council on Social Studies and the Children's Book Council.

Steven Parent '77 (CLAS), '80 M.P.A. was recognized by President George W. Bush with a 2005 Presidential Rank Award, which recognizes exceptional long-term accomplishments of government executives. He is a deputy director with the executive office for United States attorneys at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

William Luddy, Jr., '78 J.D. participated in the development of a new draft treaty on the use of electronic communications in international contracting for the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. He is a professor of management at the Lally School of Management and Technology at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Hartford campus.

Martin Pazzani '78 (CLAS), '79 (BUS). '80 M.B.A. is the president and CEO of Elias Arts, the country's largest commercial music, sound design and identity company, with offices in Santa Monica, Calif., New York City and Paris. He lives with his family in Farmington, Conn.

Douglas Tynan '78 (CLAS) is a child psychologist, associate professor of pediatrics at Jefferson Medical College and the director of the Primary Care Pediatrics Mental Health Program for the Nemours Foundation in Delaware. He completed a two-year term on the Advisory Committee on Head Start Research and Evaluation for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which designed and reviewed two major studies on the impact of Head Start.

Deborah Mathieu-Byers '79 (SFA) is the founder and producing artistic director of Streetlight Productions, Inc., in New York City.

Harriet Sanford '79 M.P.A. is president and CEO of the NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education.

Robert Stein '79 (CLAS) serves as a commissioner on the Virginia Public Broadcasting Board. He is also the founder and CEO of MajorGiving.com and lives in Virginia with his wife, Gina, and two children.

Terry Martin '80 (CLAS) and his wife, Donna, announce the adoption of a daughter, Katerina Mei Cerreto, in summer 2005 from Hubei Province, China.

Ulrich La Fosse '80 (ENG), '82 M.S. received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from UConn's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He is a co-founder of GeoDesign, Inc., in Middlebury, Conn.

Anne Saliers '80 M.A. is the product manager of IzzyDesign, manufacturers and designers of furniture for interactive workspaces, in Spring Lake, Mich.

James Brennan '81 (BUS) is a football official for the Big East Conference and worked as the side judge in the 2006 Orange Bowl game in Miami.

Jay Hruska '81 (BUS) is the vice president of Cushman & Wakefield in Stamford, Conn. He lives in New Canaan.

Andrea Vlahakis '81 (BGS) has written a picture book, Christmas Eve Blizzard, published by Sylvan Dell Publishing.

Larry Adler '82 (BUS) was recently named a member of the UConn School of Business Board of Advisors and is a partner in the Hartford, Conn., law firm of O'Connell, Flaherty and Atmore. He lives in South Windsor with his wife, Lori, and three sons, Steven, Jeffrey and Marc.

Jannie (Gustafson) DesRosiers-Berman '82 (CLAS) received an M.S. in library science from Southern Connecticut State University in August 2005. She is a library media specialist in the Portland, Conn., school system. She and her family live in West Hartford.

Lauren Baratz-Logsted '83 (CLAS) will have three new books and an anthology published in 2006: How Nancy Drew Saved My Life, a comic graphic from RDI; Vertigo, a literary novel set in the Victorian era, from Bantam; Angel's Choice, about teen pregnancy, from Simon & Schuster; and the anthology This IS Chick-Lit, from BenBella Books. She lives in Danbury, Conn., with her husband and daughter.

Leandri Honored by Groton

The City of Groton recognized Julio Leandri '50 (BUS) in September 2005 for his 60 years of service to the city by dedicating the new Department of Utilities Operations Complex in Groton in his name. Leandri is a past president of the UConn Alumni Association.
Catherine (Nettles) Cutter ’84 (CANR) ’87 M.S. is an associate professor of food science and Casida Professor of Food Safety at Pennsylvania State College.

Jackie (Trefethen) Estes ’84 (PHR) is the pharmacy manager for Brooks Pharmacy in Williston, Vt. She lives in Richmond with her husband, David Estes ’84 (BUS), and their five children, Justin, 16, Mike, 14, Matt, 12, Jeff, 9, and Katie, 7.

