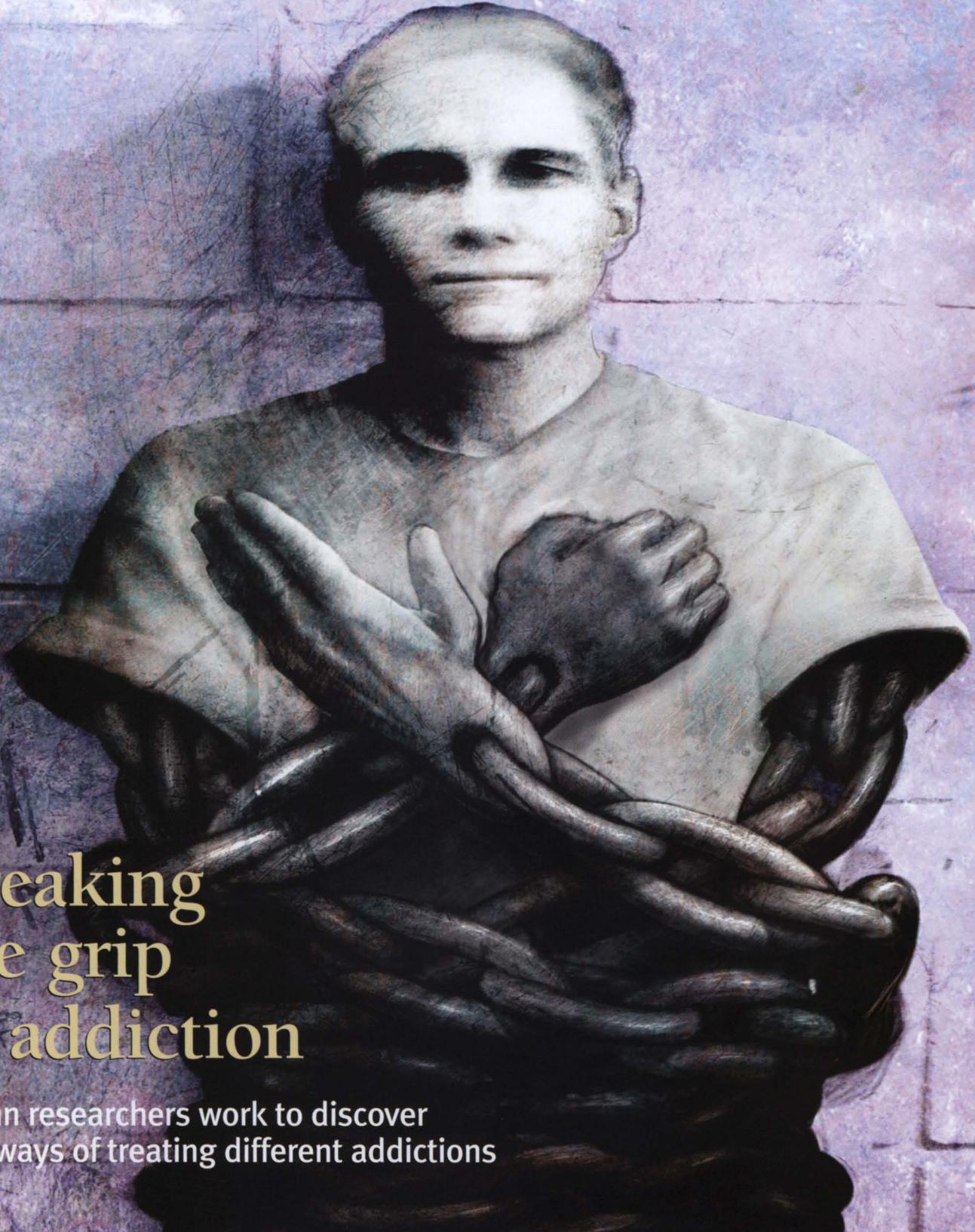


# UConn

Fall/Winter  
2005

TRADITIONS

A painting of a man with his hands bound in chains, symbolizing addiction. The man has a somber expression and is wearing a simple, light-colored t-shirt. The background is a textured, mottled purple and blue. The chains are thick and dark, wrapping around his wrists and forearms.

## Breaking the grip of addiction

UConn researchers work to discover  
new ways of treating different addictions

# CONCERNED ABOUT COLON CANCER? PREVENTION IS POSSIBLE.



## Introducing the Colon Cancer Prevention Program at UConn Health Center

IT'S TRUE: COLON CANCER MAY BE PREVENTED by understanding your risk and following recommendations for smart lifestyle choices.

Your personal colon cancer prevention plan starts with a phone call to the new **Colon Cancer Prevention Program** – a unique collaboration between physicians, patients, families and scientists at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. Our team has nationally recognized experts in cancer prevention, nutrition, lifestyle changes, genetics, imaging technology and molecular medicine. Here, you will find the information, support and resources to create a cancer prevention strategy just for you. Call **800-535-6232** to learn more.

Do it for yourself. Do it for your loved ones. Colon cancer is a leading cause of cancer deaths today – but together, we can change those numbers.

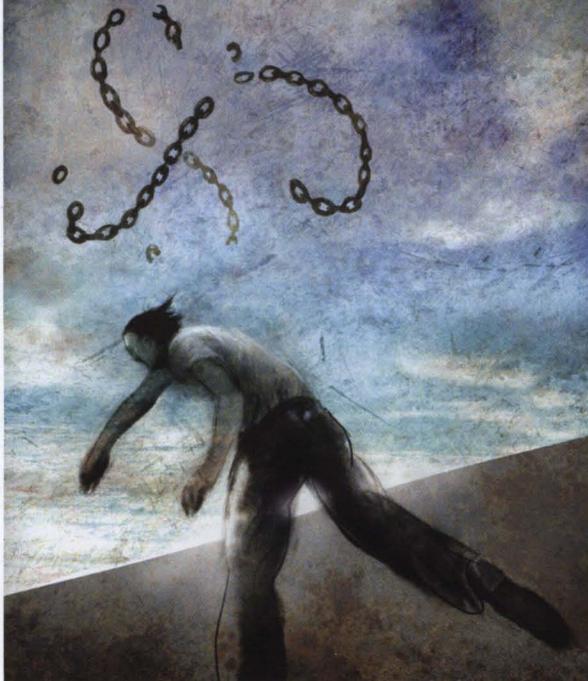


Neag Comprehensive  
Cancer Center

263 Farmington Avenue  
Farmington, CT 06030  
[www.uhc.edu](http://www.uhc.edu)

*The Colon Cancer Prevention Program is open to all men and women over age 18 and is part of the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center.*

*Remarkable Care Through  
Research and Education*



# Inside

UConn Traditions  
Volume 6, Number 3  
Fall/Winter 2005

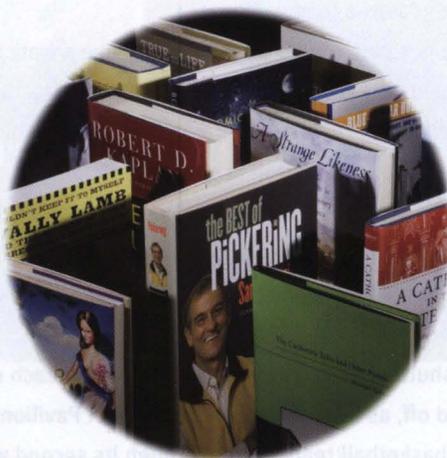
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By *Alix Boyle* • Art By *Greg Spalenka*



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By *Kenneth Best*

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## A Message from the Editor

### TAKING A WALK AROUND CAMPUS

On the wall across from my home computer hangs an old “Shoe” cartoon strip by the late Jeff MacNelly. It depicts one of the cartoon’s major characters, Cosmo Fishhawk, also known as Perfesser, standing by a typewriter and gazing out a window as his nephew, Skyler, observes that as a writer he should be “pounding” on the keyboard instead of dawdling. The Perfesser disagrees, offering the punchline: “Typists pound keyboards,” he says. “Writers stare out windows.”

As our story on the writing life at UConn notes (see p. 30), Prof. Sam Pickering uses another time-honored writer’s tool to seek inspiration for filling a blank page or computer screen. He takes a long walk.

The UConn campus is a particularly good place to take a walk in search of writing ideas. A crisp fall day just before Halloween offers the contrasting scene of students in hooded UConn sweatshirts covering their hands with their shirtsleeves as they move across campus, while others stroll in shorts and flip-flops.

Passing along the sidewalk that runs across the perimeter of the George J. Sherman Family Sports Complex, two young men acknowledge each other as they cross paths on the artificial turf track, while a lone runner can be seen ascending the stairs in the distance at Memorial Stadium.

On Hillside Road, shuttle buses crawl down the street in each direction, stopping to let students on and off, as a truck rumbles by Gampel Pavilion. Meanwhile, inside the dome, the men’s basketball team moves through its second week of practice under the watchful eyes of Hall of Fame coach Jim Calhoun.

On the plaza between the Thomas J. Dodd Center and the Homer Babbidge Library, two young women sit at a table ignoring the wind that whips across the open space as they engage in an animated discussion, warmed by the coffee cups they each hold with both hands. Inside the library, the Bookworms Café is another scene of contrasts with students chatting at tables, staring at e-mail computer stations or walking in every direction.

As I arrive back at my office near Mirror Lake, the ducks decide to walk as a group down the Storrs Road side of the water.

It seems the sights and sounds are enough to write about after my walk around campus.

#### Letters to the editor

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

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**UConn**  
TRADITIONS

Volume 6, Number 3 • Fall/Winter 2005

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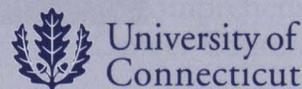
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*UConn Traditions* is produced three times a year in March, July and November by University Communications, University of Connecticut, 1266 Storrs Road, Unit 4144, Storrs, CT 06269-4144. Phone: 860-486-3530 Fax: 860-486-4064 E-mail: [uconntraditions@uconn.edu](mailto:uconntraditions@uconn.edu) Letters to the editor and other comments are welcome.

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Want to keep up with news and events at the University? News releases, upcoming events and activities are posted at [www.uconn.edu](http://www.uconn.edu).

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# President

## Building upon a successful program

The past months have been especially active for the University. As the pages of this issue of *Traditions* demonstrate, we continued to move ahead as a center of excellence in teaching, research and service. We also addressed problems that emerged in the UCONN 2000 construction program, rectifying difficulties that came to light as we sought to build a 21st century university at an extraordinarily rapid pace.

No one can dispute the achievement of UCONN 2000 in creating a statewide campus that students, faculty, alumni and the citizens of our state can point to with pride. But deficiencies in some important projects pointed to the need for an enhanced management structure and strengthened processes of inspection and reporting. We have put these in place and, working with the Governor and General Assembly, are exploring every possible means of assuring that UCONN 2000 and, now 21st Century UConn, fulfills the expectations we all share.

We continue to be reminded of how far we have all come in a relatively short time. The most important accomplishment of UCONN 2000 is the fulfillment of its original intent—to rebuild the University's infrastructure, strengthen teaching and scholarship, stop the flow of high achieving students to colleges outside of Connecticut and cultivate a culture of private giving among alumni and friends of UConn.

That has, in fact, been the result. Recent verification that UCONN 2000 has helped stop Connecticut's "brain drain" is contained in a fall report to the state Board of Governors of Higher Education, which shows that 58 percent of Connecticut high school graduates who go directly on to college now remain in the state, compared with 48



Paul Horton

President Philip E. Austin

percent in 1992. The report says that among all colleges in the state, UConn enrolled the largest number of Connecticut high school graduates. Just as significant, UConn attracts high achieving out-of-state students who in large number later choose to remain in Connecticut. Our latest class of freshman reflects the increasing quality of our student body (see p. 8).

Several stories in this edition of *Traditions* provide more personalized evidence that UCONN 2000 continues to be a foundation for success. Outstanding students such as Jessica Kukielka and Eric Oligino recently received highly selective scholarships and fellowships. Various members of our faculty were recently honored for their teaching and scholarship. Prof. William C. Stwalley in physics won the Connecticut Medal of Science and Prof.

David Miller in psychology and Prof. Karen Bullock in social work also earned recognition.

UConn's doctoral program in kinesiology in the Neag School of Education has recently been ranked first in the nation. Prof. Michael J. Pikal in pharmacy has been named the first Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology.

These are just a few shining examples of the high level of achievement that we expect to continue over the next 10 years with the support of the University community, including alumni across the nation, and the citizens of Connecticut, whom we serve each day.



At the University of Connecticut



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

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



## UConn offers assistance in hurricane relief efforts

40 displaced students spend fall on UConn campuses

Peter Morenus



Joseph Briody, associate director for leadership development, helps to load a UConn bus with disaster relief donations.

UConn offered a quick response to Hurricane Katrina in September as it opened its doors to students affected by the far reaching devastation. Forty students from Connecticut who attend five New Orleans-area colleges and universities affected by the hurricane were invited to spend the fall semester at a UConn campus. Students from those institutions are taking classes at the main campus in Storrs, at UConn campuses in Stamford, Waterbury, as well as at the UConn School of Law.

Most of the students are undergraduates from Tulane University, but some are from the University of New Orleans, Xavier University, and other colleges and universities in the affected area. There are eight law students.

"I was surprised how quickly UConn got me situated," says Randy Sorge, a sophomore from Tulane who arrived at UConn two weeks after classes began. "My professors were very accommodating in working with me on an individual basis to get me up to speed. I'm happy to be here for the semester, but we're all very eager to get back to Tulane."

The UConn community also participated in hurricane relief through the Office of Community Outreach, which set a goal of \$75,000 in relief contributions for the fall semester. As of press time, nearly \$60,000 had been contributed from faculty, students and staff, including \$30,000 collected from Husky fans and alumni attending the Sept. 10 football game at Rentschler Field.

UConn is participating with the redevelopment effort in Mississippi, which was also severely affected by the hurricanes. UConn engineering professor Norman Garrick, who is part of the Connecticut Transportation Institute within UConn's School of Engineering, is one of 100 experts participating in the Mississippi Renewal Forum, which was created to recommend the best avenues of redesign and redevelopment for the state's coastal cities in the aftermath of the hurricanes.

### SCOTT COWEN '68 (BUS) LEADS TULANE THROUGH KATRINA CRISIS

While some alumni may have been personally affected by Katrina, perhaps no one connected to UConn is more directly involved with the situation than Scott Cowen '68 (BUS), who is president of Tulane University, which was evacuated as the storm approached.

Cowen and other Tulane administrators evacuated the university's main campus and relocated to a hotel in Houston to plan a return to New Orleans for the spring semester, even as Hurricane Rita caused further concerns.

"The response of the higher education community to Tulane University in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina was overwhelming," Cowen says. "Knowing that a number of our students were taken in by my alma mater, UConn, was truly touching. I knew they were in good hands."



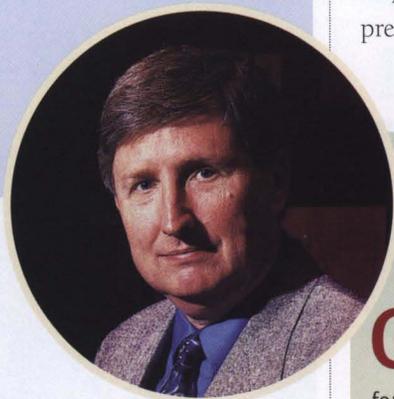
John Everett

Tulane University President Scott Cowen '68 (BUS), with staff members, works from an office suite in a Houston, Texas, hotel.



### Former GE chairman speaks at UConn

Jack Welch, the former chief executive officer of General Electric, answered questions from students in the School of Business during a stop on his national tour of top business schools to discuss his new book on business management, *Winning*.



UConn physicist William C. Stwalley won the Connecticut Medal of Science, the state's highest award for scientists and engineers.

## 125th anniversary celebration set for 2006

The University of Connecticut will celebrate its 125th anniversary during 2006 with a series of events and activities highlighting the institution's history since its founding as Storrs Agricultural School in 1881.

"We've grown from a small agricultural school to one of the nation's premier public universities, and along the way we've become one of our state's great assets," says University President Philip E. Austin. "This is a story that we're eager to tell our own community and the people of Connecticut."

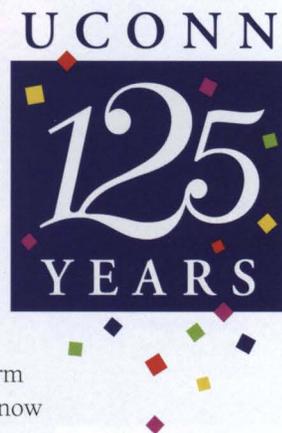
A steering committee comprising more than 40 representatives of the University and the town of Mansfield has been formed to plan campus and University-wide activities and to serve as a resource for others planning anniversary events.

The committee is discussing the creation of four major events during the year: a kick-off event, a Founders Day celebration in April, a University program in the early fall, and a closing event at the end of the fall 2006 semester.

"We hope this anniversary year will serve as a platform for us to reach out to the public, to let our legislators know about our growth and accomplishments, and—through our regional campuses—to engage communities across Connecticut in the celebration of UConn and its significance to the people of our state," says Scott Brohinsky, director of university relations.

Activities already planned for the 125th anniversary include a visual display in the Wilbur Cross atrium celebrating the University's history; anniversary banners to be hung on Hillside Road; and the release of a special anniversary Dairy Bar ice cream flavor.

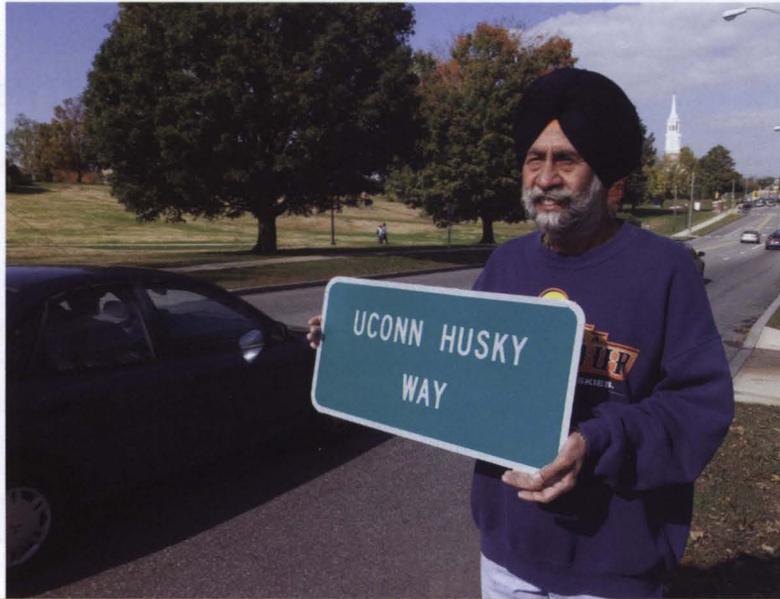
Members of founding families, town representatives, and past University presidents will be invited to participate in anniversary events and activities.



### Stwalley receives Connecticut Medal of Science

Gov. M. Jodi Rell presented William C. Stwalley, chairman of the UConn physics department, with the Connecticut Medal of Science, the state's highest award for scientists and engineers, during Alliance for Connecticut Technology Innovation Day at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford on Sept. 28. The award, modeled after the National Medal of Science, recognizes extraordinary achievements in scientific fields crucial to Connecticut's economic competitiveness. Stwalley has played a seminal role in the creation of a new subfield of physics that bridges atomic and molecular physics, condensed matter physics, and the evolving field of nanoscience.

Peter Morenus



## TRAVELING DOWN HUSKY WAY

Amanjit Buttar, a member of the Vernon Board of Education and a Husky fan, holds one of the signs designating the portion of Route 195 from Tolland to the main campus as UConn Husky Way. He suggested the designation to Rep. Claire Janowski (D-Vernon), a member of the state House Transportation Committee, who introduced legislation in the General Assembly to gain approval for the designation. Buttar is the parent of two UConn alumni—Gursimrit Singh Buttar '95 (CLAS), former sports editor of *The Daily Campus*, and Angad S. Buttar '02 (CLAS).

## Calhoun enshrined in Basketball Hall of Fame

UConn men's basketball coach Jim Calhoun received his sport's highest honor on Sept. 9 when he was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

Calhoun was presented to the Hall of Fame by one of the sport's legendary players, former Boston Celtic Bob Cousy.

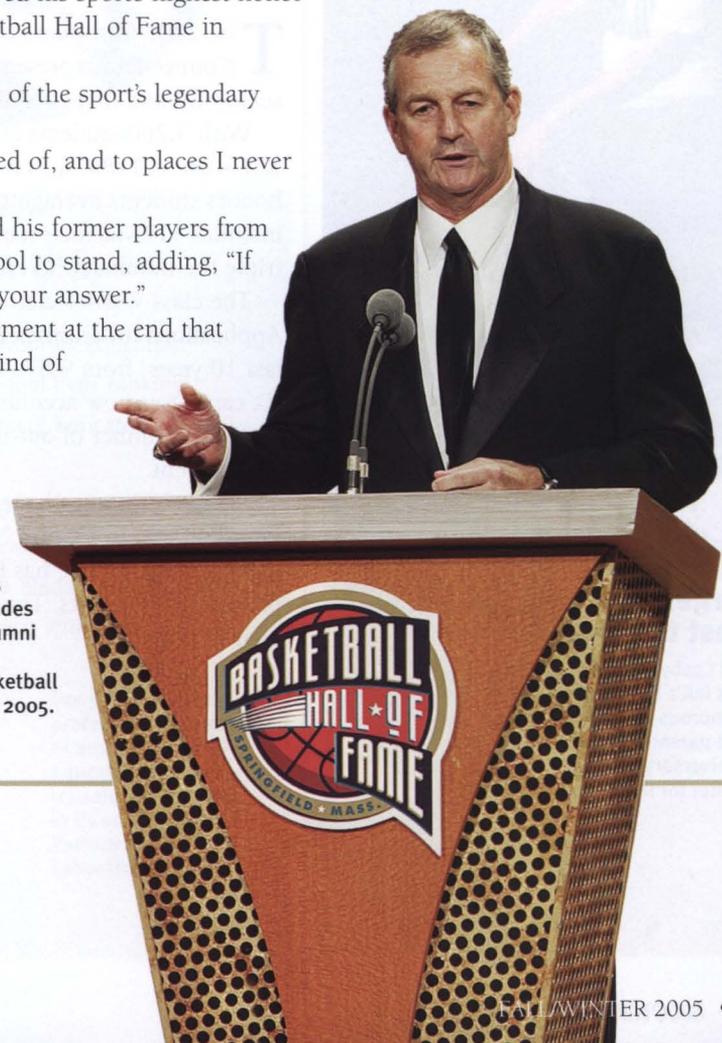
"The game has taken me to places I'd never dreamed of, and to places I never knew existed," Calhoun said during the ceremonies.

Near the conclusion of his remarks, Calhoun asked his former players from UConn, Northeastern and Dedham (Mass.) High School to stand, adding, "If you ask me how I got here and why I coach, there is your answer."

He later told reporters, "I wanted to make the statement at the end that any coach getting any award is a direct result of the kind of kids [he has]."

Other members of the Hall of Fame Class of 2005 included Calhoun's longtime friend and Big East coaching rival Jim Boeheim of Syracuse University; Brazil's legendary star Hortencia Marcari; Sue Gunter, the late women's coach of Louisiana State University; and former professional player and coach Hubie Brown.

**Jim Calhoun addresses an audience that includes a number of UConn alumni and friends during his induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame's Class of 2005.**



Stephen Slade

## CAMPUS GOING WIRELESS

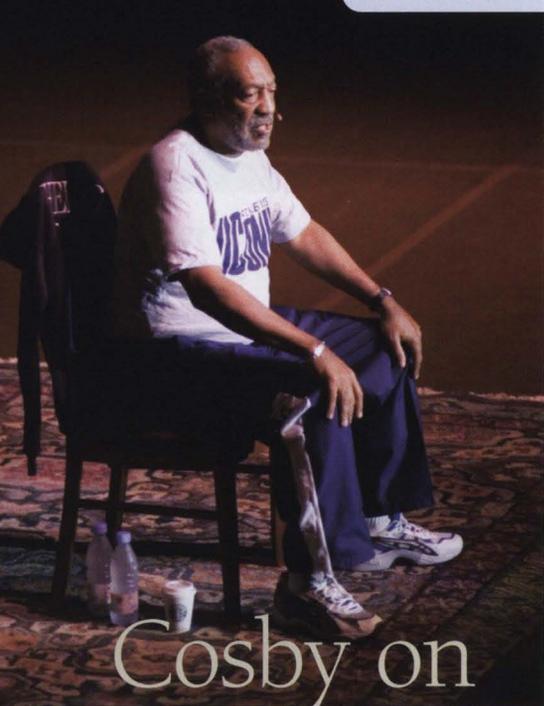


**W**ireless technology is now available on the Storrs campus in more than a dozen buildings in several different areas, with more wireless zones being added monthly.

