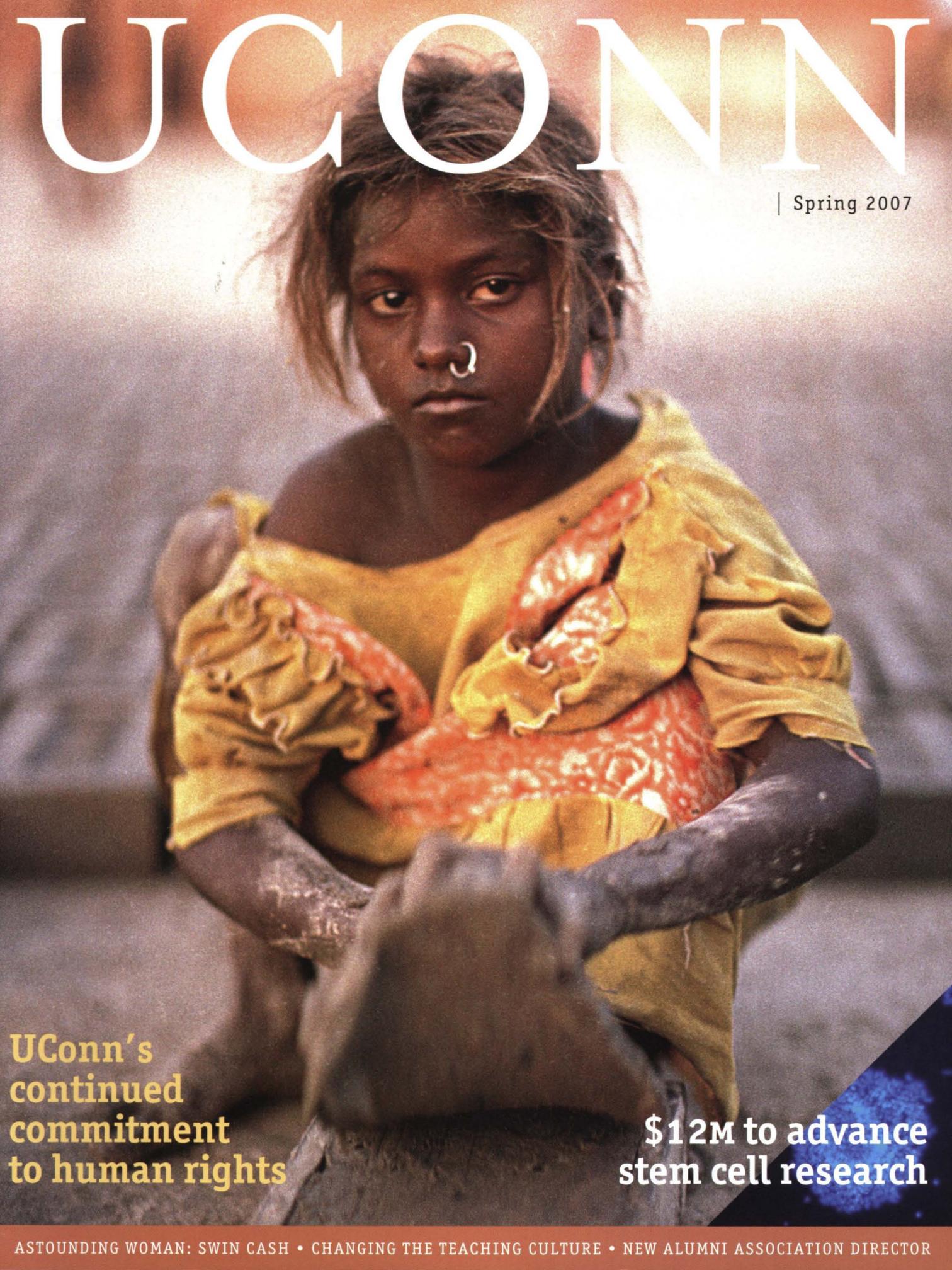


UConn

| Spring 2007



**UConn's
continued
commitment
to human rights**

**\$12M to advance
stem cell research**

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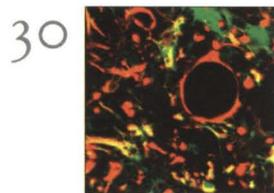
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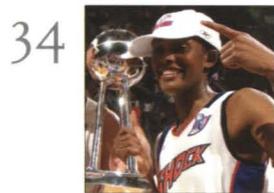
Commitment to Human Rights

BY RON MESHBERG | *UConn's interdisciplinary approach to human rights is unique among universities that offer programs on campus.*



Embryonic steps to the promise of a cure

BY DAVID BAUMAN | *The state of Connecticut has awarded UConn more than \$12 million for research on stem cell therapies that offer the promise to cure chronic diseases.*



Astounding Woman

BY JIM H. SMITH | *Swin Cash '02 (CLAS) has won championships in the NCAA, WNBA and the Olympic Games, but she has always looked toward her future after basketball.*

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ON THE COVER:

A 9-year-old girl pulling excess clay from a brick form in extreme heat in West Bengal, India, is one of 250 million children subject to human rights violations around the world. The photo is from *Stolen Childhoods* by Robin Romano, which is part of the Human Rights archive in the William Benton Museum of Art.

© ROMANO/Stolen Childhoods

NATHANIEL S. BUTLER
NBAE/GETTY IMAGES



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Want to keep up with news and events at the University? News releases, upcoming events and activities are posted at www.uconn.edu. UCONN online: www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu

A new look and name

A FRESH GRAPHIC APPROACH FOR THE SPRING

One of the ongoing themes that has characterized the stories we have written since launching our magazine format is evolution—not just the physical transformation of all UConn campuses, but also the introduction of new programs and activities. As we begin our eighth year of publication, it is our turn to introduce something new, beginning with our name. Welcome to UCONN magazine.

When we moved from a tabloid to full-color magazine format at the turn of the New Millennium, the name *Traditions* was reduced in emphasis on the cover of the magazine. This recognized the fact that our stories, images and information focus on the totality of the University—its past and current activities as well as its future. Our subsequent readership surveys indicate that you overwhelmingly rely upon the magazine as the primary source of information about new developments at UConn, as well as news about alumni, faculty and research activities.

We also know that in today's 24/7 world of non-stop information, there is increasing competition for your time and attention with the ongoing demands of family and work. Yet, recent surveys by the Magazine Publishers of America reveal that from 1997 to 2006 magazine readership has increased by about 7 percent, to more than 184 million, and the average number of magazines read in a month by adults is nearly a dozen per person.

Other industry surveys tell us that alumni magazines are not viewed much differently than other publications when they arrive in the home; that we need to have appealing graphics, crisp writing and a fresh look interesting enough for you to pick up and look for more than just who has retired, been promoted, got married or had a new addition to the family.

Art director John E. Bailey '84 (SFA) has created a new graphic look for UCONN magazine, one that remains faithful to the original concept he created eight years ago, yet one that provides us with greater flexibility for editorial presentation. We also have reorganized our stories in the front section of the magazine known as Around UConn. The section will include not only noteworthy news from our schools and colleges, but a calendar of events taking place across all University campuses and an expanded section devoted to Huskymania that focuses on stories other than those you might find in your local newspaper. Our expanded Report on Research section will now cover a wider range of studies conducted by our world-class researchers.

The scope of our feature stories in this edition match up with our new look—Ron Meshberg's story about human rights programs at UConn, David Bauman's preview of the promise of stem cell research and Jim Smith's profile of Swin Cash '02 (CLAS). Let us know how you think we did.

Ken Best



Opening Shot



Skydiving club competes in national championship

Clint Frost '07 (BUS) won a gold medal in the novice category and the UConn Skydiving Club team placed eighth in the 4-way team competition in the National Collegiate Parachuting Championships at Whales, Fla., in December. Members of the team include Kate Armstrong '08 (CLAS), Justin Beaudreau '09 (BUS), Martin Field '08 (CLAS), Doug Hamel '07 (BUS), Kevin Kokoszka '08 (CLAS) and Adam Vaughan '07 (SFA).

Continuing to meet the challenges ahead

ALUMNI ARE A POWERFUL CONSTITUENCY IN REACHING GOALS

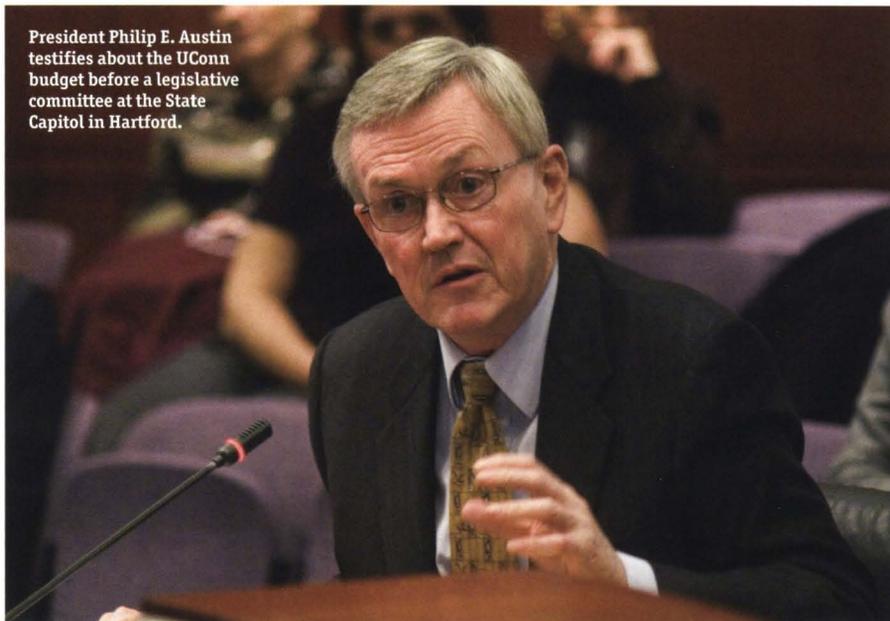
This past December I announced that I will step down as president of the University later this year. Several months remain before my departure, and there will be many opportunities (and at least one more issue of *UConn* magazine) for me to convey my general thoughts about what will be 11 deeply satisfying, challenging and often exhilarating years at the helm of this great institution.

For now, let me offer two thoughts. First, the months to come will be as active and significant to the University as any in the past several years. As this letter is written, we are engaged in presenting the University's legislative requests for the upcoming two years to the Connecticut General Assembly. There are no "frills" in our proposal; instead, there is a relatively

"All of us—students, parents, faculty, alumni, staff and even presidents—have a deep interest in keeping the momentum going."

short list of items vital to our continuing progress: additional faculty positions that will let us continue the tradition of individually focused undergraduate and graduate education; support for the recruitment of specially designated outstanding faculty whose research will help UConn meet critical state needs; support for new programs to help Connecticut's economy grow and prepare our students to be major contributors in vital areas; and support that will enable the UConn Health

President Philip E. Austin testifies about the UConn budget before a legislative committee at the State Capitol in Hartford.



PETER MORENUS

Center to maintain its position as a premier educator of physicians, dentists and other health professionals—and, through John Dempsey Hospital, as an outstanding provider of clinical care. As we stress to our state's elected leaders, these things build on a strong foundation. All of us—students, parents, faculty, alumni, staff and even presidents—have a deep interest in keeping the momentum going.

Second, now more than ever, our alumni represent a vital part of the University community. Throughout my time here—and, I know, long before that—our graduates have been among our most reliable supporters in every sense of the term. More than 170,000 UConn alumni, including about 100,000 in Connecticut, represent a force to be reckoned with, and our state's leaders know that. But what makes you such a powerful constituency is that

your allegiance is based not on sentimental attachment to what UConn was in the past but on an appreciation of what we are today—and a commitment to what we can be in the future. As I have so often in my 11 years here, I urge you to keep yourself informed about the University. The pages that follow provide one important means of doing that, and there are others. But communication is a two-way street, and we are eager to hear your own thoughts about where we are and where we are going.

Before the year is out I hope to express more completely my thoughts about the past 11 years and what they bode for the future. In the meantime, enjoy this issue, and enjoy the Spring.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip E. Austin".

“When I woke in the morning, a snowdrift had formed in our backyard, and I found him beneath a covering of snow that had blown through the window opening.”

Alumni sent some additional contributions after reading the Memorable Moments story in our last edition.

Remembering the 1950-51 Community Chest Parades

Reading the illustrated account of the 1951 Community Chest Drive parade brought back memories and images. I recall taking photos of the 1950 parade. General Douglas MacArthur was very much the celebrity at that time, having been ousted by President Harry S. Truman during the Korean War and delivering his famed “Old Soldiers Never Die, They Just Fade Away” farewell speech to Congress. Indeed, I recall a sound truck following the banner-draped convertible pumping out the dBs.

Fred W. Chesson '52 (CLAS)

Letters to the Editor must be signed and should be no more than 300 words. They will be printed as space allows and edited for style, grammar, typographical errors, content and length. Send letters to:

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A snowy memory

In our senior year my roommate, the late Marty Hondo Lane '56 (CLAS), and I made it to the second floor of our fraternity, Phi Sigma Delta. Marty's bed was next to the radiator, and he often complained of the heat. One cold, wintry night, he opened the window above his bed just a crack before retiring after our Saturday festivities. When I woke in the morning, a snowdrift had formed in our backyard, and I found him beneath a covering of snow that had blown in through the window opening. I was frightened as I moved the snow from his face, only to find a smile and a question: Why I was waking him so early on a Sunday.

Roger Shatanof '56 (CLAS)

Finding a long-lost roommate on TV

As a 40ish wife and mother of teenagers, while on sabbatical from my high school teaching job in the 1970s, I applied to

UConn's graduate program. The trip from home being a little long for commuting, it seemed sensible to find a room near campus. I responded to an ad for a roommate and joined two grad students: a young male psychology major and a young female who was studying chemistry. My sister-in-law used to love to tell the story of the day I had to go down to the police station with my young roommate's wallet after he was stopped for a traffic violation. The police tried to hide their astonishment at the sight of his middle-age roommate. Fifteen years later, I heard a familiar voice on national television. I looked up and saw my elegant former chemistry roommate graciously posing in the glamorous lobby of a California winery. I contacted her through the TV program and she replied. Recently, I saw her again on national television. Now Eileen Crane '76 M.S. is the head winemaker and director of Domaine Carneros.

Mimi Schmitt '76 6th year

Above: A strip of photos submitted by Fred W. Chesson '52 (CLAS) from the 1950 Community Chest Parade. A few participants driving jalopies and dressed in 1920s garb or riding on a "boat float" are shown parading north on Storrs Road (Conn. Route 195).

Around UConn

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Lewis to lead Alumni Association

Lisa R. Lewis, an association professional with experience in all aspects of managing higher education associations, was named executive director of the UConn Alumni Association in December.

Lewis arrives at UConn after serving as assistant vice president of communications for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business and previously for seven years as president of the University of South Florida Alumni Association.

"I am confident that Lisa Lewis's organizational skills and experience, coupled with excellent interpersonal attributes, will help lead the UConn Alumni Association to new levels of achievement," says President Philip E. Austin.

"I look forward to meeting many more proud UConn alumni..."

"We are excited to begin working with Lisa and look forward to expanding the Alumni Association's activities in supporting our alma mater," says Francis X. Archambault '69 (ED), president of the UConn Alumni Association.

An honors graduate of the University of South Florida with degrees in both marketing and public relations, Lewis held a variety of positions with the USF Alumni Association before being named president in 1999 and the concurrent title of associate vice president of alumni affairs at USF.

PETER MORENUS



Lisa R. Lewis, the new executive director of the UConn Alumni Association, in the Great Hall of the Alumni Center.

During her tenure at USF, she increased paid membership in the association by 60 percent, expanded revenue streams, established a corporate partnership program, reactivated alumni chapters around the country and guided the organization through a strategic planning process.

She is a member of the American Society of Association Executives and Center for Association Leadership and the Society for National Association Publishers. She previously served as a member of the

Council of Alumni Association Executives board of directors, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and Leadership Florida.

"UConn's Alumni Association has positioned itself to become a key factor in helping the University to continue its ascent into the top tier of national higher education institutions," Lewis says. "I look forward to meeting many more proud UConn alumni and working with them."



Kate Brown '02 M.A. counsels students on everything from study plans to life skills.

Brown honored for academic advising

Kate Brown '02 M.A., undergraduate program coordinator for human development and family studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received the National Academic Advising Association's 2006 Academic Advising Excellence Award for the state of Connecticut.

Students describe her as someone easy to talk to, a great resource, and a friend. They also say she makes their experience at UConn "the best it can be." With more than 550 students in the program, Brown's calendar is usually packed with appointments.

"I love my work," says Brown, who counsels students on everything from study plans to study abroad opportunities and life skills. "The students know that I'm here for them. I find that gratifying."

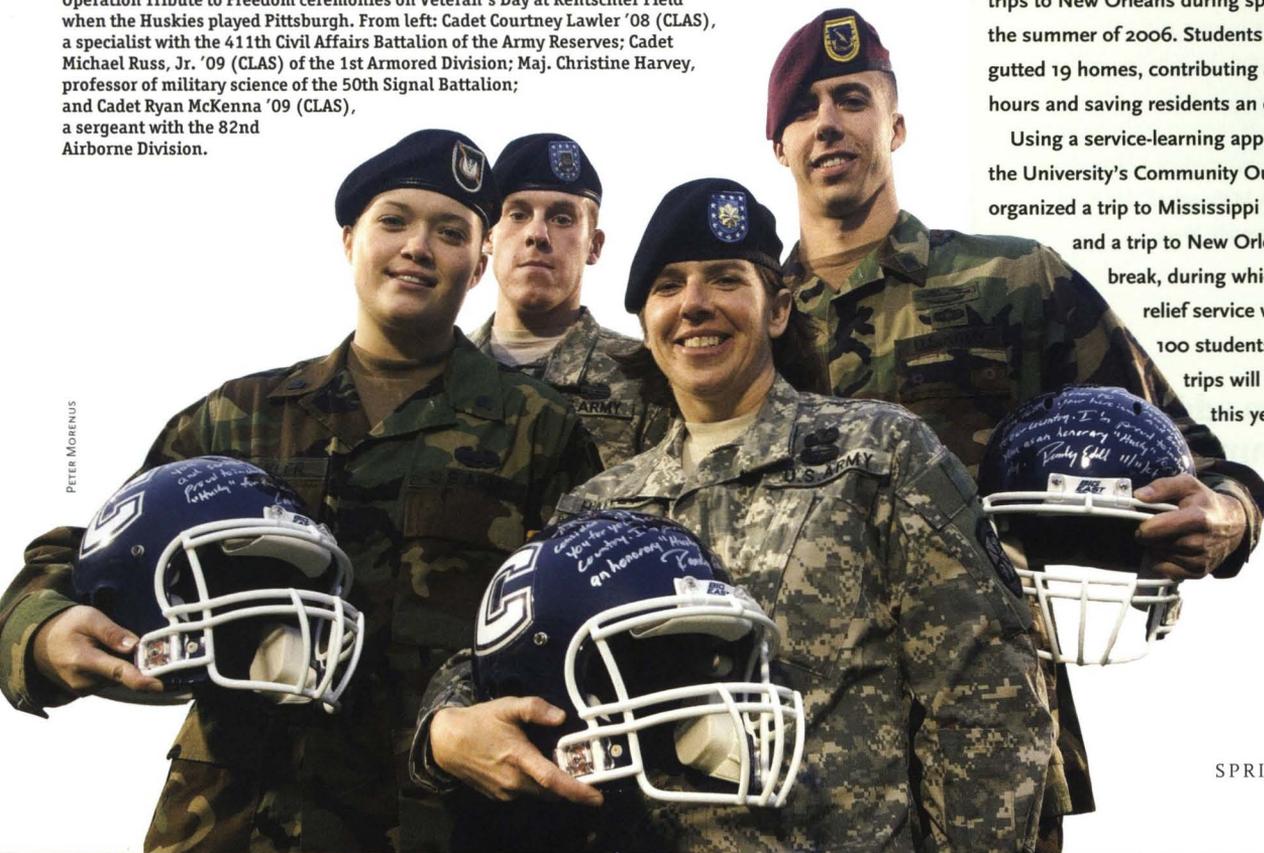
Students agree that Brown has made important contributions to their lives.

"Kate has helped me tremendously," says Christen Lynch, a sophomore. "Whether it's a problem about a class or schedule and you're stressed out, she goes through the problem step by step. When you leave her office, you feel better."

Brown says she sees a lot of students during their junior year, a time when they are deciding on a major course of study or evaluating whether a major is best for them.

UConn soldiers honored on Veteran's Day

UConn recognized students and faculty who served in Iraq and Afghanistan during Operation Tribute to Freedom ceremonies on Veteran's Day at Rentschler Field when the Huskies played Pittsburgh. From left: Cadet Courtney Lawler '08 (CLAS), a specialist with the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion of the Army Reserves; Cadet Michael Russ, Jr. '09 (CLAS) of the 1st Armored Division; Maj. Christine Harvey, professor of military science of the 50th Signal Battalion; and Cadet Ryan McKenna '09 (CLAS), a sergeant with the 82nd Airborne Division.



U.S. honors UConn for Katrina relief efforts

UConn is one of nine colleges and universities in the nation to receive a Katrina Compassion Award for excellence in hurricane relief service, placing it on the first-ever President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. UConn was the only institution in Connecticut to receive the award.

The University was also one of 141 colleges and universities nationwide named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for General Community Service.

Students, faculty and staff from across the University came together to support victims of Hurricane Katrina. UConn students from 20 community service, social and academic organizations established the Hurricane Katrina Relief Student Organization to raise funds for Katrina relief. An estimated 1,000 students participated in fund raising projects for hurricane relief, contributing an estimated 11,000 hours of service.

Using a variety of creative techniques, including the donation of student dining hall meals, the group raised \$75,000 in the fall 2005 semester alone and filled two buses with donated relief goods that were delivered to hurricane victims.

Students who returned from a University-sponsored service trip to Mississippi in January created the UConn Relief Corps to support continued Gulf Coast direct relief work. The group organized and led two trips to New Orleans during spring break and during the summer of 2006. Students cleaned, painted or gutted 19 homes, contributing a total of 3,700 service hours and saving residents an estimated \$132,000.

Using a service-learning approach, in 2005-06 the University's Community Outreach office also organized a trip to Mississippi during winter break and a trip to New Orleans during spring break, during which 3,800 hours of relief service were contributed by 100 students and staff. Similar trips will take place again this year.



Student wins \$25K on 'Millionaire'

Matt Scherer '07 (ED), a coaching administration major who is the captain of the UConn men's hockey team and the Huskies' all-time leading career scorer in Division I competition, above, won \$25,000 in January when he was a contestant on the syndicated television show, "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" He is on the set with host Meredith Viera.

M.B.A. alum addresses Winter Commencement

Robert Diamond, '77 M.B.A. accepts a hood from Sally Reis, professor of educational psychology, after receiving an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree following his address to 880 graduates at Winter Commencement.



