

UConn

| Spring 2010

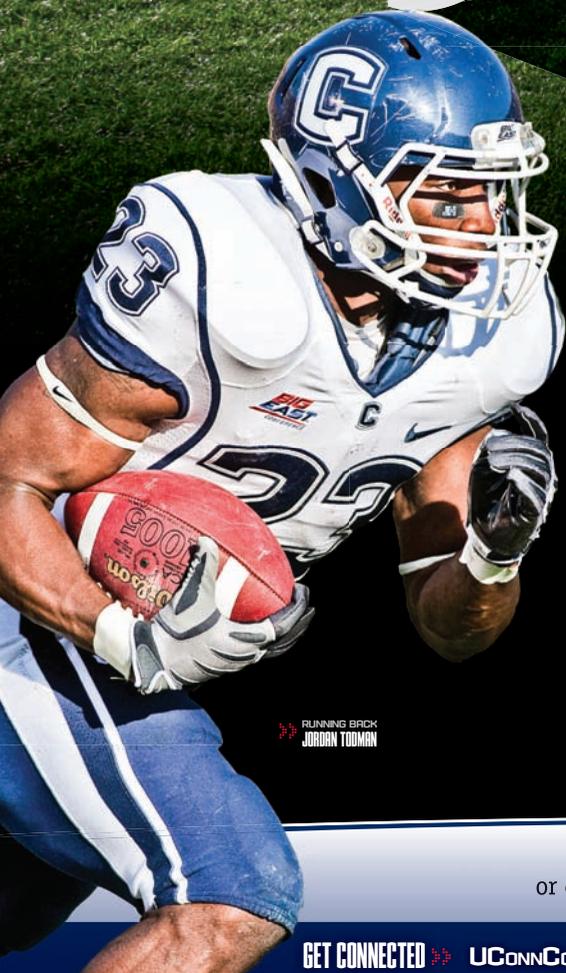


A Different Kind of Learning

Participants in 40 club sports learn life lessons while representing UConn in competition

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Education leadership roundtable

UConn Magazine invited five alumni from the Neag Educational Leadership Program who serve as Connecticut school superintendents to discuss leadership challenges in public education.

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A different kind of learning: Club sports teach lessons in life

BY STEFANIE DION JONES '00 (CLAS) | When most people think of UConn sports, they think of All-Americans and NCAA championships. But there is another group of 1,100 students who represent UConn in 40 club sports and also compete in the field of play.

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Outreach by extension

BY CRAIG BURDICK '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG) | The Cooperative Extension System in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources reaches thousands of Connecticut residents each year, from 4-H students to gardeners, with a wide range of programs.

ON THE COVER:

The UConn cycling club trains for competition in mountain bike racing near the Storrs campus.

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DAVID GREGORY, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DENMARK



David Robinson, a maritime archaeologist who is a doctoral student in anthropology, is working to uncover artifacts at a submerged Stone Age settlement site in Denmark. See page 22.

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Letters to the Editor

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

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From the EDITOR

Finding a home at UConn

REMEMBERING GEORGE FUKUI '45 (CLAS), '48 M.S.

Part of the allure of being a writer is having the opportunity to meet and spend time with movers and shakers, historic figures and just plain interesting, memorable people.

George Fukui '45 (CLAS), '48 M.S., who was featured in *UConn Magazine* in 2003, is one of those memorable figures for those of us who had the privilege of knowing him. George died last December at the age of 88, leaving a legacy of overcoming

challenges, realizing great achievements and maintaining a wide circle of friends in the UConn family.

George arrived at UConn in 1944 from Topaz, Utah, where he was one of thousands of Japanese Americans held in internment camps during World War II. Attending college was one way to be released from the camps. Having started his education at the University of California-Davis, George was one of 10 internees who arrived at UConn, which was among the few campuses to welcome Japanese Americans from the camps.

"My time at UConn was life changing," he wrote in 2003. "I went from barbed wire confinement to a college campus in Connecticut without barriers."

He completed a degree in microbiology, was drafted into the U.S. Army and then returned to

Storrs to earn a master's degree and teach. He later earned a doctorate in microbiology at Cornell before embarking on a stellar career as a pioneering research scientist in microbiology, virology and immunology for the U.S. government, Wallace Laboratories and Abbott Laboratories. All the while, George kept his connection to UConn and expanded his involvement with his alma mater. He mentored UConn students and was involved with the Asian American Cultural Center.

"Many times George told me that when he came to Storrs, he felt he was coming home," recalls Angela Rola, director of the Asian American Cultural Center. "He gave voice to a time in the history of this country that many students learned of or didn't know about."

After his retirement in 1986, George remained a bundle of energy. When American Airlines began its service to Tokyo, he was recruited to be a consultant and teacher. He taught more than 6,000 flight attendants about Japanese culture, philosophy and religion. He traveled widely to visit friends and enjoyed fishing, gardening and playing the piano.

George, a native of San Francisco, liked to relate a story about the strong ties he developed at UConn, which he used to close his 2003 article in our alumni magazine:

"One of the first questions is usually about my accent. They ask 'Are you from New England?'

"Yes, I would tell them. I found a home in Connecticut."



George Fukui '45 (CLAS), '48 M.S. 1921-2009

Opening Shot



Game Day at Gampel, 1.16.2010

A boisterous crowd of 3,000 UConn students and fans turned out at Harry A. Gampel Pavilion early on a Saturday morning for the first ESPN College GameDay centered on a women's college basketball game, a nationally televised Big East match-up between No. 1 UConn and No. 3 Notre Dame, won by the Huskies by a score of 70-46. The GameDay crew included, from left, Rece Davis, Hubert Davis, Digger Phelps, Doris Burke and Jay Bilas. The first-ever College GameDay for men's basketball also took place in Gampel Pavilion in 2005.

Our Larger UConn

ALUMNI, FRIENDS EXTEND UNIVERSITY'S REACH

Last fall I wrote to you about how each new semester at UConn grows more intellectually stimulating on campus. But in our “larger” UConn – our alumni and supporters – there is also renewed excitement and activity across the state of Connecticut, across the country and, in fact, across the world.

Chapters of the UConn Alumni Association in several cities are increasingly involved with the University as their memberships grow and new chapters get under way. These activities provide a natural and easy way for our alums to make direct connections with old friends and to renew their connection with UConn, where these longtime associations got their start. I encourage you to become active in your area chapter or to think about starting one.

Our Alumni Association, through its Board of Directors and its staff, led by executive director Lisa Lewis, is generating new opportunities for our alumni to get involved in activities that are meaningful to them. The Association’s programs bring new support to the University at a time when we need it most. If you haven’t done so, you should visit their webpage: UConnAlumni.com.

Another important development is the adoption of a strategic plan to guide the Association over the next five years. The plan has several major goals:

- Engaging greater numbers through a broad array of programs and services that are inclusive of the diverse group of 210,000 alumni.
- Supporting current students and connecting them to the goals of the

Association. Students begin their lifelong relationship with UConn when they first apply to the University, and it continues throughout their lives. UConn Student Affairs and the Alumni Association express this as a slogan: Students Today. Huskies Forever.



- Reinforcing alumni as key stakeholders of the University and permanent members of the UConn community. Alumni support of the University and involvement in its programs are critical to achieving the goals in our Academic Plan.

- Continuing to build strong, diverse leadership and a sound financial base.

Among the specific goals are creating new scholarships for current students and offering new mentoring opportunities through which alumni can get directly involved in our students’ transition from UConn to their careers. The Association wants to reinvigorate campus and alumni traditions and to improve networking and career opportunities among students and alumni. And the Board has made a

commitment to developing strong, diverse and committed alumni leaders for the future.

Moreover, the Alumni Association is working in new partnerships with the UConn Foundation, especially in connection with the Foundation’s current capital campaign: *Our University. Our Moment.* We want to better coordinate ways that our alumni can help sustain the University in the realities of today’s higher-education landscape. The truth is, we need the support of our alumni in the months and years ahead. We need your wisdom, your volunteer involvement, your financial support and, most of all, your enthusiasm about the value of a UConn education. All great public research universities have great alumni,

and we are no exception. After all, alumni are our “proof of the pudding,” our end result, our *raison d’être*.

I want to thank and congratulate Frank Milone, Alumni Board president, and all our Board members and staff, for their willingness to step up at a time when the University needs them. As I often say, UConn is more than a university – it’s a successful family, a very large and diverse family, and a very important contributor to our society’s broadest goals and aspirations.

Michael J. Hogan
President

Pratt & Whitney establishes engineering Center of Excellence

Pratt & Whitney has established a Center of Excellence at the School of Engineering for research in the field of aviation propulsion systems. It is the sixth University Center of Excellence created at a major research institution by Pratt & Whitney, part of United Technologies Corporation.

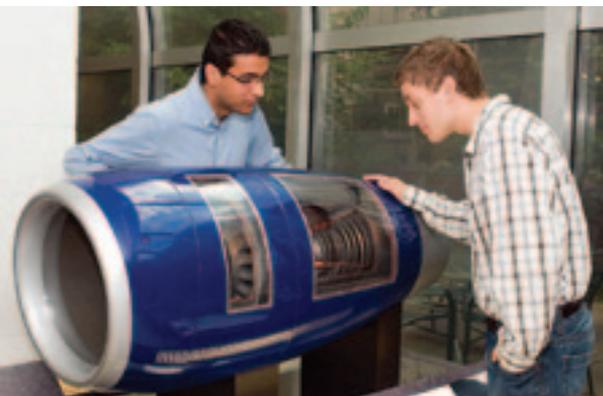
Pratt & Whitney will work with UConn on fundamental and applied research initiatives that support the design and development of more efficient gas turbine engines. The University's primary focus will be research in the field of advanced sensors, diagnostics and controls for use in commercial and military aircraft propulsion systems. Pratt & Whitney officials say they selected UConn as a Center of Excellence because it is renowned for its world-class engineering education and research capabilities.

"This is a great opportunity to expand our longstanding working relationship with the UConn School of Engineering," says Paul Adams, senior vice president, Pratt & Whitney Engineering. "UConn has solid technical capabilities that complement our growing research needs. We have thousands of engineers in Connecticut, including many UConn graduates. This partnership allows us to bring their expertise to the next generation of engineers in a way that complements traditional studies."

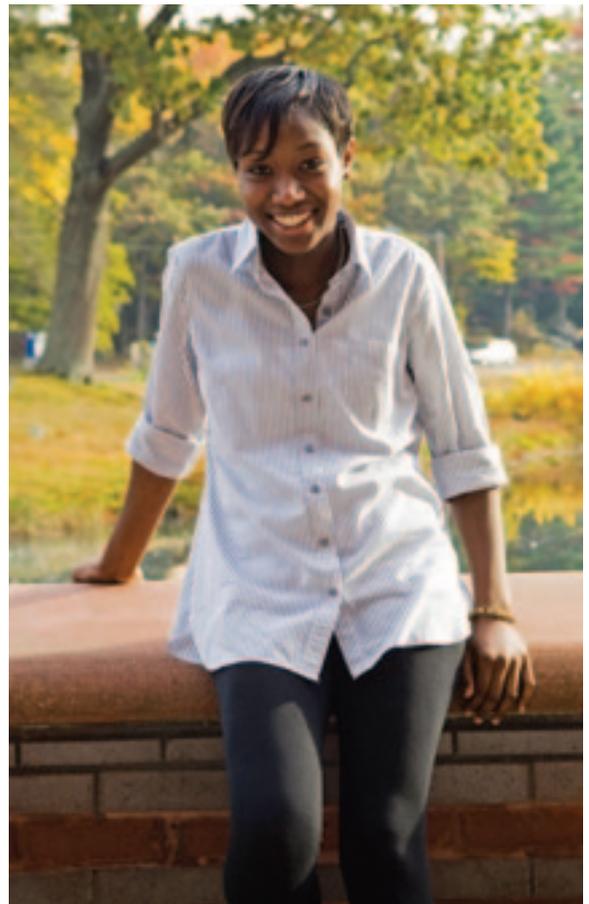
"We think this is going to be the beginning of an important relationship with Pratt & Whitney," says Mun Choi, dean of the UConn School of Engineering. "With renewed emphasis on collaboration, we can make this relationship even more successful. In the end, we want to be a technical resource for key industries in this state."

The agreement is indicative of the improvements that have been made in the long-term relationship between Pratt & Whitney and the School of Engineering. For example, a Pratt & Whitney-endowed chair at the School of Engineering

leads research projects to help the company's manufacturing operations improve products and processes. The BRIDGE Program, which awards annual scholarships to promising engineering students, has been revamped to include more mechanical engineering students and to allow senior engineering students to spend time working at Pratt & Whitney.



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McFarlane becomes first to complete major degree in African American Studies

Paula McFarlane '09 (CLAS) became the first UConn student to graduate with a major in African American studies from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences when she completed her degree requirements in December. African American studies was offered for the first time as a major in Fall 2008. McFarlane had previously completed a minor in African American studies while pursuing a major in sociology, which she also completed.

CRT Summer Series returns

A full season of the Connecticut Repertory Theatre's Nutmeg Summer Series returns to Storrs with four productions, beginning May 27. The Nutmeg Summer Series began at the Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre in the late 1940s and featured musicals and plays such as "All My Sons" by Arthur Miller in 1954 (top photo) and returned last year with "Crowns" by Regina Taylor (bottom). CRT is the producing arm of the Department of Dramatic Arts in the School of Fine Arts.

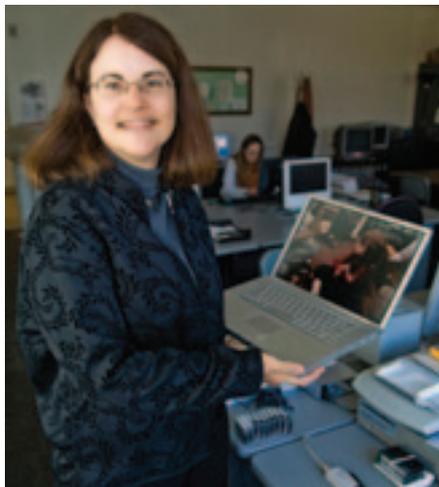
The upcoming summer 2010 season includes the hit musicals "Rent" (May 27 to June 6) and "Smokey Joe's Café" (June 24 to July 4), both at the Jorgensen, and the plays "All in the Timing" (June 10 to 20) by David Ives and the world premiere of the Split Knuckle Theatre's "Endurance" (June 24 to 27), both at the Nafe Katter Theatre. For more information: crt.uconn.edu.



ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER



\$33M in stimulus grants to UConn researchers



Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enacted by Congress last year.

UConn investigators at Storrs have been awarded \$14 million in ARRA grants for 43 projects; at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, 32 projects were awarded \$19 million. The funding will support a wide variety of ongoing and new research.

Diane Lillo-Martin, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Linguistics, received two NIH grants as part of the federal stimulus funding.

The flow of stimulus money may accelerate as federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation

(NSF) complete the process of reviewing thousands of proposals, notes Michael Crouch, executive director of the Office for Sponsored Programs and assistant vice provost for research. Even with 75 UConn

research projects allotted federal funding so far, additional research awards may be announced, he says.

Among the funded projects: a \$3.6 million grant to study biodefense responses to microbial pathogens, led by Health Center immunologist Leo Lefrancois; \$800,000 for a study of the genomic conflict in Poeciliid fishes by biologist Michael O'Neill; and \$400,000 for an investigation into the formation and applications of ultracold molecules by physicist William Stwalley.

"The innovation in our laboratories will help drive the future economy of the State of Connecticut," says Suman Singha, vice president for research and graduate education. "It will also prepare the graduate and undergraduate students who will become our next generation of scientists, engineers, health care professionals and teachers."

School of Business joins Disabled Vets national consortium

The School of Business has joined the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV), a major initiative that helps rebuild the lives and economic potential of the country's veterans with disabilities.

UConn becomes the sixth member of a consortium of business schools nationwide offering the program and the first in New England. Each school annually hosts up to 25 veterans with disabilities who participate in cutting-edge training in entrepreneurship and small business management.

The EBV program includes a four-week online course to bring veterans up to speed on business ideas, a nine-day on-campus immersion workshop where veterans learn from business faculty and successful local entrepreneurs, and an ongoing mentoring program to support the veterans as they implement their business concepts.

