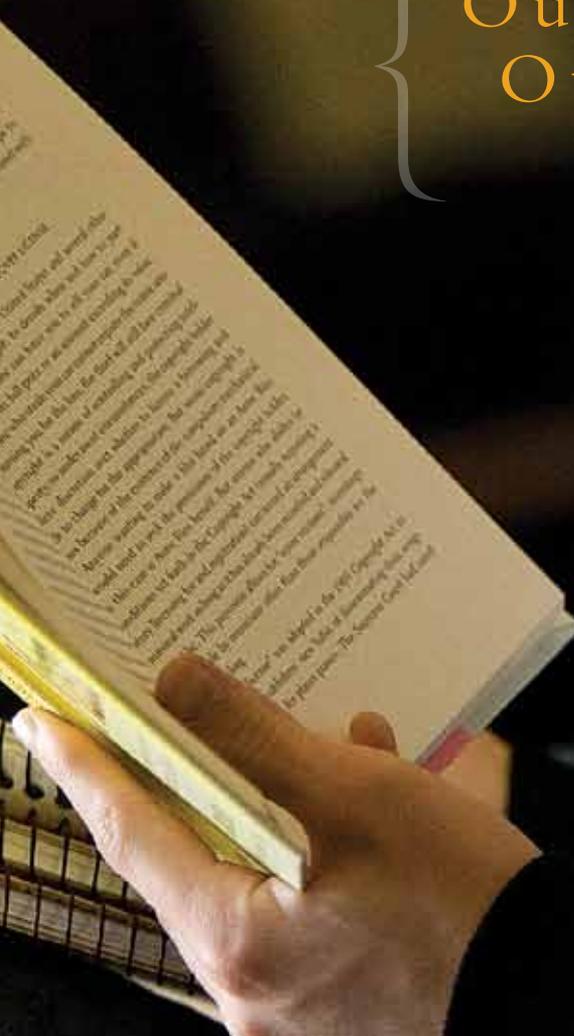


# UConn

| Fall/Winter 2009

Our University.  
Our Moment.

*The Campaign for UConn.*



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## 'Our University. Our Moment.'

*The \$600 million Campaign for UConn is the largest fundraising effort in the more than 125-year history of the University, aimed at further securing UConn's place as a national and international leader in higher education.*

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## When Stockton speaks, Bernanke listens

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**ON THE COVER:**  
In the quiet of the Homer Babbidge Library, a student reviews a passage in a textbook.

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# Opening Shot



## New Look for Always Part of U

Two hundred eighty Resident Assistants from the Department of Residential Life spelled out U-C-O-N-N on the Great Lawn along Storrs Road as part of several new scenes created for an updated version of the Always Part of U national television campaign. To see the new spot, go to [alwayspartofu.com](http://alwayspartofu.com).

## Fall flurry of activity

STIMULATING EVENTS KICK OFF NEW SEMESTER

It seems that each new semester at UConn is more active than the last – more events, lectures, panels and more exciting choices on our campuses. This fall there is an intellectual vibrancy in the air, in spite of our difficult economic times.

UConn's leadership in human rights scholarship has been especially evident since classes began in late August. A 10-day period from September into early October was especially stimulating. It featured Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel addressing an overflowing audience in Konover Auditorium in late September. The following week, the Thomas J. Dodd Prize in International Justice and Human Rights was awarded to the Committee to Protect Journalists and featured remarks from Mariane Pearl, author and widow of executed *Wall Street Journal* journalist Daniel Pearl. The very next day, our Marsha Lilien Gladstein Visiting Professor David L. Morrill-Richards, co-director of the CIRI Human Rights Data Project, presented the annual Visiting Gladstein Lecture on the documentation and measurement of national and international efforts to respect economic human rights.

A University-wide metanoia on "Prevention of Violence Against Women" also was held in October. Metanoia, a time for campus-wide reflection and engagement with a critical issue, is an institutional tradition at UConn begun in 1970. Metanoia 2009 featured speakers, panel discussions, rallies and in-class presentations as faculty and instructors included the metanoia subject in their fall 2009 syllabi. Students are actively engaging this issue on our campuses, and I'm encouraged to see one of our society's most persistent

challenges attracting proactive attention from this generation.

Again, this fall, I'm teaching a course as part of the first-year honors seminar program. The course examines the ethical, tactical and political issues surrounding



**"I'm encouraged to see one of our society's most persistent challenges attracting proactive attention from this generation."**

President Harry S. Truman's decision to use the first atomic weapon on a human population. I'm energized by my classroom interaction with students, who bring new perspectives and questions to this defining early moment of my generation.

I'm pleased that our intellectual climate is flourishing at UConn, as we face our financial challenges. Budgeting and budget revisions have been subjects of constant focus in the legislature, in the state administrative offices and in our own UConn units and departments over the past 18 months. It appears that UConn's operating appropriation from the state will remain essentially flat in the next two fiscal years, FY10 and FY11. But already we're facing a new \$3 million reduction for FY10, and we anticipate another \$5 million reduction in FY11.

To address these realities, which seem likely to persist for years to come, our UConn Foundation kicked off its \$600 million capital campaign on Sept. 26 (See p. 33) to raise new funds for support and improvement of our many important UConn programs and initiatives. These initiatives include my new Presidential Challenge to raise \$100 million in new scholarship resources by pledging that UConn will match every donor's gift, dollar for dollar. Faith in the fundamental value of our public mission, and giving to provide for it, will sustain UConn through this difficult economic time.

We will emerge stronger than when it began. I hope you, our alumni and friends, recognize this important support of UConn excellence and join me in contributing to our campaign. This is how we ensure that our great University will grow and mature beyond even our most optimistic dreams.

Michael J. Hogan  
President



Mariane Pearl delivers remarks during ceremonies for the Dodd Prize presented to the Committee to Protect Journalists.

## Thomas J. Dodd Prize awarded to Committee to Protect Journalists

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) received the fourth biennial Thomas J. Dodd Prize in International Justice and Human Rights during ceremonies at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center in early October.

Mariane Pearl, author and wife of slain journalist Daniel Pearl, was the keynote speaker for the ceremony, which also included remarks by U.S. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd and University President Michael J. Hogan.

The CPJ is an independent, nonprofit organization founded in 1981 that promotes press freedom worldwide by defending the rights of journalists to report the news without fear of reprisal.

"The ability of the press to report the news fairly and freely is a right enshrined in the United States Constitution," says Dodd. "Around the world, however, members of the press often face intimidation or even violent retaliation simply for reporting the truth. That's why the mission of the Committee to Protect Journalists is so vital for the advancement of human rights and democracy worldwide. The CPJ deserves this honor for its accomplishments and dedication, and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its work on behalf of journalists across the globe."

CPJ was founded by a group of U.S. foreign correspondents in response to the often brutal treatment of their foreign colleagues by authoritarian governments and other enemies of independent journalism. By publicly revealing abuses against the press and by acting on behalf of imprisoned and threatened journalists, the organization effectively warns journalists and news organizations where attacks on press freedom are occurring. The committee organizes vigorous public protests and works through diplomatic channels to effect change. It also publishes articles and news releases, special reports and "Attacks on the Press," a comprehensive annual survey of press freedom around the world.

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## Wiesel lecture honors Judaic Studies Center, Konover Chair

Holocaust survivor and author Elie Wiesel delivered a lecture during the 30th anniversary activities for UConn's Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life in honor of the establishment of the Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies. Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986. He has also won the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal (1985) and the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1992).



State-of-the-art animation computers donated by Blue Sky Studios of Greenwich, Conn., creators of the popular "Ice Age" animated film series, are being used by students in the School of Fine Arts and the School of Engineering. "Digital media animations that used to take three hours to process now take six seconds. This allows us to greatly expand creatively," says Tim Hunter, interim department head and professor of lighting and stage design in the Department of Dramatic Arts in the School of Fine Arts. The new animation system will allow the Department of Dramatic Arts to augment its popular animation program with the goal of offering a full array of digital media and animation classes for students in many disciplines, providing a talented and trained workforce for Connecticut's rapidly growing film and digital media industries.



## Blue Sky gift expands animation program



Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs TM & © 2009 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

## \$1 million gift establishes actuarial science research center

A \$1 million gift to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will expand opportunities for faculty and students to work on real-world problems facing the insurance and financial services industries.

A center for research in actuarial science at UConn has been renamed the Janet and Mark L. Goldenson Research Center, where actuarial students and faculty will work closely with financial services companies in the Hartford area to conduct applied research on issues in actuarial science and risk management.

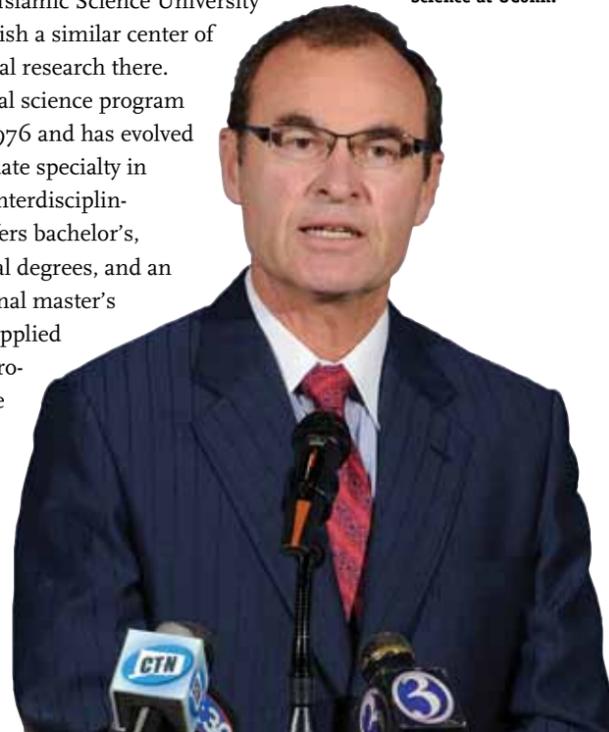
"Our actuarial science program, already recognized as one of the best in the Northeast, will be highly attractive to top students because of this opportunity to work on the types of projects they will face on the job," says Jeremy Teitelbaum, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The director of the Goldenson Center is Jay Vadiveloo, the Watson Wyatt professor-in-residence in actuarial science who has taught graduate actuarial studies at UConn for 20 years. Advisory board members for the Goldenson Center include chief actuaries and executives from 14 financial services companies in the Hartford area and in Massachusetts.

Among the projects already under way are an older-age mortality study funded by the life settlements industry and a Ph.D. research project to develop a management tool for variable annuities with guaranteed options. The Goldenson Center also is working with the Islamic Science University of Malaysia to establish a similar center of excellence in actuarial research there.

UConn's actuarial science program was established in 1976 and has evolved from an undergraduate specialty in mathematics to an interdisciplinary program that offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, and an associated professional master's degree program in applied mathematics. The program's graduates are employed throughout the financial services industry in Connecticut and the Northeast.

Mark L. Goldenson discusses the establishment of the Janet and Mark L. Goldenson Research Center in Actuarial Science at UConn.



## UConn maintains U.S. News rankings

The University of Connecticut remained the best public university in New England for the 11th consecutive year in the latest rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report*.

UConn also maintained its rank as the 26th best public university in the nation – a category with more than 160 colleges and universities – and 66th best university in the nation among all 262 national universities, public or private. UConn climbed four spots on the subjective portion of the formula: peer ratings of academic quality. This single largest measure constitutes 25 percent of the formula.

"Given the tight financial situation the University finds itself in, and the dire shape of the national economy, I am very pleased that we have retained our position among the best public universities in the nation, and are more highly rated this

year than ever before by our peers," says President Michael J. Hogan.

"As impressive as our run as the top public university in New England has been, we also are ranked third among public universities in the entire Northeast, including large population centers like New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey," said Lee Melvin, interim vice president for enrollment planning, management and institutional research.

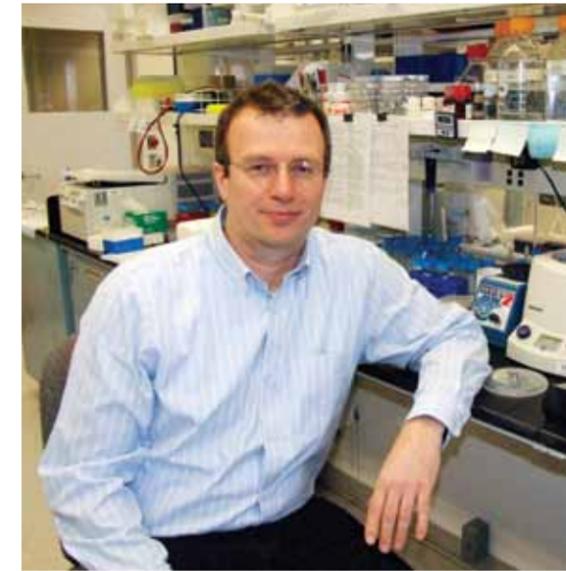
"While we understand that the system employed by *U.S. News* has its critics, we also clearly understand that this publication serves as a valuable resource to tens of thousands of parents and their children when they consider what college to attend,"

says Melvin. "Many of the categories present a factual picture of the University – the quality of our students, our excellent retention and graduation rates, the number of classes offered that have fewer than 20 students ... these are important numbers for future students."



## Road warriors cheer Huskies

Members of the Connecticut National Guard cheer on the Husky football team during a win over Baylor in Waco, Texas, in September. About 60 members of the Guard's 118th MMB unit, who are stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, were invited by head coach Randy Edsall to visit the UConn locker room for a postgame celebration.



## Gates Foundation Award to Günzl

The UConn Health Center has received its first grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a \$100,000 award to support the research of Arthur Günzl, an associate professor in the Department of Genetics and Developmental Biology, who is developing innovative approaches to prevent and treat infectious diseases.

Günzl received the grant through the foundation's Grand Challenges Explorations initiative, which aims to develop a pipeline of creative ideas that could change the face of global health. His research focuses on *Trypanosoma brucei*, the parasite carried by the tsetse fly in sub-Saharan Africa that causes sleeping sickness.

Untreated, sleeping sickness is invariably fatal; however, existing drugs are highly toxic, expensive, difficult to administer or not effective against all subspecies of the parasite. With resistance to existing drugs on the rise and vaccine development not in sight, health officials say new strategies to combat the parasite are urgently needed.



## Dual degree for dentists

**T**he new five-year dual-degree program at the UConn School of Dental Medicine is designed to help meet the growing need for scientists and clinicians who are well-versed in the complex interactions between genetic, environmental and socioeconomic factors in human disease, and specifically in dental, oral and craniofacial disease.

The combined program leads to the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) degree, as well as a master's degree in either public health (M.P.H.) or clinical and translational research (M.C.T.R.). The M.P.H. program, which focuses on epidemiology, biostatistics, social and behavioral sciences, occupational/environmental health and health services administration, will train students in applying public health principles to oral health problems.

Students enrolled in the M.C.T.R. program will acquire the skills necessary to conduct clinical research that translates findings from the bench to the bedside as well as to translate evidence-based findings to clinical practice. A mentored research experience is a key component of each program.

## Improving security for information transmitted online

**T**hree National Science Foundation grants totaling \$400,000 will help to advance ongoing cybersecurity research conducted by Aggelos Kiayias, assistant professor of computer science and engineering in the School of Engineering, who is trying to improve the security of personal information that is continually transmitted electronically.

"Millions of users pass their personal information daily over the Internet to their health-care providers, banks, insurance companies and other service providers," Kiayias says. "Once this information is transferred, in many cases it is outsourced to other parties, some of whom may even reside in foreign countries, for storage and processing. The data may then be sold or resold for data mining."

Data producers – customers and patients – have no control over access to and use of such private and sensitive data.

The researchers seek to develop a protocol allowing a company to set permissions and define the specific functions that can be performed with personal records.

Among the projects under way:

One focuses on wireless networks, which permit laptop computers and other portable computer devices to access the Internet without the need for plug-ins in such locations as Internet cafés, hotels, offices, universities and homes. While these systems feature some degree of security, they are not immune to the dangers of data breaching. Together with Bülent Yener of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Kiayias is seeking to develop better encryption methods to combat data breaching, which carries significant risks of identity theft



and costs businesses and individuals billions of dollars each year.

In a related project, Kiayias is collaborating with Tal Malkin of Columbia University to gain a better understanding of how algorithm-based encryption methods can be improved so that they are

easier to implement, offer better rates of data transfer and are more effective in combating common cyber attacks. They hope to construct encryption methods that permit easy data sharing while offering affordable security.

Kiayias and Yener also are collaborating on a third project to develop a way to introduce secure and auditable privacy contracting, a method that can be used to define a trade-off between privacy and data mining.

## Teacher preparation program expands to Waterbury campus

**A** former submarine mechanic, an urban planner, an environmental health officer and a former airline employee are among the dozen inaugural graduates from UConn's Waterbury campus who completed the Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates last spring.

Designed to attract recent college graduates or professionals from other careers into teaching by providing an accelerated path to certification, this successful program just completed its first year in Waterbury and six years at UConn's Greater Hartford campus, where 42 students completed certification in the spring.

The Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates offers a master's degree and certification in one year. An accelerated route to teacher certification, the 45-credit graduate-level program offers students a rigorous and varied set of clinical and academic activities.

"We've had Fortune 500 executives changing careers," says Michael Alfano, the pro-



## Lobo enshrined in Women's Hoop Hall of Fame

**R**ebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS), left, UConn's first two-time All-American in basketball who led the women's basketball team to the first of its six NCAA titles, will be the first former Husky to join head coach Geno Auriemma in the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame when she is enshrined with the Class of 2010 on June 12 in Knoxville, Tenn. A two-time Big East Player of the Year, Lobo was the National Player of the Year in 1995 after leading the Huskies to a perfect 35-0 mark. A member of the UConn Board of Trustees, Lobo is now an analyst for ESPN and is seen interviewing Lin Dunn, coach of the WNBA Indiana Fever.



gram director. "I can think of career military guys who have changed careers ... There are just so many different stories."

Over the past two decades, accelerated certification programs have sprung up across the nation as schools sought to recruit professionals from other careers to bring new expertise to the classroom and to ease shortages of teachers in subjects such as mathematics and science. At UConn, the graduate certification program includes courses such as learning theory, educational technology and methods of assessment, along with a full semester of student teaching.

After working in other careers for 10 to 20 years, prospective teachers bring extensive life experiences that can enrich the learning experience for students, Alfano says.