By next summer, wireless networking will be available in nearly three dozen locations, in more than 20 buildings.

The Wilbur Cross Building, Student Union, and Babbidge Library currently offer the most hot spots, with wireless access available in coffee shops, reading rooms, lounges, and lobby areas. A handful of academic buildings are also offering wireless zones, as are several of the student dining halls.

The UConn wireless project is part of a five-year, \$40 million technology upgrade at the University's Storrs-based and regional campuses. The wireless project was initiated as University officials recognized the growing importance of the technology to increasingly computer-savvy students and the soaring popularity of laptops.



Al Ferreira

## Cosby on Campus

### Jorgensen Center plays host to comedian

Bill Cosby returned to UConn during this fall's Family Weekend to offer his humorous insights on college life and parenting as part of the 50th anniversary season of the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

## Class of 2010 is tops in UConn history

**T**he 2005 freshman class of the University of Connecticut represents the most academically successful and diverse class in UConn history.

With 3,260 students enrolled at Storrs, the average SAT score is 1189, up 76 points since 1995, with 280 honors students averaging 1397. The entire class includes 112 valedictorians and salutatorians, nearly triple the number who enrolled in 1995.

The class was selected from 19,763 applications. Applications for admission have nearly doubled in the last 10 years, from 9,874 applicants in 1995. Minority enrollment across UConn's six campuses now accounts for 23 percent of the undergraduate population. Since 1995 the number of out-of-state freshman students enrolling has increased 110 percent.

"There is unprecedented demand among both in-state and out-of-state students for admission to UConn," says Dolan Evanovich, vice provost for enrollment management. "There has been a tremendous increase in our standing among prospective students. This is an indicator of the growing recognition of UConn's quality and value."

### ▶ AVERAGE FRESHMAN SAT SCORES

1995	<b>1113</b>
2000	<b>1140</b>
2005	<b>1189</b>

## African presidents visit

Two African nation presidents took part in a University lecture series at the Student Union Theatre sponsored by UConn's UNESCO Chair and the Institute of Comparative Human Rights. Paul Kagame, president of the Republic of Rwanda, discussed "The Challenge of Human Rights in Rwanda After the 1994 Genocide." John Agyekum Kufuor, president of the Republic of Ghana, spoke on "Human Rights and the Democratic Transformation of Ghana." Both presidents traveled to UConn while they were in the United States to attend the 60th anniversary General Assembly celebration at United Nations headquarters in New York City.



John Agyekum Kufuor, president of the Republic of Ghana, above center, and Paul Kagame, president of the Republic of Rwanda, left, visited UConn in September while attending meetings at the United Nations.

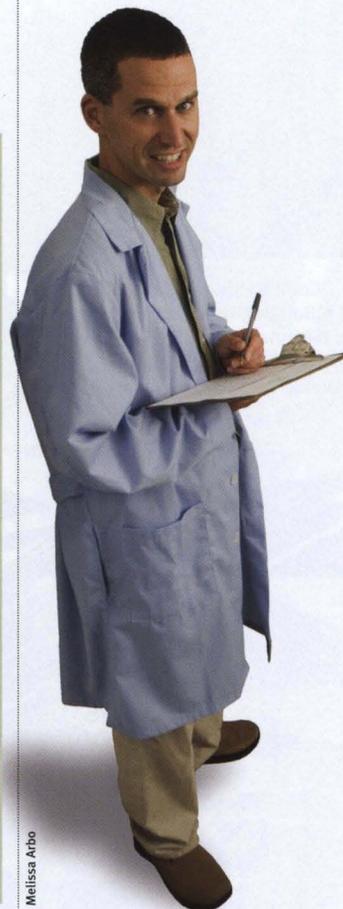
## Kinesiology program ranks No. 1 in U.S.

UConn's doctoral program in kinesiology in the Neag School of Education was named as the No. 1 program in the nation after a first-ever ranking compiled by the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education through a two-year, independent review process.

Kinesiology is the scientific study of physical activity or movement. In addition to physiology, it includes biochemistry, biomechanics, medicine, and nutrition components. UConn's department of kinesiology offers three areas of study: athletic training, exercise science, and sociology of sport, each with their own research laboratories.

"It is particularly satisfying to be ranked at the top the very first time objective standards are used to compare kinesiology programs," says Carl Maresh, department head, who was recently named a Fellow of the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education.

Doug Casa, associate professor and director of athletic training education, conducts research on exercise in UConn's Human Performance Laboratory.



Melissa Arbo



Peter Morenus

A state-of-the-art lecture hall and expanded research facilities highlight the School of Pharmacy in the new Pharmacy/Biology building, which also unites all three biology departments in College of Liberal Arts and Sciences facilities for the first time in more than a decade.

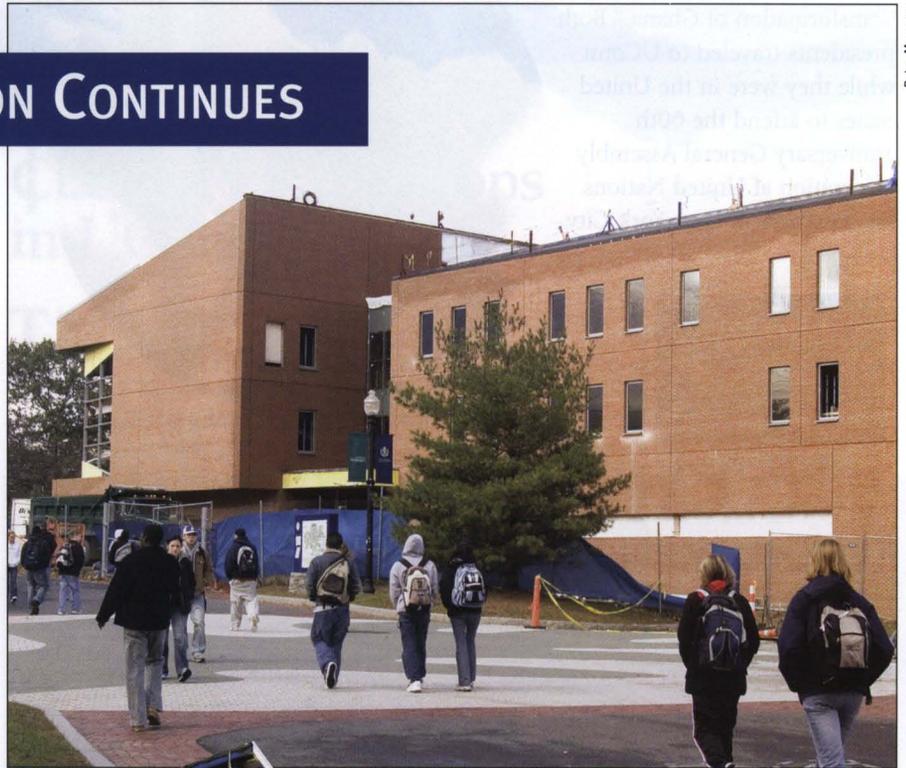
Two new buildings opened this fall while work continues toward completion of two more facilities as part the ongoing transformation of the University and its campuses. The Pharmacy/Biology building on the main campus and the Medical Arts Research Building at the UConn Health Center opened for the beginning of the 2005-06 academic year. Meanwhile, the final phase of renovations to the Student Union continues and construction began for the Mark R. Shenkman Training Center and the Burton Family Football Complex.

## THE TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES



Al Ferreira

The four-story UConn Health Center Medical Arts & Research Building provides modern diagnostic and treatment facilities for problems affecting bones, joints and connective tissue.



Peter Morenus

Above: An expanded Student Union will be nearly double the size of the existing building and host a variety of restaurants and new facilities for each of UConn's cultural centers. It will also house mailboxes for 15,000 students.

Left: The Mark R. Shenkman Training Center will be used for student recreation and intramural activities and provide the UConn football team with the most technologically advanced training equipment.

Left Inset: The Burton Family Football Complex, the on-campus home of UConn football. The facilities are scheduled to open in the summer of 2006.



## The ultimate UConn alumni fan experience

*Cheerleading alumni return to campus for Homecoming*

Once a UConn cheerleader, always a UConn cheerleader.

That is the guiding philosophy of the University of Connecticut Cheerleaders Alumni Association (UCCAA), whose membership grows as each UConn cheerleader graduates.

UConn has had an organized cheerleading squad since 1920, when the "Cheer Leaders" were all men. In 1935, women first became UConn cheerleaders. In 1978 the UCCAA began to organize its members to return as active participants during Homecoming activities. More than 350 cheerleader alumni from the classes of 1957 to 2004 are invited to return and cheer during the football game.

We do it all, from dancing with

the UConn marching band to building human pyramids, as we did most recently at the

Oct. 22 game against

Rutgers. Wearing

UConn sweatshirts

with our class year

in big bold

numbers,

UCCAA

members

cheered along

side the current

cheerleading squad.

The opportunity to relive the UConn experience and once again express on the field what other alumni fans feel inside is intensified in a public performance.

In many ways it is a return to our roots and for at least one afternoon,

it's like we never left the University. We can jump and yell and demonstrate our enthusiasm and nostalgic love of our UConn days.

It's the ultimate UConn alumni fan experience.

— Stephanie Green Giancola '77 (BUS)



Above left: Stephanie Green Giancola '77 (CLAS) cheers with fellow alumni at Rentschler Field. Above right: A member of the 1962-63 squad. Below: 1962-63 squad members on the sidelines of Memorial Stadium with mascot Jonathan V.



# the Future

## Chase family donates \$1.75 million

*Gift supports programs at the Law School and UConn Health Center*

A prominent Connecticut family has made two gifts totaling \$1.75 million to support programs at the UConn Health Center and the School of Law.

One million dollars of the Chase family's gift will provide endowment support for the UConn Health Center's signature program in musculoskeletal medicine. A \$750,000 gift to the law school establishes the Cheryl A. Chase Endowment, which will provide programmatic support to the school.

"We are deeply grateful for the family's significant commitment to our institution and that their gifts for research, teaching and public service at UConn will ultimately benefit countless individuals whose lives the University touches," says UConn President Philip E. Austin.

The naming of the Chase Family Skeletal Biology Research Laboratories and the Chase Family Research Floor will recognize the family's ongoing generosity. The laboratories will be housed on the fourth floor of the UConn Health Center's new \$24 million Medical Arts and Research Building.

The state-of-the-art Chase Research Laboratories will advance new cures, techniques and treatments of bone and joint diseases, bringing together researchers, surgeons and experts in related fields. The gift, made through the Rhoda and David Chase Family Foundation, Inc., is intended to demonstrate the importance of this area of research to David T. Chase, the founder of Chase Enterprises in Hartford, and his wife, Rhoda.



The Chase family has made gifts totaling \$1.75 million through their family foundations to help support programs at both the UConn School of Law and the UConn Health Center.

"We chose to make this gift in recognition of the Health Center's tremendous value as a resource for high quality care to the Connecticut community and our family and for the importance of UConn's groundbreaking research in this area of medicine," Chase says.

In recognition of the establishment of the law school endowment, the administration building, which houses high-tech classrooms in addition to the dean's office and other major administrative offices, will be named Cheryl A. Chase Hall.

"My family and I believe strongly in the power of education and service to our community," says Cheryl Chase '78 J.D., who is executive vice president and general counsel of Chase

Enterprises. "I am grateful for the excellent legal education I received and am delighted to play a significant role in shaping the future of this great institution."

The Chase family's foundations, including The Rhoda and David Chase Family Foundation, The Cheryl Chase and Stuart Bear Family Foundation, Inc., and The Sandy and Arnold Chase Family Foundation, have long supported the University, including a gift that established the Chase Family Chair in Juvenile Diabetes at the UConn Health Center.

Both gifts from the Chase family are eligible to be supported by the state matching endowment gift program, which could ultimately bring the total to more than \$2 million.

## Leading by example

**W**hen Sarah Domoff '06 (CLAS) opens her daily planner, a series of events, meetings and responsibilities awaits her completion. As she walks between classes, her cell phone doesn't stop ringing.

Since her sophomore year, Domoff, a psychology major, has served as student affairs chairperson and also served as an Undergraduate Student Government (USG) senator.

Her motivation is simple: "I believe that if you think you can make something better, work to change it."

Domoff brings the same level of energy into the classroom. When she entered UConn, Domoff was awarded an Academic Achievement Scholarship and invited into the Honors Program.

"Being in the Honors Program has afforded me so many chances to work with professors and to pursue my research interests," she says.

Domoff's career plans center on a



Colin McNamara

Sarah Domoff '06 (CLAS)

commitment to people. She will graduate next spring from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with a degree in psychology and plans to enter medical school and then pursue a career in psychiatry.

"Last semester, I participated in undergraduate psychology research focusing on children with obsessive

compulsive disorder. This enabled me to formulate my senior thesis," she says, which will allow her to graduate with honors.

It is clear that her life demands a pace that is exceptional for most students. Students endorsed Domoff's commitment and leadership last spring by electing her USG president.

Her goals as USG president are to establish a course information database for students, to implement the Guard Dogs safe ride home service, and to strengthen the Diversity and Multi-Cultural Affairs Committee in USG to further promote diversity throughout the campus.

"UConn, in my eyes, is the best school. I love how we have the best academic and research opportunities at UConn and the best athletic teams too," Domoff says. "It truly is like having the best of both worlds."

— Cara Motowidlo '06 (CLAS)

## ALUMNI LEAD SUPPORT TO UCONN FOUNDATION

**N**ew gifts and commitments to the UConn Foundation were \$55.8 million during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005.

There were nearly 36,000 donors to the University, with alumni donors contributing 38 percent of the amount raised. Corporations provided 24.6 percent, private foundations another 16.6 percent and the remainder was contributed by other UConn supporters. UConn ranks seventh nationally in alumni giving at public universities.

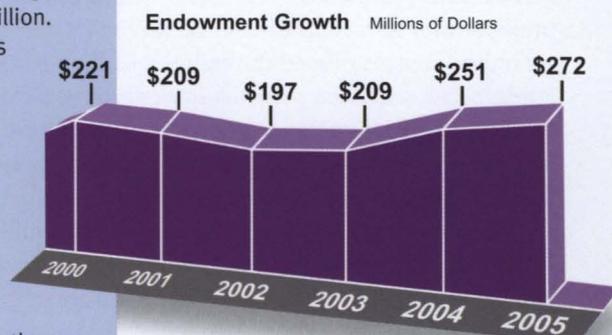
The largest single contribution was \$10 million from Ray Neag '56 (CLAS) and Carole Neag to support the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center. Largely as a result of that gift, the Health Center raised \$21 million—an all-time high for a single year. The Division of Athletics raised \$16.8 million in 2004, also a record high total, and contributions to benefit the Storrs and regional campuses were \$18 million.

Donors established 49 new endowed funds to support scholarships, programs and faculty, bringing the total number of these endowment types to 1,065. The dollar value of endowment gifts eligible for state matching grants was \$16.5 million, an increase of more than 50 percent over last year.

The Annual Fund, which raises unrestricted gifts for the University, exceeded the \$3 million threshold for the first time, an increase of 20 percent over last year. As part of this effort, contributions to the deans' funds in various schools and colleges grew 41 percent compared with last year's results. A total of 26,787 donors supported the Annual Fund.

Returns for the Foundation's pooled investment portfolio were 10 percent, compared to Standard & Poor's national benchmark return of 6.3 percent. This is the third consecutive year that investment returns have helped produce a record high endowment total at the University. Endowed assets totaled \$272 million, an increase of \$21 million, or 8 percent, above last year.

Donors established 49 new endowed funds to support scholarships, programs and faculty, bringing the total number of these endowment types to 1,065.



## SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

### Helping draw support for Pakistan's children

Illustration professor Cora Lynn Deibler has helped create a children's book that will raise money to build progressive schools for impoverished girls and boys in Pakistan.

The UConn professor donated the illustrations for the 24-page book, *Mo's Star*, after Pakistani author and lawyer Mahnaz Malik discovered her work online.

*Mo's Star*, the story of a small penguin who firmly believes he can reach the stars, is the first creative work to be sold through Project Reaching for the Stars, a new global effort created by Malik. For its first initiative, the organization is raising funds for The Friends of the Citizens Foundation, which builds and runs primary and secondary schools in Pakistan, where nearly one-third of the population lives below the poverty line.

Malik says that without access to proper education, today's young Pakistanis are targets for extremists.

"If these boys and girls don't grow up with access to a broad-based, progressive education, we are in trouble," Malik says, noting half of Pakistan's 27 million children of primary school age are not attending school. "It's a demographic time bomb. We could have tomorrow's terrorists on our hands."

Malik says Deibler's passion for the project changed her own impression of Americans considerably, which has been tarnished because of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.



*Mo's Star*, a children's book illustrated by UConn professor Cora Lynn Deibler is raising funds for an organization to help build schools in Pakistan.

Deibler says the political implications of her involvement with *Mo's Star* were eclipsed by her excitement for the global project, which also marks the illustrator's first book project after many years illustrating for children's publications such as *Weekly Reader* and major media such as *The New York Times* and *Washington Post*.

"As an educator and artist, what could be more perfect?," says Deibler, who is associate head of the UConn art and art history departments.

For additional details on Project Reaching for the Stars, go to [www.reachingstars.com](http://www.reachingstars.com).

## COLLEGE OF CONTINUING STUDIES

### Project management sequence moves online

Planning and organizing are part of nearly every occupation in the workplace. When the scope of planning and organizing involves a major task it becomes a project that needs to be managed with professional expertise.

The skills required to successfully manage a variety of projects from start to finish are the focus of a new series of six online courses offered through the College of Continuing Studies. The sequence prepares students to complete the professional certification process offered by the Project Management Institute (PMI), the world's leading association for the project management profession.

"We wanted to develop a curriculum that would work with PMI's extensive expertise. Our courses are based on that," says Linda Friedman, program manager of the college's professional studies section. "Students learn how to plan and execute the project, manage it and then close it out."

Participants in this program may enroll in any or all of the six courses offered but must complete a minimum of 35

hours of coursework before moving on to the PMI certification process. Courses can be completed in four to five weeks, allowing participants to begin applying the experience gained directly to their work environment.

Friedman says the course Principles of Effective Project Management provides a solid overview of project management processes and functions and is recommended as a prerequisite to the other courses, which cover areas such as team building, procurement and contracting, finance, customer focus, and managing risk. All of the courses are instructor-led and include interaction with the instructor and other participants through online communication tools.

"Success in project management allows you to be successful in a range of work environments. Until recently, it's a career path many people didn't specifically pursue," Friedman says, noting that students taking the courses include executives, engineers, ISO coordinators and many others responsible for completing projects on time and on budget.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

### *A model for trauma victims and families*

Even after the death of Terri Schiavo earlier this year sparked a debate about end-of-life care and the right to die, there was little national attention focused on the many issues faced by trauma victims and their families.

Now a three-year, \$295,000 grant from the Aetna Foundation, awarded to researchers affiliated with UConn's School of Nursing and Hartford Hospital's Trauma Program, will establish a national best practices model for end-of-life care for trauma victims.

"Often trauma patients and their families are thrown into this absolute cacophony with no preparation," says Barbara Bennett Jacobs '02 Ph.D., UConn associate professor of nursing, a clinical ethicist and one of the project's co-investigators. "This best practices model will help health care professionals to ease the pain and suffering of patients and their families while honoring their individual beliefs and values."

Karyl Burns '80 (NUR), formerly an associate professor of nursing at UConn and currently a research scientist for Hartford Hospital's trauma program, is the project's other co-investigator.

The research team will address six clinical areas: decision making, communication, physical care, psychological care, spiritual care and culturally sensitive social care.

As part of the project, UConn's Center for Survey Research and Analysis surveyed 1,000 members of the general public nationwide, representing various racial and ethnic groups, on their thoughts about issues following a sudden catastrophic injury and the use of life-sustaining care. The survey also has been converted into a questionnaire for health care providers.

"We're going to look for areas of overlap in their opinions and areas of disconnect," says project director Lenworth Jacobs, director of Hartford Hospital's trauma program, chair of traumatology and emergency medicine at UConn's School of Medicine and member of the UConn Board of Trustees. "This is a major national problem, and health professionals are looking for a good, clear plan to address it."

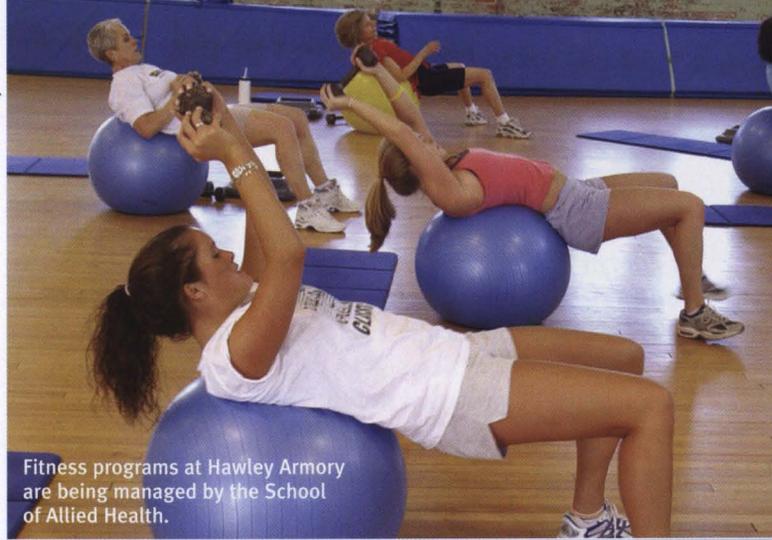
The best practices model will be tested first at Hartford Hospital before further application at other hospital sites around the country.

**Karyl Burns '80 (NUR), left, and Barbara Bennet Jacobs '02 Ph.D.**

Peter Morenus



Dottie Harvey



Fitness programs at Hawley Armory are being managed by the School of Allied Health.

## SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH

### *Managing Hawley Armory fitness and health*

The School of Allied Health's mission to promote improved health has extended to managing fitness and wellness programs on the main campus at Hawley Armory.

Since the school began to manage Hawley Armory last year, active paid membership in the facility's programs has more than doubled, the variety of exercise classes and fitness programs has expanded and opportunities have been created for student and faculty research.

The fitness and wellness programs at Hawley Armory are designed for UConn faculty and staff as well as area community members. Students also have the opportunity to increase their physical fitness in hip-hop and jazz dance classes offered five days a week, which are not available elsewhere on campus.

"The focus of the program is consistent with our mission of health promotion," says Dean Joseph Smey. "It also provides an opportunity for an on-campus laboratory to educate our students and offers a valuable service to the community in terms of outreach for health promotion activities."

The Hawley Armory fitness center schedule of exercise classes and programs is comparable to those found in private health clubs. Personal training and nutritional counseling are offered, and exercise classes include yoga, Pilates, cardio-kickboxing, step aerobics and body sculpting. Fitness facilities include cardiovascular and resistance machines, free-weights and balance training equipment.

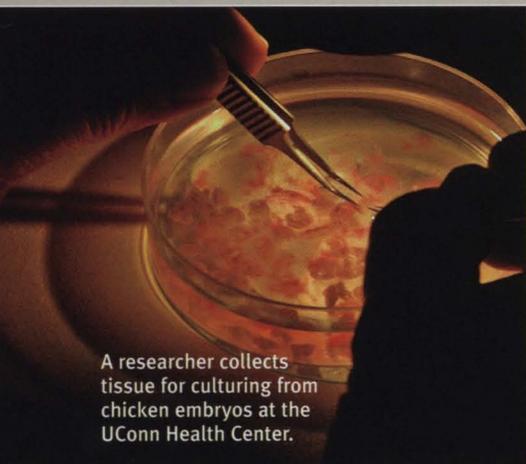
All training and exercise classes are based on current scientific principles for physical fitness, wellness and nutrition to promote overall health, says Maggie Guidry, '03 M.A., director of the facility, clinical instructor in allied health and a certified strength and conditioning coach.

She says the benefits of the School of Allied Health's role in the Hawley Armory programs are the ability to expand clinical opportunities for students and gain practical experience and explore research opportunities, while providing scientifically based methods of exercise, nutrition, and health promotion.

## SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

### *Federal grant establishes tissue repair and regeneration center*

The UConn Health Center has received a \$2.6 million, two-year federal grant to build a craniofacial tissue repair and regeneration program dedicated to research with clinical application.