"The EBV program will help set an agenda for UConn's future," says Christopher Earley, dean of the School of Business. "Moving forward, the next generation of global business leaders will need not only business acumen but also a broader sense of community and contribution to society. Our participation in the EBV program will help our students, faculty and alumni embrace

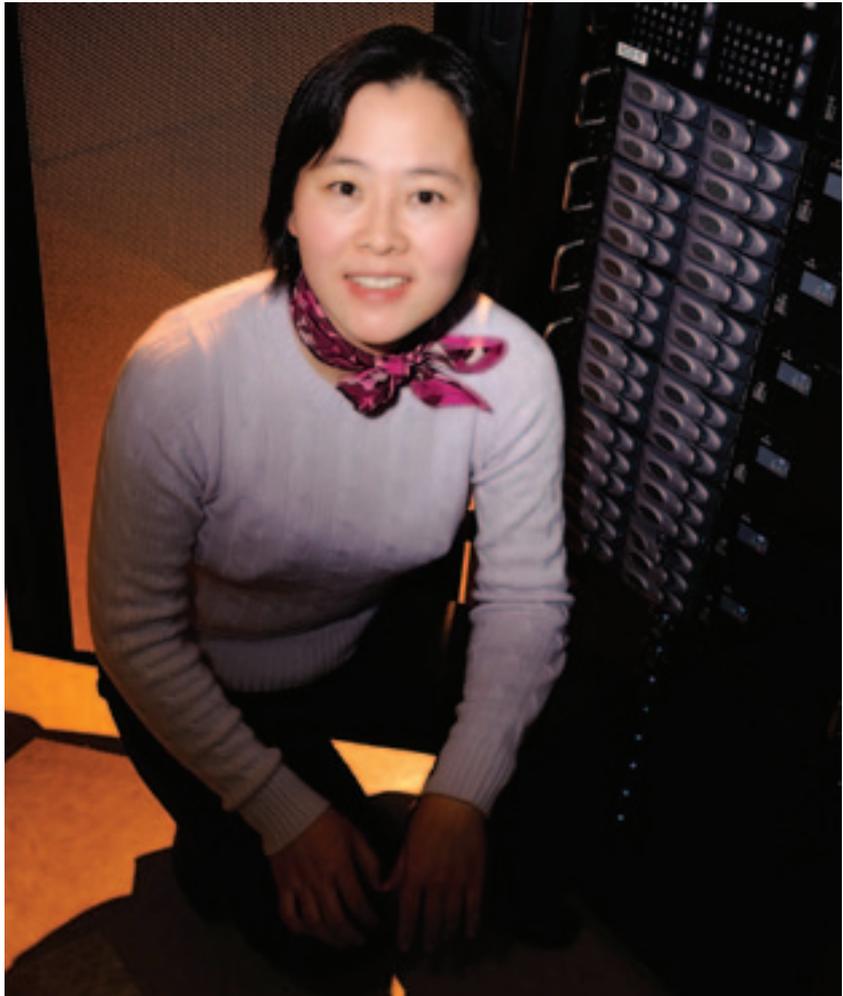
this future model of business leadership."

In addition to joining the EBV consortium, the School of Business will launch two other new initiatives with the consortium. The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans' Families is a pilot program offering training in small business creation and management for select caregivers of veterans

with disabilities. The EBV consortium also has received a three-year, \$450,000 grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Veterans Business Development to help grow the EBV nationwide and maximize the availability, applicability and usability of small

business programs for veterans, reserve component members, and their dependents or survivors.

Other members of the EBV consortium include Syracuse University, Texas A&M, UCLA, Florida State University and Purdue University.



National Science Foundation awards Fei

Yungsi Fei, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering in the School of Engineering, received a National Science Foundation Early Career Development award. She will apply her five-year, \$405,000 award to her research aimed at developing superior computer architectures and designs for secure processing in embedded systems such as MP3 players, traffic lights and plant floor process controllers.





Uncle Sam Wants You

Vintage World War II posters were presented to the UConn Veterans Benefits Office by Jeannie Plasan Boniecki '84 (CLAS) on behalf of her mother, Jean Noden Plasan '50 (NUR), a U.S. Army veteran of WW II. The posters are on display in the office, located in the Wilbur Cross Building.

MSW students aid Hartford seniors

Student interns from the School of Social Work are making the world a little brighter – and healthier – for a number of Hartford’s senior citizens while gaining front-line experience dealing with a needy population.

The Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education, a partnership of The Institute of Living, Hartford Hospital and the School of Social Work, brings students working toward master’s degrees in social work into the halls, apartments and community rooms of seven Hartford-based senior housing complexes. The students go door to door in an effort to discuss the residents’ well-being and mental health. Now in its third year, the program has reached more than 950 people and is the only one in the nation that specifically targets minority populations.

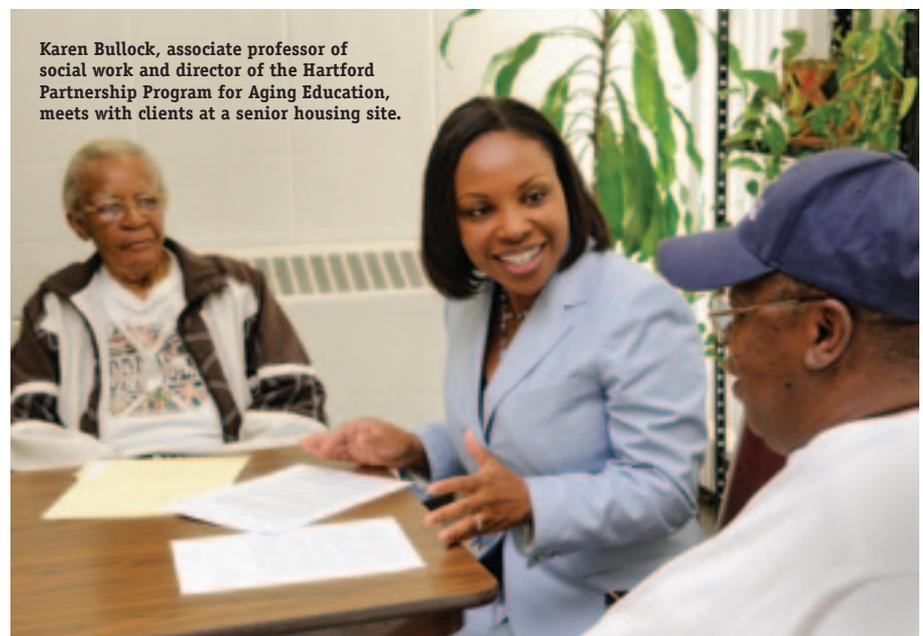
“African Americans and Latinos are the least likely populations to reach out and

seek help, especially with mental health issues such as depression, and culture is a huge factor,” says Karen Bullock, associate professor of social work and director of the Partnership Program for Aging Education.

Of the 20 interns who have trained in the healthy aging program thus far, all are from underrepresented populations and many, including Bullock, speak Spanish. She says a key to the program is preparing practitioners who are representative of the racial and ethnic minority groups that make up the older adult population in the city of Hartford.

Students are teamed with a licensed clinical social worker, an advanced practice registered nurse and a psychiatrist. They spend as much as an hour with each resident, administering screenings for memory loss and depression, medicine management and other mental health outreach services. The students also participate in health education forums in the buildings’ community rooms, distribute brochures that describe depression and other illnesses, and provide information on health and wellness.

“As we prepare graduate social work students to be competent practitioners, we’re chipping away at the issues that can become barriers to mental health access,” Bullock says. “We have a lot of work to do, but we’re chipping away.”



Karen Bullock, associate professor of social work and director of the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education, meets with clients at a senior housing site.



Aquarium adds Lin exhibit

An interactive exhibit at the Mystic Aquarium that allows children to learn about genetic code and extract DNA from fruit is based on the research of Senjie Lin, associate professor of marine sciences at UConn's Avery Point campus, who examines the genetic changes that lead to toxic red tides.

Lin is trying to determine which genes are active when dinoflagellates – microscopic plants, or phytoplankton – produce toxins and form red tides. Dissecting the DNA codes of dinoflagellates may someday help scientists find genetic markers that will predict when a toxic red tide will form and what its intensity will be. Toxins from red tide can spread up the food chain, from shellfish to marine animals to humans, causing illness and, in some cases, death.

Lin's research on phytoplankton is focused on dinoflagellates because of their multifaceted features: They provide food for animals in the sea and are indispensable for the growth of coral reefs, yet they are also major contributors to red tide and marine toxins.

The exhibit is part of an established research partnership between the Mystic Aquarium Institute for Exploration and UConn, in which graduate students' marine research is supported by both institutions. Working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the two institutions also helped form the I-RICH Consortium, an interdisciplinary graduate training and postdoctoral mentoring initiative that focuses on major problems impacting coastal ecosystems and how these problems relate to human health.

Working with Lin on his research are colleagues at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the University of Maryland's Center of Marine Biotechnology and the Venter Institute. The Department of Marine Sciences is part of UConn's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The exhibit is the outreach component of the four-year, \$1 million National Science Foundation grant.

Students gain combined law degree plan

A new combined undergraduate and law degree program welcomed its first group of students into the UConn Honors Program this past fall.

Sixteen students were selected from 80 applicants to the program based on their stellar high school records, SAT scores, School of Law interviews, writing samples and commitment to the legal profession. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.4 and meet the other rigorous requirements of the Special Program in Law during their four years at Storrs before being offered admission to the School of Law.

"The University has had success with its combined programs in medicine and dental

medicine, so they pitched the idea to the School of Law. We interviewed some very impressive candidates,"

says Karen DeMeola '96 J.D., associate dean for admissions and student finance, who expects to hold 10 School of Law seats (out of a class of approximately 210) for program participants beginning in 2013. "It was a difficult process, especially when you consider that the applicants who have been selected won't be starting law school for another four years. We worked really well together."

DeMeola adds that an undergraduate curriculum is being developed specifically for students in the Special Program in Law.



A cappella groups recognized among nation's best

Songs by two popular UConn a cappella groups, the Conn-Men and A Completely Different Note, are featured on the Contemporary A Cappella Society's nationally distributed compilation CD "The Best of College A Cappella 2010," or BOCA 2010.

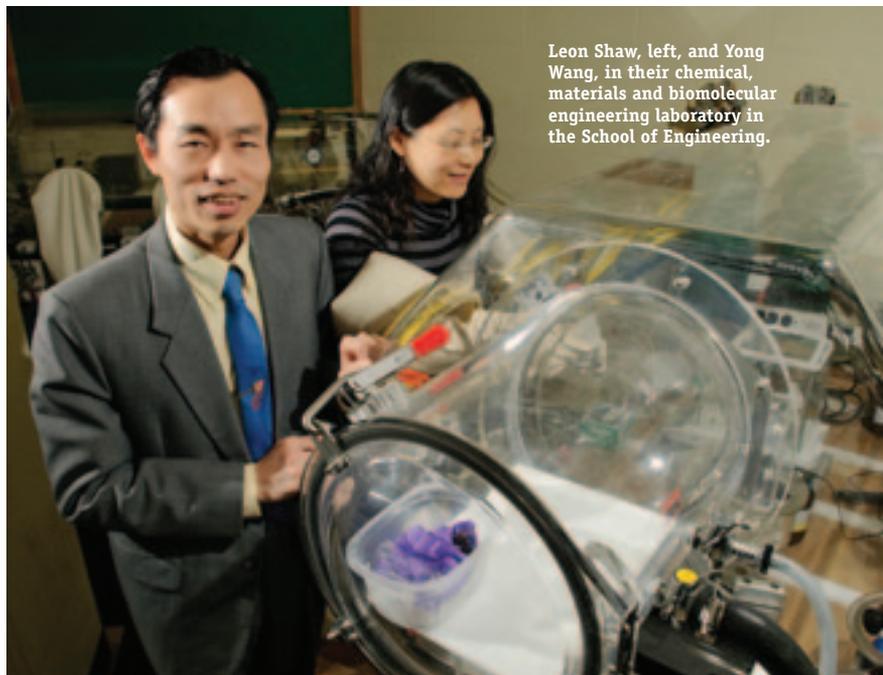
UConn was one of only three universities across the nation that had multiple winners this year. Only 20 groups are selected for the BOCA showcase disc out of more than 2,000 active a cappella singing groups on more than 400 college campuses. Tufts and the University of Pennsylvania were the other colleges with multiple tracks on the disc.

The Conn-Men's unique version of Marc Broussard's "Come Around" is featured on the BOCA disc. The song features soloist Greg Nelson '12 (BUS), an international business major.

A Completely Different Note (CDN) version of Tonic's "Take Me As I Am," which is the lead track on CDN's latest disc, "Blazin'," is featured on BOCA 2010. The track features soloist Joshua Blodgett '09 (CLAS), who graduated last year with a degree in English.

To order copies of BOCA 2010, go to www.a-cappella.com.

The Conn-Men



Leon Shaw, left, and Yong Wang, in their chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering laboratory in the School of Engineering.

Shaw pioneers new nanomaterials

More than 10 million Americans currently carry at least one major implanted medical device in their bodies. However, the titanium and stainless steel alloys used in most medical implants in many cases have some disadvantages, including a shorter life expectancy than those of their wearers or rejection of the implant by original human tissue.

Leon Shaw, a professor in the chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering department in the School of Engineering, and his collaborator, Yong Wang, assistant professor of chemical, materials and biomolecular engineering, are working to develop a new family of functionally graded, porous implant materials with a lattice of engineered microstructures that will reduce the risk of additional surgery, thus

lowering long-term health care costs along with patient stress.

Shaw's research in developing new materials doesn't stop there. A second major initiative is a collaboration with Kennametal, Inc., a global leader in hard metal technology, to produce novel materials derived from nanocrystalline powder that will ultimately benefit industries that use hard metals.

Across the globe, a third research initiative is in collaboration with Mahmoud Zawrah, a researcher from the National Research Center in Cairo, Egypt, to improve the processing and fabrication of a ceramic material used for engine parts or cutting tools so that it can be mass-produced more economically.

The three projects under way by Shaw and his colleagues are funded by National Science Foundation grants for research focused on nanotechnology.

China names Likens 'Einstein professor'

Gene E. Likens, distinguished research professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been named an "Einstein professor" by the Chinese Academy of Sciences in recognition of his work as a pioneering ecologist.

Likens accepted an honorary degree from Jinan University in China and delivered lectures before audiences at several Chinese scientific organizations. Each year the China Academy of Sciences awards Einstein professorships to 15 to 20 international scientists who are actively working at the frontiers of science and technology.

Likens, who co-discovered acid rain, also serves as distinguished senior scientist and founding director of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. He won the National Medal of Science in 2001.



Students name McCarthy 'Outstanding Dean'

Robert McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy, received the national American Pharmacists Association's Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Outstanding Dean Award. The award recognizes deans who have made significant contributions to the APhA-ASP Chapter and have promoted with distinction the welfare of student pharmacists through various community service, leadership and professional activities. In an effort led by Carlie Hershgordon, president of UConn's Pharmacy Student Government, several UConn Pharm.D. students nominated McCarthy.



Support to Haiti relief

The UConn community responded quickly to support relief efforts following the earthquake that devastated Haiti in January. As of press time, more than \$15,750 had been raised for a variety of organizations through the efforts of students, faculty and staff. Members of the West Indian Student Organization and Sigma Gamma Rho who hosted a fund-raising table for Haiti earthquake relief in the Student Union included, from left, Jade Morrison '10 (CLAS), Brittanie Sutton '12 (CLAS), Akema Hill '11 (BUS) and Dimietris Thompson '11 (NUR).

Efthimia Ioannidou wins prestigious dental fellowship

Efthimia Ioannidou '99 M.D.S., assistant professor in the Division of Periodontology, Department of Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences, received the Bud and Linda Tarrson Fellowship from the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation, which encourages gifted clinicians who have a demonstrated facility for teaching to pursue an academic career. Fellows must be faculty members at the instructor or assistant level, have been affiliated with a degree-granting institution for 10 years or less and must have a stated career goal in periodontal education and research.



Calhoun Bike Ride

The 2010 NBC Connecticut – Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride and Walk will be held on June 12 in Simsbury. The addition of a 5K Cancer Challenge Walk is new for 2010. Proceeds benefit Coaches vs. Cancer and the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center. For more information, please visit calhounride.com or calhounwalk.com.



Presidential Award for Excellence to School of Medicine's Laurencin

Cato T. Laurencin, UConn's vice president for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine, top left, was among 22 recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring who met at the White House with President Barack Obama in early January. The award is presented to individuals or organizations in recognition of the crucial role that mentoring plays in the academic and personal development of students studying science or engineering at any grade level.

AROUND UCONN • **EVENTS CALENDAR**

For complete listings: www.uconn.edu/attractions.php



HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY
860-486-4636
Through June 11
CONTEMPORARY RENAISSANCE REALISM BY ALEX GNIDZIEJKO
Gallery on the Plaza

JIA XIE: CHINESE ANCIENT DYE ART
Stevens Gallery

HUSKIES ON THE HOMEFRONT BY ERIKA TOTO
Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART
860-486-4520

April 1-May 9
2010 M.F.A. EXHIBIT

Through May 9
COUNTERMART: AN INSTALLATION BY ABBY MANOCK and POEM & PICTURE



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

Through Nov. 30
HANDPUPPETS, POLITICS AND HUMOR

FRANK AND ELIZABETH HAINES: AN AMERICAN PUPPET COMPANY IN THE 1930S

JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
860-486-4226
jorgensen.uconn.edu

April 15
UCONN IDOL

April 16-17
THE RAT PACK IS BACK
Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey and Dean

CONNECTICUT REPERTORY THEATRE
860-486-1629

April 22-May 1
THE WHO'S TOMMY
Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre

EVERY POINT CAMPUS ALEXEY VON SCHLIPPE GALLERY OF ART

April 16-May 30
ANDREW TAVARELLI, PAT CARRIGAN AND SKY HOYT



June 4-July 18
SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT SCULPTORS

TORRINGTON CAMPUS
860-626-6852

April 28
DEVOTION BY DANI SHAPIRO: A DISCUSSION OF THE AUTHOR'S LATEST MEMOIR

Helping compulsive hoarders with ‘Digging Out’

Walk into the homes of most people and there will be some level of clutter – old magazines and newspapers piled up in a living room corner, bills and papers covering a desk or a closet filled with umbrellas and shoes. But when rooms are overflowing with books, papers, tools or other items to the point that the room no longer functions as a living space, there is a problem: It is the home of a hoarder.