PETER MORENUS

School Psychology program rated No. 1

The Neag School of Education's school psychology program and its faculty are at the top of their field according to three separate studies published in 2006.

In the most recent study, published in the September 2006 issue of the peer-reviewed journal *Psychology in the Schools*, UConn's school psychology program ranked number one for the most journal articles published by the 56 programs accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) during the six-year period 2000 to 2005. Other studies that rated the program high are *The School Psychologist* and *Faculty Publications in APA-Accredited School Psychologist Programs 2000-2005*.

On average, most of the individual faculty members in the accredited programs produced one article each year. The Neag team averaged 14, which put them at the top of the individual rankings as well.

The Neag program faculty members are Thomas Kehle, professor of educational psychology, and Melissa Bray and Sandra Chafouleas, associate professors of educational psychology.

"Our three faculty members are extremely productive scholars who are dedicated to their profession, their school and their students," says Thomas DeFranco, associate dean of the Neag School.

The UConn educational psychology program is considered elite, with 44 graduate students, and highly competitive with nearly 130 applicants for six available slots last year.

"Although we are school psychologists with a cognitive-behavioral orientation, we teach a diversity of theory and practice and help our students develop and pursue their individual research interests," Bray says.

Paul selected as new law dean

Jeremy R. Paul, a faculty member and an associate dean, has been named the new dean of the School of Law.

"I am delighted that a candidate has been selected who has devoted himself so fully to the law school for nearly two decades and is absolutely committed to its students, faculty and continued success," says Peter Nicholls, UConn provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

Paul joined the faculty in 1989 and served as associate dean for academic affairs at the law school from 1999 until 2004, when he was named associate dean for research.

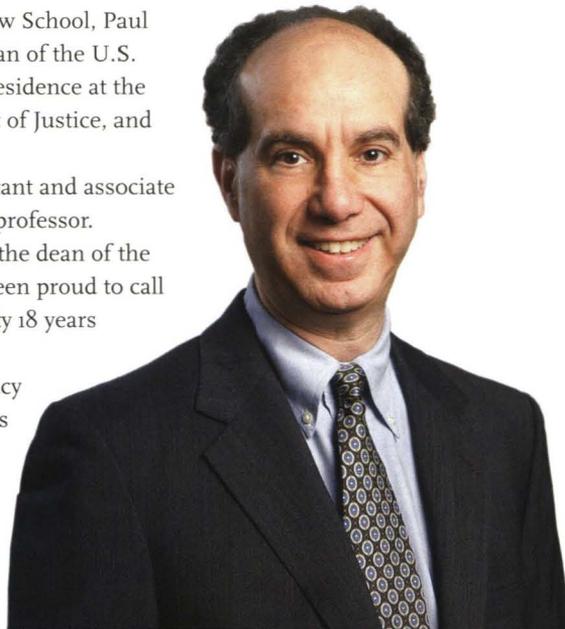
A graduate of Princeton University and the Harvard Law School, Paul previously served as a law clerk to Judge Irving R. Kaufman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, as professor-in-residence at the appellate staff of the civil division of the U.S. Department of Justice, and as assistant to the president of TravelersGroup.

He has taught at the University of Miami as both assistant and associate professor and at Boston College Law School as a visiting professor.

"It is an extraordinary honor to be selected to serve as the dean of the University of Connecticut School of Law, a place I have been proud to call home since I had the privilege of joining its superb faculty 18 years ago," says Paul.

Paul says he is committed to building on UConn's legacy of talented students and increasingly successful graduates by seeking to draw an ever more diverse group of talented students and faculty to the School of Law.

LANNY NAGLER



Urging social workers to fight racism

Tim Wise, author of the book *White Like Me* and a nationally known organizer and activist on the issue of anti-racism, addressed nearly 200 students, faculty and members of the campus community and the public at the School of Social Work in November. Wise used the example of federal and local responses to Hurricane Katrina to explain the institutional nature of racism and how it pervades government, organizations, the media and society, urging students to address racism in their own environment as they begin their careers. Social work faculty also had the opportunity to participate in a workshop with Wise. He offered them ideas on how to better prepare students to address racism through facilitated discussions. Such dialogues, benefiting all participants, are key tools for social workers in the field to be effective practitioners.

Telemedicine helps allied health fields

Doctors monitoring the health of astronauts circling Earth helped usher in the age of telemedicine, the electronic delivery of health care, in the last century. Today, UConn researchers are detailing the expansion of telemedicine into various areas of allied health professions in the homes of patients on the ground.

Tom Miller, a senior research scientist with UConn's Center for Health, Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and four allied health graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources published "Telehealth Home Health Applications for Adults with Developmental Disabilities," in the journal *Telemedicine and e-Health*.

Telemedicine, which is also called telehealth, includes the use of teleconferencing, video phones, electronic medical records, electronic stethoscopes and cardiac monitoring. "It gives access to health care to many people who would otherwise not have it," says Miller.

In the article, the students—Bruce Elliott, a physical therapist; Kathy Long, a physician's assistant; Cheryl Manzenac, an occupational therapist; and Michelle Moder, a dietician—describe how they could use telehealth technology in their areas of specialization. Miller says there has been increased use of video phones in home health care delivery in the past few years, particularly in rural areas. Nurses use video phones for adherence and compliance purposes, observing patients taking their medications, he adds.

The article adds that physician's assistants and registered nurses, who are often in remote locations, are "ideal candidates to utilize telehealth in providing quality care to the patients they serve." They evaluate patients, make diagnoses, devise treatment plans, provide counseling and monitor patients' progress.

Miller was named a 2006 University Teaching Fellow for his teaching and dedication to the profession. He will receive the 2006 Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Practice in the Public Sector from the American Psychological Association in August.

Residence halls renamed

Hilltop Suites and the buildings that comprise the South Campus residence halls will be renamed for some of the University's earliest alumni, recognizing their pioneering experiences as members of the first graduating class, as the first women to earn degrees and as the first African American student.

The name changes were proposed as part of UConn's 125th Anniversary celebration, supported by the Division of Student Affairs and approved by the Board of Trustees. The Charter Oak Apartments complex will honor the first graduates of the Storrs Agricultural School, the members of the Class of 1883. These alumni include Frederick Brown, Charles S. Foster, Henry R. Hoisington, Burke Hough, Arthur Hubbard, and Andrew K. Thompson.

Charter Oak Suites will become the Alan Thacker Busby Building, recognizing the 1918 honors graduate who was the first African American to attend Connecticut Agricultural College.

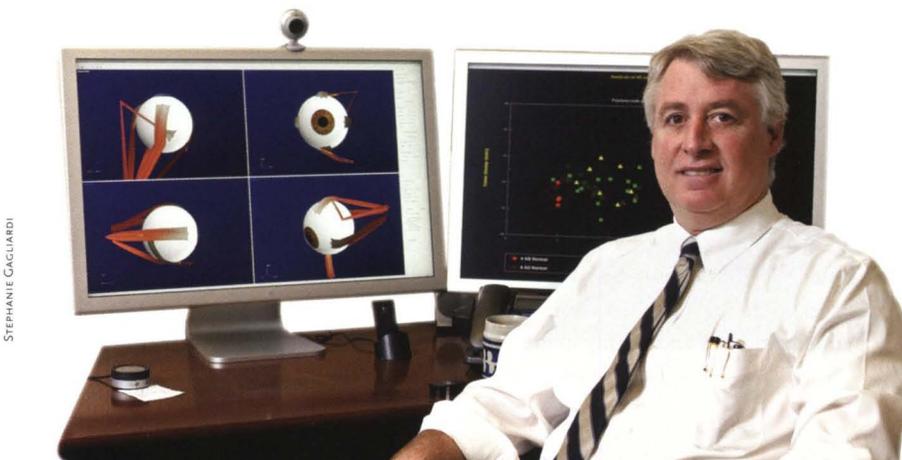
The three unnamed buildings in South Campus will bear the names of Nellie Louise Wilson, Louisa Jane Rosebrooks, and Anna Mabel Snow, the first female graduates of the Storrs Agricultural School in 1894. The fourth building in the complex has already been named for Lewis B. Rome, a former chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Hilltop Suites will be named for Harry L. Garrigus, who graduated from Storrs Agricultural College in 1897. He became an instructor of animal husbandry, bought and sold cattle and horses in order to grow the College's herd, and arranged for titles on properties adjacent to the College to be held in trust until the state could afford to buy them, thereby allowing the expansion of the College from about 300 acres to more than 1,500.

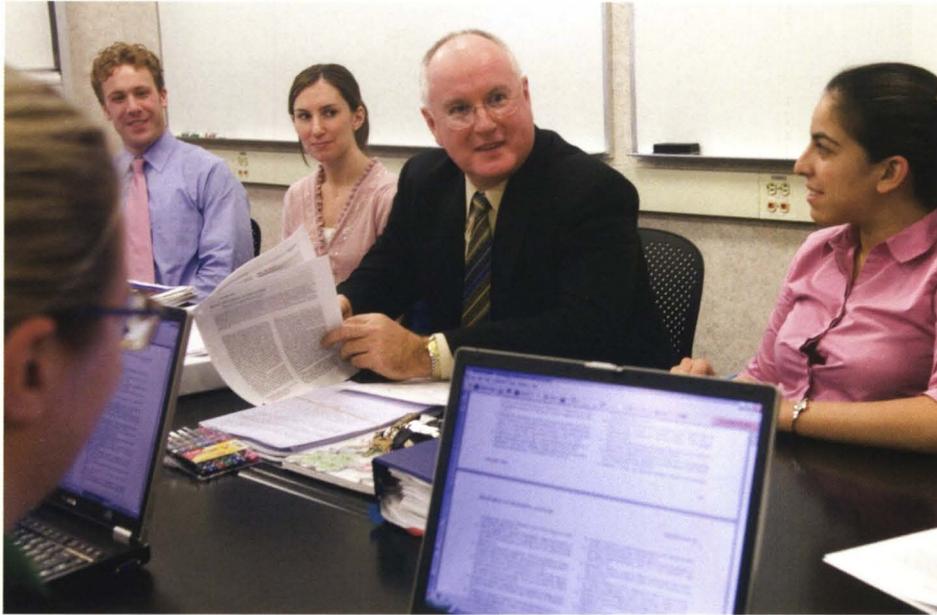
"By naming residential halls for these distinguished alumni, we're honoring UConn's history and informing current students of their predecessors' accomplishments," says Sam Miller, associate vice president for student affairs, the division that operates the University's residence halls. "Our students have a strong affinity for the places they live on campus, and the new names will strengthen our current students' connection with the University's past."

Engineering professor honored with AAUP award

John Enderle, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of UConn's biomedical engineering program in the School of Engineering, was recognized with the Excellence in Service Award from the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). The award is given for professional service that impacts citizens of the state, enhances the visibility of the University among prospective students, promotes program excellence and fosters cooperative activities.



STEPHANIE GAGLIARDI



New dental school dean named

Lamont MacNeil '89 M.D.S. is the new dean of the School of Dental Medicine, becoming the first dean chosen from within the dental school and the first to hold a UConn graduate degree.

MacNeil brings a broad range of experience to leading one of the nation's top dental schools, with a background that includes general dentistry practice, academic administration, teaching, research and national professional service.

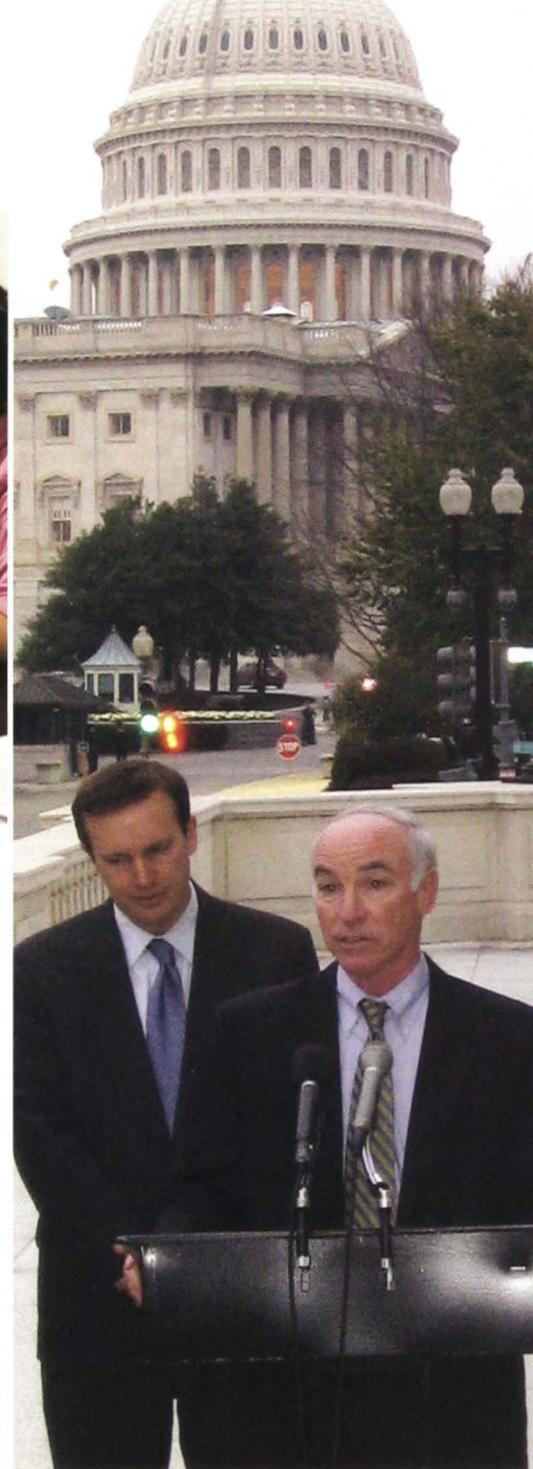
He has served at UConn as professor of periodontology and was named vice dean in 2005, when he gained responsibilities for academic affairs and curriculum development. In addition to his career in academics and administration, MacNeil was in full-time, private general dentistry practice for six years.

His research has led to more than 25 publications, primarily focused on cellular and molecular mechanisms regulating tooth development, periodontal wound healing and tissue regeneration. MacNeil is a consultant on curriculum for the Commission on Dental Accreditation and was a member of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations from 2001 to 2005, serving as chair of the commission in 2004-05. He is president-elect of the American Dental Education Association's Section on Academic Affairs.

"I believe the School of Dental Medicine is poised for even greater things in the future," MacNeil says. "I know that together we can continue to be a leader and innovator in dental education."

MacNeil arrived at the UConn Health Center campus in 1998 after holding academic positions at three dental schools: Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia; at Indiana University and the University of Michigan. He received a dental degree from Dalhousie University, a certificate of advanced training in periodontics from UConn and a master of dental science degree from the UConn Graduate School.

MacNeil, the sixth dean in the history of the school, succeeds Peter Robinson, who stepped down after 10 years as dean. After taking a sabbatical leave, Robinson will return to the school to continue his work in areas such as community outreach.



BRIAN MAHAR

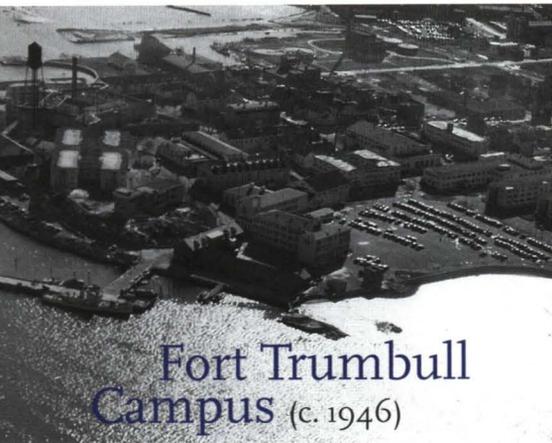
UConn on the Potomac

Chris Murphy '02 J.D., left, and Joe Courtney '78 J.D. participated in a news conference in Washington, D.C., as part of orientation for newly elected members of Congress after they both won election to the U.S. House of Representatives last November. Murphy's 5th District includes the UConn Health Center in Farmington, and Courtney's 2nd District includes UConn's main campus in Storrs and the regional campus at Avery Point.

Fort Trumbull Reunion

Mark your calendars for Reunion Weekend June 1 & 2

From its opening on Sept. 16, 1946, to its closing in June 1950, Fort Trumbull became the only residential UConn branch campus. With the end of World War II, tens of thousands of veterans returning home found higher education a better alternative than trying to land scarce jobs. And with the G.I. Bill of Rights offering them a subsidized college education, the sheer number of



Fort Trumbull Campus (c. 1946)

veterans presented a problem for all the nation's colleges and universities. More than 8,000 students were enrolled in the University of Connecticut in the 1946-47 academic year, four times the number registered in the period shortly preceding the war. And of those 8,000 students, more than half were veterans.

The UConn Alumni Association and the UConn Foundation are working with alumni to create a living legacy by establishing a Fort Trumbull Room at the Alumni Center, honoring the campus and students who attended classes at Fort Trumbull between 1946 and 1950. The room will display memorabilia of this unique community while sharing the important history of our University. As part of the Reunion Weekend, you will be able to see the plans and offer support for this important project. If you are interested in keeping the legacy of Fort Trumbull alive either through a financial contribution or by donating memorabilia, contact Jodi Kaplan at (888) UC-ALUM-1 or via email at jodi.kaplan@uconn.edu.



Back to our agricultural roots

Nicole Anderson '07 (CANR) harvests turnips from the EcoGarden Club garden for use in meals at Whitney Dining Hall, part of an initiative to offer sustainable food grown on campus and throughout Connecticut. In addition to vegetables, cage-free eggs, dairy products and beef from local farms are served.

JORDAN BENDER

Urban service track builds pipeline for inner cities

UConn's four schools that prepare students for health care careers are collaborating to ease the growing shortage of health care workers and address the unmet health needs of urban communities.

Three to four students each from the Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy, Medicine and Dental Medicine will be selected as urban health scholars to participate in the program, which will provide mentorship, training and financial support designed to help graduates practice and be successful in urban communities. The first group of students in the Urban Service Track will be admitted this fall.

The urban health scholars will gain clinical enrichment experiences in community agencies that already provide health care services to underserved patients, such as community health centers, and also participate in such programs as the clinics for migrant and seasonal farm workers, homeless people and mentoring programs.

"The Urban Service Track is for students who are passionate about three things: serving the underserved, working in urban settings and receiving inter-professional experiences," says Carol Polifroni, interim dean of the School of Nursing. "Nursing students will work with medical, dental and pharmacy students in health care teams. When care is delivered in a collaborative fashion, patient outcomes are better."

"Our goal is to build a pipeline of diverse health care providers committed to working with the underserved in urban areas," says Bruce Gould, professor of medicine and associate dean for primary care in the School of Medicine.

In addition to their science and clinical studies, the urban scholars will develop competence in areas such as health policy, advocacy, health care financing and management, community resources and cultural and language issues, says Charles Huntington, associate director of the Connecticut Area Health Education Center Program. Students will gain exposure to the complex health care issues in the inner city, he adds.

"The future of pharmacy practice and education is dependent upon the profession's ability to evolve with the ever-changing health care system," says Philip Hritcko, director of experiential education and assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice. "By having our students train in an environment that has an established interdisciplinary process, they will develop into more effective health care professionals and have a better understanding of our underserved communities."

Financial support for the Urban Service Track is provided by UConn's Center for Public and Health Policy and the Connecticut Area Health Education Center Program and by grants from external organizations, such as the Universal Health Foundation of Connecticut, the Richard Davoud Donchian Foundation and the American Savings Foundation.

UConn mourns another soldier

Capt. Jason Hamill '98 (CLAS) was killed Nov. 26 when a bomb exploded near his vehicle in Baghdad, Iraq.

Capt. Hamill was a member of the U.S. Army 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, Texas. Deployed to Iraq in December 2005, he was about to complete his one-year tour before returning home. He previously had served in Kosovo and Afghanistan.

He was buried with military honors at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. Memorials: East Lyme Scholarship Association/Jason Hamill, Box 190, Niantic, CT 06357.

Capt. Hamill is the second member of the UConn community killed in Iraq. Marine Cpl. Jordan C. Pierson '09 died last August.

FRANK BARTON



New endowed chairs at UConn Health Center

With the appointment of three new chair holders at the UConn Health Center, the University has a total of 78 endowed faculty positions, including 33 at the UConn Health Center. From left: Andrew Winokur is the Dr. Manfred J. Sakel Distinguished Chair in Psychiatry, established last year with a gift from the late Marianne Hartly; Audrey Chapman is the UConn Health Center Auxiliary's Joseph M. Healey Jr. Chair in Medical Humanities and Bioethics, established with a gift of more than \$1 million from the UConn Health Center Auxiliary; and Daniel Connor is the Lockean Distinguished Chair in Mental Health Education, Research, and Clinical Improvement, established with an anonymous gift of \$2 million.



Sing and Shout!

LEARNING HOW SINGING AND DANCING DEFINE A PEOPLE

When the provost's competition for the development of general education courses was announced last year, Mary Ellen Junda, professor of music in the School of Fine Arts, jumped at the opportunity to plan a new class.

Junda, with a background in choral conducting and folk music, usually teaches music education majors and thought she had a good idea for a class that any student might enjoy, one that would teach America's cultural traditions through singing American folk songs. The class, "Sing and Shout! The History of America in Song," offered last fall for the first time, features folk songs from a variety of cultures—Anglo American, African American, Native American, Irish American, and Hispanic American. The songs date from colonial times through the early 20th century.

"Most students know of music as entertainment," Junda says. "They may not be

aware of music that has strong cultural ties and defines people."

Students in the class learn that folk music is music of a people and gives voice to those who may not otherwise be heard, including women and marginalized populations. They also begin to understand that a musical style has an inherent social significance, which gave birth to and is articulated by that particular style.

Junda says that part of understanding and learning about folk music requires experiencing it, so students who take the class sing, dance and clap as part of their coursework.

"They didn't have iPods, TVs, or stereos," Junda reminds the class. "This is the way people met and played."

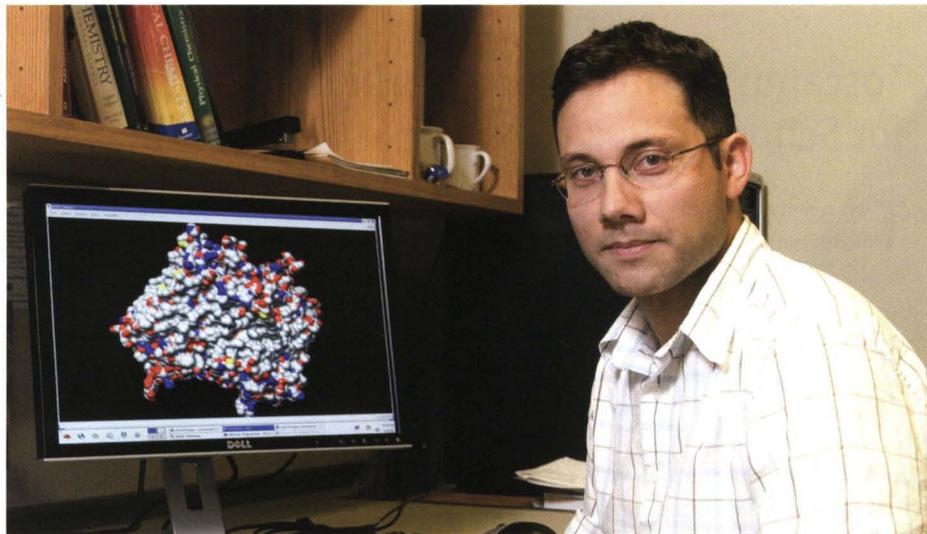
Hoping to depart from traditional teaching models, Junda sought assistance from UConn's Institute for Teaching and Learning, which provides support for faculty and

assists them in trying new approaches in teaching. Instructional designer Desmond McCaffrey worked with her to hone her objectives, develop specific assignments, and design ways to measure what the students have learned.

