

# UConn

Spring  
2002

TRADITIONS

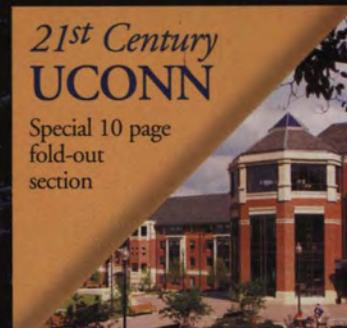


## Patterns of Communication

Kathleen Dudzinski takes to  
the sea to learn about dolphins

*21<sup>st</sup> Century*  
**UConn**

Special 10 page  
fold-out  
section





At the University of Connecticut



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

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





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Volume 3, Number 1  
Spring 2002

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## A Message from the Editor

### SET MY COMPASS NORTH, I'VE GOT WINTER IN MY BLOOD

In the midst of a dreary, mostly snow-free February in southern New England, it's sometimes easy to forget that spring is drawing nigh. There are more hours of daylight, but the sun still seems to set too early. Baseball teams are heading south for spring training, but basketball, hockey and the Winter Olympics dominate the sports pages. Even a mild winter has its tricks, alternately bedeviling us with bitterly frigid nights and spring-like days. "Late February days; and now, at last," declared the British writer William Morris, "Might you have thought that Winter's woe was past; So fair the sky was and so soft the air."

It is wholly appropriate for me to invoke February's sublimely unsettled nature because this year it represents the eve before a significant passage of my life. When you read these words, I will have resigned as editor of *UConn Traditions* to become managing editor of university publications at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y. I leave the University of Connecticut with acutely mixed feelings. On one hand, I am excited about my new post, which will enable me to live closer to my family. But on the other, this positive change comes at the cost of leaving an institution I have been proud to serve and departing the company of colleagues who have ennobled me with their support, compassion and professionalism. There are too many names to list here, but a few people must be acknowledged. First, I want to thank Scott Brohinsky and John Barry for giving me the opportunity to lead this publication through its evolution from tabloid to magazine; John Bailey, Peter Morenus and Leonard Blanks for giving *UConn Traditions* its distinctive appearance; and Michelle Parent for her administrative wizardry. I want to extend my appreciation for the contributions of the magazine's advisory committee and editorial working group; UConn Alumni Association; and the



Peter Morenus

UConn Foundation. Lastly, I wish to thank these individuals for their encouragement during the past four years: Jim H. Smith, Sam Pickering, Marilyn Nelson, Robert Stephens, Susan Holmes, Bessy Reyna, Allison Thompson, Janice Palmer, Mark Roy, John Feudo, Leslie Wolfson, Karen Grava, Sherry Fisher, David Bauman, Cat Dubuc, Tina Modzelewski, Cathi Dunnack, Barbara Loser, David Martel, Betsy Surprenant, Lauren Shea, Sean Flynn, Richard Veilleux and Elizabeth Omara-Otunnu.

Farewell and good luck to you all. —Gary E. Frank

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

# President

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn proposal a source of pride, excitement

As you read this issue of *UConn Traditions*, Gov. John G. Rowland's proposal for 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn has been discussed throughout Connecticut for nearly two months. The excitement continues, as it should: the Governor's proposal promises not only to finish the great work initiated with UCONN 2000 but also to meet compelling needs at the Health Center and, in a larger sense, to provide one more great push as the University moves to the top ranks of public higher education.

That said, this is a good time to offer a few thoughts that may be important for all of us in the weeks to come.

First, we must not assume that approval of 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn is a *fait accompli*. The final decision on that belongs to the General Assembly. Any proposal of this magnitude will generate serious discussion and a number of questions. We are providing whatever information is requested, and all of us at the University know that we have a compelling story to tell.

We are working with key constituent groups—alumni, faculty, students, friends, and staff—to make sure that every legislator understands what we have accomplished under UCONN 2000, what that means for the state's citizens, and why it's so important that the transformation continues through 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn. (See special coverage beginning on page 24.)

Second, enthusiastic as we are about the prospect of continuing program improvements and infrastructure advances, we must never stop emphasizing the fact that outstanding buildings and beautiful campuses are important to academic quality, not for their own sake but because they help us recruit exceptional faculty and ambitious students and provide the surroundings where they can do their



Connecticut Gov. John G. Rowland and University President Philip E. Austin showing some Husky Pride after the February announcement of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn proposal at the Lodewick Visitors Center.

best work. It is important for all to understand that our facilities program is guided by a commitment to teaching, research and the quality of student life.

This brings me to a third point. By 2015, the University will have engaged in nearly 20 years of comprehensive infrastructure improvement that will, when completed, have a direct impact on every department and program. No one at UConn will be housed or educated in anything less than a facility appropriate to a great state's flagship public university. The timing of these improvements is a complex undertaking. We must implement a construction program that continues to offer residential living, classroom space, and research facilities simultaneously with the building process, thus enhancing the University's ability to implement its teaching and research program, enabling us to fulfill our mission of service to the state of Connecticut, and maintaining and strengthening our ability to attract outstanding faculty and students to the University.

These points are offered not as cautions, but as context. The basic news about 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn is so positive that it is hard not to feel intense excitement. As was the case with UCONN 2000, if the General Assembly sees fit to give its approval, in time the mood will transform from euphoria into an ongoing but no less profound sense of achievement as the work progresses.

Let us remember that this proposal is really about continuing the unprecedented transformation that is bringing forth a nationally recognized university worthy of our alumni, students, faculty and state. UCONN 2000 and now, 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn, are remarkable endeavors in which all of us can take justifiable pride.

*Philip Austin*

# What a change at UConn!

This is an editorial by Chris Powell, managing editor of the *Journal Inquirer* newspaper in Manchester, Conn., which appeared in the *Journal Inquirer* and the *Providence Journal*.

If you despair of getting something for the ever-rising price of state government, visit the University of Connecticut at Storrs, especially if you haven't ever been there or haven't been there in a long time. Thanks to the famous billion-dollar UCONN 2000 program of state bonding, the commitment of Gov. John G. Rowland and the Assembly, and the leadership of University President Philip E. Austin and other UConn officials, the campus is being rebuilt, renovated, and even reconceived.

In just a few years, what had sometimes given the impression of a "cow" and commuter college hiding its lights under a bushel in the boondocks has become a gleaming and even thrilling place that is getting noticed all over the world. The new buildings are dramatic, like the ubiquitously wired School of Business, placed, maybe a bit too realistically, across the street from Gampel Pavilion, the college basketball capital of the Northeast.

While it is 11 years old, Gampel still looks new and is exciting even when empty. Then there are the beautiful visitor and alumni centers, brightly welcoming prospective students and former students, respectively, if the latter can get over having been born too soon. Two

new parking garages near Gampel accommodate the university's growth and keep cars off formerly crowded campus streets.

The outwardly traditional but inwardly glittering Wilbur Cross Building has been redesigned throughout to serve as the central office for services for students, giving them one-stop shopping for nearly everything they need to arrange at college. The new Agricultural Biotechnology Laboratory has made the old "cow college" high-tech. And at last UConn has a hotel and conference center right on campus, the Nathan Hale Inn.

Much more construction is planned, including a greatly expanded Student Union, a new Pharmacy School building, and a biological sciences building.

But the most important changes at UConn may involve the improvement of everyday life for students. Dormitories have been renovated and modern apartments have been built, creating living quarters students take pride in. No longer are students stuck with the dreadful dish of the day at their dormitory dining hall; they can eat at any of the 13 dining halls on campus and usually have a nice choice of meals at each one. The old Greer Field House is now a modern fitness club for students. And while the campus, which was large

and spread out even 30 years ago, has almost doubled in size, shuttle buses make it easy to get around without a car. Indeed, pedestrian malls are replacing roads on campus.

Attracting Connecticut's best students, building their loyalty to the state, and inducing them to stick around after graduating was a big part of UCONN 2000, and there is evidence of success.

**"... a gleaming and even thrilling place that is getting noticed all over the world."**

Applications and enrollment are growing, and it is especially encouraging that minority enrollment, at about 18 percent of freshmen, has kept pace even as the average SAT score for freshmen has risen at four times the national average rate of increase.

UConn's professors are doing scientific research of international consequence and getting international publicity. (Watch out for research that may become controversial.)

Financial donations to the university have increased 600 percent in six years, reaching \$50 million for the current fiscal year.

*U.S. News & World Report's* annual college survey, while increasingly questioned by academics (especially by those disappointed by it), remains a benchmark, and it now ranks UConn the best public university in New England,

28th among all public universities in America in the latest ranking, jumping 20 others in one year.

With UConn's basketball teams starting another season well and with a 40,000-seat stadium being built in East Hartford for the football team—and it is hard to overstate the recognition and support for the university that have been built by basketball success—it is possible to imagine UConn

becoming the best public university in the country.

The university doesn't hide its lights under a bushel anymore; it has a promotion department that matches its ambition. Like basketball, this is a necessity, not anything to be ashamed of. And that promotion is designed in part to draw all of Connecticut to the university for one thing or another—the best public relations in a democracy.

As suburbia, Connecticut can never align itself entirely with New York or Boston, and as a democracy it can never give itself to elite institutions like Yale, Wesleyan, or Trinity. Its public university may be the biggest thing Connecticut can rally around, and it clearly has begun to do so.

## UConn lands first UNESCO human rights chair in U.S.

The University of Connecticut has received the first and only UNESCO chair in human rights in the United States.

Amii Omara-Otunnu, executive director of the Institute of Comparative Human Rights, and executive director of the African National Congress-UConn Partnership, has been named the first holder of the chair.

"That UNESCO has selected the University of Connecticut to receive this chair, from among hundreds of prominent research universities, is a mark of distinction for the institution as a whole and particularly for the many members of our community whose work is focused in the area of human rights," says President Philip E. Austin.

The award of the chair was announced during the University's second annual Comparative Human Rights Conference in October.

As the UNESCO chair in human rights, Omara-Otunnu will disseminate human rights information to the university community and beyond. He will also develop models and strategies for cross-national and cross-cultural dialogue on issues of race relations, democratic pluralism, and peace. Accompanying Omara-Otunnu's appointment is his leadership of the new Institute of Comparative Human Rights, which is associated with the chair.

Historically, approaches to human rights have generally been developed from the standpoint of a particular nation or culture. Alternatively, comparative human rights takes into account different perspectives while recognizing the fundamental notion of a common humanity, the idea that what the various peoples of the world have in common is more significant than the differences.

"To recognize our common humanity is to recognize that all of us, regardless of social background, nationality, gender, etc., are born with equal dignity and worth," Omara-Otunnu says. "The concept of comparative human rights seeks both to transcend the ethnocentrism of human rights dialogue and avoid the pitfalls of cultural relativism when we talk about human rights."

Omara-Otunnu's commitment to human rights began when he was a student leader at Uganda's Makerere University, where he spoke out against human rights abuses committed by dictator Idi Amin. Because of his stand, Omara-Otunnu was twice forced into exile from Uganda.

Omara-Otunnu has led UConn's growing relationship with South Africa, a country that has rebuilt itself on the principles of social justice since the end of apartheid. In addition to directing the ANC-UConn Partnership, Omara-Otunnu founded and directed UConn's Center for Contemporary African Studies and established the University's linkage with the University of Fort Hare, South Africa's oldest and most illustrious historically black institution of higher learning.

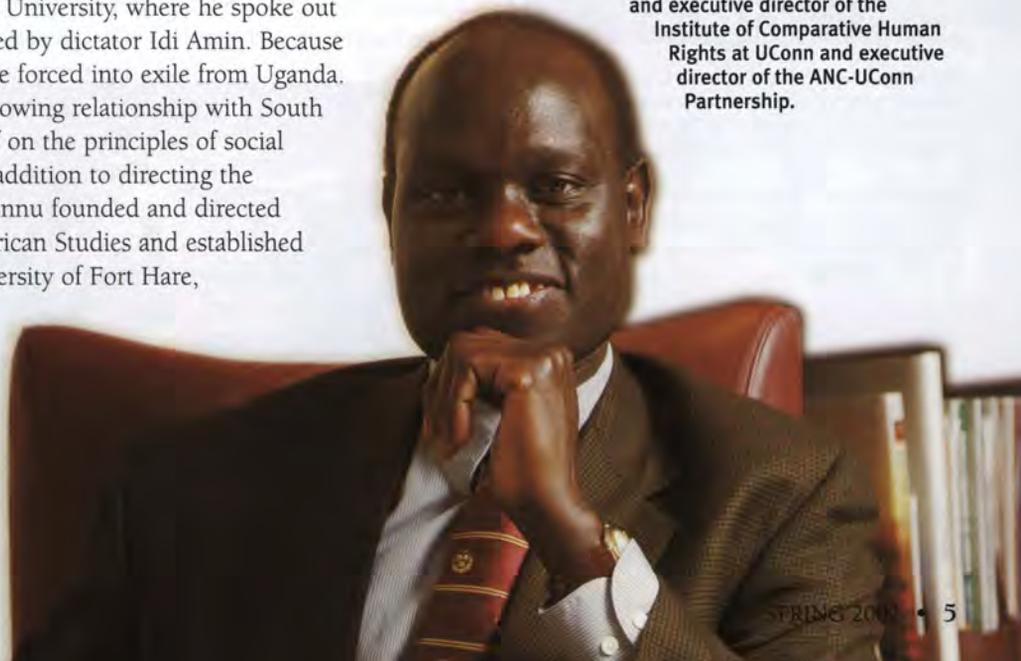


United Nations  
Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural  
Organization.

UNESCO's constitution was adopted by the London Conference in November 1945 and entered into effect on November 4, 1946, when 20 states had deposited instruments of acceptance.

The main objective of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms that are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations.

Amii Omara-Otunnu is the first holder of a UNESCO chair in human rights in the United States. Omara-Otunnu is the founder and executive director of the Institute of Comparative Human Rights at UConn and executive director of the ANC-UConn Partnership.

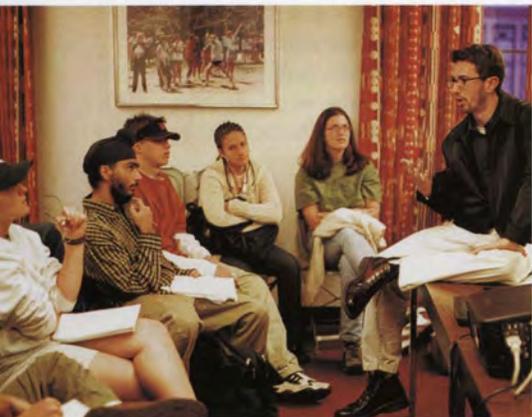


Peter Morenus

Peter Morenus



Researchers at the UConn Health Center have discovered a gene that causes adult onset glaucoma—the most common form of glaucoma and the second leading cause of blindness worldwide. Mansoor Sarfarazi, director of the Molecular Ophthalmic Genetics Laboratory and professor of human genetics, and graduate assistant Tayebeh Rezaie published a report on the discovery in the Feb. 8 issue of *Science*.



Peter Morenus

Hartford Courant photographer Jay Clendenin (above) speaks with students about his experiences photographing the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

(right) President Philip E. Austin shares a laugh and a plate of cookies with students at the biannual Midnight Breakfast marking the end of each semester.

## A time not soon forgotten

As with other years, the 2001–02 academic year at UConn was intended to be a particularly challenging and provocative time for the University community, and the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001, made it even more so. The fall semester included *Metanoia*, a four-day period of reflection featuring lectures and discussions on the terrorist attacks, and UConn's first Human Rights Semester, devoted to the study of human rights issues at home and abroad. There also were dramatic new developments at the Health Center and the continuation of such light-hearted traditions as the Midnight Breakfast.



Peter Morenus

## Husky soccer teams lead successful fall sports season

*UConn football tallies first win over a Big East foe*

The 2001 fall sports season was highlighted by NCAA tournament appearances by the UConn men's and women's soccer teams and the football program's first-ever victory over a Big East Conference opponent.

The women's soccer team finished with an 18-6 record, advancing to the third round of the 2001 Division I Women's College Cup. The squad concluded the regular season with a seven-game winning streak, and its 15-4 regular season record was the best regular season finish since 1998.

The men's soccer team finished with a 15-5-2 record and a 9-1 Big East mark, capturing its fourth straight Big East regular season championship. UConn earned its fifth straight—and 22nd overall—invitation to the NCAA tournament, and a first-round bye for the 2001 Men's College Cup. Reaching their eighth Big East tournament championship game, the Huskies dropped a 1-0 decision to St. John's. UConn's season ended with a 2-1 triple overtime loss to Rutgers in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The football team, in its second season of Division I-A competition, ended the year with a 2-9 record. The Huskies faced the most challenging schedule in school history, including Big East Conference opponents Virginia Tech, Temple and Rutgers. It was against Rutgers that the Huskies came away with a 20-19 come-from-behind win, the Huskies' first against a Big East opponent.

Men's cross country star Dan Wilson '01 (CLAS), competing as a redshirt senior, became only the second Husky to take the top spot at the Big East Championship. Wilson also finished first at the NCAA District I Qualifier, en route to earning a trip to the NCAA Championship, where he finished 14th and received All-America honors for the second time. The men's cross country team finished fifth overall at the Big East Championship.

The women's cross country team showed great improvement in 2001, including a team title at the Central Connecticut State University Invitational and an eighth-place finish at the New England Championship. Sarah Casilli '04 (CLAS) earned all-conference honors and became the first UConn women's cross country runner to qualify for the NCAA Championship since 1996.

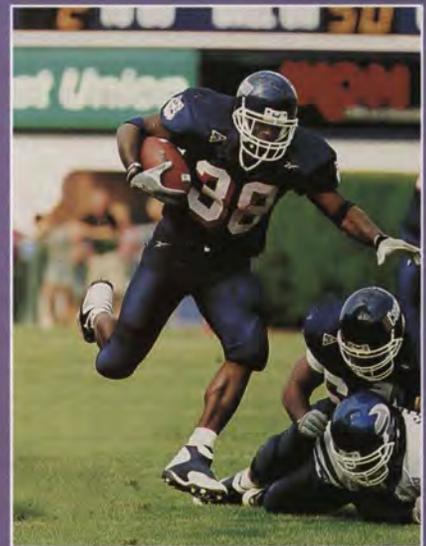
The field hockey team finished with an 8-9 overall mark. The men's golf team took fourth place at the New England Championship with a combined score of 604. The team's highest placing of the season came at the Yale Invitational, where the Huskies posted a combined score of 601 in a runner-up performance.

With a 21-7 record in 2001, the volleyball team claimed its fifth consecutive season with 20 wins or more and advanced to the Big East Championship. UConn registered a 9-3 Big East record to garner the fourth seed in the tournament, falling to eventual champion Notre Dame.

**Three-time All-American Chris Gbandi '02 (CLAS), the No. 1 overall pick in the 2002 MLS draft, selected by the Dallas Burn. Gbandi was the first three-time Big East Defensive Player of the Year and the first four-time All-Big East First Team selection in men's soccer history in the conference.**



Soccer star Casey Zimny '02 (CLAS) anchored a defense that allowed only 0.7 goals a game and recorded 13 shutouts. The senior from Rochester, N.Y., garnered several honors, including being named All-Big East, 2001 Big East Defensive Player of the Year, and a NSCAA/adidas All-American. Zimny was drafted by the WUSA's Washington Freedom.



Tailback Taber Small '02 (CLAS) in action. In their second season of competing in Division I-A, the Husky gridgers tallied a 2-9 record, including a 20-19 victory over Rutgers, UConn's first-ever football win over a Big East Conference opponent.

## Metropolitan Opera debuts partnership with UConn

*Raymond Sackler instrumental in forging historic collaboration*

Corbis



An evening view of the Metropolitan Opera at Manhattan's Lincoln Center. The Metropolitan Opera's academic partnership with the University of Connecticut is the first of its kind in the opera company's history.

The Metropolitan Opera and the University of Connecticut have commenced a new partnership that is providing students with unrivaled access to the world's most prestigious opera company. Under the terms of the pilot program, students from the School of Fine Arts are experiencing the behind-the-scenes world of the Met in New York City.

The overall objective of the Metropolitan Opera–University of Connecticut collaboration, which is the first in-depth partnership involving the Met's artistic and production areas and an institution of higher learning, is to improve the quality of opera instruction

in the United States. The project encompasses multiple activities, including production internships and auditing of rehearsals.

"We're opening a new window in the educational arena," says Joseph Volpe, general manager of the Metropolitan Opera. "This is the first time we've participated in a university program of this scope, and we are looking forward to working with the University of Connecticut as our partner in this pioneering and unique undertaking."

Raymond and Beverly Sackler, philanthropists and generous supporters of a range of UConn programs, were instrumental in forging the partnership.

"We are delighted to participate with the Metropolitan Opera in this innovative program," says UConn President Philip E. Austin. "We are tremendously grateful to Raymond Sackler for his help in making this partnership a reality. This is one in a long list of areas in which Raymond and Beverly Sackler have enhanced Connecticut's flagship public university, and we are tremendously grateful for their support."

"It is gratifying to bring together two outstanding institutions that I care deeply about, especially when unique benefits will be derived by both partners," says Raymond Sackler.

UConn's opera program has long been considered one of the country's strongest, attracting high-quality faculty and students. Last year, when David G. Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts, met with Raymond Sackler, an avid supporter of both UConn and the Met, Sackler suggested that he bring representatives of the two entities together to discuss establishing a collaborative relationship.

"Raymond Sackler is the cornerstone of this partnership," says Woods. "Through his efforts and financial support, two of his 'loves'—the Met and the University of Connecticut—are forming a relationship through which both will be enhanced."

### An incredible opportunity

During the academic year, UConn students involved in the collaboration will visit the Met to observe the rehearsals and preparatory work that go into the development of a stage production. Key guest and house production staff will meet with students to answer questions and explain the focus of specific productions.