A researcher collects tissue for culturing from chicken embryos at the UConn Health Center.

Peter Morenus

The grant, one of seven awarded nationally by the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research, will jumpstart the new program with funds for faculty positions and research equipment.

“We currently have strong basic

science underway in skeletal development, bone biology and biomaterials,” says William Upholt, professor of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials and skeletal development and one of the co-investigators of the grant. “This grant will help us attract the faculty to bridge the disciplines throughout the Health Center and develop synergistic programs across current areas of research.”

The grant is funding the recruitment of a senior researcher and manager to become center director. It will also support recruitment into the medical and dental schools of up to half a dozen faculty members with a mix of skills in disciplines such as craniofacial biology, translational research, epidemiology and biostatistics to help with clinical trials.

“We want to develop procedures that ultimately can be used clinically to repair and regenerate tissue. If we can fix wounds or defects with cells and tissue that can live and grow, then the repair is much less likely to wear out or degenerate over time,” says Upholt.

Other grant co-investigators include Jon Goldberg, director of the UConn Center for Biomaterials, whose research focuses on the development of new biomaterials, studies of structure-property relationships, and clinical trials of restorative dental materials; Mina Mina, professor of pediatric dentistry, whose research focuses on jawbone and jaw-related tissue growth; and Susan Reisine, associate dean for research at the UConn School of Dental Medicine and chair of the department of behavioral sciences and community health.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

### *Pfizer Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology set*

Michael J. Pikal, director of UConn’s Center for Pharmaceutical Processing Research, has been named to the first Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology.

Pfizer Global Research and Development, a division of Pfizer Inc., established the chair with a \$2 million gift to the School of Pharmacy in 2004. It is the largest gift to the school and the first such endowment Pfizer has made in the field in the United States.

“Pfizer’s strategic decision to promote this field of research at the University of Connecticut is of enormous national significance as it will allow the School of Pharmacy to meet increasing industry demands for highly qualified workers in this area,” says Pikal, who worked as an Eli Lilly research scientist for 24 years prior to joining UConn’s faculty in 1996.

As the Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair, Pikal will be responsible for developing a seminar in pharmaceutical sciences and bringing renowned researchers to campus as part of a new visiting professors program. Proceeds from the endowment also will support pre- and post-doctoral graduate fellowships.

Pikal, who is currently involved with more than \$600,000 of funded research, has conducted collaborative research with Pfizer scientists and within the Center for Pharmaceutical Processing Research, a cooperative effort between UConn, other major research universities and the drug industry.

“All one has to do is look at Mike Pikal’s productivity and publication record to see that he is one of the top leaders nationwide in pharmaceutical technology,” says Tim Hagen, vice president of Pfizer Science and Technology.

“The state of Connecticut has made a tremendous investment in the School of Pharmacy, in terms of its brand new building and lab space,” Hagen says. “When you see things such as that, you know it’s going to be a very good environment for attracting new students and the best faculty. We view this as a long-term commitment.”

**Michael J. Pikal, Pfizer Distinguished Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology.**



## NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

### **Researcher says low-carb diets reduce heart risk**

The most popular method in the United States for losing weight—low-carbohydrate diets—can reduce a person's risk of developing heart disease, according to a study conducted by Jeff Volek, assistant professor of kinesiology.

Volek reviewed more than a dozen clinical trials conducted since 2003 and examined low-carb diets and related risk factors for cardiovascular disease. His findings were published in the June issue of the *Journal of Nutrition*, the official publication of the American Society for Nutritional Sciences.

Volek's analysis found that low-carb diets outperform low-fat diets in lowering triglycerides, or fat in the blood, and increasing HDL, or good cholesterol levels.

"This type of replication across studies performed at different institutions is rare, and it shows how robust and consistent the favorable effects of a low-carbohydrate diet really are," says Volek, a registered dietitian and a member of the UConn Human Performance Laboratory in the Neag School of Education.

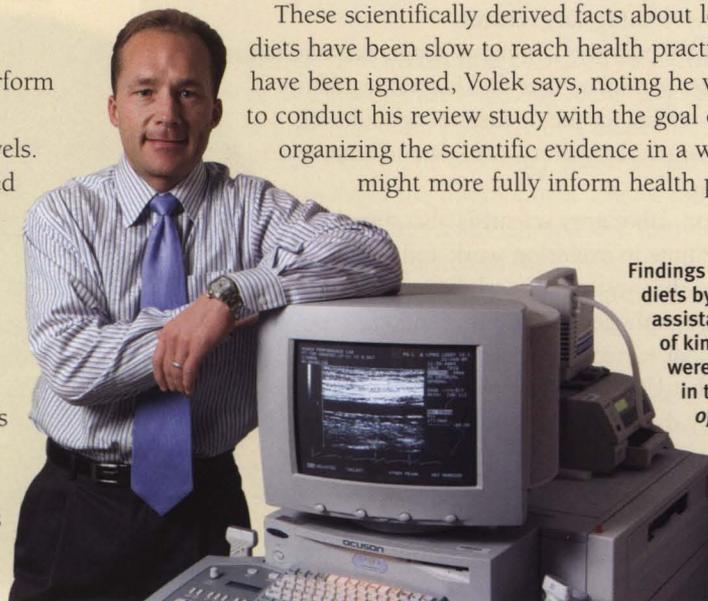
Volek's review shows that low-carbohydrate diets positively affect not only triglycerides and HDL cholesterol but also several other risk factors that lead to metabolic syndrome—a condition that puts an estimated 25 percent of adult Americans at a

three-fold risk for cardiovascular disease.

His own diet research and those he reviewed indicate that a low-carbohydrate diet improves all aspects of metabolic syndrome while a high-carbohydrate diet, even if it's very low in fat, exacerbates this disorder—unless the person loses significant amounts of weight or increases his or her activity level.

"Low-carbohydrate diets improve metabolic syndrome independent of weight loss and physical activity," he says.

These scientifically derived facts about low-carb diets have been slow to reach health practitioners or have been ignored, Volek says, noting he was inspired to conduct his review study with the goal of better organizing the scientific evidence in a way that might more fully inform health practitioners.



Findings on low-carb diets by Jeff Volek, assistant professor of kinesiology, were published in the *Journal of Nutrition*.

Peter Morenus

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

### **Youth health career program recognized nationally**

The Connecticut Youth Health Service Corps, a program designed to recruit high school students to health careers, has been nationally recognized for exemplary community-based collaborative activities.

The program, a joint effort by the UConn School of Medicine, Connecticut Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health, received the 2005 Linkage Award from the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health in Washington, D.C.

"UConn and the Department of Public Health are working together to help students recognize and avoid the pitfalls that can prevent them from reaching their full potential," says Bruce Gould, associate dean for primary care and program director of the Connecticut AHEC, which is located in the School of Medicine and has centers across the state.

The program is also intended to help address workforce shortages and the under-representation of racial and ethnic minorities in the health care professions.

Martha Okafor, chief of the family health section at the state Department of Public Health, says the program is also part of an innovative strategy that addresses teen pregnancy through skills building and career development.

"Students learn about public health, personal health, and community service," she says. "They are exposed to meaningful ways of spending their time, and they learn about new opportunities available to them in the workforce."

Students from high schools in urban, suburban, and rural locations volunteer at community health centers, dental clinics, homeless shelters and long-term care facilities.

More than 20 high schools and 60 volunteer sites currently participate in the program, which is implemented through the state's AHEC centers in Hartford, Waterbury, Bridgeport, and Norwich.

Training for the health corps includes courses in infection control methods, confidentiality and privacy rules, CPR, disease prevention, cultural competency, homelessness awareness and During the first six months of the program, 116 students were trained as volunteers, almost double the goal for the first year.

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### Veterinary diagnostic laboratory wins accreditation

The Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (CVMDL), part of UConn's department of pathobiology and veterinary science, has received full accreditation from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD).

The laboratory was awarded accreditation earlier this year following a self-study and a two-day site visit by two laboratory AAVLD scientists to examine the facilities, interview faculty and staff, and review budgetary records.

The CVMDL provides laboratory diagnostic and consultation services as well as state and federal regulatory surveillance testing for the diseases of agricultural, avian, companion, laboratory, wildlife and aquatic animal species.

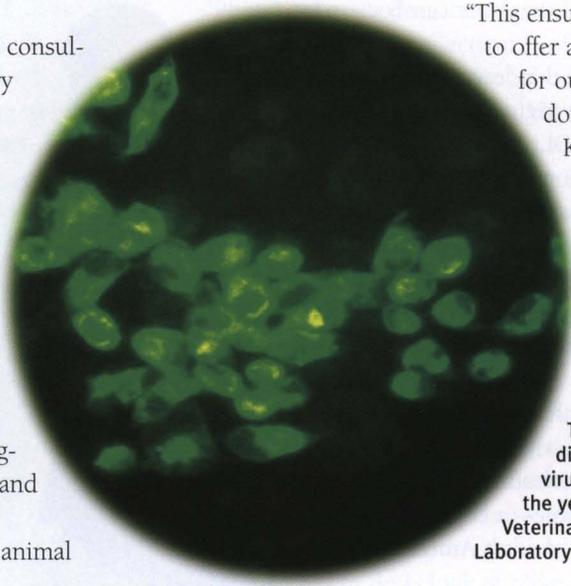
In addition, laboratory scientists also spend part of their time in extension work and research on improved diagnostic tests and disease epidemiology, pathogenesis and prevention.

The national accreditation offers validation from peers that UConn has met essential standards for veterinary diagnostic medicine. It validates the ability of the laboratory staff to provide quality diagnostic services to Connecticut and other New England states. Over the past year, the CVMDL conducted 121,000 tests for animal diseases, including 1,400 animal

necropsies to determine cause of death. The procedures were performed on cattle, horses, poultry, dogs, cats, laboratory mice and rats, and other animals.

Herbert Van Kruiningen, department head and director of the laboratory, says UConn's CVMDL is the only accredited veterinary medical diagnostic laboratory in New England and now can provide testing in the federal government's control programs for animal diseases such as avian influenza in chickens and mad cow disease in cattle.

"This ensures that we can continue to offer a high-quality program for our students. It is a tremendous accomplishment," says Kirklyn M. Kerr, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and a veterinary pathologist.



Testing for a range of animal diseases, such as West Nile virus, is conducted throughout the year within the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory at UConn.

## SCHOOL OF FAMILY STUDIES

### Breaking new ground on prostate cancer research

A UConn researcher is breaking new ground in raising issues surrounding the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer in a national cancer publication.

Writing this past spring in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, Thomas Blank, professor of family studies and director of UConn's Center on Aging and Human Development, says there is a need to broaden research on the diversity of experiences with cancer, in particular with how gay men are diagnosed and treated.

Of the 230,000 diagnoses each year and nearly two million prostate cancer survivors reported by the National Cancer Institute, at least 2 to 3 percent are gay men, Blank says. Yet in reviewing more than 42,000 published references on prostate cancer, he found the impact of the disease on these patients has not been addressed, despite the fact that gay couples are twice as likely to face the disease.

"Gay men's health has been defined as HIV-AIDS, but other issues are not addressed," says Blank, who studies the psychosocial aspects of life-threatening diseases.

"The assumption by the usually heterosexual physician is that every man who has prostate cancer is a heterosexual male in a long-term, monogamous relationship with a woman."

Blank says an important factor in trying to study the topic is that gay men typically do not identify themselves to their doctors. "A lot of that has roots in distrust of the medical community on the part of gay men," he says, noting that there also are differences in the social support system for patients within the gay community.

Blank has been working on a range of prostate cancer issues since he became a prostate cancer survivor nine years ago. He has studied what having prostate cancer does to a man's sense of himself and as a partner in a relationship, as well as how men cope with the side effects of treatment. He also studies how cancer survivors may experience psychological growth with Crystal Park, UConn associate professor of psychology.

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

### Expanding choices on the Latino food pyramid

Avocados, plantains, yams, papayas and limas are not typical fruit and vegetable choices found on a food pyramid chart in the United States. But they are on the food charts and meal plans a UConn psychology graduate student designed to help Latino diabetics choose a healthful diet in Hartford, where the population is nearly one-third Puerto Rican.

Chandra Osborn, a doctoral candidate in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is using the information, motivation, behavior skills (IMB) model for her research under the direction of Jeffrey Fisher, UConn professor of psychology, who helped pioneer the successful use of IMB with HIV patients. The IMB model proposes that if patients have information, motivation, and behavior skills, they will be inclined to make healthful changes in their lifestyles.

Previous research shows that Latinos and African-Americans are twice as likely to have diabetes and that Puerto Ricans are among those with the highest rate of the disease. Osborn designed a health screening assessment and follow-up program to help 118 Latino patients manage their diabetes through the adult primary care clinic at Hartford Hospital.

Osborn ordered brochures in Spanish from the American Diabetes Association and had a meal plan designed that is illustrated with foods in the local Puerto Rican diet. Exercise options were suggested, such as walking to the market, climbing stairs and joining friends for dancing or other activities.

Patients also were taught how to read food labels, to judge the size of a single serving, what they should eat and how many portions of it per day.

After their first counseling session last spring, patients left with a set of goals for diet and exercise. Follow-up sessions now underway are determining whether patients have modified their behavior and whether their biological measures, such as weight and average glucose level, have changed.

If successful, the program could become part of a national hospital program for Latinos known as Amigos en Salud, or Friends in Health, sponsored by Pfizer.

Chandra Osborn with foods common in the Puerto Rican diet.



Peter Morenus



UConn anthropologist Sally McBrearty working in Kenya, where she found the first fossil evidence of a modern chimpanzee.

### Unearthing first evidence of modern chimpanzees

UConn anthropology professor Sally McBrearty has discovered the first fossil evidence of a modern chimpanzee in Kenya's Rift Valley. The discovery was reported in the September edition of the international science journal *Nature*.

McBrearty found four fossil chimpanzee teeth during her 2004 archaeological research in the Rift Valley. McBrearty and her co-author, anthropologist Nina Jablonski of the California Academy of Sciences, were surprised with the discovery because no one had previously identified a chimpanzee fossil.

"We were going through the fossils near the end of the season, and I realized they were something unusual," says McBrearty.

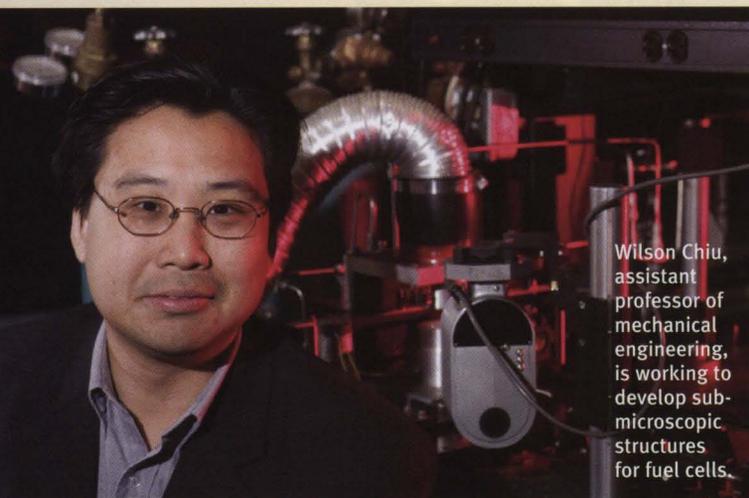
After analyzing their findings at the National Museums of Kenya and consulting with a paleontologist, the researchers identified the teeth as those of a 7-, or 8-year-old chimpanzee of the genus *Pan* that lived about 500,000 years ago.

Most scientists are looking for human fossils, McBrearty says, and it was assumed that humans—but not chimps—lived in the Rift Valley. The valley, a dry environment, was thought to have been a barrier to chimpanzees, who stayed in the rain forest where they live today. Humans adapted to the new environment and began to walk on two legs, while chimpanzees, the closest living relative of humans, stayed in the rain forest and remained quadrupeds, McBrearty says.

The finding shows that both chimps and humans were able to adapt to a drier environment and that chimps had a range that included East Africa, some 600 kilometers east of where they live today, she notes. The anthropologists have not been able to identify the species of the chimp fossils; McBrearty says the teeth might have belonged to a species now unknown. She hopes to continue digging in the area in the future and to unearth additional fossils.

It is possible that other chimp fossils exist in museum collections and have not been properly identified, she notes. She expects her find "will make people go back to the museum collections that already exist" to look for similarities.

McBrearty's research has been funded by the National Science Foundation since 1993.



Peter Morenus

Wilson Chiu, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is working to develop sub-microscopic structures for fuel cells.

## SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

### *Chiu developing innovative fuel cell materials*

Wilson K. S. Chiu, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has achieved a rare distinction in winning three highly competitive research awards for his work in developing innovative techniques for a nanomanufacturing research laboratory.

Chiu recently received a three-year, \$150,000 Army Research Office (ARO) Young Investigator Award for his proposed work to develop sub-microscopic structures to improve the efficiency of fuel cells that can be used in the

field by soldiers. He previously received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award and the Young Investigator Award from the Office of Naval Research for related work in fiber optic materials.

"I'm working to develop new structures in the microscale and nanoscale range to enhance the efficiency of the fuel cell," says Chiu, noting that the U.S. military is seeking more portable and lighter power sources to replace batteries carried by soldiers that can sometimes weigh more than 100 pounds.

Electricity is needed to operate communications devices, navigation equipment, computers and to power systems that provide air-conditioning. Chiu says he is also working to develop improved fuel cells powered by propane, butane and other hydrocarbon-based fuels that are more readily available and less costly than hydrogen, the energy source of most current fuel cell power.

"I'm trying to reduce the weight of the fuel cell and make more of the material electrochemically active," he says. "The soldiers would be able to use the fuel cells longer and more efficiently. The Army envisions these to be used by individual soldiers or as an onsite generator in the battlefield that could last days and eventually to last several weeks."

He says one of the potential uses of smaller fuel cells could be for an air-conditioned suit worn in the desert that could work for days before it needed to be refueled.

Chiu says the portable fuel cell units he looks to develop would provide between 20 and 1,000 watts of power and eventually become available for consumer use.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

### *Alternate routes expanded for M.S.W. students*

The School of Social Work has expanded the options available to students pursuing UConn's master of social work degree.

In addition to the two-, three-, and four-year continuing education options for obtaining the M.S.W., a new advanced standing track is available to those who have achieved a high level of academic performance in both classroom and field work.

Advanced standing is designed for individuals who have earned a degree within the last six years from an undergraduate social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Candidates must also have had a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better. Qualifying students begin their UConn studies with an intensive four-week summer session that earns five credits. Once completed, the student is eligible to join the second year of the two-year program for the remaining 30 credits needed for completion of the degree requirements.

"The summer session serves as a bridge to completion of the M.S.W. program because those students who qualify for advanced standing have already demonstrated their preparation to undertake the challenges of the remaining coursework," says Kay Davidson, dean of the School of Social Work.

Acceptance into the advanced standing option effectively waives 25 credits that have been successfully covered by an accredited undergraduate social work program. Students enroll as second year full-time students in UConn's M.S.W. program to complete the coursework required for graduation.

The remaining 30 credits for advanced standing students include a year-long field education experience, a research course, a field education seminar, electives and a concentration area such as community organizations, group work, administration and policy practice.

"We understand that our students are a diverse group of individuals with different goals," says Tilitha Conyers, director of admissions for the School of Social Work. "We are committed to providing flexible educational program options to meet the varying needs of our students."

## SCHOOL OF LAW

### *Keefe recognized by Connecticut Law Review*

Hugh Keefe '67 J.D., one of the most prominent criminal defense attorneys in Connecticut, received the award for excellence in legal scholarship and service to the legal community from the *Connecticut Law Review* during the UConn publication's annual reception last spring.

"Hugh Keefe is a distinguished member of the legal community whose skills as a lawyer have bolstered our reputation as a law school," says Jennifer Sheldon '05 J.D., alumni affairs editor of the *Connecticut Law Review*.

Keefe is a partner with the New Haven-based firm of Lynch, Traub, Keefe and Errante, where he specializes in criminal and civil litigation at both the state and federal level. He has participated in some of Connecticut's most high-profile trials in recent years, including that of fugitive financier Martin Frankel and the Malik Jones shooting.

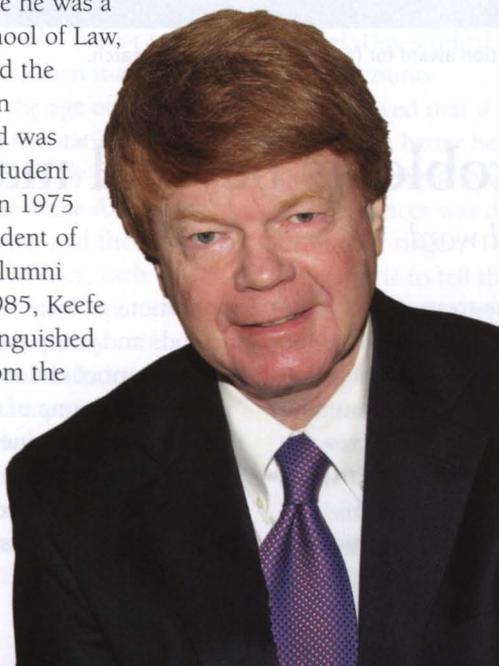
Keefe has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since its inception in 1983 and was the first lawyer in the United States to be board-certified in both civil and criminal trial advocacy. He previously served as chair of both the Judicial Selection Commission and the Judicial Review Council for Connecticut, as well as chair of the U.S. District Court's Magistrate Appointment Committee.

Keefe is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, American Bar Foundation and American Board of Criminal Lawyers. He has served as an instructor in trial advocacy at the Yale Law School since 1979.

"Hugh has ably served both indigent clients and major corporations. He exemplifies the highest traditions of scholarship and service we instill in our students," says Dean Nell Jessup Newton. "He has been a great friend and an ardent supporter of the School of Law."

During the time he was a student at the School of Law, Keefe was awarded the George J. Sherman Scholar award and was president of the Student Bar Association. In 1975 he served as president of the Law School Alumni Association. In 1985, Keefe received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the UConn Alumni Association.

**Hugh Keefe '67 J.D. is one of Connecticut's most prominent lawyers.**



Ken Best



UConn Prof. Lucy Gilson, right, with Public Safety Commissioner Leonard C. Boyle.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

### *Faculty, M.B.A. students work with state police*

UConn graduate students last spring served as consultants to develop recommendations addressing management challenges faced by the Connecticut state police.

Five M.B.A. students in the business consulting class taught by Lucy Gilson, assistant professor of management, delivered a 30-page report to Connecticut Public Safety Commissioner Leonard C. Boyle that provides a series of recommendations on issues of organizational culture, information management, succession planning and grant writing.

The report is the first in a series of joint projects between UConn and the state Department of Public Safety (DPS) that originated with a request from Boyle to UConn President Philip E. Austin for assistance in developing educational opportunities for DPS managers. More than 20 DPS employees are currently enrolled in a management certificate program. Gilson is also working collaboratively with Vicki Magley, assistant professor of psychology, on a research project focusing on organizational efficiency, change management.

"This is a rare occasion when all parts of the University's mission intersect," says Gilson. "There is research, teaching and service. The project gives all of us at UConn the opportunity to work collaboratively with another public organization—the synergy is fantastic. I think this is exciting and really valuable to the state."

