

UConn

| Summer 2010



INTUNE

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Karina Gonzales and her daughter, Jasmin



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Clockwise from left: Morris Pleasure '86 (SFA), Laurentiu Rotaru '07 M.M. and Lui Collins '74 (CLAS) are among the many alumni who have established successful performing careers in the music industry.

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Homecoming to the classroom

BY STEFANIE DION JONES '00 (CLAS) | *There are about 250 military veterans who have returned to campus, many having served in combat. Readjusting to a routine of schoolwork and studying, they can find the transition to civilian life less than seamless.*

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Preventing sudden deaths in athletes

BY COLIN POITRAS '85 (CLAS) | *The Neag School of Education will be home to the Korey Stringer Institute, which will increase awareness, education and advocacy about the proper precautions necessary to avoid the kind of heat stroke that caused the death of the star NFL lineman.*

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Why nuclear nonproliferation failed

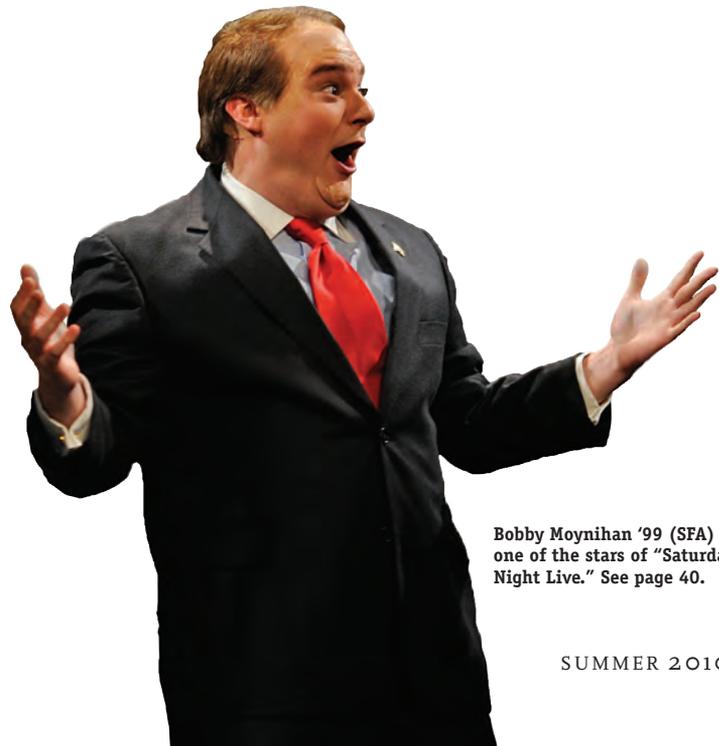
BY SHANE J. MADDOCK '97 M.A., '97 Ph.D. | *A professor and scholar of history analyzes the politics of the nuclear age using recently declassified sources from the U.S. and international archives in an excerpt from his new book, Nuclear Apartheid.*

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Alumni in tune

BY JIM H. SMITH | *Earning a living as a musician is never easy, but alumni who perform in a wide variety of musical genres have found success touring the world as sidemen to major stars, playing in the studio, headlining on stage and teaching the next generation of musicians.*



Bobby Moynihan '99 (SFA) is one of the stars of "Saturday Night Live." See page 40.

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From the EDITOR

Huskymania at Avery Point

BASEBALL TEAM REACHES NJCAA WORLD SERIES

When the conversation turns to Huskymania, the first thoughts people have are often about NCAA basketball championship banners in Harry A. Gampel Pavilion or the Big East Championships won by a variety of UConn's 24 varsity teams. In this edition of *UConn Magazine*, for example, we celebrate the seventh championship won by the women's basketball team and the recent successes of our golf, track and field, and baseball teams (see page 16).

However, 2010 has also been a year of celebration for some of the other teams that wear CONNECTICUT across the front of their jerseys – the athletic teams of the Avery Point campus.

Avery Point is the only regional campus fielding NCAA-caliber teams – baseball, men's basketball and women's basketball – outside of Division I NCAA competition. The Avery Point teams compete at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) level without athletic scholarships but with all of the same demands for practice, academics and expectation of success as their counterparts in Storrs. At one time, most regional campuses had athletics teams competing in the Connecticut Small College Conference against other two-year programs in the state, including technical schools. But since 1985, Avery Point has been the only regional campus with its own teams.

This year, Avery Point teams have experienced highs and lows. The men's basketball team struggled through a 4-21 season. Women's basketball nearly defended their 2009 NJCAA New England title, which sent them to the national tournament, by posting a 23-5 record in 2010 and reaching the semi-final game of the NJCAA New England regional championships. Meanwhile the baseball team, led by Roger Bidwell '76 (ED), '85 M.A., won the New England regional championship, earning a second consecutive trip to the NJCAA World Series.

Bidwell, who has directed athletics at Avery Point since 1982, describes this year as "kind of magical."

"We came out of the loser's bracket, fighting, beating the No. 1 team (Western Oklahoma State) twice," he says. "It was like a magic carpet ride. We got on and didn't get off until the last game. Hopefully we can get back there. It was really a culmination of my 29 years here."

While the core of this year's team from the World Series is moving on, two players – third baseman Ryan Fuller '12 (CLAS) and outfielder Chris Davidson '12 (CLAS) – hope to continue playing baseball in Storrs as they move toward completing their academic studies.

Twenty-five Avery Point baseball players have gone on to play professional baseball after leading the team to the New England regionals seven times since 1990 and to the NJCAA World Series in 1999 and 2004, including current major leaguers John McDonald (1992-1994), shortstop for the Toronto Blue Jays, and Rajai Davis (1999-2001), centerfielder for the Oakland Athletics.

Besides the opportunity to see spirited NCAA competition, Husky fans will find another benefit of Avery Point Huskymania – a chance to spend time on the scenic coastline campus and, perhaps, take a walk on the beach.

Opening Shot

Celebrating perfection

More than 20,000 fans celebrated the women's basketball team's second consecutive NCAA Championship and back-to-back perfect seasons at a gala parade on April 18, starting at the State Capitol grounds, moving around Bushnell Park and then back to the Capitol for remarks by head coach Geno Auriemma and Gov. M. Jodi Rell.



PETER MORENUS

Continuing to move forward

SEARCH BEGINS FOR NEW UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

The announcement in early May that Mike Hogan would leave UConn to return to his Midwestern roots as president of the University of Illinois was as startling as it was unexpected. Mike was a tireless advocate for UConn during his two-and-a-half year tenure as he led the University through some very difficult times and oversaw continuing momentum toward excellence. However, we each can understand the need to be closer to our loved ones. We are grateful for his efforts on our behalf and wish him and his family well as they move into the next phase of their lives.

As we conduct a nationwide search for a new president, I want to assure you that the momentum we have to move forward and constantly improve the University of Connecticut will continue under the capable and experienced leadership of President Emeritus Philip Austin, who has agreed to serve as interim president.

As many of you know, Phil led UConn from 1996 through 2007, a critical period of unprecedented growth for the University that helped transform UConn into the institution it is today. Under Phil's skilled and successful leadership, we rose to become one of the great public universities in the nation – and we continue to be the best public University in New England. Since stepping down as president, Phil has continued to serve the University as a faculty member, teaching courses in higher education leadership. He also works actively on behalf of the University, participating in accreditation and other activities of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

During this period of transition, it is essential that the University have an



Larry McHugh, chairman of the UConn Board of Trustees, left, with Interim President Philip E. Austin at the Board of Trustees meeting in June.

experienced leader to guide us forward, particularly as we confront ongoing budgetary challenges that all agencies and organizations in Connecticut face due to the economic downturn in our state and nation. We also will continue working to secure a renovated John Dempsey Hospital

“During this period of transition it is essential that the University have an experienced leader to guide us forward ... ”

and a new patient tower at the Health Center, which is described on page 6.

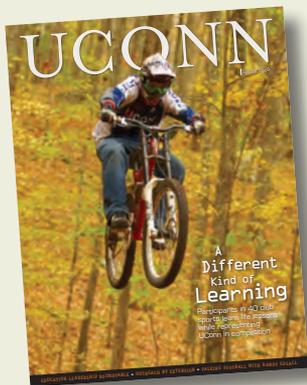
During the past year, as chairman of the Board of Trustees, I have come to know firsthand the deep well of talent among UConn's students, faculty and staff. Our administration is composed of a talented and committed team. We also have excellent leadership throughout our University. I feel personally privileged to be a part of it and to lead an outstanding Board of

Trustees, who contributed many long hours of volunteer work for UConn. I also feel grateful to the many graduates, donors and friends of the University who contribute so powerfully to what we accomplish every day. For these reasons, despite a challenging state budget situation, the University of Connecticut enjoys growing prestige and success and is well positioned to attract a strong new president.

The board has formed a broad-based committee to conduct a nationwide search for a new president. We will keep the UConn community updated on the search process as we move forward. Meanwhile, I hope that as alumni you will continue to provide the same high level of support and encouragement to Phil Austin that has made the future of our University burn so brightly.

Lawrence D. McHugh
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Your LETTERS



Club sports

Thank you for your fine article on UConn club sports and the excellent graduates who have participated in them. However, I encourage the University administration to reinstate men's varsity lacrosse and bring UConn into parity with other Big East, New England and nationally recognized universities.

Bob Gustavson '68 (ED), '70 M.A.

I received the Spring 2010 *UConn Magazine* and started reading it while watching the UConn women finally starting

to make a run on Stanford. The first mention of club sports I have ever seen in the magazine – good for you ... until I read the article and saw no mention of one of the premier club teams at UConn – the UConn Ultimate Frisbee team.

Why should I even notice? I and a friend of mine, Dan Buckley '79 (CLAS), started the original UConn Ultimate team back in 1974, when there were fewer than 25 teams in the world. Almost 36 years later, the team has always been a contender in a sport that has more than 600 college teams in the country. In fact, Ultimate is the fastest-growing sport in the U.S., with millions of active players.

It does not end there. We held the sixth annual UConn Ultimate Alumni game up in Storrs on April 24. We usually pull 50 to 60 people to this event, alumni from the '70s, '80s, '90s, up to last year's grads. It is a great alumni-student weekend

event organized by alumni and the current team.
Ed Davis '78 (ENG)

Nutmeg Summer Theatre

I was delighted to read that summer theatre is to return to the Storrs community in 2010. However, I am writing to correct inaccuracies in the article.

First, the Nutmeg Summer Theatre began in the Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre in 1957, not in the late 1940s. Second, the production of "All My Sons" in 1954 pictured in the magazine probably was done on the gymnasium stage in the Hawley Armory, the major venue for department productions prior to the opening of the HSJ Theatre. I was new faculty in 1956 and along with my colleague, Frank Ballard, comprised the design and technical faculty for the Department of Speech and Drama. In the fall of 1956, the newly completed Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre was opened.

The Nutmeg Summer Theatre began in the summer of 1957. I was privileged to work with Frank, other department and school colleagues and Equity actors and directors for many summers thereafter.
Donald L. Murray, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor, Dramatic Arts,
Associate Dean of Fine Arts

Editor's Note: According to the Connecticut Repertory Theatre production history listed on its website, the Nutmeg Summer Series began in 1949.

Letters to the Editor

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

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Rebecca Lobo first Husky inducted into Women's Basketball Hall of Fame

Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS) led the 1995 women's basketball team to its first perfect season and first NCAA championship, so it is fitting that she became the first former Husky player to enter the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. She was introduced by head coach Geno Auriemma, who was inducted in 2006. The 2010 Class, inducted on June 12 during ceremonies in Knoxville, Tenn., includes, from left: Chris Weller, Leta Andrews, Teresa Weatherspoon, Lobo, Teresa Edwards and Gloria Ray.



State approves \$362M plan for UConn Health Center

Plans to renovate John Dempsey Hospital and build a new patient care tower at the UConn Health Center in Farmington won legislative approval in May, creating the opportunity to improve health care services in the Greater Hartford region.

The \$362-million plan approved by the General Assembly is central to the establishment of the UConn Health Network – a unique partnership with area hospitals aimed at creating jobs and improving access to quality health care in the state. The UConn Health Network would involve the cooperation of area hospitals, including Hartford Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Bristol Hospital and the Hospital of Central Connecticut.

“This is a significant legislative victory for the Health Center and the entire University,” says Cato T. Laurencin, the Health Center’s

vice president for health affairs and dean of the UConn School of Medicine.

Laurencin thanked the “multidisciplinary team” that invested considerable time, over many years, to help find a long-term plan for the Health Center and the region.

“We are taking steps to put UConn’s schools of medicine and dentistry into the top tier of academics and research.”—Gov. M. Jodi Rell

“We are especially grateful to Gov. (M. Jodi) Rell, Sen. (Christopher) Dodd and our state legislative leaders for championing this innovative plan,” Laurencin says.

Gov. Rell called the vote a critical leap

Gov. M. Jodi Rell signs legislation establishing the UConn Health Network during ceremonies at the UConn Health Center in June.

forward not just for John Dempsey but for “a health network with incredible reach throughout Connecticut and thousands of new jobs that will be associated with the network and the hospital.”

It is projected the plan would create 6,800 new jobs by 2030 and 7,400 new jobs by 2040 by establishing bioscience enterprise zones around the area hospitals to attract researchers and entrepreneurs.

Rell also says, “We are taking steps to put UConn’s schools of medicine and dentistry into the top tier of academics and research. We are moving to increase classroom and lab space for those students and offset the shortages we expect in those essential professions. And we are setting the stage for enormous improvements in the health care we provide and tremendous growth in the number of people that industry employs.”

The legislation provides \$207 million in additional UCONN 2000 funds for the construction of the bed tower and renovations of current hospital facilities, as well as \$30 million to support a variety of collaborative initiatives throughout the region.

The initiatives include a shared Simulation Center at Hartford Hospital, an Institute for Primary Care at Saint Francis Hospital, a Health Disparities Institute, support to seek national designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Network, an Institute for Nursing Excellence and support for the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science. The management of 40 neonatal intensive care unit beds would be transferred to the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, but the beds will remain at the Health Center. The plan also includes applying for \$100 million in funding from federal or other sources, which University leaders say they have prepared and already are working on a submission.

COMMENCEMENT 2010

Eight UConn alumni address graduates



Alumni address graduates during Commencement

Eight distinguished alumni addressed graduates, and two alumni received honorary degrees during 2010 Commencement ceremonies in May.

Scott Cowen '68 (BUS), president of Tulane University in New Orleans and recipient of the Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award, delivered the keynote address to the Graduate School and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Jerold Mande '78 (CANR), deputy under secretary for food safety at the U.S. Department of Agriculture who led the design of the Nutrition Facts label that now appears on virtually all packaged foods, spoke to graduates of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Keith Fox '80 (BUS), chief executive officer of the Keith and Pamela Fox Family Foundation who was founder and chief executive officer of software and consulting company Brandsoft, delivered remarks to School of Business graduates. Robert Madonna '82 (ENG), founder and chief executive officer of Savant Systems, addressed the School of Engineering. Joseph T. DiPiro '78 (PHR), executive dean of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy and editor of *The American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*, delivered remarks during PharmD ceremonies. Julie Armstrong Muth '95 (BGS), '08 M.S., director of nursing/quality at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Payne Whitney, Manhattan, addressed students receiving the bachelor of general studies degree.

Narissa Ramdhani '92 M.A., a former anti-apartheid activist and a leading South African scholar and cultural archivist, received an honorary Doctor of Letters during the weekend.

UConn joins elite world research group

The University of Connecticut was elected to membership in Universitas 21, a network of some of the world's leading research-intensive universities whose membership is by invitation.

UConn is only the second American university invited into the network, which includes top-ranked institutions in 13 nations, such as University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom, Fudan University in China, University of Queensland in Australia, University of Amsterdam in The Netherlands, National University of Singapore and Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, among others. The University of Virginia is the other U.S. member.

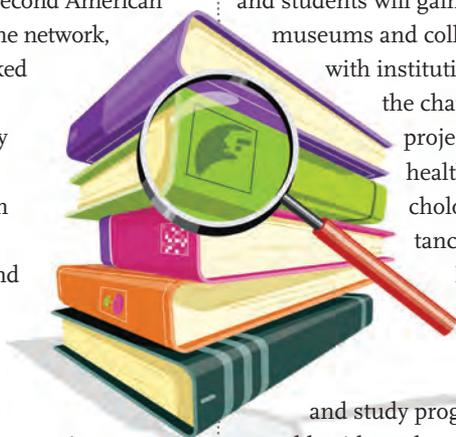
Provost Peter Nicholls says participating in Universitas 21 provides access to some of the best researchers and faculty in the world.

"Membership in Universitas 21 will permit our students and faculty many additional opportunities for collaboration on

projects around the world," he says. "It will increase UConn's international visibility and provide world-class international research opportunities."

Through Universitas 21, UConn faculty and students will gain access to libraries, museums and collections affiliated with institutional members and the chance to join a host of projects, ranging from health science and psychology research to distance learning programs. Membership also gives students and faculty access to fellowships and study programs around the world, with student exchange programs offered to UConn students at each of the participating universities.

Founded in 1997, Universitas 21 provides its membership with collaboration and bilateral alliances that they would not have by operating independently. Its members must have a global focus, be innovative and be research-led, comprehensive universities.



Law library named for Meskill '56 J.D.

The library at the School of Law in Hartford was named in honor of Thomas J. Meskill '56 J.D., former governor of Connecticut, U.S. Congressman and federal judge, during ceremonies in April. Gov. M. Jodi Rell addressed the audience that included the late governor's daughter, Eileen Meskill '91 J.D., who also delivered remarks. Thomas Meskill died at age 79 in 2007.

First DNP degrees awarded

Three nurses from the UConn Health Center are among the first class of graduates to complete the Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in the School of Nursing. This unique practice-based program emphasizes innovative, evidence-based approaches to improve patient care. A relatively new discipline, the American Association of Colleges of Nurses began developing the curriculum in 2005. The UConn program is one of two in New England and the only one in Connecticut. The graduates are, from left, Victoria Odesina, who works with HIV and sickle cell patients; Karen Myrick, who sees patients in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; and, seated, Paula McCauley, who works with patients in the Intensive Care Unit.