*Continued on page 10*

## UConn a great investment, says Moody's

**B**ucking national trends during a time of economic uncertainty, the University of Connecticut's bond rating has been upgraded by Moody's Investors Service.

Moody's assigned the improved rating—Aa3— in part, because of increased student demand to attend UConn. The higher rating means revenue bonds issued to fund new construction will carry a lower interest rate and consequently will save the

University money. Previously issued bonds at higher interest rates can be refinanced too, further increasing the savings.

"What's particularly gratifying is that Moody's focused on our educational value and our financial stability because everyone at this University has worked hard to achieve both," says Lorraine Aronson, vice president for financial planning and management. "Moody's cited the dramatic increase in student



Lorraine Aronson, vice president for financial planning and management, says UConn's bond rating upgrade by Moody's Investors Services is "gratifying" because the firm focused on the University's "educational value and financial stability."

## GATES FOUNDATION AWARDS \$2M GRANT TO NEAG SCHOOL

*Grant supports professional development for Conn. educators*

**T**he Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded nearly \$2 million to the Neag School of Education on behalf of a statewide education consortium. The grant supports professional development for more than 1,600 superintendents and principals in Connecticut's public and private schools.

The Connecticut Consortium for Technology Integration in School Leadership was established to strengthen student learning across Connecticut by providing school administrators with access to high-quality leadership development. The group developed a three-year program for improving administrators' proficiency in using technology to facilitate change, make informed data-driven decisions, and enhance the quality of teaching and learning in participating schools.

"The Neag School of Education again has taken a leadership role in bringing a substantial grant to the state, which will benefit our school leaders as well as our teachers and students," says Gov. John G. Rowland. "Connecticut, a state known for its excellent schools, must remain in the forefront nationally and to do this, we need strong, effective leadership to meet the challenges of the 21st century."

The Gates Foundation grant is part of the foundation's State Challenge Grants for Leadership Development program, available to all states, which aims to provide every principal and superintendent in public and private schools with access to quality leadership development focused on system change and technology integration by 2003.

Other members of the consortium include the Connecticut Department of Education Division of School Improvement, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, Connecticut Association of Schools, Alliance of Regional Education Centers, Connecticut Commission on Technology, and the Connecticut Department of Information Technology.

The consortium members have matched the Gates Foundation grant with another \$2.8 million, bringing the total committed to the project to just over \$4.8 million.

demand and how competitively priced the University is."

The new rating supports a \$75 million bond issue for construction of new housing on North Campus and the Greek Village complex behind the Towers Residence Halls.

The rating upgrade is in contrast to downgrades public and private universities across the nation are facing as the recession continues and state governments pare university appropriations. Moody's recently changed its outlook for private universities from "positive" to "cautiously stable" and its outlook for public universities from "positive" to "stable."

"Moody's considers UConn a great investment, partly because we're doing a good job with other investments that have been made in the University," Aronson says. "The state invested in UCONN 2000 and our campuses are being transformed. That drives individuals and corporations to contribute to the University, which helps produce a dramatic upturn in academics and research. Moody's is saying 'this is the place you want to put your money.'"

**Met/SFA partnership**

*Continued from page 8*

Timothy Noble, a baritone who has performed with opera companies around the world, made his Metropolitan Opera debut in 1988 and has performed with the company numerous times. Currently a professor of voice at the Indiana University School of Music, Noble says the Met-UConn partnership is a one-of-a-kind collaboration.

“To see how the premier opera company in North America operates is an incredible opportunity for the young people in UConn’s fine arts program,” Noble says.

UConn’s opera program has long attracted students from around the

world, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in opera. Current and former students are excited about the school’s new partnership and predict it will create a wealth of opportunities for future music graduates.

Albert Lee ’98 (SFA) is now performing with opera companies around the country.

“My undergraduate years at UConn were four of the most wonderful years of my life, thanks in part to the individual attention, basic music knowledge, and wealth of performance opportunities I received,” Lee says. “This partnership will give students a firsthand look at the rehearsal process of a major opera company and will cement UConn’s place as one of the best fine arts institutions in the country.”

Under the terms of the landmark program, John Froelich, a first-year graduate student in lighting design, is interning at the Met this semester. After working in the areas of lighting design, costume design, scenery and production management, he will choose one area of concentration and will return to the Met in August to work in that area. Froelich, who has a bachelor’s degree in lighting and sound design and has worked in the field, says the internship will provide him with valuable experience. “This is going to mean a tremendous amount to me,” he says. “Having experience with the Metropolitan Opera is not something anyone in my profession can ignore.”

— Allison Thompson

**People’s Bank pledges \$500,000 to UConn**

**P**eople’s Bank has pledged more than \$500,000 to the University, in a new effort to support secondary education initiatives and to develop a well trained workforce in the state. It is the largest donation from a bank in the history of the University and among the largest by People’s Bank to any institution of higher learning.

“As Connecticut’s bank . . . it’s important to form a partnership with Connecticut’s flagship university,” says John A. Klein ’71 (CLAS) ’77 J.D., People’s president and chief executive officer.



“It’s the duty of business to help keep the best and

brightest here in our state. Supporting UConn is supporting the economic viability of our state.”

Through a comprehensive effort called “A Partnership to Nurture Connecticut’s Future,” People’s is targeting several areas that will have a positive impact on the strength of Connecticut’s workforce. These contributions will support programs in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, School of Medicine, Neag School of Education, and the School of Business. The bank’s pledge will support a number of initiatives, including

- A program to pay students in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences a stipend for internships at non-profit and government agencies that cannot afford to compensate them. This will allow students who could not forego a summer or semester of paid employment to gain experience while providing additional assistance to these agencies and their clients.
- The UConn Health Center’s model program for introducing pre-college students from underrepresented groups to careers in the health care professions. People’s gift will help electronically link area schools with Health Center resources and provide summer research fellowships, allowing promising students to work with distinguished scientists.
- The nationally recognized, comprehensive school reform program at the Neag School of Education. People’s support will bring this program to schools across the state, working to improve education and touch the lives of thousands of children.
- The UConn Family Business Center will sponsor an annual award named for Louis H. Ulizio ’58 (RHSA), ’64 (BUS), ’66 M.B.A., and People’s Bank. Ulizio, a founder of the Family Business Center, recently retired as People’s executive vice president for commercial banking.

## Little stone house pays tribute to Conn. agriculture

*A tie to UConn's roots as an agriculture school*

If you live in New England, it's not hard to gather a collection of stones in your backyard. Back in the 1930s, Mr. A.P. Marsh of New Britain, Conn., had just such a collection. It was a collection that came not from his own backyard, however; it came from the country's backyard.

Marsh had collected stones from each of Connecticut's eight counties. He also had collected stones from each of the 48 states that made up the United States at that time. Lots of stones. Enough for the retaining wall he planned to build at his house.

But then Marsh began to think that the stones were too fine to put into a wall and instead he donated the collection to the Connecticut Grange, of which he was an active member.

The Grange, a national organization of farmers, decided to use the stones for a tribute to agriculture by building a

memorial on the campus of Connecticut State College. The Grange had been active in supporting the creation of the college when it began in 1881 as Storrs Agricultural School and had continued to support the institution as it fought off various proposals to limit its enrollment, move it elsewhere, or shut it down.

On May 16, 1937, nearly 3,000 members of the Grange came to the college for the dedication of what has been referred to over the years as "the stone shelter," "the stone pavilion," and—in recent years—"the little stone house." The occasion was the ninth annual Grange Sunday, and the guest speaker was Louis I. Taber of Columbus, Ohio, master of the National Grange.

Following a service in nearby Storrs Congregational Church and while Grangers ate their basket lunches on the lawn, Taber addressed the crowd, saying

the stone building was "to commemorate the service of Connecticut agriculture to the state and the nation."

Albert N. Jorgensen, just two years into his 27-year tenure as president, responded on behalf of the college. He said the building was also dedicated to Connecticut youth, adding his hope that "this building will be used by the good sons and daughters of Good Grangers."

A bronze tablet identifies the stones from the 48 states. Name plates were added in the 1960s, when stones from Alaska and Hawaii were incorporated into the structure.

Today, secluded among the trees—including an elm planted by the Class of 1905—the little stone house stands on a rocky rise along North Eagleville Road, in front of the Congregational Church's Community House and across from Swan Lake.

— Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)



Nestled on a rocky triangle of ground off North Eagleville Road since 1937, the "little stone house" pays tribute to UConn's agricultural past. (above) A view of an interior wall featuring stones from all 50 states, including this disk of petrified wood from Arizona and a stone from an Arkansas quarry.



Peter Morenus

## School of Medicine

### New cardiology chief named

Bruce T. Liang's fascination with the inner workings of the human heart started more than 20 years ago when he was a student at Harvard Medical School. Since then, he has eagerly pursued research initiatives to improve patient care, has amassed a formidable amount of research support (including 16 consecutive years of funding from the National Institutes of Health), and continues a strong commitment to translational research—research that goes beyond the lab and brings improvements to patients with heart disease.

Liang has brought his research and clinical acumen to UConn as chief of the Division of Cardiology at the Health Center and as the Raymond Neag Distinguished Professor of Vascular Biology and Cardiovascular Medicine. Liang joins the School of Medicine's faculty after 13 years at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He says he is thrilled about his new appointment because it allows him to work in academic medicine and to further build the Health Center's cardiology research program.

"Advances in how we treat patients are always deeply rooted in science," he says. "It comes from a better understanding of the biology of the heart and of the human genome."

Liang is widely published in scholarly journals, and his research has produced five patents, with another five patent applications pending.

Liang also plans to significantly increase the clinical activity within the Division of Cardiology. He is already recruiting new clinicians and intends to add one non-invasive cardiologist to the division this year and two more cardiac specialists within the next three years.

Teaching and interacting with medical students and residents is another high priority, Liang stresses. "I feel that I can explain the science behind the clinical issues, and help them see the connections between the basic science that they've learned and the clinical problems they encounter during medical school," he adds.

## School of Allied Health

### Eyewitness to history

When Julie Polito '02 (SAH) and Randi Klein '02 (SAH) began their respective internships last August, they expected to gain valuable experience in physical therapy. On September 11, 2001, the two students found themselves closer to history-shaping events than they had ever dreamed possible.

When the World Trade Center was attacked and destroyed, each student was in the midst of the one of three full-time internships required of UConn physical therapy students: Klein at Christ Hospital in Jersey City, N.J., and Polito at Saint Vincent's Hospital in lower Manhattan.

The closest hospital to Ground Zero, Saint Vincent's was designated a Trauma 1 Center and all staff were required to remain on duty. Because she is a student, Polito was allowed to leave, but she was unable to reach her family's home in Chester, N.J., because all bridges and tunnels into and out of Manhattan were closed. Polito returned to Saint Vincent's, where she helped administer direct care to survivors of the attacks.

"Some people were crying, some people were screaming and I was among those whose jaws dropped open and just felt shock," says Polito. "Then I got myself together, threw on my lab coat and just started working."

Like hospitals throughout the metropolitan New York area, Christ Hospital initiated emergency procedures. Klein was part of a team that set up a triage center in the hospital parking lot to handle the expected rush of injured survivors.

Polito and Klein both are saddened there weren't more survivors to treat but have taken solace in being able to help people in the wake of the attacks.

"I feel this was truly one of—if not *the*—hardest days of my life," Polito says. "However, it made me appreciate being in a position to help people and in a profession that allows me to do so. Instead of watching everything unfold on television, I was able to help out, although everyone wished we could have seen more people and done more."

"The experience made me feel good about becoming a health professional," Klein says, "because at least we were able to do something."

While serving as interns in the New York City area, Randi Klein '02 (SAH), right, and Julie Polito '02 (SAH) found themselves swept up in the events of September 11.



Peter Morenus

## School of Family Studies

### *A pound of cure*

The theory and practice of prevention is a rapidly emerging emphasis in the School of Family Studies, as demonstrated by a number of public seminars and a new interdisciplinary, graduate-level course.

"The prevention of human and societal problems is a challenging issue in many different disciplines, and it is of national significance because of the serious problems we face, such as AIDS, terrorism, child abuse, violence, poverty and racism," says Family Studies Professor James O'Neil. "We want to stimulate dialogue about these problems and get more people involved in preventing them."

During ongoing symposia, the school's faculty and guest speakers are addressing the importance of prevention, particularly as it relates to abuse and violence, and using forgiveness to heal emotional and psychological wounds. The first presentation, held in February, touched on the value of prevention in stopping child abuse and neglect.

The Family Violence Initiative, a group of Family Studies faculty concerned with understanding, preventing, and treating the effects of violence, will lead two seminars in April. The symposia will give participants a chance to assess whether they have been victims of emotional or psychological abuse, provide counsel to those who believe they may be abuse victims, and promote helping people heal through forgiveness.

The graduate course being offered is called Prevention, Intervention and Policy. During the course, O'Neil and eight other professors (who have all published work on prevention) will discuss prevention initiatives they have implemented. The goal of the class is to train preventionists and increase student involvement in prevention activities.

"Primary prevention is a hopeful, forward-looking perspective and is consistent with the School's emphasis on development and on social policy," says Charles M. Super, dean of the School of Family Studies. "For individuals and for the community, and for taxpayers who so often pay dearly to try and repair damaged humans, prevention needs to be part of our future."

## School of Fine Arts

### *Art professor receives twin honors*

Bette Talvacchia is writing a book about Raphael, the noted Italian Renaissance painter, and exploring 15th- and 16th-century religious art, thanks to two prestigious fellowships she received in late 2001.

Talvacchia, a professor of art history who has been at UConn since 1981, was awarded a Frese Senior Fellowship to conduct research at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., and an Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art to write a monograph on Raphael (1483–1529).

At the Center for Advanced Study, Talvacchia examined the use of sexual imagery in religious paintings during the Renaissance. This research is an outgrowth of her 1999 book, *Taking Positions: On the Erotic in Renaissance Culture*, for which she studied prints that used vivid sexual depictions as their subject matter. She is examining how sexual motifs were employed suggestively, symbolically or metaphorically within the context of religious imagery.

In her research, Talvacchia says, she "came across bits of information and particular objects that indicated that this kind of imagery was used for religious works, and I found that fascinating. Now, I'm exploring the ways in which cultures approach the use of the body as an image and what



they think of as appropriate for works that deal with religious subjects."

Talvacchia has also started research for the monograph on Raphael, who is best known for his Madonna paintings and other works on exhibit in the Vatican. The book will be part of a series called *Art and Ideas*. Talvacchia says she welcomed the opportunity to write the book because of her love for Renaissance art and because she wanted to raise recognition of Raphael's work. Although many people have heard of him, "they really don't have a sense of what his accomplishments were, in comparison to his contemporary, Michelangelo," Talvacchia says.

"I want to present Raphael in his historical context, and I think that will make his art much more interesting and exciting," says Talvacchia.

## School of Law

### *Flynn-Martin Fund for Excellence to benefit law school*

Dan Flynn '62 J.D. knows from experience that the UConn School of Law provides a quality education, attracting top-notch faculty, students and legal scholars to its distinctive campus in Hartford's West End. He also knows a thing or two about the importance of investing for the future. Flynn is president of the Resource Management Corporation, an investment advisory firm based in Farmington. Since 1988 he has also been head of the John G. Martin Foundation, and it is through this trust that he and his wife, Barbara, have pledged \$1 million to create the Flynn-Martin Fund for Excellence at the School of Law.

The proceeds of this endowment—worth \$1.5 million thanks to the state matching endowment program—will provide resources to advance the School of Law's national reputation, support a variety of academic pursuits of faculty,



Dan Flynn '62 J.D., and his wife, Barbara

and bring national and international legal scholars to the law school to lecture on issues of importance to the national legal community.

"The activities funded by Dan Flynn's generous gift will raise the school's national profile and ultimately help us achieve our goal of becoming one of the top 10 public law schools in the country," says Nell Jessup Newton, dean of the School of Law.

Flynn has a long and distinguished history as a benefactor to the University. A member of the Founders Society Gold Club, he is a former president of the University of Connecticut Law School Foundation Board of Trustees and

serves as the chair for the Law School campaign.

In 1997, Flynn and the Martin Foundation established the Flynn-Martin International Law Fund to bring visiting international faculty to the Law School each year. He also received the Distinguished Graduate Award from the Law School Alumni Association in 1999.

## School of Business

### *Robert Cizik '53 expands support for faculty*

Robert Cizik '53 (BUS), recently donated \$250,000 to create the Robert Cizik Professorship in Manufacturing and Technology Management in the School of Business. This recent donation is Cizik's second notable investment in the School. In 1997, he committed \$500,000 to create an endowed chair of strategic technology management in the School of Business.

The new donation will enable the School to continue recognizing faculty excellence in the manufacturing and technology field. The state's matching endowment program boosts the total value of Cizik's two commitments to \$1.025 million.

The chair and professorship will help foster the development of leaders and manufacturing professionals with solid engineering and business decision-making skills. The investment should also bring together faculty from a variety of disciplines and overlapping interests in manufacturing excellence to advance the state's evolution as a leader in global manufacturing competitiveness, says Thomas Gutteridge, dean of the School of Business.

"The on-going support of the Cizik family for faculty excellence related to manufacturing and technology will allow the School to continue developing its strong focus on technology in business," Gutteridge says.

Currently, Steve Floyd is the Robert Cizik Chair of Strategic Management, Technology and Manufacturing, while Jeff Rummel assumes the Robert Cizik Professorship in Manufacturing and Technology Management.

Cizik, who retired in 1997 as chairman and chief executive officer of Cooper Industries, a Houston-based manufacturer of electrical products, tools and hardware, and automotive products, and his wife, Jane, have long been active philanthropists, supporting both the arts and academic institutions.

"We've been very fortunate," says Cizik, "and we both realize how important education was to our success. We agreed long ago to do what we could to support the academic side of those institutions from which we benefited."

To support strong academic programs, the Ciziks have chosen to invest in the development of faculty expertise at UConn. "Bricks and mortar are unquestionably important," says Cizik, "but we like to put our support behind human capital."

## School of Nursing

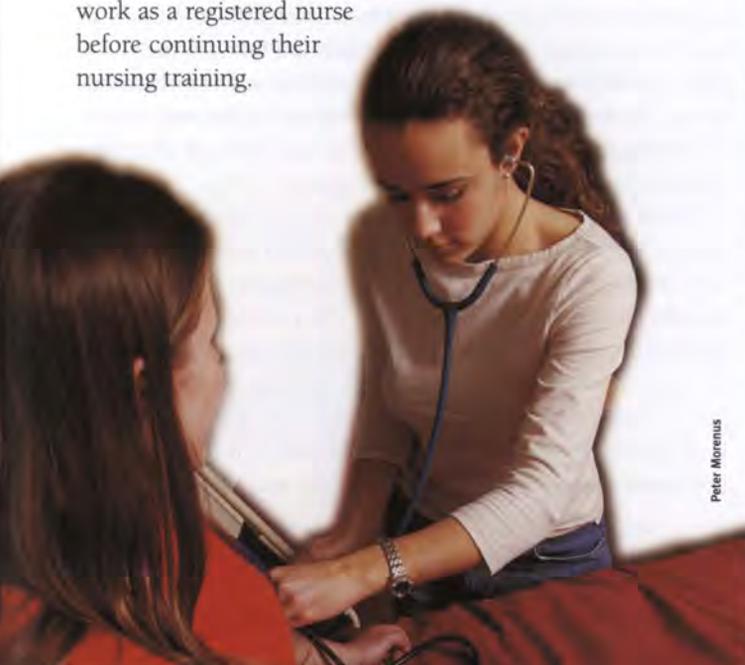
### Basic Nursing Certificate program approved

The School of Nursing has received approval from the Connecticut Department of Higher Education and the Connecticut State Board of Nurse Examiners to introduce a Basic Nursing Certificate program at the Storrs campus in January 2003. The program is an intensive, 45-credit, one-year program in general nursing that offers professionals in other fields an opportunity to enter the nursing profession.

The new program seeks to address Connecticut's—and the nation's—growing shortage of nurses. The Basic Nursing Certificate program is already showing its potential to help remedy the situation with the School of Nursing receiving more than 100 inquiries last year, says Laura Dzurec, dean of the School of Nursing. "This program taps a population of people who realize that nursing is an exciting profession with a wide range of opportunities," says Dzurec.

Who's likely to take advantage of the fast-track program? There is no typical student. Among the first 100 people to inquire about the program are attorneys, people with advanced degrees, and individuals currently working in a variety of fields. They range in age from their mid-20s to their 50s. The thing they have in common, says Dzurec, is that they are mature enough to see the potential offered through a career in nursing."

Although the program for initial licensure is completed in 12 months, Dzurec stresses that the curriculum is challenging. Participants must have a solid academic grounding in anatomy and physiology, chemistry, biology, genetics and microbiology before they can enroll. After the first 12 months, students take the registered nursing licensure examination for Connecticut, Dzurec says. At that point, students can continue in the program for a master's degree, or choose to work as a registered nurse before continuing their nursing training.



Peter Morenus



Peter Morenus

## School of Pharmacy

### Pharmacy faculty face the cameras

Stand by, you're on! That's the cue to which several UConn pharmacists are now learning to respond.

Four School of Pharmacy faculty members are turning to television to reach an audience they rarely, if ever, have access to. Working with NBC 30 News, a network affiliate in West Hartford, Conn., the UConn team is presenting a twice-monthly segment on the 10 a.m. newscast called "Ask the Pharmacist."

Viewers are encouraged to submit questions through e-mail and members of the pharmacy practice department, Marla Campbell, Jon Folstad, Michael White, and Robert McCarthy, the pharmacy practice department head, take turns responding. The questions are answered live on the air, with the responses also posted to the NBC 30 Web site.

"This kind of a commitment does two things," says McCarthy. "It provides community service, fulfilling the mission of the University, and it gives our pharmacists an opportunity to share their knowledge and insights from their practice and research with a wider audience within the state."

