Destination UConn

Experiencing a whirlwind weekend of activities on campus
The University's main campus is home to the Nathan Hale Inn & Conference Center, a full-service hotel featuring 100 guest rooms, a business center, conference and meeting rooms, a Jacuzzi, a swimming pool and a fitness center. The five-story hotel also includes the Blue Oak Cafe, offering fine dining and cocktails.

Alumni, parents and other guests are invited to visit the Nathan Hale Inn & Conference Center the next time travel plans bring you to UConn's main campus. Special discounted rates are available to members of the UConn Alumni Association.
Destination UConn

World-class entertainment, exhibitions of landmark artwork, fine dining and all the memories you can conjure up are just part of spending a weekend at the new UConn.

By Jim H. Smith

Keeping Connecticut Healthy & Safe

The safety and well-being of Connecticut's 3.5 million people are the responsibility of J. Robert Galvin '96 M.P.H., the commissioner of Connecticut's Department of Public Health.

By Ron Meshberg

Historian's Perspective

A conversation with Professor Emeritus Bruce M. Stave, who has written a new book on the history of UConn, which is being published during our 125th anniversary year.

By Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS) and Kenneth Best
A Message from the Editor

Lasting First Impressions

If first impressions are the truest, as the 19th-century British essayist William Hazlitt once said, the Lodewick Visitors Center is fulfilling its mission. It leaves many favorable impressions on first-time visitors to UConn.

Each year, more than 37,000 people pass through the center, which is open daily, except for major holidays. It is especially busy on days when high schools are not in session, which is when prospective students and their families—including parents and often younger siblings—arrive throughout the day at the corner of North Hillside and North Eagleville roads in Storrs.

Those who arrive at the Lodewick Visitors Center are met by a group of people who are in the best position to answer specific questions from parents and prospective students about academic and residential life at UConn—our current students. About 45 student workers handle a variety of responsibilities under the supervision of the Visitors Center staff. Students lead guided tours of the campus, take tour reservations, answer questions from visitors and telephone callers, as well as other duties.

Each year new students are selected for the group, which is divided in thirds among sophomores, juniors and seniors. More than 100 applicants are interviewed to fill the 12 to 15 positions that open annually. Once selected, they undergo comprehensive training that includes shadowing tours, meeting with departmental directors, public speaking techniques and tours of the regional campuses. They also meet with UConn President Philip E. Austin and the Lodewicks, Philip '66 (BUS), '67 M.B.A. and Christine '67 M.S., benefactors of the Visitors Center who remain active as volunteers in several capacities within the University community.

Most of the questions that arise during visitor tours come from parents, says Meg Malmborg, director of the Visitors Center, and they usually deal with specific concerns about academics or campus life. Prospective students tend to quietly observe UConn students as they move about the campus, wondering if they will be among the student body heading to classes as freshmen.

As might be expected, the Lodewick Visitors Center staff is busiest during April and August, when most high school students tour their potential college campuses. However UConn's twice yearly Open House is also very active, when nearly 9,000 people may visit on a single day.

As our cover story on page 26 notes, the Lodewick Visitors Center is not just for prospective students. Many alumni return to campus to see how things have changed since their student days. As we continue to celebrate the University's 125th anniversary, there are a variety of events and activities that will provide ample opportunity for alumni to rediscover UConn, beginning with a stop at the Lodewick Visitors Center.
Looking back, toward the future

By the time you get this issue of UConn Traditions, the University will be more than halfway through our year-long 125th anniversary celebration. Multiple events, including the publication of Professor Emeritus Bruce Stave's history of UConn, remind us that we are building a 21st-century institution on a strong foundation established by thousands of faculty, students, public officials and friends.

There has been a natural tendency to focus on themes that link past and present. Many are obvious: a commitment to public service, as strong in today's information technology age as it was when agriculture dominated the state; a belief in access for academically qualified students of all backgrounds and income levels; and support for the linkage between research and teaching. Others are less immediately apparent but no less significant: pursuit of collaborations with other major Connecticut institutions, including public agencies, major businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and K-12 education; an understanding that education takes place not just in the classroom, laboratory or library but also in less formal settings that come under the general heading of "student life"; and ongoing pursuit of just the right mix of general education with training of a more vocational orientation—including but not limited to excellent training at the graduate and professional school level.

Significant as these "commonalities" are, we should recognize that the present is not always the past writ large. Yes, we try to hold true to basic principles, and for the most part change is evolutionary, not revolutionary. But in a few key areas, UConn, like other great universities, has made some significant, rapid leaps into new and challenging territory. One good example is the commitment we made in the 1990s to become a leader in research and teaching in the field of human rights. Another is our engagement in the promising but complex field of embryonic stem cell research. A third, undertaken some time ago but expanded over the years, is our program in education of the gifted and talented.

I cite these commitments not because they are unique—there are other examples I could cite as well—but because they demonstrate with special clarity that ours is a dynamic institution that contributes to exploration of topics significant not just to Connecticut but also to our nation and world. As we continue this celebratory year, this is something in which our faculty, our students and, I hope, our alumni can take special pride. Like other great institutions of higher education, UConn sets high aspirations, and takes occasional risks to fulfill them. If the past is, in fact, prologue, that is an attitude that will continue to serve us well in the next century and a quarter, as it has in the 125 years just past.

UConn President Philip E. Austin in the William Benton Museum of Art.
Letters

125th Anniversary Observations

I very much enjoyed reading about the history of our great University. My hat is off to you. Would you be so kind as to include in the next edition a reprint of the cover without UCONN imprinted over the top line of photos? I am curious, as others may be, as to whose photos are behind the imprint.

Robert Doyle Finan ’66 (BUS)

I was happily surprised to see myself and two of my closest UConn friends pictured at Wilbur Cross Library on page 26. The three of us are seated at the second table from the front of the photo. On the left, is Anne Hodgdon Tighe ’62 (CLAS), with her head resting on her right hand; then Dottie Reali Fitzpatrick ’62 (SAH); then me with my head resting on my left hand.

We think the photo was taken in our junior year because Dottie was completing her physical therapy internship our senior year and was not on campus. Anne lives in New York, Dottie is in Rhode Island, and I am in Arizona, but we are still in touch. The photo brought back some great memories. I met my husband, Neil Armann ’64 M.A. at the Wilbur Cross Library in 1962, so that place has many good associations for me.

Sharon McCoy Armann ’62 (CLAS)

On page 27 a photograph taken in 1939 shows Gov. Raymond Baldwin signing the legislation officially changing the name of the Connecticut Agricultural College to the University of Connecticut. The legislator who introduced and sponsored that name changing legislation was Edward D. Seger of Colchester. Two of his children, (Mark ’72 (ENG) and Beverly ’67 (ED)), two nieces (Haila Seger ’62 (CLAS) and Donna Bickerstaff ’79 (CLAS)) and two nephews (James ’66 (ENG) and Robert ’83 (CLAS) Seger) went on to proudly graduate from the University.

James B. Seger ’66 (ENG)

You have done a wonderfully nostalgic job with the recent issue of Traditions. Normally, I put aside such mail and catch up when the "must-read" stuff is complete. But the cover caught my eye and I had to stop and read it cover to cover! Well done!

Wilma Bor Davidson ’65 (CLAS), ’65 (ED)

The picture of Elmo Roper on page 29 states that he "established an academic research facility at UConn dedicated to the study of public opinion." To be more accurate, Elmo Roper established the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at Williams College in 1946 as a memorial to his son, a Williams graduate who died during WWII. The administrative headquarters of the Roper Center moved to UConn seven years after Mr. Roper’s death in 1977. Another son, Burns “Bud” Roper, who is the unnamed other person in the published photo, was one of the leading forces of support in UConn’s involvement with the Roper Center.

William J. Gammell
(The writer is former assistant director of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.)

On page 35 you mention the NCAA championship Field Hockey Team of 1985. You failed to credit the co-captains of that team, Janet Ryan ’86 (CLAS) and Marge Abbott ’86 (ED), the only seniors on the team. Janet was a three-time All American at UConn, and Marge was responsible for the final win at the Final Four. You should have given credit to these girls in your photo along with Diane Wright, the coach at that time.

The Ryan Family

On page 4, you have an excellent, inspiring article on Alfred Rogers. I knew him and he was indeed a fine person and Phi Epsilon Pi was fortunate to have him as a brother.

During this same period, I was a member of Beta Sigma Gamma. This fraternity was comprised of all the races, religions, and national origin that were on campus. It was an unprecedented success in college and during our professional lives. We met regularly for reunions and the biggest reward was our relationship and our respect for one another then and now. We were one.

Robert L. Norton ’52 (BUS)

The wonderful time line showing significant events at UConn over the decades notes that co-ed dorms began in 1974. I can assure you that the correct year, at least in The Jungle, was two years earlier, when I was a sophomore.

During my freshman year, the entire Jungle was reserved for freshmen. It was, indeed, a wonderful Jungle. It was at the start of my second year that the buildings became co-ed (alternating by floor). The Jungle became something, well, something a bit different.

I enjoy your magazine, especially when it brings back memories that bring a smile.

Michael J. London ’74 (CLAS)
AROUND

UConn

Goals rooted in the common good

A bright sun-splashed day greeted the largest undergraduate Commencement ceremony in UConn's 125-year history on May 7, when 4,380 bachelor's degrees were awarded.

"I ask you to turn off your iPods for a moment and think about the stake you have in the challenges that we face," U.S. Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro of New Haven, Conn., told graduates after receiving an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. "I ask you not to simply accept that responsibility but to embrace it with that uniquely American spirit that affirms our belief that even in an environment of mistrust and indifference, big solutions are possible. Whatever your path in life, leave room to participate—to help us pursue goals rooted in the common good."

Ceremonies also included the conferral of honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees to best-selling author Barbara Ehrenreich and business executives and philanthropists David and Rhoda Chase.

During the May 6 graduate ceremony, Nobel Prize economist and Harvard philosopher Amartya Sen advised more than 800 who received master's degrees, doctorates and professional diplomas that they would find the world beyond academia "in a bit of a mess."

"The world in which we live is both remarkably comfortable and thoroughly miserable," he said, noting that there is "unprecedented prosperity" but also "extraordinary deprivation" and "astonishing inequality."

Sen appealed to the graduates to draw on their education to resist narrow classifications that "generate unnecessary distance."

Francis S. Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute who made landmark discoveries of disease genes, told graduates of the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine: "Wisdom imparted at graduation ceremonies has a half-life of about a millisecond. But you need to seek a balanced life. This is a challenge to you to nurture."

Medical degrees were awarded on May 14 to 76 graduates, dental medicine degrees to 45 graduates and master of public health degrees to 36 graduates.

During Commencement at the School of Law on May 21, U.S. Circuit Court Judge Allyson Duncan urged the 282 graduates to make a plan for their lives and follow it but also "to never underestimate the value of serendipity."

Duncan, a federal judge from the Fourth Circuit in North Carolina, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. She said she planned to hang her new degree on the wall next to that of her husband, William Webb, '74 J.D., who is also a judge.

"I will point to it as a testimonial to the fact that a woman can often accomplish in one morning what it takes a man several years to achieve," she said, to laughter and applause.
Reorganization Will Strengthen Programs

The UConn Board of Trustees approved an academic restructuring plan that reconfigures the Schools of Allied Health and Family Studies and the College of Continuing Studies while strengthening the programs they offer. The plan, which took effect on July 1, is designed to allow the various school programs to take advantage of resources and collaborations in their new settings while improving academic offerings, says Provost Peter J. Nicholls. No programs were eliminated.

"This reconfiguration will provide new opportunities for cross-departmental collaborations and outreach and will provide more effective oversight for the academic programs," Nicholls says.

The School of Family Studies forms a new department within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. School of Allied Health departments will move into different schools or colleges. Physical therapy will become part of the Neag School of Education while applied health sciences and health promotion join the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The College of Continuing Studies becomes an academic center, reporting to the vice provost for undergraduate education and regional campus administration. This provides a strengthened academic foundation for the popular Bachelor of General Studies program and improves degree offerings at the regional campuses, Nicholls says.

Willig to direct new environmental center

Michael Willig, former division director for environmental biology at the National Science Foundation, is the first director of the new Center for Environmental Science and Engineering (CESE) at UConn.

CESE replaces the former Environmental Research Institute and has a mission to lead and promote interdisciplinary research, education and outreach in environmental science, engineering, policy and sustainability.

Willig says environmental issues will be the greatest challenge facing society in the 21st century and that UConn has the resources to help combat them.

"The spread of infectious diseases, loss of biodiversity, deterioration of air and water quality, loss of soil fertility, pervasiveness of pollution and biocides are complex and pervasive issues," says Willig. "They require multidisciplinary and integrated study to understand the mechanisms that govern the operation of environmental systems, as well as the principles that guide remediation, restoration, management, and policy."

He says that as a comprehensive research university that is also a land and sea grant institution, UConn has the expertise to contribute significantly to a scientific enterprise addressing such issues.

"UConn can become a national and international leader in research with respect to environmental sciences and engineering," says Willig.

During his career Willig has received more than $17 million in research grants and numerous awards and honors.
Springing into action

More than 60 UConn students spent their 2006 spring break building homes for Habitat for Humanity in New Mexico and gutting homes in New Orleans as part of the post-Katrina rebuilding effort.

The 42 students who traveled to New Orleans gutted 13 homes, helping to save homeowners $4,000 each for the cost of tearing down hurricane-damaged structures. They stayed in the heart of New Orleans at Camp Algiers, a FEMA base camp. They worked with the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, known as ACORN. Students each paid $275 for their travel to New Orleans. Students who organized the trip were Alexandria Thornton ’08 (CLAS) and Ross Moran ’07 (SFS).

Nineteen students from the UConn chapter of Habitat for Humanity raised $2,600 to help pay for building materials, in addition to funds they raised for travel expenses to Belen, New Mexico. The students worked in a Habitat subdivision of 123 homes. The fund-raising effort and trip were organized by Chris Sanford ’07 (CLAS), Pete Buhiniak ’07 (BUS), Jessica Dauz ’07 (CANR) and Marlene Rispoli ’07 (BUS).

UConn’s Office of Community Outreach already has plans for two trips of 100 students to the Gulf region next year to assist in disaster relief, one during winter break and another during spring break.
3 titles won, 3 coaches honored

Three Big East titles, three coach of the year awards and an array of individual honors for student-athletes highlighted the 2005-06 winter and spring seasons for the UConn Huskies.

Rudy Gay '08 (CLAS) was named an All-American and Hilton Armstrong '06 (CLAS) was the Big East Defensive Player of the Year in leading the men's basketball team to a 30-4 record, the Big East regular season championship and through to the NCAA Elite Eight.

Ann Strother '06 (CLAS) earned Most Valuable Player of the Big East Tournament, and Renee Montgomery '09 (CLAS) was the Big East Freshman of the Year during a 32-5 season that included winning the Big East tournament and advancing to the NCAA regionals in Bridgeport, Conn.

In ice hockey, Sean Erickson '09 (CLAS) was named to the Atlantic Hockey all-rookie team in helping lead the men's team to the semifinals of the Atlantic Hockey tournament and Kaitlyn Shain '06 (CLAS) was a first team All-Hockey East honoree for the women's team.

John Bransfield was named the Big East Coach of the Year for diving, and Allison Coleman '08 (CLAS) was named the Most Outstanding Diver of the Big East Championship as she won the 1-meter title and finished fourth in the 3-meter dive. Ryan Smith '06 (CLAS) qualified for the NCAA Championship in the 200-yard backstroke for the women's swimming and diving team.