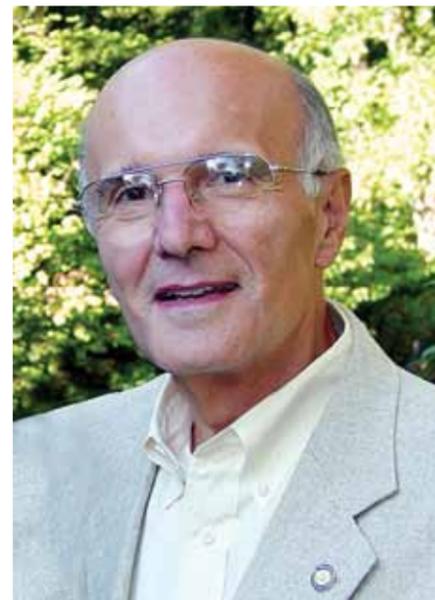
"These might be people who have sat on local school boards, been active in community activities – people who can give a perspective a 21-year-old might not have," he says, noting that previous graduates of the program are working in more than 30 school districts across the state.

## Pharmacy honors work of Palmer with professorship

As a teacher, scholar and mentor in the School of Pharmacy for more than 40 years, Henry A. Palmer M.S. '60, Ph.D. '65 influenced many lives throughout the University and the state of Connecticut.

The lifework of Palmer, an emeritus professor of pharmacy who also served as associate dean in the School of Pharmacy, was recognized this past spring when the Henry A. Palmer Endowed Professorship in Community Pharmacy Practice was established in recognition of his extensive scholarship in community pharmacy and patient care.

Robert McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy, says the professorship will help the Department of Pharmacy Practice recruit a nationally renowned scholar and researcher to the faculty. The new faculty position will focus on all aspects of community pharmacy practice, including patient care, medication management, research, statistical analysis and



consultations with health care providers.

"The School of Pharmacy has been around for nearly 85 years," says McCarthy. "If you look at those eight-plus decades, two individuals have really dominated the history ... It was Dean Harold G. Hewitt in those first 40 years. And in the past 40 years, Henry Palmer has been that dominant person."

Palmer attended a reception in his honor to celebrate the professorship, just prior to his death in late May.

"More important than personal honor is what this chair means to the School of Pharmacy and how it will impact on pharmacy practice," Palmer said at the time. "I'm happy to know there is going to be an exclusive focus



## Construction begins on new Liberal Arts classrooms

Ground was broken in the early fall for one of the two classroom buildings that will replace the aging Arjona and Monteith facilities that have been home to many classes in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The first building (in rendering, above center), consisting of classrooms and lecture halls, will be located on Fairfield Way across from Homer Babbidge Library, between the Student Union and the Center for Undergraduate Education buildings. Construction for the second building, with faculty offices and more classrooms, will begin upon completion of the first building.

on community pharmacy practice and patient care in the future with a dedicated professorship or chair."

Palmer began his career in the School of Pharmacy in 1958 as a graduate teaching assistant while he completed his master's degree and Ph.D. He was named assistant dean in 1979, clinical professor in 1981 and associate dean in 1985. From 1988 to 1996, Palmer served as director of the School's Alumni Association. After retiring from teaching in 2000, he continued as director of the School of Pharmacy Office of Continuing Education, where the school has named a program after him. Palmer received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1999 and the first Distinguished Emeritus Faculty Award in 2004.



## Learning from Wal-Mart

Full-time M.B.A. students in the School of Business gained firsthand insight about the organizational transformation that Wal-Mart has undergone in the past few years from Bill Simon '81 (BUS), '88 M.B.A., executive vice president and chief operating officer of Wal-Mart US, who returned to Storrs to speak at a forum this past spring.

Simon was accompanied by Hank Mullany, president of Wal-Mart Northeast. In addition to discussing their company's business strategies, the two executives provided advice to students about the skills and traits needed to excel in today's business world.



Since 2007, Simon has been responsible for Wal-Mart's U.S. operations, covering more than 3,600 stores, logistics, asset protection, transportation and store innovation. The firm's U.S. retail units include Discount stores, Supercenters, Marketsides and Neighborhood Markets. He was previously executive vice president of professional services and new business development, where he managed Pharmacy, Optical, Tire and Lube Express and Photo and Connection Centers.



## Lodewick Visitors Center celebrates 10 years

Before the Lodewick Visitors Center (LVC) opened in 2000 (top photo), approximately 19,000 people attended campus tours at UConn. In 2008-2009, 46,000 visitors participated in guided tours of the Storrs campus, which begin with an academic and student life information session followed by an interactive tour that includes stops in nine campus buildings.

Each year about 900 guided tours are led by 38 student guides, known as LVC Colleagues, who represent a variety of majors and who are involved in numerous on-campus clubs and activities. Annually about 100 high school and middle school groups also visit campus. Since 2000, more than 335,000 guests have participated in the LVC's guided campus tour program.

Benefactors of the Visitors Center are Philip Lodewick '66 (BUS), '67 M.B.A. and Christine Lodewick '67 M.S.



## Red carpet walk

2009 National Player of the Year Maya Moore '11 (CLAS), who led the women's basketball team to a perfect season and the NCAA Championship, received the 2009 ESPY Award as "Best Female Collegiate Athlete" during ceremonies in Los Angeles last July. She and her mother, Kathryn, chatted before the event with quarterback Tim Tebow, Heisman Trophy winner from the University of Florida.

## NASW honors Negroni

Lirio K. Negroni, an associate professor of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at UConn's School of Social Work, has been named the 2009 Educator of the Year by the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Negroni was selected for her outstanding contributions to social work education nationally, regionally and in the state of Connecticut.

"Dr. Negroni is considered one of the leading social work educators on issues related to Latinos and Latinas in social work in the United States," says Catherine M. Havens, associate dean in the School of Social Work.

Negroni, who joined the University in 1998, also serves as the chair of the Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Project, a program that helps prepare social workers to serve the Latino/a community and promote changes that safeguard and enhance quality of life for Latino/a individuals, families and communities.



## Kimenyi to Brookings

Mwangi S. Kimenyi, an associate professor of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been named a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a nonprofit public policy organization based in Washington, D.C. An expert on the African economy, Kimenyi joined the Africa Growth Initiative, part of Brookings' Global Economy and Development program focusing on Africa's development challenges. He also serves as a research associate with the University of Oxford and is the founding executive director of the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, which advises the government and private sector in Kenya.



## Study says few know Alzheimer's risks

Few Americans know the risk factors for Alzheimer's disease or understand how to protect themselves from it, says a study led by a UConn doctoral student in clinical psychology.

Exercising, lowering stress levels, maintaining a healthy body weight and socializing are known protective factors for Alzheimer's that most of those surveyed did not recognize, says Colleen E. Jackson, a fourth-year Ph.D. student who led the study that was presented at the 2009 Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Vienna, Austria.

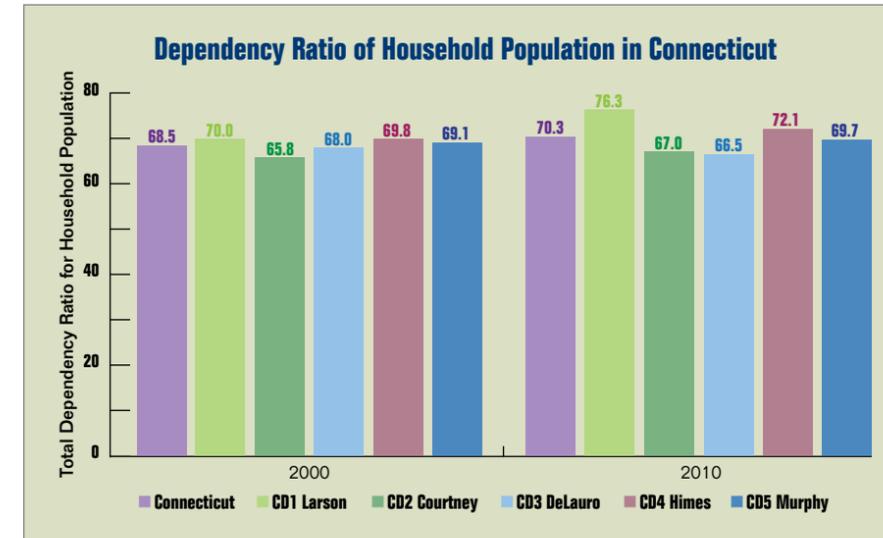
"For as much as there has been an increase in scientific understanding of the disease, there continues to be a need to broadly educate the public," she says.

In an online and paper survey of nearly 700 adults, Jackson and her colleagues found that American adults have limited

knowledge and a poor understanding of factors that have been shown to increase the risk for Alzheimer's, such as obesity, high blood pressure and other heart health risk factors. As more Baby Boomers reach the age when some cognitive decline may be noticed – the 60s and beyond – education about how to prevent the disease is critical, Jackson says.

She says that "dementia literacy," or knowledge about the disease, can be increased by better communication with general practitioners, education at senior centers, and through informing adults as early as their late 20s of protective measures. While there is no known cure for Alzheimer's disease, research has shown that the loss of memory and language associated with it can be delayed by lifestyle modifications that maintain brain and heart health.

Other UConn researchers on the dementia literacy project included doctoral student Kathryn V. Papp and Jennifer Bartkowiak '09 (CLAS).



## Study projects smaller workforce, more elderly

The study "Projected Population in 2010 for Congressional Districts in Connecticut," conducted by the Connecticut State Data Center in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, indicates that the 2010 U.S. Census will show Connecticut among the first states to experience a forthcoming national trend of an increasingly higher ratio of older people who are dependent on people of working age. With declining enrollment in the public school grades 1 to 12, there also will be an increasingly smaller population entering the workforce while a larger aging population retires to live on a fixed income or retirement benefits. These demographic shifts will lead to a decrease in the income tax base with a simultaneous increase in the demand and utilization of health services. The decennial census will be held in April 2010, with Congressional reapportionment and redistricting to follow.



## Freshmen sign in

Members of the Class of 2013 signed a painted rock outside the John Buckley Residence Hall as part of orientation activities on the Storrs campus.

## Nursing's Storrs Hall set for renovations

Augustus Storrs Hall, the oldest brick building on the University's main campus, will be renovated and expanded to provide the School of Nursing with a state-of-the-art classroom and office facility.

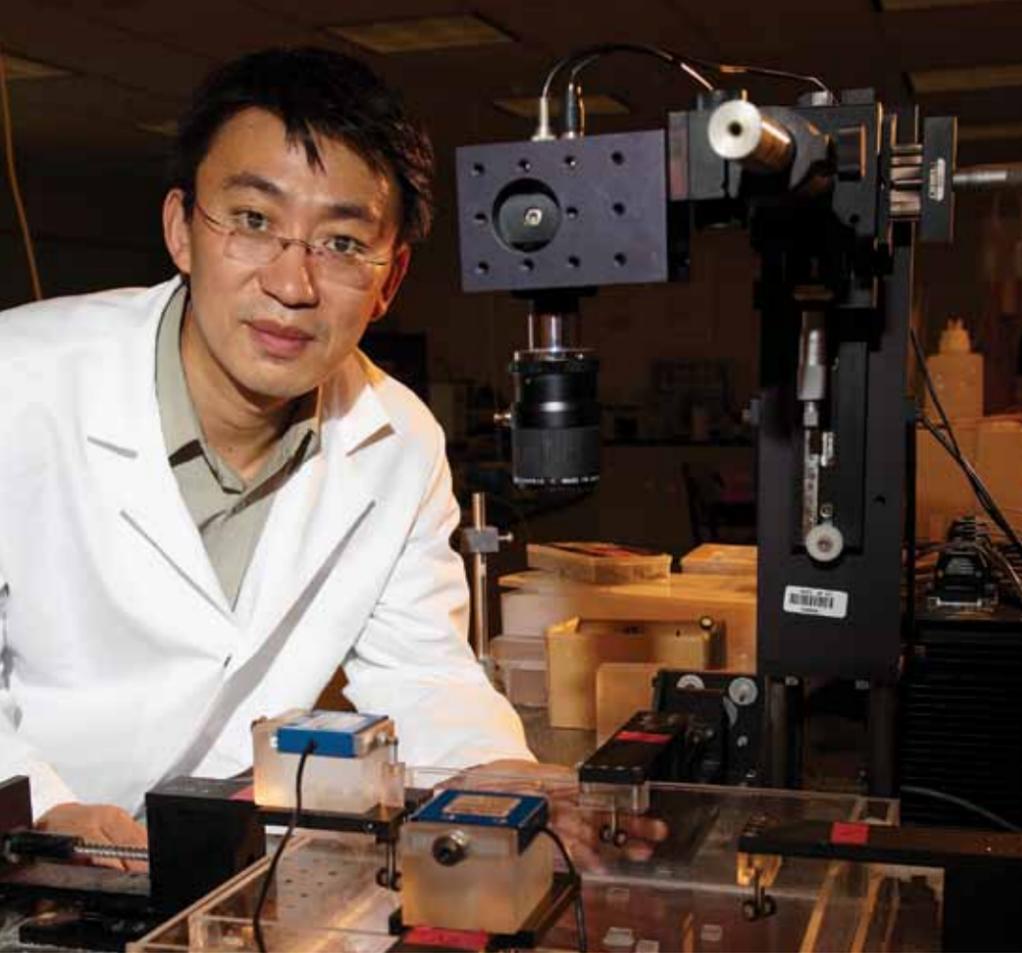
The Board of Trustees approved a \$14 million plan to renovate the 103-year-old building that will include a new 15,800-square-foot wing to replace the modular building that has provided temporary classroom space for nursing education while plans for the expansion were developed. Construction is slated to begin in 2010, with a tentative opening date set for fall 2011.

The expansion will allow students to have a central location for nursing studies and access to state-of-the-art classrooms and labs. Key improvements



for the academic facility will include individual exam rooms, clinical simulation rooms, a large lecture hall and a case-study room with up to 175 seats and high-tech broadcast capabilities allowing students in the classroom to watch, critique and discuss what other students are doing in one of the simulation labs. UConn is home to Connecticut's largest nursing program, graduating more than 200 individuals prepared for entry into basic nursing per year.

The award-winning architectural firm of Tai Soo Kim Partners LLC of Hartford is designing the addition, which will be known as the Widmer Wing in honor of the School's first dean, Carolyn Ladd Widmer.



## Heart valve repair innovation

### SUN DEVELOPING NEW MODELS FOR ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURE

**W**ei Sun, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering and mechanical engineering at the UConn School of Engineering, is working to refine an alternative medical procedure aimed at reducing the risk of heart failure. The work is supported by a National Scientist Development Grant from the American Heart Association.

The grant of more than \$300,000 will support Sun's work to develop accurate biomechanical models for a heart valve repair procedure called percutaneous transvenous mitral annuloplasty (PTMA). The research is an extension of ongoing work Sun has been conducting with Bruce Liang, a professor of cardiology at the UConn Health Center.

PTMA is a minimally invasive procedure that involves implanting a special device in the heart as an alternative to open heart surgery. A number of companies are

developing experimental PTMA devices, and early clinical trials in humans were conducted in 2006 and 2007, when unknown biomechanical interactions between the device and the tissue and valves of the heart were discovered. Sun says he hopes to gain a better understanding of these interactions through a combination of experimental and computational studies.

Through the American Heart Association project, the researchers expect to improve their understanding of the biomechanics involved in PTMA treatment and to aid in the development of novel, minimally invasive heart valve repair devices. Approximately 300,000 heart valve surgeries are performed annually around the world – either whole valve replacement with an artificial heart valve or surgical valve repair. Both procedures require risky open-heart surgery that makes it desirable to develop less invasive, nonsurgical techniques.

## McHugh named new board chair

**G**ov. M. Jodi Rell has appointed Lawrence D. McHugh of Middletown, longtime president of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, to serve as the new chairman of the UConn Board of Trustees.

Two alumni also were elected to serve four-year terms as new members of the Board of Trustees – Francis Archambault '68 M.A., '69 Ph.D. and Robert M. Ward '74 (CLAS).

McHugh, a 1962 graduate of Southern Connecticut State University, is a former high school teacher as well as a successful scholastic track and football coach. He has served as a member of the Connecticut State University System Board of Trustees since 1982, including most recently as its chairman. He also serves on a number of other state panels and commissions, including the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and the Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film.

"Larry McHugh has been a legendary – and legendarily successful – educator, business leader and community leader in our state for decades," says Rell. "I know he shares my vision of the University – a top-flight research University that remains affordable for the families of Connecticut."

Archambault, who was elected to serve as alumni representative on the board, is a former president of the UConn Alumni Association and a professor emeritus in the Neag School of Education.

Ward is commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles and a former Minority Leader in the Connecticut House of Representatives. He is the father of four UConn alumni: Michael '00 (CLAS), Nicole '07 (BUS), Sarah '09 (CLAS) and Rebecca '03 (BUS).



## 2009 Alumni Association Awards

The 2009 Alumni Award Recognition took place during Homecoming Weekend. Those honored met with President Michael J. Hogan. From left: Robert Fiondella '68 J.D., Distinguished Alumni Award; Elizabeth T. Beaudin '74 (NUR), '80 M.S.N., '06 Ph.D., University Service Award; President Hogan; Theresa Hopkins-Staten '81 (CLAS), '84 J.D., Alumni Association Service Award; Daniel Mullins '97 (ED), '98 M.A., '06 J.D., Graduate of the Last Decade Award; M. Kevin Fahey, Honorary Alumni Award.



## UConn's top student doc

Third-year UConn medical student Dan Henderson is the first champion of "Next Top Doc," a radio quiz show for med students introduced this past spring at the annual convention of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) in Arlington, Va. "I figured it would be fun. I guessed I'd be out in the first round, competing against fourth-years," says Henderson, who instead won a \$5,000 scholarship from the satellite radio channel ReachMD, which broadcast the competition from May through August. Henderson is taking a year off from the School of Medicine to complete a fellowship with AMSA in Washington, D.C.

