Pursuing a higher education
A trio of nuns found balance between a life of prayer and rigorous science to earn Ph.D.s from UConn
Another UConn team is winning hearts.

At the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center, an experienced team of specialists offers top quality care to diagnose and treat diseases of the heart and blood vessels.

UConn cardiologists and other specialists provide advanced medical approaches to help patients manage risk factors such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure and diabetes. Also, patients have access to a full range of sophisticated surgical procedures, performed by some of the most highly skilled cardiac and vascular surgeons in the country – in a convenient, suburban location.

And there's an important difference. As the only academic medical center in central Connecticut, UConn Health Center patients receive the advantages of the latest research and innovations in health care. It's no wonder the UConn cardiology team is winning hearts.

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On the road with the Huskies

During the first year the Huskies football team was eligible for a post-season bowl invitation, thousands of UConn alumni hit the road for a historic season that ended with a celebration at Ford Field in Detroit.

By John Surowiecki '66 (CLAS), '78 M.A.

Getting a CLEAR picture of Connecticut's changing landscape

When officials in cities and towns throughout Connecticut need to know how their decisions will change the landscape of their community, they turn to UConn's Center for Land Use Education and Research.

By Jim H. Smith

Pursuing a higher education

In 1987 four nuns began a journey that led them from a cloistered life behind the walls of a Benedictine abbey to acclaim as world-class scientists.

By Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)
A Message from the Editor

Saluting Coach Calhoun

When UConn men's basketball coach Jim Calhoun is inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame on Sept. 10 he will be one of 263 individuals and five teams to have received his sport's highest honor (see p. 6). “When I was told the news, it was surreal,” he told reporters last April, when the announcement was made public.

It was surreal because while almost anyone who starts dribbling a basketball as a youngster may dream of one day winning championships or staying involved in the sport beyond their playing days, very few actually have their name placed among the greatest in their game. Of the thousands of past and present men and women who have coached high school, college and professional teams, when this year’s ceremonies conclude in Springfield, Mass., Calhoun will be one of only 72 coaches honored with a place in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

In 33 seasons as a college coach and winning more games than anyone in New England, Calhoun has brought two NCAA championships and one NIT title to UConn. He ranks among the top 20 Division I coaches of all time and is sixth among still active coaches. He is also one of only two men's coaches—Mike Krzyzewski is the other—to win more than one NCAA title since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

That is a record of consistency and excellence matched by very few others. It has been sustained by a passion for the game that is usually seen as Calhoun stomps along the UConn bench encouraging his young charges and glaring at officials with a thin smile on his face when a call goes against the Huskies.

The coach's passion for the University of Connecticut burns just as brightly. When we spoke in 2004 after he led the Huskies to the NCAA title in San Antonio, Calhoun said, “I think anyone who is here thinks UConn is a special destination for young people.” He also noted the pride he has in the fact that both of his sons, Jim ’89 (CLAS) and Jeff ’96 (CLAS), are UConn graduates.

The UConn Alumni Association will demonstrate the University community's pride in Calhoun on Oct. 28 when he receives the 2005 Honorary Alumni Award as part of the association's faculty and alumni excellence gala (see p. 45).

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:
UConn Traditions
1266 Storrs Road, Unit 4144
Storrs, CT 06269-4144
E-mail: uconntraditions@uconn.edu

N.B.: In our story on UCONN 2000 (Spring 2005), we omitted the fact that at the time Patrick Sheehan ’67 (CLAS) was chair of the UConn Foundation and that Roger Geffenbein ’65 (BUS) served as vice chair of the Foundation.
FROM THE
President

Creating a climate where excellence can flourish

Regardless of what the calendar says, for colleges and universities graduation season marks the official beginning of summer. At the University of Connecticut our May commencements (see p. 4) create a positive aura that usually sees us through until fall.

But as in summers past, we also face challenges. Some, like the rapid increase in demand for a limited number of places in the freshman class (nearly 20,000 applications this year for 3,200 spaces in Storrs), are a function of our success. Others represent ongoing facts of life, such as budget constraints and tightened federal funding for some aspects of cutting-edge research.

Yet, as we show in each edition of Traditions, the University continues to move forward. In the pages that follow you can read about faculty who have received national recognition, high achieving students, the success of student athletes, and other achievements by members of our community. Such distinctions are primarily a tribute to the individuals who earn them, but they recognize something more fundamental: a commitment made over time and reinforced every year to create a climate in which excellence can flourish.

Those are easy words, but at UConn they are backed up by tangible commitments. The state’s investment in UCONN 2000 and now 21st Century UConn creates the physical infrastructure in which scientists can do their best work, humanists can do their best thinking, and artists can reach their creative peak. Privately endowed chairs provide support to recruit and keep outstanding faculty. Merit-based student aid attracts the most talented students from Connecticut and out of state, helping to make UConn a more attractive and exciting place in which to teach.

Finally, our commitment to assure that exceptional faculty earn richly deserved public recognition helps promote a culture that nourishes quality.

UConn is a public research university, with all that term implies. We are properly held accountable to the citizens of our state for every important policy and allocational decision. We strive to be excellent, not exclusive. We cherish the more than 100 high school valedictorians and salutatorians who will come to campus this August, even as we value equally the other 3,100 freshmen at Storrs and the 1,000 arriving at the regional campuses who represent one of the most talented and diverse classes to enroll at UConn. We have the responsibility of giving each young person at UConn the opportunity to attain a high-quality education at the hands of a committed and dedicated faculty.

Our ability to meet these goals is the true measure of our excellence. As you read this issue of Traditions, please recognize that the quality we celebrate here is important to UConn primarily because it helps sustain a University community where all of us can share in the benefits of the extraordinary contributions of outstanding faculty, staff and students—and where each member of the community can work, and learn, in an environment that strives to bring out the best in everyone.

President Austin congratulates Kyle Noonan ‘05 (CLAS), an honors student in economics who represented the graduating class during the afternoon Commencement ceremony.

President Austin
Commencement ’05 celebrates graduates

A Cuban immigrant with a career that has included two presidential appointments advised nearly 2,750 members of the class of 2005 to remember those who have helped them and to give back to the community.

“When you are in a position to make a decision affecting someone’s life or career, try to be compassionate because your actions may impact the life of others,” Eduardo Aguirre Jr., director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, told the undergraduate commencement audiences on Mother’s Day. “Always remember those who opened the gate for you, those who made a difference in your life and those who really cared about you.”

Aguirre, who has been nominated as the next U.S. ambassador to Spain and Andorra, received an honorary degree along with Tim Page, winner of the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished criticism writing for The Washington Post. Page is the son of former UConn professor Ellis Page.

About 1,800 master’s and doctoral degree candidates were urged to become involved in protecting human rights by Jonathan Fanton, president of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, one of the nation’s largest philanthropic organizations.

“Fired by the honorable tradition of this state and the inspiration of this University, we must join together to fulfill our obligation for leadership in protecting human security, individual dignity, and opportunity for all,” he said.

Fanton, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during the ceremony, was chair of Human Rights Watch from 1998 to 2003.

During the ceremony Roger S. Newton, ’74 (CANR), senior vice president and director of Espirion Therapeutics, also received an honorary Doctor of Science degree. Newton co-discovered the cholesterol-reducing drug Lipitor.

More than 240 juris doctor and master’s of law degrees were awarded by the School of Law on May 22.

Morris Sheppard Arnold, a judge who sits on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, told law graduates that the rights of citizens are facing increasing challenges and that a compliant judiciary presents a danger to liberty in the nation.

“As matters now stand, the criminal system has been given over to the administrative, managerial state, and it has become so prolix and technical that ordinary citizens can’t understand it and don’t participate in it,” said Arnold. “This kind of estrangement can be dangerous to a free society. It’s time to let a little air in.”

The School of Medicine awarded 73 degrees in medicine and 36 degrees in dental medicine, along with master’s degrees in biomedical science and public health and 25 doctorates in biomedical science on May 15.

Antonia Novello, New York state health commissioner and the first woman to serve as Surgeon General of the United States, advised graduates to remain level-headed and to apply themselves conscientiously.

“The world owes you nothing,” she said. “Never lose sight of who you are or where you came from.”
Ph.D. students graduate with less debt

UConn doctoral candidates graduate with less debt than their peers nationwide, according to a recent National Science Foundation report.

The report shows that 54.9 percent of graduates who earned Ph.D.s from UConn in 2003 had no debt, compared with an average of 41.4 percent nationwide. Of those who graduated with debt, less than a third graduated with more than $15,000 in debt, compared with 39.4 percent nationally.

Janet Greger, vice provost for strategic planning, attributes the difference to a combination of reasonable tuition, fellowships and assistantships, and the cost of living in the area.

The annual cost of pursuing a doctoral degree at UConn is currently $7,200 for tuition for a full-time in-state student and $18,400 for a full-time out-of-state student.

Chuck & Augie's
A cheeseburger and plate of spicy Thai noodles wait to be served at Chuck & Augie's, the new restaurant in the Student Union that is named in honor of UConn's benefactors, Charles and Augustus Storrs.
Prolific communication faculty ranks high

The communication processes faculty within UConn’s department of communication sciences is among the top ten in the nation, according to a survey of faculty productivity reported in the scholarly journal Communication Research Reports.

The 2004 study of scholarly productivity among 2,000 colleges and universities offering programs in communication course work indicates that the UConn communication faculty qualifies as the eighth most prolific nationally. Scholarly activity is the most commonly accepted measure for program quality in the social sciences.

UConn communication faculty research covers a wide range of areas including the effects of persuasive communication, family communication, new communication technologies, health communication and campaigns, and communication and emotion. Department scholars have also generated large research grants; for instance, Professor Leslie Snyder has been awarded $5 million in federal grants over the past eight years.

The national ranking combined with the faculty’s ongoing research will be valuable in recruiting more talented faculty and high achieving students, says Ross MacKinnon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, noting that earlier this year doctoral candidate Sripiya Rangarajan was recognized for having the top interpersonal communication paper at the 2005 International Communication Association conference.

Among UConn’s faculty are David Atkin, professor in residence, who is one of the most prolific scholars in the history of the discipline and, with Marina Krcmar, UConn associate professor, two of the top 26 most prolific communication scholars since 1996; and Carolyn Lin, UConn professor, one of the three most prolific telecommunication scholars in the discipline. Another senior faculty, Ross Buck, is co-founder of the National Communication Association’s Nonverbal Communication Division.

Omara-Otunnu honored for global leadership

Amii Omara-Otunnu, the only person in the United States to hold the position of United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization Chair for Human Rights, received the annual Luminary Award from the World Affairs Council of Connecticut for his international leadership and positive impact on global affairs. Omara-Otunnu, who is also associate professor of history and serves as executive director of the UConn-African National Congress partnership, received the award from Harry Gray, former head of United Technologies Corp. and a previous recipient of the award. Keynote speaker for the presentation dinner was Mary Robinson, the former president of Ireland, who is now serving as United Nations commissioner for human rights.

Harry Gray, former head of United Technologies Corp., presents Amii Omara-Otunnu, associate professor of history, with the annual Luminary Award from the World Affairs Council of Connecticut.
Rock climbing on campus

Two squash courts in the Student Recreational Facility have been transformed into a busy indoor rock climbing center where more than 400 students have become certified as climbers. The cavernous, gray-walled center spans 2,000 square feet and has walls ranging from 12 feet to 18 feet. The climbing center is an extension of HuskyXcursions, an outdoor adventure program sponsored by the Department of Recreational Services.

Governor signs stem cell research bill

Gov. M. Jodi Rell signed a bill creating a 10-year, $100 million fund for stem cell research in Connecticut at a news conference held at the UConn Health Center on June 15.

"Stem cells hold tremendous promise," Gov. Rell told reporters and an audience of physicians and scientists. "The growth of the bioscience industry in Connecticut has been critical to our state's economy, with pharmaceutical and biotech companies employing some 18,000 people. We intend to build on that leadership role."

The law establishes a ban on human cloning and sets guidelines for the way embryos, embryonic stem cells, unfertilized eggs and sperm are donated. It also establishes a nine-member Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee responsible for administering grants from the research fund. Connecticut is the third state to approve stem cell research.

"We hope to build on our strengths in animal stem cell research. It is an exciting field of research that ultimately could have broad clinical and therapeutic applications," says Marc Lalande, associate dean for research at the UConn Health Center and chair of its department for genetics and developmental biology.

UConn alumni know the importance of giving something back.

Last year, more than 25,000 of you combined to contribute nearly $13,000,000 to the University of Connecticut.

Large gifts and small added up to unprecedented scholarship support, advancing faculty innovations, and enriching the University experience for new generations of UConn students.

Your gifts are having an impact in other ways, too. In fact, according to U.S. News our alumni giving rate ranks us among the top public universities in the nation.

An unrestricted Annual Fund gift is one way to make a dramatic difference in the lives of UConn students every day.

www.foundation.uconn.edu

SUMMER 2005 • 7
Celebrating 50 years at Jorgensen

Inaugural patrons to be honored during spring concert

A half-century of history at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts comes full circle this fall during a year-long 50th anniversary celebration.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra performed on opening night in what was then called The Auditorium in December 1955. The Jorgensen gala celebrating its 50 years will feature the Boston Pops Orchestra, an affiliate of the BSO, on April 1, 2006.

The Jorgensen's 50th season opens on Sept. 22 when the American String Quartet plays two works written by Kenneth Fuchs, an accomplished composer-conductor who was recently named head of the UConn music department. Other highlights of the season include Bill Cosby on Oct. 1, Ravi Shankar on Oct. 5, Tony Bennett on Dec. 10, the London Philharmonic Orchestra's performance with conductor Kurt Masur on March 23, and Sweet Honey in the Rock on April 29.

On the evening of the London Philharmonic's appearance, the Jorgensen will honor patrons in the area who attended the inaugural concert in 1955 and who have seen Jorgensen grow from a concert hall with five to six performances a year to a performing arts center with anywhere from 30 to 45 performances a season. That select group of patrons numbers about 50, including many emeritus faculty members.

Among the most successful of the Jorgensen series are the cabaret events. For those performances, some of the 2,630 seats are removed to allow for a set up around small cocktail tables. The cabaret series in the fall will include Pulitzer Prize-winning jazz artist Wynton Marsalis, Broadway legend Bernadette Peters, and folk singers Judy Collins and The Smothers Brothers.

The Jorgensen now draws between 65,000 and 70,000 patrons annually from throughout Southern New England. The internationally acclaimed performers and personalities who have appeared on its stage include The Royal Shakespeare Company, violinist Itzhak Perlman, poet Maya Angelou, the American Ballet Theater and jazz master Dave Brubeck.

The Jorgensen Center is named for Albert N. Jorgensen, who served as president of UConn for 27 years, the longest of any University president. The Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre honors his wife.

For more information about the Jorgensen season, go to www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com.
Huskies collect post-season honors

The winter and spring seasons in 2004-05 brought both team and individual success for UConn student-athletes.

The men's basketball team won the Big East regular season championship and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. Josh Boone '07 was named the Big East defensive player of the year while a pair of Huskies shared league honors as Rudy Gay '08 was named the co-rookie of the year and Marcus Williams '07 was the co-most improved player.

The women's basketball team won the Big East tournament championship and played its way to the NCAA Sweet 16. Barbara Turner '06 (CLAS) was named the most valuable player of the Big East Championship.

The women's ice hockey team enjoyed its finest season on record, advancing to the championship game of the Hockey East tournament. Forward Jaclyn Hawkins '08 (CLAS) was named the national rookie of the year. Head coach Heather Linstad posted the 200th win of her collegiate career during the season.