Head coach Greg Roy and his staff were named the Big East and Northeast Coaching Staffs of the Year in leading the men's indoor track and field team to both the Big East and New England Championships. Senior Joel Legare '06 (CLAS) won All-America honors in the indoor 800-meter run. Legare also participated in the NCAA Outdoor Championships with Sean Berg '07 (CLAS), who competed in the decathlon.

Jim Penders '94 (CLAS), '98 M.A. was named the Big East and New England coach of the year while leading the baseball team to a school record 39 wins. Pitchers Tim Norton '06 (ED) and Nick Tucci '06 (ED) were named first team All-Big East and drafted by major league teams.

Tamara Highsmith '08 (BUS) represented the women's track and field team at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the triple jump.

Shannon Burke '07 (CLAS) earned first team All-Big East honors for the second-straight year as she led the women's lacrosse team in scoring with 54 points. In softball, Allie Gendron '08 (ED) and Jillian Ortega '09 (ED) were both named second team All-Big East selections.

The women's tennis team advanced to the consolation final of the Big East Championship, and Joey Michaels '09 (CLAS) won 17 singles matches for the men's team.

Katie Beasley '07 (CLAS) and Kerri Mocko '07 (CLAS) were recognized with National Scholar Athlete Awards, while Alison Elmo '06 (CANR) was named to the All-New England First team as the rowing team finished second at the Yankee Cup.
Women's polo wins fifth national title

The women's polo club team won the National Intercollegiate Polo Championship for the second consecutive year. The 2006 championship is the team's fifth overall title. From left, Kelly Wisner '08 (ED), Meaghan Scanlon '07 (BUS), Amy Wisehart '06 (SFA), Coach Matt Syme '96 (CANR), Peter Rizzo of the U.S. Polo Association, Elizabeth Rockwell '08 (CANR), and Lindsey Burbank '09 (CANR).

GLOBAL RECOGNITION FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

The international stature of UConn's political science department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has further expanded with the appointment of UConn faculty to serve as editors of two major international journals. Several political science students and two professors also have been recognized for their achievements.

The Journal of Human Rights, a major international scholarly publication, will be based at UConn with the selection of Richard Hiskes, professor of political science, as editor. Richard Wilson, the Judi and Gary Gladstein Distinguished Chair in Human Rights and director of UConn's Human Rights Institute, is associate editor of the journal.

Prof. Mark Boyer and Jennifer Sterling-Folker, associate professor, have been selected as the new editors of International Studies Review, which focuses on current trends and research in the field of international studies.

Student who have won highly competitive appointments include Darrylynn Montague '07 (CLAS), accepted to the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute of the American Political Science Association; John Hudak '06 (CLAS), selected as a Junior Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science; Daniel Labrecque '07 (CLAS), named as a fellow of the Center for the Study of the Presidency for 2006-07, following Noah Kores '06 (CLAS), who was a fellow in 2005-06.

Faculty honors include Evelyn Simien, assistant professor, who received the annual Anna Julia Cooper Teaching Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, and Prof. Carol Lewis, who won the 2006 Johnson Award for Best Paper in Ethics and Accountability in the Public Sector from the Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership at the University of Pittsburgh. The department also received the 2006 Public University of the Year Award from the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars based on the work of doctoral candidate Paul Plavcan, who served as UConn's internship coordinator.

"We teach a fascinating subject, one that focuses on how our society makes decisions about our future," says Howard Reiter, chair of the department. "While research is a priority, we've always attached a premium to teaching effectively."
Research vessel named for former governor

Former U.S. senator and Connecticut Gov. Lowell Weicker speaks at UConn’s Avery Point campus during the dedication of a new marine sciences research vessel named in his honor. The primary mission for the 36-foot-long R/V Lowell Weicker is to support the Long Island Sound Integrated Coastal Observing System program, in which UConn marine scientists and faculty monitor the coastal environment of Long Island Sound for a variety of ocean variables including hypoxia—low oxygen conditions in the Sound that affect fish and marine resources.

Geno’s hall double

Women’s head basketball coach Geno Auriemma was inducted into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame on April 29 in Knoxville, Tenn. He also will be enshrined with former NBA stars Charles Barkley, Dominique Wilkins and Joe Dumars as part of the Class of 2006 in the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., during ceremonies Sept. 7-9. UConn joins UCLA and North Carolina State as only the third university to have both a women’s and men’s coach enshrined in Springfield. Men’s head coach Jim Calhoun was enshrined in 2005.

Wong discusses challenges of ethnic heritage

B. D. Wong, an author and actor best known for his role as forensic psychiatrist Dr. George Huang on NBC’s Law and Order: Special Victims Unit, visited UConn in March to discuss his odyssey from racial self-loathing to eventual self-acceptance and his experience of becoming a gay parent. His talk was sponsored by UConn’s Asian American Cultural Center, Rainbow Center, Department of Dramatic Arts, and Student Union Board of Governors.

Inaugural Rowe lecture

Joseph Civetta, professor and vice chair of the UConn Health Center’s surgery department, delivered the inaugural John and Valerie Rowe Lecture at the Pharmacy/Biology Building in April. Civetta, a former member of the faculty at Harvard Medical School, discussed questions that present themselves when medical technology collides with ethics, theology and economics. The Rowe Lecture Series brings distinguished medical scholars to campus to address critical topics in health care.
Scalia criticizes ‘judge-moralists’

United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia spoke out against what he called “judge-moralists” in an address at the UConn School of Law in April, part of a two-day Distinguished Scholar and Jurist in Residence visit that included teaching two classes.

During his talk, Scalia described himself as a constitutional “originalist,” based on his view that the U.S. Constitution is a rigid document that cannot bend to include new rights for Americans or to address social ills. He criticized judges, including his own Supreme Court, for viewing it as a “living” document, which he said is a fairly new phenomenon.

“We have become addicted to abstract moralizing,” Scalia said. “A change occurred in the second half of the 20th century, and I’m sorry to say my court was responsible.”

Scalia, considered a conservative jurist, touched on what he called “moral” issues that are some of the more controversial topics in the American judicial and political scenes: abortion, same-sex marriage, assisted suicide, and the death penalty. He said the framers intended the Constitution to be interpreted the same way today as when it was written, and he criticized those who suggested that interpretation of the Constitution can and should change and expand through time.

“Belief in the expert has been replaced by judge-moralists,” said Scalia, who suggested that there are no moral experts to provide the right answer on moral issues. “[The framers] obviously meant to set some standards. You can’t do that by saying these words are empty bottles to be filled by future generations.”

Scalia also discussed the role of politics in judicial nominations, saying presidential administrations and Congress have come to look for nominees not based on experience or ability, but whether they are in line politically with those nominating and confirming them.

Scalia’s visit was sponsored by the Hartford firm of Day, Berry and Howard, as well as the Connecticut Law Review.

Notti named Goldwater Scholar

Ryan Notti ’08 (CLAS), a biological sciences major who plans to become a doctor, is one of more than 300 students in the nation to be named a Goldwater Scholar for 2006-07. The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program awards scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in science, mathematics and engineering. This year’s scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of the nation’s top mathematics, science and engineering students nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities across the United States. The program honors the memory of the longtime U.S. senator and 1964 GOP presidential candidate from Arizona.
UConn's other building boom

An explosion of student enrollment following World War II prompted $30 million expansion

The end of World War II marked a significant time in the development of UConn. With the enactment of the G.I. Bill, which provided educational benefits for thousands of returning veterans, college campuses across the nation were exploding with students. Over the summer of 1945, UConn's enrollment nearly doubled, from 1,735 to almost 3,400 in three months. Temporary housing was arranged, and extension programs in Hartford and Waterbury were upgraded to become regional campuses.

In 1946 enrollment increased to more than 6,200 and temporary barracks, Quonset huts and apartments in Willimantic were used for housing. To accommodate some of the overflow, a temporary regional campus was established in a former merchant marine training facility at Fort Trumbull in New London. In little more than two months, Fort Trumbull was turned into a university facility that operated from 1946 to 1950 as a two-year regional campus for about 5,000 students who ultimately completed their studies in Storrs.

More than $5 million in construction projects had been deferred by the war. Dozens of newly planned buildings were added to the original expansion plan and from 1946 to 1959, nearly $30 million in new construction was completed—including the North, Northwest, and South campus complexes; the Student Union; the Schools of Pharmacy, Education, and Business; the College of Agriculture; as well as Jorgensen Auditorium and Memorial Stadium. It marked the most significant era of construction at UConn until the $2.3 billion UCONN 2000 program began in 1995. — Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)
Students assist seniors with new drug plan

A group of 160 UConn pharmacy students assisted more than 16,000 senior citizens in Connecticut in finding the appropriate Medicare drug plan to pay for their medications under new mandated guidelines.

The students reviewed each person's medication regimen and narrowed the choices down from the 44 options available in Connecticut to three plans that cover all the person's medications, wherever possible.

The students worked to meet a May 15 deadline last spring for clients of ConnPACE, the Connecticut Department of Social Services program that helps eligible senior citizens and people with disabilities afford the cost of most prescription medicines. A new federal drug program required seniors to either enroll in a Medicare drug plan without penalty or enroll in another covered plan. Each of the 16,000 senior or disabled clients takes between three and six "maintenance" medications a month, not including occasional other prescriptions for infections or other problems.

The partnership between the School of Pharmacy and the state—believed to be a first of its kind in the nation—was lauded by the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and has drawn inquiries from other states hoping to duplicate it, says Peter Tyczkowski, the School of Pharmacy's educational outreach coordinator who also monitored the student work.

"The students are performing an invaluable community service by providing individualized reviews of our clients' medication regimens," says Michael Starkowski, deputy commissioner for the Department of Social Services. "They are making sure clients receive the maximum benefits from the new Medicare drug plan. They also are helping reduce confusion at the pharmacy counter and reduce the need for doctors and pharmacists to request exceptions for non-formulary drugs."

"We are all proud that the state of Connecticut looked to student pharmacists as a valuable resource in such a project," says Meghan Scagliarini, a fifth-year pharmacy student. "Knowing we can make a difference in our state as students is exciting and makes the hard work worthwhile."
School of Fine Arts

Benton hosts national exhibitions
The recently concluded exhibition of photography by scientist and photographer Harold E. Edgerton is among the national touring exhibitions that are part of the broad offerings at the William Benton Museum of Art.

While investigating the use of the electronic stroboscope that he had invented for stop-action photography, Edgerton began working in high-speed photography. His photographs combined scientific discovery with art as he developed lighting systems that eventually had applications in space exploration, medicine, marine science and electrophysics. Among Edgerton’s most famous images is “Milker-Drop Coronet,” a 1957 photo that shows a splash of milk creating the image of a crown at the moment of impact on a table.

“Edgerton was a scientist first, but he developed a technique and a procedure where he could, with certain kinds of images, look at them as aesthetic objects,” says Thomas Bruhn, curator of art collections for the Benton. “It’s one of those instances, which doesn’t happen often, where you can cross over between science and art.”

School of Law

Top students gain from Law Review experience
Although the Connecticut Law Review has only about 500 subscribers, the importance of the journal for UConn law students involved in its publication goes far beyond its limited circulation.

“Law Review membership allows our members to be involved in the production of a scholarly journal, exposes our members to a diverse range of legal subjects, improves their technical writing skills, and allows them to meet and form friendships with a large number of students at the Law School,” says Joseph Bernardi, a third-year law student who serves as editor.

The journal features articles written by outside contributors as well as shorter pieces called “notes” and “comments” written by UConn students who are members of the Review.

Although it is a quarterly publication, the Law Review has three formats: two general interest issues that include articles from among approximately 1,000 submissions annually reviewed by a committee of student editors; one edition focusing on the School of Law’s annual legal symposium; and one commentary edition centered on a solicited lead article and comments from others based on that article.

Over the years, the Benton has hosted exhibits by Gordon Parks, the late photographer and filmmaker; the embroidered and beaded “memory cloths” of South African women depicting their lives before and after Apartheid; and poster art reflecting protests and propaganda of the Vietnam War era.

“Our first audience is the University but we are equally interested in exhibitions that are of interest to a broad community beyond the University,” Bruhn says, noting that Benton exhibits are utilized by faculty and students as part of many classes across a variety of academic disciplines.

During the 2006-07 academic year, new exhibits will include one celebrating UConn’s 125th anniversary. In the fall, “The President and The Professor” will include some of UConn’s earliest collected art—1920s New England landscapes donated by UConn President Charles Beach and works by the German expressionist Kathe Kollwitz donated by Walter Landauer, a former UConn animal geneticist.
School of Dental Medicine

Straumann gift supports implant center
A $500,000 gift from Straumann USA will help UConn's new Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry expand its curriculum in the rapidly growing field of dental implant therapy.

The donation from Swiss-based Straumann, a world leader in dental implant and oral tissue regeneration products, will help fund research into new dental implant technology. It also will strengthen patient care and education programs at the School of Dental Medicine, which consistently ranks among the top three dental schools in the nation.

Straumann also is providing dental implants, prosthetic components, surgical and prosthetic instrumentation, training resources, and materials to support dental implant curricula.

"Straumann places high value and high priority on education and research in implant dentistry," says Thomas Taylor, head of the UConn Health Center's department of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials and skeletal development.

"Their willingness to invest in our center clearly demonstrates the value they believe we can bring to education and research efforts."

Dental implant therapy has been growing in importance internationally as a preferred alternative to tooth replacement and other conventional restorations.

As a result of Straumann's support, UConn dental students will have the enhanced capability to place and/or restore dental implants during their clinical studies. This provides students with the tools they need to perform the latest dental implant procedures.

"The dental school is currently recognized as a center of excellence in dental implantology," says Peter Robinson, dean of the School of Dental Medicine. "The support from Straumann will allow us to move to the next level."

The Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry will be an integral part of the UConn Health Center's Musculoskeletal Institute, serving both students and practicing dentists as a training center and support network for the advancement of dental implant studies in Connecticut and the surrounding region.

Neag School of Education

Ph.D. students keep science center on track
Two doctoral candidates with years of classroom experience teaching science are working at the planned Connecticut Science Center, helping to ensure that the center helps support the state's new K-12 science curriculum and standards. The new guidelines are set to go into effect in 2008, the same year the center is scheduled to open.

Kurt Haste '99 (ED) and Heather Harkins are working as part of a three-year partnership between the science center and the Neag School of Education. Haste, who taught middle school science for five years, works closely with the center's full-time, in-house exhibits expert, while Harkins, who taught high school science in Connecticut for several years, is an integral part of the center's professional development outreach to state science teachers.

Haste recently brainstormed ideas for designing the center's physical sciences gallery around a common theme of transportation and the challenge of how to design faster vehicles. Harkins' suggestion: a series of related displays culminating at one station, where visitors will build their own vehicles.

Harkins has provided year-round support and encouragement to the teachers who took part in the center's Institutes for Inquiry training last year. The inquiry program shows teachers hands-on, inquiry-driven methods for tapping into their students' natural scientific curiosity.

"So often, ongoing support is the piece that's missing from professional development programs for teachers, but the center doesn't want their efforts to be just another flash in the pan," Harkins says.

In addition to Haste's and Harkins' direct participation, the partnership also provides the center ongoing access to the expertise of UConn's science education faculty.

"I've held the Neag School of Education in high regard for a long time," says Theodore Sergi '77 (ED), '86 Ph.D., president of the center and former commissioner of the state's Department of Education. "We've been very happy with the partnership and hope it can grow."
Supercomputer enhances research capabilities

UConn has a new supercomputer system installed in the Booth Engineering Center for Advanced Technologies (BECAT) to initiate the Connecticut Institute for Supercomputing and Visualization within the School of Engineering.