John Wadsworth ’84 (ENG) is a pilot with Southwest Airlines and is based at Midway Airport in Chicago. He is the commanding officer of the Navy Reserve C-130 Hercules squadron VR-54 in New Orleans, La. He lives in St. Louis, Mo.

Megan Friar ’83 (ED), ’87 M.A. and Ron Drotos ’86 (SFA) announce the birth of a son, Daniel Friar Drotos, on March 12, 2005. Danny joins his brother, John, 2. Megan and Ron are both musicians. The family lives in Riverdale in the Bronx, N.Y.

Rebecca Palmer ’86 (CLAS) opened a medical writing and editing business, IBIS BioCommunications, LLC, in Fremont, Calif.

Michael Fappiano ’87 (ENG) received an M.S. in computer science from the University of New Haven in May 2005. He is a software engineer at Pitney Bowes in Danbury, Conn.

Deborah (Coe) Field ’87 (CANR) was named South Windsor teacher of the year and was selected as one of four finalists for the state teacher of the year award in Connecticut.

Karen Karlin ’87 (CLAS) announces the birth of a daughter, Emma Danielle, on Aug. 31, 2005.

Mike Thurber ’87 (CLAS) is a lieutenant colonel and the operations officer of the 14th Weapons Squadron at the U.S. Air Force Weapons School. He is stationed at Hurlburt Field, Fla., and lives in Niceville, Fla., with his wife, Colleen, and two sons.

Dana (Ippolito) Lewis Lee ’88 (CLAS) is an elementary school teacher and high school track coach in Ocean Township, N.J., where she lives with her husband, Chris, and their four daughters, Alexa, 10, Lauren, 10, Abigail, 7, and Victoria, 2.

Jeff Taylor ’88 (BUS) is the weekend meteorologist on CBS4 News This Morning Weekend, and UPN33 News out of Miami-Flt. Lauderdale, Fla.

Gail Bysiewicz ’89 (CLAS) is the new director of government relations at UConn, where she previously served as the assistant director from 1994 to 1999. She previously served as executive officer for government relations with the Connecticut State University System.

Jacqueline (Del Giorno) Gaston ’89 (SFS) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their twin sons, Jake Allen and Dylan Patrick, on Sept. 18, 2005. They join siblings, Michael Jr., 3, and Sophia, 13. Jackie is a special education teacher at Chantilly High School in Fairfax County, Va.

David Gaz ’89 (CLAS), ’93 D.M.D. and his wife, Vivian, announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Faith, on Oct. 15, 2005. Emma joins brothers Jacob and Ethan. The family lives in Elkton, Md.

Jeffrey Mayer ’89 M.A. exhibited his artwork in the faculty show of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University, where he is an associate professor in fashion design and technologies.

Kerri McManus ’89 (CLAS) is the manager of accreditation services at the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International in Tampa, Fla.

1990s

Diana Abbruzzzi ’90 (NUR) married Anthony Rossi, Jr. on Aug. 7, 2005. She is a certified school nurse-teacher at Granitetown Elementary School in Johnston, R.I. The couple lives in South Kingstown, R.I.

Anne Halloran Tortora ’90 (ED) (SFA) is the bandmaster of the 1st Company Governor’s Foot Guard Band, based in Hartford, Conn. She is only the second female captain of the 1st Company. She is also a Teaching Fellow in Music Education with an emphasis in wind conducting at the Hartt School in Hartford.

Anne Rivard ’90 (CLAS) and Stephen Hill ’90 (ENG) ’96 M.B.A. announce the birth of a son, Noah Lucien, on Aug. 21, 2005. Noah joins his brother, Coleman Sumner. She is a program coordinator for University Events at UConn, and Steve is a financial manager for Pratt and Whitney in Cheshire, Conn. The family lives in Tolland, Conn.

Bob O’Dea ’91 (ED) and his wife, Michelle, announce the birth of a daughter, Reegan Emily, on Sept. 18, 2005. Reegan joins his brother, Devon. Bob is a certified financial planner and vice president of investments at Wachovia Securities in Woodbridge, Conn. The family lives in Madison, Conn.