## AROUND UCONN • EVENTS CALENDAR

For complete listings: <http://www.uconn.edu/culture/>

**JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**  
860-486-4226  
[www.jorgensen.uconn.edu](http://www.jorgensen.uconn.edu)

Dec. 4  
**UCONN A CAPPELLA HOLIDAY SHOW**

Dec. 5  
**BOSTON POPS WINTER GALA**

Dec. 12-13  
**THE NUTCRACKER**

Jan. 23  
**UCONN STEP SHOW (DANCE)**

Jan. 31  
**STREGA NONA (FAMILY THEATER)**



Feb. 5  
**MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL**

Feb. 18  
**MOSCOW STATE RADIO SYMPHONY**

Feb. 20  
**AMERICAN SONGBOOK II**

Feb. 25  
**BÉLA FLECK - THE AFRICA PROJECT**

March 7  
**JUNGLE JACK HANNA**

March 16  
**TAO: THE MARTIAL ART OF DRUMMING**

March 19-20  
**NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY**

March 27  
**BRENTANO STRING QUARTET**

March 28  
**A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD (FAMILY)**

April 10  
**LATIN FEST 2010 (MUSIC)**

April 16-17  
**THE RAT PACK IS BACK**

**CONNECTICUT REPERTORY THEATRE**  
860-486-1629

Feb. 25-March 7  
**THE COMEDY OF ERRORS BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

March 25-April 4  
**TOO MUCH MEMORY BY KEITH REDDIN AND MEG GIBSON (STUDIO WORKS)**

April 22-May 1  
**TOMMY BY THE WHO**

**WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART**  
860-486-4520

Jan. 21-March 14  
*From Amazing Stories to Weird Tales: Covering Pulp Fiction, European Art from the Benton Collections*



**BALLARD PUPPETRY MUSEUM**  
860-486-4605  
Hours: F-Sun, noon-5 p.m.

March 21-Nov. 30  
*Handpuppets, Politics and Humor*



March 21-Nov. 30  
*Frank and Elizabeth Haines: An American Puppet Company in the 1930s*

**HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY**  
860-486-4636  
*Stranger No More:*

*Photographs of New England by Han Suk Ock*  
Gallery on the Plaza, Through Dec. 18

*The Last Green Valley: Photographs by G. Leslie Sweetnam*  
Stevens Gallery Through Dec. 18

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

Feb. 26-April 11  
*Works by Guido Garaycochea, Greg Bowerman, Susan Schultz and Mark Dixon*

April 16-May 30  
*Works by Andrew Tavarelli, Pat Carrigan, Kat Murphy and Sky Hoyt*

**TORRINGTON CAMPUS**  
860-626-6852  
April 28  
*Devotion by Dani Shapiro: A discussion of the author's latest memoir*



### Supporting Operation Enduring Freedom

Rock Woodstock '86 (CLAS), left, and U.S. Air Force Major Kenneth Main '97 (CANR) are stationed at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as part of the Joint Contracting Command-Iraq/Afghanistan. Woodstock is Reachback Contracting Liaison and serves as a civilian contracting officer at the Rock Island Contracting Center, Rock Island, Ill. Maj. Main is Chief of Contract Policy and serves as Commander of the 82d Contracting Squadron, 82d Air Training Wing, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.



### Studying orchids in Madagascar

Ecology and evolutionary biology doctoral student Kathryn Theiss is one of 20 environmental scholars chosen as 2009 Switzer Environmental Fellows, a prestigious national fellowship that will allow her to continue monitoring the decline of two rare orchid species in Madagascar and analyzing the threats to their habitat. Her work includes field studies on two species of endangered orchids. This year's awardees in New England besides Theiss include graduate students at Harvard's Kennedy School, Yale, MIT, Dartmouth, Tufts and the University of Southern Maine.

### Renzulli wins 2009 McGraw Prize

Joseph S. Renzulli, distinguished professor of educational psychology in the Neag School of Education, received the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education for 2009 from The McGraw-Hill Companies during ceremonies at the New York Public Library.

As director of the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented and the Neag Chair in Gifted Education and Talented Development, Renzulli is known for his groundbreaking research in gifted and talented education. His Schoolwide Enrichment Model has been used in more than 2,500 schools nationwide.

Renzulli was one of three education pioneers to receive The Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize, which since 1988 annually recognizes outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to enhancing learning in the United States and whose accomplishments are making a difference. Honorees are chosen by a distinguished board of judges from the education community. The other honorees were Sarita Brown, president of Excelencia in Education, a not-for-profit organization working to accelerate Latino success in higher education, and Linda Darling-



Hammond, the Charles E. Ducommun professor of education at Stanford University, who founded the School Redesign Network. "Providing an exceptional education to students of all backgrounds and skills sets is critical if we want our country, and our citizens, to succeed in today's global, knowledge-based economy," says Harold McGraw III, chairman, president and chief executive officer of The McGraw-Hill Companies. "In order for our

nation to maintain its standing in the world, our educational system needs innovators who are always looking to push beyond boundaries to identify creative, effective solutions to our biggest challenges. Each of this year's recipients has done just that and as a result has made a tremendous difference in the lives of students and educators."

Renzulli's research has focused on the identification and development of creativity and giftedness in young people and on organizational models and curricular strategies for differentiated learning environments that contribute to total school improvement. Researchers have found that his Schoolwide Enrichment Model improved attitudes among students, teachers, parents and administrators toward gifted education and produced positive results in achievement.

## Creative CURRENTS

### Chef's gluten-free cookbook offers recipes from simple to exotic



After his wife, Angela, was diagnosed with celiac disease – a disorder that is triggered by gluten, the main protein found in wheat, barley and rye – Robert Landolphi began to use his love of cooking and training in culinary arts to develop healthy recipes for her.

"I tried various combinations of flours, such as sorghum, tapioca, corn and rice flours and other gluten-free ingredients and developed a smorgasbord of dishes that my wife could eat," says Landolphi, culinary operations manager at UConn's Department of Dining Services. He then began to give cooking demonstrations for celiac and gluten-free support groups, friends and stores such as Wild Oats and Whole Foods.

"When people tasted the dishes, they wanted to know if I had a cookbook," he says. "I decided to put my recipes into a book to help my wife and to help all the other people who have to eat gluten-free. I couldn't see them going through life having to give up so many food items." The book, *Gluten Free Every Day Cookbook* (Andrews McMeel Publishing), contains some 100 recipes for appetizers, desserts and entrees such as hazelnut-encrusted salmon, lasagna made with brown rice noodles and flaky buttermilk biscuits.

"The recipes in my cookbook are

#### Luscious Lemony Chestnut Bars

- ½ cup brown rice flour
- ¼ cup tapioca flour
- ¼ cup chestnut flour
- ¼ cup potato starch
- ¼ cup of sugar
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons cold butter, cut into small pieces
- ¾ cup sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon zest
- 3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon of baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- Confectioner's sugar, for dusting

Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line an 8-inch square pan with aluminum foil and butter the foil.

In a food processor, combine the brown rice flour, tapioca flour, chestnut flour, potato starch, ¼ cup sugar, and the ¼ teaspoon of salt. Whirl to blend. Add the butter and process until a fine meal forms. Press evenly into the bottom and sides of the prepared pan to form a crust. Bake for 15 minutes, or until slightly golden.

Meanwhile, prepare the filling: In a food processor, combine the ¾ cup sugar, the eggs, lemon zest and juice, baking powder and pinch of salt. Process to blend. Pour into the hot crust and bake for 20 minutes, or until set. Remove from the oven and let cool completely on a wire rack. Cut into 16 squares, remove from the pan, and dust with confectioner's sugar to serve.

the kinds of dishes that people who have celiac disease and are on a gluten-free diet thought they'd never be able to eat again," says Landolphi, a certified culinary arts instructor and chef who holds a degree in culinary arts from Johnson & Wales University.

Landolphi's book has recipes for crab cakes, macaroni and cheese, his grandmother's Italian meatballs and beer-battered onion rings (made with gluten-free beer). There's even a recipe for country-style chicken pot pie with a cream cheese crust. Then there are more exotic dishes, like toasted coconut shrimp with peach marmalade dipping sauce. The book also includes information on gluten-free flours and starches, nut meals and seeds, cooking techniques and a chef's perspective on eating out.

"All the ingredients are easy to find," he says. "I wanted to make people's lives easier and more enjoyable."

Landolphi says that for students who arrive on campus with dietary concerns or who develop such allergic disorders, dining services will help meet their special needs. "We'll meet with parents and the student, a registered dietitian and a dining hall chef who can answer questions about the gluten-free menu on campus," he says.

UConn Dining Services – which already offers gluten-free bagels, breads and muffins – is beefing up its options: This fall, gluten-free entrees for breakfast, lunch and dinner are offered in every dining hall on campus and Union Street Market. – Sherry Fisher

## In the water with the swimming and diving team

**J**ohn Hogan '10 (CANR), a resource economics major, and Molly McGroarty '10 (BUS), a finance major, each swim freestyle and butterfly events for their respective men's and women's swimming and diving teams. Both are captains of their teams. Jessica Hovancik '11 (CLAS), a molecular and cell biology major, is a diver.

*How much of an adjustment was it from your high school or club experience to college?*

**John:** It's about time management. If you were able to manage that well in high school, you can do it in college. The taxing on your body is what you don't realize when you get to this level. With four morning workouts a week, we have to balance how much rest we get.

**Jessica:** In college you have to put a lot more time into your studies. It's very important to be a student before you are an athlete. It took me a little time to get used to that. But you have your teammates. Everyone is there to back you up.

**Molly:** It's night and day. It's not just that you come to practice and you go to class. There are meetings, traveling, issues you have to deal with. Freshman year is kind of an experiment. Every year it gets better. It's way more taxing than high school.

*Last year both the men's and women's squads were recognized as Scholar All-American teams. What kind of student-athlete does it take to maintain such a high level of achievement?*

**Molly:** I think the sport attracts a certain kind of person. We always talk about the fact that it's a rare breed that gets up at 6 o'clock in the morning to swim. That person is self-motivated, determined and focused. That's one aspect of your life, but usually that person takes it and uses it toward academics as well.

**John:** It would be fair to say that the people who get involved with swimming, with the qualities that Molly just listed, have those qualities in place. When you get to higher levels in swimming, you refine those qualities ... What's interesting is that after we're done swimming here, for most of us there's no future in the sport. So it's even more important for us to take those qualities we've learned that made us good swimmers and use them in the work environment.

*Can you help each other across the swimming and the diving groups?*

**John:** I think divers can help divers. Where swimming comes into play is because it is so tough mentally – getting up early or doing the hard workouts – that's where we have the most impact vocally, by having a positive comment or encouragement.



From left: Diver Jessica Hovancik '11 (CLAS) and swimmers Molly McGroarty '10 (BUS) and John Hogan '10 (CANR) in the Wolff-Zackin Natatorium.

**Molly:** Leadership outside the pool is important, too. It's very important to have that same mentality, looking out to support people. I think it's part of why we're successful.

*Weight training is not always associated with a sport like swimming and diving. How is this training helping you?*

**Jessica:** For diving, a lot of the work we do is on our legs, to be able to get down deeper into the board and utilize the spring board to the maximum. You can bring what you take from the weight room into the pool.

**John:** The people that we get to work with here, that's what they study and it's their profession. I think working with one of the best kinesiology departments in the country helps us significantly.

*Swimming, in particular, is known for burning a lot of calories. What are the challenges of eating properly?*

**Molly:** After practice we're starving, and you have endless choices in the dining halls. You really have to think about your nutrition. You have to replace everything you lost in that previous workout and fuel up for the next workout 7 to 12 hours later. The assistant coaches talk to us about what to eat and what not to eat, and we have nutritionists to help us. It's difficult, but you're in control of it.

**John:** The hardest part for me is eating enough because I work

out so much and there are so many time constraints between classes and studying ... You really have to stop yourself from doing the quick, unhealthy thing throughout the day.

*What are the challenges in the upcoming season?*

**John:** We're a much younger team this year. The freshmen and sophomores have to adjust. The flip side of that is they bring a lot of talent. If we do our job as captains, it will carry over to a very successful season.

**Jessica:** We have massive talent with the freshmen. I'm looking forward to it.

**Molly:** With a younger team, we have the opportunity to take this program to another level.



Chris Smith '92 (CLAS), the all-time leading scorer in UConn men's basketball history, is the new head coach of the boys basketball team at Kolbe-Cathedral High School in Bridgeport, Conn., where he was a star before becoming the first key in-state recruit for Hall of Fame Coach Jim Calhoun and helping move UConn into national prominence in basketball.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

## UConn mourns Jasper Howard

**T**he University community mourned the death of Husky football player Jasper Howard '11 (CLAS), who died Oct. 18 during Homecoming weekend after being stabbed during a fight outside the Student Union following a dance. Arrests were made in the criminal case on Oct. 26.

About 2,000 students, faculty and staff took part in a candlelight vigil in tribute to Howard, who was remembered in remarks by football head coach Randy Edsall, President Michael J. Hogan, USG President Tom Haggerty '11 (CLAS), members of the football team and others.

Two funds were established in Howard's memory. The Jasper T. Howard Endowed Scholarship will be annually awarded to a UConn football Student-athlete who plays at the cornerback position and who best displays the outstanding leadership qualities, which he embodied. The Jasper Howard Fund will assist the Howard family with funeral expenses and support for Jasper's soon-to-be-born child.

For details on both funds go to [www.foundation.uconn.edu](http://www.foundation.uconn.edu).



## Celebrating 50 years of Huskies hockey

**T**he men's hockey team is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a varsity program during the 2009-10 season. What began in 1960-61 as a Division III team (1961 team pictured, left) has evolved into a Division I championship squad with more than 400 alumni. The Huskies kicked off the celebration of its 50th year during the weekend of Sept. 12-13, when returning alumni were honored at Rentschler Field.

## Learning lessons in law through literature

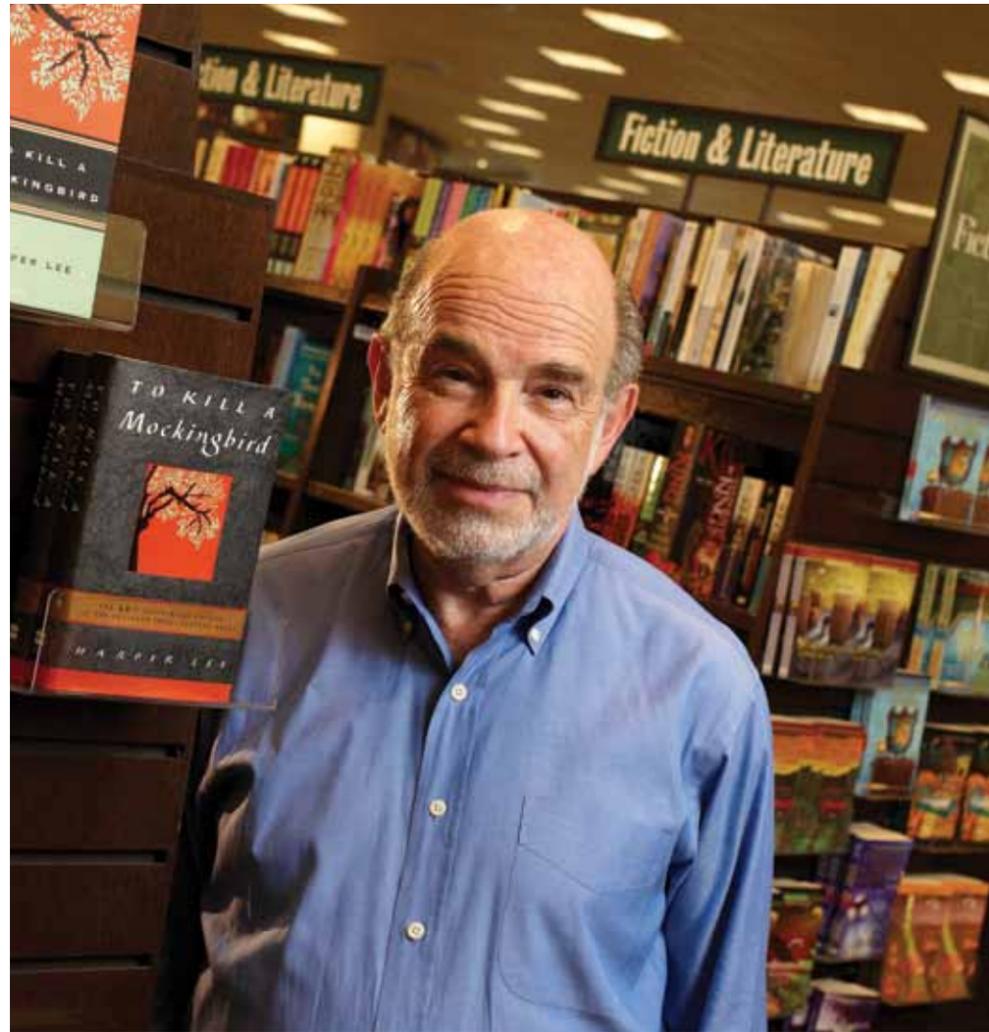
MORAWETZ USES CRIME NOVELS TO FOCUS ON LEGAL ISSUES

Can reading *The Scarlet Letter* help aspiring jurists understand the nature of punishment? Does the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde inform future lawyers about the power of addiction or the divide between good and evil? Can the character of Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird* fuel a discussion on how attorneys design their arguments to appeal to specific juries or society as a whole?

Tom Morawetz, Tapping Reeve Professor of Law and Ethics at UConn School of Law, believes that in addition to the usual regimen of case studies and clinics, having a well-rounded perspective in the legal profession includes delving into a field not normally associated with the law: literature.

Morawetz is the author of *Literature and the Law*, a book built on two courses he has taught for the past 15 years: “Law and Literature” and “Law and Literature of Crime.” Both are centered on the theme of using literature to broaden the thinking of law students about their future profession and themselves. The book examines dozens of authors, from Franz Kafka and Albert Camus to William Faulkner and Agatha Christie – among many others – and connects each with larger ideas in the field of law. Themes include freedom and crime, criminal minds, trial and punishment and wider discussions on the window fiction provides on the law and lawyers and finding meaning in a legal career.

“Many issues that arise from a literature standpoint can have a great impact on the way students access their



own thinking about legal concerns and their own role in law,” says Morawetz. “It’s not very different from the impact of legal philosophy; it gets students to look at the shape of law as a whole – from the standpoint of another discipline.”

With his courses, Morawetz struggles against the kind of homogeneity that comes in legal education, he says, with many students assuming they must put aside any interest they have in the humanities and social sciences and adopt a certain standard legal thinking.

“The class breaks down categories of thinking and allows students to see how different issues they had thought of as

**Law professor Tom Morawetz has written a book about how literature can broaden the thinking of law students about legal issues.**

separate can be juxtaposed,” says Morawetz. “My feeling is that students are much more likely to be good lawyers if they understand what unique package of talents and values each of them brings.”

Students in Morawetz’s classes read and discuss literature, but they also produce it, writing short stories or autobiographical essays for the class.

“I’ve found quite often the autobiographical work is immensely useful and very successful,” he says. “The chance to write in literary modes gives students a

chance to assess where they’ve been and where they’re going.”

One thing this exercise helps to do, he says, is impress upon law students that their careers will be unpredictable, just as his was.

Morawetz had an early interest in literature, as evidenced by his personal library of more than 10,000 volumes. After graduating from Harvard in 1963, Morawetz pursued interests in law, literature and philosophy at University College, Oxford, on a Fulbright Fellowship. He then earned master’s and doctoral degrees in philosophy at Yale University, where he also received his J.D. He taught in the Yale philosophy department between 1969 and 1977, first as assistant professor and then as associate professor of philosophy. He has taught at the UConn School of Law since 1977.