“People who contact me with an interest in hoarding are family members fed up or concerned with other family members. I get a lot of phone calls concerned with family members hurting themselves or about fire dangers,” says Tamara L. Hartl ’02 Ph.D., a clinical

psychologist and co-author of *Digging Out: Helping Your Loved One Manage Clutter, Hoarding & Compulsive Acquiring* (New Harbinger Publications). “Hoarding is a complex behavior with lots of nuances, but specific aspects put people at risk,” Hartl says. “Usually when people enter a house and see clutter, they think the solution is to get rid of the clutter. With a harm reduction approach, we work with individuals and

becomes so difficult that a hoarder makes a default decision to save objects and to avoid the consequences of making a wrong decision. *Digging Out* is aimed at helping family members work through these psychological issues with their loved ones, starting with a corollary to the Hippocratic Oath: harm reduction. The book specifically helps loved ones devise a harm reduction plan to keep their relative who hoards safe.

“In most cases, there is a level of emotional attachment toward possessions, so much so that people equate throwing away things to abandoning a loved one or getting rid of significant piece of themselves.”

psychologist and co-author of *Digging Out: Helping Your Loved One Manage Clutter, Hoarding & Compulsive Acquiring* (New Harbinger Publications).

About 4 percent to 5 percent of the population in the United States, between 1 million and 3 million people, has a significant hoarding problem according to a 2008 study published in the international multidisciplinary journal *Behaviour Research and Therapy*. The situation is so prevalent there are two reality cable television programs based on this behavioral condition: “Hoarders” on A&E and “Clean House” on Style Network.

Hartl, who became interested in compulsive hoarding as an undergraduate and began her research while pursuing her doctoral degree in Storrs, says hoarding and compulsive acquiring is rooted in psychological issues.

“In most cases, there is a level of emotional attachment toward possessions, so much so that people equate throwing away things to abandoning a loved one or getting rid of a significant piece of themselves, like an appendage,” she says.

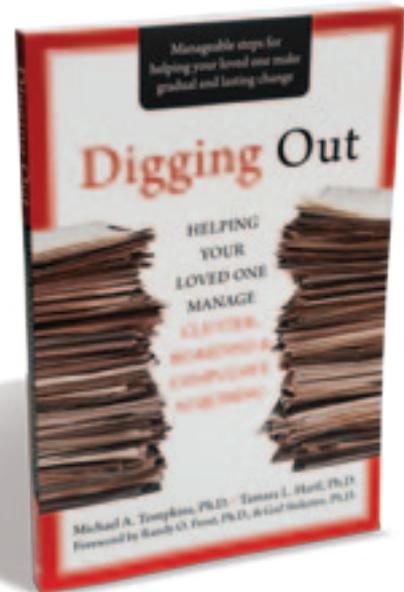
Indecisiveness is a central feature of a compulsive hoarding problem, she notes, where making decisions

their families to maintain safety in the home. It doesn’t mean someone has to get rid of everything, but he will need to get rid of some things in order to be safe.”

Beyond the obvious danger of fire hazard from keeping old newspapers and magazines, there are economic consequences, she adds, such as spending beyond one’s means, especially with older people on a fixed income. In some geographic areas, such as in earthquake-prone California, injury from falling objects stacked high is a real danger. Understanding such concerns can help people who hoard understand that making their environment safer can lead to a lifting of restrictions, such as their children’s allowing a grandchild to visit.

Hartl says she hopes *Digging Out* will allow readers to see the human suffering aspect of hoarding and diminish the sensationalism portrayed on the television programs now on the air.

– Kenneth Best



\$1M+ gift to Honors Program

Alumni Robert Holster '68 (CLAS) and Carlotta (DeTomaso) Holster '68 (SFS) have contributed a gift of more than \$1 million to the Honors Program, which supports activities designed to enrich the academic experience for honors students, such as undergraduate research, international travel and academic and creative projects.

"This will enable us to expand the opportunities for students to have a truly enriched experience and will enable us to provide the quality of undergraduate education that our top students have come to expect," says Provost Peter Nicholls. "Building on the quality of our outstanding Honors Program is a key strategy to attract the very best and brightest students to the University."

Lynne Goodstein, director of the Honors Program and associate vice provost of enrichment programs, adds that the Holster gift will support the types of enrichment experiences that make the difference between a good collegiate career and an exceptional one.

"We know students benefit tremendously

from individualized and independent academic experiences," says Goodstein.

The Honors Program enrolls 9 percent of the undergraduate population at the main campus in Storrs. For students entering the program in 2009, the average combined critical reading and math SAT score is 1395.

The Holsters say they were moved to give back to UConn for the excellent education they received as undergraduate students. Robert Holster earned a bachelor's degree in economics and Carlotta Holster earned a bachelor's degree in child development and family relations.

"My freshman courses in economics, English literature and history armed me with models for thinking about things that assisted me later in the Army and in graduate school and remain relevant to this day in business," says Robert, the chairman of the board and former chief executive officer of HMS Holdings Corp. He is also a member of the board of directors of the University of Connecticut Foundation.



Bequest benefits Fine Arts

Noting the vital role the arts play in society and in the cultural development of students, an alumni couple announced plans to bequeath their entire estate – estimated at \$1 million – to the School of Fine Arts.

"A work of art lasts forever. It outlasts any human being. That's why I'm so excited to be a benefactor of the arts," says Edward '58 (CLAS), '63 M.A. about the gift he and his wife, Judith Stentaforde '65 M.A., have designated for UConn.

As retired public school teachers, the Stentaforde couple say, they understand the importance of education and wanted to combine it with their passion as art collectors and music lovers.

"Judy and I came from humble backgrounds. We were both Depression babies, and our parents had nothing. We were the only ones in our families to get a college education. The lives we lead today would not have been possible without the strong foundation that we received at the University of Connecticut," says Edward Stentaforde.

Edward earned a bachelor's degree in economics and mathematics and a master's degree in visual media from UConn, and Judith earned a master's degree in education.

"The arts must be maintained because that's what keeps the world together," adds Edward, whose home is decorated with Husky championship pennants alongside collected artwork and memorabilia from the couple's extensive travels.

"Through this gift, the Stentaforde couple have enabled the School of Fine Arts in the future to explore a number of positive and important projects that will enhance and expand the artistic education of UConn students," says David Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts.

Gladstein '66 adds to Human Rights legacy

A major gift from a longtime UConn benefactor will further expand the University's internationally recognized Human Rights Institute, a program in which Gary Gladstein '66 (CLAS) already has left an indelible mark.

"Human rights awareness needs to develop worldwide, and I hope that the Human Rights Institute will contribute," Gladstein says of his \$1.15 million gift. "This is an area where I would like UConn to be known as among the best in the country."

Gladstein, retired partner and chief operating officer of Soros Fund Management and an emeritus director of the UConn Foundation, began a legacy to honor his late wife in 1998 with the Marsha Lilien Gladstein Visiting Professorship in Human Rights. Marsha was a kindergarten teacher in the Bridgeport public school system and a dedicated supporter of education and human rights. In 2001, Gladstein established the Human Rights Fund, followed by the Judi and Gary Gladstein Distinguished Chair in Human Rights in 2005.

The visiting professorship attracts eminent scholars in the humanities, social sciences and law to participate in teaching, research and outreach at UConn. The distinguished chair supports the work of renowned anthropologist Richard Wilson, director of the Human Rights Institute.

"In the past 10 years, UConn has created one of the best human rights teaching and research programs at a

public university anywhere in the world, and our success is due in no small part to the generosity of Gary Gladstein. He has been a stalwart and unwavering supporter," says Wilson.

Gladstein says he focuses support in higher education because it is an ideal venue to open a dialogue and educate students. He adds that there is a profound need to increase the pipeline of educated human rights advocates from a broad range of disciplines to become the next generation of leaders in the United Nations, nongovernmental organizations and other groups.

"Humans must all learn to live together in peace and share our wonderful world. I envision how much better the world would be if we could all share it and respect each other's beliefs. We must encourage more interfaith dialogues and religious tolerance in an increasingly volatile world," says Gladstein.

In addition to supporting human rights programming, he previously established the Gladstein Professorship in Information Technology and the Gladstein Endowment for the MIS Research Laboratory, both at the School of Business, and provided seed funding for the Women's Cancer Prevention and Treatment Program at the UConn Health Center.



Our University. Our Moment. hits \$202 million

As of press time, more than \$202 million has been raised through the *Our University. Our Moment.* fund-raising campaign, putting the University one-third of the way toward reaching its \$600 million goal. The fund-raising includes \$143 million for programs, \$32.4 million for students, \$13.7 million for faculty and \$13.2 million for capital projects. So far, \$57 million has been raised toward the endowment.

"We're happy with the promising start of the campaign and the momentum we're building," says UConn President Michael Hogan. "With the support we've raised for students, faculty and programs, we're also making progress toward building the endowment, which is vital to UConn's future."

Talking Huskies football

RANDY EDSALL LOOKS BACK AND TO THE FUTURE OF UCONN FOOTBALL

Randy Edsall will begin his 12th season as head football coach for the Huskies in 2010. He has led UConn to three post-season bowl victories in the last five years, including a 20-7 win over South Carolina in the Papajohns.com Bowl last January. The Huskies' 2010 season begins Sept. 4 at Michigan.

Is that why you continue to speak around the state about the University and the football team?

Regardless of how successful we've become, it's still going to take a grassroots effort all the time. We have to continue to pound the pavement and work it the right way to create that interest. We've had a solid program, but it took the tragic death

with them. A lot of these young men never had someone that close to them die. I'll tell you, they helped me as much as I helped them. Unless you were in the shoes of this team, nobody will know the burden that was lifted off the shoulders of these young men after beating Notre Dame following those three tough losses after he died. It was more than just about beating Notre Dame. It was about the pressure lifted off their shoulders to honor one of their own.

Do you expect those returning for this year's team to approach the season differently?

I've seen that already in terms of how they're carrying themselves and going about their business. They're more focused as to what they want to accomplish. When you go 8-5 and lose five games by a total of 15 points last year, there's an understanding that if we did more of the little things correctly, maybe things would have been different.

What's been the hardest part of your job?

Managing people's expectations. That's a tough thing to do. You want to get exposure for your program, you want it to grow, but you can't put too much out there because what happens is everything you say is analyzed and scrutinized. The thing I'm most proud of is that the values system I put in place when I got here in 1998 is the same today. You can have consistency and you can do things the same way over and over again.

With the success you've had, your name comes up when there are openings elsewhere.

This is something I started from scratch. It isn't where I want it to be yet. There is still work to be done. I'm very happy here and enjoy what I'm doing. Anytime you're



When you first arrived, one of the things you said was that you pride yourself on attacking challenges head on. What's been the biggest challenge?

There wasn't a football culture in Connecticut. It was a big challenge to win people over that we could be successful at the highest level in college football while still maintaining academic integrity. We also wanted people to understand the pageantry and excitement of what college football is all about, that it's really unique and special.

The Huskies football team hoists the championship trophy in celebration of their 20-7 win over South Carolina at the Papajohns.com Bowl in January.

of one of our players, Jasper Howard, to show what our program is all about and what we've accomplished to date.

You received personal recognition for the way you handled the situation after Jasper died, even describing yourself as being a father to more than 100 sons. Can you describe this relationship?

I was compassionate with them but realistic

in a profession and you're successful, there's going to be speculation. We haven't finished the journey here.

Where do you want to take this program?

I would hope we could win the Big East outright and get to a BCS Bowl game, which puts us in the national picture. That is what we need to get done, what I want to get done.

What's been the best moment of the last 12 years?

The best thing is seeing the growth and development in these young men that you bring into the University and knowing you played a small part in that development and helped them on the path to be successful in life. That's what I'm most proud of.

Have alumni embraced the football program?

Alumni have been super. I hope alumni feel as much a part of our program as we feel they are a part of this program. When we beat Notre Dame and South Carolina, I hope it gave alumni a sense of pride in what their university is all about. I want to give everybody that's a part of this program, – alumni and the people in Connecticut – the feeling that this program does things the right way and they can feel proud of it.



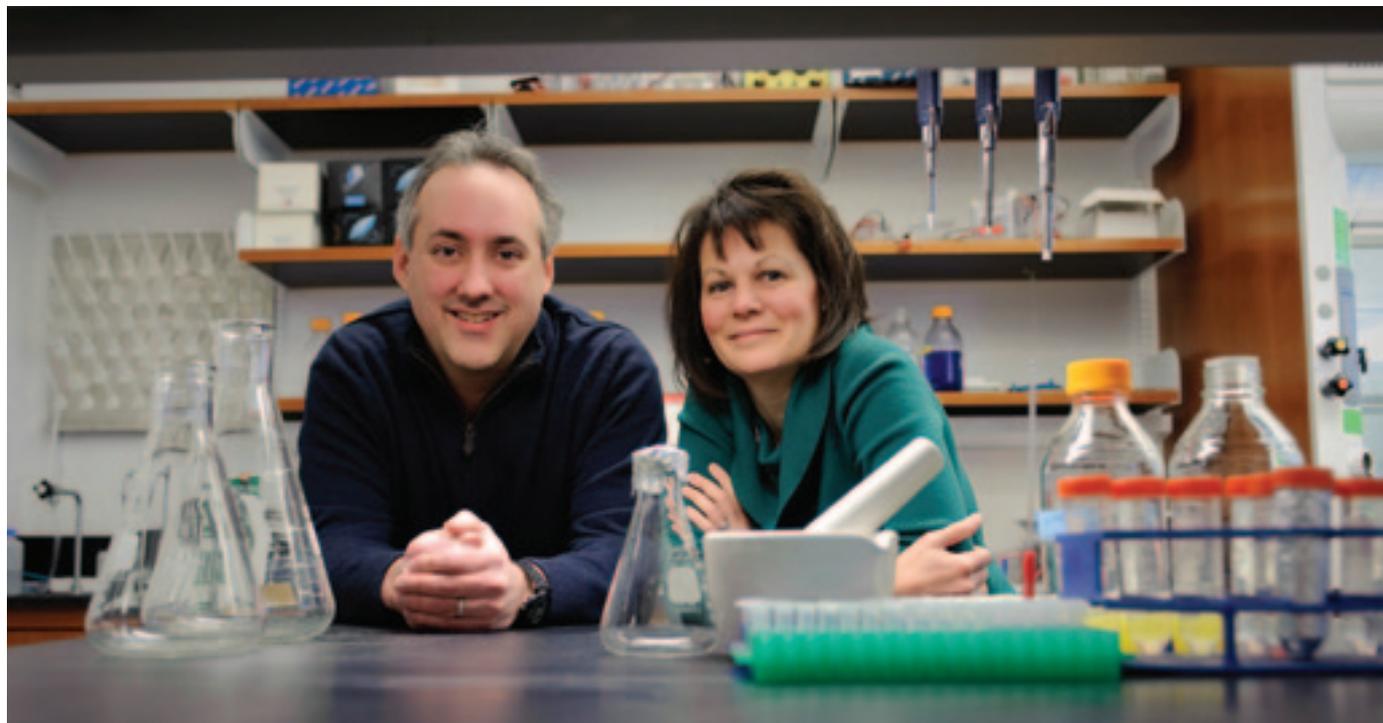
2000 NCAA champions join Huskies of Honor

The 17 members of the 1999-2000 team inducted as a group into the Huskies of Honor include (L-R): associate head coach Chris Dailey '99 M.A., Kelly Schumacher '01 (CLAS), Kennitra Johnson (1999-2001), Asjha Jones '02 (BUS), Marci Czel '01 (CLAS), Christine Rigby '01 (CLAS), head coach Geno Auriemma, Svetlana Abrosimova '01 (BUS), Keirsten Walters (1998-2002), Paige Sauer '00 (CLAS), Sue Bird '02 (CLAS), Shea Ralph '01 (CLAS) and Stacy Hansmeyer '01 (CLAS). Team members Tamika Williams Raymond '02 (CLAS) and Swin Cash '02 (CLAS) and assistant coaches Tonya Cardoza and Jamelle Elliott '96 (ED), '97 M.A. were unable to attend.

Eshbach is a baseball man

Charlie Eshbach '74 (BUS) has enjoyed a long and distinguished career of 36 years in professional baseball and is the longest-serving active member of the Eastern League. He is president and general manager of the Portland Sea Dogs in Portland, Maine, after having served with the Bristol Red Sox and Reading Phillies. He served as interim president of Minor League Baseball and was Eastern League president for 11 years. While with the Sea Dogs, he has been selected twice as the Eastern League Executive of the Year, in 1994 and 2002.





‘Arms race’ targets MRSA

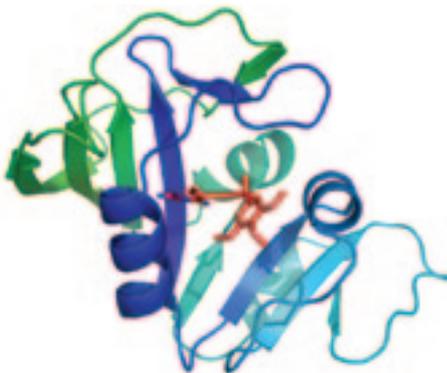
ANDERSON AND WRIGHT SEEK NEW STRATEGIES TO TREAT INFECTIONS

Amy Anderson and Dennis Wright, both associate professors of medicinal chemistry in the School of Pharmacy, are fighting a small but potent enemy – methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, better known as MRSA.

The bacterium’s resistance to many antibiotics makes it difficult to treat, with systemic MRSA infections often becoming fatal. As the MRSA bacteria adapt to survive treatment with new antibiotics, scientists like Anderson and Wright must develop new strategies to treat infections.

“It’s an arms race,” says Wright. “We’re always trying to stay one step ahead. I doubt we’ll ever discover the ‘ultimate antibiotic.’ We’ll just keep creating new ones.”

