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Pride and investment in our University

After four years, a walk across the floor of Gampel Pavilion this past May provided me with a diploma and a tearful reminder that I am no longer a UConn student. On that Saturday afternoon, I became an alumnus of the University of Connecticut.

Even though I have concluded my studies at UConn, I wonder how, not if, I will choose to stay involved with the University. Correction: My University.

It might be some time before I will be able to contribute financially to my alma mater, but I intend to do so. Certainly I will join the legions of Husky faithful and cheer on our athletic teams. When the state legislature considers an important matter involving UConn, I intend to contact my senator and representative and urge them to support our University. As I progress through my career, I hope to offer UConn students access to workplace opportunities via internships, co-ops and full-time employment.

Many students are drawn to UConn by the success of alumni who have prospered because of their UConn education. Whether or not we acknowledge it, as alumni we are UConn's most effective recruiters. When students who are engaged in the college selection process inquire about UConn, I will speak proudly about UConn as a top choice.

I know this: I'm not going to be a stranger. As a second-generation UConn alum, I've been repeatedly reminded of the remarkable physical improvement to the campus since my parents graduated from the University some years ago. With the fulfillment of the UCONN 2000 program and the enthusiasm surrounding the newly proposed 21st Century UConn initiative, I look forward to witnessing the emergence of new facilities with educational programs and research activities that will continue to propel UConn into the ranks of the most respected public universities in the nation.

For me, pride and investment are at the core of my desire to remain connected to UConn. Pride instills in me a genuine desire to see others grow similarly from a great academic experience. As an invested alum whose résumé will forever declare my degree from this University, I realize that the academic respect accorded to this institution will translate into the professional respect accorded to me as a graduate. As UConn matures and its reputation increases across the nation, so too will the value of the degrees held by its graduates. As we alumni contribute to UConn excellence, we are continually reminded that pride and investment in our University is worth our every effort. — Chris Hattayer '02 (CLAS)
FROM THE

President

A high return on state's investment

Major universities engage in many activities whose economic value is measurable—and many more whose value is not. As our alumni know, the intrinsic value of work in the humanities, basic research in the sciences, excitement about athletics, access to the arts, and serving as a forum for debate about political and cultural principles are not just important activities; they are a critical part of our identity.

But with that clearly understood, promotion of economic growth ranks high on the list of every public university's objectives. Indeed, in the 21st century's technology and information-based economy, higher education may be a more important participant than ever. An abundance of data supports the argument that productive universities create and sustain productive economies.

Unquestionably, the University of Connecticut has been able to make the case in the seven years since the enactment of UCONN 2000.

The Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis' recent evaluation outlined a return on the state's investment of between $2.03 and $3.76 for every UCONN 2000 dollar; the impact on employment, in-state migration of highly skilled individuals, gross regional product and personal income were all significant. At the heart of the investment/outcome relationship are two elements. First, a technologically advanced, attractive statewide campus plays a vital role in keeping more of Connecticut's talented students in the state and helps lure excellent students from other states. The increased likelihood that these students will remain in Connecticut after graduation enhances the state's capacity to retain high-wage businesses and attract new knowledge-based enterprises. The second element is the relationship between the presence of exceptional research facilities at UConn and the University's growing capacity to work with business to enhance technological competitiveness. The better our physical plant, the better our capacity to lure exceptional faculty, to attract research grants, and to conduct both basic and applied research vital to the growth of a knowledge-based economy.

The economic promise of UCONN 2000 is being fulfilled in every important dimension. Freshman enrollment at Storrs has increased 56%, bringing in additional Connecticut students as well as more out-of-state students. Since fall 1995, approximately 375 high school valedictorians and salutatorians have joined us, and during that period average SAT scores have climbed by nearly 40 points. Of particular note, minority freshman enrollment has climbed 62%. Over the same period, annual research awards at Storrs and the Health Center have grown from less than $100 million to more than $160 million, and the University has developed a strong program of technology transfer.

The state of Connecticut is considering taking another giant step forward with "21st Century UConn," a $1.3 billion, 11-year proposal that builds on the foundation laid by UCONN 2000. Passage of this monumental program will solidify the state's profound commitment to our University.

Indeed, Connecticut's investment in our institution has already moved UConn forward in a progression to the top ranks of American public higher education, and it has significantly enhanced the University's role as a critical asset in maintaining the state's position of economic leadership. This is a contribution of which all members of the UConn community, and particularly those alumni who still call Connecticut home, should be proud.