The women's swimming and diving team was represented in NCAA championship action for the second straight year as Ryan Smith '06 (CLAS) swam in the 200-yard backstroke.

During the spring, the women's lacrosse team won the ECAC Championship as head coach Bonnie Rosen was named the Big East coach of the year. Tracy Mullaney '05 (CLAS) and Shannon Burke '07 both earned first team All-Big East honors.

The women's rowing team enjoyed its best season ever as the Huskies won the team title at the prestigious Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia. Ursula Henwood '05 (CLAS) was named second team All-New England region.

The baseball team, under second-year head coach Jim Penders '94 (CLAS) '98 M.A., posted a final record of 34-22 to set a school record for most wins in a season. First baseman Jeff Hourigan '05 (ED) and outfielder Russ D'Argento '05 (CLAS) were both selected to the postseason All-Big East team.

Will Thomas '05 (ED) represented the track and field team in the decathlon at the NCAA championships, and Deirdre Mullen '05 (SFS) was an NCAA high jump participant—the sixth time in her career that she participated in the NCAA championships. Thomas was the decathlon champion at the Big East outdoor championship, and Mullen won the high jump at the league and ECAC championships.
Alumni help establish a new Iraqi government
Al-Hasani, Holcomb, McGurk and Gilman each have different roles

Several UConn alumni have served in key roles as Iraq moves toward a democratically elected government.

The most prominent alumnus is Hajim Al-Hasani '90 Ph.D., who was selected as speaker of parliament by the Iraqi National Assembly in April, one of the first steps in the creation of the country's new government. He previously served as minister of industry and minerals for Iraq (see alumni profile in Traditions Fall/Winter 2004).

Two former UConn political science students who are now lawyers returned to the University on April 14 to describe their experiences in Iraq to students and faculty. M. Scott Holcomb '94 (CLAS), who served as a military legal advisor to the Coalition Forces Land Component Command, and Brett H. McGurk '96 (CLAS), who served as an advisor on the writing of Iraq's interim constitution, discussed Iraq in various forums throughout the day, ending with a presentation at the UConn Alumni Center.

McGurk, who previously served as law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist (see feature in Traditions Spring 2003) and is now with the National Security Council at the White House, says he is optimistic about the future of Iraq's fledgling democratic government.

"Aspirational goals can indeed change reality in dramatic ways," he says. "Most critics were not there on the ground seeing the process up close. When you see it up close, you come away with a sense of optimism, not what you see watching television from the United States. My confidence comes from seeing a legitimate government in place."

Holcomb served as a captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He participated in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One of his key assignments was to provide legal advice on military targets in Iraq.

Holcomb says the military leadership views its post-war role as an occupying force, noting that specific legal responsibilities are outlined for such a role. But "civilian leadership" chose to portray the post-war U.S. role as a "liberating force," which lacks legal specifics and for which soldiers have not been trained, he says.

Lt. Col. Derek Gilman '92 J.D. was awarded the Bronze Star for exceptional military service during his time in Iraq.

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Lt. Col. Derek Gilman '92 J.D. was awarded the Bronze Star for exceptional military service in Iraq. He helped establish a new legal foundation for the Iraqi economy while assigned as deputy general counsel for commercial law reform to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad. He also served as the top U.S. representative working to develop the Iraqi Special Tribunal, which will be used in the future trial of Saddam Hussein for crimes against humanity.
The half-dozen members each for the was Blume '53 (CLAS), How the Empires. Some are well Campus all-male lv/ark was replaced the Druids, UConn's as a "The 22, Nutmeg. self-perpetuating, member of the Druids, a May identical as an that broken, with the selection of Elizabeth Rourke '40 (CLAS), editor-in-chief of the yearbook. Membership was usually limited to six men, although it went as high as nine in 1928.

"They were the classic secret men's society," says Daniel Blume '53 (CLAS), and a member of the Archons, the honors group that replaced the Druids in 1952. "They were self-perpetuating, choosing their successors from campus leaders, like the president of the student government, editors of the Campus (the student newspaper), and guys in the fraternity system."

The existence of the group was announced in a May 22, 1920, Connecticut Campus article, with the headline “Rumor of a Senior Secret Society at C.A.C.” (UConn was Connecticut Agricultural College from 1899 to 1933), noted "new members will be 'tapped' today." How the "tapping" worked is unknown, but those selected were approached each year at the Junior Prom.

Things began to fall apart for the Druids in October 1951, a time when college fraternities nationally were fighting over discriminatory membership policies. On Feb. 6, 1952, the Campus reported that "the Student Senate... acted to force the Druids into the open." The Campus article also includes this tantalizing tidbit: “The senators offered microfilm recordings of all Druid minutes and records since the organization's founding in 1921.” Soon after, the records were gone.

During the course of the Feb. 6 Senate meeting, the Senate president, Peter Brodigan '52 (CLAS), revealed himself as a member of the Druids, as did Senate member Paul Veillette '52 (CLAS), secretary of the secret group and one of the three senators working to expose it.

Over the next week, all the Druids revealed themselves, breaking the three-decade tradition of secrecy. With their organization in shambles, the former Druids created a new men's honor society, the Archons, on March 25, 1952, as an open men's honorary society with almost an identical membership. The Archons, lacking the power and influence of their predecessors, was much more in keeping with an honorary society, and it lasted until 1970.

Over the 31 years that the Druids existed, 159 students were tapped as members. With two exceptions, Rourke, in 1940, and Satashi Oishi '49 (ENG), a Japanese-American student, in 1949 all were white males. Druids were selected from the ranks of student leaders, so it is possible that as the diversity of the student body slowly changed, it would have been more likely that membership in the Druids would have reflected that change.

But we will never know.

— Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)
Neag School receives grant to study Internet literacy

Research team will be led by Donald Leu, noted reading specialist

A three-year, $1.8 million research grant from the U.S. Department of Education to the Neag School of Education will advance the study of new methodologies for understanding reading comprehension on the Internet.

The research program, which began July 1, will identify the critical new skills and strategies needed by students to be successful at reading and learning with online information. It will also study how best to teach these new literacies.

The study team is led by Donald Leu, professor of curriculum and instruction, who is a nationally prominent specialist in reading and Internet technologies. Leu holds the John and Maria Neag Chair in Literacy and Technology, a joint appointment in the departments of curriculum and instruction and educational psychology. He also is president of the National Reading Conference, the largest professional organization devoted solely to reading research.

“Online reading comprehension is different from reading books, but as yet we know remarkably little about the differences. As a result, our schools have not built the new literacies of online reading comprehension into their curricula,” says Leu.

The Neag School is collaborating with Clemson University in the program, working with seventh-grade students in rural South Carolina and urban Connecticut—typically low-achieving readers who are most at risk of dropping out of school. The research will focus on increasing students' ability to identify important problems and then locate, critically evaluate, synthesize and communicate information as they go about solving those problems online.

“This significant grant is a testament to the importance and value of Don Leu's research,” says Neag Dean Richard Schwab. “It is also a critical indicator that our efforts to become one of the nation's top 20 schools of education by strategically investing in faculty and programs are right on target.”

Leu's research team includes Douglas Hartman, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, and three UConn graduate students—doctoral candidates Jill Castek and Julie Coiro and master's degree candidate Laurie Henry.

“This project will provide the research base to help prepare students for the reading and information demands of the 21st century,” says Leu.

“We see the Internet as this generation’s defining technology for information, communication and learning. We need to provide educators with strategies to use the Internet to prepare all students for the futures they deserve in a world in which more reading will take place online than in books.”
Elliot Memorial Scholarship established in law

A new endowed scholarship has been established at the School of Law by the law firm Tyler Cooper & Alcorn and the Hartford Courant. The Ralph Gregory Elliot Memorial Scholarship honors the late Ralph Gregory Elliot, partner of Tyler Cooper & Alcorn, longtime outside counsel to the Courant and adjunct professor at the UConn School of Law.

Elliot's professional association with the Hartford Courant spanned more than 40 years. He was a champion of the First Amendment and a trusted collaborator with generations of Courant editors. Since 1974, Elliot had taught courses on media and the law and legal ethics at the School of Law as an adjunct professor. Last October, the school awarded Elliot its Medal of Excellence.

The scholarship is intended to provide support for students enrolled at the UConn law school, with preference given to students with undergraduate degrees from Yale, Elliot's alma mater. Once the $30,000 endowment has grown to a sufficient size, it may be used to establish a professorship in First Amendment law.

Karen Maguire '68 (CLAS), '71 M.A., '81 Ph.D. has endowed the Dorothy Maguire Scholarship in Modern and Classical Languages in UConn's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, a $60,000 fund that honors her late mother. Maguire is president and a founder of Satuit Technologies, Inc., whose products enable investment managers to track and manage their contacts with customers around the world.

She began her career in academe but became an entrepreneur who drew her business skills out of a background rich in English, French and Italian literature. Her studies in comparative literature—she earned UConn's very first doctoral degree awarded in the discipline—provided the opportunity to gain writing and analytical skills and exposure to a wide range of subject matter. That is why, Maguire says, she advises undergraduate students to pursue a degree in liberal arts.

"You learn to think properly and to write well," Maguire says of her academic background, which includes having spent time living with a family in France as part of a UConn study abroad graduate program.

The School of Engineering has received an endowment of $500,000 to establish the GE Advanced Materials Endowed Scholar Program Fund, focusing on African American students.

The permanent endowment will support undergraduate scholarships in the departments of mechanical engineering, chemical engineering and materials science and engineering. The fund will award up to $5,000 annually in scholarships to two entering freshmen and will continue to support the recipients throughout their four years of study in the School of Engineering, provided academic performance requirements are met.

"We are deeply gratified by this outstanding investment in the School of Engineering and its students," says Dean Amir Faghri. "This gift will make an excellent engineering education affordable for a selection of superb students each year through its generosity. GE Advanced Materials is demonstrating its commitment to growing the engineering workforce in the region."

"Materials engineering will play a significant role in the future of the world," says John Krenicki, president and CEO of GE Advanced Materials. "We're delighted to be helping worthy African-American students have an opportunity to get an education in engineering and science. Scholarship awardees will also have the opportunity for a summer internship at one of our many locations worldwide."

GE Advanced Materials is a world leader in providing material solutions through engineering thermoplastics, silicon products and technology platforms, and fused quartz and ceramics.

UConn has been a source of numerous technical and business leaders for GE Advanced Materials over the years.
School of Nursing

**Tracking the long-term effects of chemotherapy**

With breast cancer survival rates improving, a UConn School of Nursing professor is turning her research attention to the quality of life patients have both during and after chemotherapy.

For years, breast cancer patients whose treatment includes chemotherapy have reported memory, attention and concentration problems, says Amy Laufer Kenefick, associate professor of nursing, who recently received a $200,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to study the phenomenon known colloquially as “chemo-brain.”

“Patients describe their experiences, but right now we don’t have enough research to understand the phenomenon,” Kenefick says. “Any advice nurses give patients now is based on their experience and best intentions, not on scientific evidence.”

Kenefick and research assistant Joyce Thielen, a doctoral candidate in nursing, will measure the neurocognitive function of 25 women undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer over the course of nine months. Because chemotherapy can induce early menopause, which has been linked to similar symptoms, they will also monitor 25 women experiencing early menopause after having a hysterectomy. She is studying both groups of women to determine if reduced levels of sex hormones might be related to the chemo-brain phenomenon.

The study will be one of the first to follow breast cancer patients before, during and after treatment. Previous studies have not addressed menopause induced by chemotherapy.

When evaluated just once, the cognitive effects of chemotherapy appear relatively subtle, but patients report them as very recognizable. Some women say they notice an extremely unsettling difference in their mental abilities, Kenefick says, so it is crucial to compare brain function in the same patients at different times.

Conventional thinking has been that the side effects of chemotherapy subside shortly after treatment ends. As cancer survival rates increase, however, it becomes even more important to study the patient’s experience of long-term side effects of treatment, she says.
School of Fine Arts

Staging the story of Prudence Crandall's school

About a dozen years ago Carlton Molette, UConn professor of dramatic arts and senior fellow of the Institute for African American Studies, and his wife, Barbara, first learned about the Prudence Crandall School, New England's first academy for black girls located in Canterbury, Conn.

"We decided it had enough drama to have potential for a play," says Molette, who researched and read about the school's history.

Crandall, a white Quaker, founded the private school in 1831 for the daughters of the local gentry. When she admitted a black girl to classes, most of the white students withdrew from the school, which Crandall closed and then reopened as an academy for black girls in 1833. That school closed 17 months later after a state law was passed requiring local permission to educate black children, which resulted in three trials and violent attacks on the school, including a fire.

The resulting drama, Our Short Stay, directed by Molette and produced by the M Ensemble Theatre Company with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, was performed earlier this year for the first time at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center in Miami. The play was also performed as a reading at the Frank Silvera Writer's Workshop at the Harlem Theatre Company in New York City.

Our Short Stay focuses on two students who attended Crandall's academy and includes three actors who portray 23 different characters by putting on or taking off small articles of clothing, such as hats and shawls.

"I hope Our Short Stay puts one more piece of fuel on the fire to inspire students to get a formal education," Molette says. "Students need to realize how important it is. I hope they're inspired by what these women were willing to sacrifice in order to get that education."

Our Short Stay, by Carlton Molette, professor of dramatic arts, was performed earlier this year for the first time at Miami's African Heritage Cultural Center.

School of Allied Health

Genetic differences may affect muscle training

Overweight and obese people may have to pump more iron or clock more time in the gym than their healthy weight counterparts if they hope to see comparable gains in muscle strength partially due to genetic differences, suggests UConn School of Allied Health research findings presented to the American College of Sports Medicine in June.

The study of 449 healthy weight and 238 overweight or obese men and women was conducted by UConn's Exercise and Genetics Collaborative Research Group as part of a larger, multi-site examination of which genes and genetic variants influence an individual's response to resistance training.

UConn is one of 10 institutions involved in the obesity research, a four-year study funded through a $430,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health. The "Functional Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms Associated with Human Muscle Size and Strength" study, or FAMuSS, is led at UConn by Linda Pescatello, associate professor of health promotion and allied health sciences.

As part of the obesity study, Pescatello and three UConn graduate students collaborating with her—Bethany Kelsey, Gary Gianetti and Matthew Kostek—measured how their healthy weight and overweight subjects, as determined by body mass index measurements, responded to the same 12-week resistance training regimen using the non-dominant arm.

The researchers found that their subjects experienced comparable increases in muscle size, but not in muscle strength.

"Bigger people have bigger muscles, so you would expect that their strength response to resistance training would probably be greater, but when you adjust for body size, we found the normal weight group had bigger strength gains," Pescatello says. "It appears that being overweight or obese blunts the beneficial effects of training on muscle strength."

Pescatello says further study using a full-body training regimen is needed; however, she believes the study has implications for how strength training exercise might be prescribed for overweight or obese people.
School of Dental Medicine

Reorganization encourages collaboration
The School of Dental Medicine has reorganized into three main departments with the goal of increased collaboration among the school's 160 students, 110 residents and graduate students, and 120 full- and part-time faculty.

"This reorganization will result in taking an outstanding dental school to an even higher level of performance," says Peter J. Robinson, dean of the school.

Nine departments have been restructured into three new departments—oral rehabilitation, bio-materials and skeletal development, led by Thomas Taylor; oral health and diagnostic sciences, led by Maurizio Tonetti; and orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, and advanced education in general dentistry, led by Ravindra Nanda.

"This is an exciting and challenging time," says Nanda. "We're in the process of identifying areas in which we can develop new programs and improve some clinical efficiencies. The synergy of combined divisions and departments is stimulating."