Pamela (Bellmore) Gardner ’91 (CLAS) and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a son, Kevin Bellmore Gardner, on April 16, 2005. She is the assistant principal at Frank Scott Bunnell High School.
in Stratford, Conn., and is completing her term on the UConn Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Matt Cohen '91 (BUS) and his wife, Alyssa, announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Brooke, on March 2, 2005. He is the regional director for CBS Global Asset Management.

Peter Sword '91 M.B.A. was recognized as an outstanding course leader by the American Institute for CPCU and the Insurance Institute of America in Malvern, Pa. He is an audit specialist for Liberty Mutual Group in Boston and lives with his wife, Jane, and two children in Whittam, Mass.

Brian Whalen '91 (SAH) and his wife, Jen, announce the birth of daughter, Bridget Clare, on July 24, 2005. She joins her sister, Claire Elizabeth. The family lives in Rowlett, Texas.

Cynthia (Wemmer) Doto '92 (ENG) and Benjamin Doto III '92 (ENG) announce the birth of a son, Chad Alexander, on July 24, 2005. Chad joins his brother, Benny.

David Hartman '92 (CLAS) recently retired to pursue the dream of being a SCUBA instructor and an adventure tour leader. He founded Fantastic Endeavors Hartman (www.fantasticendeavorsinc.com) in Key Largo, Fla.

Steven LaBella '92 (CLAS) and Jennifer (Iadarola) LaBella '93 (ED), '94 M.S. announce the birth of a daughter, Kami Elise, on Nov. 9, 2005. She joins her brother, Nicholas Steven, 5, and sister, Olivia Jane, 3. The family lives in Watertown, Conn.

Pamela (Bauers) Mingo '92 (CLAS) and her husband, James, announce the birth of a daughter, Kayla Michelle, on Aug. 17, 2005. Kayla joins her sister, Jenna Elizabeth. The family lives in Cheshire, Conn.

Kristen (Wajdowicz) Marquis '92 (PHR) and her husband, Keith, announce the birth of a daughter, Kathryn Bernadette, in July 2005. She joins sister, Claire Louise, born in 2003.

Robert Pohlmann '92 M.S. is living in Berlin, Conn., and works in New Britain.

Cynthia Robinson '92 (CLAS) and husband, Charles Smallwood, announce the birth of a son, Carson Deters Smallwood, on Nov. 7, 2005. The family lives in St. Davids, Penn.

John Adams '93 (ENG) and his wife, Helene (Hebert) '95 (CLAS), '96 M.S. and their sons, Benjamin, 3, and Luke, 3, have moved to Gorham, Maine. John is a senior transportation engineer with Sebago Technics, Inc., in Westbrook, Maine.

Susan Alward '93 (CLAS) is the first vice president of the home loans division for Washington Mutual Bank. She lives in Chicago, Ill.

Yolanda Caldera-Durant '93 (CLAS) received the Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunities Programs TRIO Achiever Award. She is the program officer for Fairfield County Community Foundation and serves on the boards of the Greater Bridgeport Latino Network and the Hispanic Professional Network.

Dominick Cristofaro '93 (BUS) and Christina (Stavrou) Cristofaro '94 (SFS), '98 M.S.W. announce the birth of a son, Anthony, on May 2, 2005. Anthony joins sisters, Alexandra, 3, and Gabriela, 2. Dominick is the vice president of the institutional services group for Ramirez & Company, Inc., and co-manages the firm's branch office in Hartford, Conn.

Julie (Goodwin) Gallo '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of twins, Mason Tanner and Avery Rose, on Nov. 11, 2005.

Brian Kelly '93 (SFA) (ED) and Tyyne Straatveit-Kelly '93 (CLAS) announce the birth of their third child, Garret Joseph, on March 29, 2005. Garret joins siblings, Lilah Bryn, 5, and Bryson Nils, 2. Brian is the director of bands at Bristol Eastern High School, and Tyyne is a speech-language pathologist for the Newington, Conn., school district. The family lives in Newington.