A work in progress

Murals with a message have a well established tradition in the political history of Latin America and the Caribbean. So when the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies decided to commission a work of art, muralist and activist Marelá Zacarias was a natural choice as its first artist-in-residence.



Business adds M.S. in financial risk management

Business professionals who want to enhance their careers by fully understanding how to identify and manage various types of financial risk now have a new resource with the creation of a master's degree program in financial risk management (MSFRM), beginning this fall in the School of Business at UConn's Stamford campus.

The 15-month program emphasizes rigorous theoretical and quantitative analysis as well as practical and hands-on experience addressing real-world risk management problems. These risk management issues include credit, interest rate, currency and market risk in asset and wealth management, arbitrage strategies, restructuring and combinations, and alternative investments. The program's location in Stamford provides students in the program ample opportunity to interact

with finance professionals in Stamford and New York.

"This new program will educate professionals in risk management theory using a real-world approach, including "practical applications, operational techniques and behavioral issues," notes Chinmoy Ghosh, director of the MSFRM program. "It meets an important need of the business community."

For more information, visit www.business.uconn.edu/msfrm.

Musculoskeletal Institute earns 'Blue Distinction'

The New England Musculoskeletal Institute at the UConn Health Center has been designated a Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery as well as a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies in Connecticut.

"Blue Distinction puts a high value on research and evidence-based health and medical information," says Allan Korn, chief medical officer for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. "Blue Distinction Centers show our commitment to working with doctors and hospitals in communities across the country to identify leading institutions that meet clinically validated quality standards and deliver better overall outcomes in patient care."

The Blue Distinction designation is awarded by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies to medical facilities that have demonstrated expertise in delivering quality health care in the areas of bariatric surgery, cardiac care, complex and rare cancers, knee and hip replacements, spine surgery and transplants.



Providing needed dental care

Students at the School of Dental Medicine receive training not only across the state, but also in communities beyond Connecticut. This is the fifth year UConn dental students have participated in the National/International Service Program, which provides much-needed dental care for local residents and allows dental students to organize and conduct a dental service project outside of the state of Connecticut.

This outreach program – coordinated by a third-year dental student – has served communities in Peru, Haiti, Trinidad-Tobago and South Africa in the past, while ongoing, established projects continue to bring UConn dental students to carry out these externships in Chile, Paraguay, Belize and the state of Montana.



UConn dental students treat patients in Chile.

This past year, the Team Tobatí Project sent 12 dental students and four faculty to Tobatí, Paraguay, where they treated about 400 patients while working with Paraguayan community dentists and dental students. They were accompanied by students from the Kingswood-Oxford School in West Hartford, Conn., who acted as translators.



Exploring roots of the banjo

Béla Fleck, banjo; Anania Ngoglia, multi-instrumentalist; and John Kitime, guitar, performed at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts earlier this year as part of "The Africa Project," which explores the origins of the banjo in Africa. The performance included a viewing of "Throw Down Your Heart," the award-winning film documenting Fleck's travels and explorations of music in Uganda, Tanzania, The Gambia and Mali.

Guaranteed admission expands to business

The Guaranteed Admissions Program, which provides Connecticut's community college students the opportunity for guaranteed admission to any UConn campus, has expanded to include the School of Business, in addition to the established programs in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Originated in 2007, the program guarantees admission to UConn for graduates of Connecticut's 12 community colleges who earn an associate's degree in a liberal arts program with a 3.3 GPA.

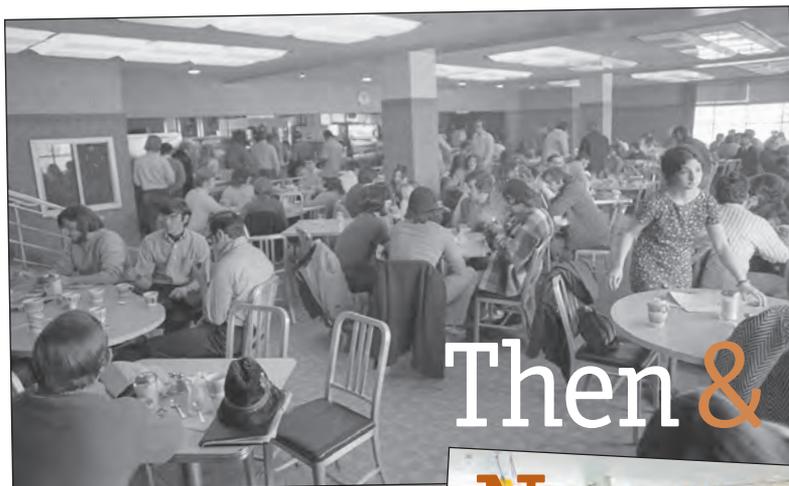
"This agreement will prove very beneficial to Connecticut students, the community colleges, the University of Connecticut and to the state of Connecticut. It's a win-win-win situation," says University Provost Peter Nicholls.

"This represents a major expansion of opportunity for community college students," says Marc S. Herzog, chancellor of the community college system. "We're very grateful to the University, its leaders, the leaders of our 'pioneer' colleges and all the academic leaders who developed, implemented and expanded the agreement beyond its beginnings."



Still motivating students toward activism

Marilyn Alverio '76 (CLAS), producer and founder of the Latinas and Power Symposium and principal of Ethnic Marketing Solutions in Hartford, Conn., speaks with a student following her presentation on "Latinas/os and Leadership" at the Homer Babbidge Library in April. Alverio was a student activist during the Puerto Rican Student Movement and was instrumental in the founding of the Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center.



Then &

Gathering at the Student Union

The Student Union has been a focal point for generations of students since its opening in 1953, but no more so than as a central location for getting a quick snack or relaxing during a meal. The snack bar, shown above in 1972, was a typical dining hall design. Since the expansion and renovation of the Student Union as part of the UCONN 2000 program, Union Street Market (right) provides a variety of meal choices for students as well as a more open and comfortable gathering space.



Now

Ag biotech minor enhances career options

A new minor in agricultural biotechnology will enhance studies and career options for students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The minor includes several newly designed courses, including plant gene transfer techniques, animal biotechnology and diagnostic techniques for the biomedical sciences, which is taught by a team of allied health sciences and pathobiology and veterinary science faculty. These courses will benefit students considering careers in such fields as science education, business and economics, law, agriculture, environmental sciences, health-related disciplines and engineering.

Denise Anamani, lecturer in the Depart-

ment of Allied Health Sciences, says the interdisciplinary biomedical sciences class is a laboratory-based course that offers a theoretical basis and practical exposure to modern laboratory methods used in the biomedical sciences for disease diagnosis.

"In addition to lectures and lab work, students will explore various on-campus research facilities for exposure to biotechnology techniques at work," she says.

While the minor in agricultural biotechnology will attract students interested in varied fields, particularly those related to medicine, biotechnology is also essential to expanding the frontiers of our nation's agricultural industries and improving the food supply.



"Sophisticated, high-achieving high school students with an interest in biology seek these types of classes," says Cameron Faustman, the College's associate dean for academic programs. "If we can show them an agricultural application, then we may end up attracting some of the best and brightest minds to our disciplines, where they can apply their interests in modern biology to improving food production."

AROUND UCONN • EVENTS CALENDAR

HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY
860-486-4636

Through Oct. 1
EPIC SHADOWS: TOLU BOMMALATA PUPPETS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH, FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE BALLARD INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM OF PUPPETRY

Dodd Research Center Gallery and Gallery on the Plaza

REALITY CHECK BY FAITH OHMS
Stevens Gallery

Oct. 11-Dec. 17
NORMAND CHARTIER IN RETROSPECT BY NORMAND CHARTIER
Dodd Research Center Gallery and Stevens Gallery

WOODBLOCK PRINTS IN THE ARTS AND CRAFTS TRADITION BY PAULETTE GNIDZIEJKO
Gallery on the Plaza

JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
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jorgensen.uconn.edu

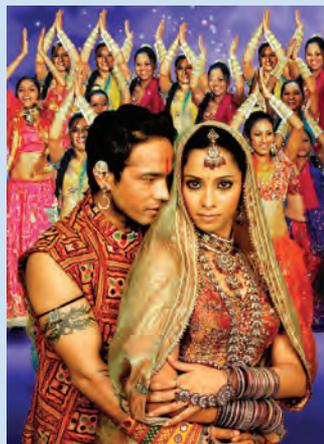
Oct. 15
ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Von der Mehden Recital Hall
Garrick Ohlsson, piano

Nov. 6
PINK MARTINI

Nov. 9
THE SEASONS PROJECT, VENICE BAROQUE ORCHESTRA
Robert McDuffie, leader and violin

Nov. 12
CEDAR LAKE CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Nov. 19-20
MERCHANTS OF BOLLYWOOD
Cabaret



Dec. 4
HOLIDAY POPS
Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra

Dec. 10-11
RUFUS WAINWRIGHT
Cabaret



CONNECTICUT STATE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
860-486-4460

Sept. 18
MUSEUM MUSHROOM WALK

Oct. 11
WALKTOBER WITH CONNECTICUT STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST NICHOLAS BELLANTONI, MASHAMOQUET STATE PARK

Oct. 22
CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION DAY

AVERY POINT CAMPUS
ALEXEY VON SCHLIPPE GALLERY OF ART
860-405-9052

Through Sept. 5
DAN TRUTH AND CATHY DOOCY



Sept. 10-Oct. 22
LATIN VIEWS 2010 BIENNIAL EXHIBITION

Oct. 29-Dec. 12
KAREN RAND ANDERSON, DEBI PENDELL, JOY WILKE AND CSABA SZEGEDI



White leads Stamford campus

Sharon J. White '74 (ED), '76 M.A. has been named interim director of UConn's Stamford campus for the 2010-11 academic year. She has previously served as director of Student Services/Campus Dean in Stamford. She holds an Ed.D. from Columbia University.

School of Pharmacy launches partnership with Bridgeport

A unique new partnership between UConn and the University of Bridgeport (UB) will qualify more students from Fairfield County for UConn's highly competitive School of Pharmacy.

Beginning in the fall of 2010, UB will offer a two-year pre-pharmacy program that complies with the rigid curriculum standards for UConn's Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Students who complete their pre-pharmacy requirements in Bridgeport, regardless of their permanent residency status, will be eligible to apply to the doctoral program in pharmacy as part of the new partnership agreement.

The School of Pharmacy, with its Doctor of Pharmacy degree and research-intensive graduate programs in medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals and

pharmacology/toxicology, has a reputation as one of the best pharmacy education programs in the nation and attracts some of the best and brightest national and international students.

"We are very excited about this partnership with our colleagues from the University of Bridgeport and having a UConn presence in the city of Bridgeport," says Robert L. McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy. "UB attracts a diverse group of students – many of whom are first-generation college students – and we look forward to providing



Helping others while on spring break

Eight teams of 141 students led by 12 University staff members used their spring break this year as an opportunity to help people in need in various parts of the United States. The programs ranged in scope from repairing the homes of low-income families in the coal-mining communities of Beards Fork, W.Va., to working at homeless shelters in Washington, D.C. A group of Honors students, below, spent their time in Immokalee, Fla., to understand the lifestyles and hardships of migrant farm workers.



these students with an opportunity to pursue a career in pharmacy."

"This collaboration will expand pre-pharmacy education in the state of Connecticut and allow new opportunities for a wide diversity of well-qualified students to pursue pharmacy as a career," says David M. Brady, vice provost for the health sciences division at UB. "The UConn School of Pharmacy has been wonderful and enthusiastic in supporting the University of Bridgeport's desire to include expanded quality pre-pharmacy education as part of its offerings in the health sciences."

Love pays dividends at UConn

In love, geography is crucial. At UConn, the chances of stumbling on romance are better than one might think.

Thousands of couples have fallen in love at UConn. And whether as a legacy to a beloved spouse or gratitude for the place where they met and were educated, couples are saying thank you with scholarships, bequests and other gifts. Behind those gifts are stories of love, sometimes of loss, but always of gratitude.

Stanley Juros '63 (ENG) established the Juros Scholarship for the Neag School of Education and the Juros Scholarship for the School of Engineering to honor his late wife. As a sophomore, he went to a social, spotted Suzanne (Albrecht) Juros '63 (ED) and married her soon after graduation. "We spent a lot of happy years together at UConn," Juros says. "I thought the scholarships would be a nice memorial to have for her, and help to make students' lives a little bit easier."

Carmen '88 (ED) and Justin Murphy



STEVE DEPINO

'89 (BUS) established the Justin and Carmen Murphy Scholarship Fund in the School of Business. While her roommate visited with her boyfriend in their residence hall room, Carmen searched for a TV showing her favorite soap

opera. She found it in Justin's room. "I was the first in my family to graduate from college," says Carmen. "Getting an education at UConn was important to me, and I met my husband there."

So did Jeanne (Hinman) Bartman '43 (SFS), who with husband Ray '41 (ENG) established the Raymond and Jeanne Bartman Scholarship in Family Studies in 2008. Their relationship began when Jeanne headed up the steps to the Wilbur Cross Library in the fall of 1941. Ray was headed down those same steps, and they collided. Though Jeanne had been dating a friend of his, Ray asked her to the Engineers Ball, and she accepted.

"I have the opportunity to meet so many alumni of the University, and I have found it commonplace that husband and wife met at UConn," says UConn Foundation President John Martin. "UConn brought those couples together, and we are thankful that they are choosing to show their gratitude with gifts that help students today."

For more stories on UConn couples who are giving back, visit www.foundation.uconn.edu/couples.

Alumni supporting *Our University. Our Moment. The Campaign for UConn*

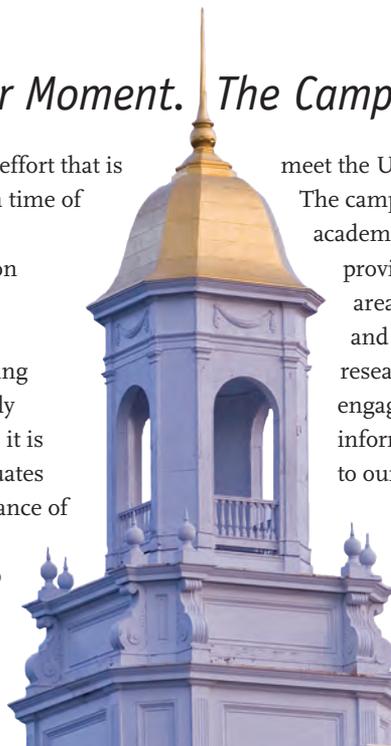
With the help of alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends, UConn's \$600 million capital campaign, *Our University. Our Moment. The Campaign for UConn*, is well on its way to success. *Our University. Our Moment.* has raised \$223 million since it was publicly announced in September 2009.

"This campaign is the most ambitious in our history," says interim UConn President Philip Austin, "and is a giant step forward in our long effort to increase dramatically the level of private support

for the University – an effort that is all the more critical at a time of limited state support."

Alumni participation is vital to its success. With nearly 40 percent of private support coming from alumni in the early phase of the campaign, it is clear that UConn graduates understand the importance of their support for new programs that will help

meet the University's academic goals. The campaign aligns with UConn's academic plan, which focuses on providing support for critical areas in undergraduate and graduate education, research, diversity and public engagement. For more information on the campaign go to ourmoment.uconn.edu.



Health Center gala raises funds for research

Clinician-scientists at the UConn Health Center are at the forefront of medicine, integrating clinical care, research and science to bring new discoveries to patients' bedsides. To further these efforts, the inaugural White Coat Gala in April welcomed more than 500 guests and raised more than \$450,000.

"We are grateful to the many corporations and individuals who supported the gala," says Cato T. Laurencin, vice president for health affairs at the Health Center and dean of the School of Medicine. "Their gifts will provide vital support for our clinician-scientists to make breakthroughs in research and discovery."

The evening also honored Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Medicine Lawrence G. Raisz, who joined the Health Center 36 years ago. Raisz has earned international prominence and numerous prestigious awards for his groundbreaking work in the management of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.

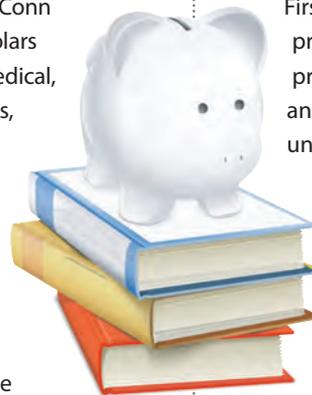


Lawrence G. Raisz, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Medicine, left, was honored during the White Coat Gala at the UConn Health Center. He was introduced by Cato T. Laurencin, vice president for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine.

GIVING DIGEST

Former Trustees chair increases support for health professions

Jack Rowe, former Board of Trustees chairman, and his wife, Valerie, have pledged \$2 million for a program encouraging gifted students from underrepresented groups and low-income families to enter the health professions. The gift will support the John and Valerie Rowe Health Professions Scholars Program at the UConn Health Center. "Rowe Scholars have been admitted to medical, dental and nursing schools, worked on honors theses and served as campus leaders," says Lynne Goodstein, Honors Program director. "The Rowes' gift is a statement of their confidence in the Honors Program to provide life-changing opportunities to deserving students."



Memorial gift ensures a legacy of caring

An art professor and director of the William Benton Museum, Salvatore Scalora '71 (SFA) and his family have created a fund as a tribute to his late wife, Mary '80, '92 (SSW). The Mary Deane-Scalora Endowment Fund provides scholarship support for graduate students enrolled full time in the school's master's degree program.

Young alum pays back scholarship

For School of Nursing alumna Lindsay Bolt '04 (NUR), the decision to give back to UConn was based on a long-running relationship with the donor who helped fund her education. Having repaid in full the scholarship support she received, Bolt wants her own giving to leave a similar legacy: "I'd like to look back and see that there are still people getting the scholarship well into the future."

SimplexGrinnell supports engineering and business

A \$140,000 gift from SimplexGrinnell will provide scholarships to engineering and business students and support experiential learning and the School of Engineering's senior design project, an innovative program where engineers from corporate sponsors mentor seniors as they design their projects. The company also is a 2010 Presenting Sponsor of the Annual Students First Fund Golf Tournament, which provides assistance through private donations of faculty, staff and students for students suffering unexpected hardships.