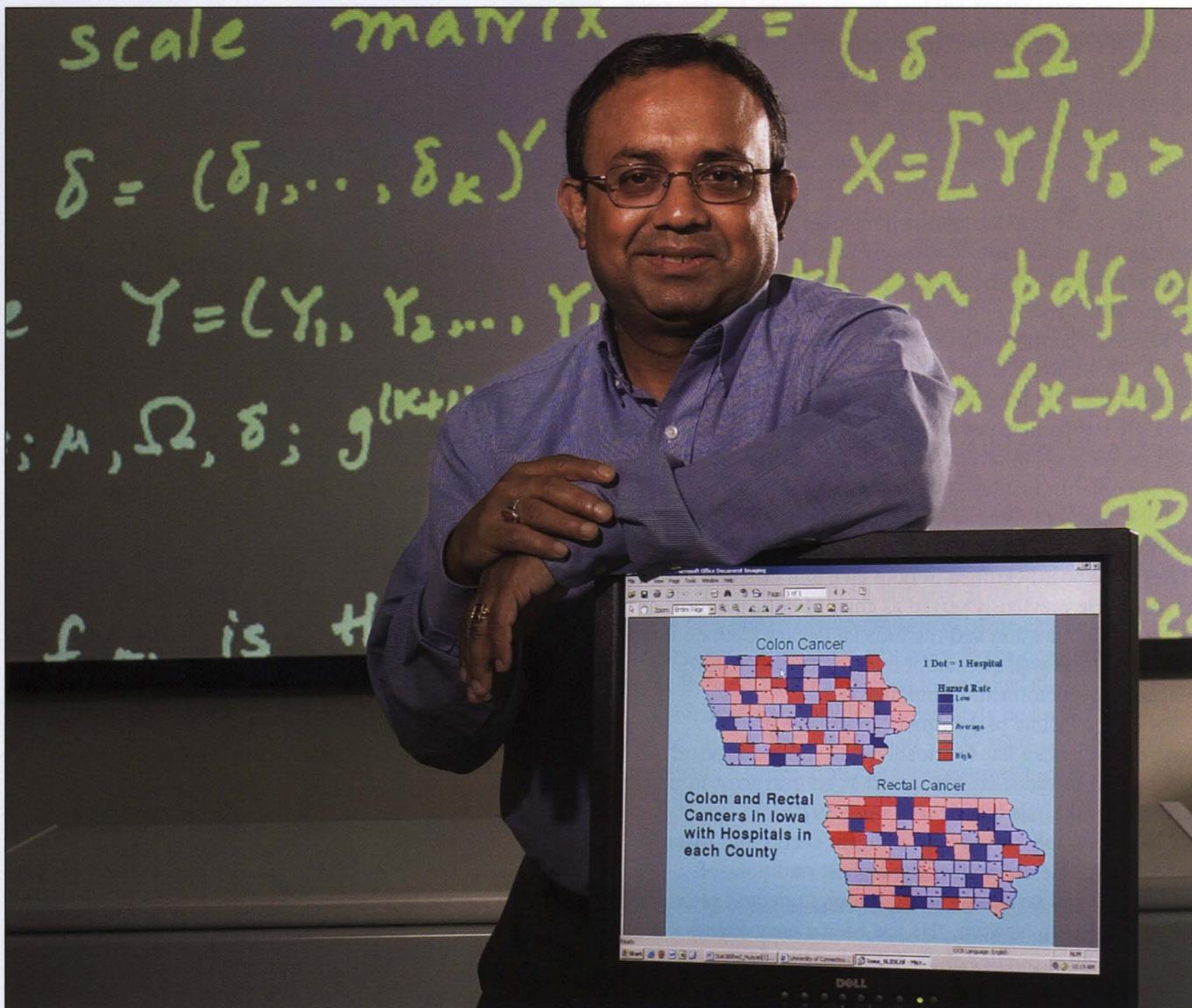
Boyle describes the work done by the UConn students as "outstanding."

"Their findings and recommendations were insightful and appropriately addressed agency needs," he says. "DPS has implemented some of the recommendations offered in the final report. We are deeply indebted to the research team."

Among the research team suggestions adopted by the DPS are the creation of a strategic planning committee, creation of a new mission statement, meetings between Boyle and all civilian staff members and a new department-wide newsletter.

"While we each had our own background areas of knowledge to share, the various facets of the M.B.A. program were brought together during this project, allowing us to provide quality business solutions for the Department of Public Safety," says Chris Quimby '05 M.B.A.

# Research



Peter Morenus

Dipak Dey, professor of statistics, received the 2005 UConn Alumni Association award for faculty excellence in research.

## Using statistics to solve problems beyond math

*Dipak Dey helps others apply statistics to the real world*

UConn Professor Dipak Dey is an ambassador for the field of statistics. It's an academic discipline that suffers from an identity problem, he muses. Often seen as a puzzling and abstract branch of the mathematics field, statistics is in fact an interdisciplinary field with an impact that is far reaching.

From studying the treatment of disease to preliminary planning for natural disasters or terrorists attacks, statistics is easily connected to nature and our daily lives. Dey, who serves as head of the UConn statistics department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is currently using statistical

applications to foster cancer prevention methods and study the cognitive development of children.

Heralded as one of the most prolific researchers of his generation, Dey has studied statistics for several decades and published 150 peer-reviewed publications. He is best known for his

contributions in the areas of statistical decision theory and Bayesian statistics. Statistical decision theory involves the collection of data to make an educated decision about an issue. Bayesian statistics is a philosophy that combines historical knowledge about an issue with current data to forecast future trends.

"Bayesian analysis is today one of the hottest areas of development," says Jim Berger, director of the national Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute. "Until about 15 years ago it was too difficult to routinely implement in practice. However, newer techniques, including some developed by Dr. Dey, have made it easier to do the computational aspects of the analysis."

Dey says his philosophy has always been to teach statistics through example and application.

"Statistics should be taught using examples from everyday life," he says. "From my childhood I was interested in mathematics. Not just problem solving, but how I can apply mathematics to our surrounding world."

"Take a look outside at the trees. How do they grow? How do you determine their age? Using statistical modeling, you can take one or two samples of trees and then make predictions about the age of a forest."

Dey's stature in the statistical profession is indicated by his election to Fellowship in both the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, each of which elects only about .5 percent of its membership annually.

"Dr. Dey has used statistics to explain nature and capture uncertainty," says Athanasios Micheas, assistant professor of statistics at the University of Missouri-Columbia. "He has also helped statisticians to learn more about

the science of the field. This leads to new scientists working to better the world."

Dey's earlier research initiatives were praised within the statistical community for their insight on theory and he is now receiving recognition for applying statistical knowledge to other academic disciplines. Two of Dey's current

**"From my childhood I was interested in mathematics. Not just problem solving, but how I can apply mathematics to our surrounding world."**

**—Dipak Dey**

research projects employ his trademark areas of statistical decision theory and Bayesian statistics.

For the past eight years, Dey has used statistical decision theory to study colon and rectal cancer patients in 92 Iowa counties, based on data from the National Cancer Institute. Some of the counties studied are located near major cities with several hospitals; other counties are rural and may have only one, or in some cases no, nearby local hospital. Using a statistical geographic model, Dey studied the cancer survival rate by county.

"I showed that if a county had access to a better health care system, people survived longer, regardless of if their cancer was detected in the early or middle stages," Dey says. "Our objective is to tell the politicians about our research so that there will be some impact on the quality of health care throughout the state. We want to pressure them to create cancer facilities in areas where there are high incidents of the disease."

Using Bayesian statistics, Dey has partnered with UConn faculty in the

nutritional sciences department in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to study the effects of nutrients on children at prenatal and postnatal stages. Dey is using longitudinal data modeling to monitor how nutrients affect the cognitive development of children. By studying a child's sleep patterns, researchers can study mental development. The study will have significant applications in

developing countries where children often do not receive essential nutrients.

UConn statistics professor Nalini Ravishanker says collaborative discipline

projects such as these help boost the general public's understanding of the value of statistics. Statisticians can not operate in a vacuum, she says.

"We need to collaborate for science to grow," Ravishanker says. "When our discipline reaches the outside world, we can begin to try to understand how the methods and models that we have developed can be adapted to solve problems."

In October, Dey was recognized by the UConn Alumni Association with its award for faculty excellence in research, specifically for developing and maintaining collaborative research programs with other University departments and organizations. Dey, who has taught at UConn for 20 years, says he was humbled by the recognition.

"The alumni award was a unique achievement for me," he says. "I received it because of my multidisciplinary interests. It was not just about helping my academic community but helping others." — Peyton Woodson Cooper

# Students

## Working to preserve the environment

*Kukielka wins prestigious Udall Scholarship for her activities at UConn*

Looking at the résumé of Jessica Kukielka '06 (CANR), one might think that it is a list of achievements for someone further along in years. An agricultural and resource economics major in the UConn Honors Program, Kukielka's activities demonstrate her abiding concern for the environment.

"I'm passionate about preserving open space and farmland," says Kukielka, who recently won a 2005 Morris K. Udall Scholarship for her work at UConn in farmland conservation and environmental literacy. She is one of 80 college students nationally to receive the award, which honors the U.S. congressman who championed environmental legislation.

Kukielka is also the first UConn student to receive a national award through UConn's new campus Office of National Scholarships, which identifies scholarship opportunities for qualified students.

"Jessica is a wonderful example of the kind of student UConn supports for national scholarship competitions. Her passion for the environment, her related academic and service work, and her leadership in environmental initiatives is clearly exemplary and grabbed the attention of the national Udall committee," says Kathryn Strother Ratcliff, director of UConn's Office of National Scholarships.

Kukielka attributes her concern for the land to her family background.

"My parents emigrated from Poland with a family history in farming," she says. "My sister and I are the first to grow up in suburbia, but my mother was always interested in the environment and made sure we spent time outdoors."

While attending Plainville Middle School in Southington, Conn., Kukielka and her sister, Monica, took courses at Southington High School's Vocational

Agriculture program, which provided the opportunity to spend time at a boarding stable in Cheshire, where they learned to train carriage horses.

When Kukielka was in high school the stable owner died and the property was sold to developers. Observing the transformation of pastures into developed land proved a defining experience for Kukielka, who has since been working assiduously on open space and environmental issues.

In addition to her studies, she works in the UConn Office of Environmental Policy, where among other projects, she is working on programs aimed at conserving water and reducing waste paper on campus.

"I work with different departments on campus that promote environmental courses," she says. "Last semester I worked to develop a campus survey looking to promote environmental science in non-traditional campus settings. One of the best ideas was trying to tie a number of the initiatives we've been doing here in Storrs to our regional campuses."

She also has facilitated student research projects focusing on the nearly 60 acres of wetlands on campus. For one project, two undergraduate students, Logan Senack '08 (CLAS) and Martha Divver '08 (CLAS), monitored the life stages of tree frogs and other amphibians in vernal pools, which are temporary ponds formed by rainwater run-off.

Kukielka is busy as co-coordinator of the UConn EcoHusky Club and as a member of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences. She is also a former president and treasurer of the UConn chapter of Future Farmers of America.

— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)



Peter Morenus

**Jessica Kukielka '06 (CANR) is the first student to receive a national award through UConn's new Office of National Scholarships.**

# Exploring research through a fellowship

Medical student wins prestigious Sarnoff Fellowship

JEFF THIEBAUTH



UConn medical student Eric Oligino earned a Sarnoff Fellowship to spend a year conducting intensive cardiovascular investigations in a research laboratory in the Vascular Disease Prevention Program at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Women's Hospital.

Oligino's lab work for Plutzky may have far-reaching implications for lipid metabolism, diabetes, atherosclerosis, and heart disease. The Plutzky lab specializes in peroxisome proliferator activated

A research fellowship came at the perfect time for Eric Oligino: after the completion of his third year at the UConn School of Medicine when a year in the laboratory would help frame his clinical experiences and confirm his interest in research.

Oligino is one of 14 Sarnoff Fellows, a program designed to give medical students the opportunity to spend a year conducting intensive cardiovascular investigations in a research laboratory. Oligino works in the Boston lab of Jorge Plutzky, assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of the Vascular Disease Prevention Program at Brigham and

receptors (PPARs), which regulate a wide variety of genes in response to fat break down.

A number of closely related enzymes throughout the body break down fat and alter PPAR activity, yet the relationship between some of these enzymes and PPARs has not been investigated. Oligino developed a project characterizing the relationship between one of these specific enzymes, hepatic lipase, and PPARs.

"The science we do here is very exciting," says Oligino, who will continue his lab work until the end of July 2006. "Major diabetes medications work through the mechanism we explore in the lab every day. It's nice to know the things I'm working on have clinical relevance."

Oligino says he has always been interested in research. As a first-year medical student he was considering UConn's combined M.D./Ph.D. program but was concerned about the possibility of four additional years of schooling. A faculty member suggested he take a fellowship to experience life in a research lab.

"I live in a major metropolitan area and I'm within walking distance of the Longwood Medical Area," he says. "My lab is located there along with Brigham & Women's Hospital, Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and Boston Children's Hospital. The speakers and conferences here add to the excitement of the year."

Oligino says what he learned at UConn was important to him in securing the fellowship. "During the first year of medical school we learned about and experienced the experimental approach to science and medicine," he says. "My UConn medical school education prepared me for my laboratory work."

"Eric is an exceptional student," says Bruce Liang, chairman of the UConn Health Center's Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center, holder of the Ray Neag Distinguished Chair in Vascular Biology and Oligino's fellowship sponsor. "We're very proud that he was selected for this most prestigious fellowship after a national competition, and it is gratifying for us to mentor and support students who aspire to be future leaders."

"We're confident that his laboratory experience with Dr. Plutzky will be beneficial to him in terms of his career, and more importantly, could be beneficial to the millions of Americans who suffer from cardiovascular health issues." — Pat Keefe

# Breaking the grip of

# ADDICTION

BY ALIX BOYLE • ART BY GREG SPALENKA

**A**ddiction is a physical and psychological dependence on a substance such as alcohol, marijuana or tobacco. But addiction can also include dependence on experiences like gambling or using the Internet. Experts say that a person crosses the line into addiction when use of the substance or pursuit of the experience causes medical problems or interferes with daily life functioning, including employment, marriage, family life, or legal or financial status.

Addiction wrecks lives. Alcohol abuse alone plays a role in at least 10,000 teen deaths in the United States each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Internet abuse on the job, such as shopping or playing games, accounts for millions of dollars lost from businesses as employees use workplace computers for leisure pursuits. American business lost an estimated \$81 billion in productivity in a single year, with \$37 billion from premature death and \$44 billion due to illness, as a result of alcohol and drug use, according to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) report.

UConn researchers are helping to discover new and better ways to treat all types of addictions with strategies

that include cognitive behavioral therapies and medication. UConn was one of the first institutions in the United States to start an alcohol research center and is responsible for a number of significant contributions to the field (see p. 29). Researchers are also conducting clinical trials on treatments for smoking cessation, marijuana use and compulsive

UConn researchers  
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gambling, among others. The specific causes of addiction are unknown, but genetic factors appear to be part of the answer. UConn researchers are working to identify the genes linked to the susceptibility to alcohol and drug dependence.

The 2002-03 National Survey on Drug Use and Health for DHHS found that 8 percent of all Americans say they use illegal drugs, 30 percent say they use tobacco products and at least half of

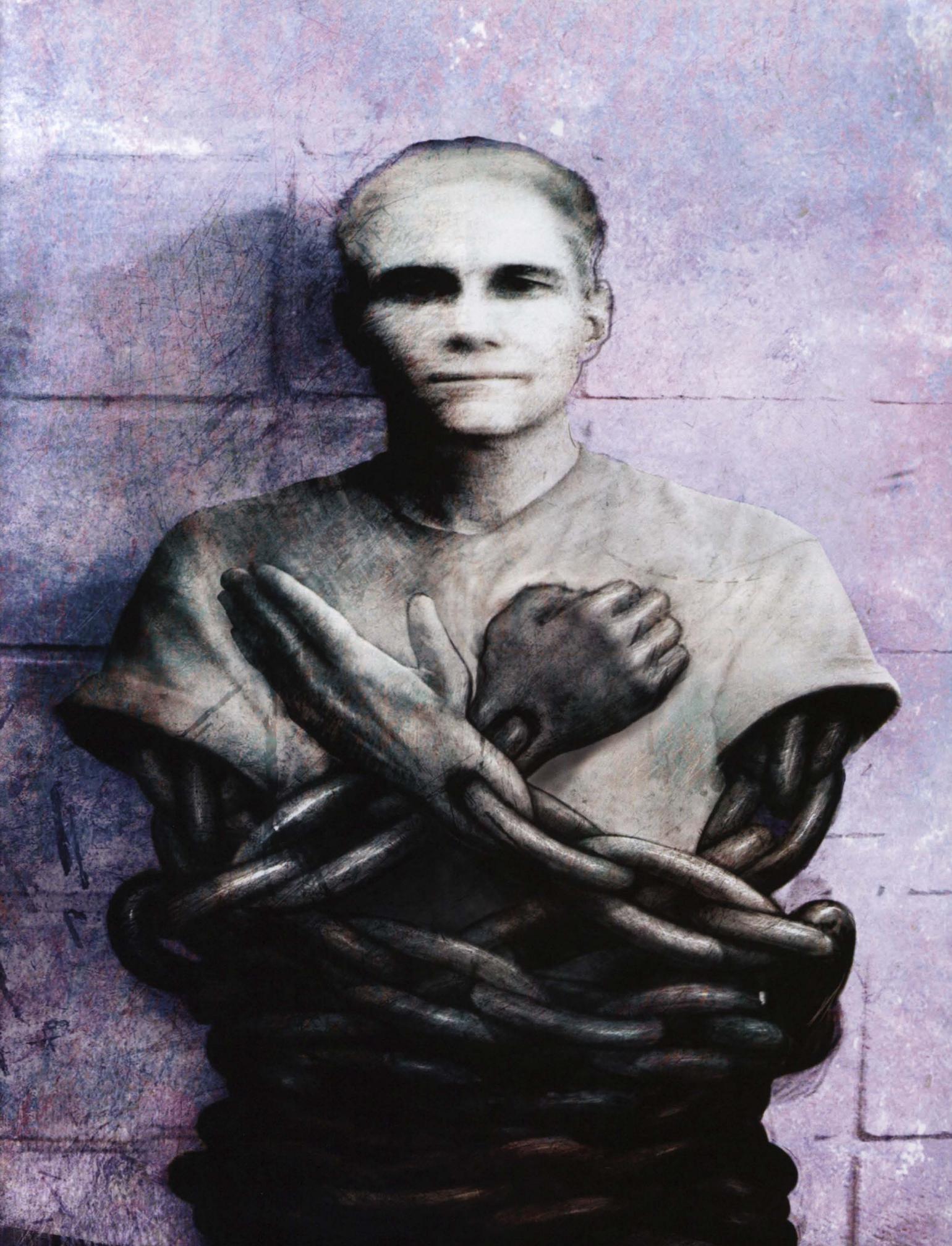
all Americans say they regularly consume alcohol. Most of this potentially addictive behavior occurs among individuals between the ages of 18 and 25 years old.

## SMOKING

Smoking claims more lives than any other addiction, according to a 2003 Harvard School of Public Health study published in *The Lancet*. Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States, claiming 430,000 Americans each year. An estimated \$80 billion of total U.S. health care costs each year is attributable to smoking, says the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Of all the addictions, smoking is usually the hardest to stop, says researcher Cheryl Oncken, an internist and associate professor of medicine at the UConn School of Medicine.

"It often takes three to five serious attempts to quit," says Oncken. "Within 24 hours, smokers get withdrawal symptoms, including a craving for cigarettes, difficulty with sleep or concentration. People then smoke to relieve withdrawal."

Oncken is now studying a new non-nicotine drug, to see whether it





hateful person so I always started up again. I used to walk the dog just so I could hide and have a cigarette.” Smith learned about a UConn smoking cessation study and enrolled in April. She was given nicotine patches and weekly counseling, and has not smoked since. The study, which is ongoing, compares smoking cessation in patients who are using nicotine patches to a group taking Varenicline.

is as effective as a nicotine patch. Varenicline is a non-nicotine drug that sits on the nicotine receptor and fools the brain into thinking that nicotine is there. Through a unique mode of action the drug stimulates the brain’s nicotine receptors just enough to eliminate the satisfaction of smoking while preventing withdrawal symptoms. However the drug itself is not addictive. Now with the drug midway through clinical trials, Oncken is trying to determine the best dosage level of Varenicline for use in smoking cessation treatment.

Oncken and her team are also studying smoking cessation in pregnant women and the relationship between osteoporosis and smoking.

Like many, Diana Smith started smoking at age 12 because she thought it was cool. She kept smoking off and on through the years to stay slim and keep calm. Now 40 years old, the Terryville, Conn., resident tried to quit a pack-and-a-half a day habit several times.

“I couldn’t quit no matter what; I was just addicted,” Smith recalls. “If I stopped smoking I became a nasty,

“Understanding why Diana was able to quit this time is complicated,” says Janet Pinto, a UConn research nurse coordinator. “Part of the solution is having to answer to somebody about whether or not you are smoking. She had to be motivated.”

### ALCOHOL

For many years, most alcoholics have been treated with support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous or sessions with psychotherapy focused on treating the underlying motives for drinking. UConn researchers are using two new approaches to treat alcoholism—drug therapies and contingency management.

“Developing medications to treat alcohol dependence is an area that’s likely to become more prominent,” says Henry Kranzler, professor of psychiatry and an investigator at UConn’s Alcohol Research Center. Given the potential to improve outcomes from psychosocial treatments, Kranzler thinks that clinicians should routinely consider the use of medications to treat alcohol dependence.

There are currently three drugs approved for the treatment of alcohol

dependence: disulfiram, naltrexone and acamprosate. Kranzler and colleagues have done extensive research on the effectiveness of naltrexone, an opiate blocker used to treat both alcohol and opiate dependence. The oldest drug, disulfiram, acts as a deterrent against drinking by causing nausea and vomiting when alcohol is consumed. The newest medication, acamprosate, was approved in the U.S. after more than a decade of widespread use in Europe. Prescriptions for acamprosate have already outstripped the modest level of prescribing for disulfiram and naltrexone, Kranzler says.

Despite such evidence, medication is not widely used in treating alcoholism. But Kranzler expects that to change once the drugs are marketed more aggressively. The need is evident, as the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) estimates that one out of 13 adults in the U.S., or nearly 14 million people, is alcohol dependent or abuses it at a cost of \$185 billion per year to the economy in work and family life.

Contingency management operates on the principle that if behavior is reinforced or rewarded, it is more likely to be repeated in the future. Patients are offered prizes, such as vouchers for movies for abstaining from alcohol. One UConn study conducted by Nancy Petry, associate professor of psychiatry, showed that nearly 85 percent of those who had the opportunity to win prizes were successful in completing an abstinence program, but only 22 percent were successful without the incentives. These behavioral treatments can be applied either in conjunction with standard psychotherapies or with pharmacotherapies.

### MARIJUANA

Thinking that marijuana is not an addictive drug is a popular misconception. The National Institute on Drug Abuse says 280,000 people who entered drug rehabilitation programs in 2002 did so for marijuana addiction.

“In our research, people who smoke two to three joints a day become

physically and emotionally dependent on it,” says Ron Kadden, UConn professor of psychiatry and a drug researcher. “Dependence on marijuana takes much longer to develop than dependence on heroin or cocaine, but once dependence does develop it’s very difficult to achieve abstinence.”

There is a strong psychological factor with marijuana use. The person who is dependent develops a new equilibrium and does not believe he can function adequately without it, Kadden says.

“It leads people to stop paying attention to work and family—they are living for their drugs,” says Kadden, who conducted a recent study that found chronic cannabis users were better able to stop using the drug after cognitive behavior therapy was combined with motivational therapy.

In a multi-center marijuana study, Kadden compared two different treatments to see whether patients who abused or were dependent upon marijuana would reduce their use or abstain entirely. He found that when patients were offered multiple sessions of multi-component therapy, there was

a greater reduction in marijuana use than in fewer, less diverse sessions.

### GAMBLING

A 2005 study by Canadian researchers published in the journal *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research* found that gamblers face stronger addictions than alcoholics. The National Academy of Sciences says more than 70 percent of youngsters between the ages of 10 and 17 gamble, with nearly one of three high school students gambling on a regular basis.

Up to 5 percent of the general population will develop a gambling problem at some point in life, says UConn’s Nancy Petry, who is conducting the country’s first National Institutes of Health-sponsored study of treatment options for pathological gamblers. She is also studying heavy gamblers who spend more time or money than they intend to spend on gambling, but who have not yet experienced severe family, social or financial problems.

“For pathological or compulsive gamblers, we are studying the efficacy of three types of psychotherapy for reducing gambling,” Petry says.