William Parilla '93 (CLAS) and his wife, Erin, announce the birth of a daughter, Ashleigh Marie, on Oct. 19, 2005. He is a pediatric intensive care physician at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y.

Robert Sidur '93 (SAF) and his wife, Laura, married in August 2005. The couple lives in La Paz, Mexico.

Tracy (Bardos) Vitti '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Anthony, announce the birth of a son, Tyler Anthony, on Sept. 12, 2005. The family lives in Clinton, Conn.

Kent Zahnert '93 (BUS) is a CPA for Magdefrau, Rinner & Ciaffaglione, LLC, in Vernon, Conn., and a money manager for Keynote Financial Services, LLC, his investment advisory firm. He lives in Ellington with his wife, Karen, and three children, Katrina, 4, Jeremy, 2, and Natalie, 1.

Tom Anderson '94 (BUS), '04 M.B.A. started an online marketing research and data mining business, Anderson Analytics, LLC. He recently spoke at the SPSS Decisions Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., and will speak at the 2006 ESOMAR Auto Conference in Switzerland.

Mark Carabetta '94 (CANS) received the first Environmental Leadership Award in the alumni category from UConn's Office of Environmental Policy and Environmental Policy Advisory Council. He is director of conservation science at the Connecticut chapter of the Nature Conservancy.
Daniel Granniss '94 (CANR) is the associate studio leader of the SIA/M landscape architecture studio in Glastonbury, Conn. He lives in Columbia.


Eric Baumann '95 (CLAS) and his wife, Jaclyn, announce the birth of a child, Colton Eric Baumann '95 (CLAS) and his band, The Crash Moderns, are part of the “Have a Nice Gig” competition with other bands sponsored by XM Satellite Radio.

Zygmunt Dembek '95 (CANR), '03 M.P.H. is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve and was mobilized to active duty at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md. His recent publications include book chapters in the Encyclopedia of Bioterrorism Defense, by Wiley Publishers; Biological Weapons Defense: Infectious Diseases and Counter-bioterrorism, by Humana Press; and the soon to be published Hospital Preparation for Bioterror.

Kandace Einbeck '95 Ph.D. has moved to China to teach German and English at Jiaotong University in Xi’An.

Eric Ferreri '95 (CLAS) is a staff reporter for the Raleigh News & Observer. He and his wife, Stefanie Pratola Ferreri, '97 (PHR), a pharmacy professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, live in Durham, N.C.

Christine Sedensky Fioritto '95 (CANR) and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of a son, Sean Stephen, born in September 2005. Sean joins his brother, James.

Sally Ann (Williams) Lee '95 (SFS) and Dylan T. Lee '96 (CLAS) announce the birth of a daughter, Lauren Alexandra, on March 30, 2005. Sally is the development associate for Middlesex Hospital and Dylan is the sales and engineering manager for FCC Structural. The family lives in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Melanie (Kline) Nedder '95 (NUR) and her husband, Stephen, announce the birth of a daughter, Sabrina Katherine, on Oct. 12, 2005. She joins sisters, Riley, 5, and Reagan, 3. The family lives in Attleboro, Mass.

Jim Nichols '95 M.S. is the deputy city manager of Goodyear, Ariz. His book, Public Works Management - Things They Never Taught in School, was published by the American Public Works Association.

Mark Allyn '96 (ENG). '98 M.S. and James Fox '03 M.S. are project managers at BVH Integrated Services in Bloomfield, Conn.

Jennifer (Hall) Bradshaw '96 (CLAS) and Peter Bradshaw '95 (CLAS) announce the birth of a son, Bruce Eliot Bradshaw, on April 4, 2005. The family lives in Vernon, Conn.

Alena Cybart '96 (CLAS) is an English and journalism teacher at Kennedy High School in Waterbury, Conn. She was appointed chair of the English department in June 2004 and received the 2004 and 2005 Margaret M. Generali Grant for advising the student newspaper.

John Galvin '96 M.P.H. is the commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health and completed the recertification examination by the American Board of Family Medicine.

Andrew Gazarro '96 D.M.D. and his wife, Heather, announce the birth of a son, Brayton Nicholas, on Aug. 20, 2005.