A mother's wish – an education – becomes her son's gift

Through a \$50,000 scholarship fund in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Patrick Campion '83 (CLAS) hopes to help UConn students achieve their goals. "When I was young, we didn't have the resources to go to college, and my mother drove us to apply for scholarships and student loans and jobs," he says. "That enabled me to attend UConn. So I couldn't be happier that I've helped to create this scholarship."

Family with UConn ties helps disabled veterans

UConn connections run deep in the Hughes family, carrying through to their growing family business and now philanthropic support for the University. A recent gift through the Hughes Family Fund to the School of Business focuses on veterans outreach and training, including the new Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans, which Rob Hughes '92 (CLAS) calls "a great effort that the University is undertaking, helping wounded warriors integrate with their community and grow their own businesses."

To read more stories about giving, visit www.foundation.uconn.edu

Reflection on a team of perfection

BY RENEE MONTGOMERY '09 (CLAS)



The women's basketball team celebrates its seventh NCAA Championship in San Antonio on April 6.

I know everyone growing up heard the same things as I did. Things like, “Nobody’s perfect,” “You can’t have it all” or “Everyone makes mistakes.” The sad thing is, I believed that – until I got to UConn, where I saw that maybe one individual can’t be perfect, but a team can.

Coach Auriemma would always tell us that you can’t be great in one aspect of your life and terrible in others. He would tell us if you are going to be great, be great in the classroom, be great in the weight room AND, of course, be great on the court. That really stuck with me, because to reach perfection you need to be great for a long period of time.

After we went undefeated in the 2008-2009 season, people would ask me, “Were there some games where you just felt like taking the night off? Were you ever bored? Would it have been better if you had to fight harder for it?” My answer to all those questions is “No.”

Are you kidding me? Winning never gets old. And the more you win, the more you think that the next team you play is going to be ready for you. It didn’t matter to us that we were winning by large margins, because when the last game was over all that we focused on was that the next team is going to come in here and try to beat us.

It’s hard to name the one thing that changed from my junior to senior year as to why the team made such a transformation. I can personally say that I was tired of losing, tired of crying at the end of every season and, most of all, tired of having to face reality when people asked, “How many championships have you won at UConn?” (You have no idea how many times I have been asked that, and I’m so happy that now I can say ONLY one). I say “only” one because UConn has set this extremely high standard; people think if you go there, you will at least win two. Well, I

didn’t, but I am more than happy with the one I do have, and I was proud watching my teammates continue to win every game in 2009-2010 and bring another NCAA championship to UConn.

Now, when I look back at my last season at UConn, it seems as if it was a movie, and I was watching it. I couldn’t have been a part of something so special. I couldn’t have met President Obama. I couldn’t have gained a father figure in one of the best coaches in America. I couldn’t have slept with the championship net around my neck. And there’s no way in the world I could have been perfect, because “Nobody’s perfect” ... right?

Renee Montgomery, now a member of the Connecticut Sun of the WNBA, led the Huskies to a perfect 2008-2009 season and the 2009 NCAA Women’s Basketball Championship.

Track and field sweeps 2010 outdoor season

The men's and women's track teams swept the 2010 outdoor season in Princeton, N.J., as the Husky women won their third straight Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Outdoor Championship and the Husky men won their first Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America (IC4A) Outdoor Track and Field Championship. The two events have been combined since 1984.

Sprinter Trisha-Ann Hawthorne '11 (ED), right, named the ECAC Athlete of the Meet, led the women's team by winning both the 100- and 200-meter dash and as a member



of the winning 4x100 meter relay squad. The relay team included Phylicia George '10 (CLAS), Kristen Brown '14 (CLAS) and Mandela Graves-Fulgham '10 (CLAS), who also set a UConn record winning the 400-meter dash. Hawthorne became the first women's track All-American when she ran seventh in the NCAA Championships.

Mid-distance runners Brian Gagnon '10 (CLAS) and Mike Rutt '10 (ED) finished first and second in the 800-meter run to help pace the men's team to its first-ever IC4A outdoor title. Sean Smith '10 (BUS), who was named the 2010 Outstanding Field Performer at the Big East Championships after defending his decathlon title, qualified for the NCAA Championships.



Baseball team makes NCAA run

Infielder Mike Olt '11 (CLAS) was one of the leading hitters on the Husky baseball team, which earned a national ranking in the Top 20 for the first time since 1979 while setting a season-win record with 48, including a streak of 22 consecutive wins. The Huskies reached the final game of the 2010 Norwich Regional in the NCAA Tournament.



Golf wins team New England D-1 Championship

The Huskies won the team title at the 2010 New England Division I Golf Championships at Triggs Memorial Golf Course in Providence, R.I., led by Adam Vaccari '12 (CLAS), left, and Matt Dubrowski '11 (CLAS), right. The members of the team led by head coach Dave Pezzino and assistant coach Carl Girasoli also included Jeremy Troy '11 (CLAS), Michael Smith '14 (CLAS), Chris DeLucia '11 (CLAS), Kyle O'Connor '10 (CLAS), Jeb Buchanan '12 (BUS), Matt Dziubina '12 (CLAS), Brian Hwang '12 (CLAS), Brian Hughes '14 (CLAS) and Matt Carroll '12 (CLAS).

Exploring origins of language

COPPOLA STUDIES UNIQUE HOMESIGN SYSTEMS OF THE DEAF IN NICARAGUA

At first glance, the assistant professor of psychology and linguistics in UConn's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a boy in rural Nicaragua seem to share little common ground.

But they are able to communicate nonetheless, with Marie Coppola relying on her experience and research into the small "homesign" systems scattered about Nicaragua to interpret and respond to the gestures of the deaf teenager.

Coppola's research into the unique homesign systems used by deaf individuals in remote areas of Nicaragua without access to a conventional sign language is itself a fascinating subject. But Coppola and her colleagues – Ann Senghas at Barnard College of Columbia University and Susan Goldin-Meadow at the University of Chicago – are going one step further to explore the roots of the human species' desire to communicate.

Many people have explored how children acquire language. But children typically are surrounded by and immersed in a rich linguistic environment in which they learn the meaning of words and the rules of grammar by interacting with those around them. Coppola is among a handful of scientists exploring how and why human beings communicate when that natural input is taken away.

"My daughter is hearing us speak English in the house so she's going to acquire English. That's not a big surprise," says Coppola, the mother of a 9-month-old infant. "But if you're a homesigner who is not exposed to any language model would it be that surprising if you didn't produce communication that looked like language? Why should they? Yet they do. They are just driven to do it, and I think that reflects our natural endowment as humans for language and communication. We are the only species that produces complex language or indeed any language-like communication in the absence of specific training."

Coppola is a native signer of American Sign Language who was raised by Deaf parents. She capitalizes the word "Deaf" in describing her parents in order to raise awareness about the cultural identity of the Deaf community. Coppola says that while her parents are audiotically deaf, they identify themselves as members of Deaf culture, i.e., they share a language with the Deaf community, identify not as disabled but as a cultural and linguistic minority, and participate in cultural events such as plays and social events. It is, for Coppola and many others, an extremely important distinction.

Coppola got into her research field when she was a research assistant at MIT in the mid-1990s. Senghas was a graduate student at MIT at the time, working on cognitive science and sign



Marie Coppola, assistant professor of psychology and linguistics, is using her research to explore the roots of the human species' desire to communicate.

language emergence in Nicaragua as part of her dissertation. The Nicaraguan individuals Coppola studies are unique in that they were raised in areas that are extremely isolated and do not have a pre-existing sign language for them to learn to communicate. So the individuals had to invent their own sign language, which was shared only among their immediate family and friends.

And yet, Coppola says, her research has found some similarities in the small homesigning systems used by the four individuals she has studied for more than 10 years. It is the structures common to these unrelated homesign systems that are also characteristic of the world's languages in general, whose origins Coppola seeks to understand.

"These homesign systems are gesture systems that Deaf individuals invent so they can communicate with the hearing people around them," Coppola says. "That's not to say they don't have any input. They obviously interact with people; they interact with objects; they participate in their cultures. But they can't hear the language that is being spoken around them and they aren't exposed to a sign language. So what they see are the gestures hearing people use while they are speaking that are not themselves linguistic, but that can be recruited as raw materials to build a language-like system. Studying how they do that forms a large part of my research program."

Coppola says she thinks of herself as a developmental psycholinguist: “I’m studying how language develops from a psychological perspective. A linguist studies the structure of a language. The object of the study is the language. For me, the object of the study is the person using the language. I’m using psychological methods to elicit language samples from homesigners [by asking them to describe things] and then I use those data to understand not only the underlying structure of the language – that’s the linguistic part – but also how our learning mechanisms and how our brains interact with that language structure, especially when it’s not there in the environment. Homesigners are creating new language structures that didn’t exist before. It is our psychology, our endowment as humans, that allows us to do that.”

—Colin Poitras ’85 (CLAS)

Geometric skeletons help to engineer designs

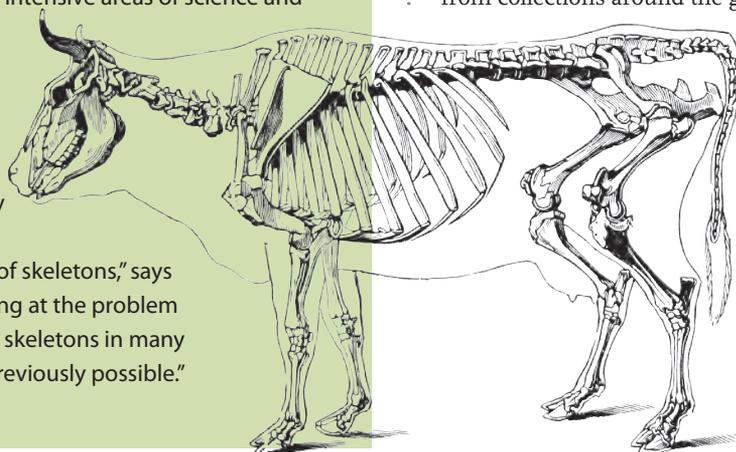
A new way to define classes and families of geometric skeletons proposed by a UConn engineering professor is expected to have profound implications in many industrial applications.

Geometric skeletons play a role in geometry similar to that of skeletons in the human body, in that they capture the main features of the shape that defines them.

“If you see the skeleton of a mammal you can tell many things about the animal that it comes from, even though you may not know the actual details of the body surface,” says Horea Ilies, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, whose research is funded by a new three-year grant from the National Science Foundation.

Geometric skeletons are fundamental concepts in practically all geometrically intensive areas of science and engineering, from robotic surgery to dimensional reduction in engineering design and analysis.

“This grant really is about proposing a new way to define and compute not just single, but also classes of skeletons,” says Ilies. “This new way of looking at the problem allows us to compute these skeletons in many more situations than was previously possible.”



Census of Marine Life uncovers new species

The first report of a decade-long international research program aimed at assessing the diversity of ocean life has been released – the Census of Marine Zooplankton, a report on tiny sea creatures led by Ann Bucklin, head of the Department of Marine Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn’s Avery Point campus.

The Census of Marine Life, with 14 different field projects, involves thousands of researchers in more than 80 countries collaborating to describe the ocean’s biodiversity. Before the advent of the Census, about 230,000 ocean species were known to science, but researchers estimate that two to three times this number actually exist. At least 5,300 new species have been discovered thus far in the Census.

Bucklin says, however, that convincing Census leaders that zooplankton – animals that drift on the ocean’s currents – were important to survey took some work. Although the Marine Life Census began in 2000, the Census of Marine Zooplankton didn’t begin until 2004.

The Census started, she says, by surveying large marine mammals and fish. “It took four years of going to workshops to convince them that zooplankton are also interesting.”

The Census of Marine Zooplankton has discovered several hundred new species of zooplankton to date; however, Bucklin and her colleagues suspect that once all their data from collections around the globe has been analyzed, the

current number of known species will double from 7,000 to 14,000. In addition to sequencing the DNA of many of the project’s collected species, Bucklin’s Avery Point lab has now trained more than 20 students and post-doctoral researchers from around the world to assist in the project.

The final Marine Life Census will be presented in London on Oct. 4.





Genetically engineered crops

AUER SEEKS TO BRING CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH TO POLICYMAKERS

With many crops modified through biotechnology to resist insects and herbicides, questions are being raised about the risks of genetically engineering (GE) plants. According to statistics from 2008, more than 80 percent of cotton, 86 percent of corn and 92 percent of soybeans

grown in the United States have been modified through biotechnology.

Carol Auer, associate professor of plant science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is focusing her research on future transgenic crops and their potential risks after adoption by

farmers. She brings a unique perspective to her work, having a fellowship in 2002 in Washington, D.C., where she worked for a year with policymakers and analysts in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis.

One of her current research projects involves GE switchgrass, a potential biofuel crop that could someday produce ethanol. Since pollen can be carried long distances by the wind, Auer wants to know the likelihood that GE switchgrass will enter wild switchgrass populations.

The goal of her research is to provide the government with sound science to inform its decisions, and the goal of her policy work is to help create a better dialogue between scientists and policymakers. After that, she says, it's up to federal agencies to make the tough decisions about the commercialization of new GE crops.

"Research doesn't define acceptable risks and benefits," Auer says. "Science can provide information about the risk, but it can't decide what the acceptable level of risk is. It's important to bring cutting-edge research and science to policymakers. Science often moves quickly, and it can be hard for policymakers to keep up."

Preparing a glowing study

Spencer Nyholm, assistant professor of molecular and cell biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, conducts research on the immune system of the Hawaiian bobtail squid, studying beneficial symbioses, which occurs when a symbiont, such as a bacterium, lives within and exchanges resources with a host animal or plant. The bacteria inside the squid lights up its underside and helps the squid to defend itself from predators such as fish, seals and sharks. In return, the squid provides nutrients and a safe haven to the bacteria. Nyholm's study of the glowing squid is funded by the National Science Foundation.



MATTIAS ORMIESTAD

Community organizers face new challenges

When President Barack Obama signed the national health care bill this past spring, he hoped to put behind him nearly a year of partisan bickering. Robert Fisher, professor of community organization in the School of Social Work, thinks the yearlong debate would have been easier for the President had he returned to his roots as a community activist.

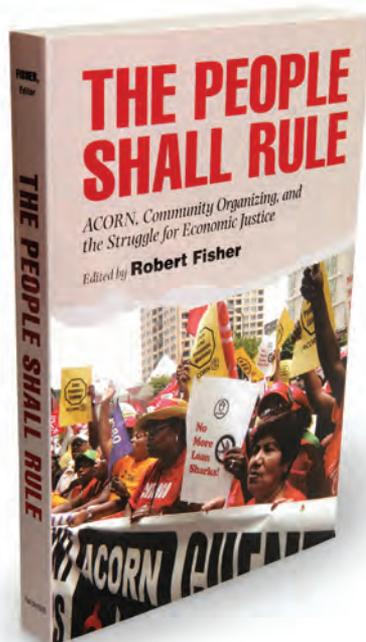
“If there was a more aggressive group pushing for a single-payer system, and thousands of people pushing for it, there would have been no extended debate – something would have passed long ago,” says Fisher, who specializes in the study of community organizing and also is director of UConn’s Undergraduate Tri-Campus Urban and Community Studies Program. “At the least, we might have had the public option. Without organizing you don’t change much. Little happens if those disproportionately hurt don’t get it going.

“When people were clamoring for help in the 1930s for the New Deal, FDR essentially said, ‘Make me do it,’” Fisher says. “They did.”

Fisher, an expert on ACORN (the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) and, to a lesser extent, the Christian Coalition, published his sixth book, *The People Shall Rule: ACORN, Community Organizing and the Struggle for Economic Justice*, in late 2009, just a few months before ACORN leaders announced that the organization would close its doors.

His most recent book, *Contesting Community: The Limits and Potential of Local Organizing*, jointly authored with James DeFilippis and Eric Shragge (Rutgers University Press), published in June, examines the proliferation of community-based efforts in the U.S., U.K. and Canada, emphasizing the limits and potential of contemporary efforts.

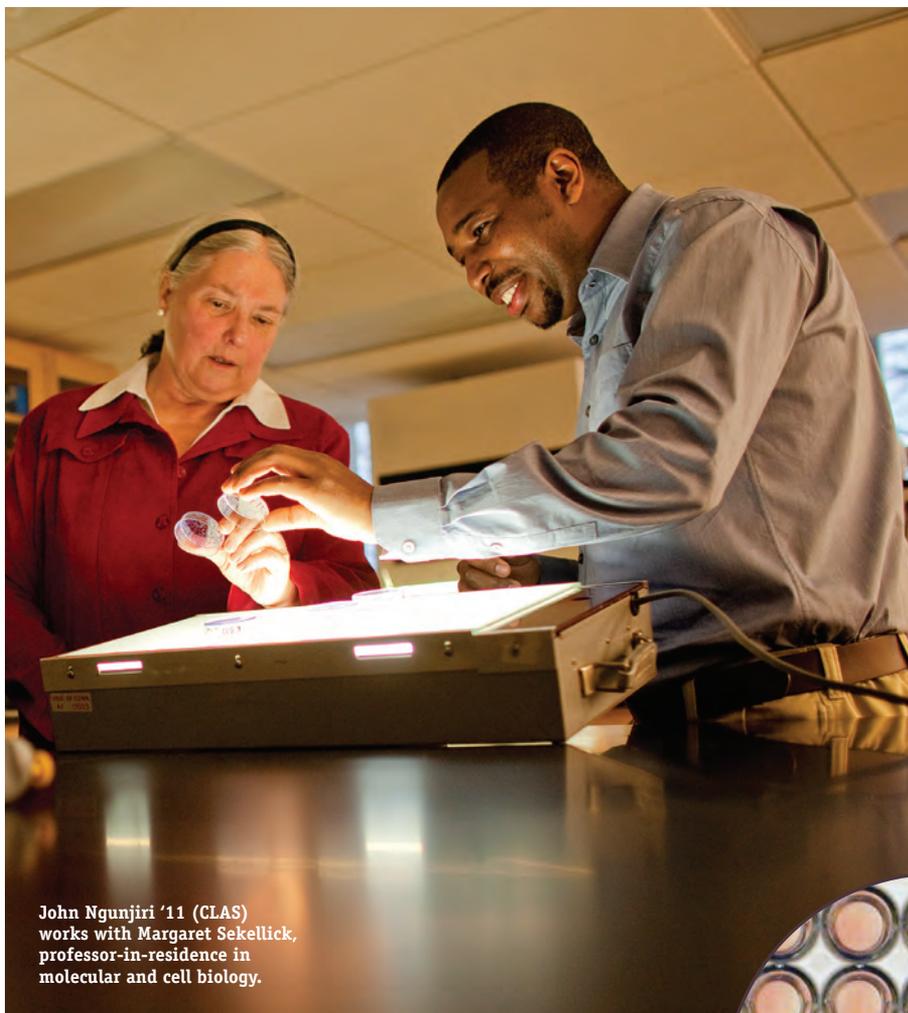
Community organizing has been around for a century or more, and for a wide range of issues. Fisher says community organizing came out of the volunteer movement and is responsible for a number of major changes in America, including the end of slavery, women’s rights, worker’s rights and civil rights. More recently, it has been used to organize people around local issues – nutrition, housing and redlining, to name a few. In 2008, when then-candidate Obama was described as a former community organizer, right-wing



attacks proliferated, even as activists noted the positive work that grassroots groups perform. However, Fisher explains, many conservative groups, most prominently the Tea Party organizers, continue to co-opt the theory of community organizing by using nearly every initiative put forth by Obama as another rallying cry and holding raucous protests in cities across the nation.