The research of this husband and wife research team focuses on the development of new drugs to treat MRSA infections as well as other infectious diseases. One of their approaches involves working with



Researchers Amy Anderson and Dennis Wright are developing new strategies and drugs to treat infections.

an enzyme called dihydrofolate reductase, or DHFR, which supports key metabolic functions in living things, including bacteria. By inhibiting or changing DHFR’s ability to function, it is possible to weaken and kill harmful bacteria like MRSA.

Anderson and Wright design drug compounds that have the potential to

inhibit DHFR. These compounds – synthesized in Wright’s lab with the assistance of graduate and postdoctoral students – are composed of small molecules that are designed to bind with the DHFR enzyme, effectively thwarting its capacity to function.

“There’s a ‘pocket’ where the drug binds, and it’s our job to figure out how big it is and its shape,” says Anderson.

Jennifer Beierlein, a Ph.D. candidate in medical chemistry and a graduate assistant in the Anderson and Wright labs, equates compound synthesis to playing with a Mr. Potato Head. “You add on pieces to the molecule until you get a shape that will fit into the enzyme,” she says.

Anderson and Wright are working with 10 strains of MRSA from Hartford Hospital, each of which has a slightly different susceptibility to antibiotics. With excellent results in the lab, they plan to move toward testing the drug compound

on animals. Though developing a new class of antibiotics to fight MRSA infections is at the forefront of their research, they are also using the same technologies to develop drugs that fight other infections, including anthrax. With small tweaks in design, the DHFR inhibitors can have antibacterial, antifungal and antiprotozoal properties, says Anderson.

The researchers, whose work is largely funded by the National Institutes of Health, were both professors in the chemistry department at Dartmouth before arriving in Storrs in 2006. "Coming from a small, liberal arts school, UConn is much different," Anderson says. "It's exciting to be in an environment that is so focused on drug research. We have great colleagues; even our informal conversations give way to new information, new ways of looking at things."

This supportive collegial environment is evidenced by a University grant awarded to Anderson and colleague Victoria Robinson, assistant professor of molecular and cell biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, for an X-ray diffraction system that will collect data and allow Anderson and Robinson to "see" the structures of molecules, including how they bind to the drug compounds.

Anderson and Wright will continue to explore DHFR in the treatment of various diseases. Their new projects will focus on developing drugs that treat cancer. Infections and cancer are very similar from a treatment perspective, according to the couple. "You're still trying to kill fast-growing cells," Wright says. —Mary Howard

Analysis of buried coins leads to new conclusions about life in ancient Rome

Using a mathematical model to predict population trends based on ancient coin hoards, a UConn biologist and a Stanford University historian have concluded that the population of ancient Rome was smaller than sometimes suggested.

The findings of Peter Turchin, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Stanford University ancient historian Walter Scheidel were published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*.

Although the first century B.C. in Italy has been extensively studied and much is known about the great figures of the era, including Cicero, Caesar and Virgil, some basic facts – such as the approximate population size of the late Roman Republic – remain the subject of intense debate. The ultimate answer is important to understanding how historical states functioned. If the "high-count" theory – which proposes that Italy's population more than doubled during the first century B.C. – is correct, much of Roman history as it currently stands would have to be rewritten, with enormous implications for the popular view of the economic scope and social structure of ancient Rome and how it subsequently affected pre-modern economies.

The researchers focused on the region's prevalence of coin hoards, the bundles of treasure that people buried

to protect their savings during times of great violence and political strife. According to Turchin and Scheidel, the temporal distribution of unrecovered coin hoards is an excellent proxy for the intensity of internal warfare and unrest and therefore a key indicator of population demographics.

Turchin's and Scheidel's model was developed using census data of the period before 100 B.C., when Roman population history is relatively uncontroversial. The model's trajectory successfully captured major demographic trends during that period,

including the short-lived population increase before the Second Punic War, demographic contraction during the war and sustained population growth in the second century B.C. They then tested the model using coin hoard data after 100 B.C. and

found that the trajectory mirrored the numbers postulated by adherents of the low-count theory, who claim that the population of Italy declined after the first century B.C.

Their conclusion? The model predicts declining population after 100 B.C. and suggests the vigorous population growth scenario of the high-count theory is highly implausible. This means that population decline reduced the danger that too many people would outpace Rome's means of subsistence, making possible the brilliant achievements of the Roman Empire during the first and second centuries.



Helping Ethiopia develop water infrastructure

Despite abundant water reserves fed by nine river basins across Ethiopia, including the Nile River, half the Ethiopian population walks up to 4 kilometers every day to fetch water, and more than 70 percent of the population does not have access to safe drinking water. Water-related diseases, such as malaria and schistosomiasis, are major public health problems.

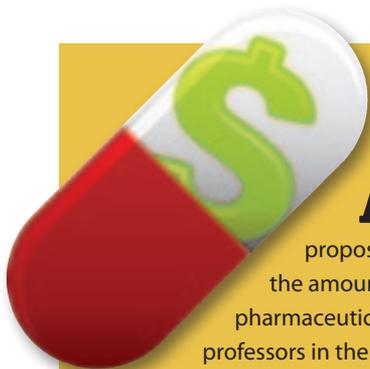
A multidisciplinary group of UConn faculty and staff is working to help Ethiopia develop long-term solutions to shortages of clean water. The group aims to help Ethiopian universities increase their capacity to educate their students and conduct research and outreach that will contribute to solving the water management and distribution challenges that affect their country.

The team is headed by Michael



Accorsi, Mekonnen Gebremichael and Guiling Wang of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the School of Engineering and Jeffrey Osleeb and Carol Atkinson-Palombo of the

Department of Geography in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. According to Accorsi, plans include the development of an interdisciplinary, integrated water resources curriculum; graduate student



Price regulation diminishes drug research and development

Any proposal for regulating the price of drugs – even talk of a proposal – can have a negative impact on the amount of money a company invests in pharmaceutical research and development, two professors in the School of Business say in an article published earlier this year in the prestigious *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*.

The article, “Pharmaceutical R&D Spending and Threats of Price Regulation,” was written by Joseph Golec, an associate professor of finance in the School of Business, and Shantaram Hegde, associate dean for graduate studies and professor of finance. Research for the scholarly article was also conducted by John Vernon, former UConn assistant professor of finance, risk management and insurance who is now with the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Hegde hopes the article will stimulate

additional research into an important question: How do you make sure that well-intended policy initiatives have desired effects rather than unintended consequences?

Former professor John Vernon, left, and Joseph Golec, associate professor of finance, in the School of Business.



exchange programs between UConn and its partnering universities; optimization of resource efficiency; centralization of water resource facilities, including databases and libraries; support for research and the research community; efforts to secure long-term funding to sustain the project; and the development of an Ethiopian Institute of Water Resources to facilitate these goals.

Researchers from UConn and three Ethiopian universities were awarded a USAID/Higher Education for Development planning grant to support sustainable development and management of water resources in Ethiopia. The project is ambitious and requires significant matching funds from private donors to trigger substantial government support.

“We do want to contain inflation and medical cost, but we don’t want to discourage research and new product and drug development in medicine,” Hegde says.

The study linked events surrounding the Health Security Act of 1993 to pharmaceutical stock price changes and then examined the cross-sectional relation between companies’ stock price changes and their subsequent unexpected spending changes in research and development. The research included 111 pharmaceutical firms and looked at how their stock prices reacted to major events, such as threatened government intervention, from January 1992 to July 1994.



C. Michael White, professor of pharmacy practice and director of the University of Connecticut/Hartford Hospital Evidence-Based Practice Center.

Questioning blood pressure treatments

Treating high blood pressure is often done with medications. But knowing just how effective those medications will be is not easy to determine. Doctors also believe there may be a link between high blood pressure and vitamin D. These questions are being examined by UConn researchers in two studies.

In a published study in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, scientists at the University of Connecticut/Hartford Hospital Evidence-Based Practice Center found that angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, or ACE inhibitors, and angiotensin receptor blockers, or ARBs, can reduce risk of death, heart attack and stroke and reduce hospitalizations for heart failure for patients suffering from stable ischemic heart disease.

UConn researchers found that patients with stable ischemic heart disease who take an ACE inhibitor in addition to standard treatment can reduce the likelihood of several negative outcomes, including death from heart attack or heart failure and revascularization (surgeries that reroute blood to the heart). Patients who take an ARB in addition to standard medications can reduce their risk of death from a heart-related cause, heart attack or stroke.

The researchers found that existing studies provide little data on the medications’ benefits or harms in specific populations, such as people of different genders, ethnicity and

diabetic status or those who have or don’t have high blood pressure.

Scientists involved in the study included C. Michael White, a professor of pharmacy practice and director of the Evidence-Based Practice Center; Craig Coleman, associate professor of pharmacy practice at UConn and the Center’s co-director; and William Baker, a senior research scientist and an assistant professor of pharmacy practice.

An upcoming study being led by principal investigator William B. White, professor of medicine and a hypertension expert in the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center at the UConn Health Center, will examine a possible link between vitamin D deficiency and high blood pressure.

“Often patients don’t realize they have a vitamin D deficiency or are unaware of its relationship with health problems other than bone disorders,” White says. “We have reason to believe there’s a connection here, and this research will increase our knowledge regarding vitamin D as a cardiovascular risk factor.”

Co-investigator in the study is Pooja Luthra, assistant professor of medicine and an endocrinologist in the New England Musculoskeletal Institute at the UConn Health Center.

The three-year UConn Health Center study is supported by an independent \$480,000 investigator-initiated grant from Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.



Diving deep to the Stone Age

DOCTORAL STUDENT DIGS UNDER THE OCEAN FOR ANCIENT SETTLEMENTS

Archaeological digs are usually associated with dry land or, in some cases, riverbeds. But David Robinson, a Ph.D. student in anthropology and a professional maritime archaeologist, is taking excavations to new depths.

In 2009 he participated in the initial fieldwork of a five-year project at Tudsehage, a submerged Stone Age settlement site in Denmark occupied by humans between 8,500 and 7,500 years ago, as evidenced by food, tools and other submerged remains.

Underwater archaeological excavation is one of Robinson's areas of expertise. He says excavating former human settlements that are now submerged is a rich area of research because, to date, most archaeological research ends at the current shoreline.

Robinson anticipates this area of maritime archaeology will expand rapidly in the next decade. The view that underwater archaeology is too expensive or hard to do is incorrect, he says. The Tudsehage site, for example, is only 2 to 4 meters deep, a depth that allows divers to work underwater easily and safely for hours at a time.

The first artifacts found at Tudsehage – including stone axes and knife blades – were located by diver Per Lotz in the 1950s. An investigation in 2002 by the staff of the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, Denmark, found additional stone and bone tools as well as a fragment of a dugout log boat and a fish trap.

In 2009 Robinson and his colleagues found evidence of tool making and food processing and what may prove to be the remains of a hearth and a dwelling. He says submerged organic remains of



MORTEN JOHANSEN, VIKING SHIP MUSEUM

a dwelling from this period “would be a really amazing find and unique in the archaeological record.”

Organic remains associated with a dwelling are better preserved underwater than on dry land, where they deteriorate rapidly in fluctuating temperature and humidity extremes and in the presence of oxygen. This is part of the reason submerged sites hold so much research potential and why Robinson is interested in them.

The challenge for maritime archaeologists is to develop effective methods for finding and excavating these sites.

What Robinson learns in Denmark could be applied to underwater areas off Connecticut's coast, helping anthropologists reconstruct a more complete picture of this area's early human history.

“I have no doubt there are thousands

David Robinson, a maritime archaeologist who is a doctoral student in anthropology, works at Tudsehage, a submerged Stone Age settlement site in Denmark.

of submerged sites all up and down the coast,” he says.

Robinson is working on a model for southern New England to predict where submerged sites may be located. To test his model, he collects remote sensing data and core sediment samples that can indicate where relics of the formerly exposed and occupied landscape are preserved intact.

“By studying submerged settlements here in southern New England, we have an opportunity to completely rewrite the early human history of the region,” he says, “and answer long-standing questions about coastal adaptation of its earliest settlers, answers that today can only be found underwater.” —Lucinda Weiss

Former patient stands to be a nurse

LEAH GOLDBERG '11 (NUR) OVERCOMES NEUROMUSCULAR CONDITION TO HELP OTHERS

While in middle school, Leah Goldberg '11 (NUR) was diagnosed with exertional compartment syndrome, a chronic uncommon neuromuscular condition that causes pain in the affected limb.

"The muscles in my legs and feet were constricted. It took three years and seven doctors to get diagnosed, including lots of uncomfortable tests," says Goldberg, who underwent four surgical procedures while in high school.

Throughout this time, nurses patiently answered questions and attended to her physical comfort during surgery while also supporting her parents.

"I wanted to help other people the same way," Goldberg says about her decision to pursue a career as a nurse so she could care for patients the way nurses once cared for her.

Now stronger and able to meet the physical demands of a nursing student who provides hands-on care, Goldberg's academic and co-curricular vital signs are just as strong. She was inducted into the national Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) Honor Society for first-year students who earn a minimum 3.5 GPA. In 2008 she was designated as a Babbidge Scholar for achieving a 4.0 GPA and in 2009 won the national ALD Jo Anne J. Trow Undergraduate Scholarship, all while being active in Hillel and a member of both the Student Alumni and Student Nurses Associations.

Having demonstrated she can meet the continuing academic

challenges of pursuing a nursing degree, Goldberg acknowledges that she must strive to meet its physical challenges as well. Aching legs and feet are common at the end of a shift. "I'll always have pain in my legs and feet at the end of the day," Goldberg says. "But I'll always have great support from my parents and roommate—my identical twin sister, Rachel '11 (BUS)."

Goldberg has pursued an ambitious schedule in an effort to maximize her nursing education. She shadowed an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) at UConn Health Center's New England Musculoskeletal Institute and later pursued an independent study opportunity to do the same in the operating room at the Connecticut Surgery Center.

Last fall she gained her first hands-on experience in a clinical setting. After training on high-tech mannequins, she worked on a hospital's sub-acute medical/surgical floor performing supervised procedures, such as administering medications and completing wound-dressing changes.

"It's been a huge growth experience; I've gotten a much better comfort level and become very skilled at working with patients and medical personnel," Goldberg says. "Someday I may like to work as a registered nurse in an operating room or advance my career to become either an APRN or a physician's assistant. Nursing offers many opportunities." — *Lauren Lalancette*



Leah Goldberg '11 (NUR) with her nursing supervisor at Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford.

EDUCATION FOUNDABLE



UConn Magazine and the Neag School of Education brought together five alumni and graduates of the educational leadership certificate program to discuss leadership in Connecticut public schools, moderated by Robert M. Villanova '86 Ph.D., director of the Executive Leadership Program in the Neag School and former superintendent of schools in Farmington, Conn. Participants included Alan Addley '04 (ELP), superintendent in Granby (2,700 students); Pam Aubin '99 6th Year, superintendent in Montville (2,800); Kathleen Binkowski '87 (ED), '95 Ph.D., superintendent in Plainville (2,600); Alan Bookman '81 Ph.D., superintendent in Glastonbury (7,000); and Miriam Morales-Taylor '08 (ELP), deputy superintendent in Hartford (22,000). According to the Neag School of Education, nearly 30 percent of current state superintendents have completed education leadership programs at UConn.



Clockwise from bottom center: Moderator Robert M. Villanova '86 Ph.D., Kathleen Binkowski '87 (ED), '95 Ph.D., Alan Bookman '81 Ph.D., Miriam Morales-Taylor '08 (ELP), Alan Addley '04 (ELP) and Pam Aubin '99 6th Year.

Photographs by Peter Morenus

What do you see as some of the most significant challenges for superintendents today?

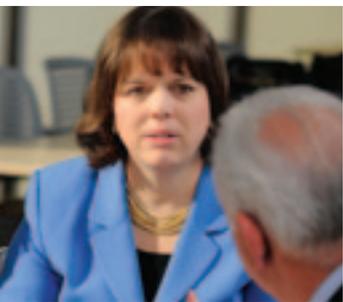
Aubin: There is a mismatch right now between high expectations in terms of accountability and the resources available to do the work. I think accountability is important, but you really have to develop trust and a relationship with your staff and your principals and clarify your expectations. As superintendent, you have to think very strategically and systemically about how you want to bring people to support change and help them meet your expectations with declining resources.

Bookman: A key part is the confidence that has been developed in you as a leader—by your community, by your staff—that they have faith that you are doing the best for the community and for education. If that confidence is not there, you will be battling every step of the way and less likely to get the resources and support from the community, including the board of education.

Binkowski: It's a two-edged sword because the more that we do in terms of increasing student achievement, the more the community expects us to do—and they are proud of the fact that they don't have an increase in taxes. It's one of the frustrations of the position, but it can also be a rewarding piece because you're seeing a district move forward despite a lack of resources.

Morales-Taylor: In Hartford one of the many issues is equity: How do you find equity and how do you ensure that you meet the needs of diverse students? We have to be in balance, but with higher expectations, the superintendent has to face the issue of how you provide student resources.

Addley: A challenge is changing demographics, the extension of diversity and social justice. But I think that sort of rolls into the bigger picture, which is preparing all the kids to be participants in the 21st century.



Aubin (Montville)



Morales-Taylor (Hartford)



Aubin: I agree. We're seeing aging in our population [and] a dwindling number of families that are two-parent wage earners and more single-parent families. We have to do a better job of being visible. I think that's a challenge—engaging the community.

How has the challenge of engaging the community changed over time?