Matthew Greene '96 (SFA) joined the Boston cast of the Blue Man Group after performing in the New York City production in fall 2005.

Eliot Jardines '96 (CLAS) is the assistant deputy director of national intelligence for open source at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in Washington, D.C.

Deana Jeski '96 (CLAS) married her husband, Matthew, in October 2004 at Corpus Christi Church in Wethersfield, Conn. She is a public relations director for the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce in Middletown, Conn. The couple lives in Cromwell, Conn.

Noel McGuinness '96 (BUS) returned home Nov. 23, 2005, after spending a year in Iraq flying and fixing Black Hawk helicopters.

Airen Miller '96 (SFA) and his wife, Tricia, announce the birth of a daughter, Haven Meadow, who joins brother, Bowdi Mohawk. Airen is a professional photographer whose work can be seen at www.amillerphoto.com.

Fred Nutter '96 (CLAS) is the senior sports producer at WHDH, an NBC-affiliate in Boston, Mass.

Leo Poorvin '96 (CANR) and Shawn Lewis '97 (CANR) received Ph.D.’s in microbiology and comparative medicine, respectively, from the University of Tennessee in December 2005. The couple has one son, Faolan, and are expecting a second son in March 2006.

Jennifer (Cion) Stokes '96 (CLAS) and Matthew Stokes '95 (CLAS) announce the birth of a son, Jack Matthew, on July 26, 2005.

Amy (Gallo) Trimani '96 (CLAS), '03 M.B.A. and Robert Trimani '97 (CLAS), '00 (PHR), '02 Pharm.D. married
Thinking his way to innovative technology

As a UConn senior Matthew Adiletta '85 (ENG) was supporting himself by working for a construction company when former UConn Dean of Engineering Fred Maryanski helped him land a part time job at Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC).

By the time he graduated with honors, Adiletta had already done so much work on scan-design circuits for the company that DEC immediately dispatched him to Philadelphia, where he gave a presentation at the annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers conference.

Over the next 13 years, until DEC was acquired by Intel, Adiletta designed high-speed microprocessors and 13 different video compression chips, and eventually led the development of Digital's first-generation network processor. Since 1998 he has been director of communication processor architecture for Intel. In 1999 he was designated an Intel Fellow. The prestigious recognition is the pinnacle of technical achievement at the company, with less than 50 members. Currently he holds more than 50 patents with a similar number pending. His inventions have helped to improve digital video processing and provide intelligent network processing.

"UConn taught me how to think," he says. "The innovation process is about how to approach a problem and understand it. That's the most important thing I learned at UConn."

Science runs deep in the Adiletta family. His father, Joseph, was president of Pallflex Products, a high-tech filtration materials manufacturer based in Putnam, Conn. The senior Adiletta is also a former New York University professor and a prolific inventor. Two of Matthew's four older siblings—brother Bill '73 (CLAS) and sister Pat '75 (CLAS)—earned degrees in physics and chemistry, respectively.

A third brother, Joseph Jr. '90 M.S., was at UConn with Matt, earning his master's degree in electrical engineering and later taking over his father's position at Pallflex. Only brother John, a successful investment consultant, did not pursue a science career.

As for the invention bug, it appears Matt has passed it on. Adiletta and his wife, the former Karen Schulz '85 (ED), whom he met at UConn, have four children. One son, Matty Joe, 7, recently developed what he describes as "a garbage picker upper," which allows people to pick up "yucky stuff" without having to touch it.

— Jim H. Smith
Submit your News & Notes item online
Alumni News & Notes is now online at www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu

Alycia (Sacco) Duquette '98 J.D., '99 M.B.A. is an officer of Berkshire Life Insurance Company in Pittsfield, Mass. She is also co-chairman of Berkshire Life's United Way campaign, a member of the board of the Pittsfield Family YMCA, Pittsfield airport commissioner, and a volunteer for Berkshire Habitat for Humanity. She lives in Pittsfield with her husband, Chris, and twin daughters.

Sherri Estela-Harton '98 (CLAS) and her husband, Andre, announce the birth of a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth Harton, on Aug. 20, 2005.