"Our role is to support faculty—if they choose to work with us—to try out new things in terms of pedagogy and technology," McCaffrey says, noting that Junda incorporated music and video into a PowerPoint program and used UConn Web sites to post assignments, syllabi and tests.

The new course seems to be meeting its objectives. Diana Chouinard '10 (CLAS) had never sung before taking the class.

"I was extremely nervous at first," she says. "But as we worked on our own songs I became more confident. A lot of the songs have a message. They really teach you something about that era."



Chemist receives Dreyfus Foundation award

Jose A. Gascon, assistant professor of chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received a New Faculty Award from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation of New York City. He is one of only 12 faculty members in the nation presented with the five-year, \$50,000 award and the first from UConn to be honored with this recognition.

A physical chemist who joined UConn last fall, Gascon characterizes his work as biochemistry with a theoretical or computation spin. He works at the interfaces of chemistry, physics and biology. He will use the award to further his research on the quantum mechanical nature of chemical and physical phenomena—the underlying mathematical framework—that occur in proteins and enzymes at the molecular level.

Gascon is a native of Argentina and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at Louisiana State University. He became interested in applying physical chemistry to biological problems, which he began working on during a postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University.

He is interested in the protein rhodopsin, present in the retina of the eye, which traps light and contributes to vision, and in the study of enzymes that contain vanadium, a chemical element abundant in marine life. Vanadium-containing complexes have shown potential for use in diabetes therapy. His main research tool is a hybrid method that combines quantum mechanics and molecular mechanics, or QM/MM, to compute and describe the interactions of atoms in the protein.

The computations involved in Gascon's research are complex, and he also has grants to work at two major super-computing centers, in Pittsburgh and California. His work has many applications, from improving the understanding of the chemical reactions going on inside the protein, to drug design, such as designing a molecule to interact with and inhibit the enzyme of a disease-causing protein.

At UConn, he hopes to interact with materials and polymer researchers, inorganic chemists and “wherever there’s a problem that requires molecular detail.” While at Yale, Gascon says, he followed the work of Robert Birge, Harold S. Schwenk Sr., Distinguished Professor in Chemistry, now his colleague at UConn, whose work also crosses the boundaries of scientific disciplines.

“Being a few offices away from him is an honor,” Gascon says. “The UConn Chemistry Building is one of the best chemistry facilities in the U.S.”

Alumni elected to UConn Foundation board

Seven alumni have been elected to serve on the board of directors of the University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc.:

David Barton '61 (BUS) is the retired chairman, president and CEO of OSI Specialties Inc. He is an emeritus director and former chairman of the Foundation.

Andy Bessette '75 (CLAS) is executive vice president and chief administrative officer at St. Paul Travelers.

Anthony Crosby '85 J.D. is an attorney in private practice in Southington, Conn.

Keith Fox '80 (BUS) most recently was the founder and chief executive officer of Brandsoft Inc. He was inducted into the University's School of Business Hall of Fame in 2001.



Coleman Levy '61 (CLAS), '62 M.A., '66 J.D. is a founder and senior principal of Levy & Droney P.C. and chairman and co-owner of the New Britain Rock Cats minor league baseball team.

David Marks '69 (BUS), '71 (CLAS) is chief investment officer for both CUNA Mutual Group in Madison, Wis., and the CUNA Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Waverly, Iowa. He serves as president and chief investment officer of MEMBERS Capital Advisors. He is former president of the UConn Alumni Association, an emeritus director of the Foundation board and a member of the board of directors of the UConn Health Center.

Elsea Wright '76 (SAH) is senior vice president of human resources at Aetna Inc. and a member of the School of Business Board of Advisors.

Blood disorder center established with Lea's Foundation \$1.24 M gift

A new center to study and treat blood diseases will be established at the UConn Health Center with a \$1.25 million pledge from the Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research.

The center, to be known as the Lea's Foundation Center for Hematologic Disorders, will focus on advancing research and improving treatment and care for patients with benign and malignant blood disorders such as leukemia, Hodgkin's disease and multiple myeloma. It also will provide a dedicated space for the children of patients, allowing parents to undergo treatment without having to worry about childcare.

"Through this gift, we will be able to translate the latest research directly into patient care," says James Thibeault, director of Signature Programs at the UConn Health Center. "There aren't too many blood centers affiliated with a cancer center, as we will be able to do here. There's a tremendous demand for these services."

Carolyn Runowicz '73 (CLAS), director of UConn's Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center, says the synergy of research and treatment will also attract top faculty.

"This allows us to recruit high-level physicians and national experts in hematological disorders to the UConn Health Center," she says. "Connecticut residents will benefit tremendously because they will be able to access leading researchers in the field."

Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research was established in 1998 to honor the memory of Lea Michele Economos, who died of leukemia at the age of 28. Michael Economos, who with his wife, Bess, created the foundation in their daughter's memory, says the leadership of the Lea's board of directors has long been impressed with the services offered at the UConn Health Center.

Toscanos establish scholarships for School of Business

Two new undergraduate scholarships will enable deserving students to attend UConn's School of Business. Alumnus Daniel Toscano '87 (BUS) and his wife, Tresa, have established an endowment to fund need-based scholarships in their parents' names: the Joseph P. and Rose M. Toscano Memorial Scholarship and the Santos and Patricia Mercado Memorial Scholarship.

"This is about promoting education and honoring our parents," says Toscano.

The scholarships, which will cover tuition and room expenses, will be awarded to incoming freshmen enrolled in the School of Business. In the case of the Mercado scholarship, preference will be given to Hispanic candidates. Both scholarships will be renewable for four years, contingent upon maintaining a high level of academic achievement, ensuring support through graduation.

"Students coming from low socio-economic backgrounds may not be as well prepared as students from suburbs," says Mohamed Hussein, interim dean of the School of Business. "That [the Toscanos] made this scholarship need-based is important."

Toscano, who worked his way through college, understands the burden tuition places on low- and middle-income families. Now a managing director and group head at Deutsche Bank Securities, he is pleased to be able to give promising students the same opportunities he had to build a strong foundation for future success. There are students who "have everything going their way except the financial resources," Toscano explains.

"We want to reach out to students with potential who don't have the financial means to attend an institution like UConn, and do what we can to help them."



Society of Hispanic MBAs scholar recognized

Rosalina Mendoza '07 M.B.A., a second year MBA student in the School of Business concentrating in management consulting and marketing intelligence, received her second scholarship from the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMBA), the nation's most prestigious Hispanic organization promoting higher education. Mendoza is one of 256 Hispanic students in 26 states and Puerto Rico to receive the NSHMBA scholarship and is the only recipient from Connecticut.

JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

April 10, 7:30 p.m.
VERMEER STRING QUARTET
 Performing Mozart, Janacek and Beethoven

April 14, 8 p.m.
LATIN FEST 2007
 Dance Cabaret

April 22, 1 & 3 p.m.
SEUSSICAL
 Adapted from the Broadway musical by Theatreworks USA

April 24, 8 p.m.
MAURIZIO POLLINI
 "Greatest living pianist in the world today"

April 27–April 28, 8 p.m.
LILY TOMLIN
 Comedy Cabaret, Adult Content

For information on all Jorgensen events call 860-486-4226 or visit www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com

CONNECTICUT REPERTORY THEATRE
 860-486-1629

April 19–27
SHAKESPEARE IN HOLLYWOOD
 By Ken Ludwig
 Directed by Nick Olcott

THE WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART



EXHIBITIONS

Intemperate Times: Käthe Kollwitz, 1918-1934; The 2006 Master Of Fine Arts Exhibition; Old Master Drawings and Prints. Through May 6. Tradition and Innovation: Latin American Art from the Benton Collection. Through June 17.

EVENTS

April 15, 5 p.m.
 Music on a Sunday Afternoon: The Alturas Duo: A program of South



Lily Tomlin

American Music: Carlos Boltes, viola and charango; Scott Hill, guitar.

April 17, 12:15 p.m.
 Tuesday Talk: Latin American Art

April 26, 12:15 p.m.
 RecitalsPlus: Mani Mirzaee, setar, performing music of Persia

For information, call 860-486-4520 or visit www.benton.uconn.edu
Open Tues.–Fri.: 10–4:30 p.m., Sat.–Sun.: 1–4:30 p.m.

BALLARD INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM OF PUPPETRY
 860-486-4605
 Hours: Fri.–Sun, Noon–5 p.m.

April 29–Nov. 17
 Shadows & Substance: Shadow puppets from Turkey, Indonesia, China, India and U.S.

J. ROBERT DONNELLY HUSKY HERITAGE SPORTS MUSEUM
 860-486-2240
 Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

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

HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY
 860-486-2516
 Hours, Mon.–Thur. 8 a.m.–2 a.m.; Fri., 8 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.–2 a.m.

Night Flyers, digital prints by Joseph Scheer. Stevens Gallery. Through May 11.

CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERIES

860-486-1511 Hours: Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Nari Ward: Salvage Research Soul Training Project, a multimedia installation that explores the resilience of the human spirit. Through April 13.

Annual Student Scholarship Exhibition April 25–May 6.

WILBUR CROSS GALLERY

Hours: Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

125th Anniversary Exhibit, Reflecting on More Than a Century of Academic Excellence.

Regional Campus Happenings

AVERY POINT

Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art
 Works by Anne Culver, Phil Parkes, Joy Floyd and David Madasci.
 June 8–July 22.

STAMFORD

Campus Art Gallery
 203-251-8400
 Stamford Student Show, Through April 27. Printmaking Exhibition by Lower East Side Printshop, May 1–June 29.

TORRINGTON

All Events: Francis Hogan Lecture Hall
 April 10, 6:30 p.m., Taylor Maili, poet. April 27, 4–9 p.m., Creative Sustenance Marathon Poetry Readings. June 8, 7 p.m., Anne Chamberlain, pianist, and Peter Zay, cellist. July 8, 7 p.m., Lecture on Robert Frost by Charles van Doren, UConn professor of English

WATERBURY CAMPUS

All Events: Room 119
 203-236-9924
 May 10, 7 p.m., Big Read Book Discussion: *To Kill a Mockingbird* Mark Schenker, associate dean, Yale University. June 29, 1:30 p.m., William J. Mann, author of *Kate: The Woman Who Was Hepburn*

UCONN HEALTH CENTER

June 9, BigY® Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride, Simsbury, Conn. www.calhounride.com

CONNECTICUT STATE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

860-486-4460

April 29, Noon to 4 p.m.
 Museum Grand Re-Opening!

CONNECTICUT ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER

860-486-4460

April 12, TBA
Birds and Bird Guides
 David Allen Sibley, author and illustrator

April 14, 10 a.m.–noon
The Art of Drawing Nature
 Prof. Virge Kask

April 15, 3 p.m.
Croatia: The Yugoslav Past and the European Future
 Prof. Katharine Hawkins

April 21, 10 a.m.–noon
The Breeze in the Trees
 Prof. Mark Rudnicki

April 28, 10 a.m.–noon
Catch Me If You Can: Tracking with Telemetry
 Prof. Morty Ortega

ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY GREENHOUSES

860-486-4052
 Hours: Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Through May 12.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

888-UC-ALUM-1

May 7
5th School of Business Golf Tournament
 The Golf Club at Oxford Greens, Oxford, Conn.

June 1-2
Reunion Weekend 2007
 Classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957 and UCAMB

Oct. 20, 5:30-10 p.m.
2007 Alumni & Faculty Awards
 Nafe Katter Theatre

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

Fans see another side of Husky student-athletes

STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORGANIZES COMMUNITY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



L-R Kali Garges '07 (CANR) of the women's rowing team and Janet Williams '07 (SFA) of the lacrosse team, who is president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, collect books for children before a basketball game at Gampel Pavilion.

Fans attending basketball games at Gampel Pavilion or football games at Rentschler Field are seeing a different kind of Husky team uniform on student-athletes. Wearing red shirts with a Husky paw and "SAAC" on the front, they are members of UConn's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, which plans and conducts community service activities to benefit local Connecticut charities.

SAAC, whose members include 62 student-athletes representing all UConn varsity teams, organizes efforts throughout the year to collect clothing, food, toys and books that are distributed to charitable organizations across the state.

"As student-athletes, we are given a great opportunity to attend an awesome institution and compete at the highest level of athletics," says Janet Williams '08 (CLAS), lacrosse player and president of SAAC executive board. "We feel it's important for athletes to give back to the community and realize it's important to develop that kind of character."

Williams says SAAC members have worked to get more involved with projects involving children. "We try to make the connection between athletics and academics—that they both are connected and success in one feeds off the other," she says.

Williams led a group of SAAC members to Hartford to distribute more than 700 books to the Burgdorf Health Center and the Village South-Center for Community Life.

"We consider SAAC an important part of the student-athlete experience at UConn because it helps our students understand that the support they receive from Husky fans is not based solely on what they do as competitors wearing a UConn uniform," says Jeffrey Hathaway, UConn director of athletics. "They are also part of the Connecticut community we live in, which has a long and proud history of helping others."

Hathaway named to NCAA Men's Basketball Committee

UConn Director of Athletics Jeffrey Hathaway has been appointed to a five-year term on the 10-member NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee, which oversees administration of the NCAA Basketball Championship including the selection and seeding of teams, beginning Sept. 1.



PETER MORENUS

Husky[STATS]

A FALL BOUNTY OF TITLES, AWARDS, AND TOURNEY PLAY

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Max Feldman '07 (ENG) qualified for the NCAA Championships with an eighth at NCAA regionals and 12th at Big East Championships.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Senior Jillian Sullivan '07 (NUR) earned All-America honors.

FIELD HOCKEY

The team finished 21-4, won the Big East tournament and advanced to NCAA national semifinals for head coach Nancy Stevens, who was named Mid-east Region Coach of the Year by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association. Lizzy Pejjs '08 (CLAS), Jen Kleinhans '09 (ENG) and Meagan Hoffman '07 (PHR) were named All-Americans. Pejjs was a finalist for the Honda Sports Award, the sport's top honor, and Kleinhaus was named Big East Defensive Player of the Year.

FOOTBALL

Rhema Fuller '07 (BUS) was named a National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete. He and Donald Brown II '10 (ED) were named to the All Big-East, Second Team. Fuller, Brian Kersmanc '08 (CLAS), Alex LaMagdela '10 (CLAS), Rob Lunn

'09 (CLAS), Chris Pavasaris '07 (CLAS) and Graig Vicidomino '07 (CLAS) were named to the Big East All-Academic Football Team.

MEN'S SOCCER

Team played in the NCAA Tournament for the ninth straight year. Julius James '08 (CLAS) was named to the All-America Team, was the Big East Defender of the Year and a Herman Trophy Semifinalist. Toni Stahl '10 (CLAS) was named Big East Rookie of the Year. O'Brian White '09 (CLAS), Karl Schilling '08 (CLAS) and Akeem Priestly '09 (CLAS) were named All-Big East.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Championships. Meghan Schnur '07 (ED) and Annie Yi '10 (CLAS) were named First Team All-Americans. Schnur was named Big East Midfielder of the Year. Yi and Elizabeth Eng '09 (CLAS) were named All-Big East, Third Team.

VOLLEYBALL

The team finished 19-11 led by freshman Bridget Denson-Doman, '10 (CLAS), who was named All-Big East, Second Team.



True Blue Huskies

When Megan Campbell Cersosimo '01 (CLAS), front row center, was named head coach of the women's lacrosse team in November, she became the sixth former UConn student-athlete who now serves as head coach of a Husky team. Front row (L-R): Karen Mullins '79 (ED), '80 M.A., softball; Cersosimo; Len Tsantris '77 (ED), women's soccer. Back row (L-R): Glen Marshall '89 (SFA) '97 M.A., tennis; Jim Penders '94 (CLAS), '98 M.A., baseball; Bruce Marshall '85 (ED), men's ice hockey.

PETER MORENUS

What you don't know about distance running

Four years ago, Jillian Sullivan '07 (NUR) was recruited to UConn as a walk-on for distance running. Last fall she became the Huskies' first All-American in cross country and the first UConn distance runner to qualify for the NCAA Championships in a decade, since Danyelle Wood '99 (SFS). Sullivan also holds the UConn record for 3000 Meter Steeplechase.

There are drills for cross country runners.

People think we just go out and run and run, but we have workouts and drills. We do go out and run, but we have to hit certain times for the mile and we have varied distances each day when we train. Sunday is our long run of between nine and 10 miles. We have a day of weight lifting and yoga stretching. Other days we have different workouts of tempo—two, three and five minutes each. We also have a maintenance run, where I usually hit a pace of 6:40 for six miles.

Race strategy involves quick thinking and keeping a clear head.

The first two minutes we need to get off the line quickly because there are so many people running. It's easy to fall behind with so many people out there. If you don't

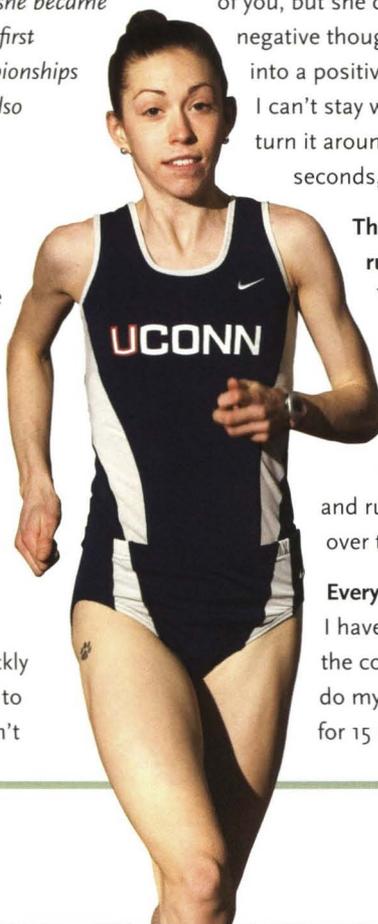
get a good position, you might be better than the girl in front of you, but she can hold you back later on. There can't be negative thoughts; if there are you have to turn them into a positive. You might think, "She's just too strong, I can't stay with her for another minute." You have to turn it around and say, "Stay with her for another 24 seconds," or "I know I'm stronger."

The hardest part about being a distance runner is not the running.

You need to develop mental toughness. Some days it's hard to hit your marks. Every time I don't want to do another push up, sit-up crunch, or run another mile, I remember that I want to do well in meets. Every day you have to go out and run those miles. It's not easy. It develops over time.

Every runner's routine is different.

I have to warm up properly and work out after the core workout—push ups, strengthening and do my stretch. I won't leave until I stretch for 15 minutes.



PETER MORENUS

Changing the teaching culture

TEACHERS FOR A NEW ERA IMPROVES HOW TO PREPARE TEACHERS FOR THE CLASSROOM

Four years of participation in the Teachers for a New Era (TNE) project is causing an undeniable change in the teaching culture among faculty at the Neag School of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences.

“We’re looking at a change in culture via a systematic program that has arts and science and education faculty working together. In the past that has happened on a personal level but not on a systematic level,” says Scott W. Brown, professor of educational psychology and director of the (TNE) at UConn.

TNE is an educational reform initiative started by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, with additional support from the Annenberg Foundation and the Ford Foundation, to stimulate construction of excellent teacher education programs at the selected colleges and universities. UConn is one of only 11 institutions participating in the program across the country.

Participating institutions agree to build three key design principles into their teacher education programs—establishing the importance of demonstrating student achievement through evidence, fully

integrating faculty from the liberal arts and sciences to enrich future teachers’ general and subject matter knowledge, and extending support to beginning teachers after they graduate as they enter the profession as teachers. Research in the program has established that the quality of the teacher has a profound influence on pupil learning, and some researchers believe that this so-called “teacher effect” is so pervasive that it can be considered the single most important factor in pupil achievement gains in schools.

Since its inception at UConn, TNE has spurred a host of educational reform projects such as GlobalEd, an experimental study of gender-based differences in group decision-making and negotiating skills; Classroom of the Sea, which features problem-based learning to boost the scientific literacy of deaf students; and the BEST Impact Survey, a cooperative effort with the Connecticut Department of Education’s Beginning Educators Support and Training Program (BEST) to evaluate perceptions, support, and understand new teachers and their support networks.

One of the initial findings in TNE surveys at UConn is that beginning teachers in Connecticut want training and preparation in the development of their BEST portfolio while they are still undergraduate students. Connecticut teachers must successfully complete their BEST portfolio

during their first two years of teaching to receive their certification as educators. The beginning teachers also indicated they want more support in several areas

Jason Irizarry, a TNE Fellow, meets with Rashana Wilson, left, a fifth-year Elementary Ed major, and Kara McKenna, a first-year psychology master’s student.



PETER MORENIUS



Laura Reese '05 (CLAS), '06 M.A. teaching a lesson in her English class in Glastonbury (Conn.) High School. She was part of the Teachers for a New Era program at UConn.

from their alma mater, such as integrating technology into the classroom, and more interaction with their mentors during their second year as teachers, when the required portfolios must be submitted.

Brown says the Neag School has responded to these findings by enhancing its teacher preparation curriculum to include guiding students through the process of developing the BEST portfolio with the help of an electronic portfolio system that is used for university courses and professional development. The program allows beginning teachers to customize their teaching methods to measure effective learning and demonstrate student progress based on established state and national standards. Neag faculty are also addressing specific needs stated by alumni, such as how to work with parents, and additional special education training by incorporating those topics into appropriate undergraduate and graduate coursework. Additional curriculum enhancements include linking coursework in classes across semesters and across CLAS and the Neag School.

Neag is expanding its support to alumni

by establishing access to mentors in several ways, including the use of Tapped In, an established online resource for teachers to learn, collaborate, share, and support one another. Highly qualified mentors are also available online through the Center for Teacher Quality, as well as those assigned specifically to supplement the BEST program activity to enhance the support of beginning teachers and address their concerns and challenges in a timely manner.

"The TNE principles and funding have provided the foundation upon which we have focused our efforts to gather data and make decisions about how we can best improve the preparation and retention of teachers using local data collected on our campus as well as national research data," says Brown. "We work collaboratively together across all 11 TNE schools to learn from one another and to develop exceptional models of teacher preparation and retention based on best practices and proven results. The ultimate outcome is raising the academic achievement of all the pupils in our schools."