Binkowski: Communication has changed significantly with technology. As a superintendent I look at the volumes of information that flow through our office on a daily basis. That's a complexity of the job that the public doesn't understand—the superintendent needs a communications specialist to manage that information and to shape it to deliver a district message out.

Bookman: There are different issues that we're facing today that you wouldn't face in other days. Today we need a communication technology person. Each time period requires something different.

How do you engage with the community?

Addley: As a young superintendent—two years into the job—I underestimated the relationship to the town. I'm building relationships in formal ways and informal ways—through technology, organizations and networking. They need to know you're listening to them. For example, we want to increase the number of students that come from the Hartford school system. The right thing to do, fundamentally, in my heart, is to continue to take in the children—as many as possible. But there is a financial burden that impacts us, and I have a responsibility to do right for those things. It's a difficult balance.

Aubin: For our community engagement, it's being willing to spend time with individuals, whether it's spending a day in a school or going on a ride with the mayor around town to learn about the town's history. It's not so much the content but starting to form a relationship.

Morales-Taylor: You are building the relationship with individuals by being part of the community. It's important that you listen to what the goals are, what the priorities are, and you have to be honest with your community.

“Communication has changed significantly with technology... That's a complexity of the job that the public doesn't understand – the superintendent needs a communications specialist...”

One of the notions out there is that being superintendent is a job that no one can do and no one would want to do. What motivated you to move to this level of responsibility and complexity?

Binkowski: I had a number of mentors who encouraged me to be a superintendent. Having the feeling that I could have an impact on an entire system really was the deciding factor in terms of moving forward. But I definitely needed that push.

Bookman: The mentors are a key part—somebody who is saying, “You would be great at this position.” The other major component is the internal desire to make a difference in a wider group of people.

To what extent are achievement gaps challenging your work?

Morales-Taylor: In Hartford, part of the plan for improvement is that elementary students have to improve four points on the state tests each year to close the achievement gap in order to bring us to where we're supposed to be in 10 years. Most of the schools are achieving that. In order to close the achievement gap for special ed, however, I needed to increase support because special ed students were so far behind. We're putting in place a lot of professional development for special education in each school. Many of the teachers didn't

have training in teaching remedial reading and writing, so we are providing the resources to the school.

Aubin: In Norwich and Montville I think we're getting better with curriculum standards and establishing the standard practices and care. You're seeing clear consistency across the state in terms of how we approach instruction.

Binkowski: I agree that we are becoming better at figuring out how to improve achievement for individual students. I go to every school in our district three times a year with central office staff. We've seen, over time, some incremental improvements in writing, math and reading—but in the last couple years, a pretty significant improvement in student achievement. As a result, that's developed a sense of collective efficacy on the part of staff. We still have some struggles with the achievement gap. But we feel like we're on our way to developing those skills.

Bookman: I hear this phrase “achievement gap,” and it always bothers me. What we have are students not doing as well as they



Villanova



Binkowski (Plainville)



Bookman (Glastonbury)



Addley (Granby)

should be. That's what we should focus on. You're not trying to hold back the people at the top. As long as we have students who are not doing as well as we think they should do on tests that measure what we think they should know, then it's important to us. We're very closely aligned with the University of Connecticut; many of the interns come to our school district and, each year, do a project. One of their projects was to work with those students whom we would consider at the "not meeting proficiency" level, and they were able to use the data to pinpoint needs for each individual student and work with those students. And the results, the next year, were absolutely amazing. That's what we need to concentrate on—each one as an individual.

You're all comfortable about talking about teaching and learning, but I can't help thinking there has to be a shift in goals, perhaps compared to the days prior to your superintendency. How much time do you spend on the various parts of your job?

Bookman: We'd like to think that we spend a good time with teaching and learning, but that's the most difficult thing to do, for me. I probably spend more time working with the people than teaching and learning. The politics is probably higher than perhaps I would like, probably half my time.

Aubin: I would say more of my time is spent with staff in classrooms than at the central office, working on curriculum.

Binkowski: Every Thursday I have scheduled a visit to a school with central office staff, and once a month we spend a day with administrators looking at videos of teachers teaching and analyzing those videos. So 25 to 30 percent of my time is on curriculum and instruction issues; the rest is budget and politics—nurturing and keeping the board up to date so I can collaborate with them.

Addley: No matter what the size of the district—in a huge district you can't do everything—you're only going to be able to stretch yourself so thin. I tend to think we sometimes underestimate the influence that superintendents have on student achievement, teaching and learning. I spend one day a week in the school—a full day. I couldn't do that if I had a huge district. I firmly believe in building the capacities of the principal.

“I had a number of mentors who encouraged me to be a superintendent. Having the feeling that I could have an impact on an entire system really was the deciding factor in terms of moving forward.”

I was surprised to see that 30 of the 50 states don't require any special superintendent preparation. The Neag School designed a program for superintendent preparation. How much has preparation for the superintendency influenced your work?

Binkowski: You have to be able to really shepherd through and understand the legal implications of nonrenewal negotiations and budget increases.

Aubin: Those are absolutely areas that are unique to superintendency. The experts currently in the field from various demographics were brought in and that really helped give us an insight [into specific issues].

Binkowski: I think that the Ph.D. program was very rigorous and demanding, and it prepared me very well for superintendency, in combination with the fact that I had a superintendent who was well respected and had many opportunities to learn some of the nuts and bolts of what I'd be facing. I think the internship is very important.

What attributes or skills do you bring to your job that you think are the shining examples of what make you successful?

Addley: You have to be a visionary, have integrity and be able to inspire people. Those are things to me that have always been integral to leadership.

Aubin: You have to be resilient too. People are stressed and you're in budget forums and that

kind of thing—it's not you, personally, that they are attacking.

Morales-Taylor: You have to be able to ask for advice, knowing that you have to make the final decision. You have to show the community that you are leading the district.

Bookman: Developing relationships is such a key part of the job. If you don't have the relationships, it's so much harder to get anything accomplished. Also, you have to have a healthy sense of yourself, but at the same time, you can't be invested in yourself. Everybody else has answers that are just as good.

Binkowski: My board has told me that one of the things that they think is important in a superintendent is the ability to communicate very complex issues and problems that we deal with in a way that the unschooled mind can understand. Communication, first and foremost, is something that the public looks for.

I enjoyed your being here today and enjoyed your conversation, and I wish you the best in leadership in the times to come. 🍀

Club Sports:

A different kind of learning

By Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)



RUGBY

When most people think of UConn sports, they envision NCAA basketball tournaments, All-Americans, bowl games and Big East championships in a variety of sports represented by more than 650 student-athletes on 24 men's and women's teams. However, a group of 1,100 students in Storrs also represent UConn on the field of play in 40 club sport teams ranging from women's ice hockey and skydiving to paintball and table tennis.

Students who participate in club sports may not be as well-known as All-American basketball star Maya Moore '11 (CLAS) or Papajohns.com Bowl MVP Andre Dixon '10 (CLAS), but they are just as competitive and also win national championships wearing Blue and White while competing against teams from other universities.

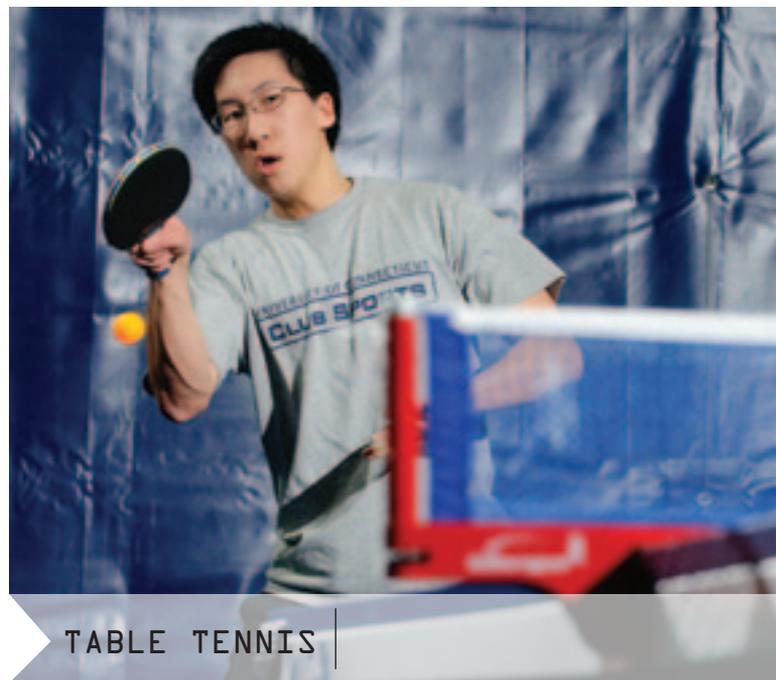


TABLE TENNIS



"It's great to have that
and a network of really

"The majority of clubs compete nationally, and the ones that don't are definitely striving to get there," says Kate Durant, the University's club sports coordinator, who notes that last year 100 students tried out for two spots on the men's soccer club team and 60 competed for seven spots on the women's field hockey club.

For some, the term "club sports" may bring to mind nothing more than an entertaining pastime – a chance to release stress and enjoy some friendly rivalry without worries about winning or losing. At UConn, however, club sports offer students not only fierce competition but also many opportunities to develop life skills outside of the classroom that will serve them well long after graduation.

LABOR OF LOVE

The popularity of UConn's club sports teams – from softball, swimming and tennis to archery, ballroom dancing and Timber Team – is remarkably strong, given the time and effort most students commit to their chosen sport. Many compete throughout the academic year, traveling to games and regional and national tournaments held across New England and beyond, often every weekend.

Men's crew, for instance, rises at 5 a.m. four times a week for a rigorous practice on nearby Coventry Lake. "You're not really in it for the glory," says Joshua Lee '10 (CLAS), a senior psychology major and co-captain of the men's crew club. "But you get a feeling of satisfaction that you've done something before most people have woken up."

Members of most other clubs likewise attend lengthy organized practices up to three or four times a week and are often expected to visit the gym outside of scheduled practice time for weight training and additional conditioning.

Women's ice hockey holds two-hour practices several times a week on the ice and also convenes for off-ice drills and team runs. "It's a big commitment, and the majority of the girls on the team are really involved on campus," says co-captain and president Jennifer Danowitz '10 (CLAS). "There are honors students, double majors and people doing other club sports." But, she says, all the hard work is worth it for

support system
close friends."

–Jennifer Danowitz

BALLROOM DANCING



the camaraderie. "You're going out there as a team and you are all there for one another," Danowitz says. "It's great to have that support system and a network of really close friends."

UConn ballroom dancing competitors, meanwhile, hold weekly practices plus lessons with a coach and are encouraged to seek out private lessons as well. "If you want to be competitive, you have to put that much into it," says club president Kailee Donovan '10 (CLAS). "And there are a lot of people on the team who do."

LIFE LESSONS

Competing eats up more than time – it can be pricey, too. In need of money for equipment, uniforms and travel expenses, each team is required to raise some of its own funds to supplement allocations from the University Student Government or the Club Sports Council, the governing body for the club sports program. Teams charge member dues, organize fund-raisers and rely on alumni donors. Meanwhile, club officers also are responsible for securing vendor contracts, hiring coaches and interacting with the national governing bodies that, similar to the NCAA, oversee the rules and regulations for each club sport's intercollegiate competitions.

Inevitably, club sports lead students to acquire a wealth of life skills, from sportsmanship to time management, that translate to the real world.

"I learned how to be able to talk professionally with corporate sponsors and deal with finances, travel and organizing trips to tournaments – all really great skills to have," says Ken Rusterholz '07 (CANR), '08 M.S., former president of the paintball club, which has won national championships.

Others, like Matt Augeri '09 (CLAS), former captain and president of men's crew, compare leading a club sports team with running a company. "Because it's a club sport, it's whatever you want to make it," he says. "If you want the team to be better, you have to make that happen. If you want a coach, you have to hire the coach. With budgeting and travel, it really is like running a small business."

Michael Mizrahi '12 (CLAS), a sophomore and president of the polo team, which has earned four national championship titles and groomed players for professional careers in the sport, agrees. "We do everything on our own," he says. "We manage our own funds. We fund-raise. We budget ourselves. We plan ahead. It's a huge world of responsibility."

"We fund-raise. We budget ourselves. We plan ahead. It's a huge world of responsibility."

—Michael Mizrahi

CYCLING



ARCHERY





SKIING



SKYDIVING



PAINTBALL

TEAM PLAYERS

For many, club sports satisfy an innate thirst for competition. Others find an opportunity to develop lasting friendships, revel in school pride or enjoy team camaraderie.

Alumni say their UConn club experience often proves to be an enduring passion long after graduation. Libby Lombard '00 (NUR) ballroom danced at UConn and later served as a mentor to club members as she continued

to participate with them in competitions across the Northeast. Ray Peterson '73 (CLAS), a founding member of UConn's first men's rugby team, competed in the sport until the age of 47, serves as a high school rugby coach and also is managing director of USA Sevens LLC, which operates the largest international rugby tournament in North America.

Like Peterson, rugby club alum Rob Chudzik '91 (CLAS) never left the sport behind, serving as an assistant coach for today's club. "You make lifelong connections," says Chudzik, UConn's manager of Internet Services. "Twenty-plus years later, I'm still in close contact with lots of my teammates. Rugby creates a bond that's lasted. There's definitely a camaraderie." 



Friends and family consider Becky Martorelli '79 (CLAS) a fountain of knowledge when it comes to the care and feeding of their gardens.

Inspired to understand plants and their environment in order to pursue her creative outlets, Martorelli completed the 16-week Master Gardener program offered through the Connecticut Cooperative Extension System (CES), an educational and community outreach network operated by UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Today the former computer technician is a First Level Certified Advanced Master Gardener who develops landscape designs for her husband's contracting business and fields questions about flowers, trees, insects and lawns wherever she goes.

The Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) focuses on the impacts of land use on natural resources and assists local land use decision makers.

OUTREACH by EXTENSION

BY CRAIG BURDICK '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG)

“After the program everything looks different; it’s a whole new perspective,” she says. “Knowledge is power. I try to pass that on to other people.”

Developing knowledgeable gardeners is just one facet of the CES, which serves as an important underpinning for a wide range of programs reaching thousands of Connecticut residents each year, from inspiring 4-H students to educating people about proper nutrition.

The Master Gardener program trains Connecticut citizens in sustainable gardening and horticulture with the specific goal of sharing their knowledge with the public. The program meets weekly from January through April, with classes on water quality, botany, entomology, soils, turf, pesticides, vegetables and plant diagnostics and integrated pest management, among others. In 2008, Master Gardeners made more than 10,000

contacts with the public and volunteered more than 10,600 hours of community service in nearly 200 outreach projects.

But the CES offers many other programs beyond providing tips on better gardening – including land use education, food and nutrition, leadership development and youth development.

“Many citizens utilize those services through our programs and probably never step on the Storrs campus,” says Gregory J. Weidemann, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and director of the CES. “The Cooperative Extension System plays a vital role in fulfilling the University’s community outreach mission.”

For instance, two CES programs provide nutrition education. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) helps low-income families, children

and individuals throughout Connecticut recognize their attitudes about food, reflect on why they eat what they eat and ultimately make better food choices. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, EFNEP has assisted more than 40,000 Connecticut families since its inception.

“Our staff will go to a homeless shelter, an after-school program or a community center,” says Linda Drake, a nutritionist and director of EFNEP. “They don’t come to our office; we go where they are.”

Meanwhile, a CES program called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) offers nutrition education to food stamp-eligible families. Last year, SNAP-Ed provided nutrition education information to more than 438,000 people through workshops, small group sessions and pamphlets, newsletters and public service

announcements. SNAP-Ed is run in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Department of Social Services and several community agencies.

Youth Development

Most people recognize the green 4-H clover, but not everyone knows that Connecticut 4-H is delivered through UConn’s CES. It is the largest youth-serving organization in the country, reaching more than 30,000 Connecticut youths annually, with 4,000 attending one of four 4-H camps in 2009. In addition to

People Empowering People (PEP) builds on the strengths of adults and older teens through educational programs at family resource centers, community-based organizations and correctional facilities. Below: Volunteers Daniel Melchior and Colleen Ostrum.

ACTION



The 4-H Education Resource Center at the Auer Farm in Bloomfield is part of the 4-H Youth Development Program that assists youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes to become self-directed and productive members of society.



activities centered on farming and animal science, programs include public speaking, expressive arts, marine science, environmental education, citizenship, photography and many others.

A third-generation 4-H participant, program associate for volunteer management and development Bonnie Burr '83 (CANR) says the bottom line is introducing science to young people in engaging ways. "It's the soft-sell of getting kids engaged with science; that's really what we're all about," she says.

The CES and 4-H programming will soon receive added support with a planned gift of \$250,000 from Nancy H. Bull, UConn vice provost for academic administration, and her husband, David, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel who is dean of administration at Quinebaug Valley Community College. A former associate director of CES, Nancy Bull has worked with CES for more than 30 years; David was involved in 4-H throughout his childhood.

Lessons in Land Use

The CES at UConn is also home to the Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR), which comprises several

programs focused on improving local land use planning, including the Land Use Academy, which provides "basic training" for municipal commissioners statewide on such topics as map

reading and legal responsibilities involved in land use decisions. To date, the Academy has educated commissioners from 130 of Connecticut's 169 towns.

CLEAR maintains a website of sophisticated modeling tools, including the newly launched Connecticut Environmental Conditions Online, or CT ECO. A senior planner for the Windham Region Council of Governments and Columbia's town planner, Jana Butts stresses its value to land use commissions, developers, engineers and the general public. "I'm hoping land use boards will start using this website to help them make decisions and help them understand how conservation and development can fit together without damaging the landscape or community," says Butts.