Neag School of Education

Studying vocabulary intervention for young readers
In kindergarten and first grade, students learn vital reading skills, but vocabulary instruction is limited. A UConn research project could change this pattern.

"Children need to know the meanings of words to be successful learners," says Michael Coyne, assistant professor of educational psychology, who believes vocabulary skills taught as early as kindergarten can significantly help at-risk readers. He is studying the impact of vocabulary on young learners with a $686,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Vocabulary Intervention Targeting At-risk Learners (Project VITAL) is a three-year project to discover how to help young children develop vocabulary knowledge, especially students at risk of experiencing reading difficulties. Coyne believes this can be accomplished by providing simple, understandable definitions of words, using the words in the context of a story, and giving students a chance to talk about the words while relating them to their own lives and experiences.

"We know from research that kids begin kindergarten with meaningful differences in vocabulary knowledge, and the gap grows wider in the early grades," Coyne says.

Reading aloud to students, common in kindergarten and first-grade classrooms, tends to benefit the children with already well-developed vocabularies, reinforcing the growing gap between them and children who have less well-developed vocabularies. He recommends incorporating more supportive vocabulary instruction into storybook reading activities for younger children.

The first phase of Project VITAL began last fall, with vocabulary intervention strategies developed and field-tested at the Batchelder School in Hartford, Conn., and the Windham Center School in Windham, Conn.

"Acting out the meanings of words and seeing pictures is helping the children learn new words in a fun way," says Pat Delaney, a reading specialist at the Batchelder School.

The next two years will involve a carefully controlled, classroom-based, experimental study that tests the intervention strategies developed this year and involve more schools in the program.

Coyne's ultimate goal is to produce strategies and tools that all early-grade teachers can use in their classrooms.
School of Medicine

Getting an early look at medical school
A new lecture series is giving UConn honors students who are considering careers in medicine an early look at what to expect in medical school.

“You can see that it’s not going to be a walk in the park,” says Alberto Distefano ’05 (CLAS), one of 80 students who participated in weekly lectures by UConn Health Center physicians.

The rationale behind the 10-lecture series for top undergraduate students is “to give students a clear understanding of the depth, complexity and speed that material will be presented to them in medical school,” says Joseph Crivello, professor of physiology and neurobiology.

He says the students are attentive during the lectures, and UConn faculty demonstrate considerable skill in animating topics that might otherwise be ponderous.

Students are not tested at the end of the lecture series because the purpose is less about learning specifics and more about recognizing the breadth of the subject matter and how it will be presented in medical school, he says.

“The lectures are a good idea because they let newer students see if this is a career path they really want to pursue,” says Distefano. “It’s good not to have to worry about absorbing everything that’s presented.”

The lectures are mostly centered on the science of medicine rather than its social aspects, although the concluding lectures do explore the current and future state of health care and the doctor-patient relationship. The topics, which may vary from one year to the next, require some previous course work by the students or some advanced reading.

Recent topics have included molecular genetics, principles of the immune response, angiogenesis and tumor growth, and electrophysiology of the heart.

“The value of this program is profound in terms of the way it is motivating students,” says Lynne Goodstein, director of the honors program. “The turnout has been fantastic, and all indications are it’s going great.”

School of Pharmacy

A celebration of two milestones
School of Pharmacy alumni will help mark two milestones during activities set for Oct. 20-23. The school will celebrate its 80th anniversary with four days of events that include the dedication of the new Pharmacy-Biology Building.

Faculty members will move into the 180,000-square-foot facility before the start of the new academic year, but the building will be formally dedicated as part of the anniversary celebration on Friday, Oct. 21 at 2 p.m., with a reception and tours following.

The school’s new home, which it will share with parts of the biology department and the Office of Animal Research Services, is located across from the Chemistry Building in the center of the University’s Science Quadrangle.

One wing of the six-story building and two-and-a-half floors of laboratory space will be utilized by the School of Pharmacy. The proximity of its faculty members to scientists from other disciplines will allow for more frequent exchanges and will stimulate collaborative research projects.

“This building will be one of the premier venues in the nation, boasting high-tech classrooms, state-of-the-art teaching facilities and research laboratories, and improved offices and student spaces. It is a fitting tribute that the dedication of this wonderful new facility coincides with the occasion of the school’s 80th anniversary,” says Dean Robert McCarthy. “This is the ideal moment to reflect upon the accomplishments of our last 80 years and to gear up for the continued growth and development of the School of Pharmacy.”

Other events include a symposium Friday, Oct. 21, that will showcase collaborative pharmacy and biology research; a “Pharmacy Under the Tent” barbecue at Rentschler Field before the UConn-Rutgers football game on Saturday, Oct. 22; and the Pharmacy Alumni Gala in the Lewis B. Rome Commons Ballroom that evening.

The new Pharmacy-Biology Building will hold its first classes in the fall. One wing of the six-story facility and two-and-a-half floors of laboratory space will be used by the School of Pharmacy, with the rest of the facility utilized by two biology departments: ecology and evolutionary biology and physiology and neurobiology.
School of Engineering

Engineer Receives Carnegie Teaching Award
Douglas Cooper, professor and head of chemical engineering, was selected as the 2004 Connecticut Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The State Professors of the Year Award Program selects outstanding educators in all 50 states. Winners are chosen for their dedication to undergraduate teaching, which is determined by excellence in four areas: impact on, and involvement with, undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to undergraduate education in the institution, community, and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former undergraduate students.

Cooper joined the UConn faculty in 1988. He holds a doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Colorado and previously worked at Chevron. He teaches courses in numerical methods and process control, using software he designed. That software, which enables students to see how theory translates into reality in an industrial setting, is now used to train engineers at 150 schools and dozens of manufacturing sites around the world.

He also teaches a class in "engineering entrepreneurship," where students learn how to thrive in a corporate environment. Cooper teaches them everything from the need to offer firm handshakes and make eye contact to developing the ability to explain a project succinctly at a moment's notice.

"Doug Cooper works tirelessly with students to help them craft accurate, eye-catching résumés and cover letters that will distinguish them as they enter the job market," says Amir Faghrí, dean of the School of Engineering. "He works one-on-one with them to develop job leads and refine interview skills in an effort to ensure they present the best possible professional image."

Cooper was also named a University Teaching Fellow in 2003.

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Two UConn studies break new ground

Two recent breakthroughs have placed UConn at the forefront of regenerative biology research.

For the first time, UConn regenerative biology researchers have generated a stable line of embryonic stem cells from cloned cattle embryos that can morph into cells for nearly all bovine body tissues and organs. The results of this research may offer a breakthrough for scientists studying use of stem cells to treat conditions such as diabetes and Parkinson's disease.

"The bovine stem cells we generated are different from all previously reported lines," says Xiangzhong (Jerry) Yang, a professor of animal science and director of the University's Center for Regenerative Biology. "This is the first report demonstrating morphology similar to those of established stem cells in humans and mice."

These researchers, led by Yang, include Cindy Tian, also with the Center for Regenerative Biology, and Enkui Duan of the Institute of Zoology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China. They reported their findings in the March edition of the scientific journal Biology of Reproduction.

Another UConn study team, working with a Japanese group, has found the strongest evidence to date that beef and dairy products from cloned cattle are safe for human consumption.

The beef and dairy products study, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Connecticut Innovations Inc., is the first to examine specific proteins and nutrients in the milk and meat from somatic cloned animals. It fills an important gap in the scientific literature and may lead to regulatory approval of clone-derived food.

Yang and Tian also led this group of researchers and worked with Chikara Kubota of the Kagoshima Prefectural Cattle Breeding Development Institute. They reported their findings in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science in April.

The new study comes as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is poised to rule on whether to allow food from cloned livestock to be sold for human consumption.

UConn researchers have generated a stable line of embryonic stem cells from cloned cattle embryos for the first time.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

NEH Fellow studies health system in Puerto Rico

Blanca Silvestrini, professor of history and director of UConn’s Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Institute, was named a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow for 2005-06. Scholars are selected by their peers from other educational institutions to pursue research activities.

Silvestrini will use her year as a fellow to complete a book describing how the public health system in Puerto Rico from 1898 to 1940 reflected the developing early relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico in the years following the end of the Spanish American War.

At the time, Americans found in Puerto Rico well-established laws, an educated medical community, and big hospitals in San Juan. Amid the tension and opposition that might be expected in a colonial relationship, American and Puerto Rican medical practitioners shared ideas and developed new public health policies.

Silvestrini says that given the quality of medical knowledge discovered when they arrived in Puerto Rico, Americans were surprised to find widespread anemia, noting that Bailey K. Ashford, a U.S. Army surgeon, led a team of Puerto Rican scientists and health practitioners to uncover the cause of the disease. They determined that the cause was a hookworm, an intestinal parasite that can be picked up by direct skin contact with contaminated soil.

Through what she calls a “rich repository” of archival material in Puerto Rico, Silvestrini is reconstructing the relationships among American and Puerto Rican scientists at the Institute of Tropical Medicine’s Center for Research, which was established in 1913. She has studied Ashford’s memoir, field notes, correspondence, journals, and meeting notes, as well as other historic resources.

Silvestrini says her research has united two of her long-time interests, gender history—she is gathering oral histories of women who worked as nurses—and the history of health care.

Balancing civil rights and evidence collection

Mass collection of DNA samples to rule out potential crime suspects and the use of fingerprint evidence are among the topics being examined in DNA Fingerprinting and Civil Liberties, a new course in molecular and cell biology.

An increasing number of defense attorneys and prosecutors are using biological identifiers to either bolster or challenge cases. Among the questions raised in the seminar-style course: From whom can or should the government require DNA samples? Should DNA be collected from everybody or only from people who have had legal troubles, and for which crimes? How long should DNA information be kept?

Linda Strausbaugh, UConn professor of molecular and cell biology who initiated the course, says the class encourages students to think about the use of biological evidence in law enforcement and the civil liberties implications of obtaining this kind of evidence. Many of the students who take the course are from the professional science master’s in applied genomics program. In addition to ethical and civil liberties issues, the course also familiarizes science students with legal procedures.

The idea for the course was suggested by two of Strausbaugh’s former doctoral students—Carll Ladd ’90 Ph.D., now director of the DNA Unit for the Connecticut state police laboratory, and Michael Bourke ’92 Ph.D., director of CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) for the state lab.

Nancy V. Gifford, a former assistant U.S. attorney who teaches the course, says the increasing use of genetic material as evidence in legal cases requires a balance between individual rights and the common good.

The issues the course confronts are surfacing more frequently in the courtroom, says Gifford, as the use of DNA evidence grows and statutes are passed about how genetic information can be used.

“The law is not static; it’s being challenged all the time. We could teach out of the newspaper because there is so much going on,” she says, noting a murder case was solved earlier this year with new DNA evidence obtained after police requested DNA samples from 800 male residents of a town in Massachusetts.
School of Law

Lending a helping hand on tax law

Most people view tax law as a highly technical subject. But for Diana Leyden '82 J.D., associate clinical professor of law, it is one of the best areas of law to work directly with people and to help them.

As director of the UConn School of Law Tax Clinic, Leyden trains and supervises law students who represent low-income taxpayers in federal and state tax controversies. Her commitment to helping people led her to bring together a coalition of community organizations to form a group aimed at helping eligible working families in Hartford to benefit from use of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a tax credit aimed at reducing poverty of working families. Since its launch, the coalition has grown into a statewide effort.

Leyden's work on behalf of low-income families was recognized earlier this year by the American Bar Association, which presented her with the Tax Section Pro Bono Award at a national meeting held in San Diego.

The law professor was nominated by two of her students, June Gold '05 J.D. and Sandra Dawson '05 J.D., who detailed Leyden's dedication to public service, her teaching and her advising.

"We are charged with the highest level of honesty and encouraged to practice our craft with integrity," the students say in their nomination letter. "We are challenged with the task of researching the fine points of the law and then encouraged to seek alternative solutions to tax problems... It's an amazing experience."

Leyden's interest in tax law began when she took the federal tax law class taught by Richard Pomp, Alva Loiselle Professor of Law. During her career, she clerked for the Hon. Herbert Chabot, United States Tax Court, has worked in private practice and as a lawyer for the tax revenue divisions of the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut. She joined the UConn faculty in 1999.

"Tax law is like an umbrella. It covers everything we do. It intrigues me," she says. "It is especially very satisfying to see that my peers and my students recognize my efforts and that I can serve as a model for them to uphold the duty of lawyers to provide pro bono service."

School of Social Work

Helping schools be safe

The School of Social Work is collaborating with the Hartford public schools in a federally sponsored program that is being viewed as a national model to promote healthy childhood development and safety in schools.

The initiative—Safe Schools/Healthy Schools—aims to reduce alcohol and drug use and violence among the city's youth by training and providing social work services throughout the Hartford public school system. UConn graduate students are participating in field education internships in three middle schools and two high schools under the supervision of UConn social work faculty.

Safe Schools/Healthy Schools has six elements to develop healthy, well-educated students who attend safe and community-friendly schools, including the substance abuse and violence prevention component being implemented by UConn. The program is funded by a three-year, $9 million U.S. Department of Education grant.

At Quirk Middle School, one of Hartford's largest schools, in a single academic year there were 1,660 student referrals, more than 300 peer mediations and more than 250 conflict resolutions with youngsters.

"It's been a challenging experience for our students," says Catherine Havens, UConn's associate dean of social work. "It's been a good learning experience for them and one in which they've felt that they've contributed to making the lives of these children in the schools better."

Leah O'Neill Fichtner, director of the program for Hartford schools, says the program partners presented details of their work to a national conference of secondary school administrators and have been asked to host a meeting to advise other communities about the program.

Fichtner says the partnership has helped to keep Hartford students safer and that the school system has the opportunity to see UConn's top students, many of whom are being recruited for positions after graduation.

"Our children in Hartford benefit most of all," she says. "Catherine Havens and Dean Kay Davidson have exhibited great leadership. They're leading the charge, which is wonderful."
School of Family Studies

Helping keep the lead out

A novel approach to raising awareness about the danger of lead for Native American children, developed by UConn's Healthy Environments for Children Initiative (HEC), was recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A joint initiative of the School of Family Studies and the Cooperative Extension System, HEC has created a series of children's books to teach those most at risk how they can protect themselves from the dangers that lurk in lead, including permanent brain damage. The third in this series of books published with support from the Penobscot Indian Nation in Maine, How Mother Bear Taught the Children about Lead, received a 2005 Children's Environmental Health Recognition Award from the EPA.

"Lead poisoning is a problem around the country, but especially in New England, because the housing stock here is so old," says UConn's HEC Coordinator Joan Bothell, who authored the book along with Maureen T. Mulroy, associate dean of family studies and Mary-Margaret Gaudio, cooperative extension educator.

Lead paint, a common source of lead poisoning, has been banned from houses since 1978, but many New England homes are much older than that, Bothell says. Complete with checklists, quizzes and a board game, How Mother Bear Taught the Children about Lead is a curriculum for Native American children in grades 3 and 4.

Mother Bear is a guide figure who tells children lead can make them very sick and shows them the most common sources of lead in their everyday environment at home, including water from old lead pipes and soil contaminated by peeling paint or gasoline.

The authors divided Mother Bear's lessons by season because of the important role nature plays in Native American life, Bothell says. No matter the season, Mother Bear offers children simple ways they can protect themselves—from washing their hands and removing their shoes before they go inside to eating healthful foods and letting faucet water run until it's cold before drinking it.

HEC's award-winning curriculum is now being distributed to Native American nations through the U.S.

School of Business

Accelerating on the GE fast track

After only 12 months on the job, Irina Tsikhebashvili '04 M.B.A., a risk analyst for GE Consumer Finance in Stamford, Conn., was named as one of 10 recipients worldwide of General Electric's Edison Award, the company's most prestigious technical honor bestowed by the leadership teams from their respective businesses.