Curt Leng '98 (CLAS) is the deputy director of community development for Bridgeport, Conn. He is also chairman of the finance and administration committee of the Hamden, Conn., legislative council.

Leo VanderSchuur '98 (ENG) is the general manager of the GE Energy Reuter-Stokes product line.

Caroline (Ferreira) Harrington '99 (CLAS) married Scott Harrington on Oct. 9, 2005, on Cape Cod, Mass. The couple lives in Halifax, Mass.


2000s

Shaun Batterton '00 (ENG) and Jennifer (Moroz) Batterton '00 (ED), '01 M.A. announce the birth of a daughter, Kaelyn Nicole, born on June 13, 2005. She joins brother Matthew, 2. The family lives in Seymour, Conn.

Maria Capriola '01 (CLAS), '03 M.P.A. and Terry Gray '03 (CLAS) are engaged. She is assistant chief administrative officer for the City of Newburyport, Mass., and he is a manager with Regal Entertainment Group. The couple lives in Newburyport.

John Miceli '01 (CLAS) and Alison DeLeo '03 (SFS) married in July 2004 and live in Darien, Conn. She is a kindergarten teacher at Landmark Academy in Westport, and he started an insurance agency in September 2004.

Jessica Alcantara '02 (CLAS) earned the designation of Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute. She recently performed in the musical Dreams Do Travel, written, directed and produced by choreographer Darrin Henson, at the Alvin Ailey Theater in New York City.

Colleen Casey '02 (CLAS) graduated from Suffolk University in Boston, Mass., with an M.S. in mental health counseling and is a clinician at the Trauma Center in Brookline, Mass. She also rode in the Pan-Mass Challenge this summer, a bike-athon for cancer research.

Kristen (Keenan) Chantrell '02 (ENG) married Thomas Chantrell in July 2005. They are engineers at Electric Boat in Groton, Conn. The couple lives in Waterford, Conn.

Lyne DiCorato '02 (CLAS) was published in the June 2005 issue of American Journal of Diabetes for her article "FDA accepts marketing application for inhaled insulin." She is enrolled in an M.S. biomedical writing program at the University of Sciences in Philadelphia and writing a thesis for an M.A. writing program at the University of Massachusetts.

Alicia Dimond '03 (SFS) graduated from Arizona State University with an M.A. in education. She is returning to UConn to work in the department of residential life.

Marlon Fuller '03 (PHR) is a regional pharmacy recruiter as well as the founder of an online match-making Web site, www.DateWire.com, which has more than 6,000 members and receives more than 700,000 hits monthly.

Anthony Pavia '03 (CLAS) is a guidance counselor at Brien McMahon High School in South Norwalk, Conn.

Kathryn (Rau ss) Sherrick '03 (ENG) married Mark Sherrick in April 2005. She is a mechanical engineer with Otis Elevator in Farmington, Conn. The couple lives in Bristol, Conn.

Kelly Casey '04 (CLAS) is a mortgage loan processor at Integrated Loan Services in Rocky Hill, Conn.

Kymberly Moran '04 (SAH) and Ross Sylvester '04 (CLAS) married on Oct. 1, 2005. She is a cytogenetic technologist at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center in Worcester, Mass. He is a financial planner at Ameriprise Financial in Hartford, Conn. The couple lives in Palmer, Mass.

Susan Crossett '04 (CLAS) and Donald Rudnickas, Jr. '05 (CLAS) married on Aug. 20, 2005.

Jesse Chen '05 M.B.A., a technologist and youth marketer, has joined Anderson Analytics of Stamford, Conn., as a senior consultant and developer of online marketing applications and databases.

Lin Fan '05 J.D. practices business law at the firm of Bernstein Shur in Portland, Maine.