When McCarthy arrived at UConn last August, one of his goals was to encourage his faculty to develop a partnership with local media. With the help of the Office of University Communications, the partnership was formed with the local NBC affiliate.

"The important thing is that we now have an avenue to reach thousands more people than we'd ever see face-to-face and can answer questions from one person that apply to hundreds of others who may be watching the newscast," says Folstad. With nearly 3 million prescriptions being filled in the United States this year, it stands to reason that more people than ever before have questions about the medications they are taking.

McCarthy believes that by increasing the UConn pharmacists' visibility, "Ask the Pharmacist" will enable the viewers to get beyond the stereotypical image of a pharmacist as a pill counter, and realize the depth and breadth of knowledge available at their local pharmacy.

## College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

### *U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro receives first Storrs brothers award*

U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro was honored with the first Augustus and Charles Storrs Award during the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' second annual Leaders Forum, held last November.

The award recognizes those who through their leadership, generosity, and belief in the future of Connecticut support the College in its service to the state, region and nation.

DeLauro received the award for her work on behalf of the College, the Cooperative Extension System, and the Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station and for her support in many areas related to the College's programs, says Kirklyn Kerr, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

"Congresswoman DeLauro has been especially supportive of programs at the University of Connecticut and our College," says Kerr. "We wanted to give her appropriate recognition and let her know how proud we are of her and her work on behalf of the people of Connecticut."

DeLauro is the only member of Connecticut's congressional delegation on the agriculture subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. She is in her sixth term representing Connecticut's Third Congressional District.

As a member of the House agriculture appropriations subcommittee, DeLauro helps direct policy development and



**U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro**

implementation of extension, education and research programs through partnerships between the federal government and land-grant universities throughout the nation. She played a key role in obtaining federal funding for the College's new Agricultural Biotechnology Laboratory, dedicated in spring 2001, and has supported numerous research programs at the College.

DeLauro says she is "very proud" to be the first recipient of the Storrs Award. "This award rightfully honors the generous gift of 17 acres and \$6,000 given [by the Storrs brothers] . . . in 1881, which helped to make this remarkable land-grant university a reality," DeLauro says. "From its beginning, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Connecticut Agricultural Extension System, and the Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station have served the state with distinction."

## School of Social Work

### *Zachs and Konover families step forward again*

The Zachs and Konover families, both long-time supporters of the School of Social Work, have each pledged major contributions to enhance programs and facilities at the School.

A \$300,000 gift from Judith and Henry Zachs funded the establishment of the new Zachs Community Room at the School. "There existed a significant unmet need at the Greater Hartford campus for a gathering center for faculty, students and the community," says Judith Zachs '77 M.S.W. "There was also a need to reach out to the community at large with this type of resource."

The room, located in the School's former computer center, can be used for seminars, receptions, meetings, and other activities. The room is available for use by both the University and local community.

The community room is the Zachs family's latest expression of support for the University. In 1999, Judith Zachs, a former director of the UConn Foundation, committed \$1

million to establish the Henry M. and Judith M. Zachs Endowed Chair for Doctoral Studies in Social Work.

Michael Konover, son of long-time benefactors Simon and Doris Konover, and his wife, Vicki Myers Konover '96 M.S.W., have pledged \$100,000 to endow the Vicki and Michael Konover Graduate Fellowship in Social Work. The endowment is intended to provide scholarships to outstanding doctoral students with a demonstrated financial need and who may be members of traditionally underrepresented groups from the Greater Hartford area. An additional \$50,000 has been added to the Konover's latest gift through the state's matching endowment program.

As New England's only doctoral program in social work at a public university, interested students in Connecticut will no longer have to travel outside the region to earn their doctoral degrees in social work, says Kay Davidson, dean of the School of Social Work. The program meets a growing demand for social work scholars, researchers, and educators and provides new knowledge to support the profession, Davidson says, adding: "This doctoral program is extremely important to the school, to the University and to the state."

## College of Continuing Studies

### New focus in occupational and environmental safety and health introduced

To meet a growing need for professionals with specialized training in safety and environmental regulation compliance, the College of Continuing Studies has expanded its Certificate Program in Occupational Safety and Health into a new focus area for Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) students.

A majority of workplaces in the United States are subject to the regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). "OSHA exists for the workers' protection, and the EPA protects the environment and citizenry," says Charles Reese, a professor at CCS who has developed and teaches courses in safety and health. "The goal is to have workers arrive at and leave from the workplace in the same condition—safe and healthy—and to accomplish this in a way that has a minimal impact on the environment."

Offered through the School of Allied Health, the Occupational Safety and Health Certificate Program includes courses in safety and health management, industrial hygiene, accident prevention techniques, occupational safety and health regulations, and ergonomics. "Our students come from a wide range of industries and work settings," says Reese. "Ninety-two BGS students have elected to earn a certificate in occupational safety and health, and several have gone on to become safety and health specialists, engineers, and compliance officers."

Many of Reese's BGS students expressed a desire for additional course offerings, and it was this growing demand that led to the creation of the new Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health focus. In addition to the Allied Health courses from the original certificate program, the new curriculum includes instruction on chemical and safety hazards, environmental issues, and environmental laws and regulations. The focus also includes an online component, with four courses offered via the Internet.

"The online format makes it easier for our working students," says Reese. "We're glad to be able to reach people who wouldn't otherwise have easy access to a course. By educating students on issues, we can help make the workplace a safer, healthier place for everybody."



Shannon McAvoy

## School of Engineering

### Global fuel cell center established

Federal and state agencies, along with private industry, are investing \$14.5 million to create the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center, which will include six endowed chairs, two donated fuel cell power plants, and a recently constructed state-of-the-art facility at the main campus.

"In order to enhance the existing foundation of fuel cell technology in Connecticut and help our fuel cell companies more effectively compete in the global market, we must attract and retain superior scientific and engineering talent to Connecticut," says Amir Faghri, dean of the School of Engineering, who plans to attract world leaders in fuel cell research and development to fill the six new chairs.

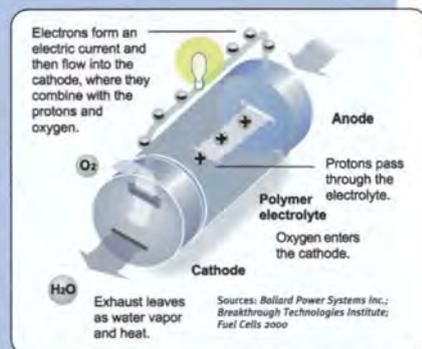
Fuel cells offer one of the best alternatives to conventional electrical power. They are quiet, efficient and virtually pollution-free. They generate electricity and heat through a chemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen, with the only by-product being water vapor.

The multi-million dollar investments include a challenge endowment from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, the state's renewable energy investment fund. The agreement provides for a \$3.5 million endowment from the fund, to be matched by funding from private industry and the University. In addition, Congress has earmarked \$2.5 million for research at the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center.

The Center—built with a \$2 million grant from the federal Economic Development Administration and \$670,000 in matching funds from UCONN 2000—will be powered by a fuel cell developed and manufactured by FuelCell Energy Inc. and underwritten by the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund at a cost of \$1.25 million.

A second fuel cell worth about \$1 million was donated by Connecticut Natural Gas in December and is being installed at the United Technologies Engineering Building.

The historic agreement establishing the center of excellence could not have come at a better time. The Bush administration is expected to shift more funding into fuel cell research, including forming a partnership with U.S. automakers to accelerate the development of fuel cell powered cars while moving away from support of hybrid cars that run on gasoline and electricity.



A simplified diagram showing how a fuel cell produces energy

## College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### Enhancing interferon to counter virus resistance

Two researchers working at UConn's Center for Excellence in Vaccine Research have discovered a procedure that can overcome virus resistance to the action of interferon, a naturally occurring protein that is the first line of defense used by the body against viral infection.

"Although the interferon system can be highly effective as a defense against viruses, it can fail because some viruses have evolved elaborate mechanisms to mask activation of interferon," say Professors Philip I. Marcus and Margaret J. Sekellick, virologists in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology.

Marcus and Sekellick report that body cells recognize the presence of a virus within minutes because a virus produces a unique molecule known as double-stranded ribonucleic acid (dsRNA) within the cell.

The molecule consists of a twisted coil made up of two strands of RNA. The cell is exquisitely sensitive to the presence of this coil of dsRNA. Some cells can detect as little as a single molecule of dsRNA and combat the virus by producing a full yield of interferon.

Once detected by the infected cell, dsRNA triggers a series of reactions that lead to the activation of otherwise dormant interferon genes.

Virus dsRNA plays two roles in the interferon system, the UConn researchers report: It induces the cell to produce interferon, and it activates the antiviral action in interferon-treated cells. Marcus and Sekellick knew that some viruses resisted the action of interferon because these viruses also produced proteins that would absorb the viral dsRNA so that the body cells remained dormant.

Marcus and Sekellick reasoned that it might be possible to counter the virus defense mechanism if dsRNA was delivered to the cell in sufficient quantities to overwhelm what the virus could absorb. Using this technique, the UConn researchers report, when dsRNA is added to interferon-treated cells that are unable to thwart the viral infections, many viruses can no longer resist the action of the interferon.

Marcus and Sekellick say that future research will determine whether interferon's ability to combat certain types of tumors may be enhanced using the combined interferon-dsRNA treatment.



Professors Philip I. Marcus and Margaret J. Sekellick, virologists in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, have discovered a procedure that can overcome virus resistance to the action of interferon, a naturally occurring protein that is the first line of defense used by the body against viral infection.

### New math, science master's degrees introduced

Three new professional master's degree programs in science and mathematics are being developed at UConn for students who want to pursue graduate training in emerging fields that require advanced education in the sciences. The New York-based Sloan Foundation has awarded a \$400,000 grant to UConn to initiate three, two-year professional master's degree programs in applied genomics, applied financial mathematics and microbial systems analysis to prepare students for careers in business or government. Each of the programs will offer training in an emerging or interdisciplinary area and will include internships and "cross-training" in business and communications.

During the past three years, the Sloan Foundation has helped launch new master's of science degrees at 30 universities with strong graduate programs in the sciences and mathematics. All have been developed in concert with industry and are designed to dovetail into present and future vocational opportunities.

The Sloan Foundation and others are seeking to spark a national movement to incorporate these degrees into mainstream higher education, giving them the same cachet as an M.B.A. or a law degree.

The goal is to create a new type of degree for students with bachelor's degrees in the sciences, mathematics, or engineering that equips them to work in fields such as genetics, pharmaceuticals, consulting, banking, insurance, research management and technology transfer.

"Until now these students have had nowhere to go, except directly into industry, where, as terminal bachelor's degree holders, they are housed in research labs as techies," says Linda Strausbaugh, professor of molecular and cell biology and co-director of the Sloan program at UConn.

The University expects to launch the programs next fall and looks to have five to 10 students in each program. However, it must first win approval from the University's board of trustees and the State Board of Education. Initial reaction to the concept has been positive and approval is expected.

## Neag School of Education

### *APA endorses school psychology program*

The Neag School of Education's graduate program in school psychology has received accreditation from the American Psychological Association—a prestigious seal of approval in the field of psychology.

Attaining the endorsement is a long, arduous process, involving intensive self-study by the faculty and a site visit by a team of peers. Only 52 programs in the nation are currently accredited with just two other APA-accredited programs in New England.

"We are enormously proud of this accomplishment," says Sally Reis, head of the educational psychology department in the Neag School of Education. "The APA accreditation is incredibly difficult to earn, and we could not have received it without support from the University and the Neag School."

The American Psychology Association's goal is to promote excellence in psychology training programs and provide professional and objective evaluation of them as a service to the public, prospective students and the profession.

"The school psychology program is one of the Neag School's strongest graduate programs and an area that our strategic plan has identified as a center of excellence," says Richard Schwab, dean of the Neag School of Education.

Thomas Kehle heads the graduate program and led the accreditation process. "APA accreditation clearly states that our program, including our faculty, students, course work, practicum and internship placements, are of high quality," says Kehle.

It is Kehle's experience that schools look upon the APA seal as an indicator that the graduates are well prepared to practice and offer high levels of professionalism. That is one of the many advantages, he says. Students will also have more options for internship placements. In addition, involvement in APA conferences and committees will keep the faculty in step with the newest developments in the field—from legislation that affects practice to a variety of the scientifically based best methods in assessment and training.

One of the greatest anticipated benefits will be a wider pool of student applicants. Currently the program receives 50 to 70 applications each year, but with the accreditation, Kehle expects upward of 150.

## School of Dental Medicine

### *Pilot project launched to serve needy children*

The School of Dental Medicine has opened new dental offices for needy children in West Haven and Newington, Conn.

The offices will serve as a pilot project to determine ways to improve dental care to the state's underserved population of Medicaid youngsters. Dental school faculty staff the offices, with support from private dentists and dental hygiene students.

The two-year pilot project has been funded by the Connecticut General Assembly. The School of Dental Medicine is the primary provider of dental care to the state's Medicaid population.

"Our goal is to look at ways to get more dental care to disadvantaged children throughout the state," says Peter Robinson, dean of the School of Dental Medicine. "This is a population with special needs, and the new dental offices provide services that take these special needs into account."

Private dentists help staff the offices on a rotating basis. They receive education and training from dental school faculty on current techniques for providing dental services to youngsters who may have behavioral problems. The offices also have a care coordinator to help patients and their families with transportation and child care issues.

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, while 44 million Americans lack medical insurance, about 108 million lack dental insurance. Uninsured children are 2.5 times less likely to receive dental care than insured youngsters, and three times as likely to have unmet dental needs than their insured peers.

"Eliminating some of the disparities in dental care is an important mission for our dental school," says Robinson. "By working with the state on this pilot project, we hope to develop a program that works well for Connecticut and could serve as a model for the rest of the country."

The dental school also operates five other dental clinics that are open to the public: the Burgdorf Clinic and the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford, the New Britain Hospital for Special Care, Yale-New Haven Hospital, and Brooker Memorial Clinic in Torrington. Treatment is provided solely by UConn faculty, dental residents or fellows (dentists seeking advanced training).



Peter Morenus



## The little plant that could

*UConn's Roberto Gaxiola leads effort to develop plants resistant to sodium and drought*

A team of scientists led by UConn plant biologist Roberto Gaxiola has genetically engineered a plant that thrives in salty soil and can survive extended drought conditions. This breakthrough could lead to the reclamation of farmlands lost to the build up of salt in topsoil and lack of rainfall.

Using knowledge gained from the genome sequence of the mustard weed *Arabidopsis thaliana*, the researchers engineered a genetic pump inside the plant cells that sequesters ions—

including sodium (salt) ions—into large storage spaces called vacuoles within the plant's cells. In this manner, researchers were able to eliminate toxic ions, such as sodium, from the plant's main circulation, allowing normal plant metabolism to proceed. The enhanced uptake of ions into the vacuoles also improves the transgenic plants' water retention, increasing their resistance to drought.

"Our results suggest that this kind of genetic manipulation of economically

important crops could provide a crucial avenue for crop improvement," says Gaxiola, an assistant professor of plant science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources who conducted the study with colleagues at the Harvard Medical School, University of California at San Diego and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The team's discovery has commercial as well as scientific implications. The World Bank predicts that continued growth in world population over the

next 30 years will require a 60 percent increase in food production in developing countries, which are the most affected by drought and salinity.

"The prospect of feeding humanity as we enter the new millennium is formidable, and transgenic approaches like ours will become crucial to tackling the agricultural challenges faced by developing nations," says Gaxiola.

Charles Goodwin, director of technology licensing for UConn's Center for Science and Technology Commercialization, says the Center, together with the Whitehead Institute at MIT, has applied for patents resulting from the team's findings.

"We expect this technique can be applied to many crop plants," Goodwin says. "We're looking for companies interested in commercializing this approach." Depending on the crop, Gaxiola says, it would take between two and four years to engineer viable transgenic commercial crops.

"I decided to come to the Department of Plant Science because of the newly created emphasis of biotechnology research initiated by Dean [Kirklyn] Kerr and the department head, Gerald Berkowitz," says Gaxiola, who worked at MIT before coming to UConn in January 2000. "This research direction is in line with my overall research interests, and I am optimistic that this new endeavor will find continued support from both the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University."

### Transforming wastelands

Scientists have been trying to develop drought-tolerant and salt-tolerant crop varieties for decades to help farmers in arid regions around the globe. For example, in Gaxiola's native Mexico, many farmers depend on rainfall to water their crops. Under these conditions a week without rain often can mean the difference between success and failure. Other farmers use irrigation

water to grow crops. Yet as the water flows from its source in rivers and streams, soluble minerals such as sodium are picked up and deposited in farmers' fields. The gradual accumulation of salt in the topsoil can transform productive farmlands into wastelands.

Plant cells are like balloons full of water under pressure. Vacuoles make up about 90 percent of a cell's volume and are responsible for growth

## Genetic manipulation of economically vital crops could provide an important avenue for crop improvement

and plant rigidity. Water molecules easily pass in and out of plant cells, yet the cells cannot control this movement. Instead, it is the concentration of dissolved substances such as sodium ions in and outside plant cells that affects water movement. As plants seek to equalize the concentrations of solute inside and outside their cells, water flows between the cells through the process known as osmosis.

Gaxiola and his team wondered whether the storage capacity of plant vacuoles could be increased. They reasoned that by increasing vacuolar storage capacity to accumulate solute concentrations, a plants' salt and drought tolerance could be enhanced.

To sequester salt into vacuoles, plant cells depend on electrochemical energy generated by two vacuolar pumps; then, proteins that act as revolving doors use this electrochemical energy to transport sodium into the vacuoles, Gaxiola explains. In principle, genetically modifying the plant to increase the dosage of either of these pumps would increase the vacuole's storage capacity, he says.

*Arabidopsis thaliana* has become an especially useful tool for plant researchers because it is one of the

few laboratory plants that has its entire genome sequenced. Gaxiola and his team took advantage of the fact that one of the vacuolar pumps is encoded by a single gene. By bio-engineering laboratory *Arabidopsis* plants to overexpress the gene, the group was able to confirm its hypothesis that the vacuolar pump gene would boost the tolerance to sodium and drought.

Indeed, the salt ions stored in the transgenic plant vacuoles were significantly higher than in wild specimens used as control plants, Gaxiola says. Similarly, after being deprived of water for six days, the wild specimens died while the transgenic plants survived even after ten days under identical conditions.

"This is a result of the elevated vacuolar content that allows for greater water retention, permitting plants to survive under conditions of low rainfall," Gaxiola explains.



A wild specimen of *Arabidopsis thaliana* (left) and two genetically engineered specimens of the plant after recovery from 10 days of drought stress. The genetically engineered specimens are more robust because of their resistance to salt and drought conditions.

He cautions, however, that if low-quality water was used to irrigate a new generation of salt-tolerant crops, history would repeat itself. "If this practice continues," Gaxiola says, "it will eventually result in soils with enough salt to outstrip the protective mechanism engineered in transgenic plants."

— David Bauman

# Students

## Focusing on family medicine

*A journey to Appalachia helped Becky Eleck find her true path*

**B**ecky Eleck '03 (CLAS) wants to pursue a career in family medicine. During a three-week journey to visit health clinics in the rugged mountains of eastern Kentucky last summer, Eleck saw her future start to come into focus.

In a sleepy little town called Stinking Creek, Kentucky, she stayed with a midwife who has delivered babies in the area for more than 50 years. The woman, who is now in her 70s, once lived in a house with mud floors and rode a horse to get from home to home.

"Their standards of the good life are different from ours," explains Eleck. Luxury items include a trailer with running water and electricity, a vehicle with four-wheel drive and a washing machine.

"It was eye opening. The doctors I met were so welcoming and inspiring. Everyplace I went, people [in the communities] offered me a place to stay," notes Eleck. A \$2,000 grant from UConn's undergraduate summer research program helped to finance the trip, which was initiated and designed by Eleck.

A few years earlier, reading about Mother Teresa had piqued Eleck's interest in becoming a physician in an impoverished area. Eleck also is driven by a profound sense of compassion, something she began experiencing as a little girl under the guidance of her mother, Lisa Eleck '78 (NUR). She recalls visiting soup kitchens and making small gifts and cards for nursing homes with her mother, now a nurse with the Visiting Nurses Association.

When Eleck talks about her aspirations, her enthusiasm is contagious. But she doesn't just talk about doing something that will make a difference. She has an action plan that continues to unfold.

In January, she spent 10 days of her semester break in Haiti with a handful of fellow UConn students. The trip included working at Mother Theresa's

House for the Dying, caring for youngsters from a local orphanage, and visiting a home for AIDS patients.

This summer Eleck is heading back to Appalachia for six weeks to conduct an in-depth study of area medical clinics through the University Scholars program. As part of her senior research thesis, Eleck plans to author a pamphlet for local residents that outlines various health care programs and services available in their communities.

Eleck credits her father, Richard Eleck '76 (PHR), for her work ethic. "He works hard and he's not afraid of a challenge," she says of her father, who is a pharmacist at the UConn Health Center.

"Becky shows a lot of unusual initiative," says Kathryn Strother Ratcliff, an assistant professor of sociology who is also Eleck's advisor. With Ratcliff's assistance, Eleck designed an individualized major in health and poverty studies to go along with her major in biology.

"Becky is not about doing just what is needed," says Ratcliff. "She is passionate about helping people, thinks things through to their conclusion, and always devotes her energies to giving her best effort." — Karen Paterno

**She discovered things even the best medical schools couldn't teach.**



Becky Eleck '03 (CLAS) spent 10 days volunteering at hospices and an orphanage in Haiti during January with a handful of fellow UConn students. She is planning to return to Appalachia this summer to conduct a study of area medical clinics.



Peter Morenus

Eric Bulewich '02 (SFS) helped start a new program within the UConn's Women's Center, Men Against Violence Against Women, and speaks about preventing domestic violence to student groups at UConn and at area colleges.