“It’s all about Obama,” Fisher says. “(Sarah) Palin, (Rudolph) Giuliani and other Republican candidates all mocked him and said, ‘Here’s this radical appearing to be a moderate, but he’s really a radical.’ And they used his prior community organizing as proof.

“Despite the dramatic demise of ACORN per se, its work will continue, albeit in a different organizational form and without a strong national foundation,” Fisher says. “ACORN’s legacy, while imperfect and incomplete, has much to offer community organizing. It’s worth remembering. It’s worth replicating.” —Richard Veilleux



John Ngunjiri '11 (CLAS) works with Margaret Sekellick, professor-in-residence in molecular and cell biology.

Thirst for knowledge

NGUNJIRI PURSUES NEW VACCINE FOR INFLUENZA

Raised in a Kenyan village, John Ngunjiri '11 (CLAS) was educated at a “bush” school that not only lacked governmental support and qualified teachers but also had not yet produced any students who went on to pursue a university degree.

In spite of this, he believed he could succeed if he worked hard enough, and largely taught himself. “I thought a lower-standard school should not determine my fate,” says Ngunjiri, now a Ph.D. candidate in molecular and cell biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “I

realized that the library had all the books I required. So I read for myself.”

Ngunjiri eventually passed the highly competitive tests that qualified him to enter the state-supported university system in Kenya’s capital city. He became a “village hero,” proving his aptitude among students taught in the higher-quality schools of Kenya’s urban centers. “That is one lesson that I learned – if you want something, sometimes if other people cannot help you get it, you can help

yourself get it,” he says.

This was a lesson Ngunjiri accepted early in life. Having lost both his parents to illness as a boy, he knew even at a young age that he wanted to understand disease.

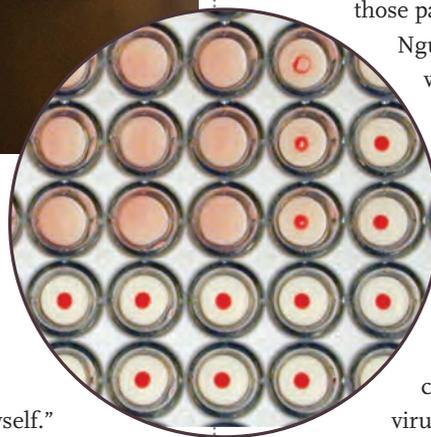
Having pursued his undergraduate education in Africa and a graduate degree in Japan, Ngunjiri is now in his fifth year at UConn, conducting doctoral research centered on virology – specifically, the influenza virus.

While the flu has recently garnered international media attention with the global pandemic of H1N1, a strain of influenza, millions fall ill and anywhere from 250,000 to 500,000 deaths occur annually due to influenza epidemics worldwide, according to the World Health Organization. Understanding the virus and developing increasingly effective vaccines remain, then, imperatives in the research world.

Viruses are known to replicate only inside cells of living organisms. While the influenza virus produces thousands of particles per cell, just 5 percent of those particles are infectious.

Ngunjiri wants to know why – and what role, if any, the other 95 percent of particles may have in infection. His research focuses in part on describing and characterizing the properties of two specific kinds of influenza virus particles – defective-interfering particles and noninfectious cell-killing particles.

Ngunjiri has distinguished these two types of flu virus particles conclusively, publishing his findings in 2008 and 2009 in collaboration with his advisors – Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor Philip Marcus, a renowned pioneer in viral infection research, and professor-in-residence Margaret Sekellick, who has



partnered closely in research with Marcus for several decades.

Ngunjiri is now investigating how these two types of virus particles interact with one another and with other virus particles inside cells, with hopes that his work

could ultimately lead to the development of more effective live-attenuated flu vaccines.

Devising innovative experiments and coming up with new questions every day, he never exhausts his enthusiasm for research. “No matter how many times you

are in the lab, there are so many things to discover that you may not do it all in your lifetime,” he says. “Trying to understand what is behind the complex interactions of a virus and its host cell is what keeps me in the lab.” —*Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)*

Passion for engineering

EMILY TAO '10 (ENG) ENJOYS TAKING UP CHALLENGES



An aspiring chemical engineer, Emily Tao '10 (ENG) has a passion for the profession that is even evident in her pastimes.

“I like to experiment in the kitchen, because cooking is really chemistry that you can eat,” says the high-achieving Tao, who boasts not only a 3.8 GPA

but also a designation as a New England Scholar and a United Technologies Corporation Scholarship in Engineering.

Tao also was named a finalist earlier this year for the Connecticut Technology Council’s annual “Women of Innovation” Collegian Innovation and Leadership Award, an honor she attributes to having served as treasurer for the engineering honor society Tau Beta Pi, and to having tutored an introductory course with chemical engineering’s Omega Chi Epsilon honor society.

“I never thought I was good at tutoring,” Tao said, “but when I helped freshmen, I saw myself several years ago. I related to how much they’re worrying about not understanding engineering concepts that I know they will understand in a couple more years. I let them know there’s light at the end of the tunnel.”

For Tao it is indeed a bright light. Sikorsky Aircraft, where she has interned

for three summers carrying out analyses to determine the causes of aircraft gear failure and to recommend whether to discard or repair, offered Tao a job upon graduation.

“The funny thing is, I didn’t know what engineering was when I picked my chemical engineering major,” she says. “I knew it had something to do with math. I was good at that and chemistry in high school so I thought it would be a good choice. I also heard it’s really difficult, but that didn’t faze me because I like challenges.”

At UConn, Tao has also taken on the challenge of refocusing her work from chemical to biomedical engineering. “I took some biology courses and the professor said he was looking for people to help in his lab. I spoke up, and next thing I knew I was there,” she says.

That professor, Yong Wang, assistant professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering, is attempting to create a drug delivery system that zeros in on cancerous cells, negating chemotherapy’s harmful side effect of destroying healthy cells along with sick ones. Tao describes the research as “part biology and part chemistry” and just “a small chunk in the big picture” of ongoing efforts to cure cancer. Tao’s work on the project involves identifying the DNA that make cancer cells unique, so that an encapsulated medicine can better target its cancerous destination.

“Within the next 10 to 15 years I’d like to be an engineering vice president,” Tao says. “I’ve met Sikorsky’s engineering and human resources vice presidents, who enjoy their high-stress jobs. I consider myself Type A, so I think I would enjoy the stress.” —*Lauren Lalancette*



HOMECOMING TO

War veterans return to campus with strong focus



Even as they continue to adjust to the academic challenges of life on campus, students can find themselves worried about taking tests and writing term papers. But Evan Paradis '12 (CLAS) is not a typical second-year undergraduate, rattled by demanding assignments or lengthy exams. "There's nothing that this place could throw at me that's going to stress me out," the 25-year-old says.

Paradis started classes in Storrs this past fall as one of approximately 250 UConn students who are military veterans. It was not so long ago that he spent his days aboard an aircraft carrier that was home to more than 5,000 service members, as part of his six-year commitment to the U.S. Navy.

Deployed three times to the Persian Gulf, Paradis worked as a machinist mate, operating nuclear reactors in the blistering 130-degree heat of the ship's engine room. Being asked to write a 10-page paper, he says, is "nothing compared to what the alternative is. I want to be here. If I'm going to write a paper, I'm going to learn everything I can while I'm doing it."



Joel Angle '09 (CLAS), pictured above while on duty in Kirkuk, Iraq, served as an infantryman in the U.S. Army before coming to UConn to pursue a degree in political science.

THE CLASSROOM

FROM SOLDIERS TO STUDENTS

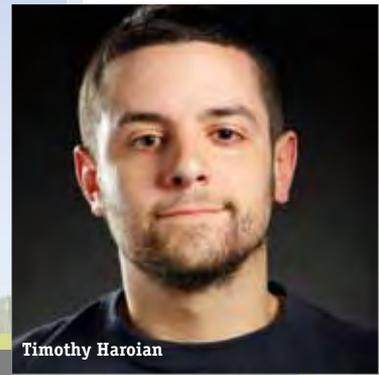
For Paradis, joining the military ensured a path to the college education he otherwise would not have been able to afford. Others choose to enlist out of a sense of duty or in search of adventure. No matter what their motivation for enlisting, many student veterans ultimately cite their military experience as the catalyst that helped shape their time at UConn as well as their goals for the future.

Army Reservist Timothy Haroian '11 (CLAS) admits having never been a very engaged student. "I didn't have

any kind of plan coming out of high school. I wasn't looking past next week," he says. Only after going to Iraq did Haroian begin to develop a vision for his future, realizing that he wanted to obtain his college degree. "Joining made me more mature and let me have more of a plan about what I wanted to do," he says. Now a political science major, Haroian is considering getting his M.B.A. or law degree at UConn and then plans to join the Army Special Forces with his degrees in hand.



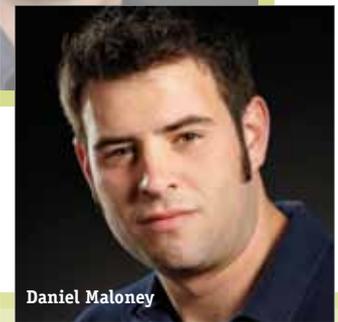
Timothy Haroian '11 (CLAS), in his motor pool at Camp Taji, about 20 miles north of Baghdad, Iraq.



Timothy Haroian



Evan Paradis



Daniel Maloney

Similarly, rather than head to college after high school graduation, Dan Maloney '13 (CLAS) joined the Air Force. Deployed to South Korea, Panama and Afghanistan during his four years in the military, Maloney says the experience gave him the sense of direction he needed. "In high school, I was not the most successful student," he says. "Now I'm more able to get the job done. I feel blessed that I have this kind of maturity now that I'm in school."

Meanwhile, Joel Angle '09 (CLAS) lost interest in his studies during his first semester on a college campus. "At the time, the thought of being in school for another three years was more than I could bear," he says. Joining the Army as an infantryman, he served a year in Iraq. That was when Angle says he began imagining what it might be like to get his degree. "For a few years, that's what kept me going – getting out and going to college," says the 26-year-old, who eventually came to UConn and spent his senior year studying abroad in Egypt on a prestigious Boren Scholarship, which focuses on geographic areas, languages and fields of study that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad.

"I wanted to take advantage of any opportunity I had in college," he says. "Now I have my degree. I don't take it for granted. It took a lot for me to get that thing."

For others, like Melissa Weaver '11 (CLAS), her long-term ambitions seemed more achievable once she had returned from duty. "If I could go to Iraq for a year and do what I did, there's nothing I can't put my mind to and do here," says the 30-year-old, who served with the Army National Guard for eight years. The psychology major now has her sights set on a UConn law degree. "I had always, in the back of my mind, wanted to go to law school. I now don't think of it as unattainable. If I want to go, I will; there's no reason I can't."

CONNECTING ON CAMPUS

However, some veterans arriving on campus find the transition to civilian life less than seamless. Readjusting to a routine of schoolwork and studying can initially pose a challenge. Others feel a disparity between themselves and their classmates. Given that most service members serve for up to eight

VETERANS REUNION

UConn Armed Forces Alumni Pre-Game Tailgate

Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010
Rentschler Field

We invite all UConn alumni who have served in the military to a pre-game tailgate before the UConn vs. Texas Southern football game at Rentschler Field. For more information or to register for this event, visit UConnAlumni.com. If you have questions, please contact Kim Lachut '90, Manager of Alumni Programs at Kimberly.Lachut@uconn.edu.

years, depending on the military branch in which they enlist, student veterans tend to skew older than the traditional 18-year-old freshmen. But the significant difference in age is not always the only source of disconnect.

“There were a lot of challenges,” says Angle of starting classes at UConn after his time in Iraq. “I had a way of life and a value system that was structured on what I did in the Army ... I had difficulty connecting with people. I felt like I didn’t have anything in common with anyone. For at least six months, my conversations were always focused on ‘When I was in Iraq’ or ‘When I was in the Army.’ That was difficult – always feeling separate from everyone.”

“I think the biggest difference between me and the traditional student is life experience,” says Tunde Szivak ’13 M.A., a former Army captain who spent two deployments in Iraq and is now pursuing a graduate degree in kinesiology.

“Somebody who’s known the college environment since they’ve left Mom and Dad really have very little understanding of what it is like out there,” she says. “Deploying and seeing the way other people live really changes how you see yourself and how you see society in general ... It’s really hard to come back to this and feel the same way about it. You feel like you’ve taken a lot of things for granted.”

To ease the transition from military to civilian life, student veterans can take advantage of several on-campus support services at UConn. While the Office of Student Financial Aid Services assists

students in navigating veterans benefits paperwork, a recently designated 24-hour Veterans House on the Storrs campus offers these students a place to socialize and also hosts a weekly support group.

LOOKING BEYOND UCONN

While this community of only about 250 war veterans may often go unnoticed on a campus of more than 20,000 students, the unique perspective they bring to their UConn education and their roles in the larger world after graduation are certainly worth noting.

Lt. Col. Christine Harvey, head of the military science department, cites the “extremely high level of discipline, responsibility and strong personal values” that she sees student veterans bring to the classroom. “I find that often our student veterans bring a global and multicultural interest to their studies that they may have not had prior to serving in the military,” she says.

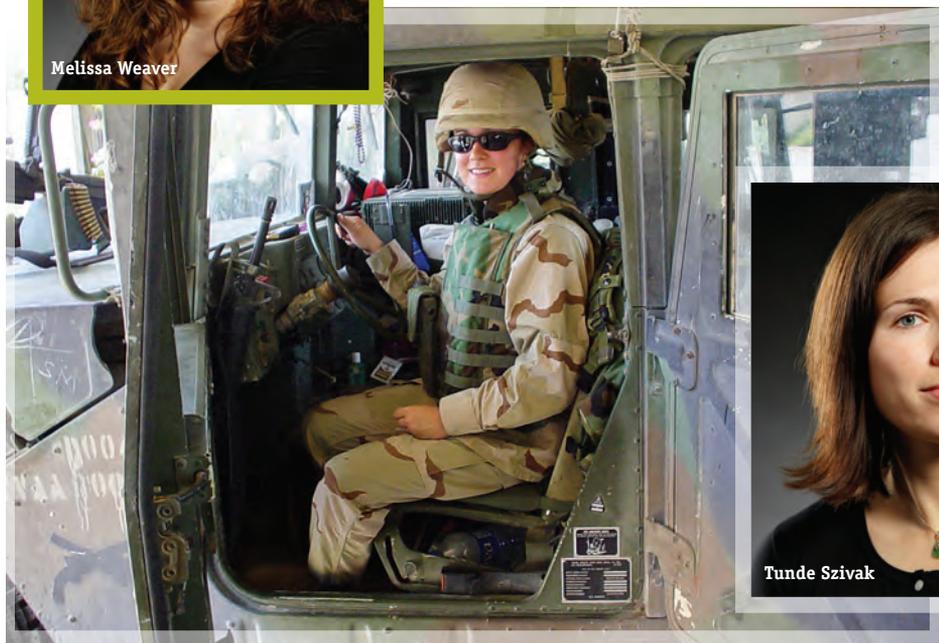
“When you’re away on active duty, in the Army or Air Force, it’s seven days a week,” says Lt. Col. Tony Esposito, assistant professor of military science. Once on campus, he says, student veterans “seem to have a greater value for their time here. They definitely seem to look over the horizon.”

Having served overseas, Travis Mustian ’09 (CLAS), ’11 M.A., a former Marine and current UConn graduate student, says he now has a “an appreciation for life in general ... The main thing I took from it was that life is precious, and you need to do everything you can to enjoy it and minimize your regrets. That is something that I will take with me for the rest of my life.”

Army veteran Angle agrees. “You may hear from combat veterans and soldiers who have been in combat situations for extended periods of time that you start to see the world in a very different way,” he says. “College is supposed to be about having fun and exploring as much as it is about preparing for life after college. I encourage students to look beyond the borders of UConn and out in the real world, and see how what they are doing now is going to open opportunities on the outside.”



Melissa Weaver '11 (CLAS), on patrol in Baghdad, Iraq, served for eight years with the Army National Guard. “The life lessons you learn you can’t learn in any school,” she says of her experience as a service member. “It gave me a perspective on life and everything else.”