At UConn, TNE is guided by seven faculty members who serve as TNE Fellows, three from Neag and four from Arts and Sciences. Since the project commenced at UConn, the work of TNE Fellows has led to a review of Neag School and Arts and Sciences course offerings as they relate to state and national standards for educators to ensure that these key standards are addressed in Neag and Arts and Sciences courses, the introduction of a teacher candidate self-assessment survey, initial approval of an option of a double major in education and a content area in arts and sciences to enhance the content knowledge of teachers, and even the development of a university-wide diversity studies minor available for all students. Plans are in motion for Neag students and alumni to participate in a human rights studies seminar that has been offered to educators.

Unlike other funded projects, TNE is unique as it is a permanent initiative at UConn. — Gary E. Frank

Right: Using a fine brush to clean an artifact, UConn anthropologist Natalie Munro works at a dig site in northern Israel.

Chemist honored for research

Mark Peczuh, assistant professor of chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, won the 2006 American Chemical Society New Investigator Award in Carbohydrate Chemistry. He is conducting research at the atomic level to synthesize a new carbohydrate molecule in order to determine how to change the natural way carbohydrates interact with other basic chemical elements. This research can potentially lead researchers toward new therapies for diabetes, fungus infections and immune system disorders, including HIV.



Unearthing clues to the domestication of animals

Working in the Near East, primarily in the northern part of Israel, UConn anthropologist Natalie Munro is trying to unearth clues about when the domestication of animals began, which can provide better understanding about human demography and economic change.

An assistant professor of anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Munro is in the first year of a three-year grant from the National Science Foundation. One of her primary investigations is the gazelle project, which aims to determine the long-term effects of hunting on wild mountain gazelles in the southwestern region of the Fertile Crescent.

Agriculture and the domestication of animals began generally when wild animal populations began to thin as humans hunted them. Humans then settled in a particular area and started to develop resources for basic needs such as food and clothing, Munro explains. In studying how patterns of domestication developed, she examines skeletal remains of gazelles from 10 to 15,000 years ago to better understand the role of human hunting in the very earliest stages of the domestication process. Gazelles were never domesticated, so studying their remains will provide insight into the impact of hunting without confusing these impacts with the early stages of domestication, she says.

Nutritionist tracks access to food in Brazil

Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, professor of nutritional sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, in collaboration with a team of Brazilian researchers completed a landmark study of food insecurity, which is the inability to access nutritional food in sufficient quantities without resorting to socially unacceptable means.

“Food security is being seen in Brazil as a human right involving access to work, health, education, housing and income,” says Pérez-Escamilla. “The government is using our study for guidance as it moves forward in all these areas.”

The Brazil study now is being adapted by other Latin American countries to evaluate their own food insecurity issues.

What started as a series of small qualitative and quantitative studies culminated in a major national survey in 2004 that collected food insecurity data in 120,000 households throughout Brazil. The final report was released in Brazil, where it attracted national attention, including that nation’s recent presidential election.

Primary findings include that approximately 65 percent of Brazilian households see themselves as “food secure,” while roughly 6.5 percent—about 14 million people—experience severe hunger. Rural households with young children and “Afro descendant” households have especially high rates of food insecurity.

A child waits as her mother harvests some beans on their small farm plot in Acaua, Brazil.



ANDRÉ FELIPE
GETTY IMAGES

Pineapple extract may help asthma relief

An enzyme found in pineapples may offer relief for the millions of people who suffer from asthma, says a study by UConn Health Center researchers published in the journal *Cellular Immunology*.

Eric Secor, a naturopathic physician and NIH Post-Doctoral Fellow, led the research team that found that bromelain, an extract from the juice and stems of pineapples, appears to reduce the inflammation of cells associated with asthma. The extract has been used clinically as an anti-inflammatory agent in rheumatoid arthritis, soft tissue injuries, colonic inflammation and chronic pain.

Using three groups of mice that were induced with acute asthma, the



researchers found bromelain significantly reduced the total white blood cell count, which increases with the onset of asthma. Additionally, the main inflammatory cells associated with asthma, were reduced by more than 50 percent in the lungs of the mice following treatment.

Secor says if the pineapple extract proves effective, it could reduce the use of steroid remedies, now standard for treating asthma patients, and thereby decrease the side effects that may result from long-term steroid use.

Secor is conducting research in the laboratory of Roger Thrall, professor of immunology at the UConn Health Center.

Tracking copperheads through Connecticut

FASCINATION WITH SNAKES LEADING TO BIOLOGY CAREER FOR SMITH

It is early December, and Charles Smith is putting the finishing touches on his doctoral degree in ecology and evolutionary biology (EEB) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"I'm ready. It's been a long haul," says Smith, from his office in UConn's Pharmacy/Biology building, about completion of his degree.

For Smith, the "long haul" was spending nearly half of the previous eight years tracking and studying the copperhead snake, specifically the northern copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen*), the most common venomous viper found in New England. That meant going to the Metacomet Ridge, the ancient line of traprock ridges running from Suffield to Guilford, which forms the geological spine of Connecticut, and a homeland for copperheads. Visiting the ridge at least five days per week, Smith estimates he hiked more than 1,800 miles through the forests and ravines of the Metacomet, monitoring the movements of 35 copperheads that he had implanted with radio transmitters.

"When you think of a snake, you often think of a not very intelligent creature that wanders around the forest floor and doesn't think much beyond finding something to eat," says Smith. "But the level of awareness and personality these creatures have goes way beyond anything that you would typically give them credit for."

Smith's fascination with things that slither began when his mother gave him a garter snake when he was 8-years-old. By the time he was a teenager, he was spending all his money on books about snakes. Smith worked in the herpetology departments of several zoos before pursuing a degree in biology at the University of South Carolina and then arriving at UConn to begin his doctoral program.



Graduate student Charles Smith hiked more than 1,800 miles through forests and ravines monitoring the movements of 35 copperhead snakes as part of his research.

He has published about 60 articles on snakes and became acquainted with nearly every kind of viper, from king cobras and rattlesnakes to water moccasins and cottonmouths. Even after tracking the copperhead for so long, his fascination has not ebbed.

"When you think about it, their whole world exists within a 6-inch layer on and above the surface of the ground," he says.

"They can't see above it, they don't have the view [humans] have, yet they're able to navigate their way through a 3-D maze from a half-mile away."

Smith's research has helped contradict several widely held assumptions about northern copperheads, in particular, that their existence amounts to an aimless, chaotic struggle for survival. He found that male and female copperheads will return

Nutmeg Scholar studies in Singapore

Europe is often the first choice when students study abroad. Devika Dhandapani, '07 (CLAS), however, chose Singapore in order to experience a culture far different from her own.

"It has opened my eyes to what I want to do for the rest of my life," says Dhandapani, who wants to pursue urban and international medicine. "The exposure to international students was amazing. There were a lot of students from Europe and Asia. I realized I was out of the loop with that side of the world—politics, lifestyle, and viewpoints. I just hadn't grown up learning it."

Dhandapani, a pre-med major who plans to enter the UConn School of Medicine in the fall, studied at the National University of Singapore (NUS) under a new exchange program. She conducted molecular biology research on a novel snake venom protein and also completed general education classes in history and geography while challenging herself with Tamil, an Indian dialect that is one of Singapore's national languages.

Now back in Storrs, the Nutmeg Scholar is completing requirements for her degree in physiology and neurobiology and taking classes in humanitarian aid, ethnomedicine and human rights.

Dhandapani's study abroad dovetails with UConn's goal of having 30 percent of all students participate in some type of international experience. In 2006, approximately 13 percent of UConn students studied abroad, part of the University's academic plan to educate students as global citizens.

"If our students are to be competitive, they must be international," says Ross Lewin, UConn study abroad director. "We're now encouraging more students to study abroad outside of Western Europe, especially in China and India because that's where the United States will compete in the marketplace."

When students attend the National University of Singapore, they pay the same UConn fees for tuition and arrange lodging and meals separately. When Dhandapani landed in Singapore, she was invited to stay with the family of a young woman named Ishwari, whom she met at NUS. "Ishwari is South Indian, as I am, and she invited me to her house for a meal, then overnight," Dhandapani recalls. "We became very good friends. Culturally, we're very similar, and I ended up staying with her for the first month. It was a blessing."

Later, Dhandapani moved to campus housing. She spent much of her free time backpacking throughout Southeast Asia to such places as Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Hong Kong, Indonesia and the Phillipines. Travel was easy and inexpensive. In Singapore, a mixture of Chinese, Indian and Malay cultures, Dhandapani loved seeing a Buddhist temple, an Indian temple and a mosque all in close proximity.

"Traveling around Asia, you're exposed to third-world countries, and there is a lot of poverty," Dhandapani says. "If they have running water, they are lucky. It makes you more aware that not everyone has what we take for granted." — *Alix Boyle*

to the same series of refuges to mate as they make their way to and from the areas where they spend winters and summers.

"We used to call them bus stops," he laughs. "Each individual uses one particular spot, whether it's a pile of leaves or a hollow tree stump. They go from one spot to another . . . and spend their summers out at their own particular favorite places."

With his doctorate completed, Smith now faces another important search—to secure a permanent faculty position. His teaching experiences at UConn, where he was recognized with the 2005-06

“. . .the level of awareness and personality these creatures have goes way beyond anything that you would typically give them credit for.”

EEB departmental award for outstanding teaching in biology, whet his appetite for the classroom. His dream job would be to teach biology at a small liberal arts college and continue his research. "For many of my students, I was teaching the only college-level biology course they would take. They came in with the pre-conceived notion that biology is dry and boring, and just a lot of facts to memorize," he says. "I enjoy getting students to realize it's really quite dynamic, challenging and fun."

— *Gary E. Frank*



A boy working in a lightbulb factory in Bihar, India, one of the poorest regions in the country.

© ROMANO/Stolen
Childhoods



Commitment to Human Rights

UConn's interdisciplinary approach to a complex issue

BY RON MESHBERG

China Keitetsi was 8-years-old when she was abducted from her home in Uganda by rebel soldiers of the National Resistance Army. For more than 10 years, her captors forced her to fight against the regime of Milton Obote. During that time she witnessed countless atrocities and was subjected to sexual abuse. She gave birth to her first child at age 14 and, she admits, killed so many people she lost count.

"I would like to share with you how sad it is when one feels very old and yet feels like a child," Keitetsi told students and faculty at the UConn Student Union Theater last October. "How we struggle every day to learn to live with the loss of our childhood, how we struggle to love our bodies and live with virtually no sense of dignity because of the abuses we endured, and how it feels to never have a proper sense of belonging."

There are an estimated 300,000 children serving in armies in more than a dozen countries in Africa and Asia. Keitetsi is luckier than most. At age 19, after being accused of treason for refusing the sexual advances of a senior officer, she successfully fled the country.

Keitetsi's visit to UConn for a human rights conference was part of a broad example of the University's commitment to the issue that is recognized as unique among human rights programs in higher education because of its interdisciplinary approach and scope. Human rights can be

viewed from many perspectives—personal stories, media reports, artistic expression or academic studies. Ordinarily, universities present human rights as legal or political issues with a focus on international laws, norms and institutions such as the Geneva Convention. At UConn there is a heavy contribution from the humanities, and a vast array of programs dedicated to the subject have been developed. The multi-layered foundation for this unique approach includes the UConn Human Rights Institute, the UNESCO Chair & Institute of Comparative Human Rights,

"With the level of activity one sees here, we can substantiate being one of the top human rights programs in the U.S. and the world." — *Richard Wilson, Gladstein Chair*

of Human Rights and director of the Human Rights Institute

dedicated archives of historic documents in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center and the Human Rights Gallery in the William Benton Museum of Art.

"The humanities add to the study of human rights by involving scholars who appreciate its social and cultural dimensions as expressed in literature, art, philosophy and history," says Richard D. Brown, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of History and director of the UConn Humanities Institute.

An interdisciplinary approach responds

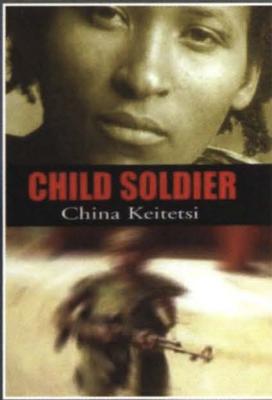
to significant demands by students to understand the problems of human rights. In fact, UConn's undergraduate minor in human rights within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is one of only three at public universities in the nation. There are no undergraduate major programs in U.S. public universities.

"[UConn] does this in an inclusive way," says Paul Martin, executive director of the Center for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University. "By reaching out to students in different fields, it encourages them to learn more about the ways in

which other disciplines interpret the problems of social justice in the world."

The academic center of UConn's human rights programs is the Human Rights Institute (HRI), which oversees an estimated 1,000 students who choose classes from among 41 courses, which run the gamut from "Economics of Poverty" to "Anthropological Perspectives on Women." A new concentration in labor rights was recently added to the human rights minor.

Jeffrey Smith '03 (CLAS), who majored in political science with a minor in



China Keitetsi discussing her experiences as a child soldier in Uganda during a human rights conference last year at the Student Union. Inset: The cover of the book she wrote, *Child Soldier*, which details her life.



DAN BUTTNEY

human rights as an undergraduate, says the interdisciplinary approach to human rights provided a wealth of learning opportunities even as he now integrates his interests in his graduate program.

“A lot of times the same disciplines talk past each other. I’m trying to find common ground among subfields,” says Smith, who is completing a UConn master’s degree in political science. “You get a much different perspective on issues. I can synthesize the different views I hear in political science, anthropology, sociology and history. You see all sides of the issues rather than focusing on mainstream thoughts.”

Meanwhile, as the state of Connecticut makes available \$100 million for research in genetic and stem cell technology, HRI is launching a Science of Human Rights program dealing with bio-ethics issues. “As forum for discussion, we’re going to have a real impact on how the debate on stem cell ethics develops in Connecticut and beyond,” says Richard Wilson, Gladstein Chair of Human Rights and director of HRI. “There are very few, if any, ethical guidelines on stem cell research and we’re hoping to produce them at UConn.” (See story on page 33.)

Since its inception, HRI has held several conferences that bring together lawyers, policy makers, advocates and scholars. The most recent conference, titled “Humanitarian Narratives of Inflicted Suffering,” examined why some forms of suffering spark global reaction while others do not. Five million people died in the Congo in the last five years, yet few know about it or seem to care, says Wilson. This phenomenon occurs even with intense media coverage.

“The media gave quite a bit of attention to the problems in Darfur,” says Wilson, “still, there hasn’t been a great deal of response. At the same time, there was a huge international response to the tsunami in Indonesia. Part of the reason is that victims of natural disasters are seen as more innocent than victims of political conflict.”

Another of the pillars of the UConn program is the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Chair & Institute of Comparative Human Rights, which serves as a laboratory for ideas, training and research. The Chair at UConn, an arm of the United Nations, is one of 60 worldwide and the

first in the United States.

“To ensure a brighter future, we need to capture the hearts and minds of young people,” says Amii Omara-Otunnu, a professor of history and UNESCO Chair in Comparative Human Rights.

The UNESCO Chair provides, among other things, an outreach for the university, such as sponsorship of programs like its seventh annual conference held last fall. The conference’s theme focused on the “Rights and Plights of Women and Children,” where Keitetsi, along with an international group of activists and policy makers, addressed an audience that included members of the UConn community and high school students from throughout the northeastern United States. The Chair offices also oversees training for 20 UConn undergraduates to develop human rights action plans. In addition, Omara-Otunnu serves as executive director of the UConn African National Congress (ANC) Partnership, which chronicles major human rights struggles by gathering oral histories and archiving materials from South Africa, home to the ANC.

The ANC materials are housed at the Dodd Research Center, which serves as the

official repository of all ANC material in North America and contains about 30,000 volumes of documents on human rights issues that are the focus of the research component of human rights programs at the University. Among those materials are more than 100 boxes of photographs, documents and witness transcripts that are part of the archival documents of Thomas J. Dodd, who represented Connecticut in both Houses of Congress and was a prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials after World War II. Human rights archival materials in the Dodd Center include papers of activists, photographs and newsletters from human rights organizations, as well as alternative press sources that are part of UConn's Alternative Press Collection, one of the nation's top archives, that addresses topics ranging from women's and gay rights to civil rights.

Recently, the Dodd Center received a donation of documents from the Human Rights Internet, a network of international groups sharing resources, says Thomas Wilsted, director of the Dodd Center. This new archive is largely "gray literature," materials barely published but circulated and communicated, much of it the only existing copies in the world, he adds.

Another aspect of the Dodd Center is the Dodd Prize, which is awarded for outstanding work in the field of human rights and international justice. It has recognized such world figures as British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Ireland Prime Minister Bertie Ahern for their roles in advancing the Northern Ireland peace process. The next Dodd Prize will be awarded this fall.

A uniquely artistic foundation of UConn's effort to address human rights issues is the Human Rights Gallery, which opened in 2005 as part of the Benton Museum of Art.

The Human Rights Gallery has presented multimedia exhibitions, including a video documentary depicting efforts to rid Belarus of land mines left behind by the former Soviet Union, photographs capturing the suffering of maimed victims from both sides of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and the post-World War I prints and photographs of German expression-

ist Käthe Kollwitz. The Kollwitz exhibit continues through May 6, and a new exhibition, "Arpilleras: Women's Protest Tapestries from Chile," opens May 22 and continues through Aug. 5.

"The visual arts can be very powerful," says Steven Kern, director of the Benton Museum. "A visual image can affect change or the way people think. We plan to use historic art to explore contemporary themes of human rights."

UConn's graduate schools also address

"The visual arts can be very powerful. A visual image can affect change or the way people think. We plan to use historic art to explore contemporary themes of human rights." — Steven Kern, director of UConn's William Benton Museum of Art

human rights concerns as part of their academic programs as they relate to their disciplines. The Asylum and Human Rights Clinic at the UConn School of Law provides opportunities for law students to represent refugees who have fled from persecution in their home countries and are seeking asylum in the United States. The Center for International Social Work Studies at UConn's Greater Hartford Campus convened a conference on "Human Trafficking and Modern Day

Slavery" which included remarks by Micheline Slattery, a victim of international trafficking who became a slave in her native Haiti at age 5 before being forced into servitude as a domestic in Darien, Conn.

Slattery and China Keitetsi's experiences might have shocked their audiences, but they are only two people out of millions of human rights victims in the world today. UConn has made core questions of human dignity and the institutions and policies designed to promote and protect that dig-

nity a major part of its educational mission that includes serving as the home of *The Journal of Human Rights*, an international publication that has been based in Storrs since last year. Richard Hiskes, a professor of political science, is editor of the journal and Wilson is associate editor.

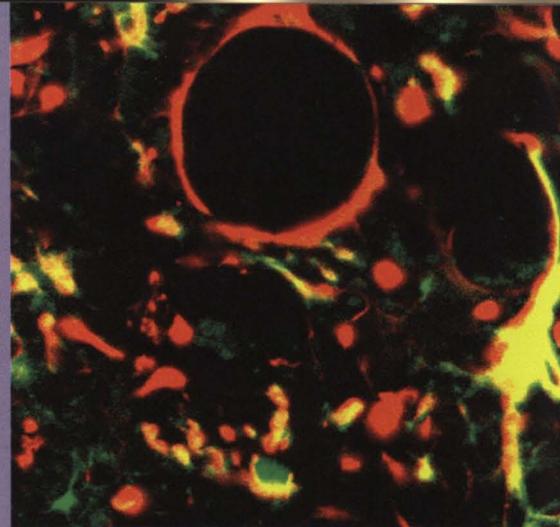
"With the level of activity one sees here," says Wilson, "we can substantiate being one of the top human rights programs in the U.S. and the world."

PETER MORENIUS

Valerie Love, archivist at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, reviews materials that are part of the African National Congress Partnership collection.



Embryonic steps to the promise of a cure . . .



\$12 million in awards positions
UConn at the forefront of cutting-edge

Stem Cell Res

By David Bauman • Photos by Al Ferreira

The human body is made up of approximately 10 trillion or so cells of different types. The cells wear out and must be renewed frequently in a continuous cycle of human biology. Most chronic diseases occur because human cells either die or malfunction during this natural evolutionary process.

Stem cell therapies offer the promise of cell replacement to cure these chronic diseases. The challenge facing scientists is to find out how these stem cells work naturally in the body, how they may be made to work better and potentially, how they may be re-programmed to work in new ways that repair damaged cells. One reason for the tremendous excitement generated by human embryonic stem cells is their potential to develop into any kinds of tissue that make up the human body and its organs.

Because such complex research will take time and require long-term funding,

scientists became concerned that their research would be curtailed when, in 2001, the White House announced restrictions on federal funding of embryonic stem cell research, limiting U.S. support to studies involving 64 existing stem cell lines and not for the creation of new stem cells specifically for the purpose of research. However, with individual states having the authority to approve laws without similar funding restrictions, the Connecticut Legislature in 2005 approved legislation to fund human stem cell research.

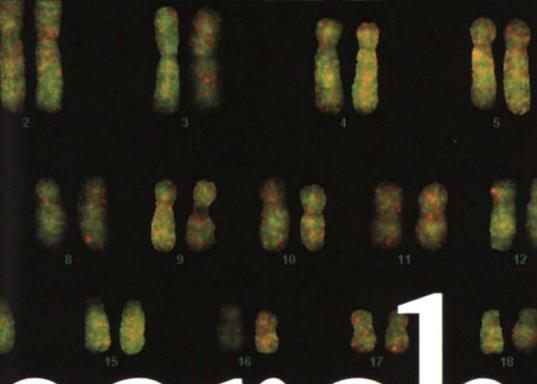
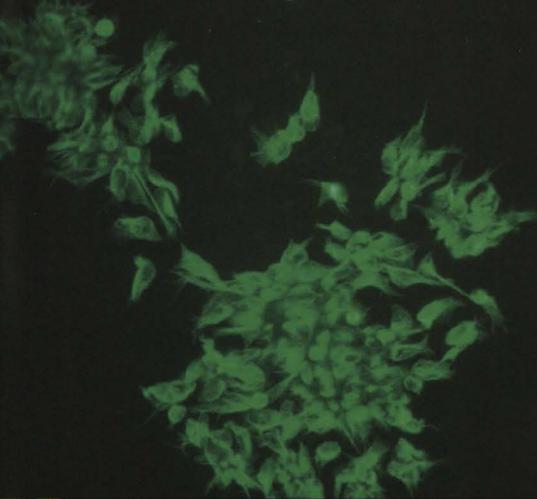
State lawmakers thus positioned Connecticut to be at the forefront of stem cell research by committing \$100 million for such research over the next 10 years and establishing a competitive process for awarding grants. The Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, chaired by J. Robert Galvin '96 M.P.H., commissioner of public health in Connecticut, was appointed to distribute the funds based on the scientific,

legal and ethical integrity of the work.

The first allocation last November of nearly \$20 million includes 15 research proposals worth more than \$12 million awarded to UConn faculty, or about 60 percent of the total funding, with the balance going primarily to Yale University and some to Wesleyan University. The funds will support the work of 23 investigators at the Storrs and Health Center campuses.