So how does Robert Louis Stevenson’s *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* help examine legal questions and ideas?

The premise of the book is that we are divided between two selves, says Morawetz; the good self and the evil one. His students discuss the usefulness of that premise and about how helpful it may be in thinking about human nature.

Also, he asks whether Jekyll should be legally responsible for Hyde’s actions. Can Jekyll be held liable? To what extent is Jekyll’s condition comparable to individuals who have addictions?

“At a certain point he is clearly addicted to becoming and being Hyde,” says Morawetz. “The analogy with addiction is

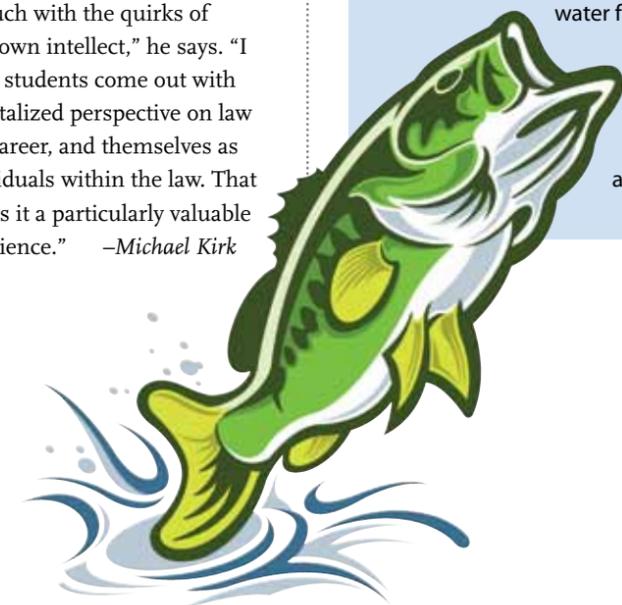
a strong one. Can this influence our thinking about how addicts are treated by the legal system?”

When it comes to Atticus Finch in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Morawetz asks: To what extent should a lawyer adapt his arguments to the audience? Is Finch speaking to the jury or to humanity at large? If the latter, is that really what the lawyer is supposed to do? Or should he only be concerned with achieving the favored result for his or her client in the most direct way possible?

“We contrast Finch’s strategy with that of a lawyer who is willing to do anything to save his client even if it has an undesirable social effect,” says Morawetz. “Finch tends to be seen as the best that a lawyer could hope to be, but one thing we discuss in class is whether or not that’s so obviously true.”

Overall, Morawetz has found that students become reflective about the availability of different points of view toward some of the questions they examine.

“Students learn to be more in touch with the quirks of their own intellect,” he says. “I think students come out with a revitalized perspective on law and career, and themselves as individuals within the law. That makes it a particularly valuable experience.” —Michael Kirk



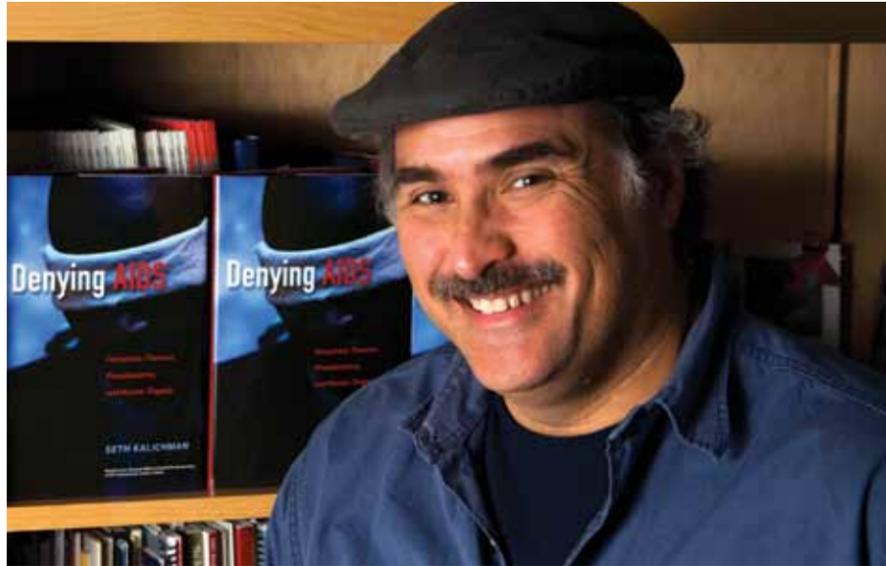
## Connecticut study shows levels of mercury in fish declining

UConn researchers have found that mercury contamination levels in the meat of large-mouth bass caught in Connecticut lakes were significantly lower over 2005 and 2006 than levels documented a decade earlier, but not low enough to end the statewide fish consumption advisory.

“Qualitatively, there was a smaller proportion of individual fish sampled with mercury concentration values above thresholds that are used to determine risk to human health,” says Jason Vokoun, an assistant professor of natural resources and the environment in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and co-author of the new study. “Formal inference about any trend of mercury contamination in fish tissue through time will require more data.”

The study by Vokoun and Christopher Perkins, laboratory co-director at UConn’s Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering, is the second statewide assessment of mercury levels in fishes from Connecticut lakes and the first to offer a direct comparison from the mid-’90s to the present.

The state Department of Public Health continues to advise young women who are or may become pregnant, nursing mothers and children under age 6 to limit eating freshwater fish to one meal per month because of the risk of mercury contamination. Others are advised to limit freshwater fish to one meal per week, except for trout raised in hatcheries and released in stocking programs into ponds, streams, rivers and lakes around the state.



## Researcher challenges AIDS denialism

**A** UConn psychologist is challenging the “pseudoscience” spread by a small, but growing group of AIDS denialists in a new book, *Denying AIDS: Conspiracy Theories, Pseudoscience, and Human Tragedy* (Copernicus Books/Springer Science).

“The book doesn’t aim to refute the AIDS denialist movement. The science of HIV/AIDS is established fact,” says Seth C. Kalichman, a professor of social psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and principal investigator at UConn’s Center for Health, Intervention and Prevention (CHIP). “This is a psychological autopsy of AIDS denialism, a rare look inside the movement’s wacky and destructive world.”

*Denying AIDS*, the first book to offer an American perspective on AIDS denialism, examines its harmful influence on some of the countries hardest hit by the epidemic. AIDS denialism, Kalichman writes, is akin to global warming denialism, Holocaust denial and other forms of denialism, in that it uses myths, misconceptions and misinformation “to distort and refute reality and create the appearance of legitimate scientific debate.”

Most scientists are surprised to learn that AIDS denialists still exist, according to Kalichman. AIDS denialism, however, is a growing problem, and it is propped up by seemingly legitimate, science-based reports on AIDS circulating largely on the Internet through Web sites, blogs and even pseudoscientific journals made to look like their legitimate, peer-reviewed counterparts.

In addition to studying the world of AIDS denialism in books, magazines and the Internet, Kalichman corresponded and conversed with proponents of AIDS denialism to gain insights into the movement. He also shines a light on the erroneous reasoning and unscientific approaches of AIDS denialists and explains how the denialists nevertheless gain ground.

Kalichman, who also serves as director of the Southeast HIV/AIDS Research and Evaluation Project (SHARE) and conducts HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment research in Atlanta and South Africa, is donating the proceeds from *Denying AIDS* to the Family Treatment Fund, administered by Massachusetts General Hospital, to purchase antiretroviral medications for people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

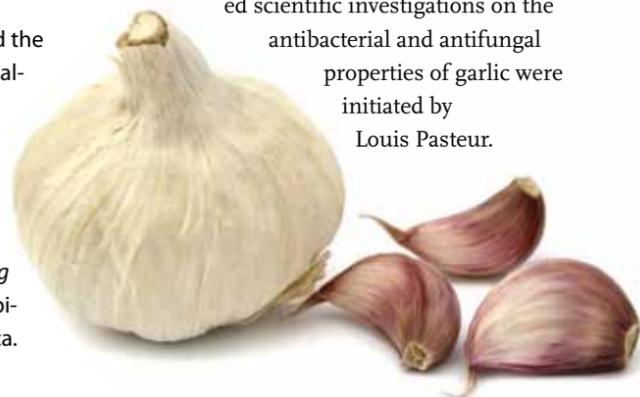
## Crushed garlic helps heart health

**T**he first scientific evidence that freshly crushed garlic has more potent heart-healthy effects than processed garlic has been published in a study by researchers at the UConn School of Medicine.

Writing in the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, Dipak K. Das, director of cardiovascular research at the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center, also presents new information about the source of garlic’s health benefits. Das says the heart-healthy benefits of the seasoning are caused by the release of hydrogen sulfide when raw garlic is crushed. When crushed garlic is eaten, the hydrogen sulfide helps to relax blood vessels, allowing improved blood flow and maintaining normal blood pressure.

The scientists gave freshly crushed garlic and processed garlic to two groups of lab rats and then studied how well the animals’ hearts recovered from simulated heart attacks. “Both crushed and processed garlic reduced damage from lack of oxygen, but the fresh garlic group had a significantly greater effect on restoring good blood flow,” Das says.

The health benefits of garlic have been known since 1500 B.C., when it was used as a blood-thinning agent in China and India. The first documented scientific investigations on the antibacterial and antifungal properties of garlic were initiated by Louis Pasteur.



## Raisins may reduce heart disease risk

**E**ating a cup of raisins and walking extra steps daily may help reduce the risk for cardiovascular disease in men and women between the ages of 50 and 70, according to a study by researchers in the Department of Nutritional Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

In a study published in the journal *Metabolism: Clinical and Experimental*, UConn researchers found that eating one cup of raisins a day and walking regularly as exercise helps reduce hunger and significantly decreases levels of low-density lipoproteins (LDL) cholesterol – the so-called “bad cholesterol” – in the bloodstream.

“Our research indicates that easily implemented lifestyle changes such as increasing raisin consumption or walking additional steps each day may help decrease the risk for heart disease,” says Maria Luz Fernandez, a professor of nutritional sciences and the study’s principal investigator.



Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Eating raisins helps decrease the risk of cardiovascular disease because raisins contain dietary fiber known to lower LDL cholesterol.

Overall, the researchers found that consuming raisins, walking or doing a combination of these will alter lipoprotein metabolism and may thereby reduce the risk for cardiovascular disease in older men and women. Those participating in the walking regime – in order to increase their walking by approximately one kilometer every two weeks – were asked to increase steps walked by an additional 10 minutes a day above their normal activity every two weeks.

Tests at the end of the study showed that systolic blood pressure was reduced for all subjects and total cholesterol decreased by 9.4 percent for all subjects.

The research was funded by the California Raisin Marketing Board.

## Studying relationships within the family

**R**onald Sabatelli ’73 (CLAS), ’75 M.A., ’80 Ph.D. describes his interests as eclectic. He calls the subject of his work in human development and the family “fascinating.”

A professor and head of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Sabatelli has dedicated much of his work over the past 28 years to assessing and measuring relationships. He

has developed measures to assess the quality of marital relationships that are used by therapists and in basic research around the world.

“I was interested in studying people and believed that they would have to be studied in the context of their families,” he says. “You’re embedded in a family culture. It has its own customs – which often don’t

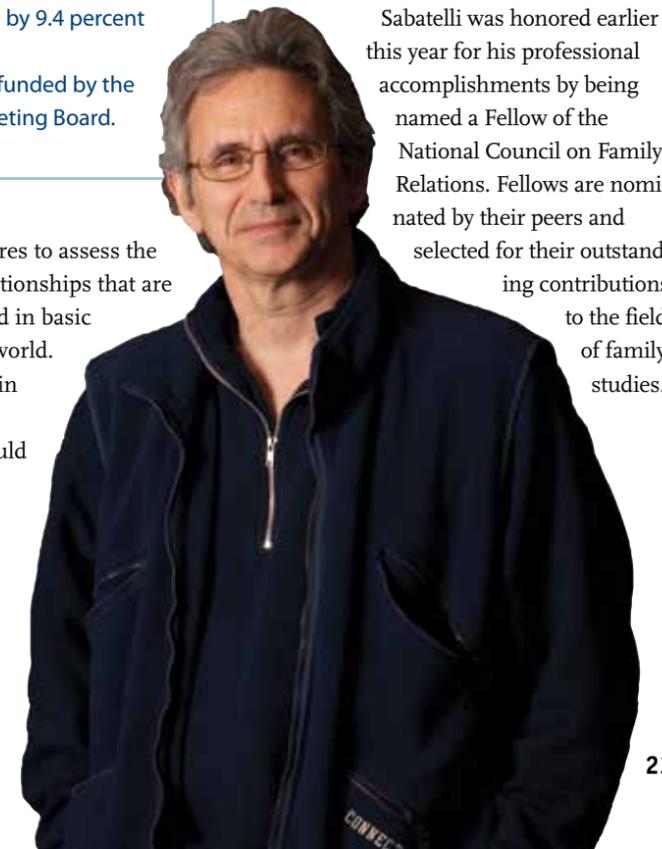
promote the welfare of the individuals. Our job is to understand those customs and figure out how they promote or fail to promote the health and well-being of everyone within the system.”

As senior research associate at UConn’s Center for Applied Research in Human Development, Sabatelli’s recent work has focused on evaluating youth programs in the state’s urban communities. The Center is a joint venture between the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and the Cooperative Extension System.

“We want to help them improve their programs and ensure that they promote youth development,” Sabatelli says. He develops survey questionnaires for youngsters that help providers understand whether their programs are effective.

Sabatelli uses his strong background in social science and measurement in his work. “I think the development of program assessment devices – the research tools themselves – is an important contribution to making a difference in adolescents’ lives,” he says.

Sabatelli was honored earlier this year for his professional accomplishments by being named a Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations. Fellows are nominated by their peers and selected for their outstanding contributions to the field of family studies.



## Following a family tradition

**SHAHISTA RAMANAND '10 (CANR) COMMITTED TO SOCIAL JUSTICE, WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

From an early age, Shahista Ramanand '10 (CANR) has followed the advice of her parents and grandparents.

"They say, 'Your community gives you so much, so you should give back in any way you can,'" says Ramanand, whose enthusiasm for community service began in middle school when she volunteered for the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund in her hometown of Durban, South Africa.

Over the years, the allied health sciences major in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has worked with the Kwazulu-Natal Network on Violence Against Women, the Hillcrest AIDS Centre and the African National Congress of South Africa, among other organizations. A member of the UConn Women's Center Advisory Board, she is the first undergraduate chair of the 100 Years of Women Scholarship committee.

Ramanand's commitment to women's rights and social justice was strengthened during her first semester at UConn when she took a "Gender in Global Perspective" class. She realized that while she was far from home, she could still help her community.

"Shahista is a remarkable individual – someone who has succeeded in balancing her deep commitments to scholarly learning and community engagement, both on the UConn campus and in her South African home community," says Kathryn Libal, assistant professor of human development and family studies in the School of Social Work.

With a focus in healthcare management, Ramanand intends to return to South Africa with the necessary skills to



manage a hospital, thereby providing better care for her community.

"Ultimately I want to open my own hospital, but I know that will take a very long time," says Ramanand.

She is already using her management training to raise funds for an after-school center for children affected by AIDS in a township near Durban, which would replace an existing center with no designated building or desks, books or toys. She is working on the project with her mother, Narissa Ramdhani '90 M.A., who is chief executive officer of the Ifa Lethu Foundation, a nonprofit organization that returns apartheid-era art and art objects to South Africa. (See Summer 2007 edition.)

With a December graduation fast

approaching, Ramanand eventually wants to earn an M.B.A. in healthcare management and a master's degree in public health. She would also like to get involved in HIV research in South Africa – particularly in Durban.

Though she has no definite plans, one thing is certain: She will never stop volunteering.

"If you make a difference in one person's life, then it makes a difference in your life and it makes you a better person," she says. "Just to put a smile on someone's face and know you've made them happy – even if it's just for five minutes – it makes you feel good inside. And it makes you feel like a good human being."

– Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01(ENG)



## Bryan Banville looks first to help others in need

"I'm focused on helping others develop by giving them the opportunity to volunteer."



By the time Bryan Banville '10 (CLAS) arrived at UConn, he had already established a desire for community service. He had traveled to Costa Rica to work in a program centered on protecting turtles, was a founding member of his high school's Habitat for Humanity chapter, had volunteered for the Red Cross and Special Olympics and organized a trip to Belize for 17 other students interested in studying marine biology and rain forest botany.

At UConn, Banville's passion to serve the community continued. As a freshman, he participated in Alternative Break, spending a week in Philadelphia working with children with cerebral palsy as well as with people who were terminally ill. There, he and his group of fellow volunteers contributed nearly 700 hours working with the Shriners and the Ronald McDonald house. Banville has since led a health care-focused Alternative Break to a South Dakota Indian reservation as well as a trip to Indiana to assist the disabled. Now a coordinator for all Alternative Break student leaders at UConn, he ensures that each trip fulfills a three-dimensional mission: providing direct service, learning and encouraging students to reflect on the experience.

"When I enrolled at UConn, one of my high school biology teachers was encouraging me to become a doctor," he says. "With UConn's Alternative Break program I realized there are other areas of medicine I'd enjoy more than being a physician, like nursing or physical therapy.

"I'm focused on helping others develop by giving them the opportunity to volunteer," says Banville, who also chairs the Community Outreach Student Executive Board, which advises UConn staff and sets policy for student leaders, and participates in the University's Leadership Legacy Experience, which helps prepare student leaders for a life of commitment and contribution beyond graduation.

After completing his bachelor's degree in physiology and neurobiology, Banville says he hopes to gain real-world experience working in either the social sciences or non-profit arena before pursuing a graduate degree in the health field.

– Lauren D. Lalancette



BY ALEXIS DUDDEN

**A**fter eight years of checkmated relations between the United States and North Korea, many anticipated a fresh start with the inauguration of President Barack Obama. This not only failed to happen right away, but also for much of the spring and early summer. Washington's approach to Pyongyang's provocations took us back to the early days of neoconservative policy planning for the region.

However, former President Bill Clinton's diplomatic overture in August – when he secured the release of two American journalists captured in North Korea – heralds hope upon which Obama must now capitalize or risk losing his chance to secure a peaceful outcome to the North Korean puzzle as well as the stability of Northeast Asia.

The capture of the two journalists last March had become a real stumbling block to the deep, enduring problems at hand

in the region coming as it did between nuclear and ballistic explosions, when the first series of economic sanctions against North Korea was called for. This remains dangerously regressive thinking in terms of the region's future. As has been proven repeatedly during the past decade and a half, economic sanctions against North Korea will not make its leaders give up their nuclear weapons. More threats will not achieve this end.