Each intervention involves eight weeks of individual psychotherapy. Two of the interventions are based upon cognitive behavioral therapy, with one of them also including aspects of contingency management. These patients receive incentives for practicing what they learn in the sessions and becoming involved with other social or recreational activities that do not involve gambling. The third treatment is a more common psychotherapy that focuses on assisting

*Continued on Page 50*

## An International Leader: UConn’s Alcohol Research Center

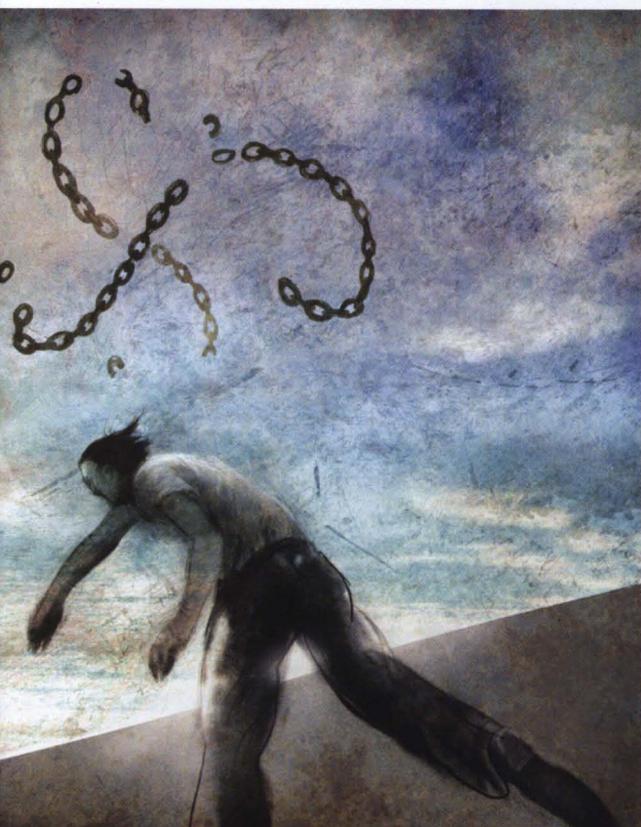
UConn’s Alcohol Research Center (ARC) is an international leader in the treatment of alcoholism, in both the pharmacotherapy—the use of drugs in treatment—and behavioral therapy. ARC was established at the UConn Health Center in 1978 by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

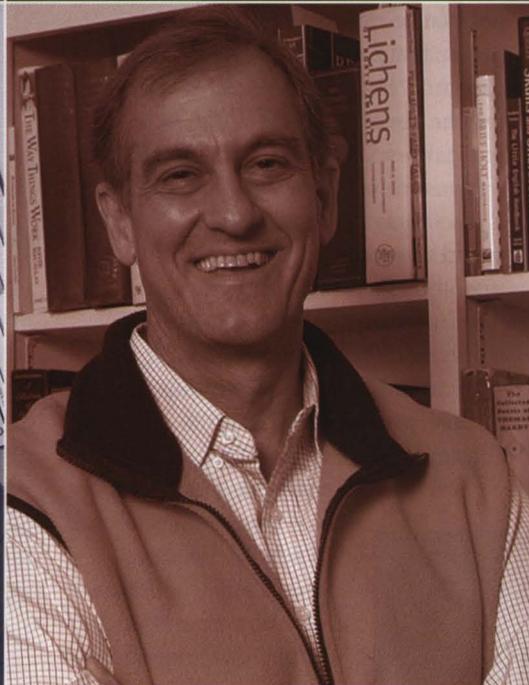
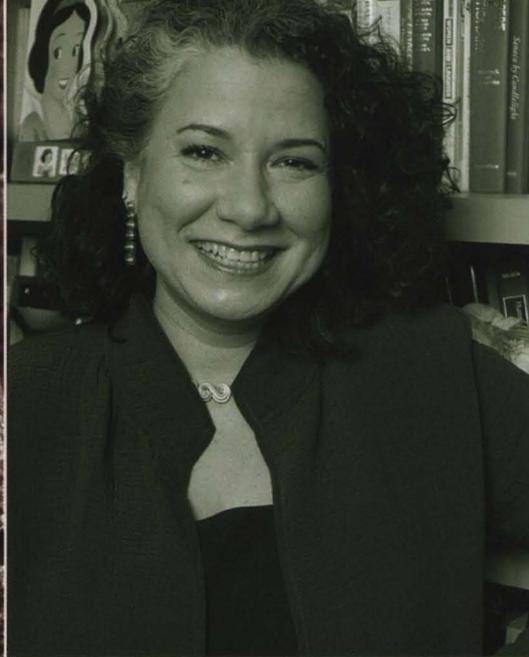
Among ARC’s significant accomplishments is the support of research showing the effectiveness of naltrexone, the first drug approved to treat alcoholism in the last 50 years, and on a second newly approved drug, acamprosate, which works by reducing the pleasurable effects of alcohol. Other clinical research projects include studying the success rate of brief behavioral treatments on alcoholism showing that just three to five sessions with a therapist can help people to significantly reduce their hazardous drinking. ARC has also developed a questionnaire to screen for alcohol use problems that is used by health care professionals worldwide.

“We want to get the tools into the hands of teachers, parents and employers who can identify individuals at risk to make inroads on the problem,” says Victor Hesselbrock, scientific director of the Alcohol Research Center and vice chair of psychiatry at the UConn School of Medicine.

Another key effort of ARC is its focus on identifying genetic susceptibility factors, including taking part in the multi-center, NIH-funded Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA), which seeks to identify the susceptibility genes for alcoholism and other addictions.

UConn is one of six research institutions working together to detect and map susceptible genes for alcohol dependence and related phenotypes. The COGA database contains information on 1,500 families of alcohol-dependent patients from across the U.S. The data includes clinical information based on personal interviews, medical records and laboratory assessments such as blood biochemistry, genetic markers and psychological test performances.





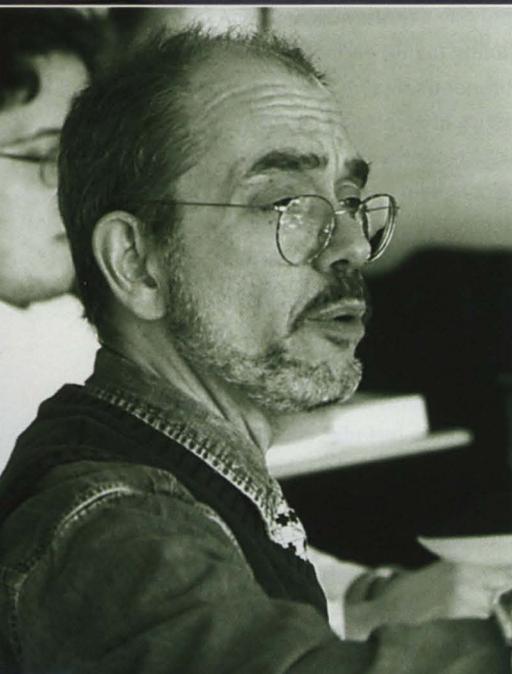
# The

*By Jim H. Smith*

Writing is solitary labor and every writer has a unique approach to the task. For Sam Pickering, UConn professor of English, it's walking. He does a lot of it. On sabbatical last year, in Scotland, he once walked 18 miles in a single day.

An inveterate chronicler, he keeps a notebook handy everywhere he goes. "I take a lot of notes," he says. "I record patterns."

Those notes are the raw material



Some current and former UConn faculty members who are also authors. Top Row: Robert Thorson, Regina Barreca, Ann Charters, Marilyn Nelson, Middle Row: Penelope Pelizzon, Sam Pickering, Left: Wally Lamb

from which he constructs insightful ruminations that offer fresh ways of looking at everyday topics such as the seasons, teaching, and politics. In the last 30 years he has composed upward of 100 essays that have been published in the most prestigious literary periodicals and in 19 books.

Pickering is among a number of UConn professors who have distinguished themselves in recent years by producing books that transcend academia, reaching a broader audience. He was, for instance, just one of nearly 50 writers whose work, celebrated by the UConn Humanities Institute during 2003 and 2004, speaks to a writing culture whose roots have penetrated every department and discipline at the University. This proliferation of writers goes well beyond the many books and scholarly works produced each year by members of the UConn faculty and it extends to UConn alumni, such as the poet Lewis



*UConn's renowned writing culture has endured for more than 40 years thanks to a productive and congenial group of novelists, biographers and poets.*

# Writing Life at UConn

Turco '59 (CLAS), author Robert D. Kaplan '73 (CLAS), and former UConn professor Wally Lamb '72 (CLAS) '77 M.A. who are among the nation's most prolific and respected writers and authors.

When the expanded UConn Co-op opened two years ago, new space provided the opportunity to promote faculty works that now fill nearly two racks at the entrance to the Co-op, helping to make many of them brisk sellers. "We acquire copies of all faculty books and we host a lot of readings and book signing events throughout the year," says Suzy Staubach, manager of general books at the Co-op.

The section devoted to UConn authors is hardly the exclusive province of the English department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Among the Co-op's most requested volumes are geologist Robert Thorson's *Stone by Stone: The Magnificent History in New England's Stone Walls*, which won the 2003 Connecticut Book Award in nonfiction; *The Hanging of Ephraim Wheeler*, a riveting account of the last execution by hanging in Massachusetts by history professor Richard Brown and his wife, former family studies professor Irene Brown; and philosophy professor Michael Lynch's *True to Life: Why Truth Matters*.

Unquestionably, however, the English department has always been the epicenter of writing at UConn. The department's history as a magnet for world-class authors is noted by Stephen Tabachnick '71 Ph.D. in his 2003 book *Fiercer*

*Than Tigers: The Life and Works of Rex Warner*, a biography of the historical novelist who taught in the UConn English department from 1963 to 1974 (see *UConn Traditions*, Spring 2003).

Now chair of the English department at the University of Memphis, Tabachnick writes that the UConn English department established its renown, more than 40 years ago, with a faculty that included the poet and biographer John Malcolm Brinnin, poets Stephen Spender and Charles Olson, modern literature scholar Joseph Cary, romanticist Jack Davis and Stephen Crane's biographer, R. W. Stallman.

"An eternal rule of all university departments is that productive and congenial faculty members attract similarly productive and congenial colleagues," Tabachnick says. "As Spender was to write in his *Journals 1939-1983*, the Storrs department was 'the most congenial English faculty I was to know in all my years of teaching in America.'"

"We're very proud of UConn's writing culture," says Robert Tilton, head of the English department. "We've made a strong effort, over the years, to attract and retain writers as members of the faculty." In the last four years, he notes, nearly 50 books have been published by English department writers who are among the most celebrated in Connecticut,

such as Pickering, humorist Regina Barreca and Ann Charters, one of the foremost scholars in the country of the Beat Generation writers.

To nurture that culture, the department sponsors or supports a wide range of programs. It regularly brings prominent writers to campus for lectures, receptions and interaction with students and faculty, ensuring UConn's profile as an important stop on the literary trail between New York and Boston. It houses the Connecticut Writing Project that, since 1982, has been providing educational opportunities for Connecticut teachers in all disciplines and from all grade levels who recognize the worth of using writing as a means of learning any subject matter. And it enjoys a close affiliation with Curbstone Press, a highly regarded publisher based in Willimantic, devoted to creative literature that promotes human rights and inter-cultural understanding. The

**“We’re very proud of UConn’s writing culture, we’ve made a strong effort, over the years, to attract and retain writers as members of the faculty.”**

increasingly prominent Litchfield County Writers Project, based at UConn's campus in Torrington, exemplifies the reach of UConn's writing culture (see below, left).

Contemporary faculty members characterize the climate of productivity and congeniality that Tabachnik identified as a hallmark. Penelope Pelizzon, for instance, is a widely published poet and author of the book, *Nostos*, published in 2000. Formerly assistant professor and coordinator of creative writing at Washington and Jefferson College, she came to UConn in 2002 to direct the creative writing program.

In Storrs, she says, she has found “a sense of collegiality” as well as what she calls “writerly solitude.” This privacy and creative space, which writers often crave, is a benefit of the English department's culture that many of her colleagues also extol. For instance, some professors teach only one semester each year, which provides ample time for the writing and research that both fulfills their own professional needs and informs their classes.

“Poetry is a craft,” says Marilyn Nelson, poet laureate of Connecticut and UConn emeritus professor of English. “Too often people tend to write poems like building a house without knowing much about architecture.” The commitment to helping young writers learn that craft has been a foundation of Nelson's work as both a professor and a writer, which,

she says, has been aided by a number of UConn grants.

Nelson, who taught full-time from 1978 to 2002 and now teaches part-time, is the author of nine books and the recipient of many literary awards, including two Pushcart Prizes and two creative writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts. She now directs the Soul Mountain Retreat at her home in East Haddam where, with support from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, she nurtures African-American poets who are “committed to the craft” with residencies year round.

There may be no better indication of UConn as a respected center of writing than the selection of Ross Miller, professor of English and comparative literature, to write a critical biography of one of America's great modern novelists, Philip Roth. Miller also was selected by the Library of America as the sole editor of its comprehensive eight-volume edition of Roth's entire body of work, only the third living writer to be so honored, that will be published from

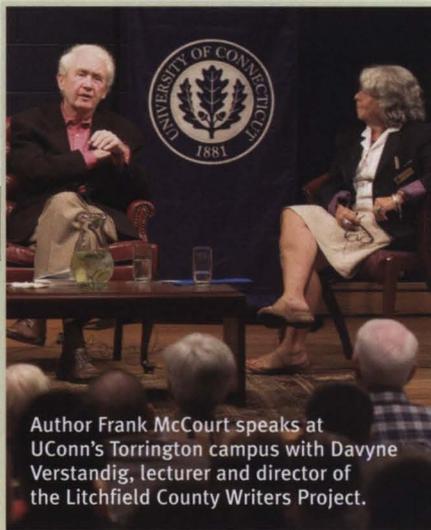
## Celebrating the Retreat

The way in which UConn's campus in Torrington uniquely reflects the region that it serves is no better illustrated than with the Litchfield County Writers Project.

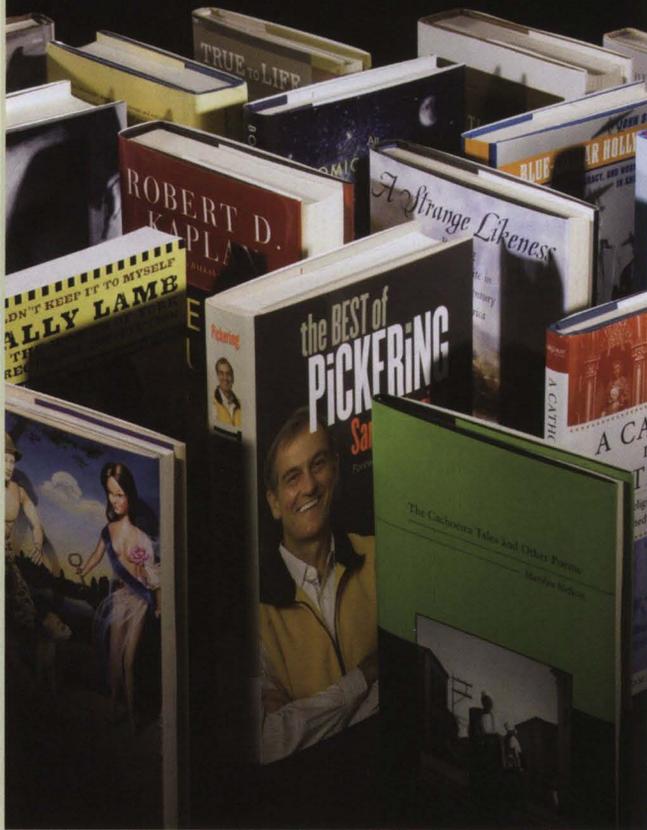
Litchfield County has been a country get-away for literary luminaries for many years. The establishment of a vehicle for local writers to share information and insights began 12 years ago with a small collection of eight first-edition books signed by the late writer, artist, historian and environmentalist Eric Sloane and writers gathering to talk informally about their work.

That modest beginning has evolved beyond anyone's wildest dreams. The Litchfield County Writers Project has developed into a distinguished regional writing program offering classes, workshops, special events and speakers programs, often featuring some of the most celebrated writers in the nation. Arthur Miller, Wendell Minor, Madeleine L'Engle, Burton Bernstein and Honor Moore have all been guest speakers. This fall's series has included novelist Frank McCourt, playwright A. R. Gurney and Bill C. Davis.

With donations of some 100 books last year, the spark for the Litchfield County Writers Project has grown to nearly 1,000 books written by nearly 200 local authors.



Author Frank McCourt speaks at UConn's Torrington campus with Davyne Verstandig, lecturer and director of the Litchfield County Writers Project.



Writings by UConn faculty and alumni are among the best-selling books available in the UConn Co-op.

2005 to 2013. Regina Barreca has written or edited 14 books and is a renowned expert on humor. In addition to her teaching, she writes regular columns for *The Hartford Courant* and the Web site *Education World* and is in demand as a public speaker.

“Writing helps to keep me current as a teacher, and it helps to keep me honest,” says Barreca, who admits that the pressure of impending deadlines is an important motivator. “It’s a humbling experience. Words are not just some gift from the cosmos that magically appear on paper. Writing is hard work. It’s a craft, and I try to impress upon my students the importance of honoring the craft by doing it well.”

It is a sentiment that many of her colleagues share and an idea that is central to UConn’s writing culture. Every student at the university is required to take at least two writing-intensive courses, and the emphasis is on learning to write clearly and correctly. The journalism department, also within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is often where UConn students elect to fulfill the writing requirement, a point noted in a 2003 report by the team from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The report indicated that the journalism department is known for its faculty expertise in teaching writing that sharpens critical thinking and the wide impact that it has across campus.

Adds Pelizzon, “Many of my students have no intention of becoming professional writers. What we try to impress upon them, however, is the importance of the craft of writing. We try to put students inside the writing process and give them a sense of responsibility for doing it well.”

## The Writing Life After UConn

The writers who teach at UConn are a diverse lot. But just as idiosyncratic in their varied approaches to their craft are the many alumni who have taken up the pen. A sampling of some UConn alumni who are prolific writers:

**Ann Beattie '70 M.A.** is a short story writer and novelist who has been recognized many times for her work, including an award of excellence from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Collections of her short stories include *Park City* and *The Burning House*, and her six novels include *My Life, Starring Dara Falcon*.

**Robert D. Kaplan '73 (CLAS)** is a correspondent for *The Atlantic Monthly* and the author of 11 books on travel and foreign affairs, including *Balkan Ghosts* and *The Coming Anarchy*. His latest book, *Imperial Grunts: The American Military on the Ground*, is the first of a series of books he is writing about the U.S. military.

**Wally Lamb '72 (CLAS) '77 M.A.** is the best-selling author of *She's Come Undone* and *I Know This Much Is True*, and editor of the poetry collection, *Always Begin Where You Are*. He is the recipient of a 1998 Connecticut Governor's Arts Award, a past recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts grant for fiction and a *Missouri Review* William Peden Fiction Prize.

**Patricia MacLachlan '62 (ED)** is the best-selling author of many beloved books for young readers, including *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, winner of the Newbery Medal. Among her picture books are *Painting the Wind* and *Bittle*, both of which she co-wrote with her daughter Emily.

**Bobbie Ann Mason '72 Ph.D.** is one of the country's leading fiction writers, known for such novels as *In Country* and short stories that have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's* and *Redbook*.

**Jean Marzollo '64 (CLAS)** has published more than 100 books, including the popular *I Spy* children's books. Recent books she has both written and illustrated include *Little Bear*, *You're A Star* and *Daniel in the Lions' Den*.

**Leigh Montville '65 (CLAS)** is one of the nation's best-known sports-writers, having worked for *Sports Illustrated* and as a columnist for the *Boston Globe*. Among his many books are *Ted Williams: The Biography of an American Hero*, *The Fast Life and Tragic Death of Dale Earnhardt*, and *Dare to Dream: Connecticut Basketball's Remarkable March to the National Championship with Jim Calhoun*.

**Jim Motavalli '75 (CLAS)** is editor of *E, The Environmental Magazine*, and one the nation's leading environmental writers. His books include *Breaking Gridlock: Moving Toward Transportation that Works* and *Feeling the Heat: Dispatches from the Frontlines of Climate Change*.

**Mark Kimball Moulton '77 (CANR)** published his first children's book, *A Snowman Named Just Bob*, in 1999 and has written 15 other children's titles.

**Les Payne '64 (CLAS)** is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and columnist for Tribune Media Services. He is associate managing editor of *Newsday*.

**Elaine Scarry '74 Ph.D.** is a literary critic, author and English professor at Harvard University who is best known for her books *The Body in Pain: The Making and Unmaking of the World* and *On Beauty and Being Just*, which won the Truman Capote Award for Literary Criticism Award.

**George Smith '63 (CLAS)** retired from his career as a sportswriter for *The Hartford Courant*, to begin a new career as a writer of military history and has written four books, including *The Siege of Hue* and *MacArthur's Escape*.

**Lewis Turco '59 (CLAS)** established a writing career that has spanned more than half a century and included 44 books that have won some of the nation's most respected literary awards, including the Poetry Society of America's Melville Cane Award for his 1986 book of criticism, *Visions and Revisions of American Poetry*. He is professor emeritus of English writing arts at the State University of New York-Oswego.



# Helping to

FALLEN IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE

# keep the peace

## Dawn Denvir '81 (CLAS) leads training for U.N. peacekeepers

By Kenneth Best

**T**he words of Isaiah 2:4 are carved into the wall on a stairway landing in New York City, directly across First Avenue from where the flags of member nations fly in front of United Nations headquarters: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more."

In some ways, the world has come to follow those words. In the 21st century, wars most often are no longer fought between nations. Rather, wars are waged within nations over religious or ethnic issues behind a wall of political rhetoric. And as difficult as it may be to end the fighting—sometimes after decades—the really hard work begins after the guns are silenced, when the peace must be kept even as a severely damaged society is being rebuilt.

Early in 2004, Dawn Denvir '81 (SFA) stepped into the middle of the United Nations effort to find better ways to maintain peace after the fighting has ended. As chief of the newly created civilian training and development section within the United Nations department of peacekeeping operations, Denvir leads a core group of training staff in New York City that supports a

field staff of 18,000 civilians posted in 31 UN missions around the world, including those in Haiti, Lebanon, Kosovo, Sudan and Liberia, among others.

"The UN has always had a training component for the military contingent of peacekeeping. They delivered that to member states," Denvir says sitting in her office located across the street from the landmark UN Secretariat building. "Now we're trying to rebuild civil societies. That takes time."

A more formalized approach to training civilians involved in UN peacekeeping missions is one of the direct results of The Report of the Panel on UN Peace Operations, known as the Brahimi Report, issued in 2000. The document was produced by a panel of international experts led by former Algerian foreign minister Lakhdar Brahimi, a long-time adviser to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. The panel also recommended the establishment of a Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit to analyze lessons learned from previous peacekeeping efforts and to advise UN missions on gender issues.

"We needed a different approach to peacekeeping. What's driving change is changes in the nature of conflict. We're learning hard lessons from the past,"

says David Harland, chief of the best practices unit. "What we've come up with is this full-court press that we call robust peacekeeping. We're dealing with the causes of conflicts as well as peacekeeping."

Harland says the shift in conflict from warring nations to internal battles within nations has moved UN peace operations from "ceasefire observation and monitoring tasks to a much broader set of 'peace building,' 'state building' or even 'nation building' roles." The best practices unit is reconfiguring the peacekeeping process around these new responsibilities, he adds.

"I see the peacekeeper training and human rights education as intricately linked," says Amii Omara-Otunnu, executive director of UConn's Institute of Comparative Human Rights and holder of the only United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair in North America. "Our human rights education is complementary with peacekeeping. The question is, how do you train people in a world that is very interdependent, where you essentially have a global village? Training is educating people. That's why I think the solution we have is to effectively educate people to respect one another despite our dif-

ferences. This, I think, reinforces the work of peacekeeper training.”

Denvir describes what her training unit does as “a work in progress within the UN structure.” It is responsible for all types of required training for peacekeeping work, ranging from language and communication skills to aviation fuel safety and what are termed “substantive capacity building,” such as disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

The civilian training and development staff would also have responsibility in a situation such as when the UN buys a fleet of automobiles for use in peacekeeping somewhere in the world. The training staff then would work with the auto manufacturer to teach civilian peacekeepers to maintain the fleet, providing job skills that could later help rebuild the nation’s economic base.

“In a place such as Liberia, where there are a thousand or more Liberians working with the UN in a variety of capacities, we can have people who come in as drivers or mechanics. We can build their skills so potentially

Denvir says. “What we can do is at least provide some fundamental, foundational knowledge to our trainees to help them understand core areas of the United Nations, so when we talk about human rights,—what the international law is for human rights, for example—they know what is expected of them. A lot of people may come in with areas of expertise, but they may not know the UN policies and procedures, so helping them to understand the complexity of the UN system itself is important.”

She says many of the “clear cut areas are not a problem,” for training civilian peacekeepers, such as efforts to train individuals to build new schools, roads and businesses damaged by war. Often this requires working with young people who have been fighting as soldiers since they were children without knowing any other type of life and who must learn how to work and hold a job. The difficulty comes around the “more nebulous areas” of management and leadership skills. “There is not always

United Nations peacekeeping operations have expanded in recent years to include a number of key areas, such as rule of law, civil administration, economic development and human rights.

This past summer, more than 35 young human rights workers and activists from more than 20 nations gathered on UConn’s main campus for the first Intergenerational Conference on Human Rights. It was organized by Amii Omara-Otunnu, holder of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair; UConn’s Institute of Comparative Human Rights; and the Coalition of Human Rights Organizations, New England.



Rosalyn Odera of the UN division for the advancement of women speaks at UConn.