"These awards recognize the expertise of several University of Connecticut faculty in a field of great promise to medical research and great potential to contribute to our state's economic growth," says UConn President Philip E. Austin. "The University is playing a leadership role not only in the scientific aspects of stem cell research, as reflected by these awards, but in dealing with the ethical and philosophical issues."

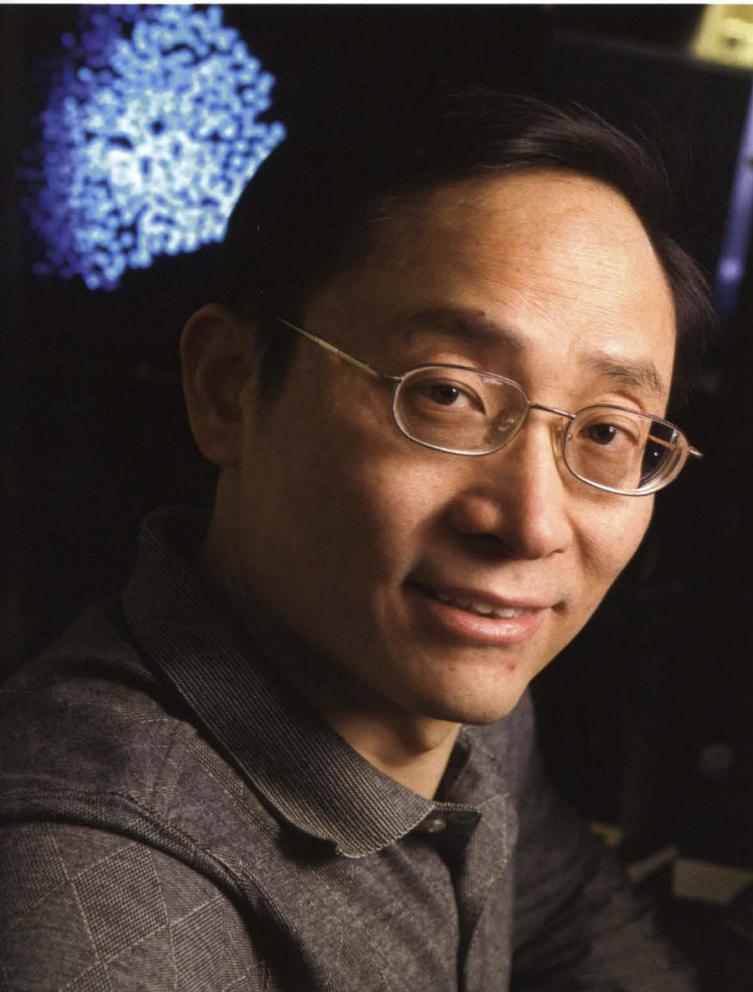
UConn's leadership in biomedical research—the foundation for stem cell



earch



Clockwise from above: Leann Crandall, manager of the stem cell laboratory at the UConn Health Center, examines embryonic human stem cells; Craig Nelson, assistant professor of molecular and cell biology, works with undergraduate students in his laboratory on the Storrs campus, and Ren-He Xu, director of the UConn Stem Cell Institute.





Marc Lalande, associate dean for research planning and coordination at the UConn Health Center, meets with researchers.

bone or other part of the body. (See chart top of next page.) Crandall spends hours in the small sterile room carefully removing plates of cultured cells from the incubators to microscopically examine the cell colonies checking for bacterial infection, determining their state of “stemness” and refreshing the culture medium nurturing their growth.

“I liken it to weeding a garden,” she explains. “If you don’t keep control, if you don’t know what you’re looking for, they will start differentiating. It is, after all, what they want to do.”

Crandall spent years mastering the complicated cell culturing process under the tutelage of Ren-He Xu, a developmental biologist and renowned expert in growing human embryonic stem cells, whom she accompanied to UConn last year when he was recruited from the prestigious WiCell Research Institute to direct UConn’s stem cell lab.

Xu, a founding member of the private Wisconsin Institute that first developed human embryonic stem cells, led the research team that was the first to culture the precious cells without the need for animal cells or products, long thought to be a source of potential contamination for their use in clinical settings.

Under Xu and Crandall, the laboratory is culturing, testing and banking eight stem cell lines, including some not approved by the National Institutes of Health for research, making UConn one of only a few universities in the nation and, with Harvard University, one of only two in New England that is growing such human embryonic stem cell lines.

Since arriving at UConn, Xu and Crandall have been at the forefront of bringing cutting-edge laboratory work to advance the human embryonic stem cell research community at UConn and provide the university with a critical bridge in bringing the promising cells out of the core lab and into other scientists’ research labs.

To anticipate and respond to ethical questions that may arise in this sensitive research, UConn created an Embryonic Stem Cell Oversight Committee (ESCRO)

work—has been established through its major commitment in the field of regenerative medicine with the Center for Regenerative Biology at Storrs, which is led by Xiangzhong “Jerry” Yang, professor of animal science and one of the world’s leading experts on animal cloning.

Each day in a research laboratory located at the UConn Health Center, lab manager Leann Crandall unlocks a door for a closer look at the future of embryonic human stem cells. Inside the lab, nestled in a pair of incubators supplied with a constant carbon dioxide/oxygen gas mixture kept at human body temperature, lie glass plates on special copper shelving. Each plate holds several million human embryonic

stem cells in an amber-colored stew of nutrients, hormones, growth factors and blood serum that is required to keep the cells in their undifferentiated, “blank slate” state.

“They need care pretty much every day,” says Crandall. “You can’t just buy these cells and work on them,” says Crandall. “These are probably the most difficult cells in the world to cultivate.”

The challenge for Crandall is to maintain the stock cultures in their blank state and keep them from becoming one of the 220 cell types in our bodies. This change process is known as differentiation, when cells evolve into a specific type of cell to begin the path of becoming a heart, finger

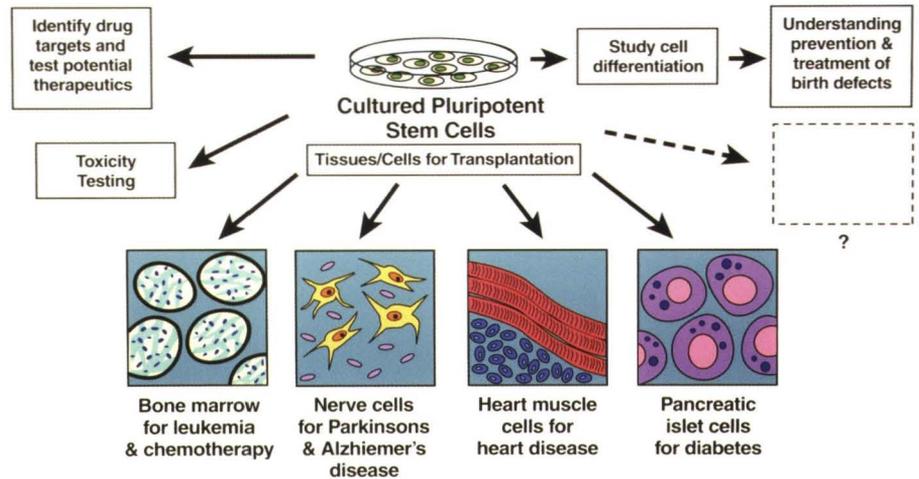
composed of scientific, ethical and legal experts and members of the community at large; ESCRO must approve all proposed stem cell research projects. It is chaired by Anne Hiskes, associate professor of philosophy in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, who will lead the review of each project through a simply stated test: Are the anticipated benefits to human health greater than any potential risks to human dignity and the value of human life?

Capitalizing further on Connecticut's commitment of public funds to stem cell research, UConn plans to establish the University of Connecticut Stem Cell Institute (UCSCI), separate from existing university facilities, in order to comply with U.S. government rules.

The plan includes relocating Xu's human embryonic stem cell core lab to

Continued on page 50

The Promise of Stem Cell Research



NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The ethics of embryonic stem cell research



Anne Hiskes, associate professor of philosophy and former associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is director of research, ethics and education for stem cell research. She is the chair of UConn's Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight (ESCRO) Committee. She discussed the future of embryonic stem cell research with Karen Grava '74 (CLAS).

What will the ESCRO Committee do?

The ESCRO is charged with developing ethical principles and policies for human embryonic stem cell research, reviewing and approving stem cell research protocols and educating investigators

about ethical issues connected with human stem cell research. Our goals are to ensure that research is well justified and that inappropriate research does not occur.

Who is on the ESCRO Committee?

The membership of the committee includes faculty from Storrs and the Health Center with scientific, ethical and legal expertise; two community members and representatives from research compliance. Two of our members are ordained clergy.

What are the concerns ethicists have about human stem cell research?

The origin of the human embryos is one of the biggest issues. The least ethically controversial source of embryos is excess frozen embryos developed for the purpose of having a family using in vitro fertilization (IVF). If a couple decides that they no longer wish to keep their frozen embryos,

they are given the opportunity to donate them to research instead of discarding them. No human embryos may be donated for stem cell research without fully informed and voluntary consent from the donors.

There is also the issue of whether it is ethical to create human embryos only for research purposes. People are concerned that this demeans human dignity and the inherent value of the human individual by creating human life simply for use as a research tool.

Ethical issues are also connected with the methods used to create embryos for research. Some people regard the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer—"therapeutic cloning"—as particularly problematic. There is an international ban on using nuclear transfer for human reproduction. Some people regard therapeutic cloning as particularly problematic because they see it as another step toward the engineering of human beings and reducing them to mere objects. Others see it as the first step toward using cloning for human reproduction.

Will there always be a need for ethical oversight of stem cell research?

There are always new ways of engineering the human genome and new ways of reprogramming DNA. There will always be new science and technology that impact the basic processes associated with living and dying. So regardless of the future of stem cell research, there will always be a need for ethical oversight of biomedical research.

What precautions is UConn taking to ensure that our stem cell research is ethical?

Any human embryonic stem cell research conducted at the University of Connecticut must follow protocols approved by the ESCRO. Researchers who violate accepted standards could lose their funding and be unable to publish their findings. The best system is when researchers and the scientific community self-regulate with the guidance of nationally or internationally accepted standards.

ASTOUNDING WOMAN

THE MANY FACES OF

SWIN CASH

By Jim H. Smith

There's the powerful basketball player, who is building a multi-layered business career. There's the family-centered woman whose heart compels her to give back to the community that helped shape her. There's the beautiful fashion designer and television personality who is comfortable in the spotlight.

Power. Heart. Beauty. Those words, and the corresponding images that serve as a doorplate for the Web site of Swin Cash '02 (CLAS), www.swincash.com, are far more than a description of the estimable gifts of one of UConn's greatest student-athletes. They are nothing less than the essence of who she is. Though basketball has been the most dramatic showcase for those attributes, it would be a mistake to view Cash—whose given name, Swintayla, means “astounding woman”—one dimensionally.

Cash's Internet presence begins with basketball because it's the way she's best known. But it also embraces Swin Cash Enterprises, the business activities in which she is currently engaged, such as the line of fashions she has helped to design for herself, her budding career in broadcasting and those ventures she dreams of pursuing in the future that will last far beyond her storied basketball career. There is also Cash for Kids, the charitable arm of her nascent empire, through which she is paying back the debt she owes to those who helped her rise above humble beginnings in a broken home in rust-belt McKeesport, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh.

Understanding how those ventures are interrelated and what they mean to Cash requires a little historic perspective.

JOHN ARSHIAN



"I was just a little girl when I started playing basketball at the playground near where we lived," Cash recalls. "My mom played basketball. She was a coach at high school. Everyone in my family was into sports. So it was natural that I would get into it."

By 1993, just before she entered high school, she was playing in a varsity summer league and met Tamika Williams '02 (CLAS) who later would become her teammate at UConn. That same year, Cash played in the AAU National Championships and discovered just how gifted she was.

"I was doing things that should have been hard," Cash remembers. "They were hard for some of the other girls. But they were easy for me. I was playing really dominant basketball."

For the first time, people outside her family and friends in McKeesport began to take notice. There was talk of scholarships.

"There was something unique about her even then," says UConn women's head coach Geno Auriemma, who noticed his future star forward for the first time that summer. "I could see right away. . . she had a swagger, this tremendous pride in herself and her family."

That year, when she was 14, basketball took on a whole new meaning for Cash. Although she was a versatile athlete—she participated in baseball, soccer, track and gymnastics—she also had other interests, such as drama club and student government. Many of those interests took a backseat when people who could help to change her life began to take Cash seriously as a basketball player.

"When you're a poor kid growing up in a place like McKeesport," she says bluntly, "and you can play basketball well enough



Swin Cash, reading with children in Detroit, has established her own charitable organization to benefit children, called Cash for Kids.

to get a good education, you can't afford not to give that your attention."

So Cash dedicated herself to the sport that has consumed much of her energy for the last 15 years. Always a good student, she divided her time primarily between her studies and refining her athletic skills, turning natural athletic gifts into the arsenal of abilities that would eventually earn her a UConn scholarship.

Continued on page 50

Ruth Riley and Swin Cash celebrating the WNBA Championship with their Detroit Shock teammates.



Planting seeds for turfgrass students

KARL GUILLARD RECOGNIZED WITH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Karl Guillard delights in seeing students become excited at watching grass grow.

“That look of discovery and that Aha! moment is so satisfying to me,” says Guillard, an agronomy professor who specializes in management of turfgrass, those well-manicured patches of grass seen on golf courses, parks, playing fields and commercial lawns.

There is a fine art to cultivating and caring for turfgrass and a great demand for those with the expertise, which is why the four-year undergraduate turfgrass science degree program UConn began offering in 1998 has quickly taken root.

Guillard helped develop the program, updating the school’s traditional agronomy concentration, which focused on general plant and soil science courses.

“We were getting fewer and fewer students interested in a traditional agronomy major as there was a rise of interest in turfgrass and residential landscaping,” he says.

“I’m a big believer in experiential learning, particularly for the upper division classes . . .”

The department of plant science offers both a four-year degree and a two-year associate of applied science degree in ornamental horticulture and turfgrass management. Guillard says students who elect the associate degree are either recent high school graduates or those experienced in business seeking additional training for a competitive edge. Internships are an integral part of both programs. Students in the four-year program often receive job



Karl Guillard, professor of plant science, left, with seniors Thomas Lopez and Jeremiah Rozarie.

offers before they graduate, primarily for positions in Connecticut.

“Nearly 100 percent find placement within the field,” Guillard says. Most are hired by golf courses while others find positions in landscaping and sports management. Students with an interest in teaching or working in a government regulatory agency often pursue advanced degrees where additional education credentials may be required.

Guillard’s agricultural bent stems from his childhood on the family farm that his father, whom he describes as “a country doctor,” bought to nurture a joy of gardening. Among his siblings, Guillard was the one who relished plowing the fields and planting grain, corn and other crops. He decided to study general agriculture at nearby Pennsylvania State University.

Guillard arrived at UConn in 1980 as a graduate student, earning both a master’s and doctorate in agronomy. He remained on campus, establishing a reputation as one of UConn’s top teaching professors.

He was recognized as a 2001-2002 Teaching Fellow (UConn’s highest teaching honor) and last year received the 2006 Alumni Association Award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Undergraduate Level.

“I try to cater to many different learning styles,” he says, describing his teaching style as “flexible.” “I’m a big believer in experiential learning, particularly for the upper division classes, and having students set up research.

“I’m aware not all my students will go out and work in turfgrass; I just want them to be able to get information, evaluate it and utilize it. I want them to be able to think and make good decisions based on science, rather than using emotion.”

Guillard says the best part of teaching is “meeting students many years later and having them say something nice about the class and what life lesson they learned.”

— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)

Challenging students toward excellence

SEGERSON KNOWN FOR WORK ON ECONOMIC THEORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



Kathleen Segerson, right, meets with a graduate student at her office.

Economist Kathleen Segerson believes in using economic principles to understand behavior and public policy issues. In her classroom, she uses real-life examples to encourage students to “understand intuitively what underlies a particular theory or concept.”

Nationally known for her contributions to economic theory and environmental policy, Segerson has studied environmental implications of agriculture and land use issues, including how governments try to control contamination and hazardous waste disposal.

“I had an interest in coupling law and economics to understand certain types of legal rules,” says Segerson, professor of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Her research has included an examination of hotly debated liability provisions in the Superfund program, which Congress set up in the early 1980s to clean up America’s worst hazardous waste sites.

In the 1990s, she looked at the trend toward using more voluntary approaches and negotiated agreements (rather than mandatory controls) to control pollution.

For example, noting a European industry group of washing machine manufacturers who voluntarily spearheaded a plan to remove inefficient machines from the market, Segerson asks, “What drives an industry group to do that? Do they just want to be nice guys. . .or is it a move [to generate] more income?”

“We develop economic models to address these kinds of questions, and look at the implications of using one kind of policy versus another,” she says.

Before joining the UConn faculty in 1987, Segerson earned a degree in mathematics at Dartmouth College and completed a doctorate in environmental natural resource economics at Cornell University. She headed UConn’s department of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from 2001 to 2005.

Though she was inclined more toward research at the start of her academic career, Segerson enjoys sharing her insights and experience in the classroom, especially with graduate students. Last fall she received the 2006 Alumni Association Award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Graduate Level.

“I think that most of my graduate students would say I try to challenge them and push them,” she says, “let them know I will take you 90 percent of the way, and then expect them to show me they can go the other 10 percent.”

Segerson serves on several UConn committees, including the faculty review board, and is a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Science Advisory Board’s executive committee and Environmental Economics Advisory Committee. She is also one of the primary organizers of the University’s Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series on Nature and the Environment.

Segerson also researches environmental policy design and land use issues such as global warming and the taking of private property for public use by eminent domain.

“Historically the federal government has been the leader in environmental legislation and the states have followed suit,” she says. “In the case of global warming, there’s a role reversal, and the states have been more proactive.”

That could be changing. Last year the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to consider a lawsuit, filed on behalf of 12 states and several environmental groups, requiring the Bush administration to regulate the release of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse emissions from new motor vehicles.

“If the Supreme Court finds that the EPA must regulate CO₂ under the Clean Air Act,” Segerson says, “it will force the federal government to alter its current approach to global warming, which is based primarily on voluntary efforts.”

And that, she adds, would signal a “new direction” for America’s pollution control policy. — Karen Singer ’73 (CLAS)

The serious business of making chocolate

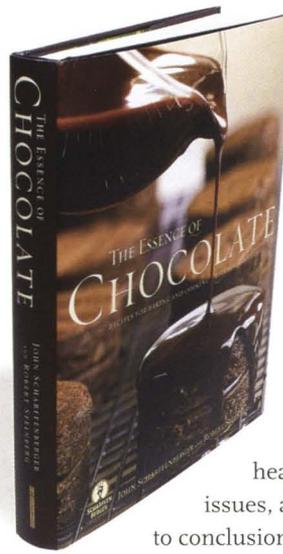
After being diagnosed with lymphoma in 1989, Robert Steinberg '73 M.D. decided to end his medical practice and devote his time to other interests—piano and drawing lessons, fine food and travel.

Several years later, a friend who had explored starting a chocolate-making business thought Steinberg might be interested in reviewing a 900-page textbook on how to make chocolate from cacao beans. That led Steinberg to make his way to a small family-owned business in Lyon, France, where he observed the process, in 1995.

The following year, Steinberg and a business partner, John Scharffenberger, launched Scharffen Berger Chocolate Maker, the first American company in 50 years to make chocolate from beans into bars.

Steinberg's latest venture in the world of chocolate is a cookbook, *The Essence of Chocolate* (Hyperion), co-authored with Scharffenberger, that not only includes recipes but also guides readers through the history of the company and of chocolate making itself. Many of the recipes are from top chefs such as Jacques Pepin, who offered their favorite chocolate treats.

"Certainly there are more recipes in the book for dessert than anything else, but I found over time my interest in cooking was not in desserts but savory food," Steinberg says. "I was looking for interesting ways to use chocolate. I think we wanted to have



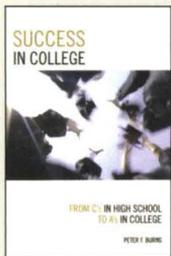
dishes that were pretty simple to do and that were fun to do. There is a simple elegance to a lot of the recipes."

Steinberg says that his medical training helped in his new venture because he was taught to resolve health issues by objectively evaluating issues, asking questions and not jumping to conclusions.

"I have never lost sight of the fact that making chocolate is a far less serious venture than taking care of people's health," he says. "But one thing about chocolate that keeps it interesting is that it's very dynamic. We're using beans from many different places, so there's never a time I feel that everything can go on auto-pilot."

The contribution of recipes by well-known chefs is the combined result of the sharing nature of those in the food industry and the happenstance of meeting people, Steinberg says.

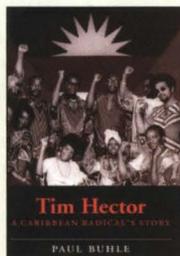
He met Pepin after a former patient who is a television producer invited him to visit a production set where the chef was taping a show. In another situation, Michael Chiarello decided to visit the Scharffen Berger factory to prepare a segment for his own show. — Kenneth Best



Success in College
Peter F. Burns
'92 (CLAS), '94 M.A.
(Rowman & Littlefield
Education)

Perhaps the greatest lesson from earning an undergraduate degree is how to

learn. That is Burns' message based on his own experience as a student, complete with his personal transformation from lackluster high school student to UConn honors graduate. An associate professor of political science at Tulane University, Burns includes anecdotes from his students as well as research about effective study habits in a tightly written, highly readable how-to guide to success in the classroom. Among the topics covered are taking good notes, proper study techniques, writing papers and time management.



Tim Hector: A Caribbean Radical's Story
Paul Buhle '68, M.A.
(University Press
of Mississippi)

Hector is a disciple of C.L.R. James, a key figure in the pan-African move-

ment and for the independence and federation of the Caribbean, as well as the subject of Buhle's previous writing. Buhle, a historian at Brown University who has written extensively about Caribbean politics, traces the evolution of Hector's political philosophy from Marxism to optimism for democratic self-determination in his native Antigua. In addition to offering the first major biography of Hector, the author provides a brief history of the radical movements in the British West Indies during the 20th century.



Wally's World
Steve Starger '63 (CLAS)
(Vanguard)

Subtitled, *The Brilliant Life and Tragic Death of Wally Wood, the World's Second-*

Best Comic Book Artist, journalist Starger and co-author historian J. David Spurlock detail the life of the artist who inspired a generation of underground artists, including Robert Crumb and Art Spiegelman. Wood first came to prominence with his work at *MAD* magazine and *EC Comics*, later working for *Marvel Comics* on popular characters, including *Daredevil*, *X-Men* and *Captain America*. In addition to recounting a colorful life, the authors offer insight into the history of comic books and the nation's history from the Depression to the 1980s.

Alumni 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 1 - 2, 2007

Reunion Weekend—Classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, Fort Trumbull and UConn Alumni Marching Band
Mark the dates on your calendar! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 1 & 2, 2007. 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.