MAVAW has been well received by students and faculty. Says Bulewich, "They believe, as I do, that men play a very important role in the prevention of violence against women."

The men who participate in the program offer positive feedback, Bulewich says, and many explain how the program has made an impact on their lives.

Last year, Bulewich was a speaker at several violence prevention programs, including presentations at other area colleges. "I am most impressed with Eric's participation because the program really requires presenters to challenge their understanding of masculinity . . . challenging societal norms is a very difficult thing to do," says Lorraine Trippodi, former coordinator of the Violence Against Women Prevention Program at UConn. "It requires a great deal of courage, self confidence and conviction."

Encouraged by Kim Chambers, manager of the Instructional Resource Center, Bulewich became a peer mentor during his

sophomore year. Last year, Bulewich participated in the UConn Connects program as a peer counselor to students on academic probation. This

## Making a stand against domestic violence

*Challenging societal norms takes courage and patience*

**E**ric Bulewich '02 (SFS) credits his father for guiding him toward a career in counseling. "He's been a great influence in my life," Eric says. "My father was very understanding and open. That reflects in my ability to listen."

Two summers ago, Bulewich volunteered to participate in the Violence Against Women Prevention Program. Out of that experience, Bulewich and Orlando Wright '01 (SFS) laid the foundation for a new program within the UConn Women's Center called Men Against Violence Against Women (MAVAW).

Through MAVAW, Bulewich and other trained volunteer facilitators, along with a campus police officer, offer an interactive program through which participants increase their understanding about what constitutes sexual assault and how to prevent it. The program has been presented to residential communities, fraternities and athletic teams. Participants are asked to assess various scenarios and discuss perceptions in defining consensual sexual activity. Throughout the program, participants discuss behaviors and misconceptions surrounding typical dating scenarios.

year, as a senior, he is a resident assistant in Belden Hall in the Alumni Quadrangle.

"Eric shows great concern for his fellow students as evidenced by his working with them in various advisory capacities," says Chambers. "He takes his responsibilities and his relationships seriously and is making the best of his time as a UConn undergraduate."

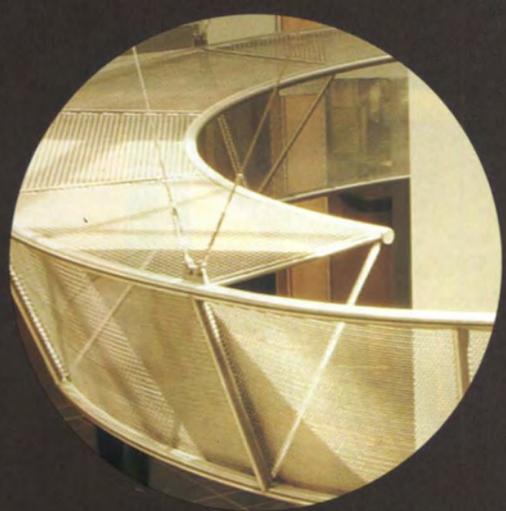
What drives Bulewich to work with such difficult issues? "For me, it's on a personal level. I have a friend and several acquaintances who have been sexually assaulted and I really want to try and make a difference . . . to use my advantage of being a male in our society as my strength. I think most men are sensitive to the subject, but because they're not directly affected, there's no need for them to be aware."

Bulewich plans to attend graduate school to earn a master's degree in social work. UConn is at the top of his list. "UConn is a great place to be," he says. "All the recent developments on campus just add to the college experience."

— Kim Colavito Markesich



# ION



TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY UCONN



# "There's no reason in the world we can't be the number one public university in this country."

GOVERNOR JOHN G. ROWLAND

If your image of the University of Connecticut is of a public university quietly doing its job in modest facilities on a humble campus, it's time to hit your mind's refresh button.

UCONN 2000, the 10-year, \$1 billion infrastructure renewal program at the University of Connecticut has put UConn into the national spotlight as a public institution whose quality programs are backed up by some of the finest academic, research, and residential facilities anywhere. Period. Alena Cybart '96 (CLAS) says, "We always knew that UConn was a great school, but the rest of the world couldn't see that." A high school teacher in Waterbury, Cybart says that when her students visit Storrs, they find the facilities to be so impressive that "they have to pick their jaws up off the ground."

UCONN 2000 has been so successful in fact that Gov. John G. Rowland recently proposed 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn, an 11-year, \$1.3 billion dollar initiative that will extend the landmark UCONN 2000 program through 2015.

## A launching pad

UConn's remarkable transformation began in 1995, when the Connecticut General Assembly made a dramatic realization: If the Constitution State's sons and daughters are to succeed in today's economy, they need to be furnished with a different kind of education than in years past—different even from the kind of education that was available 20

years ago. The legislature then put that conviction into action. It adopted Public Act 95-230, known as UCONN 2000, with nearly unanimous, bipartisan support and the endorsement of an enthusiastic Gov. Rowland.

"When we started UCONN 2000, we perceived it as a beginning, a launching pad. It is indeed a remarkable experience for anyone who comes to the University today and sees the changes," says Gov. Rowland. "The key is to ensure that no one thinks that there is an end in sight as we create a 21<sup>st</sup> century UConn. The initial 10-year-plan is now our foundation as we pursue the University of Connecticut's full potential to stand out among all of the nation's public universities. Our focus must be on doing even more."

Simply put, UCONN 2000 is an unprecedented investment that created an extraordinary building boom at the University's main and regional campuses. From new showpiece academic buildings and residences to state-of-the-art technology to improved infrastructure, including better signage and sidewalks, UCONN 2000 is creating an environment where breathtaking form meets efficient function. But the real beauty of UCONN 2000 is that it has been a catalyst for other kinds of investment throughout the university—not the least of which is the investment in human capital. Attracted by the new state-of-the-art facilities, some of the nation's most prominent teachers and promising researchers are being drawn to pour their talents into UConn.

Parents and undergraduates are investing in UConn too—in record numbers. No longer are Connecticut's best and brightest seeking educational opportunities out of state. The "brain drain" is fading into history. Freshman enrollment at UConn's main campus has increased 56 percent since 1995. During the same time period, SAT scores for incoming freshmen have risen nearly 30 points, freshman minority enrollment is up 62 percent, and 314 high school valedictorians and salutatorians have joined the student body in Storrs. Cybart says UConn is no longer considered a fallback option: "There are lots of high-achieving seniors in my school right now whose dream school is UConn."

"This visionary building program has been instrumental in reshaping a very good university into one of the most dynamic institutions of higher education in the nation," says University President Philip E. Austin. "During the past seven years, we have sharpened our academic focus, recruited outstanding scholars, and witnessed a level of private giving unmatched in our history. Thanks in great measure to the commitment of the governor and General Assembly, the support of Connecticut's citizens, and the dedication of our own students, faculty and staff, the University of Connecticut faces a limitless future."

## A spur to private investment

There is no question that the state's investment in the University has inspired the record-setting pace of individual and corporate investment in recent years. Devised with a matching gift provision, UCONN 2000 is a magnet for individual and corporate contributions. The University's endowment has grown from \$50 million in 1995 to \$210 million today. In addition, the excellence of the faculty and facilities is attracting significant increases in research funding from individual and corporate sources, which serves to expand and invigorate research at the University.

Right now, the Connecticut General Assembly is considering 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn, the \$1.3 billion program that will extend and expand the extraordinarily successful UCONN 2000 program through 2015. The historic new initiative can proceed only if approved by the Connecticut General Assembly. UConn Advocates—a coalition of UConn alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends—is dedicated to building legislative support for the University of Connecticut. Alumni and friends interested in expressing their support for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn legislation are encouraged to visit the UConn Advocates Web site at [www.uconnadvocates.org](http://www.uconnadvocates.org).



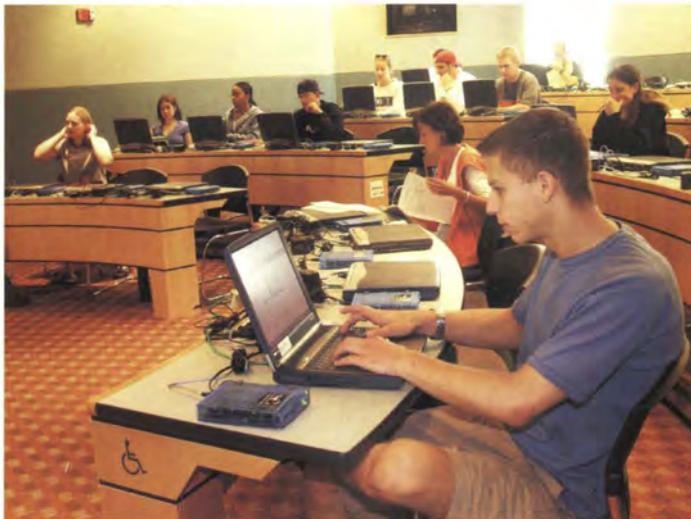
Chemistry Building



Pedestrian-friendly pathways



Fine Arts Complex



High-Tech Classrooms



Agricultural Biotechnology Laboratory



Information Technologies Engineering Building



South Campus Residence Community



Pedestrian Core



Milltop Apartments



Northwest Marketplace



Woodwick Visitors Center



UConn Co-op



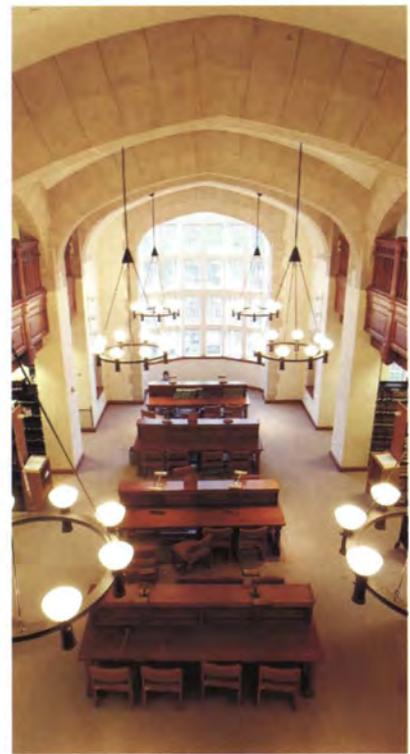
Student Recreational Facility



Nathan Hale Inn and Conference Center



School of Law Library



School of Law Library



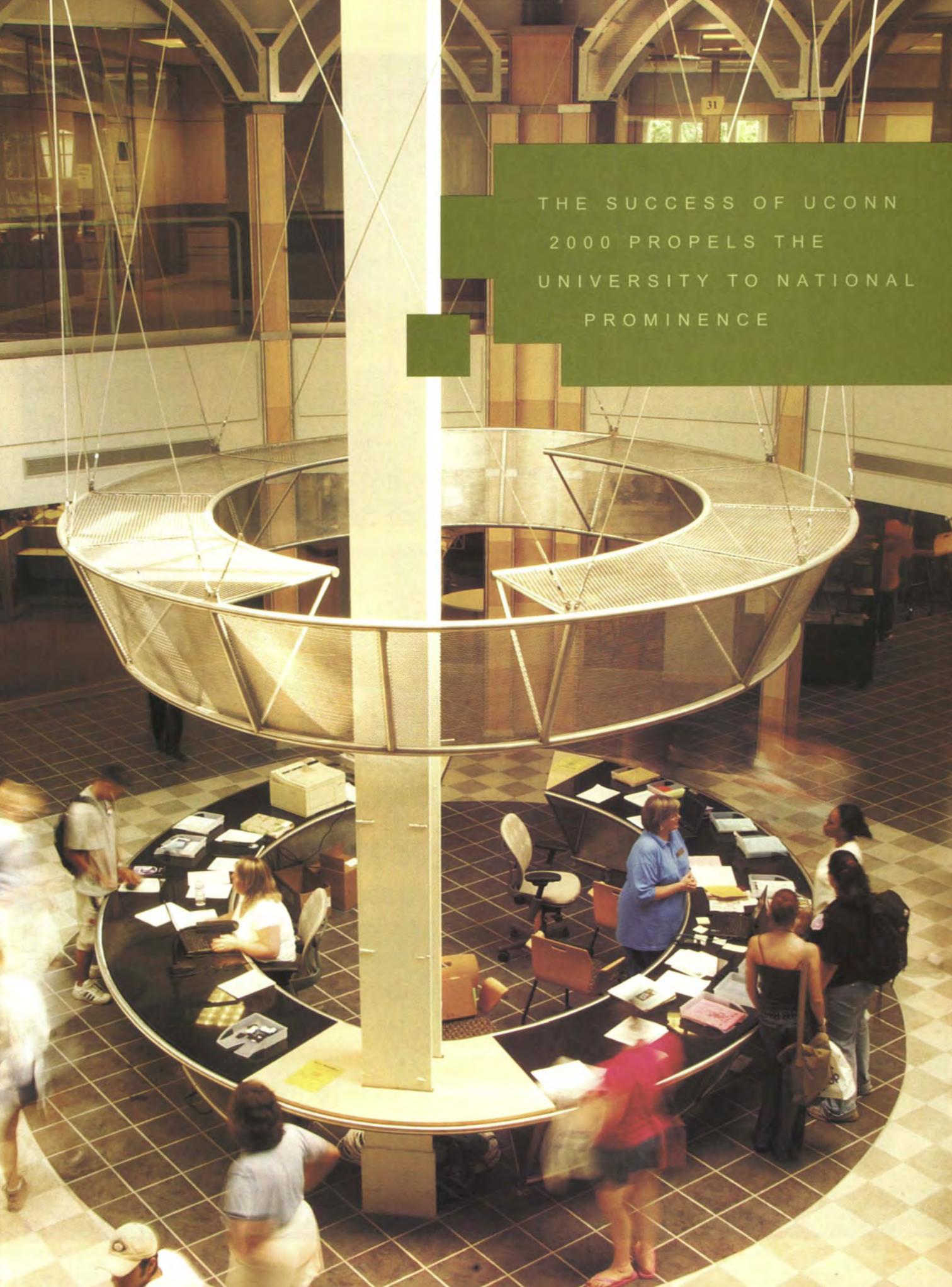
UConn Health Center



School of Dental Medicine



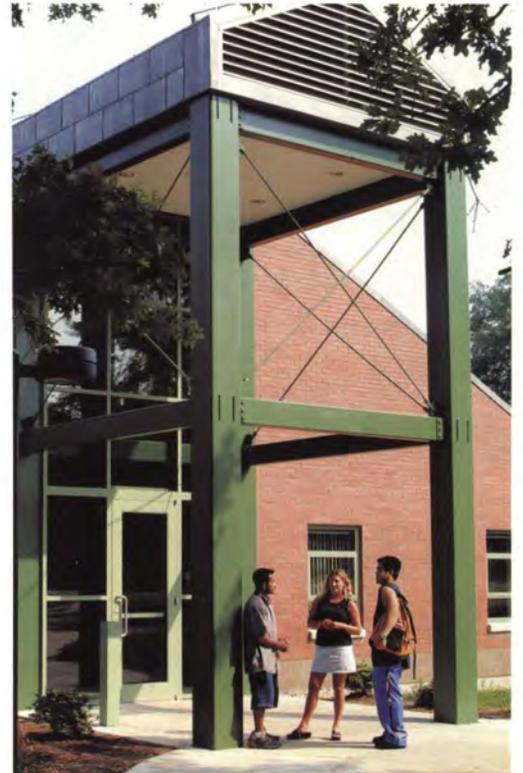
UConn Health Center Research



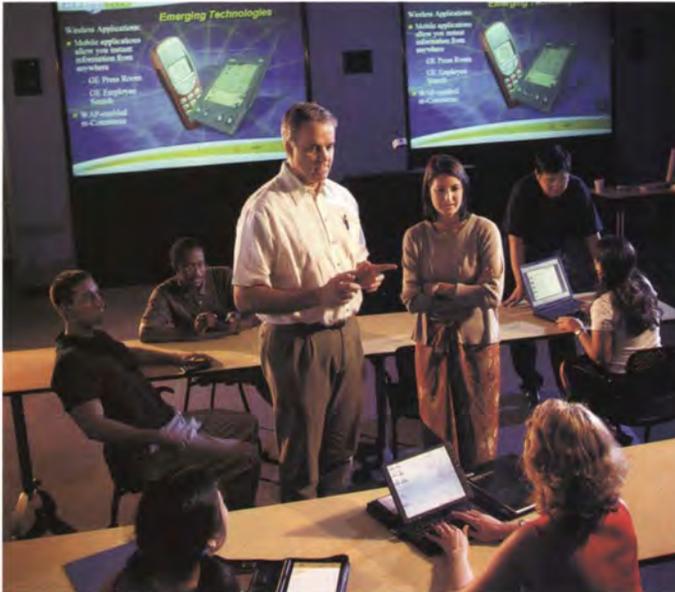
THE SUCCESS OF UCONN  
2000 PROPELS THE  
UNIVERSITY TO NATIONAL  
PROMINENCE



Avery Point Campus



Greater Hartford Campus



Stamford Campus



Torrington Campus



Football Stadium in East Hartford



Waterbury Campus

What is the effect of all this investment? UCONN 2000 is propelling Connecticut's premier public university into the top ranks of American public higher education. Pat Sheehan '67 (CLAS), who participated in the development of UCONN 2000, says that the program is really about helping the University reach its full potential. "People who look at UCONN 2000 as a building program have missed the point," he says. "The extraordinary impact of UCONN 2000 has empowered the University to take command of its future."

What's more, the state is reaping precisely the dividends it had intended from a strengthened University of Connecticut, which supplies the economy with a well-educated workforce and with research that turns ideas into jobs and products.

#### An optimal environment for research

To date UCONN 2000 can take credit for more than 100 major construction projects. One of the most dramatic of these successes is the new Chemistry Building, which was listed in the *2000 International Architecture Yearbook* as one of the best-designed buildings in the world. "This is the best chemistry building in the country, no question," says Robert Birge, the Harold S. Schwenk Distinguished Chair in Chemistry. "It gives us reasonable expectation of being able to hire the best faculty, recruit the brightest students, and secure an impressive number of highly regarded research grants."

All of the new buildings at UConn are wired—really wired. This may be best exemplified by the new School of Business Building, where technology has become an essential learning tool. For example, using the "breakout rooms" with video capabilities, students can be videotaped as they make oral presentations or sales pitches or as they solve problems as a group. Then, borrowing a

technique favored by UConn basketball coaches Jim Calhoun and Geno Auriemma, faculty members and students can review and critique the tapes.

According to Christopher Hattayer '02 (CLAS), president of the Undergraduate Student Government and a student member of the Board of Trustees, new buildings profoundly enhance the way students experience academic life. "I've seen more pride in students," he says. "When facilities are built for you to learn, you feel like you are valued and the work you're doing is important."

Moreover, the dorm is not the norm anymore. Students have more residential options than ever, including the new South Campus and Hilltop Suites and the Hilltop Apartments. The renovated Northwest residences include study areas, meeting and recreational space, as well as the newly constructed Northwest Marketplace, a 550-seat contemporary food court-style dining commons.

A South Campus resident who shares a suite with three other students, Hattayer says that UCONN 2000 is providing students with better opportunities to "live, learn, and grow." He says, "As a graduating senior, I have not only experienced the construction but actually reaped the benefits of many new projects. I also watch with envy as they begin some of the most student-centered projects, such as the new Student Union."

#### University-wide renaissance

UConn's remarkable transformation is not confined to the Storrs campus. The Avery Point campus on Long Island Sound, for example, has in recent years seen the renovation of the historic Branford House, which houses student services; the launching of an oceanographic research vessel, the *R/V Connecticut*; and the opening of the new Marine Sciences Building. "This facility is among the best in the nation for conducting comprehensive

research in coastal areas," says Robert Whitlach, interim head of the Marine Sciences program. "We are uniquely positioned to move forward in new arenas of research, education and outreach."

Improvements on the other regional campuses include a new computer center at the Greater Hartford campus, featuring a high-tech lab and classroom; a new Litchfield County Extension Center at the Torrington campus, which offers a variety of research-based educational opportunities; and a new eye-catching contemporary facility for UConn's Stamford campus, which houses the Connecticut Information Technology Institute as well as the GE Capital *edgelab*, a cutting-edge multi-million dollar information technology learning facility. The construction of a new, state-of-the-art downtown Waterbury campus has commenced. The campus, which is expected to open in fall 2003, has been designed to enhance educational opportunities for Waterbury-area students and to invigorate the Brass City's revitalization efforts.

UCONN 2000 and other affiliated capital projects have engendered a University-wide renaissance that also encompasses the University's schools of Law, Medicine and Dental Medicine. The School of Law boasts the third-largest academic law library in the nation—an architectural landmark dedicated in 1996. At the UConn Health Center, where the schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine are key to discovering new medical breakthroughs, the University is reaping the fruits of the new Academic Research Building, which was dedicated in April 1999. The building increased laboratory space at the Health Center by 40 percent and has become the locus for research in immunology, genetics, neuroscience, and vascular biology. During the next two decades, the research facility is projected to spur \$700 million in new government and industry grants.

#### Intellect and ingenuity

Clearly the University of Connecticut is emerging as a national leader in public higher education. That's the good news. The great news is that it's not over. The Governor's proposal for 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn includes \$1 billion for continued infrastructure improvements modernizing many facilities still in need at the main campus in Storrs, the five regional campuses, and the School of Law, and \$300 million to support infrastructure improvements at the UConn Health Center, benefiting both education programs and research activities of the medical and dental schools. Enactment of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn initiative is an exceptional opportunity for the state's elected leadership to make a bipartisan, long-term commitment to Connecticut's future.

And why shouldn't the flagship University for Connecticut's sons and daughters garner still more investment? After all, in 1995, UCONN 2000 was a carefully calculated risk. In 2002, the program is a resounding success. The continuation of UCONN 2000 provides a proven investment opportunity yielding rich returns.