Peter Morenus

“The University of Connecticut has designated human rights as a priority,” says Omara-Otunnu, the only UNESCO Chair in North America. “We try to bring people together across racial, regional and ideological lines to say that we have to learn from one another reciprocally and move forward.”

Omara-Otunnu says most of those who attended the conference work in isolation on various issues and the conference helped to show them how their work is integrated.

“Now they can share information and dialogue. The other important thing is that by bringing generations together, the older human rights leaders are the mentors of the younger leaders,” Omara-Otunnu says.

At the same time, their image of the United States also changed from their experience at the UConn conference, he says.

“Each of them said, without exception, that they had not known that Americans are so wonderful until they experienced their hospitality,” he says. “They went back positively impressed about the United States. There is no more powerful group than these young people going home and telling others about their experience in the United States. We are trying to convey a human face for the United States to the rest of the world.”

**“We needed a different approach to peacekeeping. What’s driving change is changes in the nature of conflict.”**

afterward they can run a repair shop or start a taxi service,” Denvir says. “Or we could have political affairs officers who will do substantive work and then continue to build their country or build a police force that will enforce the rule of law.”

A more complex area for UN civilian peacekeeper training is how to create an ever-growing corps of experienced, knowledgeable and skilled individuals who can move from one peacekeeping mission to another around the world.

“Can you make peacekeeping a profession as you would for a doctor or a lawyer who needs certain accreditation? We may not be able to create that sort of thing and I’m not sure we want to,”

agreement where it is necessary or how we can even deliver it,” Denvir says. “We’re in the early days of how all this will work and how to provide it.”

Most senior professionals arrive at the UN after careers working in non-governmental humanitarian organizations; however, Denvir’s path was much more indirect. The daughter of a U.S. Air Force master sergeant, she grew up moving to different military bases every 18 months. She aspired to be an actor and after completing her UConn degree from the School of Fine Arts she performed on stage in Connecticut, New York, India and in national tours.

*Continued on Page 50*

# Faculty

## Getting the student's attention

Miller uses multimedia events to engage his students

**R**eplete with blaring music, bits from animated TV series and other pop culture references, David B. Miller's psychology lectures are multimedia events that have earned him awards and accolades as one of UConn's most engaging faculty members.

He recently plucked snake photos from a science journal to highlight a presentation about mimicry and evolution. The photos showed a non-poisonous snake with similar colors to a poisonous snake, giving it "an adaptive advantage by not being preyed upon."

"What I try to do is really engage the student—that's half the battle," Miller says. "The idea is once you've got their attention, then you hit them with the important stuff."

Miller's enthusiasm for his subject, his students, and the respect earned from his colleagues, have been recognized over the years with nearly every UConn teaching award, including his most recent honor this past October, when he was presented with the 2005 UConn Alumni Association award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Undergraduate Level.

"David Miller is widely recognized by his colleagues as an outstanding researcher and as a truly outstanding leader in our mission of teaching excellence," says Charles Lowe, chair

of the psychology department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Miller joined the UConn faculty in 1980, primarily to conduct bird research.

A decade later a grant from UConn's Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) provided some computer equipment and the impetus to change the direction of his approach to the classroom.

**Miller's enthusiasm for his subject, his students, and the respect earned from his colleagues, have been recognized over the years with nearly every UConn teaching award.**

"It started with simple scanning of slides for an animal behavior course...and sort of snowballed," Miller says, adding he is routinely upgrading the

multimedia elements for all his courses. Miller still keeps tabs on the avian world, as editor-in-chief of the scholarly journal *Bird Behavior*.

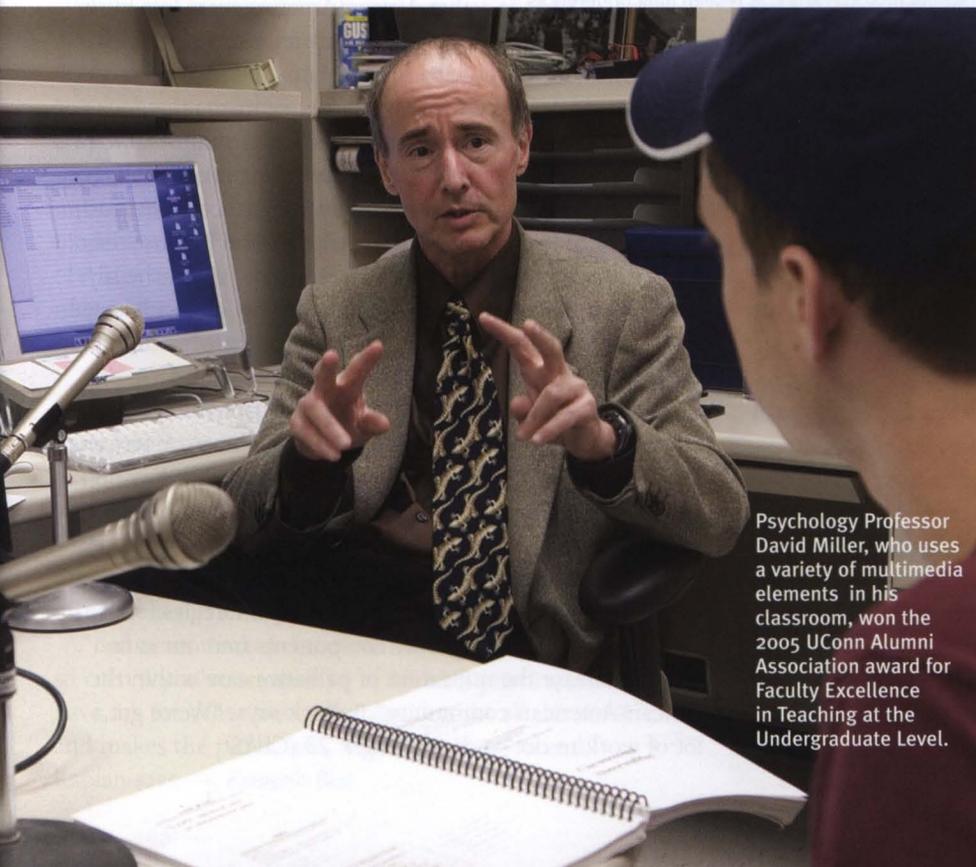
Miller's teaching methods are well known throughout the UConn community, says Lowe, thanks to the many workshops he has led on a variety of teaching methods during the past six years at the ITL.

A rock 'n' roll enthusiast who sings and plays guitar for the band Off Yer Rockers, whose members are all UConn faculty, Miller teaches more freshmen each year than any other psychology professor. He also participates in summer orientation sessions for freshmen, which he estimates allows him to meet nearly 90 percent of incoming students.

Miller admits that although the long-term effectiveness of the orientation sessions is always uncertain, what is clear is that he feels good about making the effort. The influence he has on his students, however, is evident.

"David not only motivates interested students and students with outstanding potential, he also motivates students to approach their potential," says Lowe.

— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)



Psychology Professor David Miller, who uses a variety of multimedia elements in his classroom, won the 2005 UConn Alumni Association award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Undergraduate Level.

Peter Morenus

## Seeking ways to improve end-of-life care

*Personal experience guides research on care of elderly African-Americans*



Peter Morenus

**Karen Bullock, assistant professor at the UConn School of Social Work, is researching preferences of utilization of medical treatment among older African-Americans.**

**K**aren Bullock believes elderly African-Americans should know more about end-of-life treatment options, which when needed due to a terminal illness would result in improved support for dying patients and their families.

Bullock, an assistant professor at the UConn School of Social Work, is researching preferences for utilization of medical treatment among older African-Americans as a faculty scholar under a \$100,000 grant from the Gerontological Society of America and The John A. Hartford Foundation. She will be comparing end-of-life care experiences, type of treatments and other factors that influence end-of-life care in an acute care setting. It is a subject close to her heart.

"I know, personally, that cultural barriers exist," says Bullock, whose mother died of lung cancer several years ago. The condition was far advanced by the time it was diagnosed, she says and her mother, who was a deeply religious woman, resisted treatment and pain management.

"Hospice would have been wonderful for her, but she refused the care," says Bullock, who was her mother's primary caregiver. "There's a tremendous need for work in this area,

and I really want to do something to break down those barriers."

Bullock has been involved with eldercare and end-of-life issues for several years, including serving as the director of the UConn Resource Enrichment Center, which was established at the School of Social Work under a grant from the SOROS Foundation/Project on Death (see *UConn Traditions*, Summer 2003). The goal of the SOROS program is to develop a Web-based resource enrichment center on end-of-life issues and information for social workers.

**Bullock has been involved with eldercare and end-of-life issues for several years.**

Bullock thinks racial differences contribute to end-of-life decisions and that African-Americans are less likely to complete advance directives—living wills that explain a person's medical

wishes—or to choose palliative care, treatments that focus on symptom management and comfort care of an illness when there is no known cure. "Many older African-Americans continue to receive aggressive treatment when there is little to no chance of improvement in their condition because they feel [without it] they won't receive adequate care," she says, noting that many older people do not know what advanced directives are and may be suspicious of them when told that these directives help patients have a "good death."

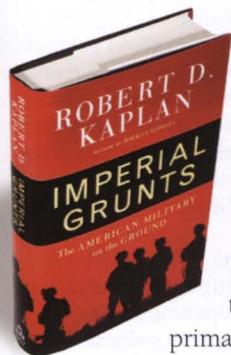
Bullock will use data from Hartford Hospital to compare end-of-life treatment between a group of African-Americans and Caucasians who died over a two-year period. Key variables include age, race, medical history, types of treatment and cause of death.

"We need evidence-based research on which to make recommendations before we can develop strategies for integrating culturally specific components into our care and to increase the utilization of palliative care within the African-American community," Bullock says. "We've got a lot of work to do." —Karen Singer '73 (*CLAS*)



Recent works by alumni and faculty

Up close and personal with the U.S. military



During his many years as a correspondent for *The Atlantic Monthly*, Robert D. Kaplan '73 (CLAS) covered foreign issues and wars, often meeting U.S. military personnel posted in the world's most dangerous places, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Columbia and the Philippines. He later kept in touch with the those he encountered,

primarily mid-level commissioned and non-commissioned officers who do the day-to-day work of the military.

*Imperial Grunts: The American Military on the Ground* (Random House), is the first in a series of books Kaplan is writing to examine how the U.S. military is coping with changes in its structure and mission in the 21st century. He spent months at a time living and traveling with American soldiers around the world.

"Despite all the recent coverage of Iraq, the military is still this exotic species for a large portion of Americans who don't have relatives who are serving or in the reserves," Kaplan says, noting this situation is a result of the end of required U.S. military service following the Vietnam War. "We are still burdened by the stereotypes of old TV series of the sergeant screaming in someone's ear while they're doing push ups. In fact, the sergeant today is very often someone who can speak two or three languages or is a corporate middle manager."

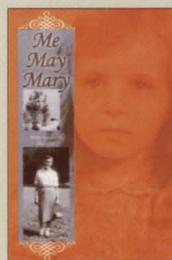
Kaplan's writing is filled with references to historic military battles from ancient times as he moves across modern terrain in Mongolia, Columbia, Yemen, the Horn of Africa and the Middle East. He says the days of mass military troop movements to fight are at an end, as much smaller units will lead most of the battles.

"It's my belief that as the nature of warfare changes and the battle gets more spread out, instead of mass infantry units you have small clusters fighting and the importance of non-commissioned officers becomes that much more significant," Kaplan says.

At the same time, he notes, the U.S. military faces an unprecedented challenge to find victory against counter-insurgencies in an age of global mass media.

"Bad news tends to be more novelty than good news, so even if you've secured 14 of 18 Iraqi provinces as we have, it's the other four provinces that get all the news and makes the public ask, when is it going to end?" Kaplan says. — *Kenneth Best*

ALSO OF INTEREST



*Me May Mary*

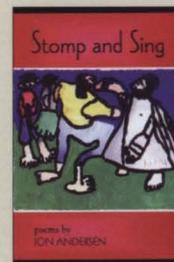
Mary Kilgour '62 (CLAS)  
(Child Welfare League of America)

Kilgour offers a touching story about childhood independence. Mary, called May as a child, is a survivor of abuse and neglect who makes her way through life with determination. *Me May Mary* speaks

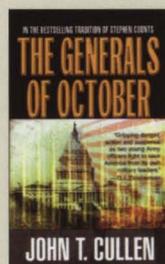
to anyone who works with children and emphasizes the truth that all it takes is one person to show care and understanding to make all the difference in the life of a child. As May meets the challenges of her life and comes out with a sense a self-worth, she becomes Mary, realizing her full potential.

*Stomp and Sing*

Jon Andersen '92 (CLAS)  
(Curbstone Press)



This collection of Andersen's poems moves the imagination and touches many different emotions, offering the reader the opportunity to relate the themes to his or her own life. *Stomp and Sing* presents a variety of daily scenarios, dreams and adventures in clear and direct narrative. Andersen makes the reader feel in the moment of each poem and then returns you back with a new feeling and outlook on life, covering a range of topics from racism to the consolation of nature.



*The Generals of October*

John Cullen '72 (CLAS)  
(iBooks, inc.)

Cullen sparks the imagination on questioning the political world that surrounds the United States today. His characters are passionate in their quest to make a difference in the way the government works. A second constitutional convention seeks to change the U.S. Constitution and threatens the very principles the nation was founded upon. Each chapter keeps you on the edge of your seat with underlying themes of romance and deception.

— *Dollie Harvey '05 (CANR)*

# News&Notes

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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



### Save the Date June 2-3, 2006

Reunion Weekend—Classes of 1981, 1956, 1951, 1946, and 1941

Mark your calendars! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 2 & 3, 2006. The schedule will include tours of campus, keynote speakers, museum tours, a dinner Friday evening and a New England Clambake

on Saturday afternoon. Check your mail in April for registration information or check our Web site, [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com), for program updates.

### Special Interest Reunions

Interested in getting reconnected with that special group of friends? Let the UConn Alumni Association help. If you have questions about the above events or have a specific group (i.e. dorm, fraternity, sorority, student organization, athletic team, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together for Reunion Weekend 2006, contact Kim Lachut '90 (ED) at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1, or by e-mail: [kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu](mailto:kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu).

## 1930s

**Edward Sammis '37 (ENG)** and **Ruth (Nielsen) Sammis '38 (SAH)** have been married for 65 years and have three children, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. The couple lives in Sarasota, Fla.

**Willis Wilbur '39 (CANR)** is enjoying his time since retiring in 1988 from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

## 1940s

**Mary Louise Lloyd '40 (SFS)** was honored with a Project Identify and Recognize Award by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, which recognizes professionals in the field of home economics,

family and consumer sciences, and dietetics for their service to the armed forces. She lives in Lunenburg, Mass.

**Charles Rohde '42 (CLAS)** and wife, **Evelyn Field Rohde '73 (CLAS)**, have been married for 60 years. They have three sons, **Charles Rohde '71 (CLAS)**, **Thomas Rohde '74 (CLAS)**, and **James Rohde '79 (CLAS)**.

**Sidney Goldstein '49 (CLAS), '51 M.A.**, professor emeritus of sociology at GH Crooker University and a professor emeritus at Brown University, received the 2005 Laureate Award of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, recognizing his work in demography, focusing on migration and urbanization. He and his wife, Alice, live in Warwick, R.I.

## 1950s

**Joseph Gionfriddo '51 (BUS)** received an achievement award from the Georgia State Golf Association for shooting his age in a round of golf (74).

**John Burke '55 (BUS)** retired from Travelers. He lives with his wife, Janet, in Lanoka Harbor, N.J., near their four children and eight grandchildren.

**Ken Cucuel '57 (CLAS)** is the reigning over-70 champion in squash for both the U.S. and Canada. He competed in the World Master's Games held in July 2005 in Edmonton, Alberta.

**Ed Satell '57 (BUS)**, the founder and CEO of Progressive Business Publications, was named the 2003 Individual Philanthropist of the Year by the Greater Philadelphia Area Association of Fundraising Professionals.

**James Lorello '58 M.S.** has authored *Septegenarian Thoughts*, a poem of 101 rhyming lines.

**William Pardus '58 (CLAS), '60 M.A.**, a professor emeritus of music at Keene State College in N.H., conducted the Waterford (Conn.) Community Band in the Connecticut premiere of his composition "The Mills of New England (A Symphonic Portrait)."

**John Phillips '58 (CLAS)** retired after 32 years with the U.S. Army. He lives in Florence, Ala., and teaches chemistry at the University of North Alabama.

**Ron Topping '58 (BUS)** retired in December 2004 after 32 years with Hedwin Corp. as a regional sales manager. He lives with his wife, Donna, in Walnut Creek, Calif.

**Patti (Bert) R. Ratia '59 (CLAS)** retired from the U.S. Defense Department. He and his wife, Barbara, own an Internet-based antiques and collectibles business in Tucson, Ariz.

## 1960s

**Charles Chamberlain '60 (ED)** retired in 1995 as a counselor at Dover High School in Dover, N.H. He lives in Bend, Ore., and is an artist concentrating on realism with acrylics.

**Robert Blair '61 (BUS)** retired from IBM in 2002 and recently finished a book about his experiences with IBM's Office Products Division, *OPD and Me—Inside the Romance Division of IBM*. He lives in Austin, Texas.

**Elliot Kalner '62 (CLAS)** retired in 2002 after 30 years of

## ABBREVIATION KEY

### School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

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

### Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

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

teaching in the Greenwich, Conn., public schools. He is an adjunct professor of American history at Norwalk Community College. He and his wife, Cathy, live in Norwalk.

**Douglas Lovig '62 (CLAS)** was twice named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He retired in 2003 after 40 years of teaching English at Central High School in Bridgeport, Conn. He and his wife, Virginia, live in Bethany, Conn.

**Donnajeane (Bigos) Lavoie '63 (NUR)** retired to New Hampshire but remains involved with the local Visiting Nurses Association as a health educator for area child care centers and as a facilitator for a caregiver support group.

**Bruce Wiley '63 (CLAS)** is retired after separate careers in aerospace and small businesses. He has two grandchildren and lives in Union, Conn.

**Joel Hirschhorn '64 (CLAS)** has been listed for 21 consecutive years in *Best Lawyers of America*. He is the founding partner of Hirschhorn & Bieber, P.A., located in Coral Gables, Fla., which concentrates in criminal and civil white-collar defense of corporations and business executives.



**Mark Azzara '66 M.A.** is the director of student recruitment for Holy Apostles College in Cromwell, Conn. He lives in Danbury, Conn.



**Joseph McAnneny '66 (CLAS)** is a principal at Economics Incorporated in Washington, D.C.

**Alan Carbonneau '67 (ED)** retired from the Connecticut Department of Social Services

in June 2003. He substitute teaches for Connecticut Region 15 middle schools. He and his wife, Beth, live in Middlebury.

**Barbara (Bess) Gahry '67 (CLAS)** is a real estate agent with Prudential Palms Realty in Sarasota, Fla., where she lives with her husband, Dennis.



**Darlene D. Pedersen '67 (NUR)** has published a clinical pocket guide, *Psych Notes*, which is aimed at helping nursing students during psychiatric clinical rotations. She is board certified in adult psychiatric mental health nursing and a board certified psychotherapist. She previously held editorial positions in medical and nursing publishing.

**Beverly (Hunter) Tillman '67 (CLAS)** received a Doctor of Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary in June 2005. She is the founder and president of LEAP of Faith Empowerment Institute and is a public speaker for professional women. She lives in Pasadena, Calif.



**Chris Donovan '69 (SFA)** was nominated for an Emmy Award for producing the Independent Film Channel's show *Dinner for Five*.

## 1970s

**Jim Carini '70 (BUS)** works for Capital One Financial in Richmond, Va. He and his wife, Patti, and their children, Jay and Laura, live in Williamsburg, Va.



## PROFILE

### Achieving his dream of scholarship

**Roy Brooks '72 (CLAS)** arrived at UConn from New Haven with visions of becoming an academic scholar. He wondered whether his ambition was beyond reach, but three professors who he affectionately refers to as “the trinity”—George Cole and Wayne Shannon in political science and Joel Kupperman in philosophy—helped answer the question.

“They saw things in me that I didn't,” says Brooks, who received the UConn Alumni Association's 2005 Distinguished Alumni award. “They gave me direction, shaped my scholarship and taught me to commit myself completely to it.”

Brooks graduated magna cum laude and went on to Yale Law School, where he became a senior editor of the *Yale Law Journal*. Today he is the Warren Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of San Diego and has written 23 books on civil rights, civil procedure, employment discrimination and critical theory.

Brooks' work on jurisprudence, *Structures of Judicial Decision Making*, gained attention during recent Supreme Court confirmation hearings. Sitting judges often refer to the book and it is used as a text in the curriculum at various law schools.

Moreover, his opinion's on race relations and civil rights have raised the level of discourse on these matters. For example, in *Atonement and Forgiveness* he reframes one of the most controversial issues of our time: reparations for African-Americans. “I use the issue of reparations for bringing about racial reconciliation,” says Brooks.

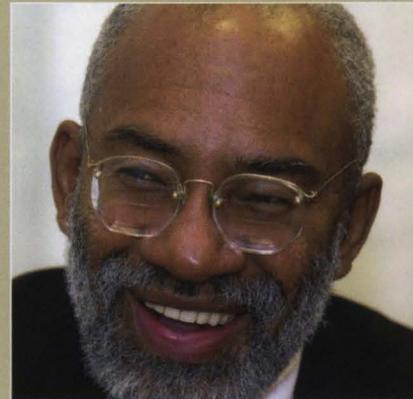
Key to his vision is the government's clear signal that it understands the magnitude of the atrocities it committed against an innocent people. Indeed, some members of Congress cited the book as being influential in the passage of a recent resolution apologizing for failure to enact anti-lynching legislation. Almost 5,000 people—mostly African-Americans—were lynched between 1882 and 1968.

Brooks says he has no expectations about the impact of his writing. “My total interest is in getting it right, looking at all the relevant sources and doing it with balance and fairness,” he adds.

As Brook's sphere of influence continues to expand, he has not forgotten those that set him on his scholarly path. For instance, inside the jacket of his book *Integration or Separation? A Strategy for Racial Equality*, which received the Gustavus Meyers Outstanding Book Award for civil rights and the Brandeis University Library Learned Research Journal Award, there is a dedication to the “trinity” of UConn professors who recognized his potential.

“I was so absolutely fortunate to meet that gifted and talented trio,” Brooks says. “They made me feel as if I had something to contribute to society. I'm eternally grateful to them.”

—Ron Meshberg



**Joseph Anthony '71 (CLAS)** was inducted as a fellow into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

**Frank Destadio '71 (ENG)**



retired as a colonel in the U.S. Air Force after 30 years of military service. He is the vice president and director of business development for the communications division of Verizon Telecommunications. He and his wife, Sandi, have four daughters and live in Atlanta, Ga.

**Richard Tavone '71 (SSW)**, a certified teaching professional, formed a clinical golf program in Coventry, R.I. that instructs clients in all areas of the game.

**David Landy '72 (CLAS)** was elected president of the N.Y. Metro Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers.



His company, David Landy Interiors Inc., specializes in medical, executive office, and high end residential interior design. He and his wife, **Linda Fialkoff '72 (SFS)**, and their daughter, Lauren, live in Mineola, N.Y.



**Susan Hyde-Wick '72 (ED)** is the director of career development at Quinnipiac University. She lives in Woodbury, Conn.

**James Ingalls '72 (SFA)** has been a freelance lighting designer for theatre, opera, dance and concerts for 25 years. Recent projects include: *Romance* by David Mamet at New York's Atlantic Theatre and John Adams' *Dr. Atomic* at the San Francisco Opera.

**Eddie Torres '72 (ED), '73 M.A.** retired in 1995 after 20 years as a bilingual teacher. He has been married for 48 years and is the editor and publisher of *Good Earth Vegetarian News*.

**Jack Hutchison '73 (ENG)** marked his 20th year at Environmental Science Associates in San Francisco in July 2005. He is a senior transportation engineer with ESA and conducts analyses for environmental impact reports.

**Regina Poltrack '73 (CLAS)** passed the Certified Information



Systems Auditor exam. She is a senior internal auditor for KPMG in Montvale, N.J. She lives in Yorktown, N.Y., with husband, James, and sons, Adam and Brendan.

**Adrienne Robb-Fund '73 (ED)** is the assistant superintendent of elementary education for the Commack, N.Y., public schools. She says Stan Shaw of the Neag School of Education inspired her philosophy that all children can learn. She and her husband, Jay, live in Massapequa, N.Y., with their children, Lisa and Andrew.