Become a Reunion Weekend 2008 Volunteer

June 6 - 7, 2008

Volunteers are needed for the 2008 Reunion Weekend Planning Committee. If you are from the Class of 1958, 1953, 1948, 1943, the UConn Marching Band or if you have a specific group (i.e. fraternity, sorority, student organization, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together for Reunion Weekend, please contact us.

Even if you are not from the above mentioned classes, we would welcome you to join us as well. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lachut '90 at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1 or by email at reunions@uconn.edu.

1950s

Peter Zikowitch '51 (ED), '54 M.A. was recognized in 2006 with the Advocacy and Communications Award from the West Hartford Education Association and the Connecticut Secretary of State's Public Service Award.

Bob Steiner '52 (CANR) was named to the board of directors of the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass., in May of 2006. He and his wife, Lee Anne (Schhnizer), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2005.

Ronald Ruth '53 (BUS) and Barbara (Beckwith) '51 (SFS) were married 54 years as of Oct. 18, 2006. The couple lives in Wethersfield, Conn., and has two grandchildren currently attending UConn.

Florence Apostalon '54 (ED) recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. She and her husband live in Centennial, Colo., and have three sons, and nine grandchildren.

Lt. Col. Paul Hennen '57 (CLAS), '81 (CLAS), '87 M.S., U.S. Army retired was named Inland Wetlands Commissioner of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands and Watercourses.

Donald E. Scott '57 (ENG), '59 M.S. published a new book, *The Electric Sky – A Challenge to the Myths of Modern Astronomy*. He taught electrical engineering for 39 years at the University of Massachusetts.

1960s

Emmett Murtha '60 (BUS), president and CEO of Fairfield Resources International, was elected to the board of directors of Mosaic Technologies, of Canada, and is also a director of UConn R&D Corporation.

Sharna Chernoff '62 (NUR) retired to Tucson, Ariz., and performs in two clarinet choirs in the Tucson community.

Edward Day '62 (CLAS) retired in 1996 from his position as a high school principal at Cranston Public Schools and from his position as adjunct professor of history at Rhode Island College.

Thomas Shea '62 (BUS), '71 J.D. retired following 35 years with the Cigna legal department. He spends his time collecting antique furniture and accessories, golfing, skiing, traveling and enjoying his grandchildren.



Howard Rosenfeld '63 (CLAS) was elected to the San Juan County Council from his home district in Friday Harbor, Wash.



Larry Merriam '64 (BUS), president of Key Auto Group, was named Ringmaster of the 59th Annual Barnum Festival, a regional celebration in Bridgeport of more than 20 events including The Great Street Parade, Connecticut's largest parade. He lives in Easton, Conn., with his wife, Sheila.

Eugene Spinola '64 (BUS) retired as chief financial officer of Walter Grinders, Inc., and volunteers at a local hospital.

Steve Starger '64 (CLAS) is the co-author of *Wally's World: The Brilliant Life and Tragic Death of Wally Wood, the World's Second-Best Comic Book Artist*, a biography of the comic artist Wallace Wood, published by Vanguard Publishing. (See p. 39.)

Alfred Lerz '67 (BUS), president and CEO of the Johnson Health Network was recognized by the Somers Education Foundation with the Excellence Award for his contributions to the community as a healthcare leader.

Truman Stone '67 (CANR) retired as a project manager from Nestle U.S. in 2005 after 38 years with the company. He and his wife live in Waverly, Iowa.



Robert Torre '67 (CLAS) is the executive vice president of Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation and president and C.E.O. of R.L. Torre & Associates.



Marshall Matz '68 (BUS) is a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Olsson, Frank and Weeda. He was elected chairman of the board of the Friends of the World Food Program, which supports efforts of the largest feeding program in the world.

Philip Madell '69 (CLAS) was elected president of the Military Intelligence Association of New England. He also serves on the board of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers of New England.

1970s



Bob Atwell '70 (CLAS) senior vice president with Keane, Inc., was recognized by *Info-World Magazine* for managing one of the Top 10 Information Technology Projects of 2006, the split of Cendant Corporation's IT department that resulted from Cendant's

corporate split up. He lives in Durham, N.C.

published by Cold Tree Press in Nashville, Tenn.



Peggy DeZinno '70 (NUR) coordinator of WELL/A Mother's Place at Yale-New Haven Hospital, received the "best in education" for her poster, "Innovative Patient Education in Obstetrics," at the Lamaze International conference in Boston. She and her husband, Gary Olewnik Sr., have three daughters and live in Prospect, Conn.

Mary Saad '70 (ED), '74 M.A., '81 (6th year) retired in July 2006 after 36 years of teaching French in Connecticut public schools.

Susan Schneider '70 (CLAS) is the author of *Unforgettable: Vignettes of Love*, a collection of true stories of how husbands and wives met,



Nancy Elizabeth Wallace '70 M.A. received the 2006 Children's Illustrator award for *Alphabet House* from the Connecticut Book Awards/the Connecticut Center for the Book. She is the author and illustrator of 18 children's books.

Daniel Bologna '71 M.S.W. is an LCSW employed with the Family Counseling Center. He also works as a service coordinator at Asbury Arms, a retirement community and was honored by the Florida Association of Homes for the Aging with their Service Coordinator of the Year Award.

Beverly Rainforth '71 (ED), '78 M.A., professor of special education at

State University of New York at Binghamton, received a 2006-2007 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. She lives in Binghamton, N.Y.

Alan Srebnick '71 (BUS) is senior vice president of sales and marketing for Avatar Properties, Inc., after previously coaching basketball in the NBA and Division I basketball. He and his wife, Carole, live in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Susan (Olsen) Wallerstein '71 (CLAS), '99 Ph.D. was appointed assistant superintendent of Greenwich Public Schools.

Harry White '71 (CLAS) has written and illustrated a book of astrological poems, *Star Verses*. He lives in Glastonbury, Conn.

Bobbie Ann Mason '72 Ph.D., a writer in residence at the University of Kentucky, recently wrote two new

books of fiction, the novel *Atomic Romance*, and *Nancy Culpepper*, a collection of stories, both published by Random House.



Barry Berman '73 (CLAS), president and co-founder of CRN International, Inc., is a regional finalist for *Inc.* magazine's Entrepreneur of the Year award. His company received *Adweek* magazine's Most Creative Use of Media Award and the Spire Award for Promotion of the Year, the highest accolade from the American Marketing Association.



Jeff Davidson '73 (BUS), '74 M.B.A. has published two foreign language editions of his book, *60 Second Organizer*. The

Medieval scholar takes seat on high court

A seat on a state Supreme Court may not seem an obvious career goal for someone studying medieval literature, but for **William P. Robinson III '71, Ph.D.**, now a justice for the Rhode Island Supreme Court, his broad interests in literature and languages set the academic groundwork for his legal career.

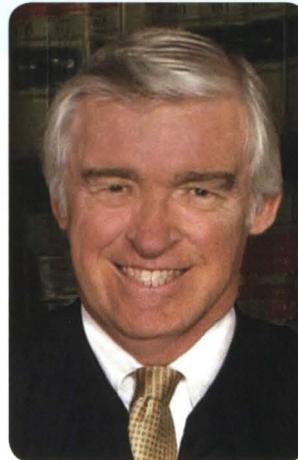
Among his colleagues, Robinson is known as "Lexis"—as in LexisNexis, the massive publication database—because of his intellectual appetite for information and knowledge. In addition to his doctorate in French and Spanish literature from UConn, he holds a law degree from Boston College, a master's degree in French literature from the University of Rhode Island, and a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Louvain in Belgium.

In pursuing his two literature and language degrees, Robinson honed his research and analytical skills "studying texts for subtle shades of meaning," which later translated into the skills he has used during his long legal career.

Robinson says reading works by immortal authors such as Erasmus of Rotterdam, the great Renaissance theologian humanist, and Michel de Montaigne, who made famous the essay as a writing form, as well as other venerable writers, related directly to his values and concerns about society, allowing him to think about such questions as "Does the law always lead to justice?"

"The thoughts of such writers concerning the nature of natural law and positive law and about what we now call 'equity' have long fascinated me," Robinson says.

While in Belgium in 1971 working on a post-doctoral fellowship concerning the thought of Erasmus and simultaneously pondering the American academic job market, Robinson decided to take the LSAT in Mannheim, Germany. He was accepted at Boston College Law School and, after graduation, served as a law clerk at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston from 1975 to 1977.



From there, he spent the next 27 years at Edwards and Angell, LLP in Rhode Island, performing trial and appellate-level work before state and federal courts and specializing in civil litigation. His work included cases in media law, employment discrimination and civil rights. He acquired a reputation as a specialist in First Amendment issues. In 2004, Robinson was unanimously confirmed by the Rhode Island General Assembly as one of five justices to the state Supreme Court.

In addition to his work on the court, Robinson continues to write scholarly articles about one of his passions—First Amendment law.

Robinson says he has enjoyed seeing UConn's rise as a national university, known today as much for its academic programs as for its athletic championships. And he makes it a point to proclaim to anyone he encounters the University's genuine academic excellence. He remains fixedly loyal to UConn; he points out with pride that one of his recent law clerks, Heather Pierce, is a UConn alumna.

"I personally and academically benefited from my years at UConn, which has excellent professors," he says, noting that he continues to keep in touch with the professors who guided him during his doctoral studies, including Gene Barberet, professor emeritus in French, and Gabriel Rosado, associate professor emeritus in Spanish. He also recalls with fondness his experiences as a language and literature teacher on the Storrs campus and most especially his service from 1968-70 as assistant director of UConn's program in Rouen, France.

Finally, he says that he will forever be grateful to UConn because of the fact that he met his wife, Marlene '72 (CLAS), there. — Anna Manzo

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

new editions are now available in Japanese and Arabic.

Janet Fike '73 (ED) is an assistant superintendent of schools for the Morris-Union Jointure Commission in New Providence, N.J. She is also an attorney specializing in labor law at Fogarty & Hara, Esq. in Fair Lawn, N.J.

Judy Hyde '73 (SFS) works for Free the Slaves, an organization dedicated to eliminating slavery worldwide. She recently did research on the rehabilitation of child slaves in Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, and Haiti.

Brian McGuinness '73 (CLAS) a licensed investigator with McGuinness & Associates, Inc., of Miami, Fla., was presented with the prestigious Duffy Award by the National Council of Investigation and Security Services, which recognizes leadership in the private investigative or security profession.

Elizabeth Beaudin '74 (NUR), '80 M.S., '06 Ph.D., director of nursing and workforce initiatives at the

Connecticut Hospital Association, was awarded the Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumnae Award for Leadership in Nursing by the UConn School of Nursing Alumni Society.

Stephen (Arpan) DeAngelo '74 (SFS) completed his tenth circuit around the mainland United States, running in a relay for the World Harmony Run in August 2006. It was the seventh time he was captain of the international relay team that ran 11,000 miles through all 48 contiguous states.

Edward Donovan '74 M.S. is teaching physical science at James F. Byrnes High School in Duncan, S.C., and completed his third year as the head coach of the boy's cross country team. He and his wife live in Duncan.

Roslyn (Garlonsky) Gleeson '74 (NUR) is semi-retired after 30 years in pediatric nursing, primarily at Alfred DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del. She is training for a half-marathon and will con-

tinue to be active with the Society for Pediatric Nursing.



Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS), Web manager for UConn's Office of Communications, narrated the video *Amazing Army Ants*, which was produced by Carl Rettenmeyer, UConn emeritus professor of ecology and evolutionary biology. The video, drawn from Rettenmeyer's 55 years of army ant research, premiered at the XV International Congress of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects in Washington, D.C., in 2006. Mark has narrated hundreds of videos and radio spots over his 35-year media career.

Richard Minoff '75 (CLAS) was a judge at the Robert H. Smith M.B.A. Case Competition at the University of Maryland's in College Park, Md. He received his M.B.A. from Maryland in 1976.



Edward Sevetz Jr. '75 D.M.D. was installed as president of the Academy of Osseointegration during the organization's

annual business meeting in Seattle, Wash. He is a clinical associate professor in the department of surgery at the University of Florida School of Medicine, in Jacksonville, Fla. He has a private practice in Orange Park, Fla.

Anthony Brandenburg '76 M.A. was appointed as chief judge of the Inter-Tribal Courts of Southern California after retiring from the California Superior Court in San Diego, Calif.

Pat Richard '76 D.M.D. appeared as a medical expert on jaw pain on NBC 30 television in Connecticut.

Marilyn Tallerico '76 (ED) has received the Staff Development Book of the Year award from the National Staff Development Council for her book, *Supporting and Sustaining Teachers' Professional Development: A Principal's Guide*, published by Corwin Press. She is a professor in the School of Education at Binghamton Univer-

sity, State University of New York.

Drew Crandall '77 (CLAS) received the President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation for his cumulative and consistent volunteer service of more than 4,000 hours of service over the years. His volunteering includes serving as 2006-2007 president of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Connecticut Valley Chapter.

Tom DeJoseph '77 M.B.A. has been a college football official since 1982 and was the referee in the 2006 Army-Navy game in Philadelphia. He has been officiating Division 1-A football since 1997 and joined the Atlantic Coast Conference officiating staff in 2005, after serving seven years in the Big East.

Jennifer L. Dorn, '77 M.P.A. was named president and chief executive officer of the National Academy of Public Administration in Washington, D.C., an independent, nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to improve government effectiveness.

Sherry Hanson '77 (CLAS) published her first book of poetry, *A Cab to Stonehenge*, with Just Write Books.

Robert Kravchuck '77 (BUS) will become professor and chair of the department of political science at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte in July 2007.

Susan (Kimmel) Pearson '77 (SFS) moved to La Luz, N.M., with her husband and five children. Formerly a teacher and director of a private school, she is now a full-time homemaker.

Kathryn Pike '77 M.A. is the administrative assistant for the department of interior architecture at the University of North Carolina Greensboro.



T. Alan Jack '78 (BUS) is the chief financial officer of Merchants Automotive Group of Hooksett, N.H.



Classifying Connecticut Vegetation

Kenneth J. Metzler, '73 (CLAS), '77 M.S. and Juliana Barrett '89 Ph.D. collaborated to publish *The Vegetation of Connecticut: A Preliminary Classification*, the first book classifying all of the vegetation of Connecticut. Both authors are plant ecologists and were graduate students in the department of ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The book, available at the UConn Co-op, serves as a practical resource guide for researchers, developers, land trusts, and towns as they consider the environmental impact of land use and resource management.

Elaine (Gangi) Kane '78 (ED) was inducted into the Baton Twirling Hall of Fame at a ceremony held at Notre Dame University during the National Baton Twirling Championships. She was the featured twirler with the UConn Marching Band under Alan Gillespie. She and her husband, Roger, have three children.

Damian Macaluso '78 (CLAS) is president of Metal Industries, Inc. in Clearwater, Fla. He and his wife, Marylou, live in Trinity, Fla.

Deborah (Robsky) Huntley '79 (CLAS) is the associate vice president for academic affairs at Saginaw Valley State University in University Center, Michigan.

Loida Velilla Reyes '79 Ph.D. is the principal of MediaSource International, with expertise in international health journalism and media and bilingual Spanish-English media training.

1980s

Jayne (Andrukitis) Brandon '80 (CANR), a special education teacher at Kingwood Middle School in Kingwood, Texas, was awarded the District Award of Merit by the Boy Scouts of America.

Paula Milone-Nuzzo '80 M.S., '89 Ph.D., associate dean for international partnerships of the Penn State College of Health and Human Development and director of the School of Nursing, was awarded the Beverly Koerner Outstanding Alumni Award for Education in Nursing by the UConn School of Nursing Alumni Society.

Robert Cassie '81 (CLAS) is vice-president of sales at Redco Foods, Inc., in Windsor, Conn. He lives with his wife, **Mary Jane Augusti '81 (CLAS)**, and their two children, Matt and Larisa, in western Massachusetts.



John Johnston '81 (SAH) earned his doctorate in physical therapy from the Arizona School of Health Sciences at A.T. Still Uni-

versity. He owns Norwell Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab, Inc. in Massachusetts, where he lives with his wife, **Resa Johnston '81 (SAH)**, and their two children.

William Keena '81 (CLAS) is executive vice president of operations at AMERIGROUP Corporation in Virginia Beach, Va. He and his wife, Kelly, live in Chesapeake, Va.

Lisa Liegeot '81 (CLAS), '84 J.D. is real estate counsel for Ethan Allen Global, Inc. She and her children, Daniel and Rebecca Rose, live in Avon, Conn.

Andrew Sadlon '81 (ENG) is president of Hoffman Engineering Corporation in Stamford, Conn. He was previously the president of Prime Technology Inc.



Paul Tortland '81 (CLAS), '84 M.A., a sports medicine physician practicing in Avon, Conn., accompanied the U.S. Figure Skating

Team to an international figure skating competition held in Budapest, Hungary, where he provided medical coverage to the team.



John Barry '82 (CLAS), '84 M.A. and Patty Barry '00 (CANR) have left their home in Connecticut's quiet corner to accept

a job deep in the heart of Texas. Previously director of University Communications at UConn, John is now vice president for marketing and communications at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Another UConn legacy family will be established in May when the Barrys' oldest son, Stephen, graduates from UConn.

Bob Becker '82 (ENG) founded a new management consulting firm, the Product Development Advantage Group, to help software and/or electronics businesses bring their products successfully to the marketplace.

J. D. Stahl '82 Ph.D. is the co-editor of a critical anthology of children's literature, *Crosscurrents of Children's Literature: Texts and Criticism*,

Evolution of a Renaissance scholar



Like many children, young **David Grimaldi '79 (CLAS)** was a naturalist in training, curious about nature and animals but especially about insects.

"I was dragging things into the basement all the time," he recalls, sitting in his office at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, where he is curator of invertebrate zoology. "I had a microscope and collections of rocks and minerals that I would find out in the woods. I loved high school biology and science in general."

By the time he arrived at UConn, he was thinking about becoming a veterinarian. But as he learned more about ecology and evolutionary biology, Grimaldi discovered that he could have a

career as an entomologist—someone who studies insects. Encouraged and guided by professors such as Charles Henry, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, and Hans Laufer, now professor emeritus of molecular and cell biology, Grimaldi pursued his doctorate in one of the nation's leading entomology programs at Cornell University.

Over the past quarter century of studying insects, traveling to five continents to collect specimens and fossils and preparing lectures for classes at Cornell and Columbia universities, Grimaldi decided that there was no truly comprehensive guide to the evolutionary history of insects. Most entomology professors use their own notes collected over the years of their own education and field research.

"I gradually accumulated notes myself and decided it was time to write a book," he says.

Working with his co-author and colleague from the University of Kansas, Michael Engel, Grimaldi wrote the 2005 volume *Evolution of the Insects*, which is the first comprehensive look at the 400-million-year history of insects on Earth.

Preparing the book allowed Grimaldi to utilize fully his liberal arts education at UConn, where he majored in biology and had a minor in fine arts. In addition to conducting the scientific research and writing the text, he also developed most of the book's 900 original illustrations and photographs.

Even after publishing this landmark book, Grimaldi says, there is much more fertile ground for him to explore.

"There are still huge gaps in our knowledge," he says. "I'm focusing on the Cretaceous period [140-million years ago], a very key period in the evolution of life on Earth. It's when flowering plants radiated. Insects are the most important partners of flowering plants as pollinators. That period transformed the Earth's landscape. We also need to learn more about the Carboniferous period [300 million years ago], which is unknown for insects but presumably is when insects evolved to flight. It's the Holy Grail for understanding the early evolution of insects." — Kenneth Best

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published by Oxford University Press. He is a professor of English at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va. and also teaches in the master's program in children's literature at Hollins University.

Peter Cavaliere '83 (BUS) won a National Sports Emmy Award in the category of Outstanding Live Event Turnaround for his work as an associate director for NBC Sports at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. He lives in Secaucus, N.J., and works as a director for the National Basketball Association's cable network, NBA-TV.

Robert Randich '83 (CLAS), '86 J.D. was elected judge of probate for the towns of Newington, Wethersfield, and Rocky Hill, Conn. He lives in Newington with his sons, Teddy and Evan.

Mauro Passacantando '84 (BUS) was elected president of the Financial Planning Association of Massachusetts. He also teaches

part-time at both Boston University and Harvard University.

Curt Vincente '84 (ED) director of Parks and Recreation in Mansfield, Conn., received the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association 2006 Distinguished Service Award.



David Fusco '85 (CLAS) is president of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. He has been honored for community leadership service by the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and Community Health Care Charities of Connecticut.

James Marshall '85 (CLAS), '86 M.A. is vice president for information technology at Wellpoint, Inc. He lives with his wife, **Patty Jackson-Marshall '82 (CLAS), '84 M.A.** and their two children Sam, 17, and Emma, 15, in North Haven, Conn.

Trish Morrissey '85 (CLAS) is the community executive for the Litchfield County chapter of the American Cancer Society. She lives in New Hartford with her husband, Gary, and two daughters, Brenna, 15, and Kelly, 13.

Ralph Urban '85 J.D. was appointed to the Office of Attorney General at the main campus of UConn. He will provide legal counsel, representation and support to the University, its board of trustees, president and the executive administration.

Aimee (Hartnett) Ballard '86 (CLAS) completed the licensed practical nursing program through Abbott Technical School in Danbury, Conn. She lives with her husband, Jeff, in Kent, Conn.

Paula Brinkman '86 (SFA) and her family recently moved back to Connecticut after living in Key West, Fla. Her life-size Spirit Doll was recently exhibited as part of Sculpture Key West.

Thomas Woodward '86 (BUS) and his wife, Lani Flores Hinoguin, announce the birth of a daughter, Juliana Marie, on Aug. 18, 2006.

Rex Burr '87 (BUS) is vice president of business services for Valpak.

Celine Duffy '88 (CLAS) married John Mulderrig in October 2006 in Riverside, Conn. She is the group director of digital marketing for VNU, Inc. The couple lives in New York City.



Mike Enright '88 (CLAS), associate athletic director/communications at UConn, received the 2006 Scoop Hudgins Outstanding Sports Information Director Award from the All-American Football Foundation during its annual dinner in November. He was an assistant SID at UConn from 1988-92 and also worked in the sports information offices at Notre Dame and Boston College before returning to Storrs in 2001.



Closing the achievement gap

From an early age, **Harriet Sanford '79 M.P.A.** wanted to emulate her parents' passion for community service, which was carried out as they organized youth activities for the church where her father served as a deacon.

After graduating from New England College, she taught grade school for two years. But it was UConn's graduate program in public administration that showed her the way.

"It informed my life in a very real way," says Sanford. "Until then I was

kind of naïve. But UConn steeped me in the practical side of things. When I hit the ground, I did it running." She hasn't stopped since.

After working in Atlanta for several of the city's administrative departments, including the bureau of cultural affairs, she became director of the department of arts and culture at the Fulton County Arts Council, managing an annual budget of more than \$5 million.