An 8-processor SGI® Altix 350 mid-range server with 8 gigabytes of memory and a 64-processor SGI® Altix® 3700 Bx2 supercomputer configured with 64 gigabytes of memory now provides UConn researchers and students with a seamless computational and visualization platform. The system was developed by Silicon Graphics (SGI), a leader in high performance computing, and will be linked to the school's existing computer system built by the same company.

The new equipment forms the basis for a supercomputing facility that will ultimately become a national center of excellence in supercomputing research and applications, says Ian Greenshields, associate professor of engineering. He says the units are fully scalable, meaning they can be upgraded to accommodate expanding needs and features over time. The supercomputing facility is under the supervision of Sanguthevar Rajasekaran, BECAT director and UTC Professor of Computer Science and Engineering.

The new integrated system will help provide faster, more accurate and realistic predictions in such computing-intensive research as biomolecular and metabolic engineering, fuel cells and alternative energy development, parachute dynamics and uncertainty analysis in biological systems.

In addition to its role in support of research, the new supercomputer will be used in the School of Engineering's outreach activities such as the innovative Connecticut Education Network—the nation's first statewide K-20 optical network built exclusively using state-of-the-art high-speed fiber optic connections. The K-20 network extends new technologies to all educational institutions across the U.S.

Working with leading UConn engineering scientists, the supercomputing institute aims to develop realistic and accurate models of important engineering challenges that will enable scientists and engineers to explore pressing problems in key areas such as energy and biotechnology.

School of Nursing

Studying post-traumatic stress after giving birth

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), is typically associated with survivors of deadly events, such as wars, natural disasters or the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

But these victims aren't the only ones who experience PTSD, says Cheryl Beck, professor of nursing and one of the nation's foremost authorities on postpartum depression. Her recent research has revealed that some new mothers also suffer from this anxiety disorder.

For the new mother, PTSD is the result of a harrowing birth experience, one in which the mother, her baby, or perhaps both were in real or perceived danger of dying, Beck says. Existing research suggests that up to 6 percent of women experience PTSD linked to childbirth.

Beck conducted two qualitative research studies—one on birth trauma and another on PTSD due to childbirth—with 40 women from around the world, through Trauma and Birth Stress, a charitable trust located in New Zealand. Earlier this year, she was co-author with Jeanne Driscoll '04 Ph.D. of a new book on her recent research results and other postpartum mood and anxiety disorders.

Beck found that many of the mothers experienced birth traumas ranging from emergency Cesarean deliveries and inadequate postpartum pain relief. For some of the women, celebrating their child's birthday, even years later, was traumatic because the birthday marks the anniversary of the triggering event.

"Birth trauma is truly in the eye of the beholder, the mother," Beck says. "Many of the mothers said that their obstetricians and family members told them that all that mattered was the end result. If they survived and had a healthy baby, they were expected to forget the traumatic birth."

Beck says she hopes her research and new book, aimed at clinicians, will focus more attention on these mothers, who often suffer in silence, and hopefully will result in earlier diagnosis and treatment.
School of Business

Researchers find consumer gain with car leases
Two finance professors and a UConn graduate have produced the first documented research demonstrating consumer benefits to those who lease automobiles and then go on to purchase their cars at the end of the leasing period.

Carmello Giaccotto and Shantaram Hedge, professors of finance in the School of Business, and Gerson Goldberg '67 (CLAS), '94 Ph.D., assistant professor of financial services at Roger Williams University, analyzed publicly available data on the automobile leasing industry for a study that will be published later this year in The Journal of Finance.

Using information on leasing of the most popular cars—General Motors Saturn, Honda Civic and Toyota Camry—the researchers found that the option to allow purchase of the car at the end of a lease period is worth more than $1,460 to consumers, nearly 10 percent of the value of these automobiles, which sold for around $15,000.

"The consumer is sitting on a valuable right and asset," says Hedge of the purchase option, which is embedded into standard automobile leasing contracts. "There is no separate line in the lease that says you're paying $1,500 for the right to purchase the car."

The researchers say auto manufacturers lose money when leased cars are purchased because if auto loan rates go up, a new car purchase is lost.

Giaccotto says the models they devised for the automobile industry could be developed to examine other segments of the multi-billion dollar leasing market in areas such as construction equipment, aircraft and shipping. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the renting and leasing industry produced $102 billion in revenue in 2004.

Public documents on the auto leasing industry took several years to collect, the researchers say, and more specific data from the auto manufacturers would provide improved insights.

"There are hundreds of thousands of contracts sitting on the books, but we can't get those from the companies," Hedge says. "Our hope is that after they read the study, they'll call us to do that."

School of Social Work

Full reaccreditation awarded by commission
The School of Social Work has been reaccredited for a full eight-year cycle by the national Commission on Accreditation of the Council of Social Work Education.

The commission report noted that UConn's academic programs have "increased the overall professionalism of the state's social workers." The report followed an assessment that included an accreditation team site visit in October, during which interviews were conducted with University officials, faculty, alumni, students, employers, and area agencies. Prior to the site team visit, faculty and staff at the school had conducted an exhaustive two-year self-study.

"We're extremely happy to be reaffirmed," says Catherine Havens, associate dean of the school. "This opens an eight-year window in which we will be able to implement a new short-term strategic plan and focus on creating a longer-term plan."

The reaccreditation report cited a number of areas of excellence, including diversity; programming, especially studies regarding populations at risk and social economic justice; field education; community relationships; alumni relationships; student participation; and leadership.

"The School has a strong faculty with many distinguished members whose names and contributions are widely known in social work education and practice," the report says. "The diversity of faculty and the student body are exemplary. The program has reached critical mass of diverse perspectives which supports and affirms its emphasis on teaching and learning to serve a very diverse region."

Dean Kay Davidson's leadership was noted prominently in the report, particularly for raising the scholarly productivity of the faculty and expanding statewide service by the faculty that "has had a significant impact on the Connecticut workforce."

Another strength of the program cited in the report is the field education program for students, described as "wide ranging and carefully selected and monitored," which has a requirement that goes well beyond the accrediting agency's standard of 900 hours.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Hospice arts program aids human communication
Second-year medical students at the UConn Health Center are developing their skills interacting with patients through an innovative course that brings the arts to terminally ill patients.

The program, Hospice Arts, addresses one of the most crucial and often neglected skills for a physician, the ability to make a human connection with patients, says faculty advisor Catherine Weber, an associate professor in the department of family medicine at the UConn School of Medicine.

“Students are hesitant about the topic of hospice and feel uncomfortable,” says Weber, who has been involved with hospice research and spearheaded the program at UConn. “To be able to connect with a patient in his or her own environment benefits both the patient and the physician.”

Students earn credit for the course, which is offered as part of the medical humanities curriculum. Weber says patients and students interact through music and dance, read poetry or literature, or work together on art or craft projects.

“We hope that students gain an appreciation for this profound phase of a patient’s life and bring the lessons of these personal experiences to later clinical encounters with all patients,” Weber adds.

Medical student Sarah Jane Borch, who worked in the course with a 92-year-old hospice patient, says that putting herself in the patient’s space makes a big difference in how they relate to each other. “You’re more cognizant of their needs. You become humbled in a way,” she says.

Weber says research has shown that when a patient is diagnosed with a terminal illness, caregivers, including physicians, tend to withdraw from all but the most basic interactions with the person. Hospice Arts offer a focus for interaction.

Katherine Mascagna, director of Connecticut Hospice in Branford, worked with Weber to establish and coordinate the program. She says medical students learn a more holistic approach to medical care and both patients and their families benefit.

“I hope this becomes a model for other medical schools as well,” Mascagna says.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Working to improve the shelf life of meat products
When Richard Mancini ’99 (CANR) goes to the supermarket meat counter, he brings more than just a shopper’s eye for bargains. He brings the perspective of a researcher who has published 15 studies on various aspects of meat quality.

Mancini returned to UConn last year as an assistant professor of animal science after earning a master's degree in meat science and a doctorate in food science at Kansas State University. He teaches classes in animal food products and meat processing.

“A better understanding of the chemistry of meat will help the consumer from a food safety point of view,” he says. “If we can better understand fresh and cooked meat, we can help the meat industry to improve their product safety.”

Mancini’s research includes meat chemistry, including using meat color as an indicator for consumers of when fresh meat is spoiled. He also studies factors affecting the shelf life of beef and pork—such as storage temperature and packaging.

“It’s of big interest to the meat industry and to retailers if we can improve the shelf life of the products,” he says, noting two systems are used to provide fresh meat to consumers. Most local supermarkets buy meat that can be cut up into steaks and chops by a butcher. Larger stores may receive pre-packaged meat.

When teaching, Mancini says, he brings both the applied, hands-on information, such as how meat is cut and packaged, and the hard science, such as why meat is red—because of a protein similar to the hemoglobin that gives human blood its red color.

As to his own shopping, Mancini says he tries to be a wise consumer, even with his extensive knowledge of meat products.

“I see the cost saving of buying a large piece of meat and cutting it up myself, but I also shop for bargains,” he says. “If it’s priced right and cut up already, I’ll buy it.”
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Studying aborigines at the bottom of the world

It was uncharted territory for Carolyn Schwarz, a doctoral candidate in anthropology, and nothing but instruction in the Yolngu language could have prepared her for it.

Schwarz spent 17 months in the most remote part of northern Australia on the island of Galiwin'ku conducting field research on the religious behaviors of the Yolngu people, an aboriginal settlement of about 2,000. She is preparing a dissertation on how the Yolngu view their religious behaviors, values, and identities in their day-to-day negotiations with one another and with the world beyond their settlements.

Schwarz has a fellowship from the UConn Humanities Institute to study why and for whom religion and religious behaviors matter in the aboriginal community, which was evangelized in 1942 by Methodist missionaries. "I'm interested in religion, particularly how indigenous peoples interpreted Christianity and how Christianity and Western religious systems either came together or conflicted with one another," she says.

During her stay, Schwarz lived with her two "adopted" Yolngu families, who housed between six and 20 people at a time. Most often she shared a room with two to three other people.

"Kinship is the most important aspect of their society. Being alone is considered a pitiful condition," she says, noting that large families live together in relatively small houses, sharing food, money and clothing. "It was perfectly acceptable for someone to ask for a bite of another's sandwich or for a sip of someone's drink."

She says that lifestyle was jarring early on, so much so that when she returned to the United States, Schwarz says, she suffered "reverse culture shock." "I was so used to being around people all the time, surrounded by kin," she says. "I had rarely eaten anything alone."

She says studying anthropology has evolved her approach to viewing cultures: "It forces you to think outside of yourself and outside our societal constructs, in terms of what is 'normal.' It makes you rethink your societal norms and values."

Human rights course debuts in sociology

Human rights studies have continued to expand at UConn with students who minor in human rights and/or students who pursue individualized majors in human and economic rights. Previously classes have focused on international issues.

That will change this fall with a new course, "Human Rights in the United States," developed by Davita Silfen Glasberg, head of the department of sociology and Bandana Purkayastha, associate professor of sociology. The course will cover economic, racial, and gender justice; prisoners' rights and capital punishment; the role of the United States in international human rights agreements and treaties; and struggles on behalf of human rights.

Glasberg, former director of the human rights minor, says the new 200-level course adds a needed perspective on the subject matter.

"Many people are under the impression that human rights issues occur solely in countries outside the United States," she says. "I think it's a general assumption that the United States is the gold standard of human rights practices. Unfortunately, that leads students to believe that violations are typical elsewhere in the world but not in this country. It's a perception that is very unlikely to enhance a broader perspective of global patterns and global relations."

Glasberg says much research has been conducted in sociology on civil rights, women's rights and gay rights, but the language of human rights has not been used in studying those issues. "Sociology is really poised as a discipline to take on these kinds of issues," she says. "We don't have any courses in the human rights minor or in other departments on campus that focus explicitly on human rights in quite this way."

Glasberg says currently there are no textbooks available for the new course. Students will read a monograph or selection of journal articles and then discuss the issues involved. She says reading current articles "sensitizes students to look at the world. We are looking at how these theoretical materials operate in the world as we speak."
The Future

Class of ’56 to support University Archives

Gift will help to gather, preserve and provide access to unique historic materials

In celebration of UConn’s 125th anniversary, members of the Class of 1956 gift committee have created an endowment supporting the University Archives, housed in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, for its 50th reunion gift campaign.

The Class of 1956 Archives Endowment Fund is expected to generate income that will be used to gather, preserve and provide access to historic University materials ranging from official documents to other objects of unique research and scholarly value, such as program materials and publications. The collection consists of thousands of University publications, periodicals, photographic images and selected artifacts in a variety of formats.

A $125,000 goal has been established for the fund, and $70,000 has been raised to date through the efforts of the individual members.

“The University has a rich history that we strive to preserve and make available to a wide audience interested in learning more about the growth of a great public institution,” says Tom Wilsted, director of the Dodd Research Center. “This effort illustrates what a difference significant gifts from alumni can make in shaping our future.”

Wilsted says proceeds from the endowment also will enable the Dodd Center to promote wider knowledge, appreciation and use of the Archives by students and scholars through outreach activities and to develop public programs, exhibitions, conferences and similar events.

The Class of ’56 gift committee includes Ray Neag ’56 (CLAS), Thomas Wolff ’56 (CLAS), Lionel Olmer ’56 (CLAS), ’00 (CLAS) and Bill Ratchford ’56 (CLAS), each with a long history of philanthropic and volunteer support for UConn.
MassMutual establishes Hartford Huskies scholarships

A new scholarship program will assist 60 academically talented Hartford high school graduates who might not otherwise have had the chance to attend the University of Connecticut.

MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars is a partnership between the Hartford Public Schools, UConn, and the MassMutual Foundation for Hartford, Inc. The program was launched in May with a $584,000 contribution by the MassMutual Foundation.

The scholarship program will eliminate some of the barriers to college facing Hartford public school graduates and support the city’s goal of increasing by 25 percent the number of Hartford youth attending four-year colleges. Students will receive four years of financial support and academic fees assistance including books, computer, leadership conference fees, lab fees, emergency travel funding, study abroad fees, and tutorial fees. They also will receive four years of academic advising and four years of social support to enhance their overall college experience.

“This is an innovative and exciting program that gives Hartford students exactly what they need to succeed: opportunity,” says Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez. The program will focus on the recruitment, retention and graduation of low-income, first-generation Hartford students admitted to the University through UConn’s Student Support Services program.

“As Connecticut’s flagship public university, UConn endeavors to open its doors to every academically qualified student in the state,” says President Philip E. Austin. “We are proud of our progress in maintaining a student body that is culturally and economically diverse, and the MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars program will take us an important step forward.”

“This new program was designed to fulfill a specific need in Hartford, where so many students deserve the opportunity to continue their education at Connecticut’s flagship university,” says Ronald A. Copes, executive director of the MassMutual Foundation and corporate vice president of community relations for MassMutual. “We’ve helped foster a culture of academic achievement in Hartford. By helping send 60 new students to UConn, we’re taking the natural next step in opening doors to education.” The first 15 Hartford students to enter UConn this fall have been selected.

“I’ve always dreamed of going to UConn, but I never would have made it there without this kind of support,” says Crystal Cruz, who graduated from Hartford Public High School in the spring. “I know some day I’ll be back here talking to future students about how education made a difference in my life, and I’ll always be grateful to MassMutual, UConn, and the Hartford Public Schools for making it happen.”