**Steven Roach '73 (BUS)** is the president of BH Management Services Inc., in Dallas, Texas.

## PROFILE

### The perks of the job are part of the responsibility

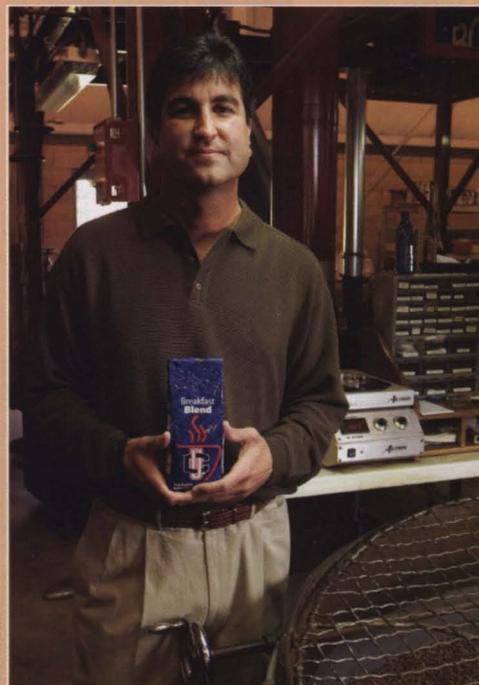
For **Keith Lemnios '82 (BUS)**, president of the Omar Coffee Company in Newington, Conn., drinking cup after cup of Hawaiian Kona and Kenyan AA is not just a "perk" of the job; it is a major responsibility.

In addition to overseeing business and marketing strategies for a company that roasts 3.7 million pounds of coffee annually, Lemnios tests or "cups" samples of premium coffee imported by international brokers. "If I like the quality, I buy it," he says. "I'm the biggest critic of my own product."

Lemnios, a former vice president of consulting services at EF Hutton in New York, began working at Omar in 1990, when the company was a small Hartford-based roaster with local clients. Today Omar supplies premium and specialty roasted coffees to restaurants, convenience stores, coffee shops and office buildings throughout New England, the mid-Atlantic states and Washington, D.C. The company has also diversified, running an office coffee service and operating several premium retail outlets, including the new ZuZu Coffee and Wine Bar in downtown Hartford.

The beverage industry is competitive, and Lemnios attributes Omar's success to the fact that it behaves as a small company and a large company at the same time.

As a "boutique" roaster, Omar offers micro-batches as small as 1 pound, specialty coffees such as Organic and Fair Trade, and attentive customer service. "We analyze every single roast," he adds, noting that the company also has the buying power, market hedging strategies, and enormous roasting capacity of a big player in the industry.



Peter Morenus

In addition to originating such coffees as the Insurance City Roast (a blend that honors the company's history in Hartford), Omar pays tribute to UConn in a way that directly benefits current students: Sales of Omar's Husky Breakfast Blend, Champanilla Vanilla, and other Husky Coffees generate support for the University's General Scholarship Fund.

A fan of UConn athletics as well as academics, Lemnios has also established an Omar Athletic Scholarship. Says Lemnios, "UConn provided me a tremendous education and background to develop skills in the financial and business worlds. It's a good feeling to contribute back to my alma mater." — *Leslie Virostek*

He and his wife, Margie, live in Carrollton, Texas, with their daughter, Kylie, 10.

**Charles Biernbaum '74 Ph.D.** has retired after 31 years as a



professor of biology at the College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C. He was primarily involved in undergraduate and graduate marine biology programs and received the college's distinguished teaching and advising awards.

**Thomas Hogan '74 J.D.** and his wife recently completed 20 months service with the U.S. Peace Corps in Ukraine, where they taught English, U.S. history, American literature and culture.

**Frank Kane '74 (CLAS)** was elected chairman of the American Board of Family Medicine. His UConn roommate, **William Kohlhepp '74 (CLAS)**, was elected chairman of the American Academy of Physician's Assistants Board certifying body.

**Andrey Nikiforov '74 (CLAS)** is the president of a scientific consulting firm specializing in toxicology regulatory services. He lives in Charlottesville, Va., with his wife, Michelle, and daughter, Kaitlin.

**Philip Rubin '74 (CLAS), '76 Ph.D.** was elected chairman of the Discovery Museum and Planetarium board of trustees. He is CEO, vice president and a senior scientist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Conn. He lives in Fairfield, Conn.

**Michael Levin '75 M.B.A.** retired as a software consultant. He is planning to live in Dalian, China, for six months, teaching at Dong Bei University of Finance and Economics.

**Pamela Sherwill '75 (ED)** was awarded the Eliot Prize by the Medical Library Association for

co-authoring an article on furthering medical librarianship.

**Dawn Tiedeman '75 (NUR)** received the Lane Adams Quality of Life Award from the American Cancer Society. She is an advanced practice nurse in oncology for the VA Connecticut Healthcare System.

**Kevin Bohacs '76 (CLAS)** was elected a National Fellow of the Explorers Club in recognition of his distinguished contributions to scientific knowledge through field research. He and his wife, Susan, live in Houston, Texas.

**Jennifer Dorn '77 (CLAS)** was nominated by President Bush to be the United States alternate executive director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. She previously served as the administrator of the Federal Transit Administration.

**Sherry Hanson '77 (CLAS)** is a contributing writer for the travel guide *Fodor's Maine Coast, 1st Edition*. She lives in Brunswick, Maine, and writes for magazines, Web sites, newspapers and other publications.

**Robert Kravchuk '77 (CLAS)** is an associate professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. He is the chair of the university finance committee and also serves on the finance committee of Monroe County.

**Gary Martinaitis '78 (ENG)** is the associate deputy director of market information for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. He lives in Ellicott City, Md., with his wife, Cindy, and children, Kaitlyn and Michael.

**Lawrence Palmieri '78 (CLAS)** retired at age 48 after 25 years with Wrigley Sales Company. He now spends his time with a local animal shelter, A.R.F.

**Jaime Parent '78 (CLAS)** is the vice president of information systems & CIO for Maryland

General Hospital in Baltimore, Md. A retired U. S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, he lives in Maryland with his wife, Tracy, and three teenage children.

**Jeffrey Mikutis '79 (CLAS)** retired after 21 years of service as an Air Force colonel. He was chief of orthopaedic surgery at Wright-Patterson Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio. He is currently a pediatric orthopaedic surgeon at the Children's Medical Center of Dayton and is married with two children.

**Thérèse Mulvey '79 (CLAS)** is the vice president of market intelligence for Advo, a home-delivered print advertising company, based in Windsor, Conn.

**Denise Pelletier '79 (SFA)** is an assistant professor of art at Connecticut College.

**Harriet Sanford '79 M.P.A.** is the president/CEO of the National Education Association Foundation in Washington, D.C.

## 1980s

**Susie (Bisulca) Beam '80 (SFS)** is a financial advisor's assistant at American Express. She and her husband, Tim, have two children, Tyler, 10, and Kaitlin, 7. The family lives in Egg Harbor Township, N.J.

**Carol (Fleit) Cipriani '80 (CLAS)** is the senior vice president of BDC New England, a business and financial services company.

**Keith N. Costa '80 (CLAS)**



has joined Pullman & Comley, LLC, one of Connecticut's leading law firms, where he will practice in the bankruptcy section of the litigation department in the firm's new White Plains, N.Y., office. He has extensive experience as a Chapter 11 Trustee. Previously he was a partner at

## IN MEMORIAM

### ALUMNI

**Elsie (Brainerd) Raven '32**

**Janice Van Kavelaar '46**

**Lois Joyce Schneider '48**

**Marjorie Slater Lord '49**

**Robert Capelle '50**

**Joseph Kelly '50**

**William Stanley Devino '53**

**Philip Tinsley Jr. '54**

**Harriet Buchbinder '58**

**Sheila McCrudden '63**

**Bert Swanson '65**

**John Zelonis Jr. '66**

**Kevin Keyes '69**

**Elisabeth (Wells) Johnson '70**

**Candace (Beno) Clark '73, '75**

**Maribeth Mather Skinner '81**

**Robert Gaffney Jr. '87**

Cohn Birnbaum & Shea in New York and also served 11 years with the U.S. Department of Justice, where he was assistant U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of New York and a senior trial attorney for the District of Connecticut.

**Steven Safier '80 M.A., '83 Ph.D.** is the senior vice president and chief administrative officer of the SUBWAY Franchisee Advertising Fund Trust.

**Mike Cassidy '81 (BUS)** is the senior vice president for market relations for Colemont Insurance Brokers in Hartford, Conn. He lives in West Hartford with his wife, Rita, and their three children.

**Jody Dillon Sherman '81 M.B.A.** is the public relations coordinator at the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, Tarpon Springs Campus of St. Petersburg College. She lives in Oldsmar, Fla., with her husband and two children.

**John Gilchrist '81 (CLAS)**, a certified financial planner, was elected president of the National Association of Insurance & Financial Advisors of Southwest Connecticut.

**Gary Hendrickson '81 (CLAS)** is the senior vice president of Valspar Corporation in Minneapolis, Minn.

**Peter Cavaliere '83 (BUS)** won an Emmy Award in the category of Outstanding Live Event Turnaround for his work as an associate director of NBC Sports at the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, last summer. He lives in Secaucus, N.J.

**Mark Dripchak '83 (CANR)** is the assistant country director for CARE International in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Ted Macierowski '83 (BUS)**, '98 M.B.A. and his wife, Jen, announce the birth of a daughter, Leanna Claire, on July 11, 2005. The family lives in Windsor, Conn.

**Dawn (Whalen) Martin '83 (NUR)** received a masters in health care administration from the University of New Haven. She is the nurse manager in St. Vincent's Medical Center Emergency Department in Bridgeport, Conn.

**Julie (Dwyer) Bookbinder '84 M.A.**, '90 Ph.D. is a speech-language pathologist and consultant for the Darien, Conn., public schools. She and her husband, Michael, live in New Canaan with their two daughters, Sarah, 17, and Allison, 14.

**Eric Johnson '84 (CLAS)** and his wife, Suzanne, announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Katherine, on June 24, 2005. He is a conservation officer for Connecticut. The family lives in Eastford, Conn.

**Robert Sticca '84 Ph.D.**, professor of surgery at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Services, was named the chair of the department of surgery.

**Megan Friar '85 (ED)**, '87 M.M. and **Ron Drotos '86 (SFA)**, announce the birth of a son, Daniel Friar Drotos, on March 12, 2005. He joins older brother John, 2. Megan and Ron are both musicians and live in New York City.

**Thaddeus Kolwickz '85 (CLAS)** was appointed commander of Detachment 1, the Alaska Air National Guard's newest unit.

**Michael Narracci '85 (CLAS)** won the 2004 New England Chapter Emmy Award in the Sports—Play by Play Coverage category for coverage of Red Sox Baseball. He is director of Red Sox Baseball for the New England Sports Network.

**Bonnie Potocki '85 (CANR)** is a project manager for GZA Geo-Environmental, Inc., an environmental and geotechnical consulting firm in Vernon, Conn.



**Nick Zaharias '85 (CLAS)** is the director of development at Tilton School in New Hampshire. His wife, **Patricia (Ellis) Zaharias '84 (CLAS)** is an administrator in the admissions office at Tilton. They have a son, Stephen.

**Mark Boxer '87 M.B.A.** was named president and CEO of consumer-driven health plans, enterprise services, and Medicare for WellPoint, Inc. of Indianapolis. He has held a variety of senior management positions at the company, most recently as executive vice president and chief strategy officer. A member of the UConn School of Business board of advisors and member of the school's Hall of Fame, he is on the editorial advisory board of *Insurance and Technology Magazine* and on the World Wide Electronic Data Interchange. He lives in



Glastonbury, Conn. with his wife, Michelle, and their two daughters, Sarah and Elizabeth.

**Maryann deSteph '86 (BGS)** and her husband, **Hank Klein '73 (CLAS)**, have relocated to Apollo Beach, Fla. She is working for RE/MAX Universal Realty and he is working for the Dept. of Homeland Security.

**Richard Dooley '86 M.B.A.** was elected national president of the Society of American Magicians. Known as the "Amazing Doolini," he is also an assistant vice president in the Life Services Division at Mass Mutual Financial Group in Enfield, Conn. He lives in Tolland, Conn.

**Mark Lamb '86** is the director of investor relations for HouseValues, Inc. in Kirkland, Wash.

**Richard Martin '86 (BUS)** is the chief financial officer for General Fiber Communications Inc., of Conshohocken, Pa.

**Catherine O'Donnell '86 (NUR)** is the clinical leader in the cardiothoracic operating room at The Regional Heart & Vascular Center at Danbury Hospital in Danbury, Conn.



**Terry Wethered '86 (ED)** received a M.P.H. from the University of New Hampshire in 1995 and was elected to the National Honor Society, Sigma Beta Delta.

**Robert Cusano '87 (BUS)** is the account vice president at UBS Financial Services, Inc. in Hartford, Conn. He lives in Bolton, with wife, Maria, and children, Anthony, 13, Joey, 12, and Alexia, 3.

**Peter Spicer '87 (CLAS)** married Nancy Ellen Freebairn in April 2005. He is a vice president and new product manager at Chubb Personal Insurance. The couple lives

and works in Whitehouse Station, N.J.

**David Zitzkat '87 (ENG)** and his wife, Liese, adopted Tyler David Camilo Zitzkat on March 17, 2005. Tyler was born on Nov. 29, 2004, in Bogota, Colombia.

**Jeanne Consiglio-Hoin '88 (CLAS)** was appointed to the board of education in Orange, Conn. She is an account executive for Midwest Employers Casualty Company and a realtor with Dunlap-Hibbs Real Estate.



**Barbara Evans '88 (CLAS)** is vice president of development and corporate sponsorship for the New York City chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She and her husband, Andrew Otis, live in Manhattan and New Paltz, N.Y.

**Janet Nolen '88 (SAH)** is the clinic director of the Manual Orthopedic Physical Therapy of MA, Inc. in Hopkinton, Mass. She is a licensed massage therapist and certified strength and conditioning coach.



**Stephen Walsh '88 (CLAS)** is the creative supervisor at Unit 7 advertising in New York City. He lives in Katonah, N.Y., with his wife, Elizabeth, and daughters, Alice, 5, and Margaret, 3.

**Lisa Marcinkowski '89 (CLAS)** is director of education at Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Conn. She earned a M.A. in museum studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program in 1999.

**Laura Rush '89 (CLAS)**, after a 15-year career as a finance and biotech journalist, will be attending medical school at Western University of Health Sciences, College of Medicine in Pomona, Calif. She plans to focus on neurosurgery and neurology.

## 1990s

**Michael Marzano '90 (BUS)** and **Jennifer Thibodeau Marzano '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Alexander London, named after the city where they both studied abroad while at UConn.

**Dieter Stanko '90 (CLAS)**, an assistant metro editor at the *Connecticut Post* in Bridgeport, Conn., was awarded a first-place award for editorial writing from the Connecticut chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

**Wendyleigh (McCorrison) Bodick '91 (CLAS)** is president of Solutions Family Therapy and Consulting, Inc., a private practice and consulting company in Cornelius, N.C. She and her husband, Michael, live in Mooresville, N.C., with their two daughters, Maiya and Catherine.

**Brian Giusani, Jr. '91 (CLAS)** married Ariella Scherer in November 2004. The couple lives in Wilmington, N.C.

**Michael Gulino '91 (ED)** received a master of science/ fire science degree from the University of New Haven in May 2005. He is a firefighter and investigator for the Town of Farmington, Conn, where

he lives with his wife, Kim, and their children, Kailie, Noah, and Ethan.

**Eric Kaplan '91 M.B.A.** is the chief sales officer for HealthNet of Northeast, with responsibility for all sales, account management and membership in the Connecticut, New Jersey and New York region. He previously was a vice president of sales and client management for Trustmark Insurance Company. He lives in Glastonbury, Conn.

**Bryan McGarry '91 (CLAS)** and his wife, Kellye, announce the birth of a son, Jack Martin, on Aug. 22, 2005. The family lives in Atlanta, Ga.

**Paula (Carlos) Thornton '91 (CLAS)** and her husband, **Kelley Thornton '89 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of a daughter, Lily Marie, on July 17, 2004. She joins a sister, Grace, and brother, Sean, both 5. The family lives in Chicago, Ill.

**Keith Kesner '92 (ENG)** was awarded the 2005 Young Member Award for Professional Achievement from the American Concrete Institute, which recognizes contributions in the areas of nondestructive testing and rehabilitation of concrete structures.

**Tracy King '92 (BUS)** was selected as the first full-time commissioner of the Skyline Conference, a NCAA Division III conference of New York Metropolitan area schools. He lives in Monroe Township, N.J.

**Adam Sean Lawlor '92 (BUS)** and his wife, Kindley, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Annabella Kai Lawlor, born Aug. 12, 2005. He is a founding partner at Legato Capital Management. The family lives in San Francisco.

**Amy Marella-Carpenter '92 (ED)** and Les Carpenter announce the birth of a son, Eli Carpenter, on Oct. 19, 2004. The family lives in Chevy Chase, Md.

**Daniel Glezer '92 (CLAS)** and **Laura Chamberland Glezer '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Christine Elizabeth, born April 23, 2005. She joins brother, Benjamin, and sister, Jessica. Daniel is an international human resources manager for Tupperware. The family lives in Orlando, Fla.

**Jennifer (Kaufman) Gresham '92 (CLAS)** and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of a daughter, Amanda Malyn, on Feb. 10, 2005. They married in September 2002 and live in Parker, Colo.

**Joe Healey '92 (CLAS)** and his wife, Beth, announce the birth of a son, Quinn Joseph, on June 27, 2005. The family lives in Louisville, Colo.

**Carrie (Mosher) McDaniel '92 (CLAS)** and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of a son, Ethan Conner, on July 28, 2005. The family lives in Orange, Conn.

**Jennifer Parmelee '92 (CLAS)** and Christopher Childs were married in October 2004. She works in marketing at Random House, Inc. The couple lives in New York City.

**Leif Wathne '92 (ENG)** was appointed director of highways by the American Concrete Pavement Association in its Washington D.C. office. He previously was a consultant to the Federal Highway Administration. He lives in Falls Church, Va., with his wife, Melissa, and sons, Lars, 4, and Finn, 3.

**John Adams '93 (ENG)** is an associate with Anchor Engineering Services, Inc. in Glastonbury, Conn. He lives in Colchester, Conn.

**Ying-Ying Lee '93 (CLAS)** received the 2004 Chairman's Award from the Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.,



## CURTAIN CALL THEATER

The Curtin Call Theater 2005 summer production of *Bye Bye Birdie* included a baker's dozen of current UConn students and alumni, led by Lou Ursone, executive director of Stamford's longest running community theatre.

Bottom: L-R: Lourdine Pierre '07 (NUR), Sarah Smegal '06 (CLAS), Tom DeSalvo '04 (BUS), Catherine Yudain '09 (SFA), Teddy Yudain '06 (SFA). Middle: Michael Blancaflor '99 (SFA), Yiram Aldouby '93-'96 (SFA), Michael Cooney '84 (SFA), Norma Stella '73 (SFA), Melissa Valendra '08 (SFA). Top: Gail Yudain '90 (CLAS), Lou Ursone '81 (CLAS), Not pictured - Jeff Karwosky '95 (CLAS)

which recognizes teams and individuals whose contributions to the company have achieved significant results. She lives in New Britain, Conn.

**Beth (Taylor) Mack '93 (ED)** and husband, James, announce the birth of a son, Ryan Thomas Mack, on March 30, 2005. The family lives in Bergen County, N.J.

**Daniel Molnar '93 (BUS)** received a J.D. from Quinnipiac University School of Law and a M.B.A. from Quinnipiac University Graduate School of Business in May 2005.



**Jennifer Palancia Shipp '93 (CLAS)** married James Shipp in June 2005.



She is the associate university counsel at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The couple lives in Greensboro.

**Jon Pedersen Sr. '93 (BUS)**, the assistant controller for Warner Music Group, received an M.B.A. from Columbia University. He and his wife, Kristen, live in Milford, Conn., with their two sons, Jon Jr., and Michael.

**Greg Rossano '93 (ENG)** is one of the co-inventors and patent holders for a method for the calibrating and programming of a robot application and a method for fine tuning a robot program.

**Jennifer (Perry) Zmijewski '93 (ENG)** announces the birth of her daughter, Ella Morgan, on March 11, 2005.

**Steven Bernaski '94 (CLAS)** is vice president at US Bank - Indirect Lending where he manages a sales and marketing team of 12 for the southeast region of the U.S.

**Bani Mallick '94 (CLAS), '02 M.S.**, professor of statistics at Texas A&M University, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association for his contribution to the statistics profession.

**Cindy (Panek) Nick '94 (ED), '95 M.A.** and **Joel Nick '89 (CLAS), '92 M.A.** announce the birth of a daughter, Alexandra Catherine, on Feb. 22, 2005. He is the social studies department chair and she teaches mathematics at Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, Conn. The family lives in Cromwell, Conn.

**Jason Sicotte '94 (ENG)** and **Donna (Krekoska) Sicotte '95 (SFA)** announce the birth of a daughter, Megan Rose, on March 19, 2005. Megan joins her sister, Kayla Marie, 2.

**Jennifer (Franchere) Tortora '94 (BUS)** and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of

a daughter, Amy Jill, on Jan. 30, 2005.

**Andrew Carney '95 (CLAS)**



is the director of brokerage services for The Alliance Group LLC, in Stamford, Conn. He is an active offshore sailboat racer and lives in Stamford.

**Elizabeth Case DeSantis '95 (ED)** was honored as Teacher of the Year by the city of Stamford public schools. A first-grade teacher, she is the youngest recipient in the history of this prestigious award.

**David DeArmas '95 (SFS)** and his wife, Lauren, announce the birth of a daughter, Brianna Nicole DeArmas, born on April 30, 2005.

**Jody Dobuzinsky '95 (CLAS)** is the assistant manager for

business at SBC. She married Manuel Morales in September 2005.

**Kristen (Frattarola) Ingarra '95 (SFS)** and her husband, Frank, announce the birth of a daughter, Courtney Marie, on March 23, 2005. Kristen is a kindergarten teacher at Brunswick School in Greenwich, Conn. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

**Kathryn Laity '95 (CLAS), '03 Ph.D.** received the 2005 Faculty Award for Scholarship/Creativity at the University of Houston-Downtown, where she is an assistant professor of English. She also received the 2005 Eureka Short Story Fellowship to work on her collection, *Unikirja*, which is Finnish for "dreambook."

**David Polochanin '95 (CLAS)** teaches language arts in Glastonbury, Conn. He also writes freelance essays and columns for the *Boston Globe* and *Hartford Courant*. He lives with his wife, Claudine, and son, Ethan, in Marlborough, Conn.

**Samantha Price '95 (NUR)** married David Wallace in June 2005. The couple lives in Palm Harbor, Fla.

**Michael Renaud '95 J.D.** is a member of the firm of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glosky and Popeo, P.C. He practices in the intellectual property section of the firm's office in Boston.

**Robert Sawicki '95 (BUS)** is the associate vice president of leadership programs and employment development at the Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.

**Michael Sollicito '95 (CLAS)** and his wife, Elsa, announce the birth of their son, Damian Joseph, on March 22, 2005. The family lives in Milford, Conn.

**Peter Connolly '96 (CLAS)** is the athletic director and sociology teacher at Immaculate High School in Danbury, Conn.

## LITHUANIAN REUNION

**F**our members of the Class of 1959 and their spouses had a memorable reunion in June at the home of Jonas Kronkaitis '59 (BUS) in Lithuania, where he retired last year as commanding general of Lithuania's armed forces (see *Traditions* Fall/Winter 2002). All shared the experience of being displaced from their homes in Ukraine and Lithuania by the ravages of World War II and becoming citizens of the United States, eventually meeting as students at UConn. Standing (L-R): Gintas Zemaitaitis, Jonas Kronkaitis '59 (BUS), and Dick Murphy. Seated (L-R): Dalia Nenortas Jakas '59 (CLAS), Ruta Kronkaitis, Luda Ksensenko Murphy '59 (CLAS), and Irena Deikis Zemaitaitis '59 (CLAS). Ray Jakas took the photo.



## Submit your News & Notes item online

Alumni News & Notes is now online at [www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu)

**Kelly (Thompson) Dolyak '97 (CLAS)** and her husband, Keith, announce the birth of a daughter, Kate Therese, on July 15, 2005. Kate joins her sister, Paige Whitney. The family lives in Stratford, Conn.

**Matthew Espinosa '96 (CLAS)** and **Marisa (Fappiano) Espinosa '98 (SFS)** announce the birth of a son, Lucas Matthew Espinosa, on April 21, 2005. The family lives in Guilford, Conn.