The University of Connecticut's full vision is yet to be realized. Now is the time to continue to invest in the University, to build upon the significant accomplishments of the original UCONN 2000 program, and to press forward to fulfill the University's potential to rank among the nation's finest public universities. Uniquely positioned to serve the needs of its home state, a strong University of Connecticut will educate a competitive, creative, and committed professional workforce, stoking the engine of Yankee intellect and ingenuity and contributing mightily to Connecticut's long-term economic vitality. "UConn is already the top public university in New England," notes Governor Rowland. "There's no reason in the world we can't be the number-one public university in this country."

# Patterns of

BY GRACE GRAY

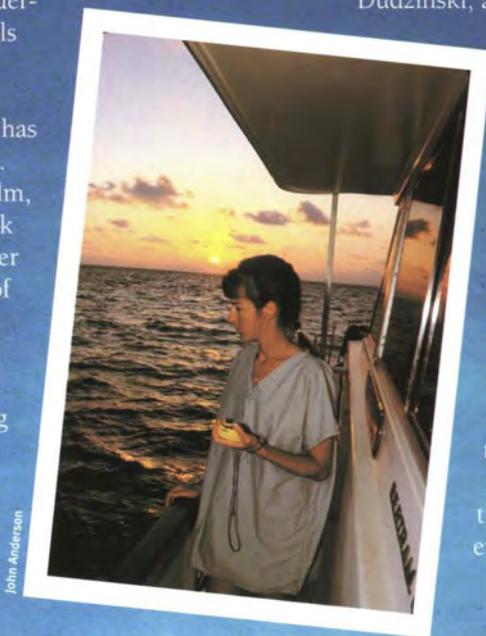
For Kathleen Dudzinski '89 (CLAS), swimming with dolphins is all in a day's work. Propelled by flippers and devotion to her subject, Dudzinski, a research scientist, guides her underwater video/audio recorder toward dolphins to document their vocalizations, caresses, play, body postures, and fights. The data she accumulates in the waters off the Bahamas, Argentina or Japan will be analyzed thoroughly as Dudzinski strives to understand how these sleek marine mammals communicate among themselves.

In the last few years, Dudzinski's research into dolphin communication has attracted considerable media attention. Her work was featured in the IMAX film, *Dolphins*, and was the subject of a book of the same name by noted travel writer Tim Cahill. She has been the subject of articles in *National Geographic* and *Reader's Digest*, and has herself written several articles for the popular and scientific press. For Dudzinski, sharing her work with the public is crucial to her role as a scientist and naturalist. "People only protect what they love and know," she says.

Now, Dudzinski has started a new venture. Following in the footsteps of scientists such as Jane Goodall and Jacques Cousteau, she is pursuing her mission of collaborative research and public education through the Dolphin Communication Project (DCP), an independent research foundation she founded in Oxnard, Calif.

"I always loved science, animals, and the sea," says Dudzinski, a Meriden, Conn., native whose fondness for the ocean began during annual family vacations on Cape Cod. The oldest of three sisters, Dudzinski was "an intense child," according to her mother. Fortunately, her family valued intensity. "She was very inquisitive and knowledgeable beyond her years," says Sandy Dudzinski, "and we pursued that inquisitiveness with all our daughters. Whatever they wanted to do, we learned how to do it, whether it was raising chickens in the cellar, building stage sets for a play in the back yard, or target shooting."

Sandy and her husband, Peter, believed their daughters "should be exposed to everything they knew about." Dudzinski



John Anderson

# Communication



Kathleen Dudzinski takes  
to the sea to educate  
humans about dolphins

and her sisters, Rebecca (a 1991 graduate of the School of Fine Arts) and Stephanie (a 1992 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), grew up hunting, swimming, and fishing but also attended the theatre, ballet, and opera. They learned plumbing, electricity, and mechanics. According to Sandy, "they could tell me they didn't like something but only if they tried it first."

Dudzinski's love of animals led her to choose a vocational agriculture program in high school. Her high school advisor, L. Cameron Faustman, now professor and interim head of the UConn Department of Animal Science, remembers Dudzinski as "talented, very outgoing, and willing to do what was required [to succeed]."

Dudzinski's high school training led directly to her enrollment in UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, where she planned to study animal sciences. She soon realized her interests were better suited to basic research and switched to the Biology department. Her course

work led her into the realm of marine mammals and communication.

In the spring of 1987, Dudzinski took a psychology seminar on marine mammals. One of the professors, David Miller of the UConn Psychology Department, helped connect her with an internship at the Atlantic Cetacean Research Center in Gloucester, Mass. Dudzinski spent the following summer working on the center's research vessel, gathering data about finback whales. The experience helped determine the direction of Dudzinski's career: "I knew I wanted to study marine mammals."

When Dudzinski returned to UConn that fall, she continued to pursue her interest in marine mammals through internships and by reading extensively. In addition, she worked with Nancy Neff, then a professor of evolutionary biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, to hone her skills as a scientist, by adapting an anatomical technique to make mammalian fat tissue transparent. Dudzinski was

Dudzinski enters data from the day's observations as her underwater camera system dries in the foreground.



John Anderson

named a University Scholar—UConn's highest undergraduate academic honor—during her junior year, which required that she develop a senior thesis. The anatomical technique she adapted became the basis of Dudzinski's thesis and was published as an article in a scientific journal. She also garnered a prestigious National Science Foundation pre-doctoral fellowship to support her graduate work at Texas A&M University, where she continued with her true passion, the study of marine mammals.

Neff, now a research engineer, is still close to Dudzinski. "Kathleen was an outstanding student," says Neff. "There was a degree of optimism and non-competitiveness about her that is quite uncommon. It is possible to be productive, energetic, and motivated without being aggressive and competitive. Kathleen was, and is, like that."

## WIDER GOALS

When Dudzinski started her graduate work, relatively little was known about dolphin communication, although it had been clear for a long time that dolphins are among the most intelligent animals and, like humans, extremely social. To learn more, Dudzinski followed wild dolphins into their own element.

Dudzinski teaching two eco-tour volunteers about the inner workings of her underwater camera system.



John Anderson

Working with Bernd Würsig, her mentor at Texas A&M, and her father, an electrical engineer, Dudzinski developed the underwater audio/visual recording equipment she needed to study spotted dolphins off the coast of the Bahamas. She began her fieldwork in 1991, working with an eco-tour expedition, where she traded her expertise in dolphin behavior for the boat transportation she needed to get to the dolphins.

Dudzinski has worked with eco-tours ever since and believes this is an important way to combine research with public education about dolphins. "The most exciting part for me is when people come out of the water after observing dolphins," she says. "We can't manage wild animals, but we can manage human behavior, and we can do this by giving people a chance to learn about wild animals."

For the next five years, Dudzinski observed individual dolphins off the Bahamas, identifying them by their spot patterns. She watched and recorded their behaviors, vocalizations, and gestures repeatedly and in different contexts. She began to associate certain types of vocalization, gestures, and body postures with particular social or behavioral circumstances, such as greeting, feeding, or aggression. She noticed how the dolphins used their pectoral fins—like humans using their hands—to seemingly caress other dolphins. Her data showed that dolphin communication made use of a number of different features, including vocalizations, gestures, and touch. Even more interesting, similar behaviors had different meanings in different contexts, such as during play or an aggressive encounter. Like humans, dolphins depend on context to convey meaning.

After completing her doctorate in 1996, Dudzinski relocated to a small island off the coast of Japan where conditions were ideal to study bottlenose dolphins.



In Japan, Dudzinski learned Japanese to work with local eco-tour boat captains and other members of the community. She worked hard to integrate her research activities with the interests of the local community, even publishing a quarterly newsletter for the community so they could understand her mission and her progress. She lectured to student groups and spoke on Japanese radio. Dudzinski points out that involving the community in eco-tourism is crucial: "Whenever you have eco-tourism, it is the local area that benefits."

Between the *Dolphins* film, other media appearances, and her educational outreach work, Dudzinski was beginning to realize her wider goal, enhancing the value that humans associate with dolphins.

### THE DOLPHIN COMMUNICATION PROJECT

Back in the United States, Dudzinski needed a way to continue her work. "I wanted a way to raise funds for the programs I wanted to pursue," she says. "The DCP was intended to found a collaborative endeavor. It embraces two main activities: research and education. These two should be married and work together."

Dudzinski wants other scientists who will eventually work with the DCP to share her collaborative vision. "There will be three requirements for researchers working with us. First, if they do a program through the DCP, their data must be made available after they've had a first crack at publishing it. Second, if they do field work, they must have a high school or college intern working with them. Lastly, they will be required to disseminate their results to the scientific community and to the general population. There has to be a link to education programs."

Dudzinski, at least, is putting her data where her mouth is; she has made all the data she has collected since 1991 available through the DCP. "I'm passing it on. I want people to use it because everyone has a different take on the same data," she explains, "Science goes forward at a faster rate when people work together."

**"By understanding dolphins, we better understand ourselves."**

Dudzinski continues to do research under the aegis of the DCP, collaboratively of course. Working with colleagues at the University of Southern Mississippi (where Dudzinski is an adjunct professor), she is developing a questionnaire and videotape to send to dolphin trainers at aquariums across the country, to help identify behaviors in captive dolphins that are similar to behaviors seen in the wild. In another collaboration, with the Scripps Institute, she is looking into whether dolphins use special high-frequency sound bursts solely to determine the location of an object, as is generally believed, or whether they might also use these noises to communicate.

The DCP already has ongoing education programs, which include eco-tours, and other programs of varying lengths. There are bigger plans in the works, including an international program for middle-school students from the United States, Canada, and the Bahamas, who will, if funding can be obtained, meet in the Bahamas to learn about the sea, marine mammals, and the different cultures of their classmates.

Although the DCP is still a very young, volunteer-run organization, it has all of Dudzinski's drive behind it, and that may well spell success. If it succeeds, the DCP could play a major role in our understanding of both how dolphins communicate with one another and how humans can promote the survival of these extraordinary animals.

"The more I learn about dolphins, the more I realize the differences between people and other animals is one of degree," says Dudzinski, "By understanding dolphins, we better understand ourselves."

(For more information on the Dolphin Communication Project, go to [www.dolphincommunicationproject.org](http://www.dolphincommunicationproject.org).)

Always



# in the right place at the right time

Sudhakar Shenoy has emerged as one of the most influential high-tech leaders in the U.S.

BY MATTHEW JENNINGS

**S**udhakar Shenoy should have been exhausted. Standing with his bleary-eyed family in the nearly deserted Rome International Airport a few years ago, Shenoy had just stepped off a transatlantic flight from Washington, D.C., a middle-of-the-night journey made more arduous by a lengthy weather delay in the United States. The airport was just waking up, but Shenoy was on full alert.

"Look," he said, nodding in the direction of a solitary figure waiting at the far end of the baggage-claim area, "it's Mother Teresa."

Shenoy's wife, Bina, was in no mood for her husband's jokes. "Sudhakar, will you please be serious for just one minute," she snapped. Avoiding her icy glare, Shenoy shrugged and started walking in the direction of the shrouded person. "Hello, Mother," he said to the woman, whose back was to him. As she turned to face Sudhakar Shenoy, Mother Teresa smiled and said, "Hello."

"Now is that Providence or what?" Shenoy asks, beaming, as he leans back in a chair in his McLean, Va., office. A picture of the late Mother Teresa and the Shenoy family—Sudhakar, Bina, and daughters Sushma and Divya—hangs on the wall behind his desk, and Shenoy has just finished telling the story of how he met the Holy Mother. "I once told UConn President Philip Austin that I'm like Forrest Gump; for some reason I always seem to be in the right place at the right time."

Those who work in the burgeoning high-tech community of northern Virginia,

however, will discount luck having anything to do with Shenoy's rise as a highly successful—and influential—figure in the region. The founder, chairman and chief executive of Information Management Consultants, a cutting-edge systems integrator and software-management firm, Shenoy has used a seemingly boundless reserve of energy and intellectual curiosity to build a nearly \$50 million enterprise. In 2000, he was named one of *Time* magazine's movers and shakers in the D.C., area, and he sits on the prestigious Indian CEO High Tech Council, a group of 2,400 top executives, whose companies generate more than \$5 billion in annual revenues.

## "UConn prepared me for all this"

During the last 20 years, Shenoy has managed to stay a step ahead of most competitors, taking a dream and turning it into reality. After earning a pair of master's degrees from UConn—in engineering and business administration—Shenoy opened a tiny, one-room office in the D.C. suburb of Arlington, Va., in 1981. He had sketched out a detailed business plan and budget using a pencil and a thick, yellow legal pad (which Shenoy still keeps in his desk drawer next to his original black bookkeeping ledger) and launched IMC with an initial \$2,000 investment. After signing a lease and purchasing basic equipment, he was down to \$400.

"Today people get all this money thrown at them, and they forget the basics," he says. "Before I started, I created a detailed budget, right down to Xeroxing. I kept the books myself for the first two or three years. UConn prepared me for all this; I had never had an accounting class before I enrolled in the MBA program."

Because UConn stressed both theoretical and practical matters, I couldn't have been more prepared."

Growing up in India where many children roamed the streets because educational opportunities were scarce, Shenoy says he has an extremely high regard for education and the opportunities it can afford. He sits on the Board of Advisors at UConn's School of Business, serves as the D.C. regional co-chair of *Campaign UConn*, and has steered IMC into the educational market, creating

multimedia e-learning coursework for higher education.

A graduate of the prestigious India Institute of Technology,



**"If you look at the history of the world, what advances cultures and civilizations is technology."**

Shenoy nevertheless arrived in the U.S. in 1970 with six dollars in his pocket, barely enough to pay for the bus from New York to Hartford. He says that because others—UConn specifically—were so willing to help him when he was in need, he believes strongly in giving back to deserving causes, a philosophy he refers to repeatedly. When the Indian CEO High Tech Council was formed in 1997, Shenoy was one of the Council's biggest drawing cards, but he felt it was important for younger entrepreneurs to be the Council's public face (leading to the unintended consequence of being dubbed the Council's godfather).

"Five billion dollars (the combined revenue of participating companies) is a lot of buying power, and we owed it to ourselves to harness that power so that we could give back to those struggling to start out," he says. Shenoy insisted on creating a coherent mission for the Council, which became a program emphasizing political

involvement, charitable contributions and entrepreneurship.

### **An exciting venture**

Shenoy exudes modesty, though, and seems loath to talk about himself in such lofty terms. What excites him is the work his company is doing. The latest venture that IMC is working on will expedite research in the emerging field of bioinformatics. Defined as the science of managing and analyzing biological data through advanced computing techniques, bioinformatics leads to the collection and deciphering of the vast reservoir of genomic research data.

Because the software is not yet completed, Shenoy can only speak in general terms about his product, but he says the algorithms and technology his staff and partners are developing

will make powerful tools available to research scientists that will use existing database technology and computing power to facilitate better and faster research in this area.

IMC has been working with The Salk Institute for Biological Sciences to examine gene expression profiling data at a level of detail that wasn't previously feasible. Although IMC was using database technology that is prevalent among the world's largest corporations, IMC is the first company to apply it to genomics.

"The solution that IMC and NCR were able to develop will allow us to perform our science much more rapidly and give us the computational power to make discoveries that would have been difficult, if not impossible, using traditional analytical approaches," says Dr. Carolee Barlow, an associate professor at the Salk Institute.

Shenoy has been fascinated by technology, and his standing orders to

his company, since its start two decades ago, are to push technology to its limits. "If you look at the history of the world, what advances cultures and civilizations is technology," he says. "Technology can change people's lives as it always has."

### **Will Forrest Gump strike again?**

"Do you know about the cricket match?" Shenoy bounds from behind his desk to a table across the room. He digs around in a satchel and pulls out a copy of *Washington Techway* magazine. Last summer, the Indian CEO Council defeated the British Embassy in a cricket match that raised more than \$3,000 for relief efforts for earthquake victims in India. Shenoy says he already has a match lined up between the Council and a group from Australia and New Zealand. Again, proceeds will go to the charity of the winner's choice. "See, we do good while we're having fun," he exclaims.

Shenoy places a high priority on having fun, but he cares more about doing good. As affable as he is ambitious, Shenoy uses the two traits to dream about, and reach for, lofty goals, whether they are in the field of bioinformatics or an effort to raise relief money for those in need. So it's no wonder the UConn Foundation tapped him to co-chair the D.C. regional effort of *Campaign UConn*. He plans to host several receptions at his home and at Congressional Country Club to talk to alumni and friends of the University about the merits of helping UConn, and he hopes that his passion for the University will trigger similar reactions among those he meets. But just in case, a touch of serendipity couldn't hurt either. Remember, it was UConn President Philip Austin to whom Shenoy revealed his Forrest Gump tendency to appear in the right place at the right time. Might Shenoy now work some magic for the campaign? He laughs. "If it is to work at any given time, I hope now is the time," he says.

## The good fight

*Law prof Laura Dickinson brings commitment, experience to the study of human rights*



Peter Morenus

With tales of business trips to places such as Haiti and East Timor, Associate Law Professor Laura Dickinson breathes life into lectures on jurisdiction, transitional governments and other topics that don't typically have students rapt with attention.

One of the newest faculty members at the School of Law, Dickinson has spent several years traveling and investigating human rights abuses, first as a law student and then as a State Department official.

Dickinson's extensive experience with and enthusiasm about international human rights law has students clamoring to take the introductory course she's teaching on the topic this semester.

"There are a lot of students looking for the kind of meaningful human rights experience I sought when I was a student, and I'm happy to provide opportunities for them," she says.

Dickinson first became interested in international human rights law while a law student at Yale, where she worked in the school's international human rights clinic.

**"There are a lot of students looking for the kind of meaningful human rights experience I sought when I was a student."**

Late in her first year, Dickinson went to the Caribbean on a fact-finding mission about the condition of Haitian refugees. The governments of several Caribbean nations were sending scores of Haitian refugees who had fled to their countries back to Haiti, where they would likely face persecution.

"It changed my perspective about what the law is and what it can do," Dickinson says of the trip. "It showed me how the law can make a profound change in individuals' lives.

Dickinson continued to work with the legal clinic throughout law school, at one point bringing a case against the federal government on behalf of Cuban refugees.

After graduating from law school, Dickinson worked as a law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and then for U.S. Supreme Court associate justices Harry Blackmun and Stephen Breyer. After a year as an appellate litigation fellow at the Georgetown University Law Center, Dickinson became a senior policy advisor to Harold Hongju Koh, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor during the Clinton administration. It was in that role that Dickinson traveled to places such as East Timor, which she visited after the Indonesian government pulled out, leaving widespread destruction in its wake. Dickinson

was struck the euphoria of the East Timorese at the prospect of freedom.

"It was an interesting moment to be there and to try to figure out what role our government ought to be playing to promote accountability and reconciliation for human rights abuses," she says.

Though international human rights law has recently come to the forefront in the aftermath of the events of September 11, Dickinson doesn't plan to spend all of her time working in that area. She's also taking advantage of the freedom academia affords to do research on the First Amendment, the overlap between law and society, and what legal rights mean to the average citizen.

"I decided to go to law school because I wanted to do work that would have a positive influence," Dickinson notes. "Throughout my career, I have been able to make a difference, and I see my position at the Law School as another way to have a positive impact on the future."

— Allison Thompson

# Champion of the new literacy

*Donald Leu believes new communications technologies demand a redefinition of literacy*

When it comes to literacy, Donald Leu never hides his passion for the subject. Now this passion is focused on the new forms of reading and writing made possible by emerging communications technologies.

"I seek to broaden our definition of literacy instruction in school classrooms to include these new literacies," says Leu, the John and Marie Neag Endowed Chair in Literacy and Technology at the Neag School of Education.

"We need only to consider the experience of students who graduate from secondary school this year to see how literacy is changing," says Leu. "Students began their school career being taught

**"There's a growing vision here of what this institution can accomplish"**

the literacies of paper, pencil, and book technologies. Many finish secondary school familiar with the new

literacies demanded by a wide variety of information and communication technologies: word processors, CD-ROMs, Web browsers, e-mail, instant messaging, and many others unimagined at the beginning of their school career."

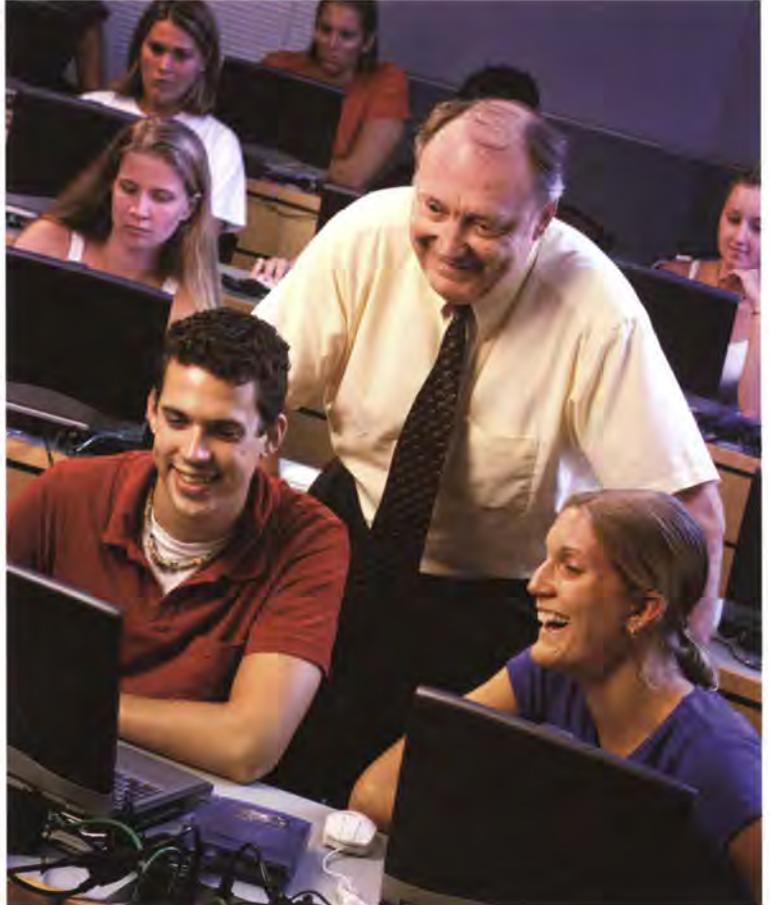
New technologies require new skills to effectively use them for reading, writing, and communication, Leu explains.