If Obama is serious about achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, then he must alter such an approach to this crisis. If he does not, Obama must prepare himself for the certain outcome of America's current strategy: an increasingly nuclearized and paranoid North Korea at the heart of a wildly unpredictable nuclear arms race in Northeast Asia.

Now that Clinton has traveled to Pyongyang, Obama has two choices: He can continue to send the former president as his emissary (who is of higher stature than Secretary of State

Hillary Clinton in Pyongyang's eyes) or he can invite North Korea's leader, Kim Jong-il, to the United States to meet with him here. Such action would define the president as the strong leader he is. Moreover, doing so may make it simultaneously possible to achieve a nuclear-free Iran.

This suggestion flies in the face of much of what the president heard from his inner circle prior to Clinton's mission. Yet it is critical. Even those who still urge increasingly harder lines know that there is no viable military option. Pentagon planners have routinely demonstrated that any action against North Korea would result in millions of deaths there – as well as in South Korea – within the conflict's first moments, including tens of thousands of American troops. It would be tantamount to burning a house to kill a flea, as the Korean saying goes.

Obama has rightly talked tough, but fairness is his greatest trait. America's recent history with North Korea is one of broken promises on both sides, and we must treat this record honestly.

North Korea was born through an independence struggle against Japanese aggression, endowing the state with a fierce nationalism. This fervor only grew during the Korean War, which pitted the North against the United States. That the war never ended in substance or form has deepened North Korea's fear of American power and solidified its determination to resist it. The 20th century taught North Koreans to stick to a nationalist gun or perish. The problem for Obama is that North Korea's gun has gone nuclear for the 21st century.

The good news is that the North's interactions with the United States show a clear pattern that follows the old Korean dictum: Return a rice cake with a rice cake and a whip with a whip. It is the Korean version of an eye for an eye, yet different from Hammurabi's Code, it balances the bad with the good. Yes, North Korea has broken agreements at different turns, but these actions were responses to our side's failures. In return for the good – the

Geneva Agreed Framework and the Six Party Talks accords – Pyongyang froze its programs and even volunteered thousands of pages of nuclear records and blew up a cooling tower.

Understanding this behavior does not necessitate condoning Kim Jong-il's extreme choices. Yet, as Obama meets in November with South Korea's President Lee Myung-bak, he must eschew the Metternichian Cold War thinking that is dangerously creeping into the conversation. Reasserting extended nuclear deterrence in the summit would go counter not only to Obama's declared vision of the "world free of nuclear weapons" but also to the founding principle of the Six Party Talks, "the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula." It will officially terminate multilateral talks as we know them, and de facto

legitimize the North's possession of nuclear weapons.

If peace is Obama's goal, he must himself put a bold vision into action. He must turn to his own intelligent call for change.

He must bring change to Northeast Asia by immediately and directly engaging the North Koreans to end the half-century-old standoff and eliminate their dangerous weapons.

The president arrived in Washington under the banner of change. To allow ossified and discredited thinking a place of prominence today in handling the North

Korean crisis lays waste to the president's signal strengths: a refusal to see the world in black and white and a determination to refashion America's role in the world from bully to partner for positive change. He should capitalize on his strengths by continuing to send a clear message to Pyongyang that he seeks a peaceful, normalized relationship with Pyongyang.

*Alexis Dudden is associate professor of history in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with a specialty in modern Japan, modern Korea and international history. She is currently on sabbatical in Japan. Her new book is Troubled Apologies Among Japan, Korea, and the United States (Columbia University Press).*



# Engaging North Korea

By Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)

Photos by Peter Morenus

One Story of  
Surviving the

**D**onald Edmondson is an affable Arkansas native with a casual demeanor, a wry, sometimes irreverent sense of humor and an infectious laugh that occasionally borders on an unabashed giggle. Five years ago he set off to complete a doctoral degree in Storrs with the intention of becoming a clinical psychologist. At 29 years old, he looks like a graduate student: His reddish-brown hair more often than not points upward at arbitrary angles; he wears studious but trendy eyeglasses and jeans with casual knit shirts. You can picture him in a cramped office typing earnestly at his computer into the wee hours, pondering some of life's deepest questions. Start a conversation with him, and you can just as easily envision him as the sociable bartender he was before graduate school, perhaps serving you a drink and telling you a good story.

For him, pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at UConn seemed like a straightforward path to an enjoyable career. Although he jokes that film depictions of clinical psychologists who "go to work every day and sit in a chair and talk" convinced him it would be an ideal line of work, Edmondson admits that what attracted him to graduate school was the notion of "working with ideas for a living."

The son of a factory manager, Edmondson also had spent time teaching high school history. "I would teach U.S. history two or three times a day, and world history two or three times a day, doing the same thing over and over," he says. "It felt a lot more like babysitting and a lot less like interacting." At that point, the prospect of becoming a clinical psychologist didn't seem so far-fetched.

#### *Ph.D. = Philosophically Disturbed?*

The arduous path required to earn a Ph.D. has inspired dark humor, such as jokes offering suggestions for what "Ph.D." might stand for, including "Probably heavily in Debt," "Patiently hoping for a Degree" and "Please hire. Desperate." There is also a Web site, [phdcomics.com](http://phdcomics.com), which pokes fun at students and professors involved in the process. Yet a Ph.D. – which denotes a Doctor of Philosophy degree – remains, in most countries, the highest academic degree one can earn. Obtain a Ph.D. and you have proven your capacity to conduct original scholarly research.

The 2000 U.S. Census estimates that just 1 percent of Americans age 25 and older has attained a Ph.D., but the relative scarcity of Ph.D.s is hardly surprising.

*process*

**Donald Edmondson travels the long and winding road toward earning a doctoral degree, learning as much about himself as his area of study.**

# Psyching Yourself Up

**P**



Acquiring one is not easy. Long hours, poor pay and a schedule crammed with compulsory coursework, frequent library visits, extensive lab work, meetings, trips to conferences, plus teaching and mentoring students are the norm. Add to that research, writing and a great deal of rewriting, along with the stress of submitting articles for publication, only to be rejected. Of course, fit all of this in with the other responsibilities and turmoil in day-to-day life. To earn a Ph.D. you can collectively spend years sifting through scholarly literature, conducting experiments, reviewing results and drafting a dissertation – the ultimate research paper – which you then must successfully defend before a panel of faculty members. All told, today's doctoral student spends on average 7.9 years completing graduate school.

As Jessica Gallus, a doctoral candidate in psychology, put it, "I see the Ph.D. as the 'Navy Seals' of academia. It's a perseverance game."

Or, as Albert Einstein once said, "It is a miracle that curiosity survives formal education."

This past May, UConn awarded 107 Ph.D.s in the humanities, sciences, business and engineering as part of a total of 450 doctoral degrees earned in disciplines such as audiology, pharmacy, education, musical arts, law, medicine and dental medicine.

### The right stuff

"Being successful in graduate school is a real combination of having the right stuff and finding a good fit," says associate professor of psychology Crystal Park, Edmondson's advisor. "But it's also hugely driven by students' own efforts and commitment. You have to have that desire to want to figure stuff out just because you want to know."

Suffice it to say that if you enjoy what you study, the eventual rewards of obtaining a Ph.D. are many. You become a veritable expert in a subject you care about. You carry out original research that, with any luck, sees the light of day in a scholarly journal or two. You complete a dissertation, ultimately achieving the highest possible degree within your field.

"It's all about doing something you love," says Charles "Skip" Lowe, professor and head of UConn's Department of Psychology.

As evidenced by one UConn doctoral student named Meg Monaghan, the sense of pride and accomplishment was so great that, even several days after enduring the stress of her dissertation defense, she confessed, "I could keep going."

### Doctorates and Dostoyevsky

In the years leading up to his decision to go to graduate school, Edmondson had read some Dostoyevsky, the famed Russian novelist (*Crime and Punishment*) whose work explores questions of morality, religion, and the psychological and existential aspects of the human experience.

Such profound topics had piqued Edmondson's interest as far back as his time as an undergraduate at a Southern Baptist college. "Coming from the South, coming from a very religious home ... I was feeling a little bit outside of that," he says. "I was sort of grappling with these questions, central questions of human existence."

It is no coincidence, then, that Edmondson sought out Park, his future advisor, whose expertise is focused in part on the psychology of religion and spirituality. The two met to discuss their research interests and Edmondson's reasons for wanting to join the program. Park acknowledges an initial hesitation in admitting Edmondson to the Ph.D. program. "Most of the students who come here are pretty polished," Park says. "He was somebody who was a real unknown. I really liked him and his enthusiasm and his energy, but he didn't know psychology, and so he seemed like a risky person to admit."

This past May, UConn awarded 107 Ph.D.s in the humanities, sciences, business and engineering as part of a total of 450 doctoral degrees.



Despite the gap in his knowledge, Park invited Edmondson to join UConn's clinical psychology program starting in the fall of 2004. Even now, Edmondson remains convinced that he owes this to the Russian literary legend. "I really think Dostoyevsky is who got me this gig, to be honest," he says.

### Learning curve

The route to finishing one's Ph.D. is not always as straightforward as one might initially believe. Park describes the process as a particularly developmental one, where students figure out what they want to do as they go along. The developmental pieces of Edmondson's experience, Park says, emerged in a number of ways. For one, Edmondson gradually came to realize that clinical work was not quite what he had envisioned. By the second year of the program, he and other clinical psychology students were required to put the psychotherapy skills they had learned to work, treating actual clients.

Edmondson's doubts about clinical work were confirmed when he assisted with a particularly intensive study in which he interviewed Hurricane Katrina survivors just days after the storm had decimated New Orleans. "There was this complete overload," he says. "You get caught up in it; it can be very emotional. That started wearing on me and taking away from my research."

Park acknowledges that Edmondson had to contend with a certain amount of pressure to carry on in clinical practice. "I don't think in the history of the [clinical psychology] program someone had actually decided that they didn't want to do clinical work. It was kind of unprecedented," she says. "I think a lot of the faculty had some discomfort with that."

In the midst of his wrestling with the thought of leaving clinical work behind, Edmondson's mother fell ill. Then, within the next year, he failed his qualifying exams, which every doctoral candidate must pass in order to move on to their dissertation.

Edmondson also struggled early on when it came to conducting research. "I knew nothing about research," he says. "I wanted to be in a clinical psychology program, I wanted a Ph.D. and I wanted to be able to do a little bit of research, *maybe*."

Edmondson eventually overcame these challenges and hit his stride, successfully balancing coursework, presentations at conferences, his responsibilities as a research assistant and later as a teaching assistant, and ongoing collaborative work on



**Top right:** Meeting with doctoral advisor Crystal Park, associate professor of psychology.

**Center and far left:** Teaching a class of undergraduate students.

**Left:** Studying data in a meeting with other doctoral students.

We asked UConn Ph.D. candidates, "What advice would you give to someone considering a Ph.D.?"

"Make sure it's what you want. Talk to people in the field you're considering. Find out what the daily lives are like of people doing what you want to do."

—Katie Herzig, Ph.D. candidate in psychology

"You have to be committed. You have long working hours. You must be prepared to learn and to do research. You have to like it."

—Solomon Berhe, Ph.D. candidate in engineering

"I think the best thing I did was I truly immersed myself in the entire experience. I feel like I've learned how to be a professor by being with the professors all the time."

—Meg Monaghan, '09 Ph.D. in education

"It takes a lot of self-motivation, unlike when you're working and you have a boss, and you have deadlines. But it's so rewarding because you're doing what you want to do."

—Linda Kolbasovsky, '09 Ph.D. in accounting

"Find the program for you. If you're not interested in research, then most Ph.D. programs are probably not for you."

—Jessica Gallus, Ph.D. candidate in psychology

multiple scholarly papers. He later added his own dissertation research to the mix – but not before deciding against a career in clinical psychology and instead opting to pursue a Ph.D. in personality psychology. Despite his own initial doubts, Edmondson was surprised to find himself enjoying both research and statistics.

"I started to see research as a way of understanding myself and understanding other people and how people work," Edmondson says. "A friend of mine told me a long time ago, 'Research is me-search.' It really is true. I think people research what they need to understand. And that's what I do."

With statistics, he says, "There is the almost dumbfounding realization that those numbers mean something and can actually tell you something about human nature."

#### *Matters of life and death*

The happy-go-lucky air that Edmondson has about him belies the focus of his dissertation research. Not surprisingly, this Dostoyevsky fan is fascinated by psychological theories relating to matters of life and death and profound questions surrounding subjects like religious beliefs, post-traumatic stress disorder and mortality. In fact, one of his first published scholarly papers bears the decidedly gloomy title "Death Without God."

Edmondson, who often finds inspiration for his article titles in country music, admits he is not one to be "concerned with using dry, scientific language" in his writing. "If I can throw just a little bit of poetry in there, I'll try," he says.

Faculty have come to describe Edmondson as a "beautiful writer" and "tremendous student" and predict a bright future for him as a "big name in psychology" within the next decade. However, Edmondson sensed that the up-and-down struggles he had experienced were not about to end as he continued to submit his research for publication in scholarly journals – the ultimate validation of his work. He also was feeling more anxious about life beyond UConn than about his upcoming dissertation defense. By summer's end, he would be taking a new position as a postdoctoral research scientist at the prestigious Columbia University Medical Center, leaving the comfort of Storrs, where, he says, "I know how things work, and I've gotten good at this place."

On a drizzly afternoon in early May, he had to prove just how good. Edmondson would spend more than two hours presenting his research findings and then answering a battery of questions about his research and an array of related psychology theories. After what he calls "the inquisition" – the hour and a half of questions from members of his dissertation committee – Edmondson spent another 30 minutes restlessly waiting in the hall while the committee deliberated his fate behind closed doors.

In the days following the defense, his triumph was broadcast in his e-mail signature, which promptly changed from "Donald Edmondson, M.A." to "Donald Edmondson, Ph.D."

Looking back, Edmondson admits that the extent of his education "doesn't just end with psychology. Being in a place where your job is learning, you find out that you can learn about all kinds of things. I've learned more in the last five years than I did in the whole first 25 years of my life."

He can also see that he's found the path that is right for him, although it did not happen as he may have expected. "This field, this career suits me," he says. "I feel like a psychologist."

Receiving his doctoral hood from Prof. Sally Reis, left, and his advisor, Prof. Crystal Park, at commencement in May.



**"A friend of mine told me a long time ago, 'Research is me-search.' It really is true."**

## Reaching Toward Excellence

*Our University. Our Moment.*

\$600 million campaign aims to put University among elite institutions

Every institution reaches moments in its unique history where key decisions need to be made that will move the institution forward to new levels of excellence and achievement. More than a decade ago, the University of Connecticut reached one such historic turning point. With parts of the campus literally crumbling – as exemplified by the façade falling from Homer Babbidge Library – the University community rolled up its collective sleeves and conceived of the unprecedented plan known as UCONN 2000. With careful planning, hard work and the support of the General Assembly, governor and thousands of private donors – including, most significantly, alumni – the decade-long transformation of Connecticut's flagship University has raised UConn to a place among the nation's top public institutions of higher learning.

At the same time, a private fund raising campaign was established to raise \$300 million in support of the non-building aspects of UCONN 2000. The goal for Campaign UConn (1999-2004) not only was met but was surpassed with a total of \$325 million raised for student scholarships, faculty and program support.



Today, the University has arrived at its next critical moment – the opportunity to join an elite group of public universities that set the standards through their academic, research and student programs. To achieve this goal, the \$600 million campaign – *Our University. Our Moment.* – announced on Sept. 26 is the largest such effort in the more than 125-year history of the University, which is aimed at further securing UConn's place as a national and international leader in higher education.

"This is our moment," says Denis McCarthy '64 (BUS), '65 M.A., chairman of the campaign. "UConn is known as a world-class institution that serves as a critical element in our state and regional economy. Our faculty is recognized for excellence in scholarship and teaching and attracts an increasing number of top students from throughout the world. Our alumni are in leadership positions in a wide array of disciplines. We are ready to meet this new challenge."

The campaign aligns with UConn's academic plan, which focuses on providing support for critical areas in undergraduate and graduate education, research, diversity and public engagement. To date, more than \$190 million has been raised for various programs in the first phase of the campaign.

"We are off to a successful start of this endeavor during an especially challenging time for many of us," says President Michael J. Hogan. "It is heartening to know that even in the face of such a difficult economic period, the passion felt for UConn and the confidence in our programs are so strong among alumni, private donors and friends of the University."

With nearly 40 percent of private support coming from alumni in the early phase of the campaign, it is clear that UConn graduates understand the importance of their support for new programs that will help meet the University's academic goals.

### PASSION LEADS TO GIVING BACK

"When students and professors are looking for a place to teach or study environmental science, I want them to view UConn as one of the top 10 places to do that," says Sheldon Kasowitz '83 (BUS), who with his wife, Samantha, have established an endowment for the Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering (CESE), which addresses global environmental challenges. CESE brings together more than 75 faculty members in a variety of disciplines from the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Agriculture and Natural Resources as well as



the School of Engineering.

The Kasowitzes have an interest in child welfare, education and the environment. "CESE bridges many of these areas that we're interested in," he says. "As a new venture like this begins, you don't have an established program to base your decisions on, so you invest in the people behind it."

Other alumni have similarly found unique ways to demonstrate their diverse interests through support for UConn.

Elizabeth Swallow '83 M.D. is not easily dissuaded, a trait that served her well while applying to UConn's School of Medicine at the unconventional age of 35 and learning to play piano at 60. Her personal vision of support for higher education has resulted in a planned gift intention comprising \$2.7 million for the School of Medicine and \$300,000 for the School of Fine Arts. It will be the largest gift ever received from a School of Medicine alumnus.

She says that the tough economic conditions make giving more important than ever – as a way of inspiring others to contribute, and fostering efforts that need an extra boost in challenging times.

"If you ask me, 'Why do you give?,' my answer really is, 'Why wouldn't I? I think you have to be passionate about something. And you have to invest in people who are doing the right thing and have vision, especially if they've been told, 'You can't do this,' and they know they can," she says.

Now newly retired from a long and distinguished practice as an OB/GYN in rural Virginia, Swallow says that life experience gained before medical school made a tremendous difference throughout her

## CRITICAL PRIORITIES IN UCONN'S ACADEMIC PLAN SUPPORTED BY OUR UNIVERSITY. OUR MOMENT.

### UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

To improve access and continue attracting top students from Connecticut and beyond, UConn will increase support for scholarships and enhance curricular and research opportunities, focusing on such programs as honors, study abroad, internship, service learning and leadership development.

### GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

New fellowships will be used to recruit the best graduate students and postdoctoral fellows whose contributions to the research enterprise, in turn, will help raise UConn's national profile and attract external research funding.

### RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Newly endowed faculty chairs, professorships and fellowships – a recognized indicator of institutional strength – will enable UConn to retain accomplished existing faculty and recruit preeminent scholars to enhance priority programs.

### DIVERSITY

In addition to need-based scholarships for underrepresented populations, diversity initiatives include outreach programs in urban communities, college immersion programs for high-achieving middle school students, readiness and transition programs to help students at UConn and mentorship programs.

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Improving the quality of life for Connecticut's citizens is central to UConn's mission. The University makes a difference in communities across the state through myriad outreach programs like the Cooperative Extension System, professional training programs and student-led community service projects. More than 1 million residents attend UConn's museums, performance arts venues and athletic events annually.

career. Her personal love of piano led to support of music scholarships at a university near her home in Virginia in 2006. Today, she is providing the same type of support for her own alma mater through the UConn School of Fine Arts.

"For a donor, it's not about giving, it's about giving back. You have to make that dream come true for others, just as you had it made possible for you," says Swallow.

### RAISING THE ENDOWMENT

Realizing the vision of UConn standing among the nation's best public universities in a time of economic recovery will not be an easy task. One of the critical elements in reaching this goal will be to raise the University's endowment to a level

says McCarthy. "It is also an expression of the confidence that alumni and others who support the University have in the ability of the institution to realize its dreams. The endowment is growing, but taking it to the next level is an important part of this new campaign. Helping to build the endowment is how alumni can truly make a difference in their alma mater."

With a successful *Our University. Our Moment.* campaign, President Hogan envisions a future in which the University of Connecticut is able to provide all of the resources needed to attract and retain the very best students and faculty while making important contributions to the quality of life for citizens of Connecticut and around the globe.



## Our University. Our Moment. By the Numbers

**\$600 million campaign goal with:**  
 \$200 million: Undergraduate education  
 \$155 million: UConn Health Center  
 \$135 million: Graduate and professional education  
 \$110 million: Athletics  
**Goal for endowment: \$500 million**  
 450 new scholarships and fellowships  
 50 newly endowed faculty positions



**W**hen Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke speaks about economic issues, the nation listens. But who does Bernanke listen to?

One person on the short list is David J. Stockton '76 (CLAS), '76 M.A., who speaks almost daily with Bernanke in his role as chief economist for the Fed, the agency that directs the nation's central bank, establishes national monetary policy and monitors the country's economic health.

As director of the Federal Reserve's Division of Research and Statistics, Stockton oversees one of the world's largest economic research teams – approximately 290 economists, financial analysts, computer scientists, research assistants and other personnel. Stockton and his staff sort through and interpret information streaming from the country's financial markets each day. One of Stockton's primary responsibilities is presenting periodic economic forecasts to the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) on job losses, housing wealth and business spending. These reports help to determine how much you pay in interest on your credit card and how much banks may charge you for taking out home or auto loans.

"Although I recognize that being surrounded on a daily basis by scores of economists might be viewed by most people as more of a sentence than a reward, the intellectual energy, debate and discussions make it a very exciting place to work," Stockton says with his trademark good humor.

"David's wise counsel, keen insight and deep knowledge of the economy have proved invaluable to me and the other members of the Federal Open Market Committee through the years, but most especially during the recent time of financial turmoil," Bernanke says in an e-mail.

Stockton has served three Fed chairmen appointed by the White House, starting in 1981 with Paul A. Volcker, then Alan Greenspan and now Bernanke.

Stockton's economic forecasts are critical in helping the Federal Reserve set national public policy, although he admits that his work is, in many ways, an inexact science. Each forecast comes with a full explanation of the risks and uncertainties surrounding it.

"What economists don't know about how the economy operates dwarfs what we do know," Stockton says. "Our research program is intended to chip away at the margins of our ignorance."

Stockton fondly recalls his days studying economics at UConn under the guidance of emeritus professors Alpha Chiang and William McEachern, associ-



ate professor William Lott and Dennis Heffley, head of the Department of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Heffley says Stockton quickly distinguished himself from his peers and seemed destined to succeed in the economics field. Although more than 30 years have passed, all of Stockton's economics instructors remember him well. "David took my graduate seminar in Urban and Regional Economics. His performance in that class still ranks as the best I've seen in my 36 years of teaching," Heffley says. "It was pretty

# When Stockton speaks, the Fed chairman listens

*David J. Stockton '76 (CLAS), '76 M.A. directs economic research and statistics for the Fed*

*By Colin Poitras '85 (CLAS)*

"David's wise counsel, keen insight and deep knowledge of the economy have proved invaluable to me and the other members of the Federal Open Market Committee through the years, but most especially during the recent time of financial turmoil."

— Ben S. Bernanke,  
Federal Reserve Chairman



clear to all of us that David was destined for bigger things ... I've always felt a little more comfortable about our monetary policy, simply knowing that people like David have played a key role in guiding the process."

McEachern, who served as Stockton's faculty advisor, remembers pushing the underclassman to take more advanced classes. Stockton rose to the challenge, succeeding in graduate-level courses with such aplomb that he was honored as a University Scholar. Stockton credits McEachern with using "patience, persistence and humor" to encourage him to pursue a prestigious Danforth Fellowship, which ultimately funded his doctoral studies at Yale University.

The Stockton family's public service can be traced back to the nation's founding. Ancestor Richard Stockton of New Jersey was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. More recently, David's father, Edward, served as mayor of Bloomfield, Conn., and as commissioner of economic development in Connecticut under both Gov. Ella T. Grasso and Gov. William A. O'Neill. In addition to David, the family's UConn connection includes his wife, Judy (Shenkman) '76 (ED), '81 M.A.

Stockton says the evolution of the global economy and vast improvements in computer technology have added complexity to his job over the years, while the current financial crisis has caused new challenges.

"It may take some time for a more robust recovery to take hold as households and businesses adjust to the severe financial shock that has hit the global economy," Stockton says. "I am confident that we will collectively make the necessary adjustments and emerge from the current difficulties with a stronger and more resilient economy."

## Keeping an eye on the recovery

**McCoy PROVIDES ANALYSIS OF SUBPRIME CRISIS AFTERMATH**

When Patricia McCoy was a law professor in Cleveland in the 1990s, each day she drove through a neighborhood called Hough that was changing before her eyes. Uninhabitable homes were being razed, new homes were under construction and businesses were opening.

“There was a real sense of pride in the neighborhood,” says McCoy, a specialist in financial services regulation who is now the director of the Insurance Law Center at the UConn School of Law.

Soon she began hearing that some of these new homes were already in foreclosure – shortly after new residents bought them. She suspected there was a double standard when it came to lending: While the more affluent were offered legitimate loans, poorer people were being offered predatory terms they could not afford.

“I saw that there was a very serious issue regarding how banking affected ordinary people, particularly those of modest means,” McCoy says.

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This year McCoy testified twice before Congress and also has been sought out for analysis by such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *The Economist*.

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While she did not predict the global enormity of its implications, she knew that sort of risky lending spelled trouble down the road. What she was seeing was the dawn of the subprime lending crisis that would eventually lead to the collapse of the U.S. economy and world financial markets in 2008.



Today, McCoy is regarded as one of leading legal experts on the subprime crisis. She served as an advisor for the Obama presidential campaign and has continued to advise the administration on current and emerging issues and policy options. This year, she testified twice before Congress and also has been sought out for analysis by such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *The Economist*.

McCoy believes the crisis was far from unforeseeable. The data, she says, showed that the problems she saw in Cleveland were, in fact, more widespread. By 2003, subprime loans went from being highly

risky to being totally unsustainable over the next five years, she says.

With a crisis of such complexity, McCoy points to several sources of blame: The artificial demand for subprime loans created by Wall Street so that investors could earn high returns, lenders that slashed underwriting standards to meet Wall Street earnings,

deregulation of mortgages in the 1980s by Congress and federal regulators' failure to use tools available to stop lax underwriting.

The Federal Reserve System – now scrambling to revive the U.S. economy – also bears responsibility, she says: “With the Fed, it was ideological. The big expansion of subprime lending happened under [chairman] Alan Greenspan, who felt boom-and-bust economies led to greater growth.”

She similarly faults Congress for not making fundamental reforms to the financial regulatory system. “Going back to business-as-usual will set us up for future failure once again,” she says.

McCoy has mixed feelings about the response the Treasury Department and Congress have taken to the crisis. Although she believes, for instance, that the management of the federal bailout – the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) – has been important to stabilizing the banking system, she is disappointed that the portion of TARP designed to buy troubled assets has not worked.

“We have a huge number of distressed borrowers, our foreclosure rates continue to spiral upwards, and that’s going to get worse unless we get serious about providing realistic relief,” she says. “That’s going to require a radical government law that abrogates mortgage or servicing contracts.”

– Michael Kirk

## Advising U.S. on biological weapons

Senior faculty are generally used to asking students probing questions and expecting thoughtful replies that demonstrate their students' knowledge. It is not often faculty are on the receiving end of such pointed questions and expected to respond on demand.

Yet that is where Steven Geary, interim department head and professor of pathobiology in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and director of the Center of Excellence for Vaccine Research, found himself while serving as a Jefferson Science Fellow from 2008 to 2009 at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

As one of seven tenured faculty from around the nation serving as scientific advisors to the diplomatic corps, Geary spent a year engaged in a wide array of assignments utilizing his expertise in microbiology, vaccine research and development, pathobiology and biological agents. He worked in the Verification, Compliance and Implementation Bureau (VCIB) within the Department of State's Office of Biological Weapons Affairs, which is responsible for analyzing biological weapon research and development activities in numerous nations around the world.



“You’ll be in a meeting with all these other agencies, and they’ll turn to you and ask a question, putting you on the spot,” says Geary, who returned to Storrs in September. “You have to be able to break down the information and convey it to them in layman’s terms on relatively short notice. But you also can’t be afraid to say, ‘I don’t know, I’ll find out and get back to you.’ Your answers are definitely going to influence a policy track. You give them the best answers you possibly can.”

Geary says that after several initial meetings answering many complicated scientific questions from VCIB staff, other offices within the diplomatic corps came to him for assistance.

“I found that they would just seek me out and ask for my opinions. That’s when I knew I was accepted and of some value to them,” says Geary, who consulted with other bureaus within the agency, including International Health and Biodefense (IHB) Security and Intelligence and Research (INR). INR is the intelligence bureau within the Department of State, which in addition to analyzing top secret communications, writes the President’s daily briefings, including those on infectious diseases and microbes.

Geary also worked with other agencies addressing President George W. Bush’s last Executive Order to strengthen the nation’s biosecurity. He also worked with scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory on the development and implementation of a Pathogen Strain Library, a national database that can be used by intelligence agencies in the event of a biological weapon release.

“It was a tremendous experience to see how the government operates, how agencies interact and I would encourage this type of activity with other faculty at the University,” says Geary. “I think I provided a service to the State Department, and now people there think about UConn as a science resource.”

Geary now knows his expertise is valued by the diplomats at Foggy Bottom. Since completing his Jefferson Science Fellowship, his diplomatic passport and top-secret security clearances are being held in Washington after he was asked to continue as a consultant for the Department of State. – Kenneth Best

# Alumni News&Notes

## From the Alumni Association

UConn achieved another milestone with the 2009 graduating class. The number of alumni grew to more than 200,000, with more than 115,000 alumni living and working in the state of Connecticut alone. This group includes doctors, nurses, teachers, pharmacists, engineers, artists, writers, lawyers, community servants and corporate leaders. The impact of this talented pool is felt in every corner of the world.



As the country faces a slow economic recovery, it's never been more important for alumni to use their talents and get involved with UConn. If every graduate took one small step, there would be an exponential impact on the University and the students.

There are so many opportunities to help. You can join the Alumni Association and support a strong alumni network, make a gift to the UConn Foundation for the recently launched Capital Campaign, become part of the UConn Advocates and encourage legislative support for UConn, mentor a student through the online Husky Alumni Network, offer an internship or encourage a bright student to attend UConn.

As alumni, you are part of a talented and powerful network, where Huskies help Huskies and thereby help your University. You're a special group. I thank those already involved, and I encourage you to reconnect with others of your alma mater through membership in the Alumni Association. Remember, as each of us contributes in a small way, together we will make a huge impact on UConn and the next generation of Huskies.

Regards,  
**Lisa R. Lewis**  
Executive Director and Life Member

*Connecting Alumni. Supporting Students. Strengthening UConn.*

## 1940s



**George E. Frick '43 (CANR)**, a retired adjunct professor of agricultural and resource economics at the University of New Hampshire and former economist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

was honored at the university in 2007 with the establishment of the George "Curly" Frick Endowed Fellowship for Resource Economics. He resides in Durham, N.H.

**Jane (Hoxie) Maxson '48 (ED)**, a volunteer at the Charlestown Historical Society and the Westerly Public Library in Rhode Island, is the author of *The Diaries of J. Irving Maxson, 1898-1923*.



**Gail C. Champlin '68 M.S.W.** retired from the faculty at the University of Hartford after 27 years of service as the senior director

## 1950s

**Louise S. Berry '52 (CLAS), '61 M.A., '80 J.D.**, superintendent of schools for Brooklyn, Conn., received the Outstanding Superintendent Award from the Neag School of Education.

**Walter V. Powell '54 (SFA), '55 (ED)** retired from the faculty of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania after 44 years as a professor of political science and law. He is a member of the Bar of the Pennsylvania Courts, the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Supreme Court.

## 1960s

**Allan R. Zenowitz '60 (CLAS)** is a senior fellow at the Homeland Security Policy Institute of George Washington University for the fourth consecutive year. He serves on the U.S. Homeland Security Advisory Council and lives in Cambridge, Mass., as well as Biddeford Pool, Maine.

**Robert Nielsen '64 (ED), '67 M.A.** retired in October 2008 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, after 34 years, including service as the chief of police, director of risk management and director of environmental safety and health.

**Jack C. Norbeck '64 (CANR)**, president of Norbeck Research in Coplay, Pa., was inducted into the American Biographical Institute's Hall of Fame for his work as an author, historical photographer, international photo exhibitor and for his work on steam and animal power.

of the Center for Professional Development. Presently, she works part time in the social work department of Saint Joseph College.

**Joseph Minnella '68 (CLAS)**, a part-time worker with high school-age students at the Human Resource Agency of Naugatuck, Conn., retired from his position as assistant manager with the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services. He and his wife, Cathy, live in Naugatuck, Conn.

**Lenny Cavallaro '69 (CLAS), '74 M.M.**, an adjunct professor of English at Northern Essex Community College, has edited and revised *Satan's Fiddler*, a novel based on the life of legendary violinist Niccolò Paganini, written by the late Ann Abelson. He is also composer-in-residence at Ipswich High School in Ipswich, Mass.



**Jane Wallor Collins '69 (ED)** had her oil paintings selected to be featured at the Lyme Art Association, Slater Museum and Monson Arts Council. She and her husband, Jack, farm organically at their home in Chaplin, Conn.



**Robert Johnson '69 (CLAS), '79 6th Year** was re-elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors. He will serve a three-year term until 2012.



**Paul R. O'Dea '69 (PHR)** is chief operating officer at Aptium Oncology in Los Angeles, after previously serving as vice president.

## 1970s

**Maria Giannuzzi '71 (CLAS)** is the author of *Images of America: Windsor Locks Canal*, published by Arcadia Publishing. She also develops and leads workshops, helping others to create a career at any age.



**Ronald Ancrum '72 (SFA)** was elected president of the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, which provides scholarships, grants and interest-free loans to Massachusetts students. He has served for eight years as president of Associated Grant Makers, a membership association for foundation and corporate giving programs serving Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

**Joanne Michaels '72 (CLAS)** published two books earlier this year: *Hudson River Valley Farms: The People and the Pride Behind Produce* (Globe Pequot Press) and *The Hudson Valley & Catskill Mountains: An Explorer's Guide* (W.W. Norton). She lives in Woodstock, N.Y., where she is an editorial consultant and host of a regionally syndicated cable television show, "The Real Story."



**Amy Bidwell '73 (CLAS)** has lived in Arizona since 2004. She has changed her name to Walker Bidwell.

**John Gesmonde '73 J.D.** was named a 2009 MS Corporate Achiever by the Connecticut chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He is a partner at the law firm Gesmonde, Pietrosimone & Sgrignari, LLC, in Hamden, Conn.



**John Silva '73 (ED), '74 M.A.** retired from the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill after 28 years, serving as director of the sport psychology program and sport psychology laboratory.

**David Tiberio '73 (CANR), '81 M.S., '95 Ph.D.**, professor emeritus for the UConn Department of Physical Therapy and academic dean at Gray Institute in Adrian, Mich., received the Outstanding Physical Therapy Professional Award from the Neag School of Education.

**Joanne (Ruvolo) Gannett '74 (CLAS)**, adjunct professor of art

history and a teacher at Columbia College in Chicago, recently led the summer Renaissance art history class for Columbia's program in Florence, Italy.

**John Johnston '74 (CLAS)** retired after serving eight years as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force and 25 years as a project manager in defense industries. He and his wife, Sheila, reside in Daytona Beach Shores, Fla., while their two daughters live in New England.

**Ernest M. Julian '74 (CANR), '88 M.A., '90 Ph.D.**, chief of the Office of Food Protection for the Rhode Island Department of Health, received the Outstanding Professional Award from the Neag School of Education.

**Rick Melpignano '74 Ph.D.** retired from teaching and resumed his piano studies after a 30-year hiatus, taking lessons at the European Piano School in Natick, Mass. He has performed in four piano recitals. He also continues to enjoy bowling and designing and building furniture.

**Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)** retired July 1, 2009, after more than 28 years on the staff at the University of Connecticut. He began as an assistant to the director of the former Office of Public Information



## Giving babies the care she once received

When Megan Richardson '08 (NUR) was born prematurely she was a patient in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the UConn Health Center. Today, as a nurse in the same NICU, she provides newborn babies with the same quality of care that she received and a chance for a full, active life.

## We want to hear from you!

Let your fellow UConn alumni know about the milestones in your life. Send your updates and a photo to:

Mail:  
Alumni News & Notes  
University of Connecticut Alumni Association  
2384 Alumni Drive, Unit 3053  
Storrs, CT 06269

Fax: (860) 486-2849

Email: [alumni-news@uconn.edu](mailto:alumni-news@uconn.edu)

Or log into the Husky Alumni Network and submit your information. [UConnAlumni.com/HAN](http://UConnAlumni.com/HAN)

## Membership Matters! Did you know...

When you join the Alumni Association, you are automatically a member of your participating School or College alumni society, PLUS a member of your local chapter. That's three memberships for the price of one!

Membership helps the Alumni Association promote our goals of connecting alumni, supporting students and strengthening UConn.