$1.25 Million Boehringer Ingelheim Gift Endows Pharmacy Chair

A $1.25 million gift from Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc., will establish the nation’s first endowed chair in mechanistic drug toxicology at the UConn School of Pharmacy.

Mechanistic toxicology is the study of how foreign compounds such as drugs, environmental pollutants, and industrial chemicals exert their potentially damaging effects on cells and tissues. The field is widely regarded as the next frontier for drug development and medical breakthroughs because of its potential to greatly reduce the number of drugs that fail to meet U.S. Food and Drug Administration safety standards during the extensive clinical trial period.

“The cost of drug development is skyrocketing because so many drugs fail in pre-clinical and clinical studies as a result of safety concerns,” says Peter Farina, senior vice president of development for Boehringer Ingelheim. “This partnership between the state’s flagship public research university and Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc., positions the state of Connecticut at the forefront of this dynamic and rapidly developing field.”

The chair is expected to attract a nationally recognized researcher who has made significant contributions to the field. The chair holder will investigate new processes for evaluating experimental drugs and predictive methods for identifying compound toxicities and educate students on how to successfully apply these techniques to develop potentially safer and more effective medications.

“The creation of this endowed chair in mechanistic toxicology—the first of its kind at any research institution nationwide—raises our national profile and firmly establishes our standing among this country’s elite schools of pharmacy,” says Robert McCarthy, dean of pharmacy. “Boehringer Ingelheim’s investment in UConn and in the field of mechanistic toxicology will help to accelerate the next round of medical breakthroughs and ultimately lower the cost of life-saving medications.”

With the establishment of the new chair, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc., is expanding its existing collaborations between the company’s scientists and UConn faculty and students. The firm previously donated $250,000 to name a laboratory in the new Pharmacy/Biology Building that specializes in dosage forms and contributed $1 million to endow two faculty positions in clinical pharmacology and immunology at the UConn Health Center. Total gifts and commitments from the company are nearing $4 million.

UConn has a total of 55 endowed chairs and 17 endowed professorships.
Hearing a clear voice above the din
Peterson develops improvements for communications devices

Inside an echo-free room—known as an anechoic chamber—at the UConn Health Center’s new acoustics laboratory, it is so quiet that you can hear blood flowing through your ears.

Here, amid the sound-absorbing fiberglass wedges and in an adjacent reverberation room for sound amplification, UConn researchers are exploring ways to improve communications in noise protection devices and testing other types of instruments.

Donald Peterson ’95 M.S., ’99 Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine and assistant professor of biomedical engineering, expects the lab to become “a beehive of activity” with two $1.25 million grants from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) that arrived in July of this year. One grant will significantly expand the communications improvement research; the other is for the formation of a national center for the study of healthy occupational environments. Both areas are outgrowths of work Peterson has been doing at the Health Center since the mid-1990s, when he established a biodynamics lab to study the biomechanics and neuromuscular control processes of human movement.

Peterson grew up in Enfield, Conn., where he spent much of his childhood dissecting and reassembling toys “to figure out how things worked.” He also dreamed of becoming an astronaut. A Renaissance man, he earned a double undergraduate major in aerospace and bioengineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, studying the fluid mechanics of blood flow and working with two other students on a “lunar-based
waste management technology system” proposal sponsored by NASA, even as he minored in drama and played varsity football.

As a graduate student at UConn under the tutelage of pharmacology professor Mary Anne Farrell Epstein, Peterson developed an apparatus to test cells under fluid shear. He also began working with Martin Cherniak, director of the Biodynamics Laboratory of the Ergonomic Technology Center of Connecticut, who hired Peterson to create a research laboratory for the center, which is a joint venture among the UConn Health Center, state government and industry to improve workplace environments.

Cherniak leads the center's clinic for arm and hand injuries suffered by musicians. Peterson has designed instrument attachments to limit the risk of such injuries.

While setting up the biodynamics lab, Peterson developed motion capture equipment and portable devices, called data loggers, to record and quantify the human motion, grip forces and vibrations associated with hammering, typing and using power tools.

The project work became his doctoral dissertation and led to further explorations funded by Stanley Tools and a NIOSH grant.

Peterson soon began collaborating with Anthony Brammer, a UConn professor of cell biology who also is an acoustical physicist and a sound and vibration exposure expert whose interests paralleled his own. In early 2001, the trio applied for federal funds to develop an acoustic laboratory to study noise issues aimed at improving communications between air traffic controllers and pilots. NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration supported the application, and the U.S. Congress approved a two-year $2.5 million appropriation for the project. The lab was completed in 2004.

The researchers have worked on noise control issues with communication headsets for the military and one of the new NIOSH grants will expand the scope of the research.”

“Sound from a pair of headphones is measured by a microphone and a laser at Donald Peterson’s lab at the UConn Health Center.”

The researchers have worked on noise control issues with communication headsets for the military and one of the new NIOSH grants will expand the scope of the research.”

Peterson says, adding he will also be designing “the next generation” of data loggers to record biomechanical data and collaborating with companies to determine “what can be done to make specific jobs healthier.”

He says the acoustics laboratory also is a testing ground for other equipment, such as dental instruments, as well as studying the longevity of hand instrument maintenance.

When he is not conducting research or advising UConn graduate students, Peterson teaches graduate classes in biomechanics, biofluid mechanics and human biomechanics. He also assists in instruction of gross anatomy at the UConn School of Medicine, helping first year dental and medical students understand the biomechanics of joint structures.

While investigating inner space, Peterson has not given up his dream of exploring outer space. In 2003, he applied to NASA to become a mission specialist and he hopes to be among the next group of astronauts, which will be selected in about a year.

In the meantime, he is planning to visit the Johnson Space Center in Houston several times this year, working with a grant funding the design of the biomechanics needed for a space suit that will be used by astronauts traveling to Mars. —Karen Singer ’73 (CLAS)
Eugene Yeboah '07 (CLAS) makes an impression wherever he goes.

"Eugene is a very bright, responsible, hard worker," says Robert Brown, program manager for the Center for Academic Programs (CAP) at UConn's Greater Hartford campus in West Hartford. "He won over a lot of friends here. He's very supportive and helpful to others."

As a pre-med student at the West Hartford campus, Yeboah organized an indoor soccer program, a poetry club, and self defense classes for both men and women. And while Yeboah enjoyed the community atmosphere of the West Hartford campus, he loves the hustle and bustle of Storrs. "It's a bigger place and there are more activities here."

Yeboah's journey to Storrs has not been easy. During his junior year of high school, Yeboah, his parents, and two brothers moved to Connecticut, from Ghana, West Africa. After attending a boarding school in Ghana, he experienced a culture shock at Manchester High.

"I didn't know what to expect," Yeboah says. "That was hard for me. It took me about a year to settle in."

Heading to UConn, the language barrier created one major hurdle for Yeboah, and on top of that, he selected academic advisement for pre-medical courses, a challenging program for any student. He credits the Center for Academic Programs, which is designed for first-generation college students, with easing the transition into college life. He recommends a UConn regional campus to students experiencing such cultural differences.

"I'd tell them to go ahead and give it a shot," he says. "Start smaller. Become involved."

Music is an important part of his life as well. He plays drums and lead and bass guitar, and is a keyboardist for his church. He also plays drums for other churches who invite him and has played keyboard at graduation ceremonies and in a local cafe.

Yeboah is a member of UConn's Voices of Freedom gospel choir and Bringing Awareness Into Latino Ethnicities (BAILE). His favorite class is organic chemistry, and he hopes to attend the UConn School of Medicine on his way to becoming a surgeon.

"Eugene is a wonderful young man who has overcome many obstacles," says his advisor Joseph Crivello, professor of physiology and neurobiology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "You talk to him for 30 seconds and are sure he is a student who will succeed. He will make a fine physician."

"I am fortunate to be in the United States," says Yeboah. "There is more opportunity here than back in Africa. So, I am very grateful to be here."

— Kim Colavito Markesich '93 (CNR)
Bringing political power to the people
Former Senate aide has passion for politics and social work

Working for several years in the office of former U.S. Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota, Shannon Lane could not help but notice that the demographic profile of most politicians on Capitol Hill did not reflect the nation's general population.

"It's very clear that there are lots of people who don't have a voice," she says, noting that while white men make up 85 percent of Congress, they are only 37 percent of the U.S. population. 

Today Lane is working to change that. As a doctoral student in UConn's School of Social Work, Lane is on the staff of the Nancy A. Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work, which has a mission to increase the number of social workers in politics and to facilitate the political empowerment of those whose voices are not heard. 

Lane's intertwining passions for politics and social work began during her undergraduate years at George Washington University, when the homesick South Dakotan began volunteering in Daschle's office. With a strong interest in issues of social justice, Lane went on to earn a master's degree in social work at the University of Michigan in 1999 before returning to the intense, fast-paced world of Capitol Hill.

Lane managed junior staff members in Daschle's office and also worked with constituents on disability and other social issues. Lane says her social work training proved to be an asset in October of 2001, when someone in Daschle's office opened a letter containing anthrax and key information was needed quickly concerning health and support services. She calls her leadership during that crisis "one of my greatest accomplishments."

After leaving Daschle's staff and working for two other Senate offices, Lane decided she needed a new challenge. As she researched social work programs emphasizing politics, she found the only program with a faculty interest in politics was the UConn School of Social Work.

"I met Nancy Humphreys and the next thing I knew I was enrolled," Lane recalls. "It's great to be able to work with people who understand that you can be interested in politics and interested in social work. Working with her has been tremendous."

Having been a social worker among politicos, she now relishes her role as a political expert among social workers. Lane supervises master's degree students and teaches a number of courses, including one that explores the rules of politics and explains how to run for office. Lane can imagine a political world of the future in which diverse, qualified candidates will have the opportunity to "govern with a variety of perspectives and using social work values."

For her dissertation, Lane hopes to explore the political climate for social workers in the South and Midwest. "We have a really good track record in Connecticut of getting social workers involved in politics," she says. "My goal is to compare political activity among social workers in 'red' and 'blue' states and see what the [key] differences are."

— Leslie Virotek
UConn

You’ll need plenty of energy when spending a weekend at the new UConn

By Jim H. Smith
Photos by Peter Morenus

It's a Friday morning in late April as I crest the hill on Route 195 near Husky Village and Horsebarn Hill. Spring has arrived, propelled by a westerly breeze redolent of blossoming viburnum, and the UConn campus, attired in forsythia and daffodils, spreads out beneath a cloudless blue sky.

I have come to experience first hand what travel planners might call “Destination UConn,” a weekend of activities that you may not have previously considered since your undergraduate days. So much has changed in Storrs in recent years that some alumni may be challenged as they try to find their way around the campus. However despite a decade of growth, many landmarks seem immutable: the elegant spire of Storrs Congregational Church; the verdant quadrangle of lawn between North Eagleville Road and Whitney House; and Mirror Lake, spangled with a jitterbug of midday sunlight. Still, the changes are many and there is no shortage of activities to select from during a weekend visit.

The best place to begin finding your way around campus or to learn what is going on is the Lodewick Visitors Center, which opened six years ago at the corner of North Hillside and North Eagleville roads. The students staffing the information desk are assisting two families when I arrive. They are helpful ambassadors and offer a wealth of information on the University and its programs as well as brochures and other printed materials. I help myself to a self-guiding tour map and head toward south campus and the Nathan Hale Inn and Conference Center, the on-campus hotel that opened five years ago.

On this weekend, the Nathan Hale plays host to families of high school students participating in an invention competition, freshman prospects and their parents and the University of Notre Dame baseball team. The 100-room colonial style building has all the amenities travelers would expect in a quality hotel—a business center, five conference rooms, a Jacuzzi, a swimming pool and fitness center and a restaurant with a sumptuous menu. After checking into a spacious, comfortable room long enough to review my campus itinerary; I head out to begin my personal tour of UConn.
I have come to experience what travel planners might call "Destination UConn..."

A Taste of History

The J. Robert Donnelly Husky Heritage Sports Museum is housed in the lower level of the Alumni Center. The singing voice of Sarah McLachlan draws visitors to a bank of television monitors, where a video is playing as part of a continuous loop of highlights celebrating UConn’s championships in men’s and women’s basketball. As you enter the Connecticut Basketball Rotunda, nearly life-size cut-outs of Rebecca Lobo ’95 (CLAS) and Ray Allen (1993-96) stand as sentries before the glass cases that hold the Huskies’ seven NCAA national championship trophies and memorabilia from March Madness.

But there is much more. The museum is a time capsule, bursting with Husky-mania memorabilia from more than 125 years of intercollegiate competition in all its forms, including national championships in men’s soccer and field hockey. There is also the football team’s 2004 Motor City Bowl trophy, as well as displays highlighting UConn All-American student-athletes in baseball, women’s soccer, archery, tennis, track & field and softball and achievements that have led to 66 Big East championships in a variety of sports.

For lunch I head over to the newly expanded Student Union to sample Chuck and Augie’s, the year-old eatery named for UConn’s original benefactors, Charles and Augustus Storrs. Most of the 120 seats are already occupied when I arrive, but I find a table and order a grilled panini. Packed with London broil, portabella mushrooms and gorgonzola, it’s a sandwich without subtlety and thoroughly satisfying.

After lunch it is a good time to take a leisurely stroll across the heart of the campus along Fairfield Way, past the...
Nick Tucci '06 (ED) pitches during a series against Notre Dame at J. O. Christian Field.

Homer Babbage Library, to the Wilbur Cross Building, a sort of Faneuil Hall for UConn where students can sort out questions about financial aid, housing assignments and other student services.

Long before its current reincarnation, this elegant old domed edifice was UConn's first library. It is a fitting place for an exhibit—both informative and entertaining—that chronicles milestones in UConn's 125-year history, including the dawn of UConn's on-campus radio station, the birth of oozeball, Moe Morhardt's distinction as the university's only two-sport All-American, and Prof. N. L. Wherton's landmark 1930s research on the emerging phenomenon of suburbanization, among others.

Something Old, Something New

On Saturday morning Horsebarn Hill Arena is hosting the 2006 Connecticut State 4-H Horse Judging Contest. Horsebarn Hill remains a timeless composition of stone walls, white fences, red barns and rolling green pastures. When we arrive, four young women are waiting to show a quartet of Morgan yearlings, about two-thirds grown and as jumpy as nerve ends.

Visitors to the barns are welcome, so we spend a leisurely hour communing with cows and horses and their young. It is spring, and fecundity is everywhere apparent. There is no better way to follow a tour of the barns than to hit the famed UConn Dairy Bar, which ice cream aficionados would agree is sufficient reason itself for a trip to campus. You can watch ice cream being made, sample the latest creamy recipes, or just order an old favorite—a vanilla malted milk shake that is one of the world's great culinary experiences.

Thus fortified, we head over to the Lodewick Visitors Center where a group of people, mostly prospective students and parents, are waiting for the noon tour. Our guides—Brian McDermott '08 (ED) and Ashley Werth '08 (BUS)—are typical of the students who lead tours. Congenial and knowledgeable, they use audiovisuals to provide a crash course on UConn's rise in popularity and rankings and its many points of distinction, before leading us on foot across the campus. Along the way we stop to investigate a high tech classroom in the new Chemistry Building and a residence hall room.