Tunde Szivak

Stringer Institute



AT NEAG SEEKS TO HELP PREVENT SUDDEN DEATH IN ATHLETES

By Colin Poitras '85 (CLAS)

When Kelci Stringer was looking for a home for a research institute honoring her late husband – All-Pro NFL lineman Corey Stringer – the University of Connecticut and its renowned kinesiology department were her first choice. Corey Stringer died from complications due to an exertional heat stroke he suffered during a Minnesota Vikings pre-season training camp in 2001. At the time, the University's Department of Kinesiology in the Neag School of Education was gaining a national reputation as a leader in studying heat-related illnesses and hydration in athletes in its highly touted Human Performance Laboratory.

After speaking to Douglas J. Casa '97, Ph.D., associate professor of kinesiology and director of athletic training who served as an expert witness in litigation she filed following her husband's death, Stringer was convinced she had found the person to lead the Institute. Kelci Stringer announced her decision to establish the Corey Stringer Institute (KSI) at UConn at the 2010 NFL Draft in April.

"With Doug Casa's background at the University of Connecticut's Department of Kinesiology and their reputation as a national leader in the study of heat and hydration in sports, it was practically divine intervention that I decided to work with them," says Stringer, who will serve as the Institute's chief executive officer. "They

have been relentless in their efforts to help me, and their commitment is unsurpassed.

"I would like Corey's legacy to be about life and saving lives," Stringer adds. "I don't know a better way to do that than to offer sports professionals and laypeople alike a go-to resource they can use to find the latest information, tools and educational opportunities they need to help prevent heat stroke and sudden death in athletes in the future."

Casa will also serve as chief operating officer and as chairman of the KSI medical & science advisory board. A survivor of heat stroke who has dedicated his career to raising awareness and preventing heat-related illnesses in other athletes, Casa has published more than 100 peer-reviewed

studies and presented more than 300 times on subjects related to heat stroke, heat-related illnesses, hydration and preventing sudden death in sport. A fellow of the National Athletic Trainers' Association and the American College of Sports Medicine, Casa has successfully treated more than 100 cases of exertional heat stroke.

"Our goal with the Corey Stringer Institute is the eradication of death from heat stroke within organized sport in America," Casa says. "That is our goal every single day when we walk into the office."

KSI was established with the support of the National Football League and Gatorade as founding partners to increase awareness, education and advocacy about the proper precautions necessary to

avoid heat stroke among organized sports teams and the general public by providing state-of-the-art information and resources through its website, ksi.uconn.edu. The NFL Players Association is also an active supporter.

Part of the Institute's mission will be to advise high schools across the country on setting up emergency action plans in case athletes succumb

to heat-related illnesses on the playing field. Casa says the Institute's website



Douglas J. Casa '97 Ph.D., associate professor of kinesiology, will serve as chief operating officer of the Corey Stringer Institute.



COURTESY OF THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS

All-Pro lineman Corey Stringer of the Minnesota Vikings (77) died of heat stroke during a pre-season practice session in the summer of 2001.

will provide up-to-date information for coaches, parents, athletes and medical staff. The research team will also advocate for policy changes to improve athlete safety around the country.

“The NCAA implemented guidelines six years ago in terms of phasing in practices for athletes, and they have been phenomenally successful in preventing deaths during the August ‘two-a-days’,”

“At first, I felt like Corey’s death was very random,” says Kelci Stringer. “But now I see it is not.”

Casa says. “But only about half the states in America have policies for high school football. There are states where you can do three, three-hour practices on the first day of football in full gear in 100-degree heat. Obviously, that is not looking out for the health and safety of those athletes.”

Exertional heat stroke is a medical

emergency involving life-threatening hyperthermia, where an individual’s body temperature reaches 104° or higher. Symptoms include confusion, combativeness, nausea, collapse and unconsciousness. Many factors can contribute to heat stroke, including intensity of exercise, hydration, heat of day, inability of the body to adjust to exertion in high temperatures and barriers to cooling, such as protective equipment, clothing, fever, medications and underlying medical conditions. If not immediately treated, heat stroke can lead to organ failure and death. However, with prompt and aggressive medical treatment – such as immediate immersion in a cold-water tub – heat stroke patients can survive and return to sport without any long-term medical complications, Casa says.

Casa has an expert team of advisors and a group of talented graduate students working with him. The team includes kinesiology department head Carl Maresh, a national authority on exercise in stressful environments, and professor Lawrence Armstrong, a widely respected research scientist in the field of heat exhaustion, heat stress and hydration as it pertains to extremely active individuals such as athletes, laborers and military personnel.

The research team uses state-of-the-art equipment to conduct its studies. Since its inception, UConn’s Human Performance Laboratory has grown from a 250-square-foot lab with a treadmill and centrifuge to an 8,000-square-foot facility in Gampel Pavilion with several million dollars of equipment, including an environment-controlled exercise chamber, a complete biochemistry lab and an array of high-tech devices for monitoring physiological stress in the human body.

With those kinds of resources available, representatives of the NFL and Gatorade agreed with Stringer that UConn was the proper home for the Institute she envisioned to further research and prevent heat-related tragedies from happening to other athletes in the future.

“The health and wellness of players at all levels of competition is of great importance to the NFL,” says Gary M. Gertzog, senior vice president of business affairs for the NFL and a member of the KSI Board of Advisors. “We are pleased to be working with the Corey Stringer Institute to ensure that athletes stay healthy as they push themselves to be the best.

“This is a group of people who are going to get it done ... in a first-class way,” Gertzog adds. “[They] align themselves with people who are top-shelf, and they have done that with the University of Connecticut.”

Scott Paddock, Gatorade’s director of sports marketing, says the Gatorade Sports Science Institute will be an active partner with UConn in conducting research to help keep athletes safe.



Kelci Stringer, widow of Corey Stringer, and James Gould, Stringer’s former agent, announce the founding of KSI at UConn during a press conference at the 2010 NFL Draft.

“Doug and his team represent the best of the best,” Paddock says. “We’ve been privileged to work with Doug. I’ve known Doug for many years, and I know the passion and commitment he has for this endeavor.”

“At first, I felt like Corey’s death was very random,” says Stringer. “But now I see it is not. Heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke unfortunately continue to be problematic in sports and need to be eradicated. I strongly believe that with proper information, those responsible for our young athletes can be fully educated as to how to provide proper care, so that these kinds of tragic heat-related illnesses and deaths can be prevented in the future.”

Nuclear Apartheid

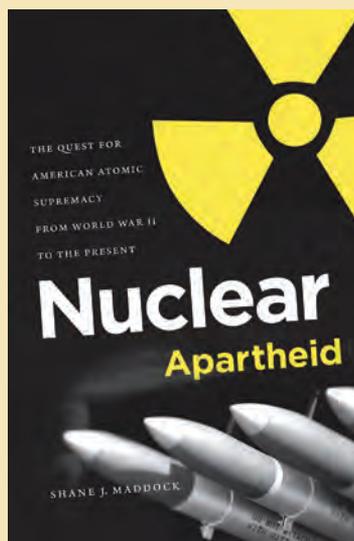
WHY NONPROLIFERATION HAS FAILED

Shane J. Maddock '90 M.A., '97 Ph.D., professor of history at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., analyzes the politics of the nuclear age using recently declassified sources from the U.S. and international archives in an excerpt from his new book, *Nuclear Apartheid: The Quest for American Atomic Supremacy from World War II to the Present*.

BY SHANE J. MADDOCK '90 M.A., '97 PH.D.

Little good has come from U.S. non-proliferation efforts, and few lessons have been learned. The misguided faith in American supremacy in nuclear physics resulted in the wrongheaded policy of selective proliferation in the military and civilian fields. Such an approach served only to speed the acquisition of nuclear weapons by India, South Africa and Pakistan. When Moscow responded with nuclear aid of its own, China accelerated its nuclear program.

Nonproliferation also failed because both Moscow and Washington subordinated control of nuclear spread to other security considerations. At times, both countries dabbled with nuclear sharing to offset perceived strategic advantages by the other power, exemplified by the United States' basing of Jupiter missiles in Turkey and Moscow's nuclear gambit in Cuba. At other times, the superpowers hesitated to conclude a nonproliferation accord because they feared alienating important



From *Nuclear Apartheid: The Quest for American Atomic Supremacy from World War II to the Present* by Shane J. Maddock. Copyright (c) 2010 by the University of North Carolina Press, unc.unccpress.edu.

allies, such as West Germany and China. U.S. policy proved the most susceptible to alliance pressure. Overall, the subordination of nonproliferation to other security considerations produced vacillation in U.S. policy, which in turn provoked resentment and cries of hypocrisy among non-nuclear nations.

Both superpowers also regarded possession of nuclear weapons as giving them a special status. This attitude sent a clear message to the rest of the world: Only nuclear powers matter. The superpowers denied that possession of nuclear weapons enhanced a nation's international political status, but their actions contradicted their rhetoric. Nations that sought respect or believed they had a global role to fulfill inevitably sought nuclear leverage. The Cold War arms race, moreover, drained the treasuries of both Washington and Moscow, while the former Axis powers, Germany and Japan, refrained from nuclear militarism and thrived economically.

The spread of nuclear weapons to alliance partners France and China and the emergence of newly decolonized states that refused to embrace either bloc weakened superpower hegemony. Moscow and Washington persisted in prioritizing their own geostrategic interests over those of allied states. In the end, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty emerged as an empty pledge not to sin, enforced by sinners.

The challenges of the new millennium make prospects for a multinational solution to nuclear proliferation an even more difficult task. Any new nonproliferation effort must accordingly take into account a world in which information regarding weapons of mass destruction can be easily obtained on the World Wide Web. Nonproliferation analysts argue that any effective nonproliferation regime in the future must inspire the cooperation of more than nation-states. Substate groups, such as nationalist movements, nongovernmental organizations and multinational corporations, must become participants in the nonproliferation dialogue.

The importance of executive action serves as a final lesson from the history of the superpowers' conflicted approach to nuclear containment. If post-Cold War world leaders wish to curb the existing proliferation threat, they must be willing to exchange unilateral and bilateral efforts for

AT THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE, ALBERT EINSTEIN HOPED THAT THE MENACE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD "INTIMIDATE THE HUMAN RACE INTO BRINGING ORDER INTO ITS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS."

a concerted multilateral approach. Nuclear apartheid must be brought to an end if its destabilizing spiral of political and economic strife is also to be eradicated. Like Pretoria in the 1990s, the privileged powers must exchange their tiered system of inequality for one based on the principles of openness and democratic ideals that have characterized nonproliferation endeavors at their best. Such an approach necessitates that U.S. and Russian policymakers, along with other international forces, dedicate themselves to a truly transnational effort based on mutual and balanced sacrifice both in disarmament and in the economic realm. The nuclear powers must return to the global commons; only by shifting from competition to cooperation can proliferation be curtailed.

Washington and Moscow should also

attempt to persuade the world that cheap and safe nuclear power is a phantasm. Nuclear reactors will always serve as half-way houses toward nuclear bombs, and the nuclear waste that reactors produce constitutes an environmental time bomb. An international effort to produce renewable energy sources that do minimal damage to the environment would complement the arms control element of the new nonproliferation regime. The status quo risks a future in which nuclear weapons become "conventional" armaments and could possibly fall into terrorist hands.

Throughout the nuclear age, the United States has squandered opportunities to forge cooperative ventures to halt proliferation. Americans have remained infatuated with unilateral and technological solutions to the atomic threat. And they have repeatedly attempted to preserve U.S. nuclear hegemony by undercutting their own professed commitment to nuclear nondissemination. A paradoxical equation derived from this practice. American hegemony, combined with arrogance and a Hobbesian worldview, catalyzed nuclear nationalism in other states and helped break the bonds of Washington's influence. Taught by the superpowers that nuclear weapons equal political power and that warheads prevent wars, other states built the bomb when they could afford to. Other nations also chose military strength over cooperation and in the process diminished Washington's and Moscow's relative power in the international system.

The persistence of a hegemonic version of American ideology and culture, rooted in beliefs about American exceptionalism, race, gender and technological utopianism, has continued to spawn nonproliferation failures. At the dawn of the nuclear age, Albert Einstein hoped that the menace of nuclear weapons would "intimidate the human race into bringing order into its international affairs." Einstein's wish remains unfulfilled because entrenched nationalist ideas protected and promulgated by the nuclear guardians blocked any of the new thinking needed to transcend the atomic age. 🌿





IN TUNE

Alumni thrive in the world of music

By Jim H. Smith



It was nearing the witching hour on Halloween 1981, just after Ray Charles had played the Homecoming concert. Clifford Solomon, the great alto sax player who recorded with bluesman John Mayall and producer Phil Spector, stepped out of the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and headed toward the band's bus. He asked the young man standing nearby where one could get a drink.

Morris “Mo” Pleasure ’86 (SFA), already a multi-instrumentalist who had led his own band in high school, offered to accompany Solomon to a nearby watering hole. By the time they had finished their beverages and a discussion about music, the veteran musician was sufficiently impressed to give Pleasure his card. Within a year of meeting Solomon, Pleasure was playing with Ray Charles’ band.

Pleasure grew up in Guilford, Conn., and began playing the piano at age 4. He also was proficient on bass, trumpet, guitar, drums and violin and as a teenager started earning money fronting his own group, The Pleasure Band. In deference to his parents, he enrolled at UConn as an engineering student. In his heart, though, he knew that he was a musician.

After two years on the road with Charles, Pleasure returned to UConn to major in music as a seasoned performer with professional connections who would later help him find work in New York City.

“I got a wonderful musical education at UConn,” he says, crediting faculty such as Ellen Rowe, Neil Larrabee and the late Hale Smith with helping to refine his talent. “I was playing in all kinds of bands – country, rock, top 40 – working all the time, but it was my teachers who helped me stay focused on professionalism.”

Now a producer and president of his own label, Watersign Records, Pleasure has performed over the past 20 years with George Duke, Natalie Cole, Dianne Reeves, Roberta Flack and Janet Jackson and served as musical director for Earth, Wind & Fire. Throughout, he says, the lessons learned at UConn about being a professional musician have served him well.

A PASTICHE OF MUSICAL VARIETY

Pleasure is among many alumni who have distinguished themselves as professional musicians. From jazz artists to folk singers to composers, they all, like Pleasure, acknowledge a debt to UConn.

Saxophonist Mark Small ’97 (SFA) played gigs as a high school student in Norwalk, Conn., but started to consider a music career when he met bassist Dave Santoro at UConn. Santoro, now on the faculty at Berklee College

of Music, introduced Small to prominent Boston saxophonist Jerry Bergonz, who performs with Earl MacDonald, director of the UConn Jazz Studies program. Soon, Small was playing regularly with top Boston bands.

“I saw good people performing and I realized what I had to do,” Small says. “Thanks to Dave, I got really organized at UConn. I began to think and operate like a professional musician.”

After graduation, he played professionally in Boston and New York City. Now a resident of Brooklyn, he has toured the world three times with popular singer Michael Bublé.

Acclaimed jazz singer/composer Marilyn Harris ’72 (SFA) says that, like Pleasure, she too was guided by Hale Smith, who taught musical composition. “Hale showed me how to have a music career, and I will always be grateful,” the Hartford native says.

The key, she says, is versatility. After graduating from UConn she moved to New York, finding work copying scores for the pianist/composer Gil Evans and other New York musicians. Later she wrote advertising jingles before moving to Los Angeles where her performing and recording career took off. Now living in Arizona, Harris says establishing and maintaining a fan base is always challenging. Professional musicians have to be willing to find alternative ways to perform. “We cobble together a career over the years,” she says.

MANY WAYS TO BE A MUSICIAN

A career in music does not always mean a focus on performing. Composer and organist Peter Niedmann ’90 (SFA) has enjoyed a multifaceted career as director of music at the Church of Christ, Congregational in Newington while also performing weekly at Hartford’s ON20 Restaurant. He has written a variety of compositions, commissioned by many organizations. To make it as a professional, “you’ve got to be blessed with talent,” he says, “and you need self-confidence. Finally, you have to be able to market yourself and find ways to make a living.”



Morris Pleasure ’86 (SFA), opposite page in the studio, and, left, with other members of the Michael Jackson Band at the premiere of “This Is It.”



Left: Laurentiu Rotaru '07 M.M. as Dulcamara in an opera by Gaetano Donizetti, performed by the Connecticut Lyric Opera. Above: Marilyn Harris '72 (SFA) in concert.

Composing was the emphasis of Dana Wilson's '75 M.A. work as a UConn graduate student in the 1970s. Now a music professor at Ithaca College, Wilson has written for ensembles, including the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Netherlands Wind Ensemble and U.S. military bands. His compositions have been performed all over the world.

Folk singers have always found persistence is a virtue in carving out a career. Lui Collins '74 (CLAS), who began establishing herself as a performer at UConn coffee shops and other venues near Storrs in the 1970s, has released nearly 10 solo albums in the past three decades. She enjoyed a long career as a performer traveling the country, before settling down in Vermont to devote time to her children.

She still performs occasionally, but closer to home. Most of her time is devoted to a program for babies, toddlers and their parents, called Music Together, for which she says her UConn education in music theory was great preparation.

"People need music. They thrive on it," she tells aspiring musicians, but she is quick to temper that optimism with a dose of reality. "Follow your bliss, but don't ever expect it to be easy. There are many ways to be a musician. Tenacity is the thing you need most."

If the struggle for success in music sounds as if it can reach operatic proportions, that's because it can. It is something to which Laurentiu Rotaru '07 M.M., who earned his master's degree at UConn, can relate. Winner of several singing and opera

competitions, Rotaru has performed as a soloist in numerous ensembles in his native Romania and in Greece, Austria, Hungary and the U.S. as Leporello in "Don Giovanni," Don Basilio in "Il Baribiere di Siviglia," Méphistophélès in "Faust," and many other roles. In 2004 he debuted at Carnegie Hall.

Yet Rotaru, who graduated from theological school in Romania and contemplated a career in the clergy before turning to music, could not speak English when he migrated to the United States in 2001. Today, thanks to the fact that he's not only a talented singer, but gifted with a bass vocal range, the rarest in opera, he has become a much sought-after performer.

"This is a very tough business," he says. "Someone who wants a career in music should think very carefully. To succeed requires a very great commitment."

MUSICAL CALLING

Several alumni have found careers in music, even as they pursued other studies.