Jennifer Sheldon '05 J.D. is a partner at Burns & Levinson, LLP, in Boston, Mass.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski
The 2005 UConn Alumni Association Awards Gala took place with a reception at the Alumni Center and an awards ceremony at the Nafe Katter Theatre on Oct. 28, 2005. The awards recognized outstanding contributions and achievements by alumni, non-alumni and faculty. Alumni who were recognized included from left to right: Judith Zachs ’77 M.S.W., University Service Award; Denis McCarthy ’64 (BUS), ’65 M.A., University Service Award; Brett McGurk ’96 (CLAS), Graduate of the Last Decade Award; Elizabeth Flynn Scott ’91 (CLAS), Humanitarian Award; Roy Brooks ’72 (CLAS), Distinguished Alumni Award.

Your UCONN Memorable Moments

As part of UConn’s 125th anniversary celebration, UConn Traditions is gathering a collection of alumni’s most memorable moments while attending UConn. Whether it is about a favorite professor or class, a special event (such as a concert or Homecoming), or a shared experience with friends, we’d like to know about your most memorable time at UConn. Select recollections will be published in the Fall/Winter 2006 edition of UConn Traditions.

Please tell us about your most memorable UConn moment in no more than 150 words and send them to us via e-mail or regular mail by May 15.

Via E-Mail:
uconntraditions@uconn.edu

Regular Mail:
Memorable Moments, UConn Traditions,
1266 Storrs Road, Unit 4144,
Storrs, CT 06269-4144
The UConn Alumni Center and Nathan Hale Inn

Now Mixing Business with Pleasure

The UConn Alumni Center and the Nathan Hale Inn are proud to introduce an innovative event opportunity. With picturesque rooms, inspirational surroundings, the Husky Heritage Sports Museum and deluxe on-campus accommodations, planning your next event at UConn is the perfect way to reconnect with the campus you know and love.

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- Reunion
- Graduation Celebration

The Nathan Hale Inn is a full-service hotel and restaurant featuring 100 guest rooms, a business center, room service, and a full-size pool and spa. The UConn Alumni Center is a beautiful, "typically New England" style facility with quaint meeting and function rooms, the Husky Heritage Sports Museum, and Great Hall available for your group.

For event planning inquiries, please contact Ann M. Salina
UConn Alumni Center Manager
860-486-2240 or toll-free
1-888-UC-ALUM-1

University of Connecticut Alumni Association
Traveler

Poros, Greece
May 5–14, 2006
Experience the magic of the Greek Isles—a mythic land of turquoise seas, azure skies and brilliant white villages clinging to the coast. Catch a glimpse of the past while viewing relics of the incredible art and architecture of ancient Greece and explore such legendary sites as Athens, Aegina, Epidaurus and Hydra. From the fishing boats returning to port loaded with the evening meal to the bustle of the merchants in the marketplace to the shared coffee and gossip in the sidewalk cafés—enjoy the beauty and simplicity of life on the Aegean while absorbing the cadences of Greek culture.

Sail the Mediterranean with hosts
Geno and Kathy Aurieemma—Cote D'Azur, Corsica & The Amalfi Coast
June 3–11, 2006
Join head women's basketball coach Geno Aurieemma and his wife, Kathy, as we travel aboard the luxurious sailing ship, the Wind Surf, from Nice, France to Rome. Ports of call include Nice, St. Tropez, St. Florent-Corsica, Ponza, Amalfi, Sorrento, Capri and Civitavecchia (Rome). An optional four-night extension will be offered in Florence and the hill towns of Tuscany.

Passage of Peter the Great
August 11–23, 2006
Revel in Moscow's State Tretyakov Gallery and admire the regality of the Russian aristocracy housed in the Kremlin's Armory Museum. Allow your imagination to take flight at Star City as you experience the Russian space program's launch pad, Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center. Board the luxurious M/S Repin and sail the Volga River to Uglich. Appreciate the delicate beauty of the Florence of Russia, Yaroslavl; stand in awe at Goritsy and Kizhi Island; and enjoy the folk music and wooden dachas of Mandrogi. Trace the steps of Peter the Great as you explore St. Petersburg, an opulent city filled to the brim with Russian art and culture!

Discover Iceland, A Short Break!
October 5–9, 2006
We invite you to come with us to the top of the world to a unique place, to the land of ice and fire, abundant with natural hot springs, glacial lagoons, geothermal spas, breathtaking waterfalls, and active volcanoes and geysers!