Her climb up the community public service ladder continued as president and CEO of the Arts and Science Council (ASC) in Charlotte, N.C., the second largest arts council in the U.S. with 700 employees and annual revenues of more than \$53 million. Today, she is president and chief executive officer of the NEA Foundation (NEAF) in Washington, D.C.

NEAF is the charitable arm of the National Education Association and its 3.2 million members. In addition to fund raising, reviewing more than 700 grant applications each year, and managing its \$50 million endowment, Sanford oversees NEAF grants ranging from individual teacher awards to broad programs aimed at closing the achievement gap. The latter effort targets communities in which economically disadvantaged and minority students have fallen behind their more affluent peers.

A prime example is Hamilton County, Tenn. With 21 middle schools, it is roughly the size of Rhode Island. Not long ago, standardized tests revealed 78.2 percent of the district's eighth graders were proficient in reading, while minority students averaged only 53.8 percent. Working closely with the NEAF, the Hamilton teachers union and school district accepted a foundation grant agreeing to eliminate this achievement gap within five years. "The agreement has benchmarks that must be met each year," says Sanford.

In return, the district received a \$2.5 million grant. With NEAF guidance, they began restructuring their educational approach.

"A lot of our work involves training people inside schools to understand the various ways they can teach a particular subject," says Sanford. To that end, faculty/administrative "leadership teams" were formed to address specific learning issues, while "teacher coaches" received training to work after regular hours with struggling students.

Two years into the initiative, Hamilton's overall eighth grade reading scores improved by more than 10 percent. More impressive, minority student levels jumped almost 25 percent, equaling an achievement gap reduction of more than half. A similar case is true for math scores.

"Eliminating the achievement gaps, however, requires going beyond the walls of a classroom," says Sanford. "It takes partnerships."

"Teachers have a responsibility," she says. "But you also need a supportive school district, teacher's union and engaged parental base. If any one of those things is not aligned, you don't make it in the end."

Recently, NEAF awarded the same type of grants to districts in Milwaukee and Seattle.

"The real test will be when we have enough data in place to say the strategies we're using can be replicated in other communities," says Sanford. "Our aim is to then move into other districts around the nation where similar problems exist." — Ron Meshberg

Dana (Ippolito) Lewis '88 (CLAS), track coach at Ocean Township (N.J.) High School was named Monmouth County Track Coach of the year for the 2005-2006 indoor season by the Newark Star Ledger. She lives with her husband, Chris, and their four daughters in Ocean Township, N.J.



Maryann Meade '88 (CANR), a registered dietician and Connecticut entrepreneur, was named the 2006 recipient of the Abbott Hess Award from the American Dietetic Association which recognizes distinction in culinary innovation and nutrition.

Steve Walsh '88 (CLAS) and his wife, Elizabeth, announce the birth of a son, Thomas William, on Oct. 4, 2006. He joins older sisters Alice, 6, and Margaret, 4. The family lives in Katonah, N.Y.

Jennifer Pepper '89 (SFA) an assistant professor at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, N.Y., received a 2006 Astraea Visual Artist Grant.



Stephanie Stone '89 (CLAS) director of marketing for Whittlesey & Hadley PC in Hartford, was selected as one of the *Hartford Business Journal's* "40 Under 40" for 2006.

John Sterpka '89 (CLAS) is serving in Iraq as first sergeant of a Headquarters Supply Company. He is a research associate in the department of internal medicine at Yale University School of Medicine.

1970s



Mark Danaher '90 (CLAS), '94 M.A. was named a finalist for the Connecticut Teacher of the Year for 2007 and was named the Manchester District Teacher of the Year for 2005-2006. He has been teaching for eight of the past 12 years at Manchester High School. He and his wife,

Laurie, recently had twins, Tegan and Emma, on April 27, 2006.



David Estes '90 (BUS) is senior retail banking officer at TD Banknorth Vermont, in Burlington, Vt., responsible for overseeing the bank's retail branch system and small business banking group. He lives in Richmond, Vt. with his wife, Jackie, and their five children.

Kelly Kirby '90 (PHR) married Joseph D. Shaw, August 12, 2006, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Kevin Lawlor '90 (CLAS) was appointed state's attorney for the Judicial District of Ansonia-Milford by the Connecticut Criminal Justice Commission.

Janice Miller Potter '90 Ph.D. won the 2005 Sara Henderson Hay Prize for Poetry awarded by *The Pittsburgh Quarterly*.

Kevin Vincent '90 (ED) will be joining the faculty of the University of Florida's Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation in June 2007. He and his wife welcomed their third son in November 2006. The family lives in Gainesville, Fla.

Jennifer (Dolan) Bilbe '91 (CLAS) and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of a daughter, Catherine McFarland Bilbe, on July 17, 2006. She joins a sister, Devin, and brothers, Lyle and Peter, who are 4-year-old triplets. They live in New Orleans, La.

Julia (Wugmeister) Brennan '91 (CLAS) and her husband, Mark, announce the birth of a child, Emmy Rachel, on June 5, 2006. Emmy joins a brother, Eli. Mark and Julia both work for Synapse Group, Inc. and live in Stamford, Conn.



William Burnett '91 (CLAS) was appointed to the board of the Philadelphia chapter of the Turnaround Management Association for a two-year term. He concentrates his own practice in bankruptcy and reorganizations.

Stacey Fuller '91 (CLAS) is an attorney with the law firm of Gawthrop Greenwood of Chester County, Pa., and was named to the Board of Directors at the West Chester Area YMCA.

Erin (Flaherty) Mancuso '91 (CLAS) and **Nicholas Mancuso '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Maya, on Dec. 30, 2005. She joins a sister, Emma, 2. The family lives in Colchester, Conn.

Lori (Stephens) Mulligan '91 (ED) and her husband, Chuck, announce the birth of a daughter, Blair Elizabeth, on Aug. 31, 2006. Lori graduated in May 2005 with a six-year degree in educational administration from Teachers College, Columbia University. She was awarded the Mathematical Association of America's Edyth May Sliffe Award for middle school math educators in June 2006.

Reepu Singh '91 M.S. is developing real estate, particularly in northeastern Connecticut.

Melinda (Landino) '91 (CLAS) and **Jeff Theis '91 (CLAS)**, '94 (ENG), '01 D.M.D. announce the birth of identical twin daughters, Megan and Margaret, on May 26, 2006. The couple owns an orthodontic practice in Snohomish County in Washington and lives in Seattle.

Daniel Adler '92 (CLAS) earned a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University. In 2005, he returned to UConn as an assistant professor in the department of anthropology. He conducts archaeological research in Eurasia on Neanderthals and early modern humans.

Grace (Lim) Baccay '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Francis, announce the birth of a son, Oliver Matthew, on Feb. 16, 2006. Oliver joins brother Wesley, 3, at their home in Chappaqua, N.Y.

Peter Burns '92 (CLAS), '94 M.A. has written two books, *Electoral Politics Is Not Enough: Racial and Ethnic Minorities and Urban Politics*, published by State University of New York Press, and *Success in College: From C's in High School to A's in College*, published by Rowman & Littlefield Education. He is

associate professor of political science at Loyola University in New Orleans.

Michael Cornell '92 (CLAS) is a business litigation associate in the Boston office of Nixon Peabody, LLP. He recently participated in obtaining a significant legal victory for Corning Incorporated that will likely set a national precedent for future insider trading cases and affects every officer or director of a public company.

Kathe Gable '92 (ED), '97 (SAH) director of community and public relations at the UConn School of Nursing for the last eight years, was awarded the School of Nursing Josephine A. Dolan Distinguished Service Award by the UConn School of Nursing Alumni Society.

Bryan Krygier '92 (BUS) announces the birth of a daughter, Hadley, in March 2006. He is approaching his tenth year at Clarkston High School, where he is a high school hockey coach.

Ana (Mendes) Mabry '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a daughter, Sarah Caitlin, on July 1, 2006. Sarah joins a brother, Matthew, 4. The family lives in Arkansas.

Karen Morse '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Noah Hoffman, announce the birth of a daughter, Anna Rose Hoffman, on July 28, 2006. The family lives in Seattle, Wash.

David Rinaldo '92 (BUS) is the chief operating officer of Rock Creek Creative, a strategic marketing firm located in Chevy Chase, Md.

Jennifer Aldworth '93 (CLAS), associate director of Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club in Locust Valley, N.Y., was named the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Professional of the Year for the Northeast Region in 2006.

Susan Alwardt '93 (CLAS) is senior vice president, change management of Bank of America in Charlotte, N.C.

John Adams '93 (ENG) and his wife, **Helene (Hebert) '95 (CLAS)**, '96 M.S., announce the birth of a



Top educator in Connecticut

Ann Clark '86 Ph.D., superintendent of schools in Fairfield, Conn., visits with a second grade class at Timothy Dwight School. She was named 2006 Superintendent of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents.

son, Jack Quentin Adams, on Oct. 12, 2006. Jack joins brothers Ben, 6, and Luke, 4. John is a senior transportation engineer with Sebago Technics, Inc., in Westbrook, Maine. The family lives in Gorham, Maine.

Katie (Wagemaker) '93 (CLAS) and **Kevin Baker '93 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Grace Katherine, on Sept. 20, 2006. Grace joins sisters Sydney, 9, and Reagan, 2. The family lives in West Hartford, Conn.

Brian Boots '93 (SFA), '00 M.M. and his wife announce the birth of a child, Seamus, on June 12, 2005. Seamus joins siblings Autumn, 11, and Patrick, 3. The family lives in Haddam, Conn. Brian teaches instrumental music within the Milford Public School System.

Tom Britton '93 (CLAS) is the founding member and director of an agency providing advocacy for chemically dependant consumers and addiction counselors in the Asheville, N.C., region. He is also

the director of a 42-day residential substance abuse treatment center for chemically dependent adults and adolescents.

John Gresh '93 (CLAS) is head of research informatics for Neurogen Corporation in Branford, Conn. He earned his master's degree in computer science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in May 2006. His wife, **Colleen (Martin) '92 (CLAS)**, is a freelance writer. They have two children, Samuel, 5, and Mary, 3.

Vera (Reece) Mason '93 (CLAS) received a master's degree in social work from the UConn School of Social Work in May 2006. She is a co-facilitator of the Lifesaver Project, a domestic violence support group at Hartford Hospital. She lives in South Windsor, Conn.

Craig McCully '93 (CLAS) and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of a son, John-William McCully, on Dec. 2, 2006. He joins sisters Nan-Catherine and Lillian Anne, and a brother, Ian.

Bryan Place '93 (BUS) was selected by *Medical Economics* magazine as one of the 150 best financial advisors for doctors for a fourth year. His office, Place Financial Advisors, is in Manlius, N.Y.

Jen Palancia Shipp '93 (CLAS) and her husband, James, announce the birth of a daughter, Shannon Grace, on Sept. 18, 2006. The family lives in Greensboro, N.C.

Heather Suran '93 (SFA) and Robert Cucuzza were married in October 2003 and announce the birth of a daughter in January 2006. Heather, an artist, also works for Citigroup Inc. in New York. The family lives in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Rebecca (Lamore) '93 (CLAS) and **Peter Vicki, Jr. '90 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Giana Rose, on April 16, 2006. The family lives in Coventry, Conn.

Jennifer (Magill) Vondran '93 (SFA) and her husband, Tom, announce the birth of a son, Troy Cashlin Vondran, on Oct., 4 2006. The family lives in Orange County, Calif.

Rita Abdallah '94 (SSW), an oncology social worker at the Ireland Cancer Center at University Hospitals in Cleveland, received the 2006 Charlotte F. Tletski Gold Dove Award from Journey of Hope for making a difference in the lives of cancer patients.



Michael Butler '94 (CLAS), '04 Ph.D. is an assistant professor of government and international relations at Clark University. Michael and his family live in Worcester, Mass.

Stacey (Newman) Carlisle '94 (CANR) and her husband, C. Jason, announce the birth of a son, Duncan Robert, on Dec. 13, 2006. The family lives in Maine.

Rob Carolla '94 (CLAS) and Anna Culbertson were married in August 2006 in Kansas City, Mo. The couple lives in Dallas, Texas.

Alex Chang '94 (BUS) opened Fresco Tours, a tour company

that offers cultural walking tours in Spain, where he lives.

Christine (Colby) Eaton '94 (CLAS) and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a daughter, Reese Colby Eaton, on Sept. 26, 2006. She joins her big brother, Harrison, at the family's home in West Wareham, Mass.

Adam '94 (CLAS) and **Aleeta (Orfino) Jeamel '96 (BUS)** announce the birth of a son, Samuel Joseph, on Nov. 16, 2006. Adam is the director of public affairs for Connecticut Gov. M. Jodi Rell. Aleeta works in marketing at Chubb Insurance. The family lives in Wethersfield, Conn.

Tara (Curtis) Mead '94 (CLAS) and her husband, William, announce the birth of a son, Cameron Mitchell Louis, born on Nov. 24, 2006. Cameron joins a sister, Cassandra, 9, and brother, David, 20.

Andrew Myers '94 (CLAS) is president and CEO of Myers Research Strategic Services, LLC, a Democratic public opinion research firm. He lives in Springfield, Va., and was recently married to Edith Nardecchia in April of 2006.

Diana Norris '94 (NUR), '96 M.S. is employed under Eastern Connecticut Health Network and

Calling all Fort Trumbull Alumni

Mark your calendars for Reunion Weekend June 1 & 2

The UConn Alumni Association and the UConn Foundation are working with alumni to create a living legacy by establishing a Fort Trumbull Room at the Alumni Center honoring the campus and students who attended classes at Fort Trumbull between 1946 and 1950. The room will display memorabilia of this unique community while sharing the important history of our University. As part of the Reunion Weekend, you will be able to see the plans and offer support for this important project. If you are interested in keeping the legacy of Fort Trumbull alive either through a financial contribution or by donating memorabilia, contact Jodi Kaplan at (888) UC-ALUM-1 or via email at jodi.kaplan@uconn.edu.

works in the Hospitalist Program as an APRN to provide immediate and ongoing care for patients of participating physicians. She was awarded the Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing by the UConn School of Nursing Alumni Society.

Massimo Pigliucci '94 Ph.D. published *Making Sense of Evolution* with University of Chicago Press.

Daniel Rukokoski '94 (CANR) is a senior environmental scientist for the Westfield, Conn., office of Tighe & Bond, Inc.

Matthew Stiles '94 (SSW) retired from the military and returned to his home state of Alabama in 1999. He was elected to the town council of Falkville, Ala., in 2000, and currently serves as mayor protem.

Sandeep Talati '94 (BUS) and his wife, Priti Dave, announce the birth of a daughter, Mila, on Nov. 7, 2006. The family lives in New York City.

Karen (Russell) Anghinetti '95 (SFA), '99 M.M. and her husband, Peter, announce the birth of a son, David Joseph, on June 13, 2006. He joins a brother, Peter Jr., 3.

Kathy (Cunningham) Celtruda '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Dominick, announce the birth of a son, Keegan. He joins his big brother Camden. Kathy teaches kindergarten in Groton, Conn.

Timothy Deffett '95 (CLAS) has opened his own law firm in Chicago, Ill. His practice focuses on plaintiff's personal injury and workers' compensation and criminal defense work.

James Hammond '95 M.A. has been named associate artistic director of the 2007 Puppeteers of America National Festival.

Jennifer (Tracy) Humes '95 (BUS) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of a son, Carter David, on Oct. 4, 2006.

Timothy Jajliardo '95 (BGS), '99 J.D. is a partner in the law firm of Litchfield Cavo. He and his wife, Patti-Ann (Keyser) '88 (CANR), '93 M.S. have two children, Emily, 4, and Christian, 2.

Randall '95 (CLAS) and Kelly (Langdon) Jarvis '95 (CLAS) announce the birth of a son, Kasey Brendan, on Oct. 10, 2006, who joins big brothers Keegan and Reilly. Randall is a business project senior analyst at CIGNA Healthcare in Bloomfield, Conn., and a tax advisor and financial planner at Langdon & Langdon Financial Services in Southington. Kelly is teaching at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, Conn. The family lives in Southington.

Paul Lopez '95 (CLAS) and his wife, Katie Moon, announce the birth of a daughter, Maya Qiyasisa. Paul is in his third year of the doctor of dental surgery program at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Jasmine (Alcantara) Milligan '95 (CLAS), '99 M.B.A. is a broker/associate at Harbor Light Realty, LLC, located in Old Saybrook, Conn. She lives with her husband, **Scott, '94 (ENG), '00 M.B.A.**, a manager at CUNO (a division of 3M), in Old Lyme, Conn.

Kathryn (Maxwell) Talty '95 (CANR) and her husband, Jon, announce the birth of a daughter, Greer, on June 14, 2006.

Jacqueline Aponte '96 M.S.W. recently became a grandmother and works as a probation officer for the state of Connecticut.

Kristie Cain '96 (CLAS) was named Field Marketing Manager of the Year for Holiday Inn for her work with NASCAR and Major League Baseball. She currently resides in midtown Atlanta, working for International Hotels Group.

William Cone '96 (BUS) and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of a son, Tyler Joseph Cone, on Nov. 14, 2006. Will is an account executive with John Hancock's IGP division in Boston. The family lives in New Hampshire.

Christopher Granatini '96 (ENG) is a senior transportation engineer for the Middletown, Conn., office of Tighe & Bond, Inc.

Amy Holibaugh '96 (CLAS), '99 M.A. and her husband, Ian Turkle, announce the birth of a daughter,

Rowan, on May 6, 2006. The family lives in Hyde Park, Vt.

Patricia (Brauer) Reilly '96 (ED) and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of a son, Brendan, on Nov. 3, 2006.

Kimberly Torres '96 (CLAS), '04 M.B.A. and **Jack Markey '93 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Ryan Michael, on June 21, 2006. He joins his sister, Kathryn Ann-Marie. Kimberly is an owner of Dream Dinners in Manchester, Conn. Jack is a licensed environmental professional at Woodard & Curran in Cheshire, Conn. The family lives in Kensington, Conn.

Corey Vitello '96 (CLAS) is the co-author of *The Myth of Psychiatric Crime Wave: Public Perception, Juror Research, and Mental Illness*, published by Carolina Academic Press.

Brian Weir '96 (CLAS) attended the Connecticut Alpha Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon reunion in December 2006. The reunion was held in Boston and celebrated the chapter's 50th anniversary at UConn. Brian lives in Wallingford, Conn., with his wife and three children.

Dennis Barnes '97 (BUS), '05 M.B.A. and his wife, Misty, announce the birth of a daughter, Jilian Presley, on Aug. 18, 2006. The family lives in West Haven, Conn.

Kelly Bowler '97 (CLAS), '98 M.S. married **Patrick Hennigan '92 M.B.A.** in May 2006.

John Cross '97 (ED) and Angela (Scalzo) Cross '95 (CLAS) announce the birth of a daughter, Alexa, on Nov. 17, 2006. She joins sisters Alison, 6, and Olivia, 3. John is a high school science teacher in Norwalk, Conn. The family lives in Monroe.



Donald Crouch '97 (CLAS) is the fundraising coach for Varsity Gold, an organization that helps high school sports teams and organizations to raise funds for their activities.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

George Marlow '41

Lawrence Cole '43

Robert Giaimo '44

Marilyn Capitman '46

Charles Wrinn '48

Natalie How Hermandorfer '52

Henry Gawlowicz '55

Dayton Shepherd '63

Beatrice Seifried '68

Michael Clark '76

Joan Landon '82

Brian R. Hall '91

Capt. Jason Hamill '98

FACULTY

Edward A. Raymond

STUDENTS

Peter Kyle James '07

Carlee Wines '10

Kathryn (Andrews) DePalo, '97 (CLAS) completed her Ph.D. in political science at Florida International University, Miami, Fla., where she is a visiting professor.

Kimberly DiBella-Farber '97 (CLAS) and her husband, **Joshua Farber '94 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of a son, Ethan DiBella Farber, on April 21, 2006.

Jodi (Zils) Gagne '97 (CLAS) announces the birth of a daughter, Carson Elizabeth, on June 27, 2006. Jodi has her own law practice in Bristol, Conn., specializing in criminal and civil litigation.

Michelle Gallant '97 (BGS), and her husband, Joseph, announce the birth of a child, Bryce Joseph, on March 21, 2006. The family currently lives in Litchfield County, Conn., where Michelle teaches elementary education.

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Karen (Spooner) Kuncz '97 (SAH) and her husband announce the birth of a daughter, Hailey Melia, on July 7, 2006. The family lives in Cumberland, R.I.

Emanuele Mangiafico '97 (BUS) is the executive vice president for operations of the Mama Mia Tomato Sauce and Italian Ice Company.

Jessica (Soter) Reid '97 (SAH) and her husband, Geoff, announce the birth of a daughter, Abigail, on March 23, 2006. Jess is a medical technologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. The family lives in Littleton, Mass.

David Springo '97 (CLAS) is the director of electronic document delivery services for C2Legal, a litigation support vendor in Houston, Texas.

Katy Comazzi '98 (CLAS) and J. Reynolds Allen were married on June 10, 2006, in Stowe, Vt. She is a senior consultant for Systems Engineering Inc. in Boston. The couple lives in Columbia, S.C.

Kelley (Hunt) Gay '98 (CLAS) and her husband, David, announce the birth of a child, Myles Elijah, on Oct. 31, 2006. Myles joins Jacob, 4, and Gabriella, 2. Kelley is director of marketing at Mass Mutual. The family lives in Windsor, Conn.

Sarah (Treat) '98 (CLAS) and **Jason Jakubowski '99 (CLAS)**, '01 M.P.A. announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Marie, on Aug. 16, 2006. Katherine joins brother Alex, and sister Madeline, both 3. Jason is the director of business development at Charter Oak State College.

Tara (Richards) Linton '98 (CLAS) and her husband, Joshua, announce the birth of a son, Charles Richards, on Nov. 3, 2006. The family lives in Sturbridge, Mass.

James Long III, '98 M.S. is a senior bridge design engineer for Collins Engineers, Inc. in the firm's Newport News, Va., office.

Sharon Clark '99 (CANR) and **Seth Aborn '96 (RHSA)** were married in April 2006. Sharon is an associate veterinary scientist for Bristol-Myers

Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute in Wallingford, Conn. Seth works on the family dairy farm in Ellington, Conn., where the couple lives.

Don Anderson '99 (BUS) is an officer and assistant vice president for the Federal Reserve System. He and his wife, **Sara (Swanson) '01 (CLAS)**, have two children and live in Stow, Mass.



Jean Lange '99 Ph.D. is an associate professor and director of Graduate Studies at Fairfield University. She was awarded the Marlene Kramer Outstanding Alumni Award for Research in Nursing by the UConn School of Nursing Alumni Society.

Diane McCabe '99 J.D. was elected to partnership at Goodwin Procter, L.L.D. She represents clients in a wide range of commercial real estate transactions, including complex debt and equity investments.



Christine A. Mohr '99 (CLAS) will join an exchange group traveling to southern Africa for four weeks in April 2007. She is the director of marketing and community relations for the YMCA Fairfax County Reston in Virginia.