After the tour it is off to the William Benton Museum of Art for the regularly scheduled Director's Tour of the museum, led by Sal Scalora. We will view "Stolen Childhoods," in the Human Rights Gallery, which opened as part of the 2005 expansion of the Benton. Robin Romano's film and photographs documenting the worldwide exploitation of children as laborors is both

Continued on page 50
A new history of the University of Connecticut will be published this fall as part of UConn's 125th anniversary celebration. The book—Red Brick in the Land of Steady Habits: Creating the University of Connecticut, 1881-2006—was written by Bruce M. Stave, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus and director of UConn’s Center for Oral History. He was assisted in his research by three UConn graduate students—Laura Burmeister, Michael Neagle, Leslie Horner Papandrea—and his wife, Sondra Astor Stave ’77 M.P.A., ’93 Ph.D. He discussed the book with Mark J. Roy ’74 (CLAS), author of University of Connecticut, a photographic history of UConn, part of the 2001 College History Series; and Ken Best, editor of UConn Traditions.

UCONN TRADITIONS: What were you trying to convey in doing this updated history?
STAVE: Historians try to develop analytical narrative, but with this particular project I wanted it to be readable so that a wide public would be able to appreciate and enjoy the history of the University of Connecticut. There was a very good book written by Walter Stemmons in 1931 for the University’s 50th Anniversary. I tried to emphasize the history of the University subsequent to that, the period from the mid 1930s to the present, and to give a fresh and comprehensive account of UConn history.

Q: What were the challenges in researching the history?
STAVE: To be able to synthesize an enormous amount of material. The book is primarily archivally based. The archives are in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. Each one of the presidents’ files has been collected, and they are in the archives except for Harry Hartley, although I did a seven-hour oral history with him, and he also prepared an account of UCONN 2000. But the other files are just enormous. Archivists talk about linear feet, and there are boxes and boxes, and each box has files, and each file could have a hundred documents in it. So the task was to be able to get a handle on that.

Q: Did you find any documents that offered some unique insights into the University’s history?
STAVE: Albert Waugh came to the University in 1924 as an economic statistician and worked his way up to head of the economics department, dean of arts and sciences and then to provost. He retired in 1965, but from 1941 to 1969, he kept a journal on a daily basis and there are 13,000 pages in it. A journal is enormously helpful to a historian. I made an early determination that it was honest. Sometimes you have to be careful with these kinds of sources. They may be self-promoting or grinding an axe. His was self-critical. He was talking about himself, but every day, he’d sit down and at the end of the day, he would write up all activities of the day.
Q: Can you give an example of a particularly helpful section of the journal?
STAVE: One I think of particularly had to do with the McCarthy Era in the 1950s, when Waugh explains how President Jorgensen and he were called in to meet Gov. John Lodge, who was very anti-communist and wanted to get rid of the faculty who were accused of being communists. Lodge wanted to fire them himself and Jorgensen—who felt pressured by the board and did question faculty about their sympathies—had to explain it was the trustees, and not the governor, who had the power to fire faculty. Essentially Lodge is getting angrier and angrier and you have this portrayed in Waugh's diary. It's just wonderful information because on the one hand you have newspapers and documents that tell you what's going on, but the journal provides the "inside" story—what went on behind closed doors.

Q: Were you surprised by anything you found during your research, and if so, what was it?
STAVE: One surprise was the critical role that someone like Waugh played for the development of the institution. I've mentioned this to a number of people, and they all agree that he was really a key individual.

Q: In reading the book, 1935 stands out as a pivotal year, when Charles McCracken leaves and Albert Jorgensen becomes president.
STAVE: Yes. McCracken was, unfortunately, not a successful president. I don't think he had much vision for the institution. Jorgensen did have a vision of turning the University into a large state university in the midwestern model. And so, yes, his coming is certainly important. He comes up with the building plan almost immediately, and he gets a lot of what he wants from the legislature by 1939. This is at the time of the Depression. So his impact cannot be minimized. Unfortunately he stayed a little too long because all of the good that he does ends. The faculty is against him. The students are against him. The governor is against him. So by the end, it's a no-win kind of situation for him.

Q: There were clearly several major historical events that affected the University's growth and its development. Which one had the greatest effect?
STAVE: Clearly World War II had a major effect because it brought soldiers onto campus. They were trained here. Jorgensen tried to make use of the resources that you could get because of the war. It wasn't entirely successful. One other element is a cultural element. The war gave women the opportunity for education that they did not have before. For the first time, women became the majority of the student body, and they took on positions of authority. But the major effect I think was what happened afterward with the GI Bill. The Fort Trumbull campus is set up in the Groton area, veterans come back and the school begins to explode in numbers of people who are here. This is when it really becomes a university. This is not different than many other places across the country, but the University's mission also changed. In 1944 Jorgensen gives a convocation in which he speaks about the plans for the future after the war, and he did have a vision of what the campus should be and how it should expand. He even talked about setting up a medical school well before the medical school was established. You begin to get a shift by 1949 when the first Ph.D. is awarded. I also think the cultural change that went on in the 1960s was highly significant because it shifts the whole way you look at students, ending in loco parentis, [the university's acting in place of parents] and it also tested the sort of notions of academic freedom and liberalism on campus.
Q: A discussion about the status of athletics and its value has gone on at UConn since the 1930s. Looking back historically, where does it fit as an issue that is still resounding today?

STAVE: I find it interesting with athletics that in 1956 the trustees set down a policy of no big-time athletics, meaning we don't play Harvard or Yale or Brown, and we don't really get big time. That goes back a long way and, of course, there's been a sea change with respect to what has happened and we can laugh now and say, "Well, that was pretty funny back in 1956." If we look at Waugh's journal, he's constantly talking about this. Waugh was a big basketball fan; in fact, in the journal he recounts game scores minute by minute. He was a statistician. He went to basketball games, but he felt that athletics was given too much prominence. The issue is here for a long time and basketball it seems, at least in relatively modern times—from the '30s or '40s on—always was prominent at the institution. The real issue is the balance of it. I see Waugh having his finger on the pulse of this. He's saying, "Well, yes, it's important. It's fun and interesting, but the institution should always exist first for academic purposes."

Q: Having looked at the long view, was there a critical point where a decision was made or events happened that are still impacting UConn today?

STAVE: I really think the change that's come to the institution in the past 10 to 15 years has been enormous. And here it ties into the whole view of trying to make UConn a national university. So I do think transforming the campus was very, very important and that's not being myopic and saying I'm only looking at the recent history. I'm looking at the whole long history. The changes in the last 10 to 15 years of creating a national university really made a difference because from the very beginning there was a tension here between moving from an agricultural and technical school to one with a broader focus on liberal arts and sciences. Moving to a comprehensive institution, a broader research institution, that tension carried through for many, many years. I don't think it still exists today. People have accepted the fact that this is a major research institution with a national reputation.

Q: You spent three years researching and writing the book. What do you want readers to come away with from it?

STAVE: Well, I hope they get a lively sense of how an institution of higher education, particularly this institution, develops and why it is the way it is. I hope that people affiliated with the University would read the whole thing. The tendency is for people to think their period is the critical era. But I hope that people will have an appreciation for the growth of the institution and read it from start to finish. I also think there's been a tendency to stress the very earliest history of the institution, and this results from dependence on the Stemmons book. I hope that now there'll be a way of looking at it comprehensively and getting a more modern history of the University of Connecticut.

Red Brick in the Land of Steady Habits is available at the UConn Co-op and other booksellers.
Keeping Connecticut
J. Robert Galvin '96 M.P.H. leads effort to keep 3.5 million citizens healthy

BY Ron Meshberg

We live at a time when increasing population, shared dependency on sources of food and water, and the wide use of international travel have created unprecedented opportunities for the rapid spread of disease, such as AIDS or SARS. These and other 21st century realities, such as acts of terrorism and natural disasters, have federal, state and local authorities searching for better ways to protect the public.

In Connecticut, J. Robert Galvin '96 M.P.H., is leading these efforts. As commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), he is largely responsible for the safety and well-being of the state's 3.5 million residents.

The activities of the Department of Public Health cut across the lives of virtually every citizen in Connecticut. DPH regulates all physicians, hospitals, nursing homes, day care centers and ambulance services. It monitors every drop of water consumed, tracks infectious disease patterns and offers nutritional services such as the Connecticut WIC Program, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children. With the newly created Virtual Office of Genomics, it is even integrating genetic technologies into public health policy and practice. In addition, as Connecticut's commissioner of DPH, Galvin chairs the state's Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, which disburses $10 million a year in grants.

Working at DPH headquarters in Hartford, Galvin schedules daily briefings with his branch chiefs. With his easy smile, silver hair and horn-rimmed glasses, it is difficult to see the steely veteran who retired from the U.S. Army Reserves as a brigadier general and received nine individual decorations, including the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star for combat service in Vietnam. Yet the same leadership qualities that have contributed to his success in the past that today equip him to run a large and diverse Department of Public Health.

Galvin's résumé, however, extends far beyond a military background. After graduating from Cornell University, he received his medical degree from Tufts School of Medicine.
in 1964. He then practiced as an emergency room and primary care physician. "Later," he says, "I found myself taking public health-related roles as town health officer, school health officer and aero-space physician. This allowed me to combine the curative and preventative aspects of medicine with the preventative aspects of working with entire populations, such as community members, students and soldiers in the field."

In 1996, Galvin received a Masters in Public Health from UConn and is currently finishing an M.B.A. at UConn's School of Business. "The DPH is a big operation with 850 employees and a budget of more than $210 million taxpayer dollars," Galvin says. "One needs to know how to effectively bring out the best in his employees and how to effectively manage finances. No one—myself included—can run an operation of this size without the sort of business training that has come from pursuing my M.B.A. at UConn."

Galvin's modest portrayal of himself is at odds with many of those who work under him. "Dr. Galvin does not get respect only because he is the commissioner," says Lenny Guercia, chief of operations for DPH. "He gets it because of his leadership style, which is augmented by his ability to pull in other agencies."

This was never more apparent than during the 2004 flu season. A severe shortage of vaccine was predicted. Thousands of anxious people lined up at clinics or implored private physicians for preventive shots. Meanwhile, government officials scrambled for scarce supplies. Here in Connecticut, Galvin took charge. The shortage was assessed and the state's resources marshaled. Galvin then negotiated with federal, private and international suppliers. Connecticut not only averted a possible health crisis but also ended flu season with a surplus of 1,000 doses of vaccine.

But what if a pandemic flu or other highly infectious disease were to circumvent preventive measures? Are we prepared for such an eventuality?

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"We are way ahead of many other states," Galvin says, "but still have a long way to go."

With this in mind, he continually works to enhance the state's readiness. One result is the Lundgren Field Hospital—named for Ottilie Lundgren of Oxford, who was one of five people in the United States to die of anthrax inhalation in 2001. The 100-bed hospital is a deployable medical treatment facility for use during public health emergencies. It is self-sustaining; it has its own water supply, heating, air-conditioning and enough generator power to run a standing municipal hospital.

"We now have the ability to go anywhere in the state and be set up for an emergency," says Galvin, who also serves as a member of the board of directors of the UConn Health Center and as an associate clinical professor at UConn's School of Medicine.

Beyond this, Galvin wants to find ways to better communicate with people about options available if disaster strikes. "We have yet to drill down to individual families what to do or where to go if their home is uninhabitable or they need [emergency] help or medications. It's hard to get this kind of information down to an individual level."

"No one—myself included—can run an operation of this size without the sort of business training that has come from pursuing my M.B.A. at UConn."

In addition to preparedness, one of Galvin's top priorities is children. Too many children in the state suffer from lead poisoning. Lead-based paint was banned in 1978, but a large number of homes still have remnants. Young children and fetuses are particularly vulnerable. "Lead poisoning can drop a child's I.Q. by 10 to 15 percent," Galvin says. "It's a serious problem in the inner cities."

Therapies exist, but currently there is no cure so the best defense is early screening. "Dr. Galvin has helped us become the leading city in the state in lead screening," says Ramon Rojano, director of Health and Human Services for the city of Hartford, where on average 200 children a year show signs of increased levels of lead. "He has a solid grasp of the particular plight of the inner city when it comes to health care issues."

As a state commissioner, Galvin has also forged strong professional ties with UConn. "We work very closely with Dr. Galvin and the DPH," says David Gregorio, director of the graduate program in public health at the UConn Health Center. "We have a number of projects going on."

One project involves the state's Fetal Infant Mortality Rate (FIMR). In the last few years, Connecticut's FIMR dropped Continued on page 50
Evolutionary biologist latches on to her subject

Unlike most folks, Janine Caira finds beauty in fish parasites.

"Public perception is they're icky, but they're really amazing looking organisms with a pretty elaborate surface structure," says Caira, ecology and evolutionary biology professor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, who has been studying the critters for over two decades. She has compiled what she estimates to be the largest collection of shark and stingray tapeworms in the world while earning professional accolades, including receiving the Distinguished Professor Award from the UConn Alumni Association in 2003 and the UConn Board of Trustees in 2006.

A native of Montreal, Canada, Caira first encountered parasites while working a summer job at a southern Ontario winery, whose owners were trying to stop them from feasting on grape plant roots. As an undergraduate at the University of British Columbia, she studied zoology and conducted research on the life cycle of a parasite that infects aquatic insects.

Caira's interests widened while working on her doctorate at the University of Nebraska and researching parasites in fresh water fluke after she and a friend traveled to the Gulf of California and watched fishermen hauling in sharks.

We bought two; one to eat and one to dissect," she says. Caira soon was hooked on studying shark tapeworms, which are only about a centimeter long, compared to ones found in humans that can grow to 15-feet or longer.

Caira arrived at UConn in 1985 as an assistant professor, and her expanding parasite collection and scholarship have since put UConn at the forefront of the field. Researchers, including several former students, have identified 930 new species of parasites in sharks and sting rays around the world. National Science Foundation-funded field trips have taken Cair a and her students to Baja California, Senegal and other far-flung locations.

“We have an undergraduate course where we introduce students to research. I usually have at least two undergraduate students doing research in my lab,” she says. “That’s one of the things about UConn I really like. Thirty-nine have done research, and 19 have published.”

Caira’s work focuses primarily on identifying new species of parasites, and her research provides important clues about evolution, diet and changes in migration patterns and ecosystems.

Magnified by a scanning electron microscope, the parasites appear geometrically complex, eerily alluring and reminiscent of Georgia O’Keefe paintings of flowers. Cair a illustrates her findings and once commissioned a painting of parasites for the cover of the first in a series of monographs about her research findings.

Among her current projects, Cair a is developing an online global tapeworm database with the help of 39 collaborators from nine countries. But beauty has its limits, even for Cair a, who despite her passion for parasites warns they can happily take up residence in humans.

Her admonition to sushi and sashimi lovers: “Cook your food.”
—Karen Singer ’73 (CLAS)
Putting transportation theory into gear

Garrick aids Gulf Coast communities recovery effort

Norman Garrick, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering, puts his theories on improving transportation planning into practice every day as he rides his bicycle to work. In his research at the Connecticut Transportation Institute, which is part of the UConn School of Engineering, Garrick seeks ways to improve urban planning and transportation design.

Last fall, Garrick was selected by the Chicago-based Congress for New Urbanism to be a member of a multidisciplinary team of architects and engineers traveling to Mississippi and Louisiana to help redesign Gulf Coast cities devastated by Hurricane Katrina. New urbanism is a movement toward creating and restoring compact, walkable communities such as Kentlands, near Washington, D.C.

At the request of Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, the team met in a weeklong brainstorming and design session to come up with a master plan for some 11 cities that had been affected by the storm.

"It's an opportunity to undo the damage from the lack of planning of the last 50 years," Garrick says. "I was selected by the Congress for New Urbanism to develop transportation planning design, including walkable communities. The streets in these Mississippi towns were not pedestrian-friendly."