Learn more about the benefits of membership and join today at [UConnAlumni.com](http://UConnAlumni.com).

## Save the Date!

**Alumni Weekend 2010  
June 4-5, 2010**

Alumni volunteers are needed to help plan Alumni Weekend 2010!

## Are you...

- A graduate of the Class of 1960?
- A Greek alumna/alumnus?
- Part of another alumni special interest group?

Alumni Weekend is a great opportunity to reconnect! As part of the Planning Committee, we will provide you with materials to reach out to your constituents and work with your group to plan a special event during the weekend.

To learn more about these opportunities, visit [UConnAlumni.com/alumni-weekend](http://UConnAlumni.com/alumni-weekend) or call the Alumni Association toll-free at (888) 822-5861.



## Finding Warrior Roots for mixed martial arts

**S**taci Anson '02 M.A., '05 6th Year is a teacher, not a fighter. Yet when her husband, Peter Delano, co-founded a genetic testing company marketed toward the world of mixed martial arts, the high school history and anthropology teacher was intrigued.

"I'm not a big fan of fighting, but lots of fighters want their genetic profiles to see what their strengths and weakness are," says Anson.

Warrior Roots performs ancestral Y-DNA testing for genealogical purposes using samples collected by a cheek swab and kit. The results link an individual to a haplogroup – such as Native American, sub-Saharan Africa or West Eurasian – which the company associates with a warrior culture. Going one step further, Warrior Roots provides a profile and information package on each warrior culture – including the warrior's battle cry, weapons, fighting style, clothing and body type.

That's where Anson comes in.

As the company identified warrior cultures, Anson helped provide historical context. With countless civilizations and warriors throughout history, it is a considerable undertaking to research, edit and write the historical profiles.

Now that the profiles have all been written, Anson will bring the genetic test to her classroom for a monthlong lesson on genetic genealogy. Working with a science professor, Anson is designing a course for high school students where they will analyze their own DNA results to determine their haplogroups. There will also be a mitochondrial test since girls don't have a Y-chromosome.

"They're going to do their mouth swabs, get their results, start analyzing," Anson says. "Then, once they determine their haplogroups, they're going to research the corresponding cultures."

A section of the Warrior Roots Web site will be dedicated to teachers hoping to create a "fun activity for kids and a way to learn something about your ancestry."

To date, more than 20 mixed martial arts fighters have taken the test, sometimes with surprising results – like the African-American fighter with Celtic DNA.

As the family genealogist, Anson enjoys discovering her own past. "On my Jewish side, I'm back to the early 1800s, on my Norwegian side, I can get back to the 1500s. It's an exciting little hobby that I do on the side." –*Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG)*

in 1981 and had served as the manager of the University's main Web site for 15 years at the time of his retirement. He continues to research UConn history as well as perform voice-overs for video projects. Mark and his wife, Cheryl, reside in Storrs, Conn.

**Richard Minoff '75 (CLAS)** was a plenary speaker at the 10th Annual Global Leadership Forum in Novosibirsk, Siberia. His talk focused on building global corporate leaders.

**Gary Gomola '76 (BUS)**, partner at the Mahoney Sabol & Company, LLP, received the first-ever Morton W. Briggs Award from the Middletown Rotary Club for his outstanding contributions to the club.

**Claudia (Barnett) Green '76 (CLAS)**, special education coordinator for Bassick High School in Bridgeport, Conn., married Andrew D. Kennedy, a history instructor at Gateway Community College, on June 27, 2009.

**Dahlia Grossman '76 (CLAS)** was named Outstanding Citizen by the Lakes Town Council of Lake Hughes, Calif., for her service to the community as editor and publisher of the local newspaper, *The Mountain Yodeler*, since 2000.

**Susan (Schwartz) Carlow '77 (BUS), '81 M.B.A.** is a vice president at Steve Harvey & Associates, an executive search firm in Middletown, Conn.



**Pamela (Fishman) Kahn '77 (BUS)** is the executive director of the Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership in Arlington, Va., after working as a general manager and marketing director for CycleLife USA. She is also a volunteer cycling instructor who teaches exercise to seniors.

**Kathleen LeBlanc '77 (ED)**, professor of human services at Naugatuck Valley Community College, was named the 2008 Connecticut Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and

Support of Education. The award was presented in Washington, D.C.

**Charles Scoville '77 (BUS)** is managing director of sales at datAvail Corporation in Bloomfield, Colo. He was previously with MarketSphere Consulting and has 29 years of experience in the field.

**Kirk Ferentz '78 (ED)**, head football coach at the University of Iowa, received the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Neag School of Education.



**Paul Hesketh '78 D.M.D.**, chief of hematology and oncology at Caritas St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton, Mass., is the vice chairman of the Lung Committee at the Southwest Oncology Group.

**Douglas Packard '78 (BUS)** joined Bancnorth Investment Group, Inc., as a financial advisor based in the TD Banknorth store in South Hadley, Mass., where he provides individualized retirement and financial planning.

**Mario Caruso '79 M.A.**, director of the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Admissions, was elected to a two-year term on the editorial board of *Wrap-Up*, a national newsletter published by the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors. He previously served a three-year term as chair of the Italian American Faculty and Staff Council of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute at CUNY.

**Andrew Zwick '79 (CLAS)** received a 2009 Distinguished Team Service Award from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection for his outstanding contributions.

### 1980s



**Steve Blovish '80 (ENG), '84 M.B.A.** was elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors for a three-year term.



**Alan L. Codkind '80 M.B.A.** is senior vice president of marketing and business development

at RealTime Intelligence in Charlotte, N.C. He previously was a vice president at Eli Lilly and held executive marketing positions at IBM, Young & Rubicam, Wunderman and Thinking Machines. He has more than 30 years of marketing experience with high-tech startups, specializing in branding and marketing for unique product concepts.



**Christopher Donovan '80 M.S.W.**, Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives, received the

Special Recognition Award from the National Association of Social Workers.

**Marylouise Welch '80 M.S., '90 Ph.D.**, director of the graduate nursing program and professor of nursing at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, Conn., received the 2009 Reverend John J. Stack Teaching Excellence Award for her outstanding contributions to student learning. She is involved in a project providing online education to nurses in Guyana.

**Frank E. Gawle '81 (ED)**, band director for Wilton High School in Wilton, Conn., received the Outstanding School Educator Award from the Neag School of Education.

**Robert Molleur '81 (RHSA)** is the national small-farm manager for the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service in Washington, D.C. He lives in Manassas, Va.



**Rosemarie Tate '81 (SAH), '88 M.S.** was re-elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors. She will serve a three-year term until 2012.

**Susan Wang '81 M.B.A.**, a certified public accountant and corporate executive, was appointed to the Suntech Power Holdings Board of Directors and was chosen as a member of Suntech's Audit Committee.

**Kenneth Murphy '82 (BUS)** is head soccer coach at Connecticut College in New London, Conn. He was previously assistant soccer coach at Brown University after spending 16 years on Wall Street as a commodities broker.

**Karen L. List '83 Ph.D.**, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in West Hartford, Conn., received the Outstanding School Administrator Award from the Neag School of Education.



**Laura Cahill '84 J.D.** was elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors for a three-year term.



**Antonio M. Caxide '84 (BUS)** is chief investment officer for Hamilton Capital Management in Columbus, Ohio.

He lives in Blacklick, Ohio.

**Robert Femia '84 (CLAS)** is the chairman of the department of emergency medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, N.Y.

**Frank Marcucio '84 (BUS)**, a business teacher at Bassick High School in Bridgeport, Conn., was named the school's head football coach. He was a Huskies basketball student manager from 1981 to 1984.



**Marcia L. Marien '84 (BUS)**, a managing partner of Marien & Company in Norwich, Conn., was elected president of the

Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants for 2009-2010, after serving the society as treasurer.

**Lori Riiska '84 (BUS)** was elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors for a three-year term.

**George Blackall '85 M.B.A.** is the author of *Breaking the Cycle: How to Turn Conflict into Collaboration When You and Your Patients Disagree*, a book addressing the issue of conflict between doctors and patients released in April 2009 by The American College of Physicians.



**Susan (Pearson) Gambardella '85 (CLAS)**, central region vice president for The Coca-Cola Company and member of the

Dallas Children's Theater Board of Directors, was elected to the Women's Foodservice Forum Board of Directors. She lives in Dallas with her husband, **Mark Gambardella '85 (BUS)**, and their two children, Nicholas and Natalie.

**Bernie Gracy '85 (ENG)**, vice president of strategy and business development for Pitney Bowes, received his master's in e-commerce from the University of Maryland in December 2008. He previously earned a master's in computer science from RPI in 1993.

**David Kennedy '85 (BUS), '89 J.D.** is general counsel at Better Place, a leading electric vehicle service provider, located in Palo Alto, Calif. He previously was general counsel at Business Objects.

**John F. Leandri '85 (BUS)** is director of operations of portfolio management and analytics for Pfizer, Inc. He lives in Gales Ferry, Conn., with his wife, Barbara, and their children, Steven, Michael and Anna.



**Bernadette Solounias '85 M.D.**, vice president of treatment services and medical director at Father Martin's Ashley in

Havre de Grace, Md., received the Outstanding Physician award from the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Maryland Chapter, recognizing her contributions to the field of addiction treatment and dedication to the medical care of the patients at Ashley.

**Nicholas Zaharias '85 (CLAS)** is director of development at Cushing

Academy in Ashburnham, Mass. He was previously director of development and campaign director at the Tilton School.

**Lawrence J. Carboni, Jr. '86 (BUS)**, partner at the accounting firm McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, was elected to the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants' Advisory Council. He also chairs its Financial Institutions Committee.

**Regina (Donahue) Foley '86 (BUS)** is chief compliance officer, chief financial officer, treasurer and secretary of the fund at Taiwan Greater China Fund.



**Alan Katten '86 (CLAS), '91 M.B.A.** was elected to the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors for a three-year term.

**Peter LaPorta '86 (CLAS)**, owner of the consulting company LaPorta Enterprises, is the author of his second book, *Who Hired These People?*, released by AuthorHouse.



**David C. Mulhall '86 (BUS)**, financial advisor for LPL Financial Services, was elected to the Connecticut Society of Certified

Public Accountants' Advisory Council. He also chairs its Personal Finance Planning Committee.

**Carlos Rivera '88 (CLAS), '94 M.S.W., '07 M.P.H.**, director of health and human resources for the city of Hartford, served as a 2008 Health Leadership Fellow of the Connecticut Health Foundation. He is a member of the National Society of Hispanic M.B.A.s and previously served as director of Ambulatory Services at Saint Francis Hospital and of Alternative Sanctions and Behavioral Health Services at Community Solutions, Inc., in Windsor, Conn.

**Christopher Wilkos '88 M.B.A.** was promoted to executive vice president and chief investment officer at The Phoenix Companies, Inc., in Hartford, Conn. He previously held positions of senior vice president,

## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

vice president and director of Corporate Portfolio Management for the company.

**Mohamed El-Bermaway '89 M.S., '90 Ph.D.** was promoted to professor of chemistry and biology at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Mo.



**Karen Kaffen-Polascik '89 (CLAS)**, co-owner of Wes Wings and the Red and Black Café, both at Wesleyan University, has launched an online venture selling products associated with the university.



**Dave Vest '89 (CLAS)** is the vice president of news content for the Phoenix Coyotes NHL team after a 15-year career as a sports reporter and editor for *The Arizona Republic* in Phoenix.

### 1990s

**Michael F. Bergeron '90 M.A., '93 Ph.D.**, director of the National Institute for Athletic Health & Performance and Center for Youth

Sports and Health at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, S.D., received the Outstanding Kinesiology Professional Award from the Neag School of Education.



**Sean Culhane '90 (CLAS)** was promoted to deputy division chief for editorial and publication services at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C. Before joining the IMF in 2000, he worked as an editor and publisher of economics, finance and other subjects for many years.

**Cynthia (Hansen) Lishawa '90 (CLAS)** and Kevin Lishawa announce the birth of a son, Owen Matthew, on April 9, 2009, in Glen Ridge, N.J. Owen joins an older sister, Hannah Rae.

**Scott McVay '90 (CLAS)** joined WillStaff Worldwide as sales manager in the Charleston, S.C., office. He has nearly 10 years of experience in the staffing industry.

**Lisa Demunda Pettinicchi '90 (ED), '90 (SFA)**, music teacher and band director at Naugatuck Public Schools, is band director and conductor of Second



### Alumni Huskies Win in Boston

The Boston Chapter of the UConn Alumni Association won the third Annual Boston Alumni Softball tournament, which included teams from seven national universities and was hosted by Tufts. The UConn team included several friends and co-workers of alumni. Celebrating the victory are L-R standing: Shawn Dudzik; Brendan Wilkosz '03 (ED), '04 M.A.; Chris Contardo '06 M.A.; Jason Cromer '06 Ph.D.; Matt Potts; Meghan Madariaga '07 (ENG); Patty Chistiana '87 M.A., '88 Ph.D.; Megan Ellis '07 (CLAS); and Emily Stone '07 (CLAS); Front row: Mike Cangiano '08 (BUS); Brian Johnson '03 (CLAS); and Jenn Cromer '04 M.A., Ph.D.

Company Governor's Foot Guard in New Haven, Conn. She is the first woman to hold the position.

**Douglas Baldessari '91 (BUS)** is a principal at the accounting firm H.J. Umbaugh and Associates in

Indianapolis, where he focuses on client retention and company growth.

**Dean Freeman '91 (BUS)** was promoted to vice president and treasurer at Flowserve Corporation in Irving, Texas. He previously held

## Alumni Traveler



**Costa Rica's Natural Heritage**  
January 14-25, 2010  
Towering volcanoes, exotic flora and fauna, and stunning sunsets will make this natural voyage a trip to remember. Tour the Central Valley to Irazu Volcano before continuing on to the important archaeological site of Guayabo in a protected rainforest. Walk through Monteverde's biological reserve, float along the Tempisque River, and end your tropical journey at a secluded Pacific beach resort.

**Treasures of Southern Africa**  
February 2-16, 2010  
Enjoy a uniquely designed itinerary, including the Rovos Rail luxury train, while experiencing the breadth of culture, landscape and wildlife of South Africa. Walk in the footsteps of Nelson Mandela with visits to Robben Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site and Soweto. Enjoy a three-day safari at the Thornybush

Game Reserve.  
**Private Jet Tours**  
Explore the world's greatest treasures and legendary places during a one-of-a-kind journey by private jet. Several dates and locations are available.

**Around the World**  
February 5-26, 2010

**Desert Crossroads**  
March 21-April 3, 2010

**Sacred Places of Asia**  
April 5-19, 2010

**The Ancient Silk Road**  
April 20-May 4, 2010

*Additional 2010 travel opportunities:*

**Argentina – Buenos Aires**  
March 18-27, 2010  
**Grand Journey Ireland**  
July 2-14, 2010



**Grand Journey Spain**  
September 23-October 5, 2010

**Italian Riviera and Lake Maggiore (optional extension to Florence)**  
October 9-18, 2010

For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call (888) 822-5861 or visit our Web site at [UConnAlumni.com/travel](http://UConnAlumni.com/travel).

## Sending 'Sunday Baroque' over the air

For Suzanne Bona '85 (SFA) connecting her radio listeners to such greats as Bach, Vivaldi and Handel isn't about playing the same music week after week or reciting stale facts about composers' lives.

As host and executive producer of *Sunday Baroque*, a nationally syndicated radio program dedicated to Baroque and early music, Bona continuously strives to offer listeners "something new."

"I try to find some new spin, so that someone who's hearing the music for the first time can be engaged, and so someone hearing it for the hundredth time can also be engaged," says Bona, whose program features classical music written before 1750, performed by a range of artists as diverse as Grammy Award-winning cellist Yo-Yo Ma, renowned banjo player Béla Fleck and rock musician Sting. She shares stories about the "humanity behind the music" by personalizing the composer, or performer, and their circumstances. "That's what brings the music to life and makes us care about it," she says.

Bona earned a bachelor's degree in music at UConn and intended to pursue a full-time performance career as a flutist. But when her part-time work in public radio at WSHU in Fairfield, Conn., turned into an opportunity to host her own program, a light bulb went off. "It felt right," she says. "As someone who has always loved being on the stage, it came kind of naturally to me."

Since *Sunday Baroque's* first broadcast 22 years ago, Bona has witnessed an evolution in classical music, as mainstream performers

and recording labels have steadily made the genre "more acceptable, and less arcane and scholarly."

The Internet has triggered further change. No longer interacting with listeners exclusively over the phone, Bona now hears from fans worldwide through Facebook as well as through the program's Web site, [SundayBaroque.org](http://SundayBaroque.org), which archives playlists and podcasts of Bona's conversations with prominent musicians.

"Technology is changing; the way people get access to music is changing," she says, acknowledging that it's unclear what that may mean for the future format of her program – or that of public radio.

Whatever happens down the road, she says, "I hope I'll be able to reinvent myself in a way that I'll be able to share music and my enthusiasm for music. Music really does connect people. It brings something civilized and beautiful into our lives."

– Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)



the position of vice president of finance for the company's Pump Division.

**Daniel Waters '91 (CLAS)** is the author of *Kiss of Life*, released by Disney/Hyperion in May 2009 as a sequel to his 2008 novel, *Generation Dead*, which was an Oprah Kid's Book Club selection and a Kirkus Book of the Year.



**Thomas Blumetti '92 (BUS)** is a principal at the accounting and business consulting firm BlumShapiro. He has more than 16 years of accounting and auditing experience, specializing in serving manufacturers, distributors and construction companies.

**Russell Dean '92 (CLAS), '96 M.A.** and Heather Dean announce the birth of twins, Camden Travis and Catelyn Ballie, on Dec. 16, 2008, in Houston. The twins join their older brother, Caleb.

**Michael DePascale '92 (CLAS)** joined Q-Bridge in New Haven as vice president of technology solutions. He was previously technical manager at Yale University.

**Keith Dolyak '92 (BUS) and Kelly (Thompson) Dolyak '97 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Dylan Keith, on April 9, 2009, who joins sisters, Paige and Kate. The family lives in Oxford, Conn.

**Mark Gugliotti '92 (ED)** is the author of *Victor Not Victim: My Battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma*, published by iUniverse Books. He is a physical therapist at St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson, N.Y., where he has been assisting cancer patients in their rehabilitation for more than 10 years. He and his wife, Irma, live in Wading River, N.Y.

**Sharyn Laney '92 (CLAS), '07 M.B.A.** founded [laneysguide.com](http://laneysguide.com), a Web site guide to online life that features tips on online shopping, money, work and healthy living.