The Adriatic—Croatia and Slovenia
October 5–19, 2006
Croatia and Slovenia are the hot destinations this year. Visit beautiful medieval walled cities, with stunning architecture and fascinating history. Spend three nights in Dubrovnik before going on to Hvar and Split, the city that was Emperor Diocletian's palace. See the magnificent Roman Coliseum in Pula, still in use today, and head north to Zadar and Opatija before going inland to the beautiful lake of Bled, surrounded by snow-capped Alps.

For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call toll-free 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 (1-888-822-5861) or visit our Web site at www.uconnalumni.com

Sail the Mediterranean
I'm never sure it's good enough

As head coach of the women's basketball team, Geno Auriemma has led UConn to five national championships. He will be inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame at ceremonies April 28-29, 2006, in Knoxville, Tenn., and is a finalist this year for induction into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. His book, Geno: In Pursuit of Perfection, was published earlier this year with a foreword by Diana Taurasi '05 (CLAS), who was named to the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball 25th Anniversary Team in January.

By GENO AURIEMMA

All of my scars are hidden. My physical scars are on my stomach, covered by my clothing. They are my reminders of the hot coals that seared my flesh. I grew up in a little village in the mountains east of Naples, Italy, called Montella. We used to sleep in front of the fireplace because we had no heat. We didn't have any electricity. We heated up our water over an open flame.

The only way to keep the little ones warm was to place the hot coals on the floor and place the babies in a circle around that pile of heat. On this particular day, I guess I fell asleep. My mom was out working, and no one was paying attention, and I toppled over the coals. By the time they pulled me out, my stomach was burned pretty badly. I don't remember the pain. My mother said one of the reasons it took so long for someone to notice me was that I hardly made a sound.

The emotional scars aren't as easy to see. I've got plenty of them, but there isn't one person that knows all of my scars. I've acquired them from a life of questioning myself, of constantly striving to prove myself.

The scars come from being seven years old, coming to America from Italy and not being able to speak English.

I arrive in Norristown, Pennsylvania, and I don't know the language. I don't know the customs. I don't dress the right way. I feel out of place, so I'm constantly self-conscious and unsure of myself.

Scars are part of you, whether you like it or not. Once you've been scarred, the marks remain forever. The key is, what effect does it have on you going forward?

I'm always amused when I hear people who don't know me describe me as arrogant, insensitive, and overconfident.

They have no idea how wrong they are.

They don't understand that even after winning five national championships at Connecticut, I still doubt myself all the time. They don't understand that the image of me on the sidelines, the person they see on television prowling back and forth, is not who I am. You need a certain level of confidence to be successful at anything. I certainly have confidence. People think I have too much of it, and say it comes across as cocky, but the truth is, no matter what I accomplish, I'm never sure it's good enough.

It's never as good as it could have been, because I've never coached the perfect game, and my players have never played the perfect game. And when that flawed game is over, I'm convinced that it's my fault, even if we win big.

Even after our perfect 35-0 season in 1995, the year we won our first national championship, I found myself going back and saying, "Why didn't we execute that backdoor cut better? Why did their pressure bother us? Why didn't I do a better job?" Those questions dog me. They stay with me, those scars, even though no one else can see them.
HUSKY FRENZY

UConn Football

Blue-White Spring Game
Saturday, April 15th
Noon
Rentschler Field

Presented by DUNKIN' DONUTS & people's bank

2006 Home Opener
vs. Rhode Island
Thursday, August 31st
7:30 PM

Randy Edsall
Head Coach

Terry Caulley
Running Back

Seven Home Games in 2006

Aug. 31
Rhode Island

Sept. 16
Wake Forest

Sept. 30
Navy

Oct. 14
Army

Oct. 20
West Virginia

Nov. 11
Pittsburgh

Nov. 25
Cincinnati

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Support UConn's Student-Athletes – Join The UConn Club – 860-486-3863
The University of Connecticut campus as it stood for students and faculty of the Storrs Agricultural College, circa 1900.