Edison Awards are presented annually to individuals for technical contributions that have made a significant impact on the current and future vitality of GE businesses.

Tsikhebashvili was recognized for developing a macroeconomic risk assessment model for the GE Consumer Finance Global Mortgage Program. The model applies options pricing, economic theory, econometric principles and simulation methodology to measure and manage the risk of real estate secured loan portfolios. The model has already been launched in Hungary and Poland and was instrumental in extending a cross-currency mortgage lending program in central Europe by $900 million.

Tsikhebashvili graduated from UConn's M.B.A. program with a 4.0 GPA in her finance concentration. She already has been inducted into the UConn School of Business Hall of Fame because of her outstanding academic achievements and involvement in extracurricular organizations.

She was actively involved in UConn's edgelab, a learning laboratory created by the School of Business and the General Electric Company at UConn's campus in Stamford. She praised the assistance provided to her by Norman Moore, UConn associate professor of finance, and James Marsden, professor of operations and information management.

"Edgelab is a learning accelerator. It is a unique opportunity to learn by doing and it provides challenging projects," says Tsikhebashvili. "Edgelab is one of the best things that happened in my career, and my success today would not be possible without it."

"The Edison Award winners embody the GE values of imagine, solve, build and lead, and their outstanding contributions and commitment to innovation have truly made an impact on their businesses," says Scott Donnelly, senior vice president of GE Global Research.
Kenneth Dautrich, chairman of the department of public policy, left, and David Yalof, associate professor of political science, conducted the Future of the First Amendment Study under a grant from the James S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Congress shall make no law . . .

Student survey shows poor knowledge of First Amendment

In the land of the free, American students, teachers and school administrators have a lot to learn about their liberties according to a study by two UConn professors that revealed a profound lack of knowledge about the First Amendment, a fundamental part of the U.S. Constitution.

Kenneth Dautrich, chairman of the department of public policy in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and David Yalof, associate professor of political science, conducted the Future of the First Amendment study under a $1 million grant from the James S. and James L. Knight Foundation. They surveyed 112,000 students, 8,000 teachers, and more than 500 administrators and principals at 544 high schools across the country.

"As a society, Americans value democracy and democratic ideals, but the public education system is not putting any type of focus on preparing students to be better citizens in a democracy," says Dautrich.

The study found nearly three-quarters of high school students surveyed did not know how they felt about the First Amendment or took it for granted. After hearing the text of the First Amendment, more than 35 percent of students said they thought it went too far in the rights it guarantees, including freedom of the press, religion and assembly.

Among other findings: about 75 percent of students polled thought flag burning was illegal, most school administrators said learning
about the First Amendment was important, but not a top priority, and 40 percent of high schools without student newspapers had eliminated them within the past five years.

The survey also showed that students taking media or First Amendment classes were more likely to believe Americans should be allowed to express unpopular opinions.

Daurich says the idea for the Future of the First Amendment study grew out of similar surveys of adults UConn has been conducting for the Freedom Forum since 1997. The studies show how support for the First Amendment waxes and wanes and was at a low ebb immediately following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

“I think we expected to find high school students would, as adults do, take the First Amendment for granted...”

Overall, the adult survey results “painted a very grim picture of the extent to which Americans valued and supported freedom of expression,” Daurich says. Polling young people seemed the next logical step.

“We needed to find out not only what high school students knew about the First Amendment, but also how to begin to come up with ways to strengthen the First Amendment,” Daurich says.

“I think we expected to find high school students would, as adults do, take the First Amendment for granted, and most would not be thinking about it at all,” Yalof says. “But there never had been any kind of systematic exploration of this anecdotal belief.”

What they discovered mirrored many of their expectations. The survey results made a major media splash when released in January 2005, as Iraqi citizens were voting in their first democratic election.

“We didn’t put a global framework on it, but other people have,” Yalof says. “There is some irony that while we’re fighting to bring freedom abroad, there’s still some work to be done at home to shore up appreciation for those freedoms.”

The data has hit home among educators.

“We know that journalism instructors, school administrators and educational leaders are very concerned about these developments, [showing] the First Amendment is being ‘left behind,’” says Yalof.

The two researchers say they are heartened by the finding that students working on school newspapers or taking classes dealing with First Amendment issues develop a greater understanding of—and appreciation for—those issues.

“One thing we found is if you do provide educational opportunities for high school students, it will make a difference,” says Yalof.

Marcel Dufresne, UConn associate professor of journalism, suggests those opportunities span a wider range of subjects.

“I’m not surprised at these results,” says Dufresne, who received the national Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award from the Society of Professional Journalists in 2002. “This study shows why journalism helps instill appreciation of the First Amendment, but I often see students with very little understanding of politics, civics and how government works.

Dufresne believes the federal government should develop educational materials for schools containing information about the First Amendment, which also could be integrated with “existing history, politics and current affairs courses—all very appropriate places.”

Daurich contends teachers can best communicate the importance of the First Amendment by showing students “how it is relevant to things that are important to them.”

Dufresne agrees, noting, “The real challenge is making students understand why they should care. Schools do have a role in this, but unless it’s mandated in the curriculum I don’t see public high schools doing much to promote it.”

— Karen Singer ’73 (CLAS)

Survey Says...

UConn’s department of public policy conducted national polls of journalists and the American public regarding their First Amendment rights, focusing on freedom of the press, in late March and April of 2005.

- Only 14% of Americans—and 57% of journalists—can name freedom of the press as a right in the First Amendment.
- 43% of Americans believe the press has “too much freedom;” 3% of journalists agree.
- 22% of Americans believe government should be able to censor newspapers.
- 72% of journalists say the media is doing a good job in reporting information accurately; 39% of Americans agreed.
- Only about one-third (36%) of Americans agree the news media tries to report the news without bias; 61% claim there is bias in news coverage.
- Journalists support defying a judge’s ruling to divulge sources, but public opinion is not as strong: 87% of journalists disagree with the recent federal court ruling requiring reporters to release their confidential sources during grand jury investigations. Only 48% of the American public, however, think this decision violates the First Amendment.

Summary of methodology: The findings in this summary are based on a telephone survey of 1,000 American adults and a telephone survey of 300 television and newspaper journalists. Sampling error for the survey of American adults is +/- 3.5%. Sampling error for the journalist survey is +/- 5%.

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SPOTLIGHT ON

Students

No guessing about Liner’s ability in mathematics

David Liner sees to learn inside and outside the classroom

David Liner ’08 (CLAS) has had a passion for math since grade school. And thanks to his grandfather, an underwriter at the Travelers, he remembers being the only youngster around who actually knew what an actuary does—calculate costs to assume risk in all types of business, which is used for strategic management decisions.

Actuaries demonstrate their mastery of calculus, statistics and probability by passing a series of eight professional exams, usually over the course of six to 10 years. At UConn, David Liner is one of those rare students who completed the first exam as a freshman.

Salutatorian of his class at East Hartford High School, Liner is a UConn Presidential Scholar, a scholarship for students who rank first or second in their graduation class, and is also a mathematics department Actuarial Scholar.

Because of Liner’s abilities in mathematics, in high school he took several advanced placement courses as well as courses through UConn’s High School Cooperative Program, designed to offer academically talented high school students the opportunity to take college level courses. His success in these classes allowed him to begin his first year at UConn taking upper division course work.

Today, Liner is about a year ahead of his peers in credits toward fulfilling requirements for his degree in actuarial science. He says he now looks forward to being able to not only take math classes but also finance, accounting and business.

Even with his enthusiasm for mathematical equations, Liner says he knows his life needs to be more than just numbers, such as his 4.0 GPA. He has been a fan of UConn football and men’s basketball since he was in middle school, so while researching colleges he was excited to learn that UConn’s academic reputation surpassed its athletic fame. During his first year on campus he enjoyed hosting prospective students and introducing them to living and learning at UConn through the Husky for a Day program.

Liner lived the past year in the residential housing community for first-year honors students. A member of the academic committee of the Honors Council this past year, he will serve in the fall as the Council’s treasurer. He will also be vice president of Gamma Iota Sigma, an academic fraternity for actuarial science majors. He credits the mentoring of older students in the group with helping him to prepare his resume and polish his interview skills to secure an actuarial internship at St. Paul Travelers this summer. He is also considering pursuing a four-year master’s degree or a double major.

“To get a proper education you need to learn both in and out of the classroom,” he says, adding his goal is “to learn as much as I can from many people.”

It does not take someone as good with mathematical formulas as Liner to conclude that his prospects for future success are well above average.

— Leslie Virostek
An attraction for teaching chemistry

Erica Pernell finds rewards in helping others understand a difficult subject

When junior Erica Pernell '06 (CLAS) came to the University of Connecticut, she could not think of a more fulfilling major than chemistry.

Chemistry has long been an interest for Pernell, who was a valedictorian at Plainville (Conn.) High School, because she enjoyed the challenge of a difficult subject. Then she became a tutor and discovered that teaching chemistry was even more enjoyable.

"I realized how rewarding it was to help people understand difficult subject matter," she says. "If I could affect people the way my teachers have, that would be an awesome thing to do."

Pernell is pursuing a degree in secondary education and chemistry as a UConn Day of Pride Scholar, a group of outstanding Connecticut students who receive merit and need-based scholarships.

She loves the idea of offering high school students insight into how the world works and helping them understand that chemistry is all around them, from the carbonation of the soda they drink to the levels of ozone in the air they breathe. What's more, she says, even youngsters who do not go on to be scientists benefit from the exercise of putting together memorization skills and step-by-step formulas to find answers to questions. "Chemistry incorporates problem-solving skills that you're going to need to know forever," Pernell notes.

With the goal of gaining the most complete perspective on the discipline, Pernell has successfully worked through challenging classes in organic, inorganic, and general chemistry, as well as interdisciplinary areas such as bio-chemistry. Nicholas Leadbeater, assistant professor of chemistry, says, "Erica works hard, is studious and conscientious. She handles all of it well."

A Dean's List student, Pernell is taking education courses and fulfilling teaching internships, both of which have given her insight into what she describes as "the method behind the madness of all my great teachers."

In her first internship, Pernell worked in a kindergarten special education classroom. She says it was gratifying to teach children something so fundamental as reading.

"It's incredible to see how different teaching is in an urban school setting and that really opened my eyes to see that-maybe when I graduate, I do want to work in an urban setting," she says.

While excelling in her academics, Pernell also manages to be a contributor on the softball team as a utility fielder. Softball coach Karen Mullins describes Pernell as "high energy, full of enthusiasm, really a very positive person," who was twice selected for All-State honors in high school and several times named to the Big East All-Academic team.

"I like being part of a team. It's like having a family at school," Pernell says. "I feel like I'm part of something completely special that a lot of people don't get the chance to do."

Pernell ties all of her major interests together—chemistry, teaching, and softball—by tutoring some of her teammates through UConn's Counseling Program for Intercollegiate Athletes.

Sarah Gould, the program's coordinator, notes that of the more than 100 tutors in the program, Pernell is among those who receive the highest praise. Tutoring teammates has the potential for awkwardness, but that is not the case with Pernell.

"It just says something about the kind of person she is," says Gould. "It takes a special person to do what she does."

— Leslie Virostek

"Erica works hard, is studious and conscientious. She handles all of it well."

Erica Pernell '06 (CLAS) combines her interests by tutoring her softball teammates in chemistry.
On the road with the Huskies

By John Surowiecki '66 (CLAS), '78 M.A.

Photos by Peter Morenus

It was historic, the first time a UConn football team had ever played in—and won—a bowl game. Led by the arm of senior quarterback Dan Orlovsky, the open-field running of freshman Larry Taylor and a stingy defense, the Huskies opened up a 30-7 lead by halftime and cruised home to a 39-10 Motor City Bowl victory over the University of Toledo.

The game was played at Ford Field in Detroit before a record crowd of 52,552.

The UConn win showed the nation how talented and spirited the Husky football team was, but it also demonstrated something else: that Husky fans are among the most passionate, devoted and vocal fans in the country. And they also “travel well,” willing to go anywhere, anytime, to cheer on their Huskies.

The bowl game, after all, was in icy Michigan, not sunny California or Florida, and it took place just after a Christmas holiday that will be remembered for its winter storms and nightmarish travel snafus.

Even so, the University had more than 10,000 true blue-and-white fans on Dec. 27 to cheer on their Huskies.

“ Toledo is only 45 miles from Detroit,” said John Feudo, director of the UConn Alumni Association, “but we had the greater fan presence by far. And we won over the neutral spectators in the stadium. We came in as underdogs, we’re a very dynamic team and our fans were clearly more energetic.

“Coming into the airport and seeing U-C-O-N-N spelled out in hotel window lights, you knew this was going to be a special occasion for Husky fans,” he added. “And that’s exactly what it turned out to be.”

For David Bergamesca ’88 (BUS), who traveled from his home in New Jersey, it was an “amazing” experience. “Everywhere we went in Detroit we came across UConn fans,” he said. “It was like a family reunion.”

The 2004 season was also historic because it marked UConn’s first year as an official Big East football squad. The Huskies went 3-3 in the Big East which, along with their 7-4 overall record, was enough to get them into the Motor City Bowl.

Most of the victories were at “the Rent”—Rentschler Field in East Hartford—including a solid win over Pittsburgh, the eventual Big East champion.
But for hundreds, even thousands of UConn supporters, tailgating and cheering yourself hoarse at the Rent just is not enough. These are the Huskies’ road warriors, the hardest, most enthusiastic fans of all.

And in 2004 the road was busier than ever. The UConn Alumni Association sponsored buses to three away games (nine to Boston College, two to Syracuse and one to Rutgers). In 2003 there were nine buses and all were to West Point for the Army game.

For Lisa McGuire ’83 (CLAS), director of public affairs for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, “going to away games is a different experience altogether. You’re in the enemy camp, part of that island of UConn blue in a sea of yellow or maroon or gold.”

“Last year,” she added, “the team generated interest because it had generated expectations. The last three seasons have been winning seasons and included wins over some very good teams like Iowa State and Wake Forest. UConn is a winner and we all like a winner.”

In fact, since 2002, UConn has won 20 games, which puts the team among the national leaders in regular season wins. In first place is Oklahoma with 28 wins.

The 2004 schedule was a bit unbalanced. The Huskies played six of their first seven games at home, then three of their last four away. The first away game, against Boston College, came after UConn defeated Murray State and Duke at the Rent.

The UConn road contingent was larger than in past years in part because of the growing desire of the Husky faithful to support the team. The trip for one group of UConn fans began at a commuter parking lot off Route 195, near Interstate 84, as a group organized by the UConn Alumni Association waited in line for a fan kit that included a football T-shirt, a blue-and-white pom pom shaker and a boxed dinner for the ride to Boston.

Some fans had personal reasons for making the journey to Chestnut Hill and Alumni Stadium.
Heather Failla '96 (BUS) gave her brother Lou a ticket to the game as a birthday present. "It's a big game between these two teams," she says. "My brother's a big fan and I have to support my school, so here we are."

Jeff Ossen '62 (CLAS), '66 M.S. said going to the game was "a pre-honeymoon gift" for his fiancée, Eileen Moran; they were getting married in October. Jeff, who also taught business law at UConn, said a Husky victory over BC could be every bit as historic as the one he remembered over Yale back in 1966.

"It was our first win ever over Yale, and this could be our first win ever over BC," he explains.

However, the Huskies lost the game 27-7 before a national television audience.

Betty Kitch, an avid Husky supporter who attended each of the UConn-BC games, found some good news in the defeat. "When we first played Boston College they seemed like a pro team in comparison," she says. "We were like little kids against them. Now we're bigger, stronger and faster, and we put up a fight."