"It's not that we're throwing out the baby with the bath water. We're building upon the traditional forms of reading and writing," he says. "The basics have stayed pretty stagnant for about 500 years. With the increasing importance of information technologies, the challenge is to determine which of the new literacies are the most important, how these are different from traditional reading and writing skills, and how to prepare teachers in these technologies."

"Dr. Leu's work is ground breaking in that it integrates technology with literacy," says Richard Schwab, dean of the Neag School of Education. "We are extremely fortunate to have him on our team."

Although a majority of schools have computers within the classroom, many technologies are used ineffectively. "Even if students grow up with computers, there is no guarantee they're learning the necessary skills," declares Leu. "The challenge is in staff development and teacher education."

Al Ferreira



Donald Leu, the John and Marie Neag Endowed Chair in Literacy and Technology, believes that even if students grow up using computers there is no guarantee they are learning the necessary literacy skills for emerging technologies.

To that end, Leu is one of four directors in a \$5.5 million National Science Foundation research project utilizing Internet technology to enhance literacy learning.

Leu became familiar with the potential of information systems while a doctoral student at Berkeley. "Just as new writing skills were required to exploit the word processing network at Berkeley, new reading skills were required with the newly emerging Internet browsers," he says. "That's when I began to focus all of my energy on understanding the new literacies these new technologies generated."

Completing his second year at UConn, Leu finds the atmosphere at the University very supportive to his work. "There's a growing vision here of what this institution can accomplish," Leu says. "There are high expectations and aspirations. I like that vision." — Kim Colavito Markesich



Recent works by alumni and faculty



**The inside story of the Actors Studio**

The Actors Studio, a secluded workshop in midtown Manhattan, has for decades influenced the worlds of stage and screen. UConn professor Shelly Frome unravels its mystery in his new book, *The Actors Studio: A History* (McFarland & Co., Inc.).

“Over the years, there has been much misinformation about the nature and mission of the Actors Studio,” says Frome, an associate professor of dramatic arts at UConn’s Waterbury campus, who was a professional actor during the Studio’s heyday in the 1950s.

He decided to write the book after watching the cable television show “Inside the Actors Studio.”

“It was upsetting and misleading. Many of the personalities who appeared on the show were never even associated with the Studio,” Frome says. “The host worships the celebrity culture, which is total anathema to the original spirit of Elia Kazan’s creation.”

The book traces the Actors Studio from its beginnings, when Constantin Stanislavsky’s Moscow Art theatre came to the United States in 1923, to the legendary days of the Group Theater, the achievements of Elia Kazan, Lee Strasberg and Method acting, and to the present.

Frome says the Actors Studio is not a place where acting is taught. “It is a workshop, a refuge away from acting as a commodity, a place where you can grow. In its early years, if you were one of the chosen few, you could drop in if you needed to and someone like Strasberg would watch you work.” Actors had to audition, and it was an honor to be accepted. According to Frome, 2,000 people auditioned one year and only two were accepted: Martin Landau and the late Steve McQueen.

Nowadays, the Studio is affiliated with an MFA program, where, after spending \$20,000 a year for three years, you get an official pass to the Actors Studio—hardly what Elia Kazan had in mind, Frome says.

Reflecting on what he learned while writing the book, Frome says, “It doesn’t matter whether you are a member of the Studio or not, who you are, or how you got there—it’s what you’re trying to do. What matters are those powerful moments that transport both the actor and audience. If that happens, we have attained communion.” — *Sherry Fisher*

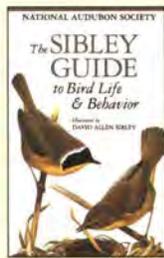
ALSO OF INTEREST



**The Lost Diaries of Iris Weed**

Janice Law  
(Forge Books)

Janice Trecker, a longtime lecturer in the English Department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has published her 10th mystery novel, *The Lost Diaries of Iris Weed*, under her pen name, Janice Law. “A case from a few years ago at a college in Connecticut was the germ for this book, although the characters turned out to have very different fates and personalities,” says Trecker. *The Lost Diaries of Iris Weed* revolves around two main characters: Jason “Lars” Larson is a professor of Victorian literature at a prestigious Connecticut university, who pays dearly for his one romantic failure. Iris Weed, one of his students, is a young writer who lives in her pickup truck and longs to have an interesting and complicated life. *Publishers Weekly* praised the novel, saying, “Law sucker-punches her readers with this superbly written thriller.” Trecker has published 14 books, including nine other mystery novels. She has worked at UConn for more than 10 years and currently teaches magazine publishing in the English Department.



**The Sibley Guide to Bird Life & Behavior**

Chris Elphick and David Sibley  
(Alfred A. Knopf)

David Sibley and Chris Elphick had seen all the bird books before, and each had collaborated on or contributed to several. But none was the type of volume people could sit down and read, like a good novel. Thus was born *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life & Behavior*, a thick volume that not only identifies bird types, habitats, sizes and shapes but also explains their habits, rituals, tendencies and even love lives. “We wanted to explain their behavior in the field—how they move, how they feed,” says Elphick, a research scientist in ecology and evolutionary biology at UConn and one of the book’s editors, with Sibley and John Dunning. The trio have developed a volume that explains why chickadees take only one seed at a time from bird feeders (they’re storing the seeds for winter), how cardinals can survive New England summers and winters (they fluff their feathers for heat in winter, and pull them close to their bodies to remain cool in the summer), and why cormorants assume a Star Wars-like pose after they dive for fish (they are drying off). The book is filled with beautiful avian drawings by Sibley, whom Elphick calls “one of the best bird artists in the world,” and 80 chapters of essays and discussion, one on each bird family—from loons to old world sparrows.

# News&Notes

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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



■ **Class of 1952: Welcome Home!**  
The class of 1952 will be holding its 50th class reunion the weekend of **May 31 & June 1, 2002**. This is a great time to celebrate your connection to the University and visit with friends and classmates. The weekend will include a luncheon with UConn football coach Randy Edsall, school and college gatherings, reunion college seminars, bus tours of campus and much more! On Saturday you will be joined by the "Classic Classes" alumni, graduates of 51 years and beyond who will share in the activities throughout the

day. It is a weekend you cannot afford to miss! Invitations will be sent in April.

■ **Classic Classes Reunion**  
For those of you who have already celebrated your 50th reunion, join us for a day of reminiscing on **Saturday, June 1, 2002**, for the Classic Classes Reunion. Join UConn historian Mark J. Roy, author of *The College History Series: University of Connecticut*, at the Classic Classes luncheon along with many more planned activities. Invitations will be sent in April.

For more details call Kim Lachut or Julie Sweeney at the Alumni Association at (888)UC-ALUM-1 or (860)486-2240 or by email at [kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu](mailto:kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu) or [julie.sweeney@uconn.edu](mailto:julie.sweeney@uconn.edu). You can also check the Web site at [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com)

## 1930s

H. Seymour Barnes '30 (ENG) has retired at age 89 and is now living in Des Moines, Iowa.

Morton N. Katz '39 (CLAS), '51 J.D. received the Dedicated



Public Service Award from Connecticut Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz for his service as

town moderator in Avon, Conn. Morton is a Judicial Department Magistrate in eight geographical area courts presiding over civil (small claims) and infraction cases. He is vice-chairman of the Connecticut Public Transportation Commission and is general counsel to the Sphinx Shrine Temple in Newington, Conn.

## 1940s

William Tribou '42 (CLAS) won the 800- and 1500-meter races in the 80 and older age group at the National Masters USA Track and Field Championships in Baton Rouge, La.

Edward Zielinski '42 (CLAS) and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on November 25, 2001.

Walter Morgan '46 (CANR), '53 Ph.D. married Zhaa Yan Zhen (Joan) in February 2001 in Mesa, Ariz.

L. Maeve McPeck Ward '48 (CLAS) is the co-producer of the award-winning video "Newton Goes Green, Part I: Say No to Pesticides," which was produced for the Green Decade Coalition of Newton, Mass.

Albert M. White '48 (PHR), '52 M.S. has been named honorary president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for his longtime contributions to the field of pharmacy and its students. Albert is associate dean emeritus and professor emeritus at the Albany College of Pharmacy, where he began teaching in 1952.

## 1950s

Burton Hendel '51 (BUS) has retired after 34 years in the retail toy business.

Henry H. Katten '53 (BUS) was honored with a certificate



of appreciation for his outstanding service to the West Haven Community House. Henry is also vice

president of the Greater New Haven UConn Alumni Chapter and a member of the UConn Alumni Council.

Dick Marsh '55 (BUS) has married Audrey Tierney. The couple honeymooned at the Grand Canyon. They reside in Roxbury, Conn.

Bernard Misek '56 Ph.D. retired in 1990 as research director at Smithkline Beecham Consumer Healthcare. Bernard now resides in Raleigh, N.C.

Douglas F. Watson '56 (SAH) has been awarded life membership in the American Physical Therapy Association. Douglas is a licensed physical therapist in Florida and Connecticut.

Bernard R. Berson '57 (ENG) was recently appointed chairman of the private practice division of the National Security of Professional Engineers and is also a vice president of NSPE. Bernard resides in Perrineville, N.J., where he is self-employed as a forensic engineer.

Roy T. Johnson '58 (BUS) is treasurer of Pittsburgh Vision Services, an agency for the blind and vision impaired.

Alan G. Proudman '59 (BUS) retired in 1997 from AG Proudman Company. He lives in Scotrun, Pa., in the summer and in Green Valley, Ariz., during the winter.

## 1960s

Herbert Oberlander '61 (CLAS) retired from the



Agriculture Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in December 2001. Herb

was director of the Center for Medical, Agricultural,

## ABBREVIATION KEY

School and/or college abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

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

Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

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

and Veterinary Entomology in Gainesville, Fla. Herb is a fellow of the Entomological Society of America and received a "Meritorious Executive" Award from President Bill Clinton in 1998.

**William N. Farnen '62 (BUS)** is senior vice president and group director of the Federal Group at VSE, a firm providing diversified services and products to the engineering, energy, environment, information technology, postal and defense services markets. William retired from the U.S. Army in 1996 as a major general.

**Marion Mischel '62 (CLAS)** has retired from Los Angeles Unified School District after teaching for 39 years. Marion has been selected for *Who's Who Among America's*



*Teachers*. She resides in Sherman Oaks, Calif., and has a real estate practice in the San Fernando Valley.

**Barbara Holveck Daniels '63 (CLAS)** is a new member of the board of education in Naugatuck, Conn. A retired elementary teacher, Barbara is also a member of the Naugatuck Historical Society.

**Daniel S. Firestone '63 (BUS)** has been appointed chair of the member benefits committee of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants.



**Carol Hagen '63 (ED), '72 M.A.** retired in 1999 after teaching for 39 years and has traveled around the world. Carol plans on returning to Sweden in 2003 for the 4-H International World Conference.

**Julian H. Fincher '64 Ph.D.** retired in December 2000 from University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy.

Julian received the College of Pharmacy's Distinguished Service Award in May 2001.



**Joel Hirschhorn '64 (CLAS)** is president-elect of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers.

**Edward J. Mazur '64 (ENG)** has been reappointed to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) by the Financial Accounting Foundation in Norwalk, Conn. The GASB is the independent, non-profit organization that established and improves financial accounting and reporting standards for state and local governments.

**James P. O'Sullivan '64 M.A., '70 Ph.D.** is associate general counsel in the United States Office of Government Ethics in Washington, D.C.

**Nathaniel L. Simms '65 M.S.W.** has retired from the California Youth Authority and is in private practice as a licensed clinical social worker and marriage-family therapist.

**John N. O'Shaughnessy '66 (SFA)** is an insurance agent with Farm Family Insurance in Ellington, Conn., and his wife, **Ellen Hodgson O'Shaughnessy '66 (SFA), '71 M.A.**, is a math teacher at Tolland Middle School in Tolland, Conn.

**David Shack '66 (ED), '72 Ph.D.** is a full partner at Geriatric Mental Health Specialists, which provides services to patients in long-term care facilities throughout Connecticut.

**Stanley J. Kavan '67 (CLAS)** is a senior vice president at Zurich Insurance Services in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Eric R. Swanson, Jr. '67 (BUS)** retired from Electric Boat in Groton, Conn., in 1995 after serving as an industrial engineer and administrator.

## PROFILE

### A happy champion of her alma mater

She's a peppy octogenarian who tools about Storrs in a Volvo, delivering herself to projects and causes with vitality and passion.

Meet **Louise Teich Johnson '36 (SFS), '52 M.A.**, who for nearly 70 years has surrendered her heart to UConn, first as a student, then as a faculty member and volunteer.

"Louise has a wonderful capacity to engage in something new and that's inspiring in a person of her age," says Irene Q. Brown, associate professor in the School of Family Studies.

Johnson's allegiance to UConn springs not only from her own experiences but also through those of her father, Frederick C. Teich, the architect of several University buildings, including the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and the former Home Economics building, which now houses the School of Family Studies.

The 88-year-old dynamo's love for UConn is also connected to the love of her life, her late husband, **Reuben "Ben" Johnson Jr. '36 (CLAS)**, whom she met when he sketched her picture during a class their freshman year. An Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War, Ben Johnson went on to serve the University as dean of men, chief veterans counselor and, later, as director of the UConn Alumni Association.

Since retiring in 1976, Johnson has devoted time and energy to a variety of University organizations, most notably the School of Family Studies and the Alumni Association. She was honored with the Alumni Association's University Service Award in 1987 and shared the University Medal with her husband in 1990.

These days, Johnson is content to have experienced life as a teacher, homemaker, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend. Her son, Reuben Johnson III, and daughter, Jill Johnson-Rourke, feel inspired by their mother's full and active life. "My mother is optimistic, intellectually curious and always wants to be involved," says Reuben Johnson.

Johnson-Rourke says mother "can feel good about the legacy she's leaving behind."

That legacy now includes a new creative outlet—writing poetry. In one poem, "Eternity Now," Johnson writes: "Rewards are our friends/our pleasure resource/A brief time with some/with others much longer/With frequent encounters, friendships grew stronger/Though many have traveled out of our reach/In all memories, we feel the breach."

For Louise Teich Johnson the memories are grand. She continues on life's highway and is always ready for new encounters.

— *Claudia G. Chamberlain*



**Carol Milardo Floriani '68 (NUR)** is director of professional services at Heartland Hospice, West Covina, Calif. Carol also works as an independent consultant in health services. Carol and her husband, Robert, live in Corona, Calif.

**Chris Donovan '69 (SFA)** directed the American Teachers Awards on the Lifetime television network. Chris also directed the 2002 Golden Globe Awards on CBS in January and the Independent Film Spirit Awards on Bravo in March.

**Ronald P. Guilbeault '69 (CLAS)** has started his second career as a member of the United Nations Next Steps Committee, which planned a UN energy conference in February. Ronald is an account executive for Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.

**Margery Lynn Kabot '69 (SFS), '75 M.A.** has been named to the *Worth Magazine*

list of 250 best financial advisors in the country for the fifth time.

## 1970s

**Calvin L. Blinder '70 (CLAS)** received his 20-year pin at Constellation Energy Group in Baltimore, Md., in May 2001. Calvin is principal accounting analyst of corporate accounting at Constellation.

**Angelo L. dos Santos '70 (ED), '73 J.D.** became a Connecticut Superior Court judge in 2001. Angelo resides in Cromwell, Conn., with his wife, **Linda dos Santos '73 (CANR)**, and their daughter.

**Joseph W. Dubin '70 (CLAS)** is a commissioner in the East Hartford, Conn., office of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Joseph has appeared in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Finance and Industry*, and *Who's Who in the World*. Joseph and his wife,

Brenda, live in Newington, Conn.

**Paul Lachance '70 (PHR)** has been named lead consultant and assistant manager of Kindred Pharmacy Services of Portland, Me., a provider of pharmaceutical services to long-term care facilities.

**Karen Harrington '71 (SSW), '75 M.S.W.** was named director



of the student continuity practice at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. The SCP program provides students with patient care experience during their first year of medical school.

Karen resides in West Hartford, Conn., with her husband, **Leo Harrington '71 (CLAS), '77 M.S.W.**

**Christina Murphy '71 Ph.D.** has been appointed dean of the College of Liberal Arts and

professor of English at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va.

**Gregory Beamon '72 (ENG)** won gold and silver medals in the senior free pistol classification at the USA Shooting National Championships held in Atlanta, Ga.

**Gwendolyn Cooke '72 Ph.D.** has published a book, *Keys to Success for Urban School Principals*. Gwendolyn's book details seven keys for successful and effective school leadership in any setting: control, caring, change, charisma, communications, curriculum and courage.

**John A. Ramadei '72 (BUS)** is chief financial officer for the Connecticut Lottery Corporation in New Britain, Conn.

**Charlene G. Reagan '72 (ED)** was named the Outstanding Family and Consumer Science Educator of the Year by the New York State Association of Family and Consumer Science

## PROFILE

### The man who talks with computers

**Kevin Dowd '81 (CLAS)** wants to be a latter-day Dr. Dolittle and talk with computers.

"It's the ultimate interface," says Dowd. "Humans are everywhere. Computers are everywhere. But we speak different languages. My goal is a computer that you can talk to."

Toward that end, Dowd founded Brainhat Corp., a software start-up in East Hartford, Conn. Brainhat's goal is to bridge the language gap between human and machine by helping computers learn to understand the spoken word, not unlike the HAL 9000 computer in Arthur C. Clarke's novel "2001: A Space Odyssey."

Although it's not yet possible to conduct a conversation with your desktop computer, some progress has been made in programming computers to hear spoken words. Voice recognition software, for example, already allows people to dictate text and issue simple verbal commands to personal computers. But Dowd believes much more is possible.

"Typing away at a computer keyboard might be familiar to us, but it's certainly more inefficient and time consuming in certain cases than being able to talk directly to your computer and have it understand what you're saying," says Dowd. "The one thing that still isn't solved is how do you represent knowledge and manipulate it so that you can talk to computers and have a conversation with them?"

That question has fascinated Dowd since he was a UConn

Peter Morenus



student. In the years since, he has worked in the nuclear power industry, in information technology departments at several companies, and built his own technology business, which he sold in 1999. Dowd also has written two books, *High Performance Computing* (a college textbook still in use), and *Getting Connected to the Internet at 56K*.

Brainhat has made considerable progress in a short time. Last year, the company introduced a natural language operating system that can be programmed in English and a voice/Web server based on the operating system that interprets natural language requests.

Dowd believes the possibilities are seemingly endless if a computer could be made to understand spoken English. "Imagine a computer that could manage household tasks and provide information in response to normal speech. What time is it? What's the weather going to be like tomorrow? What's in the fridge? What was my credit card bill last month," he says.

—Gary E. Frank

Educators. Charlene teaches home and career skills at the Hommocks Middle School in Larchmont, N.Y.

**James Milligan '73 M.A.** is dean of admissions at Columbia University School of Law.

**Rachel Pride Sherman '73 M.A.** has been named to the Connecticut Children's Behavioral Health Committee. Rachel has been an advocate at the Connecticut Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities for 12 years.

**Mary Ann Bowersock '74 (ED)** is a veteran employment and workforce service representative for the Virginia Employment Commission. Mary Ann is retired from the U.S. Navy.

**Francis J. Gibbons '74 (CLAS)** has been named chief of the Antiterrorism Assessment Division, Defense Threat Reduction Agency at the U.S. Department of Defense. Francis is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

**Alan B. Igdalsky '74 (CLAS)** has been appointed chair of the Peer Review Committee of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants for 2001-02.



**Ellery E. Plotkin '74 (BUS)** has been elected majority leader of the Fairfield, Conn., Representative Town Meeting. Ellery lives in Fairfield with his wife, Gail, and their children, Andrew and Rachel.

**Peter Rubino '74 (ENG)** is research and development manager, integrated business systems for Intel Corporation in Chandler, Ariz.

**Joan Winters '74 (SAH)** has been a colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves since June 1999.

**Richard J. Zarbo '74 (CLAS), '78 (D.M.D.), '81 (M.D.)** has



been appointed chairman of pathology at Henry Ford Hospital and Medical Group and senior vice president for pathology and laboratory medicine of the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Mich.

**Edward P. Donovan '75 M.S.** is the science laboratory and REACH (gifted and talented) teacher at Berry Schools Intermediate School in Duncan, S.C.

**Gloria H. Giroux '75 (CLAS)** is a project manager in global financial services at American Express, where she has worked for more than 12 years.

**Murray "Bob" Hersh '75 M.A.** is the director of Masters of Fine Art, an organization of professional and advanced amateur artists in the Tampa, Fla., area.

**Richard T. Minoff '75 (CLAS)** is executive vice president and director of client services at Interlink Healthcare Communications, Laurensville, N.J.

**Pamela Sherwill '75 (ED)** is a librarian on the faculty of the University of Florida College of Nursing.

**Robert Tudor '75 M.S.** is deputy executive director of the Delaware River Basin Commission, an interstate-federal agency responsible for managing water resources within the 13,539-square-mile Delaware River Watershed.

**John Braccio '76 (CLAS), '80 M.S.** recently moved from Yarmouth, Me. to Guilford, Conn., to open a branch office for his company, Wright-Pierce, in Middletown, Conn. John is a vice president at Wright-Pierce, an environmental/civil engineering firm. John's wife, **Theresa Bryant '78 (ED)**, is an attorney working as director of the

Career Development Office at the Yale Law School.