An honors student in business, Manchester, Conn., native Vanessa Kafka '06 (BUS) was a popular performer on and off campus. She released her first EP in 2005. A 2008 Northeast tour in support of her debut album, "Into Place," helped her establish a solid fan base.

NOTABLE ALUMNI IN MUSIC

SARAH CALLINAN '03 B.A., '04 C.V.P. Soprano; has performed with opera companies in Arizona, New Jersey, Mississippi, Connecticut, Michigan and Massachusetts; winner of the Jenny Lind and Connecticut Opera Guild Competitions.

MEGAN FRIAR '85 B.S., '87 M.M. Mezzo-soprano; has appeared with opera companies in Florida, Connecticut, Virginia, Iowa, New York and in the national tour of "Phantom of the Opera."

MATT JANISZEWSKI '05 B.S., '05 B.A. Saxophonist with Frank Sinatra Jr., Eddie Palmieri, Edward Simon, Lewis Porter, Michael Mossman, Ralph Bowen and Conrad Herwig, among others, and in such venues as Carnegie Hall, The Blue Note and Trumpets Jazz Club.

ALBERT RUDOLPH LEE '98 B.M. Tenor; has appeared with opera companies in Missouri, Florida, Kentucky and Connecticut and performed with the Collegiate Chorale of New York City, Pro Arts Symphony, Missouri Symphony, New Haven Chorale, Heritage Chorale and at the Caramoor International and Aspen Music Festivals.

DAVID PITTSINGER '84 B.M. Bass-baritone with Metropolitan Opera; performances in "Don Carlo," "The Rake's Progress," "Giulio Cesare," "La Bohème" and "The Magic Flute"; Broadway debut in the Tony award-winning production of "South Pacific"; Artist of the Year awards from New York City Opera, Florida Grand Opera and Pittsburgh Opera.

ELISE QUAGLIATA '00 B.A. Mezzo-soprano; has performed with opera companies in Florida and Iowa, with the National Philharmonic, American Symphony and orchestras in Nevada, California, New York, Florida and New Hampshire.

FRED TINSLEY '65 B.A. Bassist for Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra since 1974; previously played with the New Haven Symphony and New York Philharmonic; member of the faculty of California State University, Fullerton.

GARY VERSACE '91 B.S., '91 B.M. Jazz organist, pianist and accordionist for John Scofield, John Abercrombie and Marian McPartland, among others; performed as accordionist on Maria Schneider's Grammy-winning recordings, "Concert in the Garden" and "Sky Blue," and as pianist on John Hollenbeck's Grammy-nominated large ensemble recording, "A Blessing."

ROBERT WENDEL '76 M.A. Conductor with major symphony orchestras in Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Baltimore, Atlanta, Cincinnati and Dallas; toured the U.S. and Europe as conductor for Harry Connick Jr.; performed at the 1993 Presidential Inauguration and in the concert for the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway.



Saxophonist Mark Small '97 (SFA) has toured the world three times with popular singer Michael Bublé.

Naomi Sommers '01 (CLAS), who studied literature and music at UConn, devoted herself to music full time after graduation, settling in Boston in 2001 to launch a solo career. She has released four albums, including 2008's "Gentle as the Sun," produced by Jim Rooney (John Prine, Iris Dement, Nanci Griffith, Bonnie Raitt). That same year she performed at the GRAMMY Foundation's Starry Night Fundraiser in honor of Beatles producer Sir George Martin, sharing the stage with legendary guitarist Jeff Beck and composers Burt Bacharach, Jimmie Webb and others.

Connecticut State Troubadour Lara Herscovitch '95 M.S.W. says she "narrowly escaped law school," instead embarking upon a career in social work. Though she began playing piano and writing when she was young, music remained principally a hobby until Bridgeport's Acoustic Café opened in the 1990s and she began performing at "open mic" nights. "Suddenly, I was awake," she recalls. "I knew music had to be part of my life in a more serious way."

While continuing her social work career, she has successfully taken on a parallel music career, performing at such notable venues as the Towne Crier in Pawling, N.Y., Club Passim in Cambridge, Mass., and at Bleecker Street's legendary Bitter End, building what music website smother.net calls "a rabid fanbase."

"Being a musician isn't a choice," she says. "It's hard work. Why would you pick this? You do it because you must." 🍷

Exploring the role of the ‘diva’ in the drama of Shakespeare

Shakespeare created some of theater’s most famous female roles, from Juliet to Cleopatra. Yet in Shakespeare’s time, while professional actresses were becoming popular across Europe, such challenging female roles were played on England’s traditionally all-male stage not by women, but by boys.

“The question that Shakespeareans, and anybody who has studied Renaissance drama, have always asked is how the English – alone among the nations around them in Europe – kept out the actress. Why and how?” says Pamela Allen Brown, an associate professor of English based at UConn’s Stamford campus and an expert in Shakespearean drama and Renaissance literature.

Brown, an avid theatergoer as well as a poet and playwright, believes that the English managed to keep their stage all-male by creating dynamic new roles that put theatrical foreign “women” at the center of some plots. Shakespeare and his colleagues, Brown says, were pressured to



“I started thinking about the characters I would call the leading or star players on the English stage and how they related to characters and actresses in Europe.”

—Pamela Allen Brown

do so by the emergence of the professional actress on the Continent in the mid-16th century, especially in the renowned Italian theatrical troupes called the *commedia dell'arte*.

“I started thinking about the characters I would call the leading or star players on the English stage and how they related to characters and actresses in Europe,” says Brown, whose work-in-progress, *Extravagant Stranger: The Foreign Actress in Shakespearean Drama*, recently earned the support of a yearlong fellowship from the

National Endowment for the Humanities, a prestigious award that helps fund individuals pursuing advanced research of value to scholars and general audiences in the humanities. Brown also has won a grant from the Huntington Library in Pasadena, Calif., where she will hold the Francis Bacon Foundation Fellowship.

As the international reputations of actresses in Europe flourished, and Italian troupes began to cross the English Channel and appear at Elizabeth’s court, Brown theorizes, playwrights such as Thomas Kyd,

Christopher Marlowe and Shakespeare became acutely aware of the need for the all-male commercial stage to compete with dual-gender European rivals, and began to create major new female roles that would be performed by boy actors.

These central female characters, famous for their dramatic scenes of suicide, madness and passion, were unprecedented in their theatricality. Juliet, for instance, delivers an erotically charged soliloquy framed by her window, and performs both faked and real death scenes, while Ophelia’s mad scene in *Hamlet* is a tour de force of tragicomic acting and singing. In creating roles that demanded star quality performances from “boy divas,” and stressing their uniqueness and special skills, Brown says, English playwrights effectively kept actresses off the stage for almost a century.

Seeking to understand the dynamics behind these aspects of the English theater's past, Brown has set out to study historical materials relating to English and Italian actors and troupes along with all plays with major female roles written from

the 1560s through 1616 by such greats as Shakespeare, Marlowe and John Webster.

"I'm asking, 'What was it like before the advent of the actresses? What were the female roles like? Where was the pressure point the greatest to start training

and having women on stage in England?'" Brown says. "Somehow the professional companies managed to turn back the threat of the actress ... through the means of creating these incredible dramatic roles." —*Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)*

Fuller leads first responders into disaster areas

In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, medical providers with a calm head and compassionate heart are a necessity in the midst of chaos. Robert Fuller, head of emergency medicine at the UConn Health Center, has established just such a reputation around the world.

International Medical Corps' (IMC) Emergency Response Team has responded to humanitarian emergencies in more than 50 countries on four continents. Fuller is among IMC's select group of volunteer health care specialists who are ready to deploy to a disaster anywhere in the world within hours.

Fuller, an emergency medicine physician, has experience assisting in setting up and organizing hospitals in order to care for mass casualties in devastated areas. He has been in charge of coordinating with nongovernmental organizations, dealing with the U.S. military and the supplies it brings in, and making sure health services are delivered.

Just days after the earthquake in Haiti, Fuller was on the island trying to get the Port-au-Prince Hospital Universita et Haiti up and running amid the devastation. "The hospital only had capacity for 700 patients when it was fully operational and there were nearly 1,000 patients sitting outside waiting for care every day," Fuller says. "It was very tricky to try and squeeze all of those patients into a place that couldn't fit them to begin with."

In Haiti, injuries included crushed extremities, exposed bones or torn muscles and infected wounds, many of which required hundreds of extremity amputations. On top of those challenges, medical supplies such as IVs, pain medicines and bandages were often extremely limited, especially in the days following the disaster.

Fuller's experience in Haiti was the latest in his many worldwide efforts to help in a disastrous and seemingly helpless situation. His first such experience began much closer to home on Sept. 11, 2001, when he was part of the UConn medical response team that provided specialized emergency medical care and assisted in search and rescue efforts at ground zero in New York City.

Among his notable IMC missions, Fuller traveled to Banda Aceh, Indonesia, after a tsunami killed 300,000 people in December 2004, when IMC volunteers were among the first to reach the most remote areas and begin providing medical care. There, Fuller served as the interim director of emergency medicine at the large regional referral hospital, Hospital Zianel Abudin. He spent a month there making sure the victims received emergency care and worked with organizations from around the world to coordinate care at the hospital.

Fuller's work with the IMC has inspired others at the Health Center to join him by forming support teams, including a group of 11 doctors and nurses who traveled to Port-au-Prince this past March to assist with the ongoing medical efforts.

"Unlike many other relief organizations, IMC workers stay long after the crisis has ended to help communities fully recover important health care infrastructure and get back to self-reliance," says Fuller. "We believe no emergency response effort is complete without training and education to pass on the skills and resources communities need to be able to care for themselves." —*Carolyn Pennington*



Alumni News & Notes

We want to
hear from you!

Let your fellow UConn alumni know about the milestones in your life.

1950s



Nancy (Canevari) Lindemeyer '56 (CLAS) is the author of *My First Best Friend* published by Stewart, Tabori & Chang in March.

Daniel M. Uman '57 (CANR) received senior membership from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. He has 38 years of experience in heavy construction worldwide. He lives with his wife, Judith, in Portland, Ore.

Barry E. Herman '58 M.A., '67 Ph.D., adjunct professor of education at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., is the host of the television show "The Jewish Forum" on Comcast and Citizens Television PBS Channels in the Greater New Haven, Greater Bridgeport, North Haven and Valley areas. He is the president of the Ethnic Heritage Center at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Conn.

Al Lotring '58 (CLAS), retired from the Naval Underwater Research Center in New London, Conn., published his first novel, *Goodfellow Associates*, with Bookstand Publishing.

William D. Pardus '58 (ED), '60 M.S., professor emeritus of music at Keene State College in Keene, N.H., presented his lecture "From the Classroom to the Business of Music" at a UConn music department convocation for students and faculty on April 6, 2010.

1960s

Mary Ann Gilleece '62 (ED), partner at Holland & Knight, a law firm in Washington, D.C., has been elected chairman of the executive board of the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program.



Jack C. Norbeck '64 (CANR) is vice chancellor of the World Academy of Letters. He lives in Coplay, Pa.

Tom Bowler '66 (ED), '81 6th Year, received the President's Award from the Sports & Recreation Law Association at its annual conference in Albuquerque, N.M., in March 2010. He worked as a teacher for 33 years in Vernon, Conn., until his retirement in 1999. Currently, he is an expert witness for attorneys throughout the United States.



Frank Gwazdauskas '66 (CANR), the David R. and Margaret Lincicome Professor in the Department of

Dairy Science at Virginia Tech, received the 2010 Certificate of Teaching Excellence from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech.



Robert Brzozowki '68 (ENG) received his M.B.A. from Pennsylvania State University in August 2009.

Christos P. Tsokos '68 Ph.D., Distinguished University Professor and director of the statistics graduate program in the department of mathematics and statistics at the University of South Florida, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the UConn Department of Statistics in April.

Dennis Hampton '69 (CLAS), editor and publisher of *Hearing HealthCare News*, was awarded the Honors of the Association by the New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association. He recently served as president of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation.

Roger Nelsen '69 (BUS) was appointed to the board of directors at UV Flu Technologies Inc., in Centerville, Mass. He brings more than 36 years of experience to the position.

1970s



Abraham C. Reich '71 (CLAS), partner and co-chair at Fox Rothschild LLP, co-contributed to a chapter on ethics in the 2010 edition

of *Successful Partnering Between Inside and Outside Counsel*, a multi-volume treatise.

Nancy Danforth Ciesla '72 (ED), a physical therapy clinical specialist at John Hopkins Hospital, received the fourth Outstanding Physical Therapy Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Alan J. Desmarais '72 (CLAS) is a senior benefits consultant for Milliman Inc., in Hartford, Conn. He previously was director of finance for the town of Manchester for 17 years before retiring in early 2010. He is adjunct faculty for UConn's Department of Public Policy master's program. He is a member of the Connecticut Municipal Finance Advisory Commission, a board member of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority and chairman of the Board of Trustees of Oak Hill - Connecticut Institute for the Blind. He and his wife, Joan Carey Desmarais, have three children.



Marcia McInerney '72 (CLAS), professor and chair of the medicinal and biological chemistry department

in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Toledo, was selected by the university as a Distinguished University Professor. Her research focuses on defining

immunopathology mechanisms in Type 1 diabetes. She has written articles, presented research findings and received more than \$3 million in research funding.



John F. Brinnier '73 (CANR), vice president of corporate quality for Watson Pharmaceuticals in Morristown,

N.J., and **Sharon A. Brinnier '73 (CLAS)** celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary in Hawaii with their children.

Tom Howarth '73 (CLAS) is director of the Father McKenna Center at Saint Aloysius Church in Washington, D.C. He also serves as chair on the board of Salvadoran Enterprises for Women. He previously worked for U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg of New Jersey.

Janice Kasper '73 (SFA) served as an artist-in-residence at Isle Royale National Park in Michigan during the summer of 2009.

Lisa L. Landa '73 (ED), '78 M.A., English teacher at Daniel Hand High School in Madison, Conn., received the Outstanding School Educator Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Michael J. Nielsen '73 (CLAS) retired after more than 35 years with the Regional Transportation Authority and Metra Commuter Rail System in Chicago, where he worked in various senior management positions. He lives in Oak Park, Ill.

Joseph Wocoski '73 (CLAS) is the author of *Our Seasons of Ardent Love*, a series of 21 sonnets for his wife.



Paul Spencer '74 (CLAS) is the lead physician assistant in emergency medicine at St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor, Maine.

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2384 Alumni Drive, Unit 3053
Storrs, CT 06269

Fax: (860) 486-2849

Email: alumni-news@uconn.edu

Submit your information at
uconnalumni.com/HAN



Kathryn Calibey '75 (CLAS), attorney for law firm RisCassi & Davis in Hartford, Conn., received the President's

Award for Excellence from the Hartford County Bar Association on April 15, 2010. She is a co-chair for the Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society Program Committee and is on the committees of the Connecticut Bar Association and the Connecticut Trail Lawyers Association.

Marilyn B. Cole '75 (ED), professor emerita of occupational therapy in the School of Health Sciences at Quinnipiac University, received the Award of Merit at the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association's annual conference and awards

ceremony in March. She lives with her husband, Marty, in their homes in Stratford, Conn., and Freeport, Bahamas.

Susan Cooper '75 (ED), director of recreation for Newport, R.I., received the Outstanding Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.



Gregory Evanylo '75 (CLAS), professor and Virginia Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Crop and Soil

Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech, received the 2010 Rufus Chaney Award from the U.S. Composting Council for his

research and Extension activities, which benefit compost use on soil and water quality. The award was presented at the council's annual conference in Orlando.

Kevin Flaherty '75 (CLAS), '77 M.B.A. is senior vice president at Webster Bank, where he directs new business development for mid-size commercial borrowers in northern Connecticut and western Massachusetts.

Peter Kirk '75 (CLAS) and Marsha (Smith) Kirk '75 (CLAS) have retired as executives of the Bank of New Canaan. They live in Waterford, Conn., but are looking forward to relocating to Hurricane, Utah.

William Trubeck '76 M.B.A. is a member of the board of directors at WellCare Health Plans, Inc., in Tampa, Fla. He previously was executive vice president and chief financial officer at H&R Block and held several senior management positions at Waste Management, Inc.

Curtis T. Walker '76 (CLAS) was elected president of the Akron (Ohio) Public School Board for the second time in January. He has served on the board for 10 years. He is married and has five children and seven grandchildren.

Bill Cullen '77 (CLAS), a partner with Sexton, Cullen, Hobson & Garfield, P.C., was named one of the top lawyers in Birmingham, Ala., by *B-Metro Magazine*.



Sok-Ja Janket '77 D.M.D. is research associate professor in general dentistry at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine at

Boston University, where she also has an appointment as assistant professor of periodontology and oral biology.

Raymond Martino '77 (CLAS), '81 M.B.A., president and chief executive officer of the manufacturing

company Simonds International of Fitchburg, Mass., was elected to the board of directors at Worker's Credit Union of Fitchburg.

Laura (Schlesinger) Minor '77 (CLAS) is a program manager and professional trainer at Wheeler Clinic, a nonprofit, multi-service behavioral health agency serving central Connecticut, Greater Hartford and beyond. She is also a justice of the peace and the host of a local television talk show. Her husband, **Craig Minor '80 (CLAS)**, is the town planner for Cromwell, Conn.

Clarence Silvia '77 (CLAS), '79 M.B.A. is president and chief executive officer at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain, Conn., and president of Central Connecticut Health Alliance (CCHA), the hospital's parent organization. He previously was senior vice president and chief operating officer for CCHA and the hospital.

Rocco Orland III '78 M.D. is senior vice president and chief medical officer for Hartford Healthcare and Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Conn., where he provides leadership to the clinical staff of three acute care hospitals and several specialty health care providers. He previously was vice president of Connecticut Surgical Group in Hartford.

Ellen (Bangasser) Rizzo '78 (BUS), '84 M.B.A. is chief financial officer at Hanover Insurance Group in Worcester, Mass. She previously was senior vice president and chief financial officer of business insurance at Travelers Companies.

Robb Delprado '79 (BUS) is chief operations officer at Western Data Systems, Inc., in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Cheryl, and daughter, Amy. He previously was a consultant for RMI Corporation.