A few weeks after UConn fans said good-bye to Boston College, they said hello to a new rivalry with old basketball foe Syracuse. After an extended home stand, the Huskies had improved to 5-2, defeating Army, Pittsburgh and Temple, losing only to powerful West Virginia.

On the ride to Syracuse the two words on everyone's
Emily Wilson, an expert in geographic information systems; Jim Gibbons, UConn extension land use educator; and Chet Arnold, associate director of the Center for Land Use Education and Research, review photos and maps in the CLEAR office.
Getting a CLEAR picture of Connecticut's changing landscape

By Jim H. Smith

Drive along the winding back roads of bucolic Connecticut towns like Ashford, Scotland, and Coventry and you may find yourself surrendering to the illusion that time has stood still there. Around these towns—with their village greens, colonial cemeteries and white-steepled churches—the landscape is still dominated by farms, stone walls and forests.

It is hard to imagine that those woods, so integral a feature of the New England fabric, could ever just disappear. But talk with folks who have lived in these communities for many years and they will tell you land development is out of control, gobbling up forests at an unprecedented rate.

Can it be true? One person who would know is Jana Butts. As senior planner for the Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG), a consortium of 10 northeast Connecticut towns that have banded together to address mutual interests, Butts needs accurate land use data to help guide local development. And the most reliable source of those data, she will tell you, is the University of Connecticut's Center for Land Use Education and Research. CLEAR, as it is generally known, helps land use decision makers balance growth and natural resource protection by providing information, education and assistance.

"Land cover in Connecticut is certainly changing, but we still have a lot of trees," Butts says, noting that in 2002, forests covered 65 percent of the land in the WINCOG region. However, she will also tell you the picture is not entirely sanguine, because 17 years earlier, in 1985, 69 percent of the WINCOG land was wooded. The loss is just four percentage points, says Butts, but it amounts to some 7,868 acres, or an area more than nine times the size of Central Park in New York City. And the WINCOG forests are still vanishing.

What is happening in the WINCOG towns is representative of the entire state. Generally thought of as "sprawl," it is a trend dramatically borne out by the findings of Connecticut's Changing Landscape, a two-year CLEAR study, the first phase of which was released in 2004. The study boldly exemplifies the state-of-the-art science on which CLEAR is founded. The Center's insight into Connecticut's landscape, and its training and education programs, begin with remote sensing research from which aerial and satellite imagery are interpreted using sophisticated landscape analysis tools, many of which have been developed at CLEAR. Remote sensing is the science of gathering information about Earth's surface from a distance using devices such as cameras, multi-spectral scanners and radar.

Using satellite-based remote sensing, UConn scientists at CLEAR painstakingly compared the state's land cover as it was in 1985 and as it had changed by 1990, 1995 and 2002. During that

David Dickson, left, and Kara Bonsack, network coordinators for UConn's Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) program, study a municipal zoning map.
17-year period, they found, Connecticut lost 170 square miles of forest, an average of 18 acres per day. At the same time, high-density urban cover expanded by 119 square miles.

Of course, the relentless reconfiguration of the land has occurred as long as there have been humans. But the "man on the street" opinion is that it is happening much faster. Sprawl, many Connecticut residents believe, is out of control and threatening the state's storied quality of life.

That perspective has some validity, says Chet Arnold, associate director of CLEAR, but the matter is more complicated. "Some level of development is necessary," he says. "People tend to define sprawl in a very personal way, as development in a place that they don't care to see it. Suppose a project is carefully designed to efficiently utilize space with minimum impact on local resources. Would that qualify as sprawl? Maybe it's the epitome of smart growth. Just because a development is new, it's not automatically bad."

Whether a development project qualifies as smart growth or sprawl depends almost entirely upon local standards. Land use policies and decisions are nearly always made by elected or appointed officials. "The cumulative impact of the case-by-case decisions made every night in town halls across the country is what determines the look, feel and functionality of America's landscape," says Arnold. To make those critical decisions, local officials need reliable and accurate information. And that's what CLEAR is all about.

The first statewide land use inventory was conducted in 1990 by Landsat, the NASA satellite used to remotely image and evaluate the Earth's surface. Encouraged by the quality of the Landsat information, Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) was founded as a program within CLEAR the next year by Arnold; Jim Gibbons, UConn extension land use educator; and Dan Civco, UConn professor of geomatics and the director of CLEAR.

NEMO is a collaborative effort among UConn's department of natural resources management and engineering and cooperative extension system, two units of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Connecticut Sea Grant College Program. It has been helping local land use officials to understand the relationship between land use and water resource protection ever since. More than two-thirds of Connecticut's 169 towns and cities have benefited from NEMO's resources and its staff conducts some 150 educational workshops annually.

NEMO quickly became a national model, spawning a successful network that has funded projects in 29 states. Meanwhile, rapidly evolving technology opened up a host of new ways for Civco, Arnold and their associates to aid land use planners.

"There's been an absolute explosion in high resolution imagery in the past few years," says Civco. "Private industry is now producing data that are of military reconnaissance quality. At the same time, more and more municipalities have equipped themselves with the necessary geographic information systems (GIS) technology to use this information. When we started NEMO, only two Connecticut municipalities were using GIS."

In 2002, CLEAR was born of those technological advances and two years later, many municipal officials are repeat customers. Old Saybrook Town Planner Christine Nelson, for instance, recalls her first contact with NEMO. "I came across the Web site and I was astounded," she says. "It's a treasure trove of useful information."

Since 1999, she has collaborated repeatedly with the NEMO/CLEAR team. With their help, Old Saybrook has carefully inventoried all its important natural resources and developed new policies that regulate building sizes and impervious surfaces, such as asphalt parking lots and highways, that can impact storm water runoff.
But Civco and Arnold note that although municipal officials are the primary target audience of CLEAR, they are not the only one. CLEAR provides scientifically accurate information to any group or individual in Connecticut needing planning information. A developer, for instance, might want information on low impact development techniques or assistance educating decision makers in towns where he or she wishes to build. Or a lake authority might want information about how to reduce the impact of development.

"Our goal is to provide useful and understandable research-based information to whomever needs it," says Arnold. "In fact, the first two organizations that requested information from our Web site were the Home Builders Association of Connecticut and the Connecticut chapter of The Nature Conservancy."

Since Connecticut's Changing Landscape began, the findings have been downloaded from the CLEAR Web site more than 200 times. And the CLEAR staff has made presentations to an extraordinary range of organizations, including governmental agencies, public land trusts, builders groups, high schools, colleges, and environmental groups.

"CLEAR is extremely helpful," says Bill Ethier, executive director of the Home Builders Association of Connecticut. "No one else is providing this kind of information. We want to get beyond simplistic stereotypes and focus on responsible development that preserves land appropriately. CLEAR helps us cut through the hyperbole with science and facts."

In the next several years, the CLEAR team will be building on the Changing Landscape project, using sophisticated modeling to tease additional insight out of the data on topics such as forest fragmentation, urban growth patterns and the spread of invasive plant species. Much of this work will be in partnership with NASA, which recently made a major grant to CLEAR.

"We'll be moving from the 'how much change' phase into a more qualitative phase that will help us to understand just what the implications of these changes are for our communities and our environment," says Civco.

Adds Arnold, "As always, we will spend a lot of time and energy creating value-added access to our data for the citizens of Connecticut, through our technical tools and educational programs."

For more about CLEAR and NEMO, visit their Web sites: http://clear.uconn.edu and http://nemo.uconn.edu.
Mother Noella Marcellino, '03 Ph.D.
molecular and cell biology/microbiology
twenty years ago the Benedictine women of the Abbey of Regina Laudis faced a crossroads. In addition to their prayers throughout each day, the 40 nuns also worked the land, tending to farm animals, growing vegetables, producing dairy products and making crafts on the bucolic 400-acre site in Bethlehem, Conn. Members of that community decided a more professional approach to operating the farm was needed if it was to be sustainable for the future.

Archbishop of Hartford John Whealon gave permission for members of the order to embark on an educational pilgrimage. It was not the first time cloistered nuns had left Regina Laudis in search of knowledge. More than a decade before, the abbey sent two nuns to Michigan State University to earn a master's degree in fine arts, and another to study horticulture theory.

Which is why on a snowy December day in 1986, Robert Milvae, UConn associate professor of animal science, received a telephone call from the admissions office asking if he would meet with some prospective students. To his surprise, he found four women dressed in black and white habits waiting for him.

"I took them on a campus tour, and we chatted about graduate school," recalls Milvae (Mother Telchilde Hinckley's Ph.D. advisor). The nuns wanted to enroll in agricultural science programs, but Mother Augusta Collins '00 Ph.D., Mother Telchilde Hinckley '00 Ph.D., Mother Noella Marcellino '03 Ph.D. and Mother Jeanne-Yolaine Mallet '92 M.S. had majored in arts and humanities during their undergraduate days, not science. To meet the requirements for their proposed studies and to ease their transition into rigorous scientific programs, Milvae recommended that they first complete several non-degree courses.

So in 1987 the foursome began an educational journey leading to doctoral degrees in plant science/agronomy for Mother Augusta, in animal science/reproductive physiology for Mother Telchilde, in molecular and cell biology/microbiology for Mother Noella Marcellino, and a master's degree in plant science/weed ecology for Mother Jeanne-Yolaine, who returned to France last summer to live in a monastery in her native country. Along the way they earned accolades and awards, formed friendships with UConn faculty and forged enduring ties with the University.

"These women are remarkable," says James Bobbitt, professor emeritus of organic chemistry, who taught two of the nuns and has been the abbey's wine-making advisor since retiring from UConn in 1992. "They all had arts backgrounds and all became very accomplished scientists."

The women had been drawn to the abbey as members of its lay community during the turbulence of the early 1970s, a time of political protests and national strife over the war in Vietnam and the social activism of the civil rights movement.

By Karen Singer '73 (CLAS) • Photos by Peter Morenus
"We were disillusioned and driven to find meaning," says Mother Telchilde about how as young women they each became part of the lay community that worked with the abbey. As they spent more time at the abbey, they were drawn to a religious life inside the Benedictine cloister, where rituals include singing Gregorian chants seven times a day.

Each nun works in an area she enjoys. Mother Telchilde's enjoyment of working with farm animals sparked an interest in preserving heritage breeds. Intrigued by the intricacies of chant, Mother Noella learned to sing and teach the ancient Latin songs. She also milked cows and made butter, ice cream and cheese, which became her specialty after a visiting French cheese master taught her to produce a delectable Saint Nectaire-type cheese from raw milk. Mother Augusta has a penchant for outdoor work, a talent for operating farm machinery and an interest in sustainable land management. Mother Jeanne-Yolaine delights in gardening.

“It was evident that if we were going to keep the farm going into the future, we would need to have some professional agricultural credentials,” says Mother Augusta. The agriculture and microbiology programs at UConn were the natural choice for pursuing their studies.

“We are a community that encourages professionalism,” Mother Noella says, noting that among those in the order are two physicians and three lawyers.

“For most of our first year we crammed the four of us into a Chevy Nova,” Mother Telchilde says, adding they would stop at a Waterbury church to attend mass during the 90-minute ride to UConn’s main campus. The communal commute became impractical as the nuns delved more into their doctoral research projects. As they progressed in their studies and began to need more time doing research in laboratories on campus, they each would occasionally spend the night in the guest quarters at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Storrs.

“It was really hard,” Mother Noella says of their studies noting that the discipline and contemplative focus of their monastic life was good preparation for doctoral research. Still, each struggled to balance a growing educational workload with community responsibilities in the abbey. However with the unfailing support of their community the three doctoral candidates eventually would become widely recognized for their accomplishments.

Mother Augusta developed a methodology to predict nitrogen requirements that are needed to fertilize grassland for optimal growth at the least possible risk to the environment. Her research papers won awards from the Northeastern Society of Agronomy, and her doctoral thesis was published in the society's Agronomy Journal, the discipline’s most prestigious research publication. Her methodology has been adopted by others in the field. Today Mother Augusta is responsible for the abbey’s grass-fed beef herd and oversees more than 20 pastures for grazing and haymaking.

Mother Telchilde wanted to gain a deeper understanding of animal reproductive physiology. Her doctoral research focused on a hormone that is critical to maintaining pregnancy in livestock, and it included a 15-day research trip to Ireland, sponsored by a scientific exchange program. Today, she uses that knowledge to oversee livestock management and health programs at Regina Laudis, as well as the abbey dairy.

Mother Noella took introductory sciences courses at UConn’s campus in Waterbury. During a visit to the abbey’s cheese cellar, organic chemistry professor Nina Stein suggested that she focus her research on the microbiology of
cheese ripening. Under the direction of her Ph.D. advisor, David Benson, Mother Noella used an electron microscope to study the populations of fungi and bacteria which developed on the surface of the abbey cheese. She won a Fulbright scholarship to France to collect native strains of fungi from traditional cheese caves and stayed another three years, analyzing the samples on a grant from the French government. Her studies, which suggested that the diversity of Geotrichum candidum may contribute to the variety of flavors in French cheese, brought her fame far beyond the abbey and worldwide media attention, including a documentary titled The Cheese Nun.

The French government honored Mother Noella in 2003 with a French Food Spirit Award. She also won the 2004 International Academy of Gastronomy’s Grand Prix de la Science de l’Alimentation, given to an institution or person “responsible for contributing to the progress of food sciences at an international level.”

The nuns’ educational odyssey has produced an ongoing relationship between the Abbey of Regina Laudis and UConn that is mutually beneficial, says Cameron Faustman, associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Several professors have taken students on field trips to the abbey, including Sheila Andrew, UConn extension dairy specialist and associate professor of animal science, and Faustman, who teaches students about meat processing, using beef, lamb and pork carcasses from the abbey’s farm.

Mother Telchilde believes the “openness and accessibility” of the UConn faculty enabled the nuns to achieve their educational goals. “We began to feel that the campus was an extension of the monastery,” she says.

Faustman says that although their religious attire could have set them apart from their fellow students, the nuns’ presence instead helped other students. “Anytime you get non-traditional students, who have done other things, they tend to be highly motivated and not afraid to ask questions,” he says. “They helped facilitate greater learning for other students.”

As a result of their studies, says Derek Allinson, professor emeritus of agronomy who served as doctoral advisor to Mother Augusta, the abbey now has highly skilled and trained professionals “who can develop their land in an ecologically sound way that’s important to them.”

Most important, the lofty goal set by the community of the Abbey of Regina Laudis 20 years ago to ensure the sustainability of their farm has been accomplished. After returning from a student field trip to the abbey in 2002, Sandy L. Bushmich, associate professor of pathobiology and veterinary science, wrote to Mother Abbess David Serna and Mother Prioress Dolores Hart, the authorities of the community, and noted: “I can say from a veterinarian’s viewpoint that the farm I saw . . . is more environmentally sound and [the] herd healthier than it was in the early ’90s when I last visited . . . I am proud that UConn has played a small role in the evolution of the farm.”
Mentoring students with intellectual disabilities

Wargo Aikins studies how to bring together Best Buddies

By exploring the effectiveness of an established mentoring program that aids children with intellectual disabilities, a UConn professor is illuminating a subset of child psychology that is often challenging to study.

Julie Wargo Aikins, assistant professor of psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has spent the past two years studying participants in the Best Buddies program, an international mentoring initiative that matches students who are mentally challenged with peers outside their special education classrooms. The initiative, founded in 1989 by the Kennedy Foundation, works to introduce socialization opportunities that will help these students become more independent and feel more included in the community.