**Frank Milone '92 (BUS)** was elected to be the president of the UConn Alumni Association's Board of Directors for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. He also was recognized as "Accountant of the Year" by the UConn Accounting Department.

**Lisa Conran DeRosa '93 (BUS)** and her husband, Ron, announce the birth of their first child, Nicholas Jacob, on Oct. 24, 2008.

Lisa is the branch analytical services manager for Acosta Sales and Marketing in Marlborough, Mass., where she provides category management support for major consumer packaged goods manufacturers. The family lives in Framingham, Mass.

**Laura (Herl) Gunneson '93 (CLAS)**, owner of Children's Garden Childcare in Branford, Conn., and her husband, **Lars Gunneson '92 (CLAS)**, owner of Gunneson Flooring Company in Branford, celebrate 15 years of marriage. The couple lives in Branford with their four daughters.



**Kathleen (Szewczyk) Kenney '93 (ED)** a health and physical education teacher at Maple Point Middle School in Pennsylvania, received the Southeastern Pennsylvania Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award.

**Carrie Soucy '93 (CLAS)** founded Miamore Communications, a boutique firm specializing in small creative and luxury-services businesses. She was previously an

award-winning editor for various fashion and luxury publications in New York.



**Joseph Canas '94 (ENG)**, a project manager for the engineering firm Tighe & Bond, is a Leader in Engineering and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional. He works out of Shelton, Conn.

**Stacey (Newman) Carlisle '94 (CANR)**, lead technician at Veazie Veterinary Clinic in Veazie, Maine, and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of a son, Patrick Michael, on Feb. 14, 2009, who joins his older brother, Duncan. The family lives in Winterport, Maine.



**Maggie Leavitt '94 (NUR)** received the 2009 Nurse of the Year Award from the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Fla., for her outstanding clinical knowledge and patient appreciation.

**Wendy B. Libby '94 Ph.D.** is president of Stetson University in DeLand,

## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Fla. She is the first woman to hold this position. Previously, she served as president of Stephens College in Columbia, Mo. She is also the recipient of the Outstanding Higher Education Professional Award from the Neag School of Education.

**Jim Nichols '94 (ENG)** is deputy city manager for the city of Las Vegas, Nev. He previously served as deputy city manager for the city of Goodyear, Ariz. He is also the author of his second book, *How to be a Better Client - Consultant Selection and Management*, published by the American Public Works Association.

**June (Sauter) Prakash '94 (CLAS)** and her husband, Gautam Prakash, announce the birth of their first child, a son, Trevor Arun, born on March 24, 2009. The family lives in Arlington, Va.



**Fred J. Kuo '95 (CLAS)** and his wife, Cristina Dieguez-Kuo, announce the birth of their first child, Frederick Lucas

Kuo, on April 9, 2009. The family lives in Hamden, Conn.

**Jennyfer (Reed) Matteson '95 (CANR)** and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of their daughter, Jewel Elizabeth, on Jan. 28, 2009, who joins brother Justus, 2. Jennyfer continues to work as a

lead food scientist for the Kellogg Company. The family lives in East Leroy, Mich.

**Robert Sawicki '95 (BUS)** joined Magellan Health Services in Avon, Conn., as the senior vice president of learning and performance. Previously, he was vice president of leadership and professional development at The Hartford.

**Christopher Ayers '96 M.B.A.** accepted a position on the Board of Directors of Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc., in Bridgeville, Pa. He was most recently executive vice president at Precision Castparts Corp.

**Michael Neal '96 D.M.D.**, a dentist at Bedford Commons Periodontics in Bedford, N.H., specializes in preventing, diagnosing and treating periodontal disease.



**Susmita Pati '96 M.D.**, an attending general pediatrician at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, received a \$247,000

grant from The Commonwealth Fund to support research to test a new method of identifying children at risk for developmental delays and programs for preventative care. She is also a senior fellow with the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics and associate scholar at the Center for Clinical



### Toast to the Host!

Vin Marottoli '74 Ph.D. was one of the first graduate students to participate in UConn's Study Abroad Program. The year he spent in France led to his interest in fine wines and inspired the creation of Vin Marottoli's Wine Lovers Tours, which for 30 years has focused on incorporating wine, culture and cuisine through tours of wineries in the United States and overseas.

Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Jeff Wood '96 (CLAS)** is the publishing representative for UConn's Nutmeg Yearbook as well as many other school yearbooks and literary magazines throughout Connecticut and New York. A founding member of UConn Television and a former *Daily Campus* columnist, he has written for several publications since graduation.

**Joseph DeSimone '97 M.D.** is a cardiologist at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H.

**Deborah (Mooney) DiNicola '97 (SFA), '04 M.B.A.** and her husband, **Eric DiNicola '02 M.B.A.**, announce the birth of a son, Ryan Patrick, on March 15, 2009. Ryan joins his older sister, Lindsey Margaret, 16 months.



**Burkhard Englert '97 M.S., '00 M.S., '00 Ph.D.**, professor of computer engineering and computer science for California State

University at Long Beach, has received the 2009 Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award for his consistent excellence in teaching. He teaches at the undergraduate and graduate levels and also serves as a graduate advisor.

**Joseph B. Geraci '97 Ph.D.** is the author of *The Four Moments After Death*, documenting the clinical and personal aspects of losing a loved one, published by Xlibris Corporation.



**Sharon Langshur '97 M.D.**, co-author of *We Carry Each Other*, published by Conari Press, is the co-founder of CarePages, Inc., a

Chicago-based health care services company that provides a national Internet service for patients, families and health care providers.

**Kimberly (Romano) Plumb '97 (BUS)** and her husband, Jason Plumb, announce the birth of their son, Christopher Jason, on March 26, 2009. The family lives in West Hartford, Conn.

**Jennifer Schild '97 (BUS)** and Christopher Perfetti announce the birth of a daughter, Ella Grace, on March 6, 2009.



**Donald Somerville '97 D.M.D.** joined the UConn Health Center as director of the Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry.

**Vincent Calabrese '98 M.B.A.** was promoted to chief financial officer

of F.N.B. Corporation in Hermitage, Pa. Previously, he was employed as senior vice president, corporate controller and principal accounting officer at F.N.B.

**John Dutchover '98 (BUS)** received his M.B.A. from Marist College on Jan. 31, 2009.



**Briob Kelleher '98 (BUS)**, a senior manager for Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina LLP accounting firm in Glastonbury, Conn., was elected to the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants' Advisory Council.

**James Long '98 M.S.** is district bridge safety engineer at the Virginia Department of Transportation in Suffolk, Va. He previously was regional manager at Collins Engineering.



**Rob Phillips '98 (CANR), '01 M.S.** and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of their first child, a son, Bretton Alan, on Jan. 11, 2009. Rob is the town planner of Ellington, Conn., where the family resides.

**Angela (McGrath) Montgomery '98 (CLAS)** received her M.D. from New York Medical College and began a pediatric residency program at Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital. She lives in Guilford, Conn., with her husband, **Daniel Montgomery '97 (BUS)**, and their two children, Nathan, 4, and Juliana, 2.

**Katherine (Joyce) Turner '98 (SAH)** and her husband, Michael Turner, announce the birth of a son, Michael Richard Jr., on March 21, 2008.

**David Baffaro '99 (BUS)** and **Emily (Trombley) Baffaro '02 (SFS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Lia Marguerite, on Dec. 16, 2008. The family lives in West Hartford, Conn.

**Karen Dahl '99 (CLAS)** is interim director of government relations at Jumpstart in Boston.

**John Reilly '99 (BUS)** is vice president of corporate finance and treasurer at The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. in Worcester, Mass. Previously, he held senior-level positions in investor relations, finance and business development at The Hartford Financial Services Group in Hartford, Conn.

**John Riley '99 M.B.A.** is managing director of foreign exchange at First Republic Bank in Boston, where he manages the foreign exchange needs of clients from New England and New York.

### 2000s

**Kirsten Hawkins '00 M.D.** is assistant professor of clinical pediatrics at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. Previously, she was a clinical associate at the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. She and Danny Bui also announce the birth of a daughter, Elena Linh, on June 18, 2009, in Washington, D.C., joining older sister, Sofia.

**Jeremy Hayden '00 (CLAS)** joined the Law Firm of Victoria Ferrara, P.C., in Fairfield, Conn., as an attorney focusing in the area of commercial litigation.

**Gregory Kivencor '00 M.B.A.** is an associate professor at Oregon State University, teaching business courses in the Professional Science Master's program. In 2009, he won a prestigious L.L. Stewart Faculty Development Award supporting his research in interdisciplinary innovation.

**Allison Long '00 (CLAS)**, a speech-language pathologist for a school district and the homecare agency Homecare Advantage, married Christopher Baker on Sept. 27, 2008, in Warwick, R.I. The couple currently lives in Providence.

**Tim O'Neill '00 (CLAS)** and his wife, **Josie (Matarazzo) O'Neill '01 (SFS)**, announce the birth of their first child, Paul Timothy, on March 15, 2009. The family lives in Vernon, Conn.

**Norm Perreault '00 M.A., '08 Ph.D.** is vice president, organizational development, at 24 Hour

Fitness, Inc., in San Ramon, Calif. He was previously senior director of organizational capability at Starwood Hotels & Resorts.

**Sibani Sengupta '00 Ph.D.**, a teacher of biology and genetics at Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden, Conn., received a scholarship from the Alma Exley Scholarship Program, which is dedicated to promoting greater diversity in the teaching profession.

**Kari-Ann Wanat '01 (CLAS)**, family development supervisor for Brooklyn Child and Family Services, Inc., in Brooklyn, N.Y., received her master's in social work from New York University in May 2008.

**Maurice Headley '02 (BUS), '07 J.D.**, attorney at Shipman & Goodwin, was elected as treasurer of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association, a volunteer, non-profit organization of attorneys, judges and law students in Connecticut.

**Michael P. Jordan '02 (BUS)**, tax manager for the BlumShapiro accounting firm in West Hartford, Conn., was elected to the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants' Advisory Council.

**Callen Chatfield '03 (CLAS)** and **Frank Chatfield '02 (BUS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Liv Carson, on Jan. 16, 2009, in Bridgeport Hospital.

**Mathew P. Jasinski '03 (CLAS), '06 J.D.** is an associate with Motley Rice LLC in Hartford, Conn., representing institutional investors, unions, governmental entities and consumers in securities and fraud cases. He previously was an associate with Robinson & Cole LLP.

**Kevin Clarke '04 M.D.**, an AIDS physician, is the co-founder of Friends of Zambian Orphans. He is also a member of Baylor College of Medicine Pediatric AIDS Corps.

**Lacy Lee Tebbets '04 (CLAS)**, a high school special education teacher in Pittsburgh, married Steven Kovak on June 21, 2008, in Saxonburg, Pa.

## In Memoriam

### ALUMNI

Charles A. Ewaskio '42  
Lorraine M. Hammerstrom Frick '43  
Florence Till '45  
George A. Mikulka '50  
Jerome R. Asch '55  
Edward Twining '56, '58, '66  
David M. Danforth Sr. '61  
Roberta (Rosenberg) Frankel '61  
Lawrence Z. Brandstein '63  
Gerald F. Dean '66  
Ellen Low Blinderman '68  
Anthony Ference '68  
Joan Segal '70  
Frederic L. Way '81

For an updated list go to:  
[uconnalumni.com/inmemoriam](http://uconnalumni.com/inmemoriam)

**Theresa T. Quell '05 Ph.D.** is the assistant dean for the School of Nursing at Fairfield University. She is also president of the Connecticut Nurses Association, a member of the Norwalk Board of Health and vice president of the Connecticut Southwestern Area Health Education Center.

**Niamh Cunningham '06 (CLAS)** has joined the Yale University Press as text marketing manager. She previously worked as a marketing associate for Oxford University.

**Donald Epifano '06 (CLAS)** received his J.D. from Roger Williams School of Law on May 22, 2009.

**Raye Mutcherson '06 Ph.D.** received recognition as a 2008 Health Leadership Fellow by The Connecticut Health Foundation for his efforts to help create a healthy, safe and prosperous Connecticut.

**Nicholas Roy '06 (BUS)** is vice president of his own company, Somnio Financial Group, in Glastonbury, Conn. He was previously a financial advisor at Ameriprise Financial.

**Mervin Constant '08 (CLAS)** is a customer operations representative at RBS Card Services in Bridgeport, Conn.

*Alumni News & Notes compiled by Jessica McCarthy, Jillian Legnos '12 (CLAS) and Emily Rosenkrans '09 (CLAS)*

## Abbreviation Key

School and/or College for baccalaureate degrees:

**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

Graduate/professional degrees:

**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.** – M.S. 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

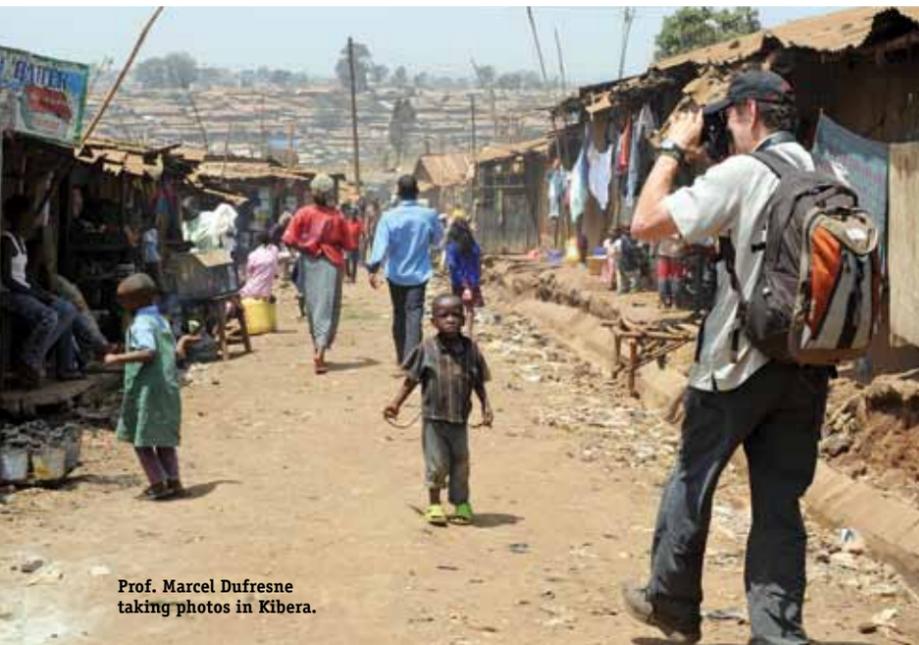
**6th Year** – Sixth-Year Certificate

## Journalists embedded in a 'good news' story in Kenya

By Marcel Dufresne

In the closing minutes of a school dedication in Nairobi's largest slum, a young Kenyan woman passed near, handing out quarter-sized souvenirs. Surprising myself, I held out a palm, and she pressed a pin bearing the face of a child and the words "Kibera School for Girls" into my hand.

It was the first time in 40 years as a journalist that I had accepted, let alone requested, a token from the sponsors of an event I was covering.



Prof. Marcel Dufresne taking photos in Kibera.

I had just witnessed a truly remarkable event. Two young people, one Kenyan, the other American, had given 45 young girls in the massive Kibera slum a chance for a different life. With the help of Kenyan and American friends, they'd raised money, collected books and new school uniforms, and built a modest wood-and-mud structure.

Without hesitating, I stuck the pin to my shirt and continued snapping pictures. *Why had I done it?*, I wondered. Keeping a healthy distance from people and events is part of the journalistic ethos I'd learned, lived by and advocated to students.

On assignment for a Connecticut newspaper, my wife and I were "embedded" for 10 days in August with American Friends of Kenya (AFK) of Norwich, Conn., a partner in the school project. We ate, laughed and inhaled clouds of road dust with 40 volunteers as they brought goodwill and hard work to remote villages and into the heart of Kibera.

The story of aid to Kenya is filled with well-intentioned gifts either stolen or misdirected. But watching these doctors, nurses, teachers, parents and students slap mud on walls, catalogue and shelve books, and tend to ailing women and children convinced us their effort was hitting the mark. They departed comfortable lives, paid their own way and went to work. Everyone, from both continents, seemed better for the effort. Across south-central Kenya, they listened, learned and labored alongside Kenyan partners.

Far from newsroom and classroom, we two journalists couldn't stay untouched by what we saw. So what of journalistic objectivity, of keeping people and events at arm's length?

As I pondered whether I'd gotten too close, I remembered that journalism's highest purpose is to report thoroughly, follow the facts and tell an honest story. At a time when journalism is too often filled with self-serving "news" and swayed by public relations, skepticism and distance remain crucial. But not every story demands distance, I thought. Journalists must recognize sincere intentions and genuine good works. They must do their homework and report rigorously to learn who stands to gain and who to lose. Then they should tell the story that they find.

Before leaving for Kenya, we had vetted AFK as best we could. Everything we learned compelled us to tell its story, and nothing we saw in Kenya changed that. So I stuck the pin to my shirt as confirmation that this was the kind of "good news" the public thinks is too-seldom told.

That night over dinner, AFK founder Emely Silver stretched a thin bead bracelet over my wrist. It bore a single word – KIBERA.

Once home, I stuck the dedication pin to a bulletin board, but I still wear the bracelet. It reminds me to tell students there is good news if they keep their eyes and hearts open.

*Marcel Dufresne is an associate professor of journalism in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A former reporter and editor at newspapers in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, he received the 2002 "Distinguished Teaching in Journalism" award from the national Society of Professional Journalists.*



## Alumni Association Member Spotlight

**Leslie Funk '08 (CLAS)**

Degree: Bachelor of Arts  
Major: Communications  
Hometown: Acton, MA

Current position:  
Account Services Coordinator  
at Cultural Care  
Au Pair in Boston, MA

UConn helped prepare me for the real world. My experience in both the classroom and my involvement in student activities helped me gain confidence in who I am and my ability to succeed.

Upon graduation, that self-confidence led me back to UConn. I realized that the Alumni Association could provide me with assistance in a tough job market. I began to use the Husky Alumni Network, the online alumni community, and joined the Alumni Association. The power of the alumni network helped open doors that led to a fantastic job.

My membership will be renewed year after year to ensure that the power of the alumni network stays strong and continues to help future Huskies!

Join the Alumni Association today at [UConnAlumni.com](http://UConnAlumni.com)!





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# Save Our Lakes

**P**rogress is being made for the Save Our Lakes program launched last year by UConn President Michael J. Hogan. The campaign aims to restore the biological health of Mirror and Swan Lakes on the Storrs campus by removing built-up sediment and by enhancing the visual beauty of the lakes with new landscaping. For more information on Save Our Lakes: <http://blogs.uconn.edu/president/>



FRANK DAHLMEYER



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