Shapleigh Drisko '79 (CLAS) is director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization for the U.S. Department of State.



Pepper featured in N.Y. State Artist Series

Jen Pepper '89 M.F.A., associate professor of studio art and art gallery director at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, N.Y., had a solo exhibition of her installation art earlier this year titled, "that which cannot be held," as part of the New York State Artist Series at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse. She has exhibited in solo and group shows in international and national venues since 1990 and has received grant awards from a variety of organizations and foundations, including the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Live from New York – it's Bobby Moynihan '99 (SFA)!

Friends of Bobby Moynihan '99 (SFA) understand when he says he's busy most Saturday nights. After all, giving up a weekend day is a small price to pay when you're part of the cast of NBC's legendary comedy improv show "Saturday Night Live."

Moynihan has been a featured player on SNL since 2008. The 33-year-old native of Eastchester, N.Y., will be the first to tell you that having an opportunity to work on the same stage that hosted the likes of John Belushi, Bill Murray, Chevy Chase and Gilda Radner for the past three decades is one awesome ride.

"Every time the music starts and the band starts playing at 11:25, you feel it," Moynihan says. "Here is this amazing 35-year-old show, and you're a part of it. When they put my picture up on the wall as a cast member, well, that was it for me. I've had a lot of mind-blowing Sundays where I'll wake up and just can't believe what happened."

Moynihan was part of a dream team of actors that rolled through the School of Fine Arts in the late 1990s. He was one of the stars of the Connecticut Repertory Theatre's production of "The Boys Next Door," which received the 1999 Connecticut Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Ensemble Cast, beating out other ensembles from the Goodspeed



Opera House, Long Wharf Theatre and Yale Repertory Theatre, among others. His professors say he had a natural gift at portraying endearing characters and making people laugh.

"Bobby is not somebody who you forget. He is one of the top people we ever had here," says Robert McDonald, one of Moynihan's former mentors, now a professor emeritus of dramatic arts in the School of Fine Arts. "He's got an incredible ability to get at our heartstrings as a believable weaker person."

Moynihan credits his acting coaches at UConn with furthering his career.

"Bob McDonald was the greatest. He taught me everything," Moynihan says. "I initially thought, why did I go to acting school? But it has helped me tremendously. Part of being a good comedian is that truth-in-comedy kind of thing. At SNL, my acting background has helped me to have confidence on stage. UConn

Bobby Moynihan '99 (SFA), right, performing in a skit with fellow cast members on "Saturday Night Live." From left: Guest host Zac Efron, Bill Hader, Andy Samberg, Abby Elliott and Moynihan.

gave me that confidence."

After graduating, Moynihan moved back to New York where he became a regular member of the Upright Citizens Brigade and then was a sketch regular on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" beginning in 2006 and, in 2008, did television ads for ESPN Radio.

While Moynihan has appeared in several films ("When in Rome," "The Invention of Lying," "Mystery Team"), he says he's in no hurry to step away from the SNL set.

"I've done a couple of movies, and it was so much fun," says Moynihan, who received the School of Fine Arts Alumni Award in April. "But I've waited my whole life to get here (to SNL), so I'm in no rush to leave." —Colin Poitras '85 (CLAS)

Carol (Stanley) Little '79 (BUS) is founder and president of A Good Laugh, Inc., a charity dedicated to providing therapeutic humor to people affected by illness, injury or trauma. She lives with her husband, Mike, and son, Chris, in Shrewsbury, Mass.

1980s

Michael Alberts '80 (CLAS), '87 M.B.A. is vice president and commercial relationship manager at Simsbury Bank in Simsbury, Conn. He was previously senior vice president and senior commercial loan officer at Putnam Bank.



West Hartford, Conn. She lives in West Hartford.

Marylouise Welch '80 M.S., '90

Ph.D. was recently recognized as Professor Emerita of Nursing at Saint Joseph College in

Phil Knight '81 (CANR) is the author of *Into Deepest Yellowstone*, his first book, published by PublishAmerica in November 2009.

Frank Minerva '81 M.B.A. is chief operating officer at UBS Financial Services in New York, N.Y., where he previously led the New York office of the company's private wealth

management. He has worked for UBS for 21 years.

John H. (Buzz) Tarlow '81 (CLAS), a partner in the law firm Tarlow Stonecipher & Steele, PLLC, in Bozeman, Mont., has been elected a Fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers, which comprises the top 1 percent of the construction bar in the United States. He resides in Bozeman with his wife, Holly. They have two children, Sarajana, now working for NBC in New York City, and Jed, a freshman at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash.

Steve Wolfberg '81 (CLAS) is partner, president and chief creative officer at Cronin and Company, a marketing communications firm in Glastonbury, Conn.

Mary J. Meehan '82 M.B.A. is first vice president of commercial lending at People's Bank in Holyoke, Mass. Previously, she was vice president of commercial lending.

Nicholas Randazzo '82 (CLAS) is vice president of sales at PHT Corporation in Charleston, Mass.

Michael Sheehan '82 (BUS) is vice president and mortgage and consumer loan department head at Simsbury Bank in Simsbury, Conn., where he leads the bank's mortgage and consumer lending sales and service. He previously was mortgage lending division head at Webster Financial.

Susan L. Weston '82 (BUS) is chief talent officer for BlumShapiro in West Hartford, Conn., the largest regional accounting, tax and business consulting firm based in Connecticut and one of the largest in New England, with nearly 300 professional and administrative staff. She previously was manager of finance leadership development at United Technologies Corp.

Mark Dripchak '83 (CANR) is program manager at Mercy Corps in Kunduz, Afghanistan, with responsibility for the Kunduz Integrated Water Initiative and the second phase of the Catchment Development Project, both funded by the European Commission.

Marvin Goldwasser '83 (BUS) is senior vice president of marketing at Continuity Engine in New Haven, Conn. He previously was vice president of marketing for Eclipsys Corporation.

Kim (Taylor) Manning '83 (CLAS) is partner and chief operating officer at Cronin and Company, a marketing communications firm in Glastonbury, Conn.

David Minicozzi '83 (CLAS) was appointed as a commissioner for the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter Commission in Branford, Conn., where he will assist in fundraising activities.

Robert O'Connor '83 M.B.A. is president and chief executive officer at Loftware, Inc., in Portsmouth, N.H. He previously was president and CEO of Softrax Corp. and held various senior executive positions at RBS Group.

Leslie (Wenc) Turner '83 (CLAS) received her master's degree in library and information science from Simmons College in January 2010.

Merrill Eisenberg '84 Ph.D., assistant professor in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona's Tucson campus, is president-elect of the Society for Applied Anthropology, where he will serve a two-year term beginning in 2011.



Rosemary (Keating) Leitz '84 (BUS), senior counsel for Northeast Utilities, was elected treasurer of Chrysalis Center, Inc., a private nonprofit health care agency serving the Greater Hartford area. She and her husband, **Jeffrey Leitz '83 (CLAS)**, CEO of Walbridge Capital, live with their son, Desmond, in West Hartford, Conn.

Deborah (Hutchins) Murphy '84 (BUS) is vice president of market and channel development for specialty printing solutions for Zebra Technologies Corporation in Vernon Hills, Ill. She has served in various marketing positions at the company for 14 years.

Judith Pepin '84 M.S., '87 Ph.D., a senior scientist with Proctor & Gamble's scientific writing and editing section, will serve a third term as treasurer of the American Medical Writers Association. She is also a member of the association's Budget and Finance Committee.

Stephen P. Reilly '84 (ED) is president and chief executive officer of Northwest Community Bank, based in Winsted, Conn. He is involved in United Way of Northwest Connecticut, the Torrington Rotary Club and the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Meg, have three children and reside in Prospect, Conn.



Vikram Desai '86 (CLAS) is president and chief executive officer of Liquid Computing in Stamford, Conn.



Tom Flynn '86 (CLAS), '89 J.D., partner at the law firm Shipman & Goodwin in Hartford, Conn., was elected

to the board of directors of the Connecticut Technology Council.



Peter Linn '86 (ENG) is vice president and business development manager for the General Insurance Customer

Management team at Zurich in New York, N.Y. He previously was director of corporate customers and distribution management and risk engineering.



Mike Baldassari '87 (SFA) designs theatrical lighting for feature films including "Nine," "Sex and the City 2," "Going the Distance" and the "Neil Young Trunk Show." He has also designed recent tours for Neil Young and Alice in Chains. He lives with his wife, Arlene, and daughter, Sophia, in Hoboken, N.J., and East Hampton, N.Y.

Tracy (Proll) Block '87 (BUS) owns Professional Business Services, a bookkeeping and payroll service in Southington, Conn. She is a certified bookkeeper, a Quickbooks Proadvisor and a member of the



Da Nuh Nuh, Da Nuh Nuh

Mike Soltys '81 (CLAS), vice president for U.S. communications at ESPN, visited the Marketing Society in the School of Business in March, providing students with details of new ESPN projects and advice on the skills needed to obtain internships in the marketing-communications industry.

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American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers. She is married and has a daughter, Madison.

Michael J. Frechette '87 Ph.D., superintendent of schools for Middletown, Conn., received the Outstanding Superintendent Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.



Colleen Anne Richard '88 M.S.W., '05 Ph.D. is a professor at Tunxis Community College in Farmington, Conn.,

where she has served as the human service program coordinator for 12 years.

Peter Sherr '88 (CLAS) is senior vice president of corporate strategy at CA Software and was elected to the Board of Education in Greenwich, Conn.

Ron Corey '89 M.B.A. is vice president of clinical and project management for Asubio Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in Rochelle Park, N.J., assuming expanded responsibility for managing the project management and clinical trial management groups. He was formerly executive director for clinical and project management.

Steven Peeters '89 M.B.A. is vice president of commercial lines product at The Main Street America Group in Jacksonville, Fla. He previously was president and chief operating officer at Zurich Insurance Services.



J. Scott Roman '89 (CLAS), a senior principal scientist at Merck & Co., and his wife, Michele, a federal pretrial officer with

the U.S. District Court, were married on Oct. 26, 2008, in West Milford, N.J. The couple resides in Stewartsville, N.J.

1990s

Jill Carey '90 (ED), '99 M.A., principal of the Academy of Engineering and Green Technology at Hartford Public High School, earned her

doctorate in education leadership from the University of Hartford.



Dana Ricard '90 (CLAS) is a real estate agent for William Raveis Real Estate in Hingham, Mass. She lives with her husband, Eric, and daughters, Olivia and Alexis, in Scituate, Mass.

Kelly (Kirby) Shaw '90 (PHR) and her husband, Joseph, announce the birth of a son, Neal Ryan, on Oct. 17, 2009, in Toronto, Canada. He joins an older sister, Paige.



Rachel Baker-Blackwell '91 M.S.W., a practitioner of social services, was profiled by the New Jersey Chapter

of the National Association of Social Workers as the spotlight individual for 2010 in the association's *NewsWire* publication. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and lives in East Millstone, N.J.



Brian LeBlanc '91 (CLAS) is celebrating 25 years with Walgreens Pharmacy. He and his wife, Diane, live in Middletown, Del.



Noemi (Hernandez) Macumber '91 (BUS) is a missionary for the International Mission Board. She lives in Ocala, Fla.

Jonathan A. Plucker '91 (CLAS), '92 M.A., professor of educational psychology and cognitive science at the University of Indiana at Bloomington, received the 2010 Outstanding Higher Education Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Phil Almquist '92 M.B.A. graduated from the Connecticut School of Broadcasting in Cherry Hill, N.J., on March 16, 2010.



GINO DEVIANO

'Many Hearts': Tribal leader for a new century

LYNN MALERBA '08 M.P.A. BECOMES NEW CHIEF OF MOHEGAN TRIBE IN CONNECTICUT

Earlier this year, when the time had come to select a new chief for the Mohegan Nation, Marilynn (Lynn) Malerba '08 M.P.A. submitted her nomination for a tribal member who had worked many years to gain federal recognition for the tribe and whose efforts ultimately helped establish the successful Mohegan Sun Casino.

But when the Council of Elders asked to meet with Malerba, the great-granddaughter of Burrill Fielding,

the tribe's chief from 1937 to 1952, she was surprised to learn they had someone else in mind for the position – her.

“When they told me, you could have knocked me out of a chair,” says Malerba, a rising leader in the tribe who had become chairwoman of the nine-member Tribal Council in 2009 after serving on the council for five years. She is to be installed as the 17th chief of the 1,800-member Mohegan Tribe in August.



“It is a big responsibility. You will be the enduring face of the tribe for as long as you are able to be,” she says.

Malerba will be the second woman to serve as tribal chief. For a brief period in 1723, Anne Uncas served as interim chief. Among the 580 federally recognized Indian tribes, many are led by women, according to the National Congress of American Indians. Under the Mohegan constitution, the chief has a lifetime appointment and advises the two councils in matters of policy. Many ceremonial functions also are performed by the chief.

Malerba says women always have been informal leaders within Indian tribes, with or without a formal title. “Tribes were always egalitarian, more so than perhaps the rest of society was in the past,” she says. “I certainly interact with many women leaders in Indian Country at the national level.”

Malerba says because the role of chief does not have a formal job description under the tribe’s constitution, she will meet

with the Mohegan community to learn what they expect from their new chief.

“The role of the chief is not concretely defined because each chief will have challenges in their lifetime that others have not faced,” she says, noting that her experience on the Tribal Council and as its chairwoman will provide insight into how to advise the tribal leadership. “I see the chief as someone who provides continuity. I have known a lot of our past leaders. We have to carry their thoughts and wishes forward.”

One area Malerba notes as one of her priorities is ensuring a secure future for the next generation of Mohegans. The downturn in the national and local economy has affected all Connecticut businesses, including Mohegan Sun, which has delayed new projects.

“We have a very young tribe. Forty-five percent of our membership is under the age of 18,” says Malerba. “If we want the next generation to enjoy the benefits of health care, retirement community housing and education, we need to endow those services. We’ve been very fortunate in



“It is a big responsibility. You will be the enduring face of the tribe for as long as you are able to be.”

providing those services for the current generation, but we need to think about endowing those services for future generations. Looking to other business sectors (beyond gaming) would be a very wise decision.”

As chief, Malerba will be the public face of the Mohegan Tribe and the business interests she has helped to guide as chairwoman of the Tribal Council. A former critical care nurse and hospital administrator, she served as executive director of the tribe’s Health and Human Services

department before joining the Council. In January, she was named to *Global Gaming Business* magazine’s annual list of “25 People to Watch” as a leader of “the government of a tribe with a multibillion-dollar gaming empire employing some 8,000 people at Connecticut’s Mohegan Sun resort alone.”

Malerba’s growing responsibilities within the Tribal Council led to her decision to pursue a master’s degree in public affairs at UConn.

“I was looking at broader policy issues even in my position as health and human services director,” she says. “You have to look at things in a different way, address critical issues in a very broad and encompassing way, so as you are setting policy for the future, it is enduring and not just being reactionary.”

Until her selection as chief, Malerba had not chosen a tribal name, something that she had been reluctant to do when younger, saying she was not comfortable with giving herself a new name. As chief, it was necessary. She followed tradition in consulting with the tribe’s medicine woman, discussing who she was as a person and who the tribe hopes she would be as a leader. With her history as a nurse, her deep knowledge of Mohegan culture and history, and the many people whom she has helped over her lifetime, her tribal name seemed clear – Mutawi Mutahash, translated as “Many Hearts.”

According to tradition, a mark representing the chief was created. It includes a heart that represents all the hearts she has cared for and all those to come. Two flowers/cornstalks represent her two daughters and corn, which is considered medicine or food of life. Three dots each on the left and right sides of the heart represent the three generations of her great-grandfather, including her mother and past, present and future Mohegan family members.

“‘Many Hearts’ are the hearts I’ve cared for in the past, the ones I know today and those I have yet to meet,” Malerba says of her chief’s mark. “That felt right for me.”

—Kenneth Best



Maureen Hanley-Bellitto '92 (CLAS) is regional vice president for Fairfield County at TD Bank, where she is responsible

for managing a commercial lending team and overseeing a 21-store network across the region.

G. Duncan Harris '92 (CLAS) is the dean of student affairs at Manchester Community College in Manchester, Conn. He is a member of the UConn African American Alumni Council and resides with his wife and three children in Windsor, Conn.

James O'Meara '92 (BUS), '00 M.B.A. is senior vice president of commercial banking and chief of staff at Webster Bank in Hartford, Conn. He previously held a leadership role in the bank's expansion into Boston in December of 2009.

John Sponauer '92 (CLAS) is assistant director for eMarketing at the UConn Foundation in Storrs,

Conn. He has worked for the Foundation since 2006 as a senior editor and writer.



Shawn Stzurma '92 (ENG) is a principal sales consultant for Pegasystems, a business process management

software solutions company. He lives with his wife, Lisa, and daughters, Katja and Annika, in Somerville, Mass.



Shanyelle Young '92 (CLAS), a real estate agent with Gillette Real Estate in Windsor, Conn., was awarded the Top Realtor of 2009

for her sales, commissions and number of transactions.

Francis Culkin '93 (BUS) is vice president of client services at Razorsight Corporation in Fairfax, Va. He was previously employed in key client delivery positions at Ventraq and Martin Dawes.

Anne (Tikky) Fountain '93 M.P.H. was named interim director of health and social services for the city of Stamford, Conn. She has served as the city's public health emergency response coordinator since 2004.

Sandra Knapp Wheeler '93 (BGS), owner of For Peace of Mind, LLC - Professional Organizing for home and office - has been elected 2010-11 President of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers. She is also the chapter's director of communications and technology. She is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut and had 20 years of corporate experience before creating her own company.

Rob Carolla '94 (CLAS) and Annie Carolla announce the birth of a son, Carson Jeffrey, on March 1, 2010, in Dallas.

John Curley '94 (CLAS), an equity sales trader at JP Morgan, and his wife, Mary, announce the birth of their second son, Brendan, who joins an older brother, John, 2. The family resides in Greenwich, Conn.