**Cathryn E. DeCesare '76 (SFS)** is a senior administrator for the Y.M.C.A. of South County, a branch of the Y.M.C.A. of Greater Providence, R.I.

**Henry Von Kohorn '76 M.B.A.** has been named chairman emeritus of Response Reward Systems, L.L.C. in Vero Beach, Fla.

**David Goett '77 (BUS)** is the senior contract negotiator at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif. David is also owner and operator of an Internet sports memorabilia business, [www.tvballcards.com](http://www.tvballcards.com).

**Sherry Ballow Hanson '77 (CLAS)** is a health writer for



magazines, newspapers, newsletters and online publications. She has been named a correspondent for [drkoop.com](http://drkoop.com), a Web site founded by former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. Sherry lives in Brunswick, Me. with her husband, Harry.

**Janice Roy Jordan '77 M.S.W.** is president of Resource Management, a firm specializing in government contract development and marketing in Everett, Wa. Janice and her family reside in Mill Creek, Wa.

**John Malfettone '77 (BUS)** has been named executive vice president and chief financial



officer of MacDermid, Inc. Prior to joining MacDermid, John was managing director of

GE Equity. John, his wife, and their five children reside in Trumbull, Conn.

**Morse B. Solomon '77 (CLAS)** is research leader of the Food Technology and Safety Laboratory of the U.S.

Department of Agriculture in Beltsville, Md. Morse received both the National American Society of Animal Science Research Scientist Award and a U.S. Department of Agriculture Award in 2001.

**W. Scott Argraves '78 (CLAS), '85 Ph.D.** has been promoted to professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, S.C. Scott resides in Charleston with his wife, Kelley, and their daughter, Jenna.

**Anthony Cronin '78 (CLAS)** is a marketing communications manager at Phoenix Investment Partners in Hartford, Conn. Anthony was previously deputy managing editor at *The Day*, a daily newspaper in New London, Conn.

**Larry J. Smotroff, '78 M.A., '96 Ph.D.**, received the 2001 Northeast Regional Leadership Award by the National Council for Continuing Education and Training during the organization's conference in November 2001. Larry, who is dean of Continuing Education, Economic and Community Development at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury, Conn., also was elected Northeast Regional Director for the NCCET.

**Eric J. Ulsh '78 (CLAS)** and his wife, Patricia, announce the birth of their son, Liam Ericsson, on June 19, 2001. Liam joins his older sisters, Diana, Catherine and Rachel. Eric is a vice president and district marketing manager at the Herndon, Va., office of Parsons Brinckerhoff, an infrastructure planning, engineering, and construction management firm. The Ulsh family reside in Centreville, Va.

**Carla Mond Bradford '79 (CLAS), '83 M.A.** and her husband, Paul, are proud to announce the adoption of their first child, Megan Sarah, born November 29, 2000. Carla is currently a homemaker and

part-time graduate student in library sciences. The Bradfords reside in Bedford, Mass.

**Thomas Cella '79 (CLAS)** is board certified as a trial advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy (NBTA).

**David W. Hight '79 (PHR)** was recently promoted to vice president and chief intellectual property counsel for Becton, Dickinson and Company.

**Debra Fish Kaye '79 (NUR)** is a nurse case manager in the Wallingford, Conn., office of Liberty Mutual Life Assurance. Debra also has earned national certification as a case manager (CCM). Debra resides in Wallingford, Conn., with her husband, David, and their daughter.

**Joel M. Kosovsky '79 (BUS)** has been appointed chair of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants Personal Financial Planning Committee for 2001-02.

## 1980s

**Dale J. Fiore '80 (CANR)** has been appointed vice president of the Connecticut Cemetery Association. Dale is the superintendent of Evergreen Cemetery and



Crematory in New Haven, Conn., where he has worked since 1986.

**Steve Grosso '80 (BUS)** is a member of the board of trustees at St. Mary Medical Center Foundation in Langhorne, Pa. Steve is president and chief executive officer of De Lage



Landen Financial Services, in Wayne, Pa.

**James Kennedy '80 (BUS)** is vice president of the Dole Food Company, Inc. in Westlake Village, Calif.

**Kathryn Senie '80 (CLAS)** has been named director of grants and strategic planning at Norwalk (Conn.) Community College.

**Edward Sypniewski '80 (PHR)** is associate director of scientific affairs in the pharmaceutical division of Bayer Corp., where he has worked for six years. Edward and his family reside in Richmond, Va.

**James P. Brennan '81 (BUS)** completed his first season as a member of the Big East Conference football officiating staff in the fall of 2001. Jim is a project accounting supervisor at Bayer Corporation in West Haven, Conn., and resides in Orange, Conn. with his wife, Sue, and their children.

**Mark S. Catalina '81 (SFA)** had a one-man exhibition of his art at Real Art Ways in Hartford, Conn., in January. Mark has been an adjunct faculty member in the graphic design department at Tunxis Community College since 1995.



**Richard H. Michaels '81 (BUS)** and his wife, Laurie, announce the birth of a son, Jarrett, on May 6, 2001. Jarrett joins a sister, Bryce, and a brother, Justin. Richard is president of Michaels Jewelers, and chairman of the Michaels Jewelers Foundation, which has funded eight scholarships to UConn students.

**Scott P. Peters '81 (BUS)** and his wife, Karin, announce the birth of their son, Alexander, on June 15, 2001.

**Mark Sadoski '81 Ph.D.** has co-authored a book titled *Imagery and Text: A Dual Coding Theory of Reading and Writing*

(Lawrence Erlbaum Associates). Mark is a professor of education and a Distinguished Research Fellow at Texas A&M University.

**Silvio Albino '82 (CLAS)** is manager of communications and DIALOG administrator at Otis Elevator Company in Farmington, Conn. Silvio supports internal communications and media relations and manages DIALOG, a confidential employee-to-executive communications system. Silvio and his wife, Sheree, reside in Wethersfield, Conn., with their son, Michael.

**Robert J. Hagerty '82 (BUS)** has been named chair of the labor and employment department and environmental/OSHA group for Capehart & Scatchard, a law firm in Mt. Laurel, N.J.



**Julie Lise Baird '83 (SFS)** is business office director for North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, Fla. Julie also announces the birth of her daughter, Kathryn Baird Hempfield, on July 1, 2000.

**Christine Frick '83 (SAH), '88 M.S.** and her husband, Nicholas Vucelic, announce the birth of their twin boys, Gabriel James and Jakob Andres, on May 6, 2001.

**Barbara Lane Giacomelli '83 (PHR)** is vice president of diagnostic and therapeutic services at Lankenau Hospital in Lynnewood, Pa.

**Joseph W. Langella, Jr. '83 (CANR)** is director of institutional sales for CDC IXIS Asset Management, North America. Joe and his wife, Donna, announce the birth of their second daughter, Maura Rose, on October 16, 2001. Maura joins her older sister, Claudia Elizabeth. The family reside in Philadelphia, Pa.

**Dana Manner '83 (BUS)** is director of finance for the Lennar Partners division of LNR Property Corp. a real estate and commercial mortgage-backed securities investment firm in Miami, Fla. Dana and his wife announce the birth of their twins, Tyler and Lauren, in April 2000.

**Gloria Wolk '83 M.S.W.** is an internationally acclaimed consumer advocate and expert on viatical settlements, the new industry that buys the death benefits of life insurance from terminally ill people. Gloria lives in Orange County, Calif.

**John F. DaRin '84 (BUS), '89 M.B.A.** has been named vice president and regional manager in People's Bank in People's Bridgeport Commercial Lending region.

**Leigh Ann Curl '85 (CLAS)** has completed her second season as the team orthopedist for the Baltimore Ravens. Leigh Ann is the only female team physician in the NFL and is also the head physician for the University of Maryland's sports medicine program.

**Terence Devine '85 (CLAS)** and his wife, Ann, announce the birth of their twin sons, Patrick Thomas and Brendan Louis, on October 25, 2001. The twins join their older sister, Emily. Terence is a treasury manager at GE Capital in Stamford. The family reside in Fairfield, Conn.

**Thomas P. Gloria '85 (ENG)** and his wife, Andrea Roman, announce the birth of their third child, Isabelle, on March 22, 2001. Thomas has earned a M.S. in hazardous materials management and a Ph.D. in environmental engineering from Tufts University.

**Michael K. Kinney '85 (ENG)** is an associate in the intellectual law practice of the firm of Wiggan & Dana LLP in New Haven, Conn. A graduate of Quinnipiac University School of Law, Michael is a registered patent lawyer.

**A wordsmith's life**

For someone whose job is ruled by deadlines, it's ironic that a reprieve from a missed deadline helped determine the course of Patricia (Brown) Weitz's career.

Larry Bowman, a UConn professor of political science, had urged Weitz to apply for an internship with *The Nation*, the New York City-based progressive political and cultural journal.

"He [Bowman] knew that my political leanings were very liberal, and *The Nation* is about as far left as you can get," says Weitz, a 1995 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "I had already missed the deadline but applied anyway. They invited me in for an interview and before I knew it, they were telling me they'd like me to come to New York."

That internship as a fact checker for *The Nation* led to subsequent editorial posts at publications such as *House and Garden*, *The New Yorker* and, since November 2000, to Weitz's current post as assistant editor of the Sunday Opinion section of the *Los Angeles Times*.

"It's a great section," Weitz says. "It's filled with pieces that are well thought out, very provocative, and fun to work with."

Her duties at the *Times* afford Weitz time to work as a freelance writer, although at the cost of squeezing a week's worth of work into three days. Although she has written articles for the photography publication *Photo District News*, these days Weitz's



primary creative priority is a novel set at UConn. "I guess you could say it's a coming-of-age story, although a rather dark one," says Weitz, who recently married writer-director Paul

Weitz of "American Pie" fame. "I'm using UConn as the setting. As with most fiction, the story is inspired, in part, by personal experience. The rest is inspired by fantasy."

Working on the opinion section of a major newspaper took on a special resonance, Weitz says, in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001. "Most of us were trying to process the disaster and figure out just how we felt about it," says the Brooklyn, Conn., native. "It was helpful to read all these articles each week by all sorts of people commenting on what had happened. It helped me sort out my own feelings at that time."

— Gary E. Frank

**Andy Morrissey '85 (CLAS), '88 J.D.** has been certified as a specialist in workers compensation law by the Connecticut Bar Association. Andy is a partner in the firm of Morrissey & Morrissey, located in Naugatuck, Conn.

**Laurie (Friel) Robinson '85 (BUS), '87 M.A. and Harold Robinson '85 (CLAS), '89 M.S., '90 Ph.D.** announce the birth of their son, Elijah Aaron, on November 1, 2001. Elijah joins his eight-year-old sister, Madeleine, and five-year-old brother, Jonathan. Laurie is a curriculum developer with CIGNA HealthCare, and Harold is a physicist with the NAVSEA Undersea Warfare Center. They reside in Colchester, Conn.

**Patricia Lynch Knapp '86 (BUS) and John P. Knapp '87 (BUS)** announce the birth of their third child, Erin Kathryn, on March 3, 2001. Erin joins her sisters, Sarah and Lauren. John is the director of business systems at Prudential Real Estate & Relocation in Shelton, Conn. The family reside in Trumbull, Conn.

**Karen Marchetti '86 (CLAS)** announces the birth of her daughter, Victoria Katerina, on March 7, 2001. Victoria joins her brothers, Lorenzo and Giorgio.

**Shelby Strano Muraski '86 (CLAS)** was voted Realtor of the Year 2000–2001 by the Tri-County Board of Realtors. A co-owner of Realty Executives in Manchester, Conn., Shelby is currently president of the Tri-County Board. She resides in Manchester with her husband, Kenny, and their twin daughters, Adele and Jessica.



**Dennis Piotrowski '86 (CLAS), '90 M.A.** is the archivist and assistant curator at the Fort MacArthur Museum in San Pedro, Calif. Dennis is also a freelance columnist. His wife, **Marifrances Trivelli '90 M.A.**, is the curator of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, also in San Pedro.

**Pamela Reichert '86 (SAH)** is the co-author of a chapter on eating disorders in the tenth edition of *Krause's Food, Nutrition & Diet Therapy*.

**Betsy Sherr '86 (BUS)** and her husband, Evan, announce the birth of their son, Cameron Elliot, on March 15, 2001. Betsy is a studio manager for Helmick and Schechter Studios. The family reside in Ashland, Mass.

**Daryl Aiken '87 (CLAS)** is president of Unity Health Services, Inc. of Fairfield, N.J. Daryl is also owner and chief executive officer of Integrated Benefits Solutions, LLC in Randolph, N.J.

**Matthew K. Beatman '87 (ENG), '90 J.D.** and his wife, Debra, announce the birth of a son, Jared Corey, on August 9, 2001. Jared joins his sister, Calli Aliza. Matthew is a partner in the law firm of Zeisler & Zeisler, P.C. in Bridgeport, Conn. The family reside in Kensington, Conn.

**Steven Friedman '87 (BGS)** is the author of *Golden Memories of the San Francisco Bay Area* (Arcadia Tempus), which recently had its second printing. Steven is a stay-at-home father and an oral historian, helping families preserve their histories. Steven, his wife, Verna, and son, Miguel, live in San Rafael, Calif.



**Marcia McMahon '87 (ED) and Bill Chambers '88 (ENG)** announce the birth of their third son, Matthew, on September 1, 2000.

**Harvey B. Polansky '87 Ph.D.** has edited a textbook on school law. Harvey has served as superintendent of schools in Southington, Conn., since July 2000. He has been an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut since 1990. Harvey and his family reside in Trumbull, Conn.

**RECONNECT!**

Are you interested in getting reconnected with that special group of friends? Let the UConn Alumni Association help. If you have a specific group (i.e. dorm, fraternity, sorority, student organization, athletic team, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together at Homecoming 2002, to be held on October 19, contact Kim Lachut at 860-486-2240 or toll free at 888-UC-ALUM-1, and she can help you. She can also be contacted by e-mail at kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu.

**Michael R. Song '87 (BUS)** has been inducted into the South Central Connecticut Alzheimer's Association Hall of Fame. Michael also received the 2001 Multiple Sclerosis Society's Corporate Achiever Award. He is a regional account manager for Pfizer and resides in Guilford, Conn., with his wife, Kristin, and their two children, Emily and Evan.

**Dawn Card-Kaplan '88 (CLAS)** and **Jonathan Kaplan '89 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their second child, Rachel Elizabeth, on March 3, 2000. Rachel joins her brother, Benjamin. The family reside in Cheshire, Conn., where Dawn works for Athena Health Care

Systems and Jonathan works for Edward Jones Investments.

**Edelyn Cintron '88 (NUR)** recently started a new home-based business, Soaps & Candles Galore, and launched a new Web site, www.soapsand-candlesgalore.com. Edelyn also works part time with mentally ill children as a registered nurse. She lives in Portland, Conn., with her husband, Ted, and their daughter, Alexis.

**Jennifer Kennedy '88 (CLAS), '95 M.A.** is the head women's soccer coach at Utah State University in Logan, Utah.

**Steve Kirschner '88 (ED)** has been promoted to associate director of athletic communications at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, N.C. Steve is in his 13th year at UNC.

**Michael Murray '88 (CLAS)** and his wife, Karin, announce the birth of their first child, Kayla Denise, on July 8, 2001.

**Diane Levine Thierauf '88 (SAH)** received her M.S. in medical laboratory science from Northeastern University in 1992. She is a software developer with Renal Care Group, Inc. in Nashville, Tenn. Diane married David Thierauf in

2001. The couple and their son reside in Hermitage, Tenn.

**Amy Modi Anderson '89 (CLAS)** and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Florence, on April 6, 2001. Sarah joins her brother, Jacob Oscar. The family live in Southington, Conn.

**E. Michael Brennan '89 (CLAS)** and his wife, Karen, announce the birth of their daughter, Ellison (Ellie) Margaret, on June 6, 2001. The family reside in Darien, Conn.

**Mark Dante '89 (CLAS)** has been promoted to general sales manager for KMEX-TV, Channel 34, in Los Angeles, Calif., the leading Spanish-language television station in the United States.

**Bessie Tsakonas DeBassio '89 (PHR)** and her husband, Peter, announce the birth of their son, Peter Douglas, on December 26, 2000.

**Margaret Chrabolowski '89 (BUS)** is the marketing manager at People's Bank in Bridgeport, Conn. Margaret announces the birth of her

daughter, Karina Clare, in April 2001. Karina joins her sister, Delaney.

**Karen Davidson Footit '89 (NUR)** and her husband, Bruce, announce the birth of their second child, Jacob Adam, on February 16, 2001. Jacob was welcomed home by his older brother, Jackson. Karen and her family reside in Fairbanks, Alaska.

**Dennis Maroney '89 (CLAS)** and his wife, Holly, announce the birth of their second daughter, Cassandra Quinn, on February 12, 2001. Cassie joins her sister, Becca. The family reside in Darien, Conn.

**Heather A. Parker '89 (CLAS)** and her husband, Christopher Hall, announce the birth of their daughter, Taylor Sierra Rose, on October 1, 2000. The family reside in Alameda, Calif.

**Elizabeth Blake Polzello '89 (SFS)** and her husband, Rick, announce the birth of their son, Joseph Rockwell, on April 15, 2001. He joins his sister, Sarah, and his brother, Owen.

**Glenn R. Sarno '89 (CLAS)** has been elected a partner of the law firm of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett. Glenn and his wife, Grace, live in New York City.



## A Life-Income Gift Helps You...and UConn Too

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*The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. is a tax-exempt corporation dedicated exclusively to benefit the University.*

**Stuart Ungar '89 (CLAS)** and his wife, Laura, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Eden Elyse, on December 26, 2001. Laura joins her older brother, Aaron. The Ungars reside in Newark, Del.

**Julie Wilson '89 (BUS)** and her husband, Len, announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail, on February 26, 2001. Abigail joins her sisters, Jennie and Jessica. The Wilsons live in Morris Plains, N.J.

## 1990s

**Dave Berardis '90 (ENG)** and his wife, Joyce, announce the birth of their daughter, Kimberley Rose, on September 22, 2001. Kim joins her older brothers, David Joseph and Michael John. The family reside in Northford, Conn. Dave is an engineering manager at Fenn Manufacturing in Newington, Conn.

**Gregory Burton '90 Ph.D.** and his wife, Marybeth, announce the birth of their daughter, Elisabeth Marian, in September 2001. Gregory has been appointed associate dean of Arts and Sciences at Seton Hall University.

**Ernesto Callegari '90 (PHR)** and **Susan Bailey Callegari '89 (CANR)** announce the birth of their son, Brian James, on March 8, 2001. Brian was welcomed home by his sisters, Marina Lynn and Amanda Rose. The family reside in East Lyme, Conn.

**Lawrence H. Davis '90 M.A., '01 Ph.D.** and his wife, Donna, announce the birth of their son, Harrison, on August 4, 2001.

**Stephen Hill '90 (ENG), '96 M.B.A.** and **Anne Rivard Hill '90 (CLAS), '92 M.A.** announce the birth of son, Coleman Sumner, on August 16, 2001. Anne is a program coordinator for University Events at UConn, and Stephen is a financial manager for Pratt & Whitney in Cheshire, Conn. The Hills live in Tolland, Conn.

**Kevin O'Neill '90 (CLAS)** is deputy director of the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS), a non-profit research organization in Washington, D.C., that focuses on stopping the spread of nuclear weapons.

**Ellen Silk Perry '90 (SFA)** and **Keith Perry** announce the birth of their daughter, Harleigh on January 1, 2001.

**Gregory Spadavecchia '90 M.A.** completed the Boston Marathon in April 2001 in 3 hours, 4 minutes. Gregory is distribution sales manager for Vision Tek, a manufacturer of PC peripherals.

**Lisa Spooner '90 (CLAS)** and **Patrick Caruso '89 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their second child, Thomas Richard, on April 28, 2001. Thomas joins his brother, Michael. The family reside in East Haven, Conn.

**Karen Stackpole '90 (RHSA)** is an environmental consultant for Environmental Business Solutions, Inc. in San Diego, Calif., joining the company in January 2001 after working for the National Parks Service in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Karen spent seven days in August 2001 bicycling 575 miles through Montana to raise money for AIDS research.

**Margaret Teodosio '90 (CLAS)** and **David Boulos** were married in October 7, 2000, at the Assumption Church in Ansonia, Conn. The wedding party included **Jennifer Fricke Pensiero '90 (CLAS)** and **Joy Moeller '90 (CLAS)**. Margaret is a speech pathologist at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter, Fla. The couple reside in West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Maria Luna Bolinao '91 (CLAS)** earned a M.S. from San Jose State University in May 2001.

**Donald Joseph Costello '91 (CLAS)** is working as an optometrist at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans, La.

**Anthony G. Emerson '91 (ENG)** is a senior manager, resident engineering for Daimler Chrysler Corporation in Mexico.

**Pamela Bellmore Gardner '91 (CLAS)** has received the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Pam is a teacher at the Guilford High School. She is a member of the New Haven Chapter of the UConn Alumni Association, and is also on the UConn Alumni Association Board of Directors.



**Kathleen M. Nevins '91 (CLAS), '96 J.D.** announces the opening of a new law firm, Nevins & Nevins LLP of East Hartford, where Kathleen is managing partner, and her uncle Albert E. Nevins Jr. is partner.

**Michele Obman '91 (BUS)** and **Scott Soulek** were married August 4, 2001, in Denver, Colo.

**Laura Chapman Rubbo '91 (CLAS)** is senior program manager for the human rights program of Business for Social Responsibility ([www.bsr.org](http://www.bsr.org)) in San Francisco, Calif. BSR is a business membership organization whose mission is to advance leadership in responsible ways that respect ethical values, people, communities and the environment. Her husband, **Antonio Rubbo '93 (ENG)**, is a partner at Degenkolb Engineers, a structural engineering consulting firm in San Francisco.