**Daniel Farr '96 (BUS)** and **Stacey (Todaro) Farr '97 (BUS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Louise. He is an assistant vice president with GE Commercial Finance Energy Financial Services and she is a clothing buyer for Loehmann's. The family lives in Stamford, Conn.

**Charlene McCabe '96 (SFA)** received a master's degree in costume design from the University of California, Irvine in 1999. She is a costume designer for Buena Vista Picture Distribution and the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood, Calif. She and her husband, Richard Ballering, live in Los Angeles, Calif.

**Chad Pens '96 (ED)** and his wife, Maria, announce the birth of a daughter, Quinn Maria, on July 2, 2004. He is a doctor of physical therapy at Cornell University. The family lives in Syracuse, N.Y.



**Thomas Stoughton '96 M.S., '99 Ph.D.** is the vice president of Woodard & Curran in Portland, Maine.

**Sandra (Feldmann) Wheeler '96 (ED)** and **Matthew Wheeler '96 (BUS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Madison Olivia, on July 25, 2005. The family lives in the Boston area.

**Ryan Alcantara '97 M.A.** and **Suzanne (O'Connor) Alcantara '97 M.A.** announce the birth of a son, Vincent Ryan, on March 22, 2005. Ryan is an associate dean of students at California State University, Fullerton and is pursuing a doctorate in public administration at the University of Southern California. She is the associate director of career development at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California,

**Gary Borla '97 M.P.H.** was awarded the Northeast Utilities Community Service Award for his long history of volunteerism. He is a senior asset manager in the Northeast Utilities Transmission Group and lives in Old Saybrook, Conn.



**Kelly Bowler '97 (CLAS), '98 M.S.** was named a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries. Fellowship is the highest professional recognition an actuary can achieve and represents the completion of a series of exams. She is an analyst with Hartford Investment Management.

**Lisa (Ziemiecki) Burnham '97 (CLAS)** and **Daniel Burnham '98 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Meghan Sheridan, on Feb. 28, 2005. The family lives in Holly Springs, N.C.

**Allison Gardiner Kovac '97 (ED), '98 M.A.** and **Edward Kovac** announce the birth of a daughter, Eve Helen, on April 22, 2005. She joins sister, Gwendolyn Leigh, 2. Allison is a sixth-grade science teacher in the Weston, Conn., school system. The family lives in Easton, Conn.

## PROFILE

### Alex's living legacy of lemonade

When her daughter, Alex, was struggling to beat cancer, **Liz Flynn Scott '91 (CLAS)** devoted most of her time and energy to Alex's care. Today, Liz's focus is on her late daughter's legacy—Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, a national organization that has raised \$44 million for childhood cancer treatment and research.

It all began one day in 2000 when 4-year-old Alex decided to sell lemonade to raise money for her hospital, Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Alex's single lemonade stand inspired hundreds of others and evolved into a foundation and a children's book, *Alex and The Amazing Lemonade Stand*, written by Liz, the foundation's development director, and her husband, Jay '91 (CLAS), the executive director. The book is available online and at bookstores, with a companion kit for setting up a lemonade-stand.

An upbeat theme song for Alex's Lemonade Stands was also composed and recorded by songwriter Kenny Gamble, who helped to create the 1970s Philadelphia Sound with songs like the O'Jays' "Love Train." And this spring the owners of a race-horse named Afleet Alex, pledged to donate money every time the horse raced. Afleet Alex won two legs of horse racing's Triple Crown, the Preakness in Baltimore and the Belmont Stakes in New York City, drawing even more national attention to the cause. One of the foundation's national sponsors is Country Time Lemonade.

Thanks to Alex's desire to help other children, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation has discovered a unique way of making grants. The Scotts knew that many children with cancer are on waiting lists for clinical drug trials. In 2003, the foundation provided funding for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Alex's second hospital, to hire a nurse practitioner to expedite clinical trials for neuroblastoma patients.

In just six months, the hospital more than quadrupled the number of children in trials. The foundation has funded nine more full-time research positions at several children's hospitals, thus helping large numbers of children receive faster treatment and advancing the science leading to better medicines.

In October, Liz received the first UConn Alumni Association Award for Humanitarian Work. The former psychology major says that her liberal arts education helped to shape her "somewhat idealistic" world view, but it was Alex and the thousands of people who wanted to support Alex's legacy that taught her "how to live my life."

"I've learned a lot about people, about how good people are and how, when people get together on something, they can really make a difference," she says.

For more information: [alexlemonade.org](http://alexlemonade.org) — Leslie Virostek



**Julie (Machol) Hughes '97 (SFS)** and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Lynn, born on May 7, 2005. Julie is a math teacher at Farmington High School in Farmington, Conn. The family lives in Farmington.

**Neil Kulikauskas '97 (ENG)** is a senior project engineer with SEA Consultants Inc., an engineering/architectural firm in Rocky Hill, Conn.

**Diane McVeigh '97 (BUS)** married **Joseph Curci '96 (CLAS)** in July 2005.

**Jennifer (Schilt) Perfetti '97 (BUS)** received an M.B.A. from Baruch College in New York City. She is a global resource program manager with IBM.

**Angela (Talcik) Staron '97 (CLAS), '00 M.A.** married **Jayme Staron '99 (BUS)** in

August 2005. She is an English teacher in Redding, Conn. He works for Gartner Inc., in Trumbull.

**Travis Board '98 (CLAS)** and **Susan (Kluk) Board '99 (CANR), '01 M.S.** announce the birth of a daughter, Audrey, on May 26, 2005. He is a captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserves and flies the C-5 at Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts. The family lives in Deep River, Conn.

**Alycia Sacco Duquette '98 J.D., '99 M.B.A.** was elected as an officer of the Berkshire Life Insurance Company by the board of directors. She was promoted to the position of counsel.

**Melinda Lopes '98 (NUR)** was awarded a Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing. She works at Yale-New

Haven Hospital and lives in Middletown, Conn.

**Loida Velilla Reyes '98 M.S.W.** is the project manager of the Health Journalism CD, an international digital health reporting resource. She works with the U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau.

**Michael Hwang '99 (CLAS)** graduated from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and is now a resident in advanced education in the general dentistry program at the UConn School of Dental Medicine.

**Tara McKee '99 M.A., '02 Ph.D.**, an assistant professor of psychology at Hamilton College, was awarded the John R. Hatch Excellence in Teaching Award. The award recognizes a Hamilton faculty member who has demonstrated superior teaching, high quality scholarly research and a significant and positive impact on students.

**Matthew Udal '99 (BUS)** married Betsy Froebel in April 2005. He is a financial planner with Udal & Associates, a practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., in Farmington, Conn.

## 2000s

**Allison (DeNicola) Amorosi '00 (NUR)** finished her first year of graduate school at UConn toward becoming a nurse practitioner. She lives in Bethel, Conn.

**Remy Boyd '00 (CLAS)** earned an M.B.A. in legal studies from the University of Maryland in May 2005. She is a legal writer and case analyst employed in the general counsel's office at a pharmaceutical company.

**Lisa Dabkowski '00 (BUS)** received a M.S. in instructional technology from Southern Connecticut State University in May 2005.

**Janet Frazao '00 (SFS), '05 M.S.W.** is the director of social work at Park Place Health Care Center in Hartford, Conn.

**Mary Ellen (San Juan) Miller '00 (SAH)** married **Jeff Miller '00 (SAH)** in May 2005. She is a cytogenetics technologist at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass. He is a medical technician at Clinical Laboratory Partners in Newington, Conn. The couple lives in Manchester, Conn.

**Kelly (Ulm) Nicholson '00 (NUR), '00 M.P.H.** married **Nicholas Nicholson '00 (NUR), '00 M.P.H.** in June 2005.

**Jacob Sellers '00 (CLAS)** received a J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minn. He is a corporate litigator with the firm of Leonard, Street, and Deinard of Minneapolis.

**Michael Sobolewski '00 (BUS), '01 M.S.** is a manager in the Hartford, Conn., office of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

**Ivy Alexander '01 Ph.D.** co-authored *100 Questions & Answers About Menopause*, published by Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Inc.

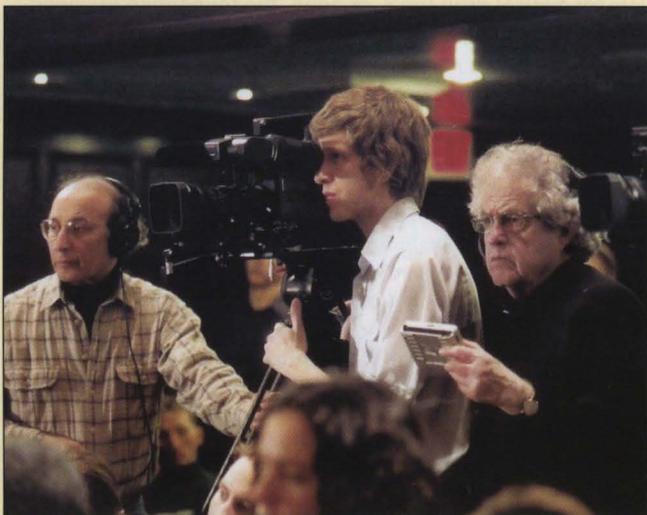
**Kimberly Carlucci '01 (BUS)** and **Jeffrey Boisvert '01 (BUS)** married in July 2005. The couple lives in Hamden, Conn.

**Jarrid Clifton '01 (CLAS)** and **Margaret (Noble) Clifton '04 (CLAS), '05 M.A.** were married in August 2005. He is the director of education at Sylvan Learning Center in Vernon, Conn. She teaches English at RHAM High School in Hebron, Conn. They live in Vernon.

**Michelle Huntingford Craig '01 (CLAS)** received a master's degree in art history from the University of Wisconsin. She was accepted into the doctorate program at UCLA for fall 2005.

## EXAMINING RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES

**D**ocumentary filmmaker **Gerald Krell '57 (SFA)**, right, has followed up his award-winning film *Jews & Christians: A Journey of Faith*, (see *Traditions* Summer 2001) with a two-hour public television documentary, *Three Faiths, One God: Judaism, Christianity, Islam*, that was presented first in October by Connecticut Public Television and distributed nationally by American Public Television. The new documentary compares similarities and differences between Islam and the world's two other major religions. Krell is now working on a film about the 100th anniversary of the National Press Club. All films are produced by Krell's Auteur Productions, Ltd. The camera operator, center, is Krell's son, Adam, who is an associate producer for the company.



**Scott Lafferty '01 (CLAS)** is

a volunteer builder at a Habitat for Humanity development in Dorchester, Mass. He is a product manager at the law offices of James Sokolve in Newton Center, Mass.

**Christopher Murphy '01 J.D.**

is serving his second term as state senator representing the 16th Senatorial District. He is an attorney with the firm of Ruben, Johnson, and Morgan, P.C. in Hartford, Conn. He lives in Cheshire.

**Alyssa Roy '01 (SAH)** married Kevin Kelley on June 18, 2005. She is a cytogenetic technologist at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, Mass.

**Rich Schneider '01 (BUS)** married Alison Berube in September 2005. He is a financial planning consultant with Fidelity Investments in Boston, Mass. The couple lives in Charlestown, Mass.

**Janelle Francisco '02 (ED)** received an M.S. in physical education from Central Connecticut State University in May 2005. While at CCSU, she was a graduate assistant athletic trainer for women's basketball. She is currently an assistant athletic trainer at Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y.

**Joshua Hilbert '02 (BUS)** is a bonds trader and lives in Manhattan's Upper East Side.

**Rhiannon Lamonica '02 (SFS)** is a second-grade teacher at Griswold Elementary School in Berlin, Conn., and recently finished an elementary education certification program.

**Tiffany Silver '02 (CLAS)** received the 2005 Herman J. Finn Legal Ethics Award from the Rutgers University School of Law at Camden, presented to a graduating student who demonstrates the greatest commitment to upholding the ethical standards of the legal profession.

**Jean Wihbey '02 Ph.D.** is the dean of academic and

student affairs at Northwestern Connecticut Community College.

**Scott Wrenn '02 (CLAS)** received a Juris Doctor degree from the New England School of Law in May 2005. He lives in Auburn, Mass.

**James Allan '03 Ph.D.** married **Bobbi Jo Fuller '01 M.A.** in July 2005.

**Deirdre (Glennon) Doyle '03 (NUR)** married William Doyle Jr. in April 2005. She works in the telemetry unit at Norwalk Hospital. The couple lives in Milford, Conn.

**Dana Vass '03 (SFS)** received an M.S.W. from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2005. She is an L.S.W. after passing her licensure exam in May 2005.



**Amit Grover '04 (BUS)** is an account executive for Hot 93.7 in Hartford, Conn. He is also a producer and

studio engineer for a local radio label, Harsh Reality Enterprises, working as "Killah Kane."

**Meredith Westfield '04 (CLAS)** was a volunteer builder for Habitat for Humanity in Dorchester, Mass. She is a customer service representative at the Law Offices of James Sokolve.

**Corrie VanDyke '04 (SSW)** married Clara Langois in



December 2004. He is a medical social worker at Hilton Head Regional Medical Center in South Carolina and recently passed the L.M.S.W. exam. The couple lives on Hilton Head Island, S.C.

**Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski**

## AT THE WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART



Florence N. Mdlolo,  
*Violence in 1996-97:  
Train Victims*,  
cloth with embroidery  
and beadwork

### Advertising Global Human Rights: Examining The Benetton Campaign 1992-2003 October 25 – December 21, 2005 (Closed Nov. 24 – 28)

In 1992, Benetton, the Italian fashion empire, launched a campaign that combined advertising with politics to promote the Benetton image. The Benton is showing these works to encourage examination of the corporate culture of Benetton, the persuasion factor of corporate marketing and branding and the choices corporations make in presenting their messages.



*Hand with Rice*,  
1997, United  
Colors of Benetton  
Ad Campaign

### Amazwi Abesifazane: Voices of Women

October 18 – December 21, 2005  
(Closed Nov. 24 – 28)

This exhibition of more than 150 framed, embroidered and beaded "memory cloths" documents the lives of South African women during and after apartheid in gripping, heartfelt images and stories that paint unforgettable first-person accounts of unimaginable suffering and the triumph of the human spirit to endure.

MUSEUM HOURS ARE TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 10 A.M.–4:30 P.M. AND SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1 P.M.–4:30 P.M. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 860-486-4520 OR VISIT [WWW.BENTON.UCONN.EDU](http://WWW.BENTON.UCONN.EDU)

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## **Addiction** *Continued from page 33*

patients to better understand their gambling and getting assistance with other problem areas.

"We are trying to determine which treatments work best for pathological gamblers in general and if certain types of gamblers respond better to the different interventions," Petry says. "So far the treatments have been very successful in helping most of the gamblers substantially reduce gambling, if not stop completely."

Heavy, non-pathological gamblers usually do not want to consider gambling abstinence because they have not experienced severe problems, so Petry makes suggestions about how to minimize their gambling losses, such as not bringing extra money or borrowing it. She says she tries to get the person to recognize patterns and situations that lead to gambling, encouraging them to expand other recreational activities that do not involve gambling.

"We are comparing four types of

very brief interventions, ranging from a single five-minute session to four sessions in duration, for these gamblers. These brief interventions are having a very pronounced effect in decreasing the amounts of money spent gambling," she says.

### **INTERNET**

Research shows that about 6 percent of people using the Internet have become addicted to it, says Dave Greenfield, a psychologist and assistant clinical professor at UConn, who conducted one of the first studies on Internet addiction. In the United States, 202.8 million people use the Internet, almost 70 percent of the population, according to the Web site, Internet World Stats.com. Worldwide, Internet use is 938.7 million people with international growth 160 percent from 2000 to 2005.

"I've seen young men and teenagers who are spending six, eight, 10, up to 14 hours a day at the computer," Greenfield says. "They're playing computer games, eating their meals

and even urinating into a bucket at the computer. It's having a significant negative impact on their lives. Most people don't realize the Internet can be addictive."

First identified six years ago, Internet addiction is more insidious than other addictions because the computer is associated with efficiency, education and work. But like any addictive substance, the Internet can alter mood and consciousness, causing individuals to enjoy the experience, Greenfield explains.

Greenfield says treatment for Internet addiction is similar to treatments for all other addictions in which the cycle of use is broken to try and find the underlying reason—depression, anxiety or relationship difficulties—and then use cognitive behavior therapy for treatment.

With the constant expansion of the online world, Greenfield says the problem of Internet addiction will likely grow.

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## **Dawn Denvir** *Continued from page 36*

"There is a direct connection between what I learned at UConn to my work now," she says. "My acting training prepared me to be comfortable in front of people and to be able to deliver a wide variety of training with commitment and conviction. In my electives, I took a wide range of liberal arts courses that prepared me well and gave me a foundation of knowledge in a variety of areas."

Denvir says that like most actors, "I always had a day job," and 11 years ago when she moved to New York City, she worked in financial services and continued her education by earning a master's degree in human resources and organizational development at Fordham University.

Soon after, she helped to launch a new training and development function

at Olgilvy Public Relations, a major public relations firm, where she worked with clients such as the National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. "I got to do a lot of great work there," Denvir says. "For the first time, I started focusing on what I wanted to do next."

She began to consult with a variety of businesses on training and development issues, but she also thought about working at the United Nations. She applied for a job and was called in for an interview. While she was waiting to hear back, the UN mission in Baghdad was bombed. She called the person who had set up her UN job interview to ask if there was anything she could do.

"He told me many others in that circumstance would have called to say they were no longer interested in working for DPKO," Denvir says. Soon after she was offered the position at the UN and also was offered a training and

development position at Music Television. "There was really no choice," she says. "When would I have this kind of opportunity to work in an organization like the UN, doing this kind of work? It's very humbling."

Denvir spends two or three weeks each month traveling to lead training sessions in different parts of the world, reminiscent of her childhood in a military family regularly on the move. But now she is working in the civilian sector of peacekeeping, where politics, human rights and nation building come together.

"The guiding principle in human rights is that we help people to help themselves in rebuilding a broken society. So there is enormous work to be done on the civilian side," she says. "As they say, it doesn't look like world peace will be breaking out any time soon."

# Traveler



## Treasures of Indochina

January 18–31, 2006

Three of Southeast Asia's most intriguing countries: Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

## Treasures of Tanzania—On Safari

February 20–March 4, 2006

From the predators to the grazers and the fauna to the flowers, experience a virtual Garden of Eden. See part of vast nature, the time of year when the birthing and regrouping begins for the mysterious annual migration of more than a million wildebeest, large African antelope and zebra as they begin their trek northward through the length of the Serengeti.

## Poros, Greece

May 5–14, 2006

Explore the magic of the Greek Isles from the picturesque island of Poros.

## Sail the Mediterranean with hosts Geno and Kathy Auriemma—Cote D'Azur, Corsica & The Amalfi Coast

June 3–11, 2006

Join head women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma, and his wife, Kathy, aboard the luxurious sailing ship, the *Wind Surf*, from Nice, France to Rome, Italy. Ports of call include Nice, St. Tropez, St. Florent-Corsica, Ponza, Amalfi, Sorrento, Capri and Civitavecchia (Rome). An optional four-night extension will be offered, staying in Florence and visiting the hill towns of Tuscany.

## Passage of Peter the Great

July 31–August 12, 2006

Cruise Russia along the Volga, Svir and Neva Rivers; Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga aboard the *M.S. Repin*.

## The Adriatic—Croatia and Slovenia

October 3–16, 2006—with optional extension of two nights in Venice

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



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

# Word

## The Smaller Majority

From pollination to seed dispersal, from soil production to waste removal, and from water filtering to being food for others, invertebrates make Earth a livable planet. It is a very encouraging sign that both conservation practitioners and the general public are beginning to realize how important the smaller majority is to the health of our planet. Public appreciation of the beauty and importance of these animals is our strongest ally in this conservation work. I hope that the images in this book will reinforce a child's interests in the natural life of caterpillars or frogs, or perhaps they will awaken a long-forgotten fascination with small creatures in an older reader. It may even encourage some to kneel down, look closer and discover the beautiful world around our feet.

Text and photos by Piotr Naskrecki '00 Ph.D. from *The Smaller Majority*, published by The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press

*Piotr Naskrecki is director of the Invertebrate Diversity Initiative of Conservation International and a research associate with the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University.*



A rarely seen species of the striped tree frog in Costa Rica.



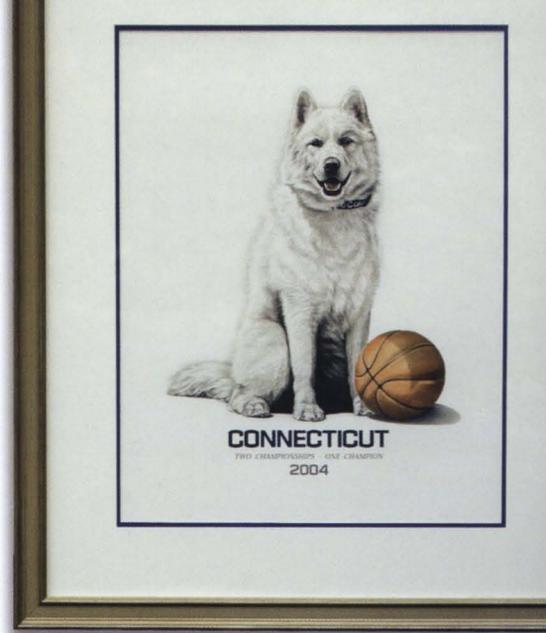
The rainforest of Guinea is home to the fig eater butterfly.



A Savanna grasshopper in Guinea.

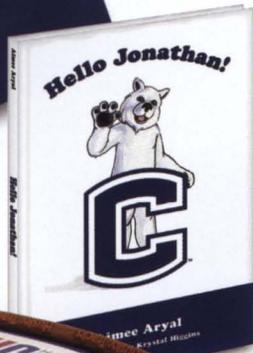
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and make it

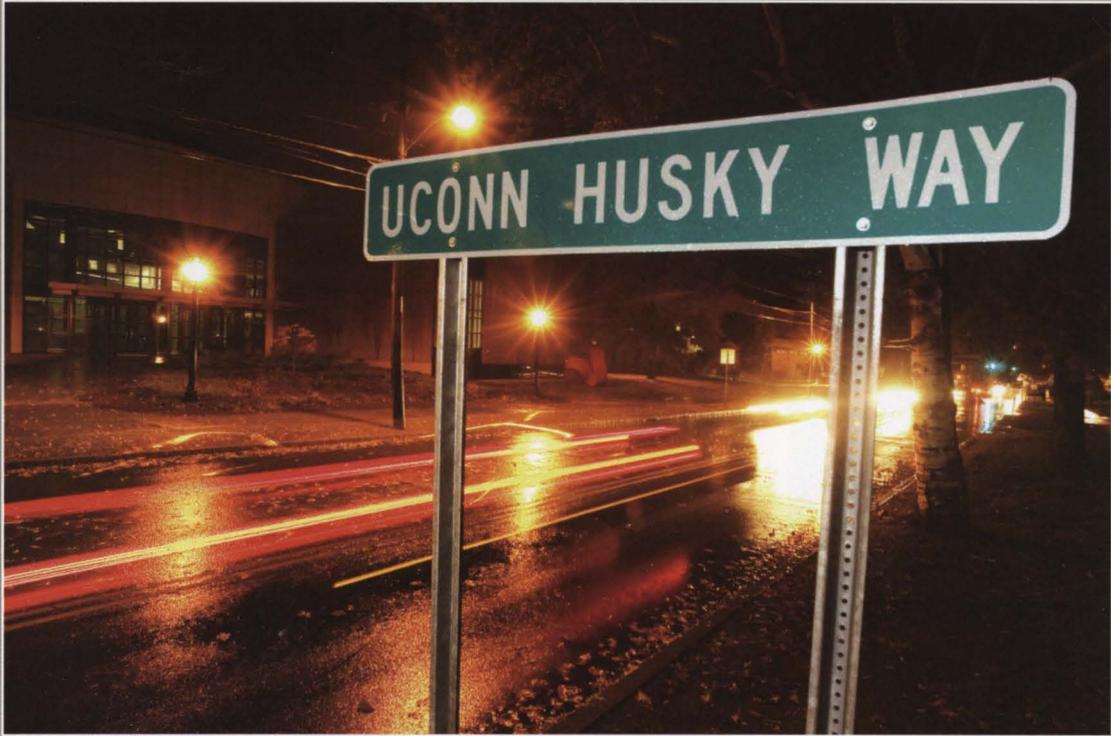
# A Husky Holiday



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An early evening fall rain casts a shimmering reflection upon the newly designated UConn Husky Way.



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