Matt Proulx '94 (CLAS) and **Chrissy (Sherriff) Proulx '95 (NUR)** announce the birth of their third child, Molly Romayne, on Sept. 2, 2009. She joins older siblings, Emily Rose, 9, and Matthew Rene, 7. The family lives in Fairfield, Conn.



Jonathan Rapoport '94 (BUS) is founder and chief executive officer of Great Work Perks, LLC, a company in Santa

Monica, Calif., that provides free employee discount programs.



Kerryann Tomlinson '94 M.S.W. is vice president, community relations for Madison Square Garden Sports

Teams, where she oversees community relations efforts for the New York Knicks, Rangers and Liberty.

John W. Castellani '95 Ph.D., a researcher for the Thermal and

Mountain Medicine Division at the United States Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine in Natick, Mass., received the Outstanding Kinesiology Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Brian P. Richardson '95 (BUS) is a tax manager for the accounting firm Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard, LLC, in Vernon, Conn. He is a member of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Fahd Vahidy '95 (CLAS), '98 M.A., executive director of Public Allies Connecticut and co-founder of Street Smart Ventures, was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors for the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits. He is an active member of the community and lives with his wife, Monika, in West Hartford, Conn.

Christopher Ayers '96 M.B.A. is chief operating officer at Alcoa Inc., in Independence, Ohio. He previously was president of forgings and special metals division at Precision Castparts Corp.

Jennifer Rizzotti '96 (CLAS), head coach of the women's basketball team at the University of Hartford, was named coach of USA Basketball's Under-18 women's national team, which competed in the FIBA Americas Championships at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., in June. She previously served as an assistant coach in 2006 for the USA U18 national team, which won a gold medal.

Jeffrey A. Schumann '96 6th Year, '05 Ph.D., assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in West Hartford, Conn., received the Outstanding School Administrator Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Chantelle Shimono-Legault '96 (NUR) received a master's in nursing from Southern Connecticut State University in 2009. She is an advanced practice registered nurse and a board certified family nurse practitioner at the Yale University Department of Anesthesiology.

Hosting the President and First Lady in Pittsburgh

Richard V. Piacentini '84 M.S., executive director of the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, presents President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama with a bowl created by glass artist Hans Godo Frabel during the 2009 G-20 Summit. The Phipps Conservatory was the host site for a working dinner of world leaders attending the global economic summit.

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Chairman, Network for Good/
Direct Help
Vice Chairman, CEO
of Malaria No More



Faculty Excellence in Research
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Laura Crow
Department of Dramatic Arts
School of Fine Arts



Alumni Association
Service Award
Richard Carbray '75 (PHR)
Owner, Apex Pharmacy
Former Alumni Association
Board President



Faculty Excellence in Research
(Sciences)
Yaakov Bar-Shalom Ph.D.
Department of Electrical &
Computer Engineering
School of Engineering



Honorary Alumni Award
Randy Edsall
UConn Football Coach



Faculty Excellence in Teaching
at the Undergraduate Level
David Mills Ph.D.
Department of Music
School of Fine Arts



University Service Award
William Morlock '57 (BUS)
Former UCAA Board Member
School of Business Society
Chairman of Board of the
Connecticut State Museum
of Natural History and of the
Connecticut Archaeology Center



Faculty Excellence in Teaching
at the Graduate Level
Bandana Purkayastha '99 Ph.D.
Department of Sociology
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences



Distinguished Alumni Award
David Stockton '76 (CLAS)
Director, Division of Research
and Statistics, Board of
Governors of the Federal
Reserve System

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Michael Synott '96 (CLAS), '98 M.B.A. is chief financial officer at Carrier Corporation in Cairo, Egypt. He previously was finance director with the company.

James Altemus '97 (BUS) is manager of marketing and creative at Skip Barber Racing School in Lakeville, Conn. He previously was marketing coordinator for the company. He and his wife, **Aimee (Conlan) Altemus '97 (CLAS)**, also announce the birth of a daughter, Emma Katherine, on Feb. 15, 2010, at the UConn Health Center.

Julie (Machol) Hughes '97 (CLAS) and her husband, Jason Hughes, announce the birth of their son,

Carter John, on Aug. 1, 2009. He joins an older sister, Hannah, 4. The family resides in Farmington, Conn.

Huasong Shen '97 M.B.A. is vice president of finance at Sino Green Land Corporation in China. He was previously managing partner at Great Wall Research.

Robin Carr '98 M.F.A., associate professor of voice and acting at the University of Southern Mississippi, won a Regional Teaching Artist Award in performance studies from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival and a Mississippi State Alliance for Arts Education Award. She received a grant from the Kennedy Center

American College Theater Festival, which allows her to present her work at a conference in Leibnitz, Austria. She was featured in the March 2010 issue of *American Theater Magazine*.

Monica (Fortier) Edwards '98 (ED), '99 M.A. and **Dan Edwards '99 (BUS)** announce the adoption of a daughter, Madeleine Genevieve, born Jan. 22, 2009, and brought home on Jan. 27, 2009.

Karen (D'Angelo) Hopp '98 (CLAS) and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of their first child, William John, on Dec. 2, 2009.

Sara Pepitone '98 (CLAS) runs ScoreboardGourmet.com, a

website about sports and food, and 30tomidnight.com, an entertainment guide for those over 30.

Carolyn Ray '98 M.D. is a specialist in hematology and oncology at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Conn.

Hugh Bailey '99 (CLAS) and **Carrie MacMillan '99 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a boy, Colin Lenihan Bailey, on March 14, 2010. The family lives in Oxford, Conn.

Rodney Butler '99 (BUS) was named chairman of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council. He previously was treasurer for the tribe when he was initially elected in 2004.

John Grasso '99 (BUS), '06 M.B.A. and **Erin (Montemerlo) Grasso '01 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Luke Gregory, on Jan. 26, 2010, at Hartford Hospital. He joins an older brother, Jack.

Jeffrey Simon '99 (BUS) is a real estate agent with Prudential Connecticut Realty in West Hartford, Conn.

Jaime (Wiener) Smolin '99 (ED), '00 M.A. and Craig Smolin announce the birth of a son, Benjamin Jacob, on Aug. 25, 2009, at Bridgeport Hospital. The family lives in Norwalk, Conn.

Matthew Udal '99 (BUS) and Betsy Udal announce the birth of a daughter, Victoria Elizabeth, on Dec. 14, 2009, at Hartford Hospital.

2000s

Jeffrey King '00 (CLAS) and **Carrie (Buggie) King '02 (ED), '03 M.A., '08 6th Year** announce the birth of a daughter, Megan Jean, on Nov. 17, 2009, at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford, Conn. Megan joins a brother, Josh. The family lives in Portland, Conn.



Gregory Kivenzor '00 M.B.A. is associate professor of business administration at Rivier College in Nashua, N.H., where he

teaches strategic management and marketing. Previously, he was an associate professor at Oregon State University. He earned his Ph.D. in quantitative sciences at the State University of Geodesy and Aerial Imaging in Moscow.



Jacob B. Sellers '00 (CLAS) is an associate in the Creditors' Remedies & Bankruptcy Law group at the

law firm Winthrop & Weinstine in Minneapolis, where he provides counsel to creditors and trustees in matters related to Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases.

John Silver '00 (CLAS) and Shannon Silver announce the birth of a son, John F., on Oct. 10, 2009, in New Britain, Conn. He joins an older sister, Julia, 3.

Luke Baumstarck '01 (CLAS) has joined the law firm Williams Venker & Sanders LLC in St. Louis, Mo., as an associate. A former assistant circuit attorney for the city of St. Louis, he has extensive litigation experience and will concentrate on personal injury, products liability and premises liability while also working within the firm's health care law and toxic torts practice groups.



Daniel Gottfried '01 (CLAS), '04

J.D. is a partner at the law firm Rogin Nassau in Hartford, Conn., where he focuses on domestic and international tax planning and business transactions.

Brenda (Velez) Krulik '01 (CLAS) serves as director of communications for the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering in White Plains, N.Y. She previously was a publicist and communications manager at *Newsweek*.

Seth Kurpiel '01 (CLAS) and Morgan Kurpiel announce the birth of a son, Riley Edison, on March 1, 2010, in New York, N.Y.

Desi D. Nesmith '01 (ED), '02 M.A., '09 6th Year, principal of America's



Brohinsky honored by UConn Club

Scott Brohinsky '76 J.D., retired director of University Relations at UConn, received the Dr. A.J. Papanikou Outstanding Contribution Award in April from the UConn Club, presented annually to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Division of Athletics. He shared the 2010 award with Lorraine Aronson, retired vice president and chief financial officer at UConn. Both were actively involved with UCONN 2000 and the support for construction of Rentschler Field, the financing of The Burton Family Football Complex and the Mark R. Shenkman Training Center and renovations to Harry A. Gampel Pavilion. From left: Rob Crovo '74 (ED), president of The UConn Club; Aronson; Brohinsky; and Jeffrey Hathaway, director of athletics at UConn.

Choice at SAND Elementary School in Hartford, Conn., received the Promising Young Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society in May.

Sopheap Theam '01 (BUS) is a principal committee team member of the "More Than A Number" project associated with Light of Cambodian Children, an organization that collects information and photographs of individuals to raise awareness. Her own family's survival story is on display at the exhibit.

Rebecca Andrews '02 M.D. is a primary care physician at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, Conn.

Jared Cohane '02 J.D. is a partner in the construction and public contracts law group at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP in Hartford, Conn.

Kristin (Volpe) Lentini '02 (ED), '03 M.A. and **Bryan Lentini '01 (PHR), '03 Pharm.D.** announce the birth of their second child, a son,

Tyler Joseph, on March 5, 2010.

Daniel Brooks '03 (BGS) was elected a town meeting member for the 2010-2011 legislative season in Greenwich, Conn.

Adrienne Cerulo '03 (BUS), '04 M.S., '06 M.B.A. has joined Longroad Capital Partners as controller in Stamford, Conn. She previously was corporate accountant at Weston Capital Management.

Mike Jaffe '03 (CLAS), '04 M.S. and Jen Jaffe announce the birth of a son, Mark David, on March 15, 2010, at Hartford Hospital.

Lara Reglero '03 M.A., '04 Ph.D. is associate professor of linguistics at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla.

Lisa (Schwartz) Stover '03 (BUS), controller for the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and **Myles Stover '04 (CLAS),** an analyst for the federal government,

announce the birth of a daughter, Evelyn Clara, on April 11, 2010. The family lives in Springfield, Va.

Belachew Tessema '03 M.D. is a specialist in otolaryngology at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Conn. He is a Diplomate of the American Academy of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery.

Kevin Clarke '04 M.D. is a pediatric HIV clinical advisor with the South-to-South Partnership for Comprehensive Family HIV Care at the University of Stellenbosch in Cape Town, South Africa. He previously was a physician for the Pediatric AIDS Corps with the Baylor International Aids Initiative.

Alison (Warren) Considine '04 M.D. is a specialist in anesthesiology at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Conn. She is a member of the Society for Education in Anesthesia, the American Society for Anesthesiologists and the honor society Phi Beta Kappa.



Katherine (Stafford) Mason '04 (CANR), '06 Pharm.D., pharmacy manager at CVS in Londonderry,

N.H., married Dan Mason, a legislative policy assistant for the New Hampshire House Majority Office, on Oct. 3, 2009, in Derry, N.H. The couple lives in Manchester, N.H.

Kelsey J. McCoy '04 (CLAS) received her master's in public administration from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., on May 16, 2010.



Daniela Nussbaumer '04 (BUS) married Monte Nussbaumer on Nov. 3, 2009, at St. Cecilia's Church in Beaverton, Ore., where they reside.

Jesse T. Grano '05 (BUS) returned home from a four-month, two-day deployment aboard the *U.S.S. Samuel B. Roberts* on March 15, 2010.



Rupendra Paliwal '05 Ph.D. is associate dean for academic affairs in the John F. Welch College of Business at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

Jason Wesalo '05 (CLAS) graduated from the Stillman School of Business at Seton Hall University, earning an M.B.A. with a concentration in marketing. He is currently a producer for ABC News Radio.

Christina M. Cotter '06 (CLAS), an associate at the law firm Phillips Lytle LLP in Buffalo, N.Y., was admitted to the New York State Bar.

Sarah Morrison '06 (CLAS) married **Brian Phair '07 (CLAS)** on March 23, 2010, in Massachusetts. They reside in Somerville, Mass.

Tyler Jenkins '07 (CLAS) is inside sales representative for EMC Corporation in Franklin, Mass.

Michael Ruwet '07 (BUS), '08 M.S. is an auditor with Deloitte & Touche in Hartford, Conn. He is a certified public accountant and resides in Torrington, Conn.

Joshua Schreier '07 (CLAS), '08 (CLAS), an academics assistant at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Conn., has been named a Carl Wilkens Fellow by the Genocide Intervention Network for his commitment to fight genocide. He is the media relations representative at the Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur and a member of the Genocide Intervention Network.

Saurav G. Chatterjee '08 (CLAS) graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

Tom Dillon '08 (CLAS), an associate engineer for Yardney Technical Products in Pawcatuck, Conn., married **Laura (Sharpe) Dillon '08 (CLAS)**, who works for MetLife Auto and Home in Business Planning and Administration in Warwick, R.I., on July 19, 2008, in Providence, R.I.

Brett Eagleson '08 (BUS) is a commercial real estate broker at O, R & L Commercial in Branford, Conn. He was previously the assistant controller in the company's finance department.

Morris George '08 Ph.D., a marketing professor in the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University, won the 2010 Davidson Award for his 2008 article, "Cross-Buying in Retailing: Drivers and Consequences" in the *Journal of Retailing*.



Heather Capalbo '09 M.S., a senior accountant at Marien + Company, LLC, an accounting firm in Norwich, Conn., is a certified public accountant.

Erik Christensen '09 M.S. is a certified public accountant.

Merim Djumalieva '09 M.B.A. has joined Covidien Surgical in Landover, Md., as a global marketing analyst of soft tissue implants.

Ciaran Heavey '09 Ph.D., a lecturer at Smurfit Graduate Business School at the University College Dublin, defended his dissertation, "A Dynamic Managerial Capabilities Model of Organizational Ambidexterity."

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Zachary Fortunato '49
 Jeffrey Norland Shinn '51, '53
 Thomas Kaczynski '52
 Cleora B. Thompson '53
 Robert Lepper Jr. '54
 Lawrence F. Montgomery '57
 David B. Uman '57
 Theodore Thomas Tylaska Jr. '68
 William R. Radomski '70
 Thomas F. Dicoletto '71, '72, '74
 Lisa (Neubauer) Deshais '01

FACULTY

Evan Hill
 Frank W. Ballard

STUDENTS

Sagar Faldu

For an updated list go to uconnalumni.com/inmemoriam

Tricia Hyacinth '09 M.B.A. is a community engagement team project manager at Hands On Hartford, a private, non-profit social services agency, located in Hartford, Conn.

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Wednesday, September 29
 Royalty Pageant
 Storrs Campus

Thursday, September 30
 Annual Student Lip Sync
 Gampel Pavilion

Friday, October 1
 UConn Alumni Association Alumni
 & Faculty Awards Celebration
 Storrs Campus

Saturday, October 2
 UConn Alumni Association Spirit Village
 Rentschler Field, East Hartford

Homecoming Football Game
 UConn vs. Vanderbilt
 Rentschler Field, East Hartford



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Summers on campus back in the day

By Frank Litsky '46 (CLAS)

If you could view summertime on the Storrs campus in the 1940s, you might think you were on a movie set that was just starting to be built.

Unlike now, where the rolling hills beneath the blue sky are sometimes invisible beneath department buildings, classroom enclaves, dormitories and apartment complexes, everywhere was grass – very green grass. Where newer buildings exist now, there was green space. It was beautiful.

I crowded my college education into three years by attending nine semesters, including three summers. That meant starting at UConn a week before high school graduation and never having more than a week or two off.

Because World War II was on, enrollment was down to 2,000 or so in the spring and fall and 400 or so in the summers. And many of those students were on

campus one day and in the Army the next. In the summer of 1943, there were 100 male freshmen in ROTC. By the summer of 1944, only two of us, both physical rejects by the military's standards, were left.

My first summer residence was Holcomb Hall, until then a women's dormitory, and it sort of remained that way. Girls were on the first floor, boys on the second and third. The doors between the first and second floors were locked, and there was no intermingling ... well, not too much.

My other summers were spent at Wood Hall. We ate at a nearby dining hall where there was one main course each night – take it or leave it. At least the price was right. One summer, for two six-week mini-semesters, UConn hit me for \$100 for room, \$100 for board and nothing for tuition.

In each six-week Summer Session, I took the normal load of two courses. Each

had five days of classes, each class for 75 minutes, which worked out to the same number of hours in spring or fall classes. There were fewer classes available because the war resulted in fewer professors and a smaller student population.

That downsizing affected curriculums in the spring and fall, too. In my major, government (now known as political science), only two professors remained. I don't recall any government courses being available in the summers.

But there were glorious positives. One summer, I took fascinating courses in advertising and criminology. The advertising professor was the youthful Sam McMillan, a demon in intramural softball as well as in teaching. On summer afternoons, we would abandon the classroom and sit on the grass listening to a man who obviously loved his work. It was a nice way to spend the summer.

With such a small campus population, extracurricular life was limited. There were few cars, and gas was rationed. One weekly feature with friends was dinner in Willimantic, now part of the town of Windham. Weekends often involved a trip home to Waterbury. The mode of transportation was hitchhiking, an honorable alternative then.

I started at UConn at 16 and graduated at 19. Maybe that was too much too quickly, but those Storrs summers made it all worthwhile.

Frank Litsky was a New York Times sportswriter for more than 50 years. He retired in 2008.



Students enjoying a picnic lunch during Summer Session classes in 1942 near the center of the Storrs campus.

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Mastracchio's mission

Astronaut Richard Mastracchio '82 (ENG) made repairs to the International Space Station in April, below, after arriving on the shuttle *Discovery*. He carried two UConn-themed pennants with him into space, one designed by engineering students and another honoring slain football player Jasper Howard. He visited Storrs in early June to discuss his career as an astronaut with students and faculty, left.



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