Wargo Aikins' research represented the first time the mentoring relationship between Best Buddies participants and peers has been studied. "We designed a study to test what kind of effect it has," says Wargo Aikins, who partnered with a Yale University professor for her research. "We were hoping to learn that these relationships are having a positive impact on people's lives."

Wargo Aikins studied 30 high school students with intellectual disabilities as they interacted with their Best Buddies peer mentor and again when they interacted with a person the student considered his or her best friend. The majority of best friends were also mentally challenged. Wargo Aikins watched as the groups of students communicated, played games and participated in other daily activities. Her research yielded insight on the benefit of Best Buddies mentoring relationships.

"Mentoring relationships are different from friendships. Mentoring relationships have a level of expectation," Wargo Aikins says. "What we found is while mentoring relationships and friendships contribute something unique, they both contribute to the students' doing better over time—both psychologically and with their communication skills and with the way they function in their homes and in the community."

Studying the development processes of children with intellectual disabilities can be a difficult area of child psychology, Wargo Aikins says. Physical or communication disabilities often accompany mental disabilities that prevent researchers from communicating with and studying this population of children, she says.

Wargo Aikins' Best Buddies research revealed an additional hurdle: Several students could not participate in the project because the students did not have best friends.

"That was one of the most profound things that we discovered," says David Quilleon, vice present of programs for Best Buddies International. "People with intellectual disabilities are some of the most maligned and disenfranchised people in the world."

Wargo Aikins is working to finalize the results of her Best Buddies study. In addition to her research initiatives, she also teaches a UConn introduction to psychology class and works with clinical graduate students. Interest in the field of child psychology continues to grow, she says. Her goal is to teach a seminar course on child psychopathology that explores such child disorders as depression, anxiety and aggression.

"The idea of teaching this course is very exciting," Wargo Aikins says. "A lot of people are interested in learning about children and how things go wrong with them."

— Peyton Woodson Cooper
Oguibe explores culture, theory in visual arts
Artist, historian and writer travels the world seeking new experiences

The walls of Olu Oguibe's studio are dotted with his paintings, but several canvases, rich with red and black, command a certain presence.

“They're about prison abuse,” says Oguibe, associate professor of art and art history in the School of Fine Arts. “I've lived under several dictatorships, and quite a number of my friends spent time in jail. It is something that has always been a concern to me.”

Over the years, Oguibe has been involved in several campaigns on behalf of prisoners of conscience. Another wall in his studio features portraits of Amelia Earhart, Indira Gandhi and Aretha Franklin created for a project called Women of Substance.

Born and raised in Nigeria, Oguibe joined the UConn faculty in 2003 with a joint appointment in art and art history and African American studies. He is a Renaissance man—an artist, an art historian, a critic, an art exhibition curator, a poet, a musician, and an author.

“If I'm interested in something, I do it,” he says. “I suppose you'd say I'm promiscuous in terms of experiences. If it has something to do with the intellect, I'm drawn to it.”

Oguibe, who teaches art history, painting, drawing, and theory, says his interest in African-American culture dates back to reading about it as a child in West Africa. “When I was 10 years old, I read about George Washington Carver and was blown away. I wondered how someone under the circumstances could achieve so much,” he says.

The author of several books, Oguibe's most recent volume, The Culture Game, is a collection of essays written during the past 10 years that represent his contributions to debates on culture and theory, particularly in the visual arts. His essays explore the differences in the way Western and non-Western artists are received, the obstacles faced by non-Western and minority artists, and the nature and concerns of non-Western art.

“The Western art establishment expects [non-Western artists] to make a different kind of art,” he says. “And every 10 years, a particular gallery or museum may hold an African, Asian or Latin American exhibition and then feel no further obligation to show these artists.”

Oguibe's works have been shown in one-person and group exhibitions in major galleries and museums around the world, including the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. At UConn, his work has been part of faculty exhibitions at The William Benton Museum of Art, and last fall he had a one-person exhibition at the UConn Contemporary Art Galleries. He also has worked as an international curator and consultant on contemporary art at galleries such as the Tate Gallery of Modern Art in London.

Earlier this year, Oguibe traveled widely, first to Vietnam to speak at an alternative art space in Saigon, then to Incheon, Korea, to participate in the 2005 International Ceramics Workshop and, finally, on to Mexico to create a performance for Monterrey's Casa de la Cultura.

— Sherry Fisher
** 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.

** Save the Date **
Reunion Weekend 2006
June 2–3, 2006

Mark your calendars! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 2 & 3, 2006. Volunteers are needed for the 2006 Reunion Weekend Planning Committee. If you are from the Class of 1981, 1956, 1951, 1946, or 1941 and are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1. She can also be reached by e-mail at kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu. Even if you are not from these classes, we would welcome your participation.

** Special Interest Reunions **

Interested in reconnecting with that special group of friends? Let the UConn Alumni Association help. If you have a specific group (i.e., dorm, fraternity, sorority, student organization, athletic team, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together for Reunion Weekend 2006, contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1, and she can help you. She can also be contacted by e-mail at kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu.

** 1930s **

Karl Krantz '39 (CLAS), '40 M.A. and Elizabeth (Durkee) Krantz '40 (CLAS) have been married for 63 years. The couple lives in Lexington, Va.

** 1940s **

Edward Zielinski '42 (CLAS) and his wife, Mary, recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. They live in Stamford, Conn.

** 1950s **

Sidney Grossman '50 (BUS) is commissioner of the Public Employee Relations Commission in Delray Beach, Fla. He has seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Milton Robert Porter '50 (ENG) retired after 35 years working for the U.S. government as a quality assurance and industrial specialist.

John Collins '53 (BUS) sold his Chevrolet dealership and retired to enjoy his children and grandchildren. He stays involved in his local school building committee and hospital board of trustees.

Joseph Corell '54 (CLAS) retired after 37 years working in insurance and spends his time writing and tending to his garden in Clearwater, Fla.

Bill Koch '55 (ENG) retired after a 36-year career as an air traffic control engineer for the Federal Aviation Administration. He is still manager of the Burke Lake R.R. in Springfield, Va. He has three children and six grandchildren.

Frances (Swedburg) Campbell '55 (NUR) is working for a food recovery program, supplying food for the hungry in the Pleasant Hill, Tenn., area.

Roslyn (Swirsky) Dresner '55 (NUR) serves on the international board of the Women's League of Conservative Judaism. She lives in Newington, Conn.

Marion Smith Hanson '55 (NUR) was honored by her church with a named scholarship, the Marion Smith Hanson Scholarship, which is awarded annually to college-bound young people active in the Episcopal Church.

Elizabeth (Ross) Hostetler '55 (NUR) retired from the Broward County Health Department in 1997 after 19 years of service. She lives in Pompano Beach, Fla.

Delores (Samsel) Micinilio '55 (NUR) volunteers for the Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport, Conn., as well as her local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. She lives in Bridgeport.

Barbara (Beaney) Patten '55 (NUR) retired from the state of Connecticut as a health facilities inspector in 1997. She lives in Waterford.

Paul Lachlan Peck '56 (BUS) wrote three books, Worth the Room: An Autobiography of Survival and Service; Your Dreams Count: A Layman's Approach to Dream Analysis; Inherit the Kingdom: Heirs of God and Joint-Heirs with Christ, and edited Classic Children's Literature for Your Home Library. He lives in Dana Point, Calif.

Robert Behnke '57 (CLAS) was 2003 Angler of the Year in Fly Rod & Reel magazine, has received numerous accolades for his work in environmental conservation and recently published Trout and Salmon of North America. He and his wife live in Fort Collins, Colo.

Peter van Dernoot '57 (BUS) received the Human Service Professional of the Year award from the Colorado chapter of the National Association of Social Workers for his founding of the Children's Treehouse Foundation, which provides psychosocial intervention for children whose parents have cancer.

Michael Emanuel '57 (CLAS) is participating in a two-year testosterone-bone density study at the UConn Health Center in Farmington.

** Abbreviation Key **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates</th>
<th>Graduate/professional degree abbreviations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAFR = College of Agriculture and Natural Resources</td>
<td>M.A. = Master of Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAH = School of Allied Health</td>
<td>M.S. = Master of Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS = College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>M.D.S. = Master of Dental Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUS = School of Business</td>
<td>M.B.A. = Master of Business Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFA = School of Fine Arts</td>
<td>M.F.A. = Master of Fine Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED = Regent School of Education</td>
<td>M.M. = Master of Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG = School of Engineering</td>
<td>M.P.A. = Master of Public Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFS = School of Family Studies</td>
<td>M.P.H. = Master of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BGS = General Studies</td>
<td>M.S.W. = Master of Social Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR = School of Nursing</td>
<td>M.S.P.T. = Master of Science in Physical Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNR = School of Pharmacy</td>
<td>Ph.D. = Doctor of Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMSA = Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture</td>
<td>D.M.A. = Doctor of Musical Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSW = School of Social Work</td>
<td>J.D. = Juris Doctor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M.D. = Doctor of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D.M.D. = Doctor of Dental Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pharm.D. = Doctor of Pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6th year = Sixth-year certificate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ron Topping '58 (BUS) retired as a regional sales manager of Hednin Corp. after 32 years of service. He and his wife live in Walnut Creek, Calif.


1960s

Ken Gold '61 (CLAS) was named communications chairman of Rotary International District 7490 in northern New Jersey for Rotary's 100th anniversary year.

Charles Inturrisi, '62 (PHR) is professor of pharmacology at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York City and has been elected to the board of directors of The American Pain Society.

David Clune '64 M.A., '69 6th year, '71 Ph.D. retired after serving as superintendent of schools in Wilton, Conn., for 22 years and was recently appointed president of Educational Records Bureau in New York City. He and his wife, Maryllyn Kennedy, and their four children live in Wilton, Conn.

Warren Martz '64 M.B.A. retired from his job at United Technologies in 1983 and has spent his time traveling and pursuing his interest in model railroads. He lives in Wethersfield, Conn.

Jeff Bray '65 (CLAS) is a realtor with Century 21 in Tehachapi, Calif., where he specializes in the sale and management of ranch properties.

Frank Napolitano '66 (CLAS) is vice president of human resources at National In-Store of Sarasota, Fla.

Albert Dabrowski '67 (BUS) and Christine Grecki '68 (CLAS) recently celebrated 35 years of marriage. Albert is currently chief judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court and was formerly United States Attorney for Connecticut.

James Lorello '67 M.S. patented a minute clock, which displays minutes more prominently than hours. He lives in Ivoryton, Conn.

Martha (Peterson) Arquett '69 (NUR) is a school nurse for the Norfolk, Conn., public school system. She lives in Norfolk.

Cheryl Avery '69 (CLAS) is founder and director of Project Chacocente, which seeks to provide welfare and education opportunities for impoverished families in Nicaragua.

Betsy (Belis) Castle '69 (NUR) is the school nurse for Terryville High School in Terryville, Conn.

Pamela Dole '69 (NUR) presented nursing research at the 15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, in July 2004.

Steven Link '69 M.B.A. is owner/operator of Link Executive Search in Loveland, Ohio, where he lives with his wife, Barbara.

Profile

Schaefer's surprising life in baseball

Few coaches reach the major leagues by learning to coach at the high school level, but Bob Schaefer '67 (ED), '70 M.A. is the exception.

Schaefer played three years at UConn and for three years in the St. Louis Cardinals minor league system before starting his coaching career at Ledyard, Conn., High School, where he led the baseball team from 1968-80.

"I thought my future was more in coaching and teaching than in playing," says Schaefer. "I was determined to get to the big leagues and felt that if I went back and learned how to coach and teach a little, I might make it."

Schaefer's break came when he coached for two years in the highly regarded Cape Cod amateur summer league from 1978 to 1979. A New York Yankees official noticed that he was a good teacher and offered Schaefer a job managing in the Class A South Atlantic League in Greensboro, N.C. He spent the following two decades managing in the minor leagues, coaching and holding executive jobs with the Yankees, New York Mets, Kansas City Royals, Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers and Baltimore Orioles.

When the Royals named Tony Pena as manager in May 2002, Schaefer became the team's bench coach, organizing team workouts, studying scouting reports and matching up the Royals players with other teams. He also would be a sounding board for the manager on strategy during games.

"The job of major league manager today is so complex with all the distractions with the media and all that, so you need someone to keep things organized and running smoothly," he says.

This year Schaefer also experienced the uncertainty and resilience of life in baseball. He started the 2005 season as the Kansas City Royals bench coach and then became interim manager after Pena resigned barely a month into the season. After 17 games, a new manager, Buddy Bell, was hired, and Schaefer moved back over one seat in the dugout.

"I'm just happy they gave me the chance," he told reporters when he learned that a new manager would arrive.

Although it was unusual that Schaefer reached the major leagues through the high school coaching route, his achievements might have surprised many because he was not recruited to UConn as a baseball player.

But he became the starting shortstop and earned two degrees. Earlier this year he received the first UConn Athletics Baseball Distinguished Alumni Award for a career that included leading the Huskies to the 1965 College World Series.

Creating a colorful career

As a child, artist Dean Andrews '76 (SFA) drew inspiration from her mother, a realist painter. Two UConn professors, however, provided a blueprint for her career.

"I really got the foundation for all my dreams at the University of Connecticut," says Andrews, who recently exhibited work from her ongoing series, "Solstice," at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Andrews creates abstract canvases, building "layer upon layer" of acrylic paint with rags, 12-inch scrapers and other tools. Sometimes, she adds glass "microspheres" to enhance textures and produce "an elusive and magical dance with light and color."

Cynthia Reeves Snow, late UConn professor of art, introduced Andrews to the "sensuality" of painting in a watercolor class. "She helped me understand the intimate relationship, the passion that an artist can have with paint and pigments and color," Andrews says.

The other professor, New York graphic designer Eve Mesnick, took several students on field trips to New York City, where they shadowed working professionals and visited the SoHo district, which then was the epicenter of alternative art. Mesnick introduced Andrews to the creative director at J. Walter Thompson, which then was the epicenter of alternative art. Mesnick recalls, "Becoming creative director at JWT became my goal."

"I was totally into graphic design and advertising," Andrews recalls. "Becoming creative director at JWT became my goal."

She nearly achieved that ambition. After graduation Andrews moved west and landed a job at JWT's Los Angeles office. Moving up the ranks, she was on the verge of being promoted to the top spot when a stronger ambition took hold.

"I decided I would really like to paint full-time," Andrews says. "So she left advertising in the early 1990s to focus on her art and has been painting ever since."

Along the way, she moved to New York City for the "artist loft experience" and later returned to California, where she lives today in Marina Del Rey. She has exhibited paintings in dozens of gallery shows and developed a base of collectors of her work.

Mindful of the help she received from her UConn professors, Andrews also coaches artists, giving them career counseling that ranges from advice on how to get work on a gallery wall to Web site design and construction.

"You reach a certain point in your maturity when you realize it's not only important to give back," the artist says, "but also that the rewards are enormous." — Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)
Mary Saslow '81 (BUS) is a managing director at PriceWaterhouse Coopers in Hartford, Conn.

Paula Crombie '82 (SSW) is director of social work for Yale-New Haven Hospital and chair of the Annual Investment Review Committee for United Way of Greater New Haven. She recently received the United Way's Community Impact Leadership Award for Community Investment. She and her husband, David, live in New Haven, Conn.

Pamela Kahn '77 (BUS) is the marketing director for Levick Strategic Communications in Washington, D.C., a crisis communications firm. She enjoys bikram yoga. She has two children, Alyssa and Jake.

Mark DeMaio '77 (ENG) is pursuing a degree in interior design after working as a civil engineer for the past 25 years. He lives in Nashville, Tenn.