Highways, for example, have caused a huge battle in the post-Katrina reconstruction. In what the press dubbed "Bridgezilla," the Mississippi Department of Transportation tried to develop a six-lane highway bridge between Ocean Spring and Biloxi. The bridge that had been wiped out by the storm was only four lanes and the DOT tried to justify building a bigger bridge that would have damaged life in Ocean Spring. The team that Garrick was a member of said that the DOT's analysis was flawed, which raised questions about the plan.

"I've already incorporated the Gulf Coast experience in my classes," he says. "The students have responded with enthusiasm to learn from such dramatic real-life experiences."

"It's reinforced my sense that there are a lot of dysfunctional processes embedded in the system that promotes sprawl and not functioning communities. For example, a lot of the systems are biased toward moving traffic and not encouraging livable communities or access to work."

Since October 2005, Garrick has been back to Mississippi three more times. Some communities there are well on the way to rebuilding, having raised money, implemented zoning regulations and approved plans.

Garrick, who is originally from Jamaica, won a Fulbright fellowship in 2004 and studied at the University of the West Indies researching transportation and sustainable urban development. — Alix Boyle
Recent works by alumni and faculty

Chick-lit wars to open in fall

Lauren Baratz-Logsted ’83 (CLAS) is gearing up for a literary war of words this fall, when the new anthology of stories she has edited hits bookstores. This Is Chick-Lit (BenBella Books), a collection of stories by 18 female authors who write about topics of interest to women, is a pre-emptive response to the scheduled fall publication of another anthology, This Is Not Chick Lit: Original Stories by America’s Best Women Writers (Random House), edited by Elizabeth Merrick.

A former bookseller, book critic and editor, Baratz-Logsted has written three previous fiction books, including The Thin Pink Line, and will have three new novels published later this year—Vertigo (Bantam), How Nancy Drew Saved My Life (Red Dress Ink) and Angel’s Choice (Simon & Shuster). She says the controversy over so-called “chick-lit” books is the result of misdirected marketing of the genre.

“Like any other genre, there are good books in it and bad books,” Baratz-Logsted says. “In the genre called chick lit, those kinds of books have been around forever. Some people call Jane Austen the progenitor. Today a lot of the books are commentary on the times we live. There is the perception by some in the literary community that chick-lit is only about high heels and fancy drinks. That’s kind of a silly way to think. If you look at the mystery shelf in the bookstores, do you assume that if you read one Agatha Christie book, every other mystery book will read the same?”

Baratz-Logsted says women who write books that are popular among female readers cover a variety of topics and are written in different styles. “They’re different in tone, execution and how much they bring the outside world into their stories,” she adds.

While a literary war of words may not be appealing to cable talk shows, Baratz-Logsted anticipates interest from the magazine world, adding “I expect it will be good for both collections. Controversy sells.”

She says there also is a bit of sexism in the publishing world about chick-lit. “In a terrifying world like we live in today, I’m never going to apologize when someone says, I read your book and I laughed,” she says. “I’d say it is possible within a comic framework to deal with serious subjects. When men write the same kind of material, the books get labeled as social satire. The only difference between a lot of chick-lit writers and well-respected male writers is the people who may wear a dress.” — Kenneth Best

Also of Interest

The Big Bam: The Life and Times of Babe Ruth
Leigh Montville ’65 (CLAS) (Doubleday)

Having previously chronicled the life of Ted Williams, Montville brings to life the other side of the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry with a timely new biography of baseball’s first megastar, George Herman “Babe” Ruth, whose trade in 1920 from Boston to New York ignited the competitive passions of both teams’ fans. Montville’s clear and insightful writing is enhanced by his access to previously unpublished material. The Big Bam reinforces the legendary status of one of the sporting world’s pioneering and larger-than-life figures.

The Importance of Being Barbra
Tom Santopietro ’81 J.D. (Thomas Dunne Books)

Santopietro, an unabashed fan of Barbra Streisand and a veteran of 20 years in show business, including as a manager of Broadway productions, offers more of an appreciation of Streisand’s long and heralded career than a simple biography. He breaks down Streisand’s work by category—recordings, film, television, theater, concerts, politics—and is not shy about pointing out the uneven efforts she has offered during a career that has been highlighted by the highest awards in entertainment. A career scorecard that includes failing grades is included.

Millionaire City
Jack J. Miller ’54 (CLAS) ’60 J.D. (Go Figure Press)

A former public defender in Los Angeles County and playwright, Miller’s first novel provides an outlet for his varied interests in history, religious institutions, economics and forensic science. When the mayor of a secret city owned by the Catholic Church and inhabited by millionaires is kidnapped, it sets into motion a web of assassinations, attempted murders and pursuit. The protagonist in the thriller is the mayor’s daughter, who enlists her boyfriend, an economics professor and a former CIA analyst, to help with the rescue. Combining historic fact and fiction, Millionaire City keeps readers guessing about where the story will turn next. — K.B.
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.alumnlmagazine.uconn.edu

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Save the Date
June 1–2, 2007

Reunion Weekend—Classes of 1957, 1952, 1947, and 1942

Mark your calendars! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 1 & 2, 2007. The schedule will include tours of campus, keynote speakers, museum tours, a dinner Friday evening and a New England clambake on Saturday afternoon. Check your mail in April for registration information or check our Web site, www.uconnalumni.com, for program updates.

Special Interest Reunions

Interested in getting reconnected with that special group of friends? Let the UConn Alumni Association help. If you have questions about the above events or 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 2007, contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1, or by e-mail: kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu.

1940s

Barbara (Foerch) Palmer '42 (SFS), '63 M.A. serves as the town historian of Tolland, Conn. Her writings about the history of Tolland are featured regularly in local publications.

1950s

George Ripleyn II '50 (CLAS) of Shelton, Conn., recently observed 25 years as a superior court judge. He sits in the Derby, Conn., Superior Court, handling civil cases.

Burton Hendel '51 (BUS) has been enjoying retirement for 19 years after working in the retail toy business for 34 years in the New London and Groton areas with Sherman Marcus '50 (CLAS).

1960s

Daniel Harris '62 (ED), the athletics director at Milwaukee School of Engineering, was inducted into the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Athletic Hall of Fame on May 7, 2006. He coached soccer and was athletic director at UWM from 1973-84. He lives in Grafton, Wis.

Cheryl (Fleming) Luchene '63 (CLAS) was honored by the Georgia Professional Tennis Association for her contributions to the Georgia tennis community. A teaching professional since 1981 with an A+ rating, she has been a touring professional in the Caribbean.

Michael Madigan '65 (CLAS) was inducted as a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.


ABBREVIATION KEY

School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

CANR—College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
SAS—School of Allied Health
CLAS—College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
BUS—School of Business
SFA—School of Fine Arts
ED—Neag School of Education
ENG—School of Engineering
SFS—School of Family Studies
BGS—General Studies
NUR—School of Nursing
PHR—School of Pharmacy
RHS&—Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture
SSW—School of Social Work

Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

M.A.—Master of Arts
M.S.—Master of Science
M.D.—Master of Dental Science
M.B.A.—Master of Business Administration
M.F.A.—Master of Fine Arts
M.M.—Master of Music
M.P.A.—Master of Public Affairs
M.P.H.—Master of Public Health
M.S.W.—Master of Social Work
M.S.P.T.—Master of Science in Physical Therapy
Ph.D.—Doctor of Philosophy
D.M.A.—Doctor of Musical Arts
J.D.—Juris Doctor
M.D.—Doctor of Medicine
D.D.M.—Doctor of Dental Medicine
Pharm.D.—Doctor of Pharmacy
6th year—Sixth-year certificate

Michael Gordon '57 (BUS), '63 J.D. was named the John H. and Mary Lou Dasburg Professor at the University of Florida's Levin College of Law.

Richard Williams '58 (CLAS) wrote a collection of short stories titled As Time Goes By, published by Mountain Mist Productions of Australia.

Robert Gregory '59 (CLAS), director of economic development for the city of Milford, Conn., was appointed to the executive committee of the Regional Growth Partnership, a regional economical development organization.

Robert Kelly '59 Ph.D. now operates his own consulting company, Los Alamos Engineering Physics, after 16 years involved with nuclear weapon diagnostics at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Lewis Turco '59 (CLAS), a professor emeritus of English writing arts at S.U.N.Y.-Oswego, spent several days in the Santa Cruz, Calif., area giving readings and participating in workshops and classroom.

1952, 1947, and 1942

Mark your calendars! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 1 & 2, 2007. The schedule will include tours of campus, keynote speakers, museum tours, a dinner Friday evening and a New England clambake on Saturday afternoon. Check your mail in April for registration information or check our Web site, www.uconnalumni.com, for program updates.

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Growing Up Disability, rifle & NOTES team. At Virginia Commonwealth with three sons and one daughter and lives in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

Tom Durnford ’69 (CLAS), ’77 Ph.D., professor of modern languages at Keene State College in Keene, N.H., assisted in research that led to the recognition of two American citizens named “Righteous Among the Nations,” by Yad Vashem, the Israeli organization responsible for documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust, which honors Gentiles who saved Jews before and during World War II.

1970s

Sandra Donaldson ’70 M.A., ’77 Ph.D. was named Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor at the University of North Dakota. She received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to publish a five-volume scholarly edition of the works of Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Ruth Harrison ’70 (ED) retired in 2002 after 31 years of teaching. She lives in Aspen, Colo.

Edward Nusbaum ’70 (CLAS), was selected by Connecticut Magazine as a 2006 Connecticut Super Lawyer in the area of family law and as one of the top 50 lawyers practicing in the state of Connecticut. He is a member of the Westport law firm of Nusbaum and Parrino, P.C. He lives in Weston, Conn., with his wife, Kathleen, and their sons, Jesse and Cody.

Patrick Moore ’70 (CLAS) published his first novel, In the Shadow of Exile with Xlibris/Random House. He is a lawyer and college instructor and lives in northeastern Ohio.

Peter Palmer ’70 (CLAS) published his memoir Growing Up in Tolland, circa 1950 to 1965, through the Tolland (Conn.) Historical Society. He practices real property law in Tolland.

Brian Attenborough ’71 (ED) retired after 34 years teaching science at Radnor Middle School in Wayne, Pa. He also ran a school district television studio and coached the middle school rifle team.

Don Miller ’71 J.D. has retired from corporate life, where he specialized in financial planning services, and now owns a Nationwide Insurance agency in Bennington, Vt., where he lives with his wife, Betenell.

Michael Morosky ’72 (CLAS), ’76 Ph.D. was elected president of the medical staff of Johnson Memorial Hospital in Stafford Springs, Conn. He lives in Glastonbury with his wife Judy, their daughter, Mikayla, 6, and son, Cameron, 5.

Perry Zirkel ’72 Ph.D. recently had his 1,050th publication, The Specific Legal Meaning of Specific Learning Disability, published by the Council for Exceptional Children.

Douglas Cooper, ’73 (CLAS), ’85 M.S. celebrated his tenth year as a principal of Cooper Environmental Services, an environmental consulting firm located on Martha’s Vineyard, Mass. He lives in Edgartown, Mass., with his wife and business partner, Carla, and their daughter, Julia.

Melinda Grier ’73 (CLAS), general counsel for the University of Oregon, was elected president of the National Association of College and University Attorneys for 2005-06.

Vistoria Kolyvas ’73 (SFA) is the owner and innkeeper of the Tidewater Inn, a classic bed and breakfast, in Madison, Conn. www.thetidewater.com.

PROFILE

Spreading the word of patient-centered care

As a company president, Susan Frampton ’80 M.A., ’90 Ph.D., manages a budget, implements a strategic plan and makes staffing decisions. But she does this from the perspective of a classically-trained medical anthropologist as she leads Planetree, Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps health care facilities implement a comprehensive model for patient-centered care.

Visiting the more than 100 current Planetree member hospitals in the United States and overseas, as well as prospective members, Frampton uses a variety of research methods to assess the cultural climate of a hospital. Her findings inform Planetree’s recommendations, which may include changing human resources practices and policies that govern family involvement in care decisions or offering specific strategies for meeting the spiritual, social, and emotional needs of patients.

Some of the most visible and dramatic changes that can occur in a hospital include adding soothing gardens, fish tanks, libraries and kitchens for families. All these initiatives help to provide a more personalized, less institutional atmosphere in hospitals.

Frampton says the concept of empowering patients as educated health care consumers is gaining momentum, and she has addressed health care-related conferences sponsored by the American Hospital Association, the World Health Organization, and health agencies in Europe.

She arrived in Storrs with an undergraduate degree in medical anthropology after reading a book by UConn Prof. Pertti Pelto, The Snowmobile Revolution: Technology and Social Change in the Arctic, considered a modern classic in anthropology studies.

“I knew that this was the guy I wanted to study with,” Frampton says, adding that she also appreciated the dynamic, applied nature of UConn’s community medicine program, which emphasized internships and gave practical experience. She went on to work in a number of hospital-based positions, including as director of health promotion at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, before joining Planetree in 2000.

“This was such an amazing opportunity to practice medical anthropology because essentially what I get to do is culture audits of hospitals all over the country and in different parts of the world and then to be a change agent,” Frampton says. “One of my goals is to see every patient in this country treated with caring kindness and respect. That’s a big one. We’ll be working on that for a lifetime.” — Leslie Virostek

Frank Kane ’74 (CLAS) was elected chairman of the American Board of Family Medicine, the second largest medical specialty in the United States. His roommate while at UConn, William Kohlhepp ’74 (CLAS) was appointed chairman for the National Commission on Certification for Physician Assistants.

Rick Melpignano ’74 Ph.D. retired after 33 years teaching high school French and Latin, as well as French at the college level. He lives in Bellingham, Mass., where he is currently developing his bowling skills.

Rosalyn Cama ’75 (SFS), president and principal designer of CAMA, Inc., New Haven, Conn., was re-elected as chair of the board of directors of the Center for Health Design, a non-profit, non-membership, research and advocacy organization that promotes the value of evidence-based design in improving the quality of health care.

Al D’Onofrio ’73 (ENG) married Kellie Hale. He is a chief engineer on the Future Combat Systems Program for the Boeing Company. They live in Clayton, Mo.

Richard Minoff ’75 (CLAS) was appointed to the board of advisors of the eMax Biotech Venture Fund.

James Main ’75 (ED), ’79 M.S. and Camille Daignault Main ’74 (BUS) moved to Oregon’s Rogue Valley region where he is vice president for finance and administration for Southern Oregon University, and she works within the university’s athletic department.

David Wohl ’75 (SFA), a West Virginia State University professor and co-founder of the Charleston Stage Company, was awarded top prize in the 2006 Governor’s Arts Awards.

Vladimir Wozniuk ’75 (CLAS) published an op-ed “Get Used to the New World Disorder” in the International Herald Tribune.

Albert Abbott ’76 (CLAS), an internationally known geneticist, was awarded the Robert and Lois Coker Trustees Chair in Molecular Genetics at Clemson University.

Colonel Robert Ravelo ’76 (CLAS) retired after 30 years of military service. He was the U.S. Pacific Command liaison officer to NORAD and the U.S. Northern Command at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Alexander Rostocki ’76 (CLAS), in-house counsel at People’s Capital and Leasing Corp., in Waterbury, Conn., is also a travel photographer whose photos are published throughout the world. One of his photographs taken in Seville, Spain, was a winner in the 2006 National Geographic Traveler photo contest. He lives in Glastonbury, Conn.