"We make the information accessible, understandable and available to communities and land use decision makers," says Chet Arnold, associate director of CLEAR. Overall, CLEAR holds more than 150 workshops per year for municipal officials.



LAST YEAR, UCONN'S CES REACHED MORE THAN 30,000 YOUTHS THROUGH ITS 4-H PROGRAMS AND EDUCATED 438,000 CONNECTICUT CITIZENS ON NUTRITION.



The Joy of Extension

Roger Adams, head of the Department of Extension and interim associate director of the Cooperative Extension System, is excited by the ways in which new research in the areas of agriculture, food and nutrition, and public health is shared through the CES.

“We take that research and mold it into ways the average person ... will understand and implement in their daily lives. That’s the joy of extension,” explains Adams. “It’s seeing the positive change that happens

and the difference it makes in people’s lives.”

For Master Gardener Martorelli, her newfound knowledge about better gardening techniques was quickly integrated into her own life as well as the lives of those around her.

“I couldn’t wait to share what I had learned with everyone else – my family first of all,” she says. “I pointed out all of the invasive [plants in their gardens]; things that I thought used to be pretty all of a sudden looked like the enemy to me because I was viewing them differently. I

“I COULDN’T WAIT TO SHARE WHAT I HAD LEARNED.” —BECKY MARTORELLI

was identifying plants through their botanical names. I really started getting more conscientious about water usage, what I was using in my garden.”

And she has started home composting, going so far as to purchase a counter composter for the winter. “I’d like to start a worm farm next summer!”

Giving individuals like Martorelli the opportunity to

expand their knowledge, the CES at UConn continues to make a collective impact on the state’s citizens through agricultural training, nutrition education and the many other development programs targeting children, families and professionals. For more information on the Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, visit extension.uconn.edu. 🌿



UConn Master Gardeners and students tend a wildlife sanctuary in Stamford.

Kangho Lee's joyful pursuit of music

WORLD-CLASS CELLIST TRAVELS THE GLOBE

When Kangho Lee was growing up in Seoul, South Korea, his family moved into a high-rise apartment building. His mother heard someone in another apartment practicing the cello. She knocked on the door and asked who was giving lessons for the instrument.

"That's how it all started," recalls Lee, associate professor of music and coordinator of applied music in the School of Fine Arts.

With his older sisters playing piano and violin, Lee often performed with them and, as the winner of a Young Artists Competition, made his orchestral debut with the Seoul Philharmonic at the age of 12. The following year he was invited by Heiichiro Ohyama, then principal violist

His parents did not think music would provide a career for him, so Lee pursued a degree in economics and continued music studies during summer breaks.

of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, to come to the United States. Attending high school while living with host families in California, Lee performed in Los Angeles under such renowned musicians as Andre Previn and Sir Simon Rattle. However, because his parents did not think music would provide a career for him, Lee pursued a degree in economics at Swarthmore College and continued his music studies during summer breaks. Economics



degree in hand, Lee decided it was time to see whether he could become a full-time musician. He was accepted to the master's program at the Yale School of Music.

"My thought was to try and pursue music before I got any older because, unlike other studies, you have a time limit," Lee says. "Your body doesn't have much time to acquire the technical skills. I tell my students they should try to master the instrument by their mid-20s."

Lee, who earned his doctorate in musical arts from the New England Conservatory, has performed with leading orchestras such as the Korean Broadcast System Symphony, the Euro-Asia Symphony, the Sofia National Academy Orchestra and the Halle Philharmonic and as a soloist in Paris, Milan, Moscow and Rome. In 2009 Lee's performance of the "Dvorak Cello Concerto" with the Korean Symphony was televised nationally in Korea. He also has collaborated with the principal players of the Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony and Seoul

Philharmonic as well as faculty members of Yale and Juilliard, among others.

"My area of specialty is applied music performance," Lee says. "But what I'm particularly proud of at UConn is that we not only provide a great education in the applied area but we have really first-rate musicologists and theorists working together."

He says one of the most enjoyable parts of teaching in the School of Fine Arts is working with the Jorgensen Outreach for Youth program, which invites low-income children and young adults to arts events in order to provide the opportunity to enrich, educate and enhance their lives.

"I think that's one of the great things about this University," he says. "It presents the very top of the profession but also is very conscious about reaching out to youths who may not have had a chance to experience anything like this. I am so happy that we are able to work together with the community and have this cooperative outreach program." — Kenneth Best



Enthusiasm for genetic science

Students sit in rapt attention as Linda Strausbaugh explains how a frozen mummy in the Alps, a murder conviction and a slave's journey to freedom are all illuminated by genetic information.

"Genetics is a major factor in science and in many aspects of peoples' lives – from stem cell research, evolution, historical genetics, anthropology, behavior traits, sexuality, viruses that cause diseases to solving crimes and biomedical research," Strausbaugh, a professor of molecular and cell biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, tells the class. "These issues are on the forefront of debates about who we are and how we live. No matter what side of the issue you are on, you need to be informed about the process."

Strausbaugh's enthusiasm for genetic science is evident to her students, who nominated her for the Alumni Association's 2009 Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award (Undergraduate Level).

Strausbaugh emphasizes that effective teaching means more than being "a textbook wired for sound": "You need labs where students learn how to conduct research."

Undergraduate students in her laboratory course begin their journey into the study of genetics by learning how to extract and type DNA from swabs of their own saliva. Using state-of-the-art equipment, the students load their DNA into trays and run it through a series of analyzers. This information is then compared with an FBI database and a migration map of the world.

Strausbaugh helps students understand how genetic information is intertwined with a myriad of issues.

Last year her lab was tasked with extracting DNA from dime-sized fragments of what was believed to be Adolf Hitler's skull. Much of the research was conducted by two of her former students, Craig O'Conner, '08 Ph.D., and Heather Nelson, '04 M.S., both now on staff at the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in New York City. The researchers determined that the skull fragments belonged to a female and were not Hitler's. The story, which also included state archaeologist Nicholas Bellantoni and Dawn Pettinelli, manager of UConn's Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, was featured in The History Channel series "MysteryQuest" and made headlines around the world.

Strausbaugh says that when she was an undergraduate, she learned first-hand how an understanding of genetic science can help people deal with genetic disorders. She knew a family with several children who had Niemann-Pick disease, a degenerative genetic condition that causes early death. The parents felt ashamed and blamed themselves for the affliction. Thanks to Strausbaugh's counseling, the parents were able to see that the disease was not caused by anything they had or hadn't done – it was just nature playing out its DNA path.

The experience shaped Strausbaugh's desire to educate the public. "Public literacy is related to the important issues of our time," she says. "I firmly believe that people want to know the science behind the story."

—Margaret Malmborg



Alumni News & Notes

We want to
hear from you!

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

1940s

Florence (Buzzo) Ludwig '48 (CLAS) and **Paul W. Ludwig '50 (BUS)** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 10, 2009. The couple lives in Brunswick, Maine.

1950s

Daniel C. Leone '53 (PHR) became a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem by Edward Cardinal Egan at St. Patrick Cathedral on Sept. 26, 2009, in New York, N.Y.

Lois Greene Stone '55 (ED), a syndicated author and poet, has a childhood photo of herself on display in the National Toy Hall of Fame at the Strong National Museum of Play, in Rochester, N.Y. She and her husband, Gerald, have been married since 1956 and have 14 grandchildren.



Ed Satall '57 (BUS) received the 2009 Humanitarian of the Year Award during the Caron Treatment Centers' Richard J. Caron Gala on Oct. 29, 2009.

Lewis Putnam Turco '59 (CLAS) is the author of *Satan's Scourge* (Star Cloud Press, 2009), which was the winner in the "Wild Card" category of the 2009 New England Book Festival.

1960s

Mary Ann Gilleece '62 (ED), a partner in Holland & Knight in Washington, D.C., was elected chairman of the executive board of the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program, a nonprofit charitable organization created by Congress that provides free legal assistance to veterans in the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Doug Woundy '62 (CLAS) was named faculty emeritus by Averett

University's Board of Trustees at the December commencement ceremony.

William J. Barney '64 (ED) retired after serving 19 years as the principal of The Morgan School in Clinton, Conn., and as a public school teacher for more than 40 years. He and his wife, Betsy, reside in Moodus, Conn.



William Dick '64 (BUS) is the author of *Santa Meets God's Ukrainian Children*, published by Infinity Publishing.

Joel Hirschhorn '64 (CLAS) was elected for fellowship in the Litigation Counsel of America, a selective trial lawyer honorary society.

John Santa '64 (ENG), vice chairman of Santa Holding Company in Bridgeport, Conn., and an independent director for private companies, teaches in the UConn School of Business Family Business Program and runs the Prodigal Project, which helps motivated ex-offenders obtain job opportunities.

Hank Connors '65 (CLAS) retired from the Federal Signal Corporation after serving as the regional manager of the Southeast United States, Caribbean Islands and Latin America. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Windermere, Fla.

Thomas Pura '65 (BUS) retired from IBM after 40 years in various sales and marketing management positions. He and his wife, Mary, live in Danbury, Conn.

Tom Bowler '66 (ED), '81 6th Year, a certified playground equipment inspector for Total Playground Consulting Services in Manchester, Conn., gave the presentation "Marketing Techniques For the Expert Witness That Work" at the National Expert Witness Conference in Hyannis, Mass., in June. He has

been an expert witness for attorneys for 17 years.

Kumares C. Sinha '66 M.S., '69 Ph.D., Edgar B. and Hedwig E. Olson Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering at Purdue University, received the 2009 Roy W. Crum Distinguished Service Award from the Transportation Research Board for his outstanding achievement in transportation research and education.

Karen (Topjian) Basralian '67 (CLAS) is president of the New Jersey chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. She owns MCM Designs, a design firm in Englewood, N.J.

Rich DiPentima '67 (CLAS), '74 (NUR), representative for the Rockingham 16th District in the New Hampshire State House of Representatives, received the 2009 Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni

Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing from the School of Nursing.

Barbara Hatcher '67 (NUR), director for the Center for Learning and Global Public Health at the American Public Health Association, received the 2009 Josephine A. Dolan Distinguished Service Award.

Darlene D. Pedersen '67 (NUR), an advanced practice nurse, is the author of *Pocket Psych Drugs*, published by F.A. Davis Company, which provides information on topics such as pediatrics, geriatrics and substance abuse. Her first clinical guide, *PsychNotes*, is in its second edition.



Bill A. Weiblen '67 M.S., '72 M.B.A. received honorary membership from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for his contributions to



Warm welcome for Elliott's return

Longtime Huskies assistant coach **Jamelle Elliott '96 (ED), '97 M.A.** returned to Gampel Pavilion on Jan. 7, 2010, for the first time as head coach of the University of Cincinnati women's basketball team and received a warm reception from fans, players and coaches.



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Hearing Carlin's work while going to the movies

Chances are most people have not heard of **Dan Carlin '76 M.A.**, but they have probably heard his work.

For 25 years, Carlin was CEO of Segue Music, one of the largest and most successful music post-production businesses in Hollywood history, which he co-founded in 1976 with his father, noted music editor Dan Carlin Sr. In 2007 he was appointed chair of the Film Scoring Department at Berklee College of Music in Boston, the only school to offer an undergraduate degree in film scoring, and chair emeritus of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, best known for giving the Grammy Awards.



BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

His many credits as a conductor, music producer, consultant, supervisor or editor include working on music for films such as "The Black Stallion," "Sister Act," "The Last of The Mohicans" and "A Civil Action." In 1986, he won an Emmy award for music editing on the television movie "Under Siege" and was nominated for an Emmy for his work as

music director on the 1988 television miniseries "The Temptations."

"The music editor is the one person in the movie who's with the music from the very beginning to the very end," says Carlin. "Where the music editor leaves off and the supervisor picks up is sometimes blurred."

As a music supervisor, Carlin put together budgets, hired composers and musicians, and chose songs for independent films. As a music editor, he provided the primary technical support for the composer, including creating the temporary music used in early screenings of a movie and editing songs to fit select scenes.

Carlin's path to a career in the music business was not planned. After a stint in the Air Force, he took advantage of the G.I. Bill and earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology, with a minor in linguistics, from San José State University. From there, he accepted a teaching fellowship at UConn and earned a master's degree in anthropology. After conducting field research in northeast China, Carlin passed his Ph.D. examinations in economic anthropology at UConn. While preparing his thesis, he learned that the Chinese government had misrepresented the data he used in his paper. "At that point, I had two choices: start over or move on," he says. Move on he did, intending to "temporarily" join his father in building a film-music business, which subsequently led to his award-winning career.

Today at Berklee, he is focused on expanding the curriculum, staff and technical facilities to better prepare students for the rapidly changing entertainment industry. "It's really fun and inspiring to be around so many talented students and faculty," he says. "Musicians are the coolest cats in the world."

— Mary Howard

society and engineering, at the society's 2009 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. He spent 38 years working on commercial and jet engines as an engineer at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, Conn.

Leonard Yannielli '67 (CLAS), professor of biological sciences at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury, Conn., received the 2009 Evolution Education Award during the National Association of Biology Teachers' Professional Development Conference last November in Denver.



Scott Cowen '68 (BUS), president of Tulane University in New Orleans, was named to *Time* maga-

zine's list of the 10 Best College Presidents. He also received a 2009 Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award, which recognizes leaders in higher education and includes a grant for \$500,000 to be used in support of academic initiatives.



Nicholas DeRoma '68 (BUS) is executive vice president and chief legal and compliance of-

ficer for Aloca Inc., an international aluminum manufacturer, in Pittsburgh.

Francis Archambault '69 M.A., '70 Ph.D., professor emeritus in the Neag School of Education, was elected as the new alumni trustee for the University of Connecticut. He is a past president of the Alumni Association.

1970s

Bruce Berlet '70 (BUS), retired *Hartford Courant* sports

writer, was inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame at the Connecticut State Golf Association's 110th annual meeting on Dec. 8, 2009.



Edwin W. Slade Jr. '70 (CLAS), an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in the Philadelphia

area for more than 27 years and a clinical associate professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, was elected to a second two-year term as treasurer of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons at the association's 91st annual meeting in Toronto.

John E. Ostrout '71 (SFA) retired after serving five years as the director of state and regional partnerships for the National Endowment for the Arts. He recently married Susan Docker, retired senior program associate for the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

Pamela Thompson '71 (NUR), chief executive officer of the American Organization of Nurse Executives, received the 2009 Carolyn Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing.

Marla (Steinbach) Beck '72 (CLAS) married Mitchell Beck on May 31, 2009, in Hamden, Conn. In attendance were Marla's daughter, **Michelle Feinstein '97 (ED)**, and friend **Debby (Olderman) Kasowitz '72 (ED)**. The couple resides in Hamden, Conn.

Leonard Wysocki '72 (CLAS), '74 M.A., '05 Ph.D. is a full-time faculty member in the master's program in industrial and organizational psychology at the



Hustling to bring a voice to the next generation

One of the first questions Peter Finch '04 (BUS) asks guests on his nationally distributed talk show, "Live with Pete Finch!" (LivewithPeteFinch.com), is "What was your first

hustle?" It is a question aimed at making the point that to be successful you must have confidence to go for what you want in life.

That is why Finch, who was born and raised in Bridgeport, Conn., does not shy away from those who compare him with the city's most famous celebrity, the promotional wizard and one-time mayor P.T. Barnum.

"He was a guy who came from humble beginnings in Connecticut, but he had a show and traveled with it," says Finch, who today operates his own business, producing commercials and his talk show. "I've been traveling with my show."

Finch began his talk show on UCTV in Storrs when he was a student. After graduating from the School of Business, he worked a series of odd jobs to earn enough money to produce a DVD of the UCTV show's highlights, which included interviews with hip-hop and rap artists such as Lil' Wayne, Ice Cube and Wyclef Jean.

He needed his own hustle to take the next step – getting noticed in the entertainment industry. He walked into MTV's studios in New York City and passed out copies of his DVD to security guards, gaining him access to MTV executives who hired him for several projects. A national distribution contract followed with Los Angeles-based Phoenix Group, which makes the "Live with Pete Finch!" DVD available in stores and as an On Demand selection on satellite and cable television networks.

Returning to UConn this past fall to speak to School of Business students, Finch told his audience he hoped to provide "a voice for our generation."

"It would be my voice helping to facilitate other people in my generation, which is what I did at UConn, with people calling in and talking about issues like the war in Iraq and racial discrimination," he says. "I'm out there trying to get credibility to be trusted when the right opportunity appears." — *Kenneth Best*

University of New Haven, in West Haven, Conn. Previously, he was self-employed as a psychologist.



Gregory Edgar '73 (CLAS), '73 (ED) is the author of *Patriots*, a children's book about the American Revolutionary War

published by BlueWaterPress LLC in August 2009. He and his wife, **Rosemary Farley '72 (ED)**, live in Somers, Conn.

Christine (Thiele) Hoeffner '73 (CLAS), a specialist in appellate

law with Ballard Rosenberg Golper & Savitt in Glendale, Calif., was named one of 2009's 100 Top Women Litigators in California by the Los Angeles and San Francisco *Daily Journals*. She was selected to be a 2009 Southern California Super Lawyer by *Los Angeles* magazine and *Law & Politics*, which identifies the top 5 percent of attorneys in their field.

Brian McGuinness '73 (CLAS) is president of McGuinness & Associates, Inc. Civil & Criminal Investigations in Miami. He was elected chairman of the Board of the National Council

of Investigation and Security Services, a grassroots lobbying trade association for the private investigative and security professions.