Tanya Moorehead '99 (ED) co-teaches eighth grade language arts, integrated social studies and pre-algebra, with a focus on mainstreaming special needs students at Carmen Arace Middle School. She has been named the district's Teacher of the Year.

Julia Braza '00 M.S. graduated from New York Medical College in 2004.

Cory Clark '00 (CLAS) married Cheryl Wendt in September 2006. He is a curriculum developer with Health Net, Inc. in Shelton, Conn. The couple lives in East Haven, Conn.

Allison (Takacs) Kelly '00 (SFA) is teaching music in Bristol, Conn. She married Brian Kelly in September 2006. The couple lives in Bloomfield, Conn.

Maggie Perkowski '00 (BUS) married Scott Lukas in June 2006. The couple lives in Old Saybrook, Conn., where she is managing a new restaurant.

Elizabeth (Peterson) Roth '00 (CANR) received her Ph.D. in biology from Brown University in May 2006 and is a post-doctoral fellow in the department of therapeutic radiology at Yale University. She lives with her husband, **Ryan Roth '99 (CLAS)**, '02 J.D., in Cheshire, Conn.

Dave Sedich '00 (CLAS) and Lynnette Sedich announce the birth of a daughter, Kaitlynn Amanda, born on Nov. 27, 2006.

Kristy Vale da Serra '00 (ED), '01 M.A., and **Stephen Fischer '99 (CANR)** were married in July 2006. The couple lives in Glastonbury, Conn.

Slawomir Dobrzanski '01 (SFA) is an assistant professor of music (piano) at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan., and has written a book, *Maria Szymanowska: Pianist and Composer*, published by the Polish Music Center at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Jennifer Bothwell '03 M.A. was named the 2006 Mid-Atlantic Region Outstanding New Campus Activities Professional/Advisor during the last National Association for Campus Activities Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference. The annual award honors a new campus activities professional who has made a significant contribution to campus life.



Battling bioterrorism

Zygmont Dembek '95 (CANR), '05 M.P.H. is an epidemiologist in the Connecticut Department of Public Health and a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. He has been mobilized to active military duty as director of education and training and biodefense epidemiology programs for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md. He also wrote book chapters in the *Encyclopedia of Bioterrorism Defense* from Wiley Publishers and wrote *Biological Weapons Defense: Infectious Diseases and Counterbioterrorism*, published by Humana Press.

2000s

Remy Boyd '00 (CLAS) is the founder, president and CEO of Y'mer Inc., an image and style consulting firm in New York City. The company provides services to art, entertainment and business professionals in several areas, including wardrobe, body and color analysis; media and etiquette training and counseling.

Steven Bouchard '03 (ENG) married Katie Krog in September 2006. Steven is a product manager for Hubbell Wiring Systems.



Michael R. Delgrego '03 M.S. has been promoted to project manager at JFK & Associates, a structural engineering firm in New Haven, Conn. He is responsible for designing projects ranging from bridges to schools. He resides in Hamden.

Megan Fairty '03 (ED), '04 M.A. married Jeffrey Easler in July 2006. The couple lives in Winston-Salem, N.C. Megan teaches sixth grade.

Erin Fenton '03 (SFA) and J. Andrew Cassano were married in September 2006 at the Branford House on the UConn Avery Point campus. Erin works for the Institute of Music Leadership at the Eastman School of Music, part of the University of Rochester, and lives in Rochester, N.Y.

Kathryn Laity '03 Ph.D., assistant professor of English at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y., received a 2006 Finlandia Foundation Grant to travel to Finland for research connected with her forthcoming short story collection, *Unikirja (Dreambook)*. She and her husband, **Gene Kannenberg Jr. '02 Ph.D.**, live in Watervliet, N.Y.



Kimberly Lavorgna '03 (CANR) married Matthew Robinson in September 2006. The couple lives in Seattle, Wash., and plans to volunteer in Peru next year.

Christina Mackey '03 M.A. is engaged to marry Kevin Fleming in October 2007. She is a middle school math teacher in New Canaan, Conn.

Stephanie Petrakis '03 (CLAS) married **Matthew Matarese '04 (CLAS)** in August 2006. He works at Lehman Brothers in New York City, and she is a student at Marist College, studying for a master's in school psychology. The couple lives in Wappingers Falls, N.Y.

Christine Sweeney '03 M.S.W. founded Psychotherapy Services of CT, LLC, an independent psychological service specializing in children, adolescents, couples and families, in Vernon, Conn.



Yvonne R. Davis '04 M.A., president and chief executive officer of Davis Communications in Hartford, Conn., spent a week in

Israel last November presenting workshops focusing on women's issues and communications skills for women. She also delivered the keynote address before the national conference of the Center for Jewish-Arab Economic Development on "U.S. Government Efforts to Support Women and Women-Owned Businesses."

Michael Harrington '04 (CLAS) is the assistant director of athletic development at Tulane University in New Orleans, La.

Jennifer Marola '04 (CLAS) is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Lauren Ralston '04 (CLAS) is the associate manager, corporate partnerships, at Save the Children, a nonprofit organization committed to creating real and lasting change in the lives of children in the USA and around the world.



Victoria Richard '04 (CLAS) received an M.A. in communication from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. She is the

coordinator of the common course curriculum for the North Carolina Community College system.



Shoshana Cook Mueller '05 M.P.A., '06 J.D. is an attorney at Bernstein Shur, one of northern New England's largest

multi-service law firms. A member of the firm's Municipal Law Practice Group, she will focus her practice on general municipal law and public finance.



Got milk?

Natasha Bangel '06 (CANR) is the marketing representative for The Farmer's Cow milk, which is produced and marketed by six Connecticut dairy farmers, including Nate Cushman '66 (CANR), '72 M.S. of Cushman Farms in Franklin and Lebanon; Bill Peracchio '71 (RHSA) of Hytone Farm in Coventry; Peter Orr '79 (CANR) of Fort Hill Farms in Thompson; and Robin Chesmer '64-'67 (BUS) of Graywall Farms in Lebanon.

Sarah Galpin '05 (SFS) completed a master of science degree in elementary education at the University of Bridgeport in December 2006. She is a reading assistant in Naugatuck, Conn.

Derrick Kennedy '05 (CLAS) is employed at the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and was accepted to the M.P.A. program at UConn for the spring 2007 semester.

Christine Mangiulli '05 (SFS) completed a master of science degree in elementary education from the University of Bridgeport in December 2006.

Velma McConnell '05 (BGS) is the business office coordinator at New England Technical Institute, in Shelton, Conn.



Michele Strutz '05 (ED) was accepted into the educational studies doctoral program at Purdue University and selected as the recipient of the prestigious Frederick N. Andrews Fellowship. She completed two master's degrees,

one in curriculum and instruction at Boise State University in December 2004 and in gifted and talented education at UConn in May 2005.

Stephanie Roy '06 (SFS), married Sean Caler on Feb. 10, 2007. Stephanie is chief instructor at Villari's Martial Arts in North Windham, Conn.

Michael Tosca II '06 (CLAS) is attending the University of California at Irvine on a full scholarship to study Earth systems science. He is working toward a Ph.D. in atmospheric science/global warming.

Erin Wenzler '06 (CLAS) is working at an advertising agency, Bernard Hodes Group, in Paramus, N.J.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski

STEM CELLS *Continued from page 33*

a renovated 113,000-square-foot facility located near the UConn Health Center. Using \$2.5 million the state awarded UConn to expand the stem cell core lab, Xu will develop additional human embryonic stem cell lines outside the federal guidelines and provide the associated training and expertise to researchers at the University and throughout Connecticut. UCSCI also will provide a campus-wide framework for collaboration among UConn geneticists, engineers, ethicists, chemists, pathologists, immunologists, oncologists, hematologists and scientists from other disciplines to unravel the mysteries of growth and development of adult and embryonic stem cells.

Several UConn scientists awarded the first grants from the state's stem cell research fund are focusing on how to get cells ready for clinical use.

David Rowe, director for regenerative medicine and skeletal development in the UConn School of Dental Medicine and

a stem cell scientist, is leading a diverse multidisciplinary team of researchers on a \$3.5 million musculoskeletal project to understand how to get embryonic stem cells to help rebuild bone, cartilage, skin and muscle tissue.

Joseph LoTurco, associate professor of physiology and neurobiology at Storrs, was awarded a \$562,000 grant from the stem cell fund to study the genes that control the migration of stem cell-derived neurons in the brain. In order to be useful in treating degenerative and traumatic brain disorders, embryonic stem cells that develop into neurons must be able to locate themselves in the correct area of the brain, he says.

Akiko Nishiyama, associate professor of physiology and neurobiology at Storrs, was awarded \$530,000 to investigate the ability of different types of glial cells generated from human embryonic stem cells to promote regeneration in the brain. Glial cells are thought to support the function of neurons, and some types of glial cells can promote the development of axons, which

are extensions of neurons.

Citing the dozens of UConn researchers investigating stem cells as cures for disease that someday might be applied clinically, Marc Lalonde, professor and chair of the department of genetics and developmental biology and associate dean for research planning and coordination at the UConn Health Center, calls stem cell research "a hugely complex yet immensely fascinating area of research with the potential to unlock probably the greatest scientific and medical discoveries ever."

Notes Lalonde, "We are still a long way from miracle treatments, but UConn is well positioned with a wide range of dedicated scientific teams to continue to be a pioneer in what could well be the most important research area of the 21st century."

**For more information,
and a complete list of stem cell
research projects at UConn, go to our
Web site: <http://stemcell.uconn.edu>**

SWIN CASH *Continued from page 36*

Along the way, Cash says her mother instilled in her the idea that she should be versatile and not accept just what society expects. Heeding her mother's advice, Cash began thinking about her life after basketball while she was still in Storrs. When she graduated from UConn in 2002, she was already on her way to becoming, as Auriemma puts it, "a conglomerate."

Cash works with the WNBA to support programs and organizations that help disadvantaged kids succeed, such as Cash for Kids, which receives proceeds from her line of clothing. It is a mission she embraces enthusiastically, a way to give something back and keep her feet on the ground.

"The proudest moment of my life," says the only woman who has won two NCAA championships, an Olympic gold medal, and two WNBA championships with the Detroit Shock, "was when I graduated from UConn and started my charity, Cash for Kids."

"Nothing about Swin's success surprises me," says Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS), a member of the UConn Board of Trustees, who became the first of Auriemma's former players to move into television. "She always had a lot of irons in the fire."

Though Cash was the Shock's leading scorer in her rookie season, the team posted a dismal 9-23. In the off-season, she made an important decision. Rather than traveling to Europe to play basketball as other players do, she stayed in Detroit. She trained aggressively, preparing for the next season, when the Shock would live up to its name, winning the WNBA championship. She also

used the time to work with the Shock's creative team to set the stage for her future business.

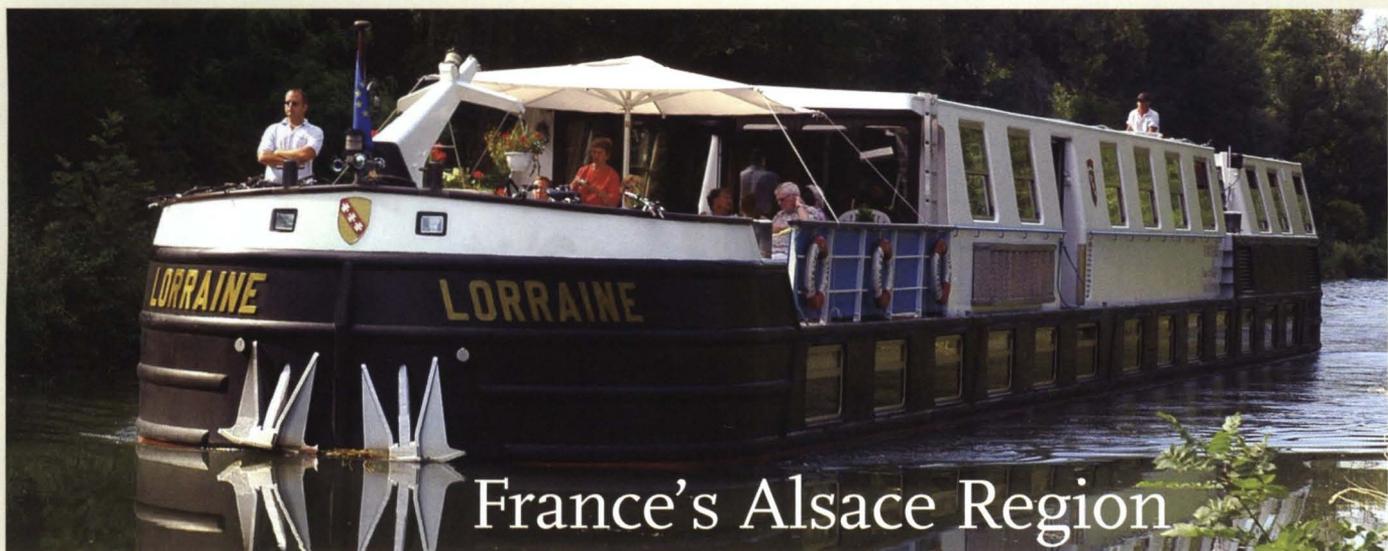
"Many people said, 'You're missing out on a lot of extra money by not playing overseas,'" Cash explains, "but that wasn't what I wanted. There are sacrifices you have to make sometimes if you want to advance in the long run. The Shock organization has really helped me to see my vision for myself and take the steps for tomorrow."

Clearly, Cash had been taking those steps for some time. Being self-confident, she will tell you, means being confident enough to heed to the advice of others.

When she was reunited last December with some of her former Husky teammates, she was celebrated as one of the inaugural group of 10 former UConn All-Americans whose careers are remembered on a wall in Gampel Pavilion recognizing "Huskies of Honor" (See back cover). It was another addition to a stellar resume that includes an appearance in the 2006 film *Bring It On: All or Nothing* and selection by ESPN as the first active WNBA player to serve as an analyst for NBA games.

On the night that her name and uniform number were unveiled in Gampel Pavilion, Cash—whose power, heart and beauty are never in question—used her remarks to express humility. She thanked her family, who are always present, and the Husky fans. She acknowledged her teammates and UConn coaches. And she saluted her UConn professors.

"The best thing UConn does for athletes," the astounding woman said, "is help set them up for life."



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VIENNA & SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

November 2007

Spend four nights in the magical city of Vienna and get lost in music or in mocha at one of the many cafés. Carry over the Old World charm with three nights in Salzburg, the Golden City, during a time of festivals and Christmas markets. Contact us for details.

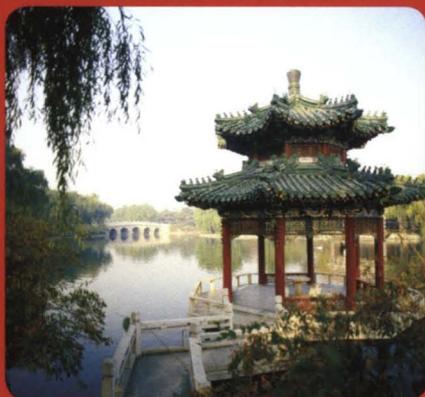


Salzburg, Austria

CHINA AND THE YANGTZE

October 2-15, 2007

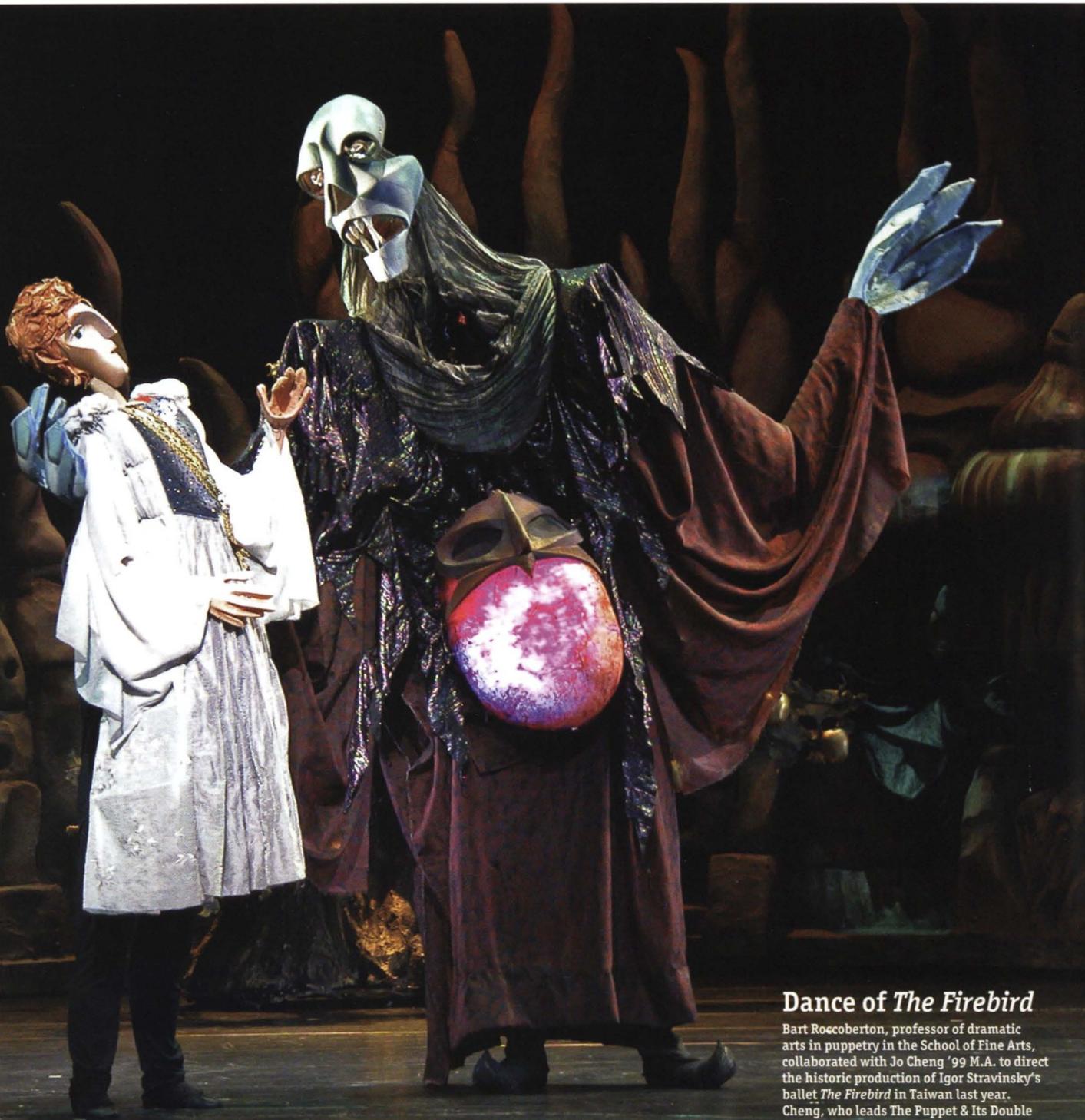
Visit Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven. See the Ming Tombs and the amazing expanse of the Great Wall. Explore Xi'an, home of the remarkable Terra Cotta Warriors. Cruise the incomparable Yangtze River aboard the elegant *M.V. Yangtze President* and marvel at the magnificent Three Gorges. Conclude your Asian odyssey amid the bustling excitement of Shanghai.



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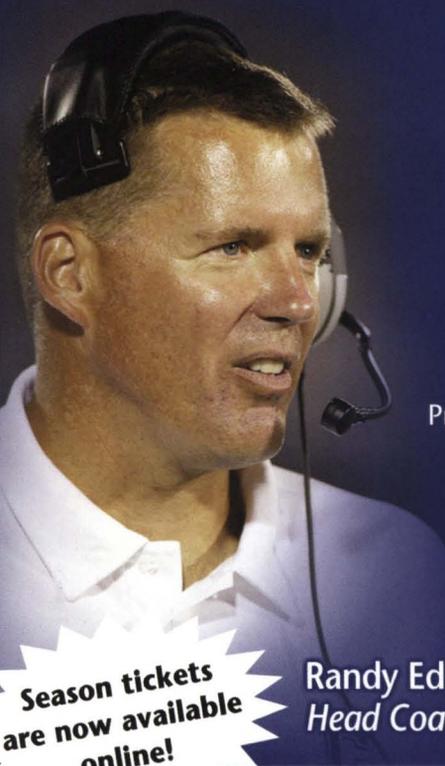
Dance of *The Firebird*

Bart Roccoberon, professor of dramatic arts in puppetry in the School of Fine Arts, collaborated with Jo Cheng '99 M.A. to direct the historic production of Igor Stravinsky's ballet *The Firebird* in Taiwan last year. Cheng, who leads The Puppet & Its Double Theater in Taiwan, collaborated with the Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra to develop the production. Stravinsky's music was brought to life by the 90-piece orchestra, a cast of 19 contemporary and traditional puppeteers, children's theater performers, dramatic actors, ballet and contemporary dancers and Chinese opera performers.

BART ROCCOBERON



UConn Football



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Noon
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2007 Home Opener vs. Maine

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Seven Home Games in 2007



Sept. 8
Maine



Sept. 15
Temple



Sept. 29
Akron



Oct. 20
Louisville



Oct. 27
South Florida



Nov. 3
Rutgers



Nov. 17
Syracuse

** All dates subject to change*

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Honoring Hoop Heroes

Above: Two players who helped launch UConn's rise as a national basketball power were among the first class of inductees into the Huskies of Honor. Chris Smith '92 (CLAS), left, with Jeffrey Hathaway, UConn director of athletics. Kerry Bascom '93 (CLAS), right, with women's head coach Geno Auriemma.

New displays celebrating the most successful UConn basketball teams were hung at Gampel Pavilion this past season. The displays include the Huskies of Honor, recognizing the Huskies' greatest players and coaches from the men's and women's teams. The first class of women inductees included All-Americans Kerry Bascom '93 (CLAS), Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS), Jennifer Rizzotti '96 (CLAS), Kara Wolters '97 (CLAS), Nykesha Sales '98 (BUS), Svetlana Abrosimova '01 (BUS), Shea Ralph '01 (SAH), Sue Bird '02 (CLAS), Swin Cash '02 (CLAS), Diana Taurasi '05 (CLAS), and Hall of Fame

coach Geno Auriemma. The men's inductees included members of the All-Century Team: Walt Dropo '48 (CLAS), Vin Yokabaskas '53 (ED), Art Quimby '56 (ED) '68 M.A., Toby Kimball '65 (BUS), Wes Bialosuknia '70 (CLAS), Tony Hanson '81 (ED), Corny Thompson '86 (BUS), Cliff Robinson '89 (SFS), Chris Smith '92 (CLAS) and All-Americans Donyell Marshall 1991-94 (CLAS), Ray Allen 1993-96 (CLAS), Richard Hamilton 1996-99 (CLAS), and Emeka Okafor '04 (BUS). Also inducted were coaches Hugh Greer 1946-63, Dee Rowe 1969-77 and Hall of Fame coach Jim Calhoun.