Diane Carhart ’77 (BUS) is the chief financial officer of Stonefield Farm in Londonderry, N.H. She lives with her husband, Jay, and 12-year-old twins, Sophie and Sara, in Hopkinton, N.H.

Profile

Educating visitors about America and the sea

Lisa Marcinkowski ’89 (CLAS), director of education at Mystic Seaport, creates educational programs about the sea-faring life for visitors ranging from toddlers to grandparents at one of Connecticut’s premier tourist attractions. Visitors can spend the night aboard the Joseph Conrad, a 19th-century sail training vessel, or learn about African American sailors in an exhibit called “Black Hands, Blue Seas.”

It is Marcinkowski’s challenge to create programs so compelling that people are drawn to Mystic Seaport, following a confluence of events that have affected the tourism industry, including reduced funding for school field trips and the rising prices for gasoline causing families to reconsider even local vacation trips. “There are pressures on museums to become Disney-fied, to become more entertainment than education,” Marcinkowski says, noting that Mystic Seaport is reshaping its mission to become a more year-round and experiential attraction by moving away from purely historic programming and toward becoming a museum of “America and the sea.”

Marcinkowski, who lives in Groton, oversees a staff of eight full-time employees who lead the variety of 19th-century lifestyle activities including camps for pre-schoolers to teens, school group tours, overnight stays, Elderhostel excursions and outreach programs. She is busy researching history, talking to teachers and learning about curriculum standards so her programs can complement what children are learning in the classroom.

“When I first started graduate school, I joked that I had the wrong undergraduate degree, but I am grateful every day that I was an English major because I spend most of my time writing,” Marcinkowski says, noting that she writes grant proposals, tour outlines, training materials, marketing materials, articles for museum publications and Web content, among other assignments.

After graduation, Marcinkowski took a tour-guide position at the Orchard House museum, Louisa May Alcott’s family home in Concord, Mass. She enjoyed it so much that she decided to pursue a master’s degree in museum studies at the Cooperstown Graduate Program, the premier program for training museum professionals, in Cooperstown, N.Y. She began her new career at the Hagley Museum in Wilmington, Del.

She credits the late UConn English professor and former academic vice president Kenneth L. Wilson with encouraging her to attend graduate school.

“I’d always loved history and books,” she says. “Working at a museum is a great job for anyone who’s curious and likes learning new things.” — Alix Boyle
Mark DeMaio '77 (CLAS) received the Gold Award at the annual Watkins Student Exhibition from the International Interior Design Association for the second consecutive year. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children, Mark, 16, and Matthew, 14.

Joel Hurliman '77 (CANR) is the chief of police in Shelton, Conn. He recently retired after 23 years of service from the Connecticut Army National Guard as a master sergeant.

Richard Iderosa '77 (ENG) is senior vice president of global operations for Cross Match Technologies of Jena, Germany.

Peter Feeney '77 M.B.A. has been elected a member-at-large of the Barbershop Harmony Society Executive Board. He is a senior analyst for corporate planning with Sierra Pacific Resources. He lives in Las Vegas, Nev.

Pamela Fishman Kahn '77 (BUS) is the Washington, D.C., marketing and public relations manager for the New York-based Balducci's Food Lovers Market.

Donna Swedin '77 (SFS) received her M.B.A. in 2005 from the University of St. Thomas, in Minneapolis, Minn. She is the director of sales operations at PLATO Learning, Inc., an educational software company.

Ahmed Abisourour '78 (CLAS) is a financial markets specialist for Islamic Development Bank working on the establishment of a branch of Islamic Bank in the United Kingdom, after having already established one in Bosnia.


Jonathan Shafiner '79 (CLAS) is the assistant vice president, assistant general counsel and assistant secretary for GEICO's Office of the General Counsel in Washington, D.C. He lives in Kensington, Md.

Nancy (Breslow) Strong '79 (SFS) was recently honored by the American Cancer Society for her service as a committee member and as a volunteer.

Lisa (Canter) Taylor '79 (CLAS), '81 M.A. completed an M.F.A. in creative writing in 2004. She has published two books of poetry and works at an arts magnet high school as a creative writing teacher.

1980s

Lisa Panella Eells '80 (ED) is the assistant principal of the University of Hartford Magnet School, located in West Hartford, Conn., which is part of the Capital Region Education Council.

Kevin Foley '80 (CLAS) is celebrating 20 years as the owner of KEF Media Associates, a video production firm. He lives in Atlanta with his wife of 30 years, Susan, and their three dogs, Max, Molly and May.

Sergio Toni '80 (PHR) was chosen by his co-workers to receive Yale-New Haven (Conn.) Hospital's outstanding employee award for his demonstrated teamwork. He has been a pharmacist at Yale-New Haven for 20 years. He lives in Bridgeport with his wife and daughter.

William Keena '81 (CLAS) is executive vice president of operations at AMERIGROUP, a publicly traded Medicaid HMO based in Virginia Beach, Va.

Brian Charlebois '82 (BUS) was named the first American Savings Foundation Endowed Chair in Banking and Finance at Central Connecticut State University. He is managing director of his own firm, Wallingford-based Charlebois Associates LLC, after holding executive positions at Icon International Inc. and First National Bank of New England.

Anne Demallie '82 (BUS) is the chief financial officer for Design Professionals, Inc., a Connecticut-licensed engineering and land surveying corporation headquartered in South Windsor, Conn.

Matthew Dzialo '82 (CLAS) completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., and was promoted to private first class.

Tom Reilly '82 (CLAS) is the CEO of Trihus, a leading training outsourcing provider. He and his wife, Darlene, have two children, Matthew and Carolyn, and live in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Jonathan Zarkower '82 (BUS) is senior product manager at Tatara Systems, Inc., of Acton, Mass., a leading manufacturer of converged mobile solutions for service and content providers.

Paul Catanese '83 (CLAS), writing as P. W. Catanese, will have his fourth novel published by Simon & Schuster. The Mirror's Tale, a fantasy adventure for young adults. He lives in Bolton, Conn., with his wife, Lisa (Stenza) Catanese '83 (CLAS).

UConn Club honors alumni

Irvin L. Evans '40 (CLAS) and Leon Medvedow '51 (BUS) were presented with the UConn Club's Outstanding Contribution Award in April in recognition of their long-time support of UConn athletics. Both are founding members of the UConn Club and have attended thousands of Husky sporting events together and with their wives, who are sisters, Leon's wife is Phyllis (Kronick) '52 (CLAS), and Al's wife is Irma (Kronick) '48 (CLAS).
Thomas Connors '83 (CLAS), '86 Ph.D., senior technical associate in home care research and development at the Technology Center of Colgate-Palmolive Company in Piscataway, N.J., was listed in the National Register's Who's Who in Executives and Professionals, 2006-07 edition.

Judy Eckert '83 (ENG) is the manager of global business strategy for Pitney Bowes Mail Solutions.

Margaret Lesser '83 (BGS) celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with her husband, Robert, on Oct. 16, 2005. She is retired as vice president of Robert Lesser Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Joseph Mallon '83 (BGS) is a partner in the San Diego office of the intellectual property law firm of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP. He is a registered patent attorney focusing on a variety of chemical and polymer technologies. He lives near San Diego with his wife, Diane, and daughter, Kellie, 12.

Thomas Parrino '83 (CLAS), of New Canaan, Conn., has been selected by Connecticut Magazine as a 2006 Connecticut Super Lawyer in the area of family law, practicing in the state of Connecticut. Attorney Parrino is a member of the Westport law firm of Nusbaum & Parrino, P.C.

Robert Peyton '49, '51 J.D., Caroline (Chase) Ladd '54, Dennis Olsen '71 M.S.W., Paul Magner '48, Robert N. Giamo '44 J.D., Felix Zaniewski '42, Paul Magner '48, John Morgan '50, and Michael Stupack '50 are among the members of the Class of 1949.

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Karen (Lynn) McMahon '86 (SFS) is an elementary school teacher in New Haven, Conn. She earned her master's degree from Southern Connecticut State University and is pursuing her 6th year certificate. She lives in North Branford, Conn., with her husband, David, and son, Thomas.

Greg Economou '88 (CLAS) is the senior vice president of marketing and communications for the National Basketball Association.

Colleen (Foley) Neidt '88 (CLAS) and Natalie (Adragna) Dufresne '89 (NUR) celebrated 15 years of marriage in May 2006. Dan is a director in the corporate office of J.C. Penney, and Natalie is a clinical specialist in cardiology. They live with daughter Hayley, 8, in the Dallas Metroplex area.

Michael Emmanuel '89 (BUS) is president and CEO of his own mortgage brokerage and mortgage servicing business, Universal Servicing Inc.

Monique Heller '89 (SFS), '98 M.B.A., senior human resources director for Alexion Pharmaceuticals in Cheshire, Conn., is pursuing a Ph.D. in organizational leadership. She married Dr. John Parnoff in November 2005 and lives in East Haddam, Conn.

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1990s

Joe Consigli '90 (CLAS) and his wife, Tammy, announce the birth of a daughter, Jamie Nicole, on Dec. 1, 2005. Jamie joins sister Danielle Marie, 2. The family lives in Severna Park, Md.

Lisa Ellin '90 (CLAS) and Haym Hirsh announce the birth of a son, Jay Harrison Hirsh, on January 23, 2006. The family lives in Middlesex County, N.J.

Don Harris '90 J.D., an attorney in private practice, won a runoff election in November 2005 to become a member of the city council in Albuquerque, N.M.

Kimberly Sullivan '90 (NUR) and her husband, Steve, announce the birth of a son, Zachary James Young, on Feb. 20, 2006. She is a nurse at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Albuquerque, N.M., and serves as a lieutenant in the Naval Reserves Nurse Corps.

Jack Lynch '91 (CLAS) and his wife, Nell-Ayn (Aloi) Lynch '91 (ED), announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Jennifer, on October 11, 2005. Ellie joins brother Jack, 6, and sisters Brady-Ayn, 5, and Mary, 1. The family lives in Trumbull, Conn.

Russell Dean '92 (CLAS), '96 M.A. and his wife, Heather, announce the birth of a son, Caleb Austin Dean, on Sept. 13, 2005. The family lives in Tucson, Ariz.

Tracy (Spaar) Earnshaw '92 (CLAS), '95 (ED) and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of a daughter, Meghan Suzanne, on April 27, 2005. The family lives in New Haven, Conn.

Barry Inger '92 (CLAS) and his wife, Maureen, announce the birth of a son, Michael Robert, on Jan. 12, 2006. Michael joins Elizabeth, 7; Kevin, 5; and Brian, 2. Barry is the federal sales manager for Application Security, Inc. of New York City. The family lives in Groveland, Mass.

Donna Jarvis '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Kevin Foster, announce the birth of a daughter, Emilia Noelle Jarvis Foster, on February 17, 2006. She joins her sister, Anna, 4, at their home in Burlington, Conn.

Josh Krulewitz '92 (BUS) is the vice president, public relations for college, news and networks information in the communications department at ESPN.

Mitchell Passero '92 (CLAS) and his wife, Silvia, announce the birth of a daughter, Pamela Elisa, on Dec. 19, 2005. He is the manager of Internet Services for Outdoor Life Network. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

Karen (Lagasse) Schumann '92 (NUR) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Rose, in July 2004. Elizabeth joins her brother, Aidan John. The family lives in Milford, Conn.

Lawrence Ward '92 (BUS), assistant dean for academic programs in American University's Kogod School of Business, was selected as AU's Internship Faculty Member of the Month for January 2006.

Susan Alwardt '93 (CLAS) is first vice president at Washington Mutual in Chicago, Ill.

Andrea Chapdelaine '93 Ph.D. of Mohrsville, Penn., is the provost and vice president for academic affairs at Albright College.

Bing Wang '91 (CLAS) is a counsel in the Beijing, People's Republic of China office of Baker & Daniels LLP.

Donald Brown '92 (ENG), '96 M.S. was promoted to associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and awarded tenure at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.


Julie Goodwin Gallo '93 (CLAS) announces the birth of twins, Avery Rose and Mason Tanner, on Nov. 3, 2005.
Christine Scherma Marin '93 (SFS) and Marc Marin '92 (CLAS) announce the birth of a daughter, Maya Genevieve. She joins brother Kyle, 4, and sister Julia, 2. Marc is a high school English teacher in Fairfield, Conn. Christine is a school social worker in Milford. The family lives in Trumbull.

Michele (Turdo) Casey '94 (SFS) and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of a son, Callahan Thomas, on July 24, 2005. He joins his sister, Sarah Rose, 2.

David Paye '94 (CLAS) is the assistant vice president in the eCommerce department at TD Banknorth Inc. in Falmouth, Maine.

Lori (Rostel) St. John '94 (PHR) and Doug St. John '95 (PHR) announce the birth of a son, Colin Joseph, on Aug. 26, 2005. Colin joins brother Noah David, 2. Lori is a clinical pharmacist at Christiana Hospital in Newark, Del., and Doug is a clinical pharmacist at Capital Health System in Trenton, N.J. The family lives in Hamilton, N.J.

Jessica Sylvester '94 (CLAS) and her husband, Christian Stauder '91 (BUS) in March 2006. He is a senior vice president, fixed income derivatives trading and sales, at RBS Greenwich Capital. She is an attorney with Xerox Corporation. The couple lives in Greenwich, Conn.

Andrew Tschepppe '94 (ED) and his wife, Michelle, announce the birth of a daughter, Sadie Rose, on March 9, 2006. She joins brothers Timothy, 5, and Samuel, 3.

Heather (Heaton) Anderson '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Bob, announce the birth of a son, Robert Daniel, on Feb. 10, 2006. Daniel joins half-brother Sean, 16. The family lives in Naugatuck, Conn.

Ericka (Nole) Brayton '95 (SFS) and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of a daughter, Addison Leigh, on Feb. 1, 2006. She joins brother Thomas and sister Galvin. The family lives in Bethlehem, Conn.

Kate (Fuller) Curren '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Evan, announce the birth of a daughter, Aeryn Lillian, on Dec. 28, 2005. The family lives in Verona, N.J.

Heather Daly '95 (CLAS), '96 M.A. married Michael Van Brunt in January 2006. She completed an M.B.A. from New York University and is senior manager of strategy and planning at Lucent Technologies. The couple lives in Montclair, N.J.

Jared Goodfriend '95 (BUS) is vice president of program management for Fairfield Controls, an aerospace firm. He lives in Frederick, Md., with his wife, Michelle, and their three children.

Ley Howell '95 (CLAS) and her husband, Scott Rago, announce the birth of their twin daughters, Charlotte and Mikaylah, on April 13, 2005.

David Joseph '95 (ENG) announces the birth of twin sons, Donovan Alexander and Nathan Bennett, on Nov. 29, 2005.

Damon Lewis '95 (CLAS) is a school counselor in Trumbull, Conn. He and his wife, Kiesha, and their daughter, Saraya, 4, live in Stratford, Conn.

Sara (Wieczorek) Marschand '95 (SFA). '99 (ENG) married Bret Marschand. She is engineering project manager at Northrop Grumman Corporation in Rolling Meadows, Ill. The couple lives in the west suburbs of Chicago.

Guy Sapirstein '95 (CLAS) is a partner with ORI Consulting, a global crisis consulting firm. He recently returned from New Orleans and Pakistan after consulting on psychological trauma and human impact readiness following the recent disasters. He lives in Newtown Center, Mass.

Brandon Bailey '96 (CLAS) is the assistant principal as well as the head coach of the football team at Richland High School in Johnstown, Pa. He and his wife, Heather, and their children, Karsen, 8, Morgan, 5, and Koby, 4, live in Windber, Pa.