R. Kevin Price '73 J.D. retired from HSB Group, Inc., where he was senior vice president and corporate secretary. He is the author of *The Successful Retirement Guide*, published by Rainbow Books, Inc. in 2009.

Alan Aurelia '74 (SFA) is the music director for the Richmond County Orchestra in Staten Island, N.Y., artistic director for the

Riverside Opera Company and the principal conductor for the New American Youth Ballet.

William Kohlhepp '74 (CLAS), associate professor of physician assistant studies in the School of Health Sciences at Quinnipiac University, is secretary and treasurer of the Physician Assistant Education Association.

Sister Fay F. O'Brien '74 Ph.D., retired professor and chair of the Department of Child Study at Saint Joseph College, received the 2009 Winifred E. Coleman Service Award from the college for her dedicated

years of service and embodiment of the college's core values.

Mark Geist '75 (CLAS) accepted a position on the board of directors for AdEx, Inc., in Mountain View, Calif. He previously was a pension fund consultant at Rogers, Casey & Barksdale, Inc.

Laurie S. Werling '75 (ED), '83 M.B.A., associate dean for finance and administration of the UConn School of Law, received the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Connecticut Law School Alumni Association.



Jeffrey Carter '76 D.M.D., president of the Oral Surgical Institute and medical director of the Specialty Surgery Center, in Nashville,

Tenn., was a keynote speaker at the International Maxillofacial Surgical Symposium in Mexico City, co-sponsored by the Mexican government and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Christine DiGrazia '76 (CLAS) is the second-ranked administrator and certified math coach at Meriden Elementary School, in Meriden, Conn.



Richard Pacelle '76 (CLAS), '79 M.A., department head and professor of political science at Georgia Southern

University, received the university's 2009-2010 Award for Excellence in Research for his work on the U.S. Supreme Court. He presented his research in a recent symposium broadcast on C-Span.



Peter Slavin '76 (BUS) celebrates 30 years as a financial planner for MetLife in the Stamford, Conn., office of Barnum

Financial Group. He is president of the Fairfield County Chapter of the Financial Planning Association and a Grand Knight of Our Lady of Fatima Knights of Columbus Council. He and his wife, Ileana, reside in Wilton,

Conn. His son, Christopher, is a 2009 graduate of Bucknell University.

Cynthia Chernecky '77 (NUR), professor in the School of Nursing and School of Graduate Studies at the Medical College of Georgia, received the 2009 Beverly Koerner Outstanding Alumni Award for Education in Nursing.



Bernard Horn '77 Ph.D. won the Old Seventy Creek Press 2009 Poetry Prize for his book of poems, *Our Daily Words*. His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Moment Magazine*, *Mississippi Review* and *The Manhattan Review*.

Joel W. Hurliman '77 (CANR), chief of police in Shelton, Conn., graduated from the American Military University in May 2009 with a master's in homeland security and a concentration in intelligence. He has also been inducted into the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Miriam Katz '77 (BUS) is chief knowledge officer at Vcorp Services, LLC, in Monsey, N.Y. Previously, she held positions with National Financial Partners Corp., Salomon Smith Barney and CIBC World Markets.

Sinclair Wilkinson '77 M.A., '79 6th Year has been appointed to the University of the Virgin Islands Board of Trustees by Gov. John deJongh Jr.

Joe Courtney '78 J.D., U.S. Representative in Congress for the 2nd District of Connecticut, received the 2009 Josephine A. Dolan Distinguished Service Award from the School of Nursing.

Brian E. Martin '78 (CLAS) is a partner at K&L Gates, an international law firm in Chicago.

Erwin Vahlsing '78 (BUS) is chief executive officer at Sungro Minerals, Inc., located in Surrey, British Columbia.



Mark Romanoff '79 (CLAS), '83 M.D., a physician with Southeast Pain Care, in Charlotte, N.C., was named to the "Best Doctors 2009" list in *Charlotte Magazine*.

1980s

Anthony Cerreto '80 (CLAS) and his wife, Donna, announce the adoption of a daughter, Arianna Rose, born Aug. 31, 2007. She joins four siblings.

Dawn Leger '80 (CLAS), '80 M.A. is the author of *In Flight*, her first novel, published by iUniverse.

Houston Putnam Lowry '80 M.B.A. was reappointed to the United Nations Economic and Social Council by the American Bar Association.

Jim Saletnik '80 (CLAS) received his master's degree in public



Conboy named to New Hampshire Supreme Court

Carol Ann (Knott) Conboy '69 (ED) now serves as the 105th justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court after being appointed by New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch. Previously, she served as the Supervisory Justice of the Merrimack County Superior Court. She also serves as member of the Franklin Pierce Law Center Board of Trustees.

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administration from the Taubman Center for Public Policy at Brown University on May 24, 2009.

Thomas Shimko '80 (BUS) is senior vice president and chief marketing officer at Direct Marketing Association, in New York, N.Y.

Debra Napolitano '81 (SFA) is a graphic designer for *The Notes*, a newspaper in Yarmouth, Maine, and owns Repeat Boutique, an upscale consignment shop in Saco, Maine.

Deborah Fuhr '82 (BUS), managing director and head of ETF research at Barclays/BlackRock Global Investors, was selected as one of the "100 Most Influential Women in Finance" by *Financial News*.

Janice A. Hogle '82 Ph.D. is an evaluation researcher for the University of Wisconsin at Madison's Institute for Clinical and Translational Research.

Karen F. Stein '82 Ph.D., professor of English and women's studies at the University of Rhode Island, wrote the book *Reading, Learning, Teaching Toni Morrison*, published by Peter Lang Press in 2009.



Paul Sturgess '82 (BUS), president of V.F. McNeil Insurance Agency in Branford, Conn., received the

Agency of the Month and the Professional Independent Agents Community Services awards for support to his community. He lives in Branford, Conn.

Peter Cavaliere '83 (BUS) is remote game producer with Madison Square Garden's television network. Previously, he has worked with the NHL, NBA and MLB, winning a Sports Emmy Award for this work with the NBC Sports Olympic Unit. He lives in Secaucus, N.J.

James B. Dougherty '83 J.D. was named to "The Irish Legal 100" by *Irish America Magazine* and *The Irish Voice* newspaper at an award ceremony in Washington, D.C. He serves on the Town of Greenwich Commission on Aging and on the Selectmen's Special Committee on Senior Tax Relief.

Jeffrey I.D. Lewis '83 (ENG), a patent litigation specialist with Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler

LLP, in New York City, was elected the second vice president of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.



David Samuels '83 (BUS), chief financial officer for the energy technology company Catch the Wind Ltd., became

the chairman of the board of Charles E. Smith Life Communities, a large provider of eldercare services on the East Coast.

Rosemary (Keating) Leitz '84 (BUS) was promoted to senior counsel in the federal regulatory practice of Northeast Utilities, where she provides legal support to the company's electric transmission businesses. She and her husband, **Jeffery Leitz '83 (CLAS)**, live with their son, Desmond, in West Hartford, Conn.

Philip Stoetzner '84 (SFA) founded Your Holistic Life, a business that formulates, manufactures and markets wellness and anti-aging supplements.

Ted Szarzanowicz '84 (CLAS) works for the JCPenney Catalog Logistics Center in Manchester, Conn. He has served as Chancellor of Religious Vocations and also as Faithful Navigator for the Knights of Columbus Council. He and his wife, Cindy, reside in Newington, Conn., with their daughter, Alycia Taylor.

Jill Coughlin '85 (CLAS) was awarded a 2009 Wells Fargo Volunteer Service Award for helping Burmese refugees settle in Phoenix. She lives with her husband and son in Phoenix.



Michael Narracci '85 (CLAS), senior coordinating director at the New England Sports Network, received the Chairman's

Award for Lifetime Achievement and Excellence in Television Production from the New England Cable Television Association during the association's annual convention in Newport, R.I.

Joan Schmidt '85 (CLAS) was promoted to corporate vice president of legal affairs at Novo Nordisk A/S in Copenhagen, Denmark.



Nicholas Zaharias '85 (CLAS), director of development at Cushing Academy in Ashburnham, Mass., received the

Quarter Century Circle Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in January at its annual conference in Boston.

Ronald Brault '86 M.B.A. joined Financial Strategies Investment Advisor Services, LLP, in Bethel, Conn., as a partner, where he will focus on financial planning and investment consulting for clients. He is a board member of the Fairfield County chapter of the Financial Planners Association and a member of the Stamford Chartered Financial Analysts Society.

David Brigham '86 (CLAS), '86 (BUS) is chief executive officer at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, in Philadelphia.

Peter LaPorta '86 (CLAS) released his second book, *Who Hired These People?*, published by AuthorHouse in April 2009. He owns and operates LaPorta Enterprises, a global motivational consulting and keynote speaking company.

James Purcell '86 (ENG) joined the architectural and engineering firm STV Incorporated as vice president and New Jersey manager. He serves on the New Jersey State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. He and his wife, Cheryl, live in Lawrenceville, N.J., with their children, Sean and Megan, and enjoy spending time with his grandchildren.

Theodore Donahue Jr. '88 (CLAS), '07 6th Year is the dean of students for Farmington High School, in Farmington, Conn.



Susan Holzmer '88 (CANR) received her master's degree in biology from Saint Joseph College on Dec. 23, 2009.



Planting seeds for agricultural education

Dollie Harvey '03 (RHSA), '05 (CANR), '08 M.A., a high school agricultural educator in Glastonbury, Conn., received two national teacher awards. She was one of five teachers to receive scholarships from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture to attend the 2009 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in St. Louis and one of 47 teachers to receive the Teachers Turn the Key Award, which provided scholarships for early-career educators to attend the 2009 National Association of Agricultural Educators conference in Nashville, Tenn., and participate in special programs for beginning teachers.



Improving life for the world's children

According to **Donna Goodman '81 (BUS)**, her eclectic career as a corporate executive, an educator, an international development advisor and an entrepreneur has always “centered upon service to the world’s children and to Mother Earth.”

Goodman is founder and executive director of the Earth Child Institute, a nonprofit founded in 2002 that partners with the United Nations and global nongovernment organizations on

education, health and policy issues relating to children and climate change, water and environmental sustainability.

A self-described “action-oriented visionary,” Goodman spends much of her time traveling and speaking to young people in such countries as Malawi, Togo and Tajikistan where, she says, similar to their counterparts in the United States and Europe, children everywhere have difficulty getting the adults in their community to take them seriously.

“It is for each and every one of these extraordinary children and young people that the Earth Child Institute has been founded,” she says. The institute seeks to facilitate intergenerational dialogue on environmental issues, develop and promote cross-sectoral educational solutions, and ensure that young people’s needs are addressed in emerging international and national policies and frameworks. The organization’s Water for Life program works to ensure that children in developing nations have access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene education, while its Power-of-One School program develops and partially funds kits to help schools set up nurseries and plant trees and school gardens, while improving access to electricity and the Internet.

Recently, the Institute launched the 2.2 Billion: Power of One Child + One Tree Campaign with the goal of planting one tree for every child on Earth. The trees will help offset carbon emissions and deforestation while engaging and empowering the world’s 2.2 billion people under the age of 18 in sustainable life practices, says Goodman, who previously spent four years as a program advisor on climate change and environmental education for UNICEF.

Goodman, the daughter of former UConn Club President and Lifetime Achievement Award winner Bob Goodman '55 (BUS), says her business courses at UConn gave her the confidence to make her visions realities. As part of a marketing class, she developed a campaign for Fabergé, traveling to New York City to pitch her ideas to the company’s executives. “That experience supported me in my future endeavors more than anything else,” she says. “It taught me to never be afraid of presenting and selling my ideas.”

– Mary Howard

Paul A. Calli '89 (CLAS), a criminal law specialist with the Florida-based law firm Carlton Fields, was featured in the June 22, 2009 issue of *National Law Journal* for his role in gaining an acquittal of his client in a major antitrust case.

2009-2010. She is interim director, Office of Career Services, at Eastern Connecticut State University, in Willimantic, Conn.

1990s

Claude George '90 (BUS), president and chief executive officer of George Group, LLC, a real estate services firm, was a keynote speaker at the NAACP Economic Summit in New Haven, Conn.

Rachel E. Baker-Blackwell '91 M.S.W., a social worker in Franklin Township, N.J., was named to a list of the 2010 Outstanding Women in Somerset County by the Somerset County Commission on the Status of Women.

Laird Daniels '91 (BUS) is controller and chief accounting officer at CVS Caremark, in Woonsocket, R.I. Previously, he was vice president of finance and retail control for CVS Pharmacy.



Karen T. Goyette '91 (BUS) is vice president of strategic planning and business development at Hartford Healthcare and Hartford Hospital.

Joseph A. Guay '91 (BUS), a real estate attorney with the worldwide law firm Holland & Knight, received the 2009 Cornerstone Award for his pro bono legal services from the Lawyers Alliance for New York on Oct. 27, 2009.



Nancy (Rodrigue) DeCrescenzo '89 (CLAS) is president of the Connecticut Career Counseling and Development Association for

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Evelyn Graham '93 M.B.A. was appointed to the board of directors at CalciMedica, a biotechnology company focused on the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, in La Jolla, Calif.

Stephen Swett '93 M.B.A. is a senior equity analyst at Morgan Keegan in New York City. Previously, he was a senior vice president at Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.

Sandra Knapp Wheeler '93 (BGS), owner of For Peace of Mind - Professional Organizers, was elected vice president of the Connecticut chapter of National Association of Professional Organizers. She has 20 years of corporate experience and is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut.

Jennifer (Toelke) Bourret '94 (BUS), director of risk at Constitution Corporate Federation Credit Union, in Wallingford, Conn., has earned the designation of chartered financial analyst.

Leighangela Byer Brady '94 (ED), '95 M.A. coauthored a new book, *Test Less, Assess More: A K-8 Guide to Formative Assessment*, published by Eye on Education in September 2009. She is the principal of an elementary school in San Diego.

Jennifer (Gardiner) Chiota '94 (SFA) and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of a son, Graham Patrick, on May 8, 2009. He joins twin sisters Chloe and Olivia, 7, and sister Grace, 2. The family lives in Southborough, Mass.

Michael A. Goba '94 (BUS) was promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army JAG Corps and is stationed in Fayetteville, N.C.

Donald Kardos '94 (CLAS) is a vice president of credit risk management for JP Morgan Chase's Home Finance Group.

Diane (Stock) Santostefano '94 M.B.A. is the director of admissions at Mercy High School in Middletown, Conn., where she manages the school's recruitment and admissions program.

Gregory Trepp '94 M.B.A. is

president and chief executive officer at Hamilton Beach Brand, in Glen Allen, Va. He joins its board of directors and continues to serve on the board of directors for the Kitchen Collection.

Anthony Mandrola '95 (CLAS) and **Amy (Hannigan) Mandrola '96 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Vincent Joseph, on March 26, 2009, in Glendale, Ariz. He works for CIGNA Healthcare, and she teaches fourth grade. The family lives in Surprise, Ariz.

Matthew Senatore '95 (BUS) and **Daina (Dzerovych) Senatore '96 (BUS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Reece Polly, on June 9, 2009, in Fairfield, Conn. Reece joins her older sisters, Mia, 5, and Emma, 3.

Amy Holibaugh '96 (CLAS), '99 M.A. and Ian Turkle announce the birth of a daughter, Lyra Holibaugh,

on Sept. 15, 2009. She joins her older sister, Rowan. The family lives in Morrisville, Tenn.



Susan J. Krembs '96 J.D. is a partner and member of the Corporate and Securities Practice Group at the law firm Pepper Hamilton LLP, in New York, N.Y. She will also serve as the head of the firm's Canadian Practice Group. Previously, she was a partner in the Business Law Department of Olser, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, in New York.

Carla Berube '97 (CLAS), head women's basketball coach at Tufts University, has become the team's all-time leader in victories in her eighth season as a head coach, after gaining her 138th win against Middlebury College. She began the season among the top 50

winningest active coaches in NCAA Division III.

Bryan Garver '97 (CLAS) is a vice president at Innovar Group, where he will head the executive search division. He lives with his son, Aidan, in Parker, Colo.

John Hedberg '97 M.B.A. is the chief financial officer and vice president of finance and underwriting at Blue Shield of California's Individual, Small Group and Government Business Unit, in Woodland Hills, Calif. Previously, he was a finance officer at Cigna Healthcare.

Kelly (Bowler) Hennigan '97 (CLAS), '98 M.S. is a chartered financial analyst with ING Investment Management and a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries.

Elvira (Napoleone) Uccello '97 (CLAS), '00 M.P.A. and **Dan Uccello '97 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a boy, Paolo (Paul) Giuseppe, on Sept. 11, 2009, in Norwich, Conn.

Steven Williams '97 M.B.A. is the senior vice president and sales manager for the western division of American Realty Capital Trust Inc., in New York, N.Y. Previously, he was a regional vice president for KBS Capital Markets Groups.

Aileen Dever '98 Ph.D., associate professor of Spanish in the department of modern languages at Quinnipiac University, is the president of the Connecticut chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Sandra Enos '98 Ph.D., associate professor of sociology at Bryant University, received the 2009 Michelle Norris Award from Children's Friend, a child welfare organization based in Rhode Island, for her extraordinary support of the organization.



Brian Timm '98 (ENG), senior project manager at the engineering firm Meridian Associates, obtained his

Massachusetts professional engineering license in the spring of 2009.