Dan Blumenthal '78 (CLAS) is a supervising attorney in mortgage foreclosure, bankruptcy, evictions and REO practice group of the law firm Druckman & Sinel LLP in Westbury, N.Y.

Dennis Cavanaugh '78 (CLAS) is a partner in the construction practice group of the firm of Brown Raysman. He also leads the firm’s surety and fidelity practice group and is vice chairman of the executive committee of the construction law section of the Connecticut Bar Association.


Diane Baird Duhaime '79 (ED), '92 J.D. is a partner at the law firm of Jorden Burt LLP, in its Connecticut office, where she chairs the firm's technology and intellectual property law practice. She and her husband, Rick, live in Farmington, Conn.

William MacDonald '79 M.A. is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Special Forces and is on active duty, currently serving in East Africa.

1980s

Theresa Hopkins-Staten '81 (CLAS) was appointed by Gov. M. Jodi Rell to serve on the Connecticut State Board of Education. She is currently chair and president of the Northeast Utilities Foundation, Inc. and director of corporate community relations and programs at Northeast Utilities. She lives in West Hartford, Conn.

Patricia Ianni '81 (CANR) is a vice president in the commercial appraisal department at TD Banknorth Inc. in Portland, Maine. She lives in Falmouth, Maine.

Christopher Morrison '81 (CLAS) has opened a private practice law office in Thomaston, Conn.

Mary Saslow '81 (BUS) is a managing director at PriceWaterhouse Coopers in Hartford, Conn. She lives in Avon, Conn.

Steve Keller '81 (ENG) is president of Predicate Logic, Inc. in San Diego, Calif.

John Kissel '81 (ED), '02 (CLAS), state senator from the Connecticut seventh legislative district, was honored by the Connecticut Police Chief's Association, the Connecticut Assisted Living Association, and other organizations for his accomplishments as a legislator.

Diana Hopkins-Staten '81 (CLAS) was appointed by Gov. M. Jodi Rell to serve on the Connecticut State Board of Education. She is currently chair and president of the Northeast Utilities Foundation, Inc. and director of corporate community relations and programs at Northeast Utilities. She lives in West Hartford, Conn.

Paula Crombie '82 (SSW) is director of social work for Yale-New Haven Hospital and chair of the Annual Investment Review Committee for United Way of Greater New Haven. She recently received the United Way's Community Impact Leadership Award for Community Investment. She and her husband, David, live in New Haven, Conn.

At The Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

**Tony Bennett**
**Sat., Dec. 10, 2005, 8pm**
A Grammy winner who is one of music's greatest vocalists, moving the hearts and souls of audiences throughout the world.

**Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops**
**Sat., April 1, 2006, 8pm**
The 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration will be a magnificent semi-formal evening of spectacular music.

For more information about events at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, call the box office at 860-486-4226 or visit us on the Web at: www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com
Dennis Hannigan '82 (BUS) is a senior portfolio manager for YHB Investment Advisors, Inc., in West Hartford, Conn. He lives in West Hartford with his wife, Karen (Shulman) Hannigan '91 (CLAS), and children, Steve and Lily.

David Parsons '82 (ED) is executive director of the East Jefferson Family YMCA in Metairie, La.

Robert Budlong '83 (BUS) is a contractor for the U.S. Navy in Lester, Pa.

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John Baumann '83 (CLAS) retired from the U.S. Army after 22 years of service. He retired as a major and currently works for Hewlett-Packard in Northern California.

Kenneth N. Daniels '83 M.A., '91 Ph.D. was promoted to professor of finance in the Department of Finance, Insurance and Real Estate at Virginia Commonwealth University of Richmond, Va. He is currently serving on the Treasury Board for the state of Virginia. He also presented a paper at the 17th annual Australasian Finance and Banking Conference in Sydney, Australia, in December 2004.

Gary Draghi '83 (BUS) and Elizabeth (Daley) Draghi '87 J.D. announce the birth of a daughter, Gianna Louise Draghi, on Oct. 1, 2004. She joins brother Thomas Ward, 14, and sisters Isabella, 4, and Carolina, 3. Gary is a principal investment officer for the pension funds management division of the State Treasury. Elizabeth is counsel at UBS Realty Investors.

Susan (Dunney) Holzmer '83 (RSHA), '88 (CANR) married Joe Holzmer in September 2004 and is a senior research scientist at Fort Dodge Animal Health in Princeton, N.J.

Scott A. Winslow '83 (BUS) is president of Winslow Technology Group in Boston, Mass.

Kyle Odin '84 (BUS), '03 J.D. was named a Volunteer of the Year by the Pro Bono Partnership. He lives in Stamford, Conn.

U. Jonathan Toppo '84 (SFA) is in his 15th season at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. This year he appears in the plays Ma Rainey's Black Bottom and Gibraltar.

Tim Vilinskis '84 (PHR) and Cathy (Baldyga) Vilinskis '83 (BUS) live in Ridgefield, Conn., with their two children. Tim owns a real estate development and homebuilding business, and Cathy is a part-time real estate attorney.

David Fusco '85 (CLAS) is president of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Connecticut market.

Cathy Giorgi '85 (CLAS) is a medical social worker at Southwestern Vermont Health Care. She has a son, Michael.

Keith MacKenzie '85 (ENG) is vice president and chief engineer/operations manager for the Midwest branch of STV Incorporated. He lives in Wilmette, Ill.

Ann Stoppleworth '85 M.A. has retired after a career of more than 40 years as a psychiatric nurse. She has seven children and lives in Bolton, Conn.

Victoria Tarnovetchi '85 (CLAS) is in her 14th year as an English teacher at San Marcos High School in Southern Calif.

Laura (Leibowitz) Brownlee '86 (CLAS) and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of a son, Timothy, on Nov. 12, 2004. He joins brother Joseph, 1. They live in Dallas, Texas.

Susan Cossette Eng '86 (CLAS), '93 M.A. is the director of marketing and communications for the New Canaan (Conn.) YMCA. As a volunteer, Susan supports St. Bridget of Ireland Church in Stamford, where she is treasurer of the Parish Advisory Council, a Sunday School teacher, and a regular lector. She lives in Darien, Conn., with her husband, Jeffrey, and their son, John.

Peter LaPorta '86 (CLAS) and Debra (Heinz) Prim erano '86 (CLAS) live in Dallas, Texas, with their two sons, Jerod and Matthew. Richard is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Glencoe Group Services.

Janet Alexander '87 (SAH) and her husband, John Gagas '86 (CLAS), have five children and recently celebrated 15 years of marriage. They live in Middlebury, Conn.

Elizabeth Connor '87 (SFS) and husband, Joseph Forehand, announce the birth of their second child, Jeremy Connor Forehand, on May 1, 2004. Elizabeth is an independent sales director for Mary Kay, Inc. The family lives in San Juan Capistrano, Calif.

Doug Gilreath '87 (CLAS) is service coordinator supervisor with the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation and in 2004 received the state's Citation for Outstanding Performance. He and his wife, Mary Carol, have two children and live in Andover, Mass.

John Powell '87 (ENG) is a hospitalist at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany, N.Y., where he lives with his wife, Laura, and their four children.

Doreen Roy Harmon '87 (BUS), '94 M.B.A. and her husband, Maurice Harmon '86 (BUS), have three children: Patrick, 7; Jack, 5; and Madeline Rose, 1, and live in Seymour, Conn. Doreen is the vice president of Millward Brown in Fairfield, and Maurice works for HB Communications in New Haven, Conn.

Su-Ellen Brown '88 (CLAS) is a scientist at Bayer Healthcare in West Haven, Conn. She has two children and lives in Shelton, Conn.

Denise Merrill '88 (BGS), state representative for the Storrs-Manfield area, is chair of the Connecticut General Assembly's House Appropriations Committee.

Scott Miller '88 (ENG), '98 M.S., M.B.A. and his wife, Karen, announce the birth of a daughter, Marissa Sylvia, on March 30, 2005. Marissa joins brother David at their home in Weston, Conn.

Brian Raszka '88 (SFA) is senior art director at Estipona Vialpando Partners in Reno, Nev.

Peter Schaffer '88 (BUS) is a managing director at U.S. Trust, where he oversees investment and risk analytics. He lives in Weston, Conn.

Chad Stewart '88 (CLAS) is vice president for private client services at the Bank of New York in Greenwich, Conn. He lives with his wife, Donna, and son, Sean, in Fairfield.

J. Alex Urquhart '88 M.B.A. is president and chief executive officer of GE Commercial Finance Energy Financial Services.
Patrick Caruso '89 (CLAS) and Lisa (Spooner) Caruso '90 (CLAS) announce the birth of a daughter, Riley Gray, on Nov. 2, 2004. She joins brothers Michael, 5, and Thomas, 4. The family lives in Madison, Conn.

Scott Fellows '89 (ED) completed the requirements for a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Hartford in March 2005. He is the chairman of the mathematics department at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Conn.

Jennifer Pepper '89 M.F.A. is displaying solo exhibitions of her artwork and is a full-time professor at Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y.

Rich ELC Communications '89 (ENG) joined eLC Communications Corp.'s advisory board to support eLCs wholly owned subsidiary VoX Communications, based in Celebration, Fla.

Jena Weiss '89 (CANR) is the owner of Capital Dog Training in West Hartford, Conn. She and her certified pet therapy dog, Shane, volunteer in Hartford Hospital's pet therapy program, providing visits to both patients and staff.

Corina Abel '91 (BUS) and her husband, Frank Di'Bacco, announce the birth of twins, Nicole Elizabeth and Joseph Anthony, on Dec. 27, 2004. They join sister Samantha Lynn, 7, and brothers Zachary Frank and Christopher Tyler, also twins.

1990s

Pamela Abney '90 J.D. is an administrative law judge for the California Department of Industrial Relations, following her work in the private sector.


Heather (Brumfield) Spottiswoode '90 (CLAS) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of a son, Dylan Michael, on June 5, 2004. He joins sister Caitlin, 4. The family lives in Manchester, Conn.

Dean P. Freeman '91 (BUS) is chief financial officer for European operations with Stanley Works Corporation. He and his family live in Brussels, Belgium.

Brian Andrew Giusani, Jr. '91 (CLAS) married Ariella Michelle Scherer in November 2004. They honeymooned in St. Lucia and live in Wrightsville Beach, N.C.

Greg Hildebrand '91 (CLAS) and his wife, Tyra, announce the birth of a daughter, Lucy Autumn, on Nov. 29, 2004. She joins sister Ingrid Ann, 3. Greg is an attorney in private practice in Milwaukee, Wis.


Suzanne (Morrison) Roelof '91 (SFA) and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of a daughter, Julianne Elizabeth, on Feb. 12, 2005. Julianne joins brother Avery. The family lives in Woodland Park, Colo.

Albert Unger '91 (BUS) completed a J.D. from Quinnipiac School of Law in Hamden, Conn., and is practicing law in Stamford, Conn.

Catherine (Conway) Crowe '92 (CLAS) and Mark Crowe announce the birth of their son, Mark Thomas, Jr., on April 25, 2005, who joins his sisters, Ashley and Paige.
Jack Huntington '92 (CLAS) is counsel and an officer for MetLife Advisers, LLC at MetLife in Boston, Mass.

Matthew McLaughlin '92 (SFA) and his wife, Nancy, announce the birth of son Liam in August, 2003. Matthew is a graphic designer and started his own studio, Ideal Design, in 2001.

Pat Micinilio '92 (CLAS) and Kathy (Fitzpatrick) Micinilio '90 (CLAS) announce the birth of son Matthew, 4. Matthew is a graphic designer and started his own studio, Ideal Design, in 2001.

Michelle (Wincze) Abbruzese '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Tony, recently celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary in Las Vegas, Nev.

Jeffrey Aeschlimann '93 (PHR) and Eugenia (Hladick) Aeschlimann '93 (CLAS), '00 M.B.A. announce the birth of a daughter, Jocelyn Elisabeth, on Nov. 18, 2004. She joins sister Jordan Eugenia, 3.


John Erksine '93 (CLAS) is a structured finance associate in the law firm of Thacher Proffitt & Wood in New York, N.Y.

Michele (Dragon) Hearn '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Lily, on Jan. 25, 2005. She joins brothers Samuel, 4, and Jack, 2. The family lives in Sutton, Mass.

Vycki (Rowley) Pratt '93 (SFA) and her husband, Rick, announce the birth of their daughter, Casey Rebecca, born Jan. 5, 2005. Casey joins sisters Amanda Higley, 8, and Robyn Higley, 3. The family lives in Danbury, Conn.

Jeffrey Rossi '93 (BUS) is a partner at Haggett Longbardi, LLC in Glastonbury, Conn.

Darren Sharlach '93 (CLAS) is a partner at the law firm Reed Smith LLP and practices in the firm's commercial real estate and lending offices in Princeton, N.J., and New York City. He lives with his wife, Audrey, and children Emily, 3, and Michael, 2, in Princeton Junction, N.J.

Gary L. Thomann '93 M.A. recently published a novel, Vinland Viking.

Jason Vincent '93 (CLAS) and his wife, Jennifer, announce the birth of a son, Matthew Jason, on Dec. 29, 2004. He joins his sister Julia, 4.

John Adams '94 (ENG) is a project manager at Anchor Engineering Services, Inc. John lives in Colchester, Conn.

Michael Chadwick '94 (BSG) is the president of Chadwick Financial Advisors with offices in Unionville and Torrington, Conn. He and his wife, Betsy, have two children, Hannah and Samantha. The family lives in Harwinton, Conn.

Donna (Waterman) Douglass '94 (SAH) has been in private practice with Core Physical Therapy in Lisbon Fall and Monmouth, Maine, for four years.


Michael Henderson '94 (CLAS) and his wife, Christina, announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Rose, on March 21, 2005. The family lives in Manchester, Conn.

Todd J. Klein '94 (BUS) is regional director of client operations management at Hartford Steam Boiler in Hartford, Conn. He lives in northern Connecticut with his wife, Jessica, and their daughter, Alexis.

Eric Schmidt '94 (SFS) and his wife, Carmie, announce the birth of their son, Evan Monroe, on April 2, 2005. Eric is general sales manager at Champagne Chevrolet in Willimantic Conn. The family lives in Manchester, Conn.

David E. Birkhahn '93 M.B.A. is assistant vice president in the commercial lending department at Peoples Heritage Bank in Portland, Maine.

Gino M. Herring '95 (CLAS) is voter education director in the Broward County Supervisor of Elections Office in Broward County, Florida.

Michael A. Jakubowski '95 (ENG) married Dorothy R. J. Bennett in May 2004 at St. Joseph's Church in Occum, Conn. He is a senior engineer in Internal Structures at Electric Boat Corporation in Groton and lives in Norwich, Conn.

Jeri M. Jamaitis '95 (BUS) will marry John Jay Derksen in August, 2005. She works as a national account underwriting consultant at Aetna in Middletown, Conn.

Adrienne (Earl) Pollard '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Tom, announce the birth of a son, Joshua, on Jan. 2, 2005.

Kathryn (Maxwell) Talty '95 (CANR) and Jon Talty announce the birth of a girl, Jane, on Feb. 21, 2004.

Jennifer (Dorau) Souharada '96 (CLAS) and Bill Souharada '97 (BUS) announce the birth of Andrew William in March 2005. Jen recently became certified to teach secondary English, grades 7-12. They live in Shelton, Conn.

Kimberly (Peters) Smith '96 (CLAS) and her husband, Patrick, announce the birth of a daughter, Maeva Katherine, on July 16, 2004. She joins brother Finnian, 2. The family lives in New Hampshire.

Brian J. Weir '96 (CLAS) and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of Olivia Mary in June
2004, who joins brother Aidan. They live in Wallingford, Conn., where Brian is the head coach of the Southern Connecticut State University club hockey team.