Joseph Hayes '96 (CLAS) married Giovanna Forero in October 2005. The couple lives in New York City.

Brett McGurk '96 (CLAS) married Caroline Wong in March 2006.

Lanette Roulier Kovachi '96 (SAH) and her husband, Alex Kovachi '96 (CLAS), announce the birth of a daughter, Alaina Rose, on Feb. 10, 2006. She joins her sister, Maya Josephine, 2. The family lives in Wallingford, Conn.

Kevin Balfe '97 (BUS) is a producer for Mercury Entertainment Group, working on the Glenn Beck program, airing on CNN Headline News. He married Rebecca Ross in October 2005. The couple lives in New York City.

Sunny Gupta '97 (SAH) is a resident in orthopaedic surgery with the team physician for the Philadelphia 76ers. He lives in Philadelphia.
Family Weekend Breakfast Buffet for Alumni, Parents and Grandparents

Saturday, October 7, 8 to 10 a.m., Alumni Center
The UConn Alumni Association and the Nathan Hale Inn invite alumni, parents/grandparents of current UConn students for a breakfast buffet reception at the Alumni Center and Husky Heritage Sports Museum. Free for Alumni Association members, $10 for non-members. Current UConn students attending with their families are free. Advance reservations required.

To RSVP, or to become a member of the UConn Alumni Association, contact Julie Sweeney at 888-UC-ALUM-1, 860-486-1828, or at julie.sweeney@uconn.edu.
RSVP by Friday, September 29.

Richard Inzitari '97 (CLAS) and his wife, Jody (Mastropetre) Inzitari '98 (NUR), announce the birth of a son, Matthew Salvatore, on Nov. 26, 2005. He joins sister Sophia, 2.

Ryan Jockers '97 (CLAS) and Keri (Nigrelli) Jockers '96 (CLAS) announce the birth of a daughter, Paige, on Oct. 7, 2005. Ryan is a staff writer for The (Stamford) Advocate. Keri is a special education teacher at Bedford Middle School in Westport, Conn. The family lives in Stratford.

Michelle Lakin '97 (SAH) and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of a son, Jacob Ethan, on Feb. 5, 2006. Jacob joins his sister, Shayna Naomi. The family lives in Hamden, Conn.

Beth (Graham) Lamy '97 (ENG) and her husband, David Lamy, announce the birth of a son, Jeffrey Graham, on June 16, 2005. He joins brother Ryan David, 3. The family lives in Fort Bragg, N.C.


Robin Rastani '97 (CANR), '00 M.S. received her Ph.D. in dairy science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in August 2005. She is a post-doctoral fellow in teaching and learning issues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She lives in Madison with her husband, Michael Huemmer.

Amy (Thompson) Schmidt '97 (BUS) and her husband, Christopher Schmidt (CLAS) '98, announce the birth of a son, Jaret Christopher, on March 26, 2006. Christopher completed his M.S. at the University of New Haven and teaches high school social studies in Franklin, Mass. Amy is a retail manager for Gap Inc. in Wrentham, Mass.

Homecoming 2006 Activity Schedule

Sunday, October 15
Annual Homecoming Parade
Fairfield Way

Wednesday, October 18
Royalty Pageant
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

Friday, October 20
Men's Soccer vs Notre Dame
Joseph J. Morrone Stadium

Football vs. West Virginia (evening)
Rentschler Field, East Hartford

UConn Alumni Association Huddle Tent
Rentschler Field, East Hartford

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Army
Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum

Saturday, October 21
125th Anniversary Luncheon
Jorgensen Auditorium
Anniversary luncheon preceding the performance of Six Huskies in Search of an Author.

Inaugural Performance
Six Huskies in Search of an Author.
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

SUBOG's Annual Student Lip Sync Competition
Gampel Pavilion

Sporting Events
Field Hockey vs. Syracuse
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Army (2nd game)

Throughout the weekend
Take a historical walking tour by following the new historical markers located throughout the campus. The markers were designed to commemorate the University's 125th Anniversary.

For more information or ticket purchases, contact:
1 Student Activities Programs Office
860-486-3423.
2 UConn Athletic Ticket Office
860-486-2724 or 1-877-AT-UCONN
3 UConn Alumni Association
860-486-2240.
4 University Events
860-486-1038.
5 Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life - 860-486-6588.
6 Lodewick Visitors Center
860-486-4900.
Caroline (Malley) Scott ’97 (SFA) and Douglas Scott ’98 (CANR) announce the birth of a daughter, Lauren Sadie, on Aug. 29, 2005. The family lives in Mendon, Mass.

Cloris (Caibe) Stock ’97 (BUS) started her own business: CS Training, a tutoring and corporate training company.


Matt Stutts ’98 (CLAS) married Ann Marie Schaeffer ’99 (CLAS) in October 2005. She specializes in working with children with learning disabilities, and he is a geographer with the National Park Service. They live in Washington, DC.

Jason Bachand ’99 (CLAS) published his first book of poetry, Rooms of An Ice Water Mansion.

Joseph DeMartino ’99 (BUS) and Michelle (Albaine) DeMartino ’00 (BUS) were married in July 2005. He is an associate director, investor relations at North Sound Capital LLC in Greenwich, Conn. She is an associate at Flag Capital LLC, a private equity investment firm in Stamford. They live in Fairfield.

Beth (Roberts) Griffin ’99 (CLAS) and Christian Griffin ’98 (PHR) announce the birth of a daughter, Fiona Sky, on May 25, 2005.

Bethany Hart ’99 (ED) was an alternate on the United States women’s bobsledding team for the Olympics in Turin, Italy.

2000s

Dana McCreech ’00 M.B.A. and her husband, Mike, have raised $455,000 for childhood cancer research in the past year under Team Brent, an organization named in honor of their son Brent, who is fighting cancer.

Kelly (Sparan) Pietro ’00 (CLAS) and Scott Pietro, Jr. ’00 (BUS) announce the birth of a son, Michael Scott, on Feb. 20, 2006. The family lives in Shelton, Conn.

Tamara (Goodman) Stein ’00 D.M.D. and Joshua Stein ’03 M.D. announced the birth of a daughter, Caroline Ruby, on Dec. 31, 2005. The couple married in September 2004 and live in Hamden, Conn.

Julie Merigiano ’01 (CLAS) received her M.S. from Southern Connecticut State University and is a school counselor at Amity High School in Woodbridge, Conn. Julie married Robert Ayer in July 2005.

Chanté Drasdis ’02 (BUS) is director of Arbors of Hop Brook Continuing Care Retirement Community in Manchester, Conn. She was recently named the Connecticut Assisted Living Association’s Young Leader of the Year and was honored Alumni of the Year by UConn’s School of Business Center for Health Care and Insurance Studies.
Danielle Burl '05 J.D. is a university legal research specialist in the Office of the Connecticut Attorney General.

Maria Conlon '05 (CLAS) was inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame on April 27. She is the fifth former UConn player to be inducted into the Hall, which is located at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain.

Sarah Keiser '05 (SFA) is the sales coordinator for Mascotopia of New Haven, Conn.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service honors Russell

Gordon Russell '70 (CLAS) received the 2005 John S. Gottschalk Partnership Award for the northeast region from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for his work on the historic Penobscot River Restoration Agreement. Fish and Wildlife officials say the agreement is one of the largest and most innovative river restoration projects in American history and may be the single most important action to recover wild Atlantic salmon in the United States. Russell lives in Holden, Maine.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SALUTES

2005 Alumni and Faculty Excellence Award Recipients

Wally Lamb
'72 (CLAS), '77 M.A.
Author, Emeritus Professor of Creative Writing
Distinguished Alumni Award

Alena Cybart
'96 (CLAS)
English Department Chair, John F. Kennedy High School
Graduate of the Last Decade Award

Geno Auriemma
UConn Women's Basketball Coach
Honorary Alumni Award

J. Peter Gogarten
Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Excellence in Research (Sciences)

Kathleen Segerson
Department of Economics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the graduate level

Do you know outstanding alumni or faculty members? Reward their excellence by nominating them to receive an Alumni or Faculty Excellence Award for 2007. The University of Connecticut Alumni Association has established awards for the purpose of recognizing outstanding contributions and achievements by alumni, non-alumni and faculty. The UConn Alumni Association is proud of these achievements and welcomes the opportunity to extend recognition through its annual awards. Nomination forms will be available in the Spring at www.ucconnalumni.com.

(888) UC-ALUM-1
Rediscovering UConn
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graphically compelling and deeply disturbing, precisely the kind of edgy experience Scialla envisioned for the new gallery from the outset. “We must not allow ourselves to accept inhuman events and conditions as a kind of predestined reality,” he says. “I believe that...the Human Rights Gallery can be a catalyst for positive change.”

We return to the Nathan Hale to relax before dinner at the Blue Oak and our evening at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts with a concert by the inimitable a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock. Sweet Honey has carried the torch for justice since 1973, lifting spirits worldwide. Tonight, as the singers enrapture the audience with their tight harmony, is no exception.

Baseball and Puppets
After breakfast on Sunday morning, we decide to take in a few innings of a Huskies baseball game against Notre Dame. Over the years, UConn has had 115 players drafted by major league teams or signed to free agent contracts en route to five NCAA College World Series appearances. Led by Big East coach of the year Jim Penders ‘94 (CLAS), ’98 M.A., this year’s team broke the 2005 squad’s record for wins, finishing with a 39-18-1 record. The quality of play is what you might find at the highest level of minor league baseball, as evidenced by the intense battle between the Huskies and the Irish.

And best of all, you are close to the action in the stands at J. O. Christian Field.

No visit to Storrs is complete without taking a bag home from the UConn Co-op, now located across from Gampel Pavilion. Shirts, shorts, jackets and caps emblazoned with UCONN logos are among the most popular items available. With two stories of books, computers, apparel and classroom supplies for students, the Co-op occupies some 53,000 square feet, nearly double the size of its former location.

There is one last stop as we head down Route 44 Sunday afternoon. A large crowd has turned out at UConn’s Depot Campus to launch the tenth anniversary season of The Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry, the state’s official puppetry museum. With a collection of more than 2,000 puppets—including creations of such luminaries as Bil Baird, Margol and Rufus Rose and Frank Ballard—the museum is both a celebration of an ancient art form and a facility where students in one of the world’s few university puppetry programs learn the ever-evolving technologies of puppetry.

And like much of UConn, it sits squarely at the crossroads where the past and the future converge. For all that enshrines tradition here, the campus and the pageant of events and activities change constantly, making each visit a new experience.

For updated information about the activities described in this story, scheduled exhibitions, museums and Web sites, go to www.uconn.edu/attractions.

J. Robert Galvin
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to 5.5 per thousand. “Dr. Galvin has supplied resources that enable us to closely monitor infant and fetal deaths,” says Gregorio, who is also the team’s principal investigator. “We expect to use this information to target community efforts and avoid any negative trends.”

Back at DPH headquarters, Galvin focuses on the state’s elderly as he listens to a study geared toward reducing their most common cause of injury—falling. By day’s end, he will preside over more than a dozen meetings that run the gamut of public health issues. In the evening, he will attend a civic function. At 68, the commissioner shows no signs of slowing down. Asked about his plans for the future, he says, “I have no interest in retiring. I’d love to serve another four years.”

While Galvin serves at the discretion of Connecticut Gov. M. Jodi Rell, the governor seems more than happy with his efforts.

“Under Dr. Galvin’s leadership, the department has excelled in public health preparedness, health care quality, children’s health and many other areas,” says Gov. Rell. “He has positioned the department on the cutting edge of issues such as stem cell research, genomics, and the elimination of health disparities. Connecticut is fortunate to have Dr. Galvin as its state health commissioner.”
Discover Iceland, A Short Break!  
**October 5–9, 2006**  
Come with us to the top of the world, to the land of ice and fire, abundant with natural hot springs, glacial lagoons, geothermal spas, breathtaking waterfalls, and volcanoes and geysers!

The Adriatic—Croatia and Slovenia  
**October 5–19, 2006**  
Visit medieval walled cities, with stunning architecture and fascinating history. Spend time in Dubrovnik, the jewel in the crown; on to Hvar and Split, to the magnificent Roman Coliseum in Pula, still in use today. Head north to Opatija and inland to the beautiful lake of Bled, surrounded by the snow-capped Alps.

Cruise the Panama Canal  
**January 20–31, 2007**  
Embark the magnificent *Crystal Symphony* in Miami to sail the Atlantic Ocean. Explore the white beaches of St. Thomas; cruise the sapphire waves of the Caribbean to St. Barths, the lush tropical paradise of St. Kitts, and cultural Aruba. Relax as the vessel is raised and lowered through the six locks of the Panama Canal. Finally, ride the calm waters of the Pacific to your last port of call, Caldera, Costa Rica.

Sicily—Mondello & Taormina  
**March 3–14, 2007**  
Cultural crossroads of the ancient world, Sicily abounds with enchanting natural beauty, fascinating folklore and incomparable cuisine. From medieval Taormina to Mondello and Palermo, admire stunning landscape, archaeological ruins and architecture. Transfer to Rome for two nights to take in the grandeur of the ancient empire.

Spain—Barcelona & San Sebastian  
**May 2–13, 2007**  
Discover Barcelona. Tour the sites of Antoni Gaudi, including the famous La Sagrada Familia basilica. In Spain's enchanting Pendes wine country, enjoy Cava, the Catalan sparkling wine. Travel to the Basque Country, with its unique language and culture, as you drive along the scenic route from Montserrat to seaside San Sebastian. Tour Bilbao and explore its renowned Guggenheim Museum. Finally, experience the sights of Pamplona, famous for the running of the bulls.

Watch for information on:  
Spectacular Norway—6 nights land and 6 nights cruising the fjords  
**Summer 2007**

Ireland—Ennis & Kilkenny  
**Summer 2007**

Switzerland  
**Fall 2007**

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
Discovering public art at UConn

As our cover story notes, there are many ways to rediscover UConn. The majority of public works of art at each of UConn's campuses were funded through Connecticut's Percent-for-Arts-Program, in which a percentage of the construction budget for any new public building is set aside for the purchase or commissioning of artwork. The program is facilitated by the state Commission on Culture and Tourism. Some works have been donated.

The placement of these works of art is not random. The art connects to the space in which it is placed and is compatible with existing artwork. The School of Fine Arts hosts a reception for the artists, who also speak with UConn students and deliver public lectures, adding yet another dimension for alumni and visitors to rediscover UConn.

Public art in UConn's collection includes, clockwise from top left, *Middle Path*, 1995, by Robert Sindorf, at the School of Law; *CXC XVI* (Crisscross XVI), 1991, by Larry Mohr, near the William Benton Museum of Art; *Copper Tower*, 2000, by Jackie Ferrara, at the von der Mehden Recital Hall; *Shift*, 2003, by Jun Kaneko, inside the Biology/Physics Building; and an untitled Carrera marble sculpture, circa 1970s, by Richard Graham, at the School of Fine Arts complex.
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

Jump into the cultural experience at Jorgensen...

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts would like to introduce you to a world of entertainment. With up to 45 events each year ranging from Grammy award-winning artists, Broadway musicals, classical ballet and comedy, to world-class symphonies and more. UConn has access to some of the best performers the world has to offer.

BOX OFFICE
860 486 4226
Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm

2006 2007

www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com
Nafe Katter, left, professor emeritus of dramatic arts, reads Lincoln's Gettysburg address as Keith Lockhart, right, conducts the Boston Pops, at the 50th Anniversary Gala of the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.