Trading Wall Street for soccer

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

ALUMNI TRAVELER



The Italian Riviera and the Lakes October 9-18, 2010

There is no such thing as seeing too much of Italy! We will concentrate on the areas of Liguria and Piemonte in the north, from the shores of the Mediterranean through the beautiful lake district bordering Switzerland. In Conconato, we will visit Bava Wines

vineyard, owned by the family of a UConn alum since 1600, which is consistently ranked Three Stars by the world-renowned magazine, *Wine Spectator*.

Czech Republic September 25 - October 4, 2010

Cheer on the USA Basketball team at the World Championship

Games held in the Czech Republic, led by UConn and USA Women's Basketball coach Geno Auriemma. The Czech Republic is a jewel of art and architecture nestled in the heart of Eastern Europe and would entice not only basketball fans but also those interested in visiting the homes of emperors and kings, artists and astronomers, and musicians and writers.

More 2010 Travel Opportunities

Grand Journey Ireland

July 2 -14, 2010

Lake Powell, the Grand Canyon and Sedona Rims, Rocks & Raptors

September 6-15, 2010

Grand Journey Spain

September 23 - October 5, 2010

Want more information?
UConnAlumni.com/travel.

Jonathan Zupnik '98 (BUS) is vice president of sales and merchandising at On Corp US, Inc., in San Diego. Previously, he was divisional merchandise manager of television, video and audio at Sears Holding Corporation, in Hoffman Estates, Ill. He has more than 23 years of experience in the consumer electronics industry.

Renee C. Berman '99 (CLAS) is the author of *The Ultimate Guide to Solo and Small Firm Success*, published by LawFirst publishing. She is a member of the Greater Bridgeport Bar Association, the New Haven County Bar Association and the Family Law section of the Connecticut Bar Association. She has a family law practice in Hamden, Conn.

Christina Carroll '99 (CLAS) was promoted to senior vice president of global sales at Linear Acoustic in Lancaster, Pa. She previously was vice president of sales.

Paul Giardina '99 M.B.A. was promoted to chief executive officer at Protegrity Corporation, a data security management firm in

Stamford, Conn. Previously, he was senior vice president.

Christine Mills '99 (CLAS) was promoted to director of events at the National Football League, where she was the manager of events.

Wesley Most '99 (ENG) and **Meghan Landon '02 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their first child, Alice Leigh Most, on June 26, 2009.

Maria Sette '99 (CLAS), a fourth-grade teacher at New Canaan Country School, married **Rob Faugno '96 (CLAS)**, a city of Stamford employee. The couple lives in Stamford, Conn.

Jayme Staron '99 (BUS) and **Angela (Talcik) Staron '96 (CLAS), '00 M.A.** welcomed twin sons, Nathaniel Jude and Adam Michael, on March 16, 2009. The family resides in Shelton, Conn.

Dina (Sacatos) Wulinsky '99 (SFS) and her husband, **Keith Wulinsky '00 (BUS)**, announce the birth of a son, Alexander James, on June 15, 2009. The family resides in Harrisburg, Pa.

2000s

Sarah (Pear) Esposito '00 (CLAS) married Tony Esposito on July 25, 2009.

Catherine (Bucci) Klar '00 (CLAS), '05 M.A. and her husband, **Jonathan Klar '01 (BUS), '04 M.B.A.**, announce the birth of their daughter Lindsay Agatha, on June 21, 2009. Lindsay joins a sister, Sarah. The family lives in Brookfield, Conn.

 **Erin (Sepe) Pirro '00 (CANR), '06 M.S.** was promoted to assistant vice president at First Pioneer Farm Credit. She and her husband, Jonathan, live in Granby, Conn.

Nykesha Sales '00 (BUS), currently a free agent in the WNBA, was selected as Philanthropist of the Year by the Hartford Golf Club for her selfless efforts on the behalf of women and girls at the Aurora Women & Girls Foundation Breakfast in Hartford, Conn.

Winston Taylor '00 M.S.W. is the author of *Answer My Calling: An Inspirational Guide to Fulfilling Your Purpose*, published by Xlibris Corporation. He also received the Bethune Legacy Award from the Council of Negro Women, Inc. for his outstanding contributions to the legacy of Mary McLeod Bethune.

Ivy M. Alexander '01 Ph.D., professor of nursing at the Yale University School of Nursing, was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing as a fellow on Nov. 7, 2009, at the academy's annual awards banquet in Atlanta.

Jason Hoagland '01 (CANR), '08 M.B.A. was promoted to assistant vice president at First Pioneer Farm Credit. He and his wife, Allison, live in Windsor, Conn., with their two children.

Christopher Jarvis '01 M.B.A. is the vice president of the Autism Society of New Hampshire. He plays for the Merrimack Dodgers, a team in the Granite State Baseball League.

David Masopust '02 Ph.D., assistant professor of microbiology

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, received the 2009 ICAAC Young Investigator Award from the American Society for Microbiology, which recognizes early-career scientists for their research and potential.

Heather Bliss '03 (CLAS) married Christopher Young on July 4, 2009. She is the head women's lacrosse coach at Colgate University.

Ryan Corey '03 (CLAS) has joined the law firm Baillie & Hershman P.C., where he concentrates in real estate law, contract negotiations and estate planning and administration.

Shannon Duffy '03 D.M.D. and Scott Ribich announce the birth of a daughter, Amelia Anne, on June 18, 2009, in Winchester, Mass.

Lindsey A. Dulkis '03 (CLAS) received her J.D., cum laude, from New England Law School in Boston on May 22, 2009.



Eveynia Kollia '03 D.M.D. opened Aesthetica Contemporary Dentistry, a state-of-the-art, paperless, private dental practice in Seattle.

Bryan McEntee '03 (CLAS) opened his own law firm in Waterbury, Conn.

Benjamin Neumon '03 (ENG) and **Leigh (Moulis) Neumon '03 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Claire Anne, on July 2, 2009. The family lives in Meriden, Conn.

Isaac Oppong '03 (BUS) is an audit manager for the accounting firm Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard, LLC. He has more than six years of experience in public accounting with international and regional accounting firms. Isaac changed his name to Ricky A. Frimpong in 2005.

Renee M. Savage '03 (NUR), an infection preventionist at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, in New London, Conn., had her abstract on influenza vaccination presented at the Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology's annual conference.



Roll of Honor is online

The University of Connecticut's Roll of Honor, located in the Alumnae Center, memorializes alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. Now also available online at uconnalumni.com/roll-of-honor, the website accepts online submissions of nominees as the only one of its kind in New England.

Margaret (Noble) Clifton '04 (CLAS), '05 (M.A.) and **Jarrid Clifton '01 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Silas Brian, on April 16, 2009. The family lives in Hebron, Conn.

Joyce S. Fontana '04 Ph.D. received the 2009 Distinguished Alumnae Award from Saint Joseph College, where she is dean of School of Health and Natural Sciences.

Michael J. Harrington '04 (CLAS) married Kathryn T. Chase on Aug. 2, 2009, in Naperville, Ill. The couple lives in New Orleans. Among the groomsmen were **Corey J. Agnew '04 (CLAS)** and **Thomas W. Hulk '04 (CLAS)**.

David Rotatori '04 M.B.A. is senior vice president, chief risk officer and chief administration officer for Naugatuck Savings Bank in Naugatuck, Conn.

Justine (Greenwald) Wanat '04 (CLAS) married Robert Wanat on Oct. 10, 2009, at the Pearl River Hilton in Pearl River, N.Y. She is the owner and director of a private preschool in Jersey City, and he is a project manager for Tishman Construction in New York, N.Y.

Jonathan Wholley '04 (CLAS), '08 M.A. was named an assistant coach for the Huskies football team, responsible for coaching tight ends. He returns to UConn, where he was a member of the 2004 Motor City Bowl championship team, after serving as an assistant coach at Central Connecticut State University and at Fordham University.

Jaroslav J. Fabis '05 M.S., a food safety and inspection service supervisory public health veterinarian in Brooklyn, N.Y., returned from a five-month assignment in Iraq, where he helped to rebuild the country's agricultural sector.



Gianna Fergione '05 (CLAS) and **Brian Daley '03 (CANR)** were married on Oct. 3, 2009, at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, in Norwich, Conn. She is a human services information analyst for United Technologies Corporation, and he is a web developer in the Office of University Communications at UConn. The couple lives in Manchester, Conn.

John Hudak '05 (CLAS) and **Emily Parsons (SFA) '06** were married on June 6, 2009, in West Palm Beach, Fla. He is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of political science at Vanderbilt University. She is a graphic designer for the Clever Factory in Nashville, Tenn. The couple lives in Nashville.



Michael J. Nichols '05 (CLAS), '08 J.D. is legal counsel to the House Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Jonathan Pinkus '05 (BUS) and **Jodi (Ferrer) Pinkus '06 (CLAS)** were married on June 14, 2009. Jodi is pursuing a second bachelor's degree in nursing, and John is a business performance management consultant with CheckPoint Consulting LLC. The couple resides in Stamford, Conn.

Kaitlin (Melanson) Provencher '05 (CLAS) married Brian Provencher on March 14, 2009, in Lynn, Mass. They live in Woburn, Mass.

Christian Senger '05 (CLAS) received his M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix on May 31, 2009.



Michelle Strutz '05 M.A. received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program Award. She will conduct her research at Purdue University, in West Lafayette, Ind.

Frank Carmon '06 M.B.A. received the 2009 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year for Connecticut Award from the Small Business Administration, on behalf of the Carmon Community Funeral Homes, located in Windsor, Conn.

Regina Forker '06 (CLAS), '09 J.D. is the author of *Controversial Court Cases in Connecticut Part I and Part II*, which details six Connecticut court cases, published by LawFirst publishing.

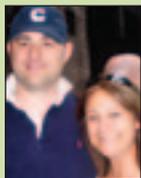
Noah J. Kores '06 (CLAS) and **Lauren E. (Lambert) Kores '06**

(CLAS) were married on May 21, 2009, in St. Pete Beach, Fla.

Michael Mannheim '06 (CLAS) is a collection development librarian at American International College, in Springfield, Mass.

Tara Maroney '06 (CLAS) married Russell Pickett on May 30, 2009, at Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales, in Bennington, Vt. They reside in Stamford, Conn.

Justin Carbonella '07 (BUS) was promoted to research executive at Millward Brown, in Fairfield, Conn.



Cyril Cassan-de-Valry '07 (BGS) is a design consultant for Venture Portrait Studios. He and **Toni DeMasi '02 (BGS)** have two girls and live in Stamford, Conn.

Bill Coolahan '07 M.S. received his CPA license. He works at Sikorsky Aircraft, in Stratford, Conn., where he prices and negotiates proposals with the U.S. Government.

Timothy M. Enos '07 (CLAS), a teacher for New London Public Schools, earned his master's degree in education from the University of New Haven.

Julie Peck '07 M.B.A. launched Peck Place Consulting, located in Danbury, Conn., where she is the chief strategy consultant.

Khash Sarrafi '07 M.B.A. is the managing partner at Castle Rock Innovations, LLC, in Ellington, Conn.



Elizabeth Somerset '07 (CLAS) received her master's degree in secondary education/English/language arts from Northeastern University on May 1, 2009.

Caroline S. Colket '08 (BUS) joined the accounting firm Pue, Chick, Liebowitz & Blezard LLC, in Vernon, Conn.

Roberto Cruz '08 (BGS) was named the Student of the Year by Connecticut's *Identidad Latina* Hispanic newspaper at the 2009 "Latina de Oro" awards ceremony, in Hartford, Conn.

Michelle Dann '08 (CLAS) graduated from the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps in Denver on July 23, 2009.

Ashley Moss '08 (CLAS) graduated from the AmeriCorps National

Civilian Community Corps in Denver on July 23, 2009.

Stephanie Vorhees '08 (BUS) is a sales agent with Halstead Property in New York City, one of the largest and most visible residential real estate brokerage firms in New Jersey with offices in New Jersey and Connecticut.

Linda Kolbasovsky '09 Ph.D. defended her dissertation, "The Trade-off between Risk Management and Earnings Volatility: Evidence from Restatements." She is assistant professor of accounting at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

Matthew LaLone '09 J.D. joined the law firm Couch White, LLP, in Albany, N.Y.

Daniel Lin '09 (BUS) is spending a year as a volunteer for WorldTech teaching a range of subjects in American Samoa. He departed in July 2009.



Ashley Lorenzetti '09 (CLAS) is a financial services representative at Barnum Financial Group, in Shelton, Conn.

Chelsea Macomber '09 (CLAS), an operations specialist at St.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

James B. Feltner '47
George Fukui '45, '48
Cornelius J. York '50
Robert M. Guinnessy '56
Gerald B. Taylor '60
Michael O'Neill Tognalli '78
Bryan Place '94
James T. Malaney '08

FACULTY

Audrey Jarrelle
Norman Klein
Raymond Palmer Jr.
Agisilaos John Pappanikou
William E. Parker
Hale Smith

STUDENTS

John Adam Groth

For an updated list go to uconnalumni.com/inmemoriam

Anne's Center, in Spokane, Wash., is volunteering with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

Sasha Maldonado '09 LL.M. married **Will Jordison '98 (ED), '99 M.A.** on Aug. 1, 2009, in Guatemala.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Jessica McCarthy and Jillian Legnos '12 (CLAS)

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Save the Date

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2010 JUNE 4 & 5

An exciting schedule of events for all generations of Huskies.

Program Highlights:

- Students First Fund Golf Tournament presented by SimplexGrinnell
- Character breakfast featuring Jonathan the Husky, Clifford and more!
- "Battle of the Brains" competition hosted by the Honors Program
- "The Death and Remains of Adolf Hitler: Archaeology, Genetics and History" - A presentation by

Professors Nicholas Bellantoni and Linda Strausbaugh, who were featured on The History Channel

- Connecticut Repertory Theatre performance of "Rent"
- Special Programming for Class of 1960 and Greek Alumni

For more information go to UConnAlumni.com/AlumniWeekend or call 888-822-5861.



Learn about how Nicholas Bellantoni, associate professor of anthropology and the Connecticut state archaeologist (pictured), and Linda Strausbaugh, professor of molecular and cell biology, used forensic analysis to unlock a history mystery about Adolf Hitler.

Alumni International Ambassadors guide students, alumni and faculty

By Alex Blanco-Moreno '07 (BUS) and Elliot Shubert '73 Ph.D.



As International Ambassadors for UConn in the U.K., we serve as a point of contact for UConn alumni, faculty and students who may be travelling to our region. For the past several years, we have organized an annual student-alumni reception in London. This year's event will be held on May 17 at the Natural History Museum, one of the top five tourist attractions in the U.K. Special guest speakers will include a diplomat from the U.S. Embassy and one of the architects of the museum's new \$50 million Darwin Centre addition.

The more than 150 UConn alumni living in the U.K. will receive invitations to the event. We hope that the reception will act as a springboard encouraging UConn alumni living in the U.K. to become active in promoting and supporting the University and to form a chapter of the UConn Alumni Association in the U.K. With a new chapter of the Alumni Association, we would hope to set up a social exchange with UConn alumni living and working in Paris, which is less than two hours away via the Eurostar train.

As International Ambassadors, we also correspond throughout the year with UConn alumni and students interested in visiting, living and/or working in London. We offer friendly advice on accommodations and cultural practices as well as meet and greet UConn alumni and students visiting London. In recent months, Alex joined exchange students for Thanksgiving dinner, and Elliot taught a class on climate change for UConn's London Study Abroad program. Alex also organizes social events for the Study Abroad students who come to London every semester.

In the future, we look forward to organizing a charity event in London to raise funds to support scholarships for UConn exchange students, offering alumni the opportunity to give something tangible back to the University.

For more information about becoming an International Ambassador, or to contact a UConn International Ambassador in a country you may be visiting, go to uconnalumni.com/international.

Alex Blanco-Moreno is the financial officer of OTC Exotics LLP, a broker firm specializing in Bespoke CDOs and exotic derivative products. He has been a member of the UConn Alumni Association since he arrived in the U.K.

Elliot Shubert is editor-in-chief of the international scientific journal Systematics and Biodiversity and a research scientist at the Natural History Museum. He was a professor of biology at the University of North Dakota from 1973 to 1994. He is a Life Member of the UConn Alumni Association.

OUR MOMENT

IS NOW . . . for Building a Top-20 Public University

This is our moment. With an undergraduate educational experience second to none and excellent programs in health and human behavior, the environment, and society, culture and the arts, the University of Connecticut stands ready to achieve top-tier status and national and international prominence. Please join us in raising \$600 million to dramatically increase support for students and faculty and invest in areas of excellence that are vital to our state, our country and our world.

Our campaign priorities include:

Scholarships and fellowships

Faculty chairs and professorships

Academic programs

Enrichment: study abroad, student life and service learning

Diversity initiatives

Global initiatives

▶ www.ourmoment.uconn.edu

For information about how you can participate, please contact Brian Otis at 860.486.5960 or botis@foundation.uconn.edu.

Our University. Our Moment. is the biggest campaign in the University of Connecticut's history. Together we will shape UConn's future as one of the best public research institutions in the country.

Campaign goals	
Undergraduate education	\$200 million
UConn Health Center	\$155 million
Graduate and professional education	\$135 million
Athletics	\$110 million
Total	\$600 million

Our University. Our Moment.

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Stepping into action

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha perform in the Step Into Action dance competition at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, part of the Husky Headliners program that is designed to offer UConn students easier access to professional artistic performance space and an opportunity to be involved with producing a show in a professional manner.



JESSICA TOMIWA SELLI



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