**Mary Brandow Valinotti '91 (CLAS), '92 M.A.** and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Danielle Alexis, on April 27, 2000.

**Ted Chrzanowski '92 (BUS)** is the sales manager at Paulson Training Programs Inc., located in Chester, Conn. Ted is also enrolled in the Executive MBA program at the UConn School of Business.



**Mark Erlichson '92 (BUS)** has been promoted to director of research and scheduling for the National Hockey League.

**Karen Gardiner '92 (CLAS)** was married to **Brendan Kenney** on June 22, 2001, in Duxbury, Mass. Karen is a producer at Arnold Worldwide in Boston, Mass. The couple reside in Brookline, Mass.

**Michelle Grant '92 (BUS)** and her husband announce the birth of their second child, Alicia Dorothy on October 19, 2001. Alicia joins her older brother, Alexander Michael. The family reside in Colchester, Conn.

**Brian Perruccio '92 (CLAS)** and **Jennifer Rogers** announce the birth of their son, Davis Anthony, on May 29, 2001. The family reside in Morrisville, N.C.

**Bruce Sill '92 (PHR)** and his wife, Linda, announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Anne, on October 21, 2000.

**Roger H. Spear '92 (BGS)** has been elected treasurer of the Connecticut Valley chapter of the Risk & Insurance Management Society for the 2001–2002 year.

**Joelle Rhodes Lapsley '92 (CLAS)** and **Frank Lapsley** announce the birth of their first son, Declan James, in June 2000. The family reside in Naples, Fla.

**Pamela Rothfuss Switzer '92 (CLAS)** and **Peter Switzer** announce the birth of their first child, Wyatt Peter, on July 20, 2001.

Dwight L. Whitaker '92



(CLAS) is an assistant professor of physics at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass.

## IN MEMORIAM

### ALUMNI

Edward S. Adzima Jr. '70 (6th yr.)

Colleen Patricia Baxter '48

James Caulfield '61 M.A.

Harold Cloud '72

Emerson B. Davis '22

Robert DeMaria '61

Albert DiLaurenzio '42

Harry Ewaskio Jr. '42

Eleanor Hepburn Husler '51

Romeo D. Leandri '42

Barbara Serber Levine '53

Gerald Morgenstein '70

Nhat Pham '01

Helen Savage Shorrock '43 (SFS)

Charlotte Gallo Spencer '48 (ED)

Carol Sussman '49 (CLAS)

Andrew Timchak '51 (BUS)

Varro E. Tyler '51 M.S., '53 Ph.D., '98 DSci.

Henry Wakeman '51 (BUS)

Florence M. Welna '56 M.S.

George E. Whitlam '41

Marvin D. Zimmerman '49 (BUS)

Nathan Zuboff '43

### FACULTY

Irving Pitman Cummings

Clarence W. Schultz

### STUDENTS

Hans Hercule '03

Matthew F. Sims (graduate student)

Henry Tran '05

Maj. Craig R. Wonson '92 (CLAS) and Tiffany Rachel McCatty were married September 8, 2001. Craig is commanding officer of a weapons company, Third Battalion Fifth Marine Regiment.

Matthew Barnes '93 (CLAS) and Rachel Sherman Barnes '92 (ED), '94 M.A. announce the birth of their daughter, Sage Kathleen, on September 13, 2001. The family reside on Cape Cod, Mass.

Michael Coady '93 (CLAS), an assistant vice president of Fidelity Federal Bank & Trust, has been named branch manager of the bank's offices in Boca Raton, Fla.

Melissa Keeshan Coughlin '93 (SFS) and her husband, Dave, announce the birth of their third daughter, Schuyler Caroline, on August 21, 2001. She joins her two sisters, Mackenzie and Kallie.

Jodie D'Alexander '93 (CLAS) and her husband, Taylor, announce the birth of their daughter, Emily Ashton, on July 21, 2001. The D'Alexanders reside in Woodbury, Conn.

John V. Erskine '93 (CLAS) graduated from Seton Hall



University School of Law in June 2001. John is practicing corporate law at the law firm of Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger and Vecchione in Newark, N.J.

Heather Felter '93 (CLAS) and her husband announce the birth of their son, Matthew James, on April 30, 2001. Matthew joins his older brother, Andrew William.

Alicia Ricciardi Lahey '93 (CLAS) and Craig Lahey '94 (CLAS) announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Ricci, on May 11, 2001. Benjamin joins his brother, Wesley Craig.

Momar Ndiaye '93 M.A., '94 Ph.D. is director of international programs and associate professor of political science at Illinois State University.

Vernon D. Oliver '93 (CLAS), '97 J.D. is an assistant state's attorney in the New Britain Judicial District in Bristol, Conn. Vernon formerly worked in the chief state's attorney's office in Rocky Hill, Conn.

Jennifer Palancia '93 (CLAS) graduated from Campbell University School of Law in May 2001. Jennifer is now the assistant university attorney at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Jennifer Perry '93 (ENG) and Mark Zmijewski '94 (CLAS) were married September 1999. Jennifer and Mark announce the birth of their daughter, Haley Madison, on September 20, 2000.

Mary Anne Clark '94 M.A. announces the birth of her daughter, Mary Beth, on August 11, 2001.

Michelle Podraza '94 (CLAS) and Kyle Champagne were married in June 2000, and announce the birth of their first child, Ryan in August 2001. Michelle is a sixth grade teacher in Montville, Conn.

Gregg A. Paolini '94 (CLAS) and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of their first child, Jack Alan, on April 13, 2001. Gregg is the director of tennis for the Long Ridge Club in Stamford, Conn. The family resides in Fairfield, Conn.

Helen Petrovick Scanlon '94 (CLAS) is coordinator of volunteer services at Windham Hospital in Willimantic, Conn., and is active at WHUS radio, hosting a monthly pet care and animal awareness show, "Pet Time."



Jeffrey M. Stanton '94 M.A., '97 Ph.D. is an assistant professor in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University.

Jennifer Toelke '94 (BUS) and Darrin Bourret were married on August 4, 2001, in Arlington, Mass., at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The couple reside in Medford, Mass. The wedding party included Katherine Fuller '95 (CLAS).

Mark Trotochaud '94 (CANR) and Cristina Capici Trotochaud '93 (CANR) announce the birth of their second child, Melanie Rae, on October 5, 2001. The family reside in Oakdale, Conn.

Eric J. Baumann '95 (CLAS) and Jaclyn N. Gills were married on August 4, 2001, in Columbus, Ohio. The couple reside in Hilliard, Ohio.

Carey A. Beyor '95 (CLAS) has earned an M.A. in marriage and family therapy at Antioch New England Graduate School. Carey is primary therapist to adolescents at Joshua Center at Natchaug Hospital in Mansfield Center, Conn.

Monika Campe '95 (CANR) and Matthew Hamilton were married October 6, 2001.

Darsi Coccozza '95 (CLAS) and Jason Baer were married in July 2000. The couple reside in Ridgefield, Conn.

James M. Dubreuil '95 (SAH), '97 M.B.A. and Nicole Lee Rubertinno-Dubreuil '95 (SAH) announce the birth of their first child, James Marc Jr., on April 25, 2001. Jim is a plan manager at ConnectiCare in Farmington, Conn., and Nicole is a medical technologist at Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn. The family reside in Stratford, Conn.

Lara Dufault '95 (CLAS) and Stephen P. Nangle announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Ilisabeth Nangle, in 2000. She joins her older brother, Sean Patrick Nangle.

**Paula M. Fahy '95 (ED), '97 M.A.** and Christopher J. Ostop were married May 19, 2001, at St. James Church in Stratford, Conn. **Annette Palmieri '95 (BUS)** was in the wedding party.

**Christopher R. Fee '95 M.A.** is assistant professor of English at Gettysburg College and author of *Torture and Text in Anglo-Saxon England: Pain, Poetics, and Political Reality*. Christopher is also the co-author, with UConn Emeritus Professor David A. Leeming, of *Gods, Heroes, and Kings: The Battle for Mythic Britain*.

**Kevin T. Nixon '95 (BUS)** has been certified as a trial advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy (NBTA). Kevin practices in Naugatuck, Conn.

**Amy Y. Rodriguez '95 (SFS)** and Jeffrey M. Ray were married April 22, 2000, and announce the birth of their daughter, Delaney Sophia, on January 24, 2001. The family reside in Summerville, S.C.

**Robert J. Sawicki '95 M.B.A.** has been named assistant vice president for claims education and training at the Hartford Financial Services Group. Bob and his wife, **Marianne Sawicki '84 (CLAS)**, and their three daughters have relocated to Pennsylvania from Connecticut.

**Caroline Sussman '95 M.S., '97 Ph.D.** is the recipient of the Young Investigators Award from the Wadsworth Foundation of Seattle, Wash. Caroline is a research associate in the Department of Neurosciences at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.



**Gerry Starsia '95 M.B.A.** has been appointed associate dean for administration at the University of Virginia. Gerry and his family reside in Charlottesville, Va.

**Lisa Chapman Zich '95 (PHR)** and her husband, Steve, announce the birth of a daughter, Rebecca, on March 29, 2000. Rebecca joins her sister, Katherine. Lisa is a pharmacist at the National Institutes of Health. The family reside in Washington, D.C.

**Greg Holgerson '96 (BUS)** and his wife, Dalesa, announce the birth of their son, Ryan Matthew, on March 1, 2001. The family lives in Nashville, Tenn.

**Matthew Wheeler '96 (BUS)** and **Sandra Feldman '96 (ED)** were married on September 15, 2001, in Beverly, Mass. **Todd Breuer '97 (CLAS)** was best man and **Allyson Myers '96 (CANR)** was maid of honor. Other UConn alumni in the wedding party included **Andrew Cumming '95 (CLAS)** and **Kirk Perruccio '97 (CANR)**. The couple reside in Massachusetts.

**Ileana Aguinies '97 J.D.** and Steven Levine announce the birth of their son, Ariel, on August 15, 2001. The family reside in Denver, Colo.

**Douglas J. Casa '97 Ph.D.** has been named a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine and is the recipient of the Kevin Speer, M.D. New Investigator Award by the National Athletic Trainers Association Research and Education Foundation.



**Jake Laban '97 (BUS)** and **Rachelle Gonzales** were married October 27, 2001, in Los Angeles, Calif. Jake is currently attending graduate school at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. The couple resides in Dana Point, Calif.

**An'drea Rogers '97 M.A.** and **Ben Flynn '96 (ED)** have married and announce the birth of their daughter, Madigan Lynn, on March 2, 2001. An'drea is teaching fourth grade at

Washington Elementary School in Manchester, Conn.

**Timothy P. Shriver '97 Ph.D.** has been named to the board of directors of Edison Schools, the nation's largest private manager of public schools. Tim is president and chief executive officer of Special Olympics.

**Michael Whyte '97 (BUS)** is completing a 10-month assignment in Beijing, China, and Tokyo, Japan with Ernst & Young, working on the first non-performing loan sale in China, a transaction with \$3 billion worth of assets. Michael has been with Ernst & Young for four and a half years and is currently manager of the firm's New York City office. Michael resides in New York City.



**Travis Board '98 (CLAS)** and **Susan Kluk '99 (CANR)** were married on May 18, 2001, in Ansonia, Conn. UConn alumni in the wedding included **Brian Girasoli '98 (CLAS)**, **Michael Kmec '00 (CANR)**, **Christine Glaude '00 (CANR)**, and **Sabrina Rogers '00 (CANR)**. Susan is finishing her master's degree at UConn, and Travis is a pilot in the Air Force Reserve out of Westover Air Force Base, Mass. The couple live in Willington, Conn.

**Lucas Cussen '98 (CLAS)** and **Allyson Ruggiero '99 (SFS)** were married on March 31, 2001, at Our Lady of the Lakes Church in New Milford, Conn. UConn alumni in the wedding party were **Jennifer Grannis '98 (ED), '99 M.A.**, **Katherine Joyce '98 (SAH)**, **Allyson Perron '99 (CLAS)**, **Greg Fennell '98 (CLAS)**, and **Van Ho '96 (BUS)**. Lucas and Allyson reside in Brooklyn, Conn.

**Andrew Czaja '98 (CLAS)** and **Joanna Contorno '99 (CLAS)** were married September 2, 2001, at the Candlewood Inn in Brookfield, Conn. UConn alumni in the wedding party

included best man **James D'Amico '98 (CLAS), '01 M.A.**; **Ken Collins '99 M.A.**; and **Jenn Smalley '00 M.A.** Also attending were David Mills, director of the UConn Marching Band, and professors **Zoe Cardon** and **Chris Simon** from the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Andy and Joanna reside in Los Angeles.

**Daniel A. DeGeorgia '98 (CLAS)** is currently working at Pentec Inc. in Southington, Conn.

**Jennifer Earl '98 (PHR)** and **Lucas Cosgrove '95 (PHR)** were married on September 15, 2001. They reside in South Windsor, Conn.



**Ruth Ann Fallon '99 (BGS)** is attending medical school at the American University of the Caribbean in St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles.

**Cynthia Francis '98 (BUS)** and **Joseph Burt '98 (BUS)** were married on August 4, 2001, at Christ the King Church in Old Lyme, Conn. UConn alumni in the bridal party included **Christopher Francis '95 (CLAS)** and **Kate Kotsaftis '98 (CLAS)**. Cindy is a project manager for GE Capital Card Services, and Joe is an underwriter for GE Capital Commercial Finance.

**Marit R. Knollmueller '98 (CLAS)** is employed at the Phillippe Alexandre Gallery in New York City. Marit is currently studying for a certificate in museum studies at NYU.

**Oswaldo G. Machado '98 (CLAS)** was admitted to the Connecticut Bar on November 5, 2001. Oswaldo is an associate at the law firm of Ventura, Ribeiro & Smith in Danbury, Conn.

**Courtney Wallenius '98 (CLAS)** and **Michael Dwyer '97 (BUS)** were married on August 3, 2001. The wedding party included matron of honor **Lea Wallenius Engels '94 (BUS)** and **Joseph Dwyer II '93 (CLAS)**. A reading was done by **Brooks Gibson '98 (CLAS)**.

**Colleen Mackin '99 (ED)** and **Christopher A. Hunter '00 (BUS)** were married July 20, 2001, in Worcester, Mass. **Jennifer Schiavone '00 (CLAS)** and **Joyce Guandalini '99 (CLAS)** were members of the wedding party.

**Dina Sacatos '99 (SFS)** and **Keith Wulinsky '00 (BUS)** were married on August 18, 2001, at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Bridgeport, Conn. UConn alumni in the wedding party included best man **Scott Wulinsky '96 (BUS)**, matron of honor **Christine Lofgren '99 (BUS)** and **John Bal '00 (BUS)**. Dina

is a housing specialist at Woodfield Family Services in Bridgeport, Conn., and Keith is a project director at Media Marketing Assessment in Shelton, Conn.

**Maureen Sullivan '99 (CLAS)** is a government relations



associate in the University of Connecticut Office of Governmental Relations. Previously, Maureen was a legislative coordinator in the Connecticut Governor's Office.

## 2000s

**Marisha N. Chinsky '00 (CLAS)** has moved to New York City and is a public relations associate at New York Life Insurance Company.

**Jewel McKenzie '00 (CANR)** is natural resources manager for

the Shelton (Conn.) Conservation Commission.

**Michael A. McNulty '00 (CLAS)** is a field communications manager working on marketing and promotions for General Motors in the Northeast.

**Sarah H. Roy '00 (CLAS)** and Michael A. Burke were married on November 24, 2001, at St. Joseph Church in Bristol, Conn. The wedding party included **Lucas A. Roy '99 (BUS)** and **Laurie Mullen '01 (CLAS)**.

**Kate Audette '01 (SFA)** is a graphic designer for TKG Imaging, a marketing and design firm in Bridgewater, N.J.

**Alyce T. Coleman '01 (CLAS)** is a copy editor and page designer at the *Journal News* in White Plains, N.Y.

**Kimberly Ann Eddleston '01 Ph.D.** is an assistant professor of general management in

the College of Business Administration at Northeastern University. Kimberly also owns and manages Oceanscape, Inc., a landscaping company in North Kingston, R.I.

**Kreschell Krech '01 M.A.** and **Andrew Morris '99 (CLAS)** were married at Elizabeth Park in West Hartford, Conn., on July 14, 2001. UConn alumni in the wedding party included **Marisa Wolff '01 M.A.** and **Karen Bartlett '00 (CLAS)**. Kreschell is employed by the Glastonbury School system, and Andrew works at the University of Hartford. The couple reside in Vernon, Conn.



**Marc O'Reilly '01 Ph.D.** is an assistant professor of political science and director of International and Multicultural Academic Programs at Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio.

## UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SALUTES

# 2002 Alumni and Faculty Excellence Awardees



**Paul A. Perregaux '58 (CLAS)**, '66 M.A., Connecticut Alumni Service Award—President and CEO of Siwooganock Bank



**Aaron Ment '58 (CLAS)** University Service Award (Co-recipient)—Senior Judge, Connecticut Superior Court



**Carolyn Runowicz '73 (CLAS)**, Distinguished Alumni Award—Professor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine



**Frank Costigliola** Faculty Excellence in Research (Humanities)—Department of History College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Pamela Bellmore Gardner '91 (CLAS)**, Outstanding Young Alumni Award—Teacher, Guilford (Conn.) High School



**Bahram Javidi** Faculty Excellence in Research (Sciences)—Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, School of Engineering



**Louise Berry '52 (CLAS)**, '61 M.A., '80 J.D., University Service Award (Co-recipient)—Superintendent, Brooklyn (Conn.) Board of Education



**James Hurley** Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Undergraduate Level—Department of Mathematics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



**John D. Salamone** Faculty Excellence in Teaching at the Undergraduate Level—Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

You can salute this year's honorees at the UConn Alumni Association's annual Alumni Awards Celebration and Silent Auction on Friday, May 10, 2002, in the Lewis B. Rome Ballroom at South Campus. For more information, call (888) UC-ALUM-1.

# Traveler



Breathtaking nature awaits you in Greenland, the world's largest island.

**Springtime on the Dutch and Belgian Waterways at Tulip Time**  
Aboard the *Switzerland II*, trip includes the Floriade—a once-in-a-decade international flower show!  
April 22–May 4, 2002  
Second departure added!  
May 14–26, 2002

**Alumni College in Sorrento**  
May 20–28, 2002

**Brittany, Normandy and the Channel Islands**  
June 4–15, 2002

**Do you have a graduating senior?**  
Give him or her the gift of travel!  
Graduate and celebrate with a classic trip to Europe!  
June 14–30, 2002

**America's Southwest—A Family Trip**  
Sedona, Grand Canyon, Lake Powell and Glen Canyon Dam, Monument Valley, Canyon de Chelly, Hopi/Apache/Navajo Indian Country . . .  
With John Craig, Professor of Art and Photography  
June 29–July 7, 2002

**Danube to the Black Sea**  
July 1–16, 2002

## Featured Trip

**Iceland and Greenland**  
July 24–August 3, 2002  
More than a thousand years ago, Viking explorers discovered the small, breathtaking island of Iceland in the North Atlantic. The awesome landscape and moderate climate surprised those early settlers. Warmed by Gulf Stream waters, Iceland is a land of contrasts, a land of glaciers, hot springs, geysers, active volcanoes, snow-capped peaks, vast lava deserts and a country with a history rich in folklore and drama!

Breathtaking nature awaits you in Greenland, the world's largest island, a land of gigantic icebergs, beautiful high mountains, glaciers thundering into the sea, vast inland ice, deep blue fjords and tiny settlements. Feel the serenity of the warm-hearted people, predominantly Inuit, as we visit the villages along the isolated eastern coast. Greenland is a country many people dream of experiencing, and for those whose dream has come true, their visit

will be the experience of a lifetime. You will be captivated by the utterly exceptional scenery, the equally unusual culture and the people themselves.

**Magical Britain, with a Harry Potter twist!**  
Great for the whole family!  
August 2–10, 2002

**Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Shaw Festival**  
October 8–11, 2002

**A Killarney, Ireland Getaway**  
November 3–8, 2002



The cluster of volcanoes that surround Iceland's Lake Mytvan has created one of the world's most astonishing natural landscapes.



**Go beyond travel and tourism—**  
Volunteer in Vietnam!  
With Global Volunteers  
January 2003

**For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call toll free (888) UC-ALUM-1 (888-822-5861).**

# Word



The summer '01 issue of *UConn Traditions* included an appeal to alumni to share photos of license plates that show their pride and school spirit. The appeal elicited a strong response that is reflected in this photo collage. Many of the alumni who sent photographs also shared recollections of their time at UConn, including Mary Gregory '58 (PHR), who wrote, "Thanks to the wonderful education I received [at UConn] I've had a good professional career and a good life. I'm very proud of my alma mater and have had this personalized license plate for over 20 years."

Do you have an essay, a photo, a poem, or some other creative expression you might want to share? If so, we want to hear from you. Send your ideas to The Last Word, *UConn Traditions*, 1266 Storrs Rd., Unit 4144, Storrs, CT 06269, or e-mail to [uconntraditions@uconn.edu](mailto:uconntraditions@uconn.edu).



The sights and sounds of more than 100 years of UConn athletic competition come alive during a visit to the new Husky Heritage Sports Museum. Surround yourself with the compelling images and remarkable stories of UConn's winning teams, determined coaches, and gifted student-athletes. Experience the phenomenal growth and thrilling athletic achievements that have made UConn fans the home team for Huskymania.

J. ROBERT DONNELLY

# Husky Heritage Sports Museum

Located in the UConn Alumni Center in the heart of the main campus in Storrs, the Husky Heritage Sports Museum is the ultimate multi-media experience for reliving the triumphs of UConn athletics.





The new, state-of-the-art School of Business is one of the most striking symbols of the physical transformation of the University brought about by UCONN 2000.



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