Kristen (Terninco) Buch '97 (CANR) married Alan Buch in August 2003. She is a veterinary technician at Bolton Veterinary Hospital in Bolton, Conn.

Gregory Fennell '97 (BUS) and Felicia (Griffin) Griffin-Fennell '99 (CLAS) were married in August 2001 in Windsor, Conn. They live in Vernon, Conn.

Monica (Silver) Geary '97 (SFS), '01 M.S.W. and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Elena, on March 16, 2005. Monica is a social worker with the Visiting Nurses of Connecticut. The family lives in Hamden, Conn.

Tamara Nelson '97 (BUS) is chief information technology officer at Latitude Research in Beverly, Mass.

Femi Richards '97 J.D. and his wife, Nettie Richards, announce the birth of their daughter, Lauren Yvonne, on April 7, 2005. The family lives in Silver Spring, Md.

Rebecca (Plankey) Ritchotte '97 (SFS) married Robert Ritchotte in October 2003. She is supervisor of the north office of Eastern Region Service Center, a social services agency.

Tyla Caccese '98 (CANR) received an M.A. in environmental conservation education from New York University's Steinhardt School of Education in May 2004.

Sherri Estela-Harton '98 (CLAS) teaches English composition and children's literature at Briarwood College in Southington, Conn.

Renee (Iwaszkiewicz) Neiger '98 (CLAS) married Ted Neiger in May 2004. They live in Gdansk, Poland.

Jeff Gentes '99 (CLAS) and Mariah Kachmarik '99 (CLAS) were married in August 2004 at the St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Storrs. Mariah is currently studying veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and Jeff is an attorney at Proskauer Rose in New York, N.Y. They live in Philadelphia, Pa.

Brian Jennes '99 (CANR) and Marisa Wolff '01 (ED) married in October 2004. He is a firefighter for the town of East Hartford, Conn., and works part-time for the Department of Environmental Protection. She is an elementary school teacher in East Hartford. They live in South Windsor.

Jennifer Nichols '99 (SAH) completed her M.S. in nutrition communication and an M.P.H. from Tufts University. She works as a public health consultant.

2000s

Robert Sablbi '00 (BUS), '03 M.S. is a consultant for Hilb Rogal & Hobbs, an insurance and risk management intermediary in Boston.

Tamara (Goodman) Stein '00 D.M.D. and Joshua Stein '03 M.D. were married in September 2004. Tamara practices general dentistry in West Hartford, Conn., and Joshua is a resident in urology at Yale-New Haven Hospital. They live in Hamden.

Kara Chauncey '01 (ED), '02 M.A. and David DiBartolo '01 (SFA) are engaged to be married in May 2006. She is a special education teacher for the town of Monroe, Conn., and

Making a world of difference in Connecticut

Although Donna Martinez '73 (CLAS), '75 M.S.W., '78 J.D. has never worked outside Connecticut, her work has made a world of difference. As a U.S. magistrate judge, she has heard and decided cases ranging from widespread marriage-fraud rings and Internet copyright infringement to how the state will educate children with mental retardation and a high profile case involving child pornography.

But her work is not confined to sweeping cases. Often she decides the fate of individuals, too.

"All of those cases are extremely important to the parties who are trying to find a way to resolve the complicated problems that have brought them to a courthouse," she says, noting that many times people look to the courts to resolve their issues because they feel they have no place else to turn. "My first job is as a problem solver. I hear motions, decide them and preside over both jury and non-jury trials."

After serving as corporate counsel for the city of Hartford and then as assistant U.S. attorney, where she was chief of the Organized Crime/Drug Enforcement Task Force, Martinez was appointed a U.S. magistrate judge for Connecticut in 1994.

Magistrate judges are appointed by the U.S. District Court to serve for terms of eight years, and Martinez is now serving her second term. She works with two district court judges, who refer criminal and civil cases to her that may involve prisoners' appeals and matters that require factual review. She also mediates cases, especially in civil matters.

Martinez did not set out to become a judge. She enrolled at UConn thinking about becoming an elementary school teacher but influenced by the social activism of the early 1970s, moved toward a degree in sociology and a master's in social work. Later, she decided to pursue a career in law. She says that having earned three degrees from UConn set the foundation for her career in public service, which was recognized with a Distinguished Service Award from the UConn School of Law.

"It's really a remarkable opportunity that we have a public institution that can offer the citizens of the state the kind of background and training UConn provides," Martinez says.
Torrington Campus 40th Anniversary

UConn's Torrington Campus will celebrate its 40th anniversary this fall. The campus will host a 40th Anniversary barbeque picnic on Saturday, Sept. 10, from 1-4 p.m. and a 40th Anniversary dinner on Oct. 29 at the Torrington Country Club. For complete details, go to www.torrington.uconn.edu/events.htm

he is a graphic designer for Starwood Hotels in White Plains, N.Y. They live in Danbury, Conn.

Tara Kozulko '01 (ED) married Daniel Stritch in June 2004. She is an assistant athletic trainer at Manhattanville College in Purchase, N.Y., and lives in Danbury, Conn.

Erin E. Morrell '01 (SFS) received her master of arts from Fairfield University's Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions in 2004 and is director of campus activities at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Conn.

Christal Pauley '01 (SAH) is a study coordinator at the Yale Cancer Center, doing research on stem cell transplants, and is part of the bone marrow transplant team. She plans a summer 2006 wedding to Richard Esposito Jr. She lives in Hamden, Conn.

Gerald Tsui '01 (BUS) is chief technical officer at Environmental Data Resources, Inc. in Milford, Conn.

Jocelyn Fillian '02 (CLAS) received an M.S. in audiology from Southern Connecticut State University in 2002. She is an audiologist at Advanced Ear, Nose and Throat Associates in Danbury, Conn.

Patrick Hsieh '02 M.D. is a captain in the United States Air Force and deployed to the Persian Gulf as a Critical Care Air Transport Team leader in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He completed a residency in emergency medicine at Barnes-Jewish Hospital at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

Jyh-An Lin '02 M.B.A. and his wife, Connie, announce the birth of a son, Brandon, on July 12, 2004. They live in Great Neck, N.Y., where he is product manager at Rohm and Hass Electronic Materials, Inc.

Pamela Ann Prior '02 (SFA) is starting a three-year M.F.A. program in costume design at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Karen L. Cajka '03 Ph.D. was awarded the 2005 Irish-American Research Travel Fellowship by the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies. She is an assistant professor of English at East Tennessee State University.

Kathleen Fernald '03 (ENG) is pursuing her interest in cancer research and ran in this year's Boston Marathon for the benefit of charity.

Jeanette Moore '03 (CLAS) had several of her lesson guides and plans published in educational tools and learning digests of the Fragile X Foundation, a support and educational group dedicated to Fragile X patients and their families. She is a special education instructor for the learning disabled in New York and Connecticut. Jeanette is a graduate student at the College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY.

Christine Sweeney '03 M.S.W. married Kenneth Routhier in July 2005. She is a clinician at the Genesis Outpatient Center in Manchester, Conn. They live in Vernon, Conn.

Anne Toman '03 (CLAS) is engaged to be married to Kevin Sansone '03 (CLAS), '04 M.A.

Lara Reglero '04 Ph.D. is an assistant professor of linguistics at Florida State University. Tallahassee, Fla.

Mentor a UConn Student

By participating in UConn's Career Services Mentor Network, you can provide valuable advice and guidance to current undergraduates. Involvement can be as little or great as you would like, ranging from simple e-mail communication to hosting students for a day at your place of employment. Some ways to be involved include:

• Host the student for a job shadow
• Participate in UConn's Career Services events
• Present a workshop for a club or speak in a class
• Provide internships or co-op opportunities

For more information about UConn's Career Services Mentor Network, contact Beth Settle at 860-486-3013 or via e-mail at beth.settle@uconn.edu

Ramón Vega de Jesus '04 (ED) is a professor of teacher education at California State University-Stanislaus. He is also advisor for elementary education in the graduate program for curriculum and instruction and director of the Manteca Field Center for Student Teaching in Manteca, Calif.

Jon Urquidi '04 (ENG) is a surveyor at Anchor Engineering Services, Inc. He lives in Stratford, Conn.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski
Recalling MacArthur's dramatic escape

One of the most dramatic episodes in the history of World War II occurred on the night of March 11-12, 1942. The four remaining PT boats in the Philippines moved through minefields and past a Japanese blockade to take Gen. Douglas MacArthur, his family, and staff from Corregidor to Cagayan, where he then flew by airplane to Australia to develop plans for the Pacific war effort. MacArthur was to escape via a submarine on the first part of the journey, but the famously theatrical general decided to go by PT boat.

George W. Smith ’63 (CLAS) recounts the details of this drama in *MacArthur’s Escape* (Zenith Press), his third World War II book. Smith, a Vietnam veteran and former sportswriter at the *Hartford Courant*, tells the dramatic story of the dangerous events surrounding the fall of the Philippine Islands through the experiences of U.S. Navy Lt. John “Wild Man” Bulkeley, commander of a small fleet of PT boats that made up Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron 3 in early 1942. Bulkeley was the model for the character played by Robert Montgomery in the film about PT boats, *They Were Expendable*.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s pledge to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill to focus the U.S. war effort on Europe resulted in short supplies, equipment and troops to battle the Japanese advance in the Pacific theater.

“The Pacific section was told to hang on until they could get some help,” says Smith, who majored in history while at UConn. “Roosevelt said the reason they couldn’t re-supply there was the Japanese blockade. MacArthur said he would show them. It nearly cost his life and that of his wife and small son.”

With only two surviving members of the PT boat squad available for interviews, Smith worked with private papers and other documents, particularly those left by Bulkeley, who retired from the Navy as a vice admiral.

“Very few people had bothered to look into them,” Smith says of what he found in the documents and his effort to uncover all the details of the story. “In writing a book, you want to be careful about the legacy of the people you are writing about. I work very hard on that.”

Smith’s previous books include *The Siege at Hue*, about one of the biggest battles of the Vietnam War.
— Kenneth Best

Also of Interest

**True to Life: Why Truth Matters**
Michael P. Lynch (The MIT Press)

For centuries philosophers have theorized about the concept of truth. Michael P. Lynch, UConn professor of philosophy, delves into the heart of the current debate: the definition of truth and its pragmatic value in our society. Using philosophy and historical and current events, *True To Life* asserts truth is vital in politics and personal life. The possession, or lack, of truth can be powerful and dangerous.

Lynch’s philosophy states that truth is objective, that it is good to believe what is true, and worthy of inquiry and being valued for its own sake.

**Tangible Strategies for Intangible Assets**
John Berry ’83 (CLAS), (McGraw-Hill)

In today’s corporate world, tangible assets such as property and products account for only 50 percent of a business’s value. To understand its worth, the value of the business’s intangible assets—brands, customers, employees, technology and intellectual property—must be taken into consideration.

John Berry offers tools for businesses to identify and organize their intangible assets. He explains how to measure these assets and methods for obtaining a higher financial potential in a changing era of business. *Tangible Strategies for Intangible Assets* uses examples such as Microsoft to portray how some of the market’s leaders are optimizing their own intangible assets.

**The Thief and the Beanstalk**
P.W. Catanese ’83 (CLAS), (Aladdin Paperbacks)

The first novel by P.W. Catanese, known during his undergraduate days as the author of “Bedlam Hall,” the *Daily Campus*’s first daily cartoon strip, puts a spin on the children’s classic, “Jack and the Beanstalk,” with a continuation of the story. *The Thief and the Beanstalk* continues the tale with Nick, a young orphan who climbs the beanstalk in hopes of adventure and treasure. During his escapade, Nick finds himself in many precarious situations including being chased by a gang of thieves and hiding from hungry ogres. The adventure concludes in Jack’s fortress where Nick shares his story.
— Erin Wenzler ’06 (CLAS)
hamburger-hot dog affair compared to the splendidous cuisine found at the Rent.

Syracuse survived the Husky onslaught with a 42-30 victory but, according to the stat book, UConn should have won this game. They had the edge in first downs (35-18), passing yardage (443-125), and total yardage (566-406), but turnovers, penalties and Syracuse’s propensity for big plays (including a successful Hail Mary at the end of the half) sealed Connecticut’s fate.

Mary Lee Oleksiw, past president of the UConn Club, who attend the game with her husband, Jim Oleksiw ’75 (ENG), said it was heartening to see so many UConn fans at the Carrier Dome. “Our numbers are growing year by year since the days when we played UMass and URI,” she adds.

On Nov. 13, UConn journeyed down to Atlanta to play Georgia Tech, hoping to win their sixth game of the season and become officially bowl eligible. The Yellowjackets proved too fast and too strong, however, and handed the Huskies a decisive 30-10 defeat. Yet many alumni saw a brighter side, despite the outcome.

Bergamesca, the road warrior from New Jersey, said that the game in Atlanta to play Georgia Tech, hoping to win their sixth game of the season and become officially bowl eligible. The Yellowjackets proved too fast and too strong, however, and handed the Huskies a decisive 30-10 defeat. Yet many alumni saw a brighter side, despite the outcome.

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Featured Journey

Treasures of Tanzania—On Safari
February 20–March 4, 2006
From the predators to the grazers and the fauna to the flowers, visit a virtual Garden of Eden. Experience part of raw nature, the time of year when the birthing and regrouping begins for the mysterious annual migration of more than a million wildebeest, a large African antelope, and zebra as they begin their trek northward through the length of the Serengeti.

Treasures of Indochina
January 18–31, 2006
See three of Southeast Asia’s most intriguing countries: Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Poros, Greece
May 5–14, 2006
From the small, picturesque island of Poros, explore the magic of the Greek Isles.

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

Passage of Peter the Great
July 31–August 12, 2006
Cruise Russia along the Volga, Svir, and Neva Rivers; Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga aboard the M/S Repin.

Treasures of the Adriatic—Croatia and Slovenia
October 1–13, 2006, with optional extension of 2 nights in Venice
Croatia and Slovenia along the Adriatic Riviera are hot destinations this year! Visit beautiful medieval walled cities with stunning architecture and fascinating history. Spend three nights in Dubrovnik, the jewel in the crown; on to Split, the whole city that was Emperor Diocletian’s Palace; to the magnificent Roman Coliseum in Pula, still in use today. Up the coast to the Riviera towns of Portoroz and Piran and inland to the beautiful lake of Bled, surrounded by snow-capped Alps.

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

Ilan Averbuch, Israeli artist, designer and architect of the Dove Tower and Steps to the Bottom of the Pyramid sculpture next to the Information Technologies Engineering building, Averbuch was on campus for its dedication.

Artist's Statement

One of my goals with this project is to counterbalance the technological world of the engineering and technology students with a world of imagination and fantasy. The tower makes a historical connection because dove towers, and doves in general, were an early way of sending information across a long distance. The rising tower and sunken pyramid form a dialogue between themselves. While the pyramid offers a quiet and contemplative place to rest, the tower unsettles us. It suggests the ongoing inner dialogue between the horizontal principle and the vertical, between the earthbound and the spiritual.
UConn Football

Six Home Games in 2005

Sept. 1 Buffalo
Sept. 10 Liberty
Oct. 7 Syracuse
Oct. 22 Homecoming Rutgers
Nov. 26 South Florida
Dec. 3 Louisville

UConnHuskies.com 1-877-AT-UCONN
Support UConn's Student-Athletes – Join The UConn Club – 860-486-3863
Ryan Carpenter, Nicole Decker and Paul Needham, all '05 (CLAS), marched in the 2005 Undergraduate Commencement procession in part of the Jonathan Husky costume they each wore during various UConn events and athletic contests throughout the past year.