Attracting Connecticut's best and brightest students to UConn is important to the state's long-term economic vitality.
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.
As one chapter ends

Graduates urged to embrace heightened sense of personal responsibility

More than 3,500 undergraduate and 1,600 graduate and professional school students were awarded their degrees during the University’s 119th commencement ceremonies this past May.

Speaking at the undergraduate ceremonies held at Gampel Pavilion, Connecticut Governor John G. Rowland urged graduates to embrace the principles of personal responsibility and praised UConn for its achievement as the top public university in New England. “In the next ten years,” said Rowland, “UConn will become the number one public university in the nation.”

Frene Noshir Ginwala, speaker of the South African National Assembly and a leader of the African National Congress, advised graduate and professional students to bridge the gap between prosperity and poverty in the world. “Prosperity cannot endure in a sea of poverty,” she said. “We need to reexamine the global village and redefine a sense of community.”

The Law School, which awarded 203 juris doctorate and 28 master of law degrees, welcomed speaker Patricia McGowan Wald, a Torrington native and former judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals. Noting that the events of Sept. 11 have changed the course of the nation, she told law school graduates that they will play a central role in the evolving new world.

At the UConn Health Center, 77 doctors and 44 dentists received their medical degrees. Also receiving their degrees were 30 masters of public health and nine masters of dental science. Featured speaker at the Health Center’s commencement was renowned medical scientist and surgeon Judah Folkman of the Children’s Hospital in Boston, Mass.

Speakers Ginwala and Wald received honorary juris doctorate degrees, while Folkman received an honorary doctor of science. Other honorary degree recipients were Joseph Volpe, general manager, Metropolitan Opera; Bobbie Ann Mason ’72 Ph.D., novelist and short story writer; Princess Irene of Greece, international human rights leader; William A. Wulf, president, National Academy of Engineering; Fujia Yang, physicist and chancellor of the University of Nottingham; and Edmund D. Pellegrino, a physician, philosopher and biomedical ethicist.

Richard Clark, professor of UConn’s department of nutritional sciences, received the 2002 Teaching Fellow Award from the Institute of Teaching and Learning, and David Gavitt, founder of the Big East Conference, received the University Medal.
After winning the national championship, there were plenty of encores for the UConn women's basketball team—including a date with final exams.

On March 30, the UConn women's basketball team defeated Oklahoma University 82-70 to complete an astonishing 39-0 season. The team had dominated the sport as no team had ever before, setting more NCAA records and winning more individual awards than seemed humanly possible.

So what did these incredible young women do for an encore? Actually, quite a lot.

Since their championship victory in San Antonio, the UConn women have been very busy. They rang the bell at the New York Stock Exchange, soliciting pleas from New Yorkers to play for their beleaguered Knicks. They were also guests of honor at a parade in Hartford and, that same day, watched UConn recruits play in a high school All-American game at the Civic Center.

If that weren't enough, the four seniors—Sue Bird, Swin Cash, Asjha Jones and Tamika Williams—were among the top six picks in the WNBA draft. Bird, chosen first by the Seattle Storm, even threw out the first ball at a Mariners-Yankees game in Seattle. And, of course, in May, the team made the trip to Washington to visit President Bush.

Seemingly invited everywhere, the UConn women regretfully couldn't make every date. "After our win over Oklahoma," says assistant coach Chris Dailey, "we received numerous congratulations and requests to make appearances. We would have loved to accommodate everyone, but our players were busy finishing up classes and preparing for finals."

The four seniors, who spent time in April working out with their new WNBA teams, came back to complete their studies and graduate on time—just as they had planned it. During their four years at UConn, Bird, Cash, Jones and Williams
became quite expert at balancing academics, basketball and public appearances. According to Bruce Cohen, director of the counseling program for intercollegiate athletes and the women's team academic advisor, the seniors mapped out a strategy that allowed them to take fewer courses during the fall and spring semesters, and take additional credits during the summer.

"They came up with the plan during their first year to make sure they could play basketball and graduate on time," Cohen says. "They were an incredibly diligent group," he adds. "They took their studies seriously, and their work ethic was remarkable."

The seniors excelled academically during their four years at UConn, with Asjha Jones, a business management major, leading the way. This year, she was named a District I Academic All-American.

Championships have become a tradition at UConn. "It was that way when the seniors began," Cohen notes, "and it will be that way for the incoming freshmen next year. UConn women's basketball means excellence in academics as well as in athletics. Expectations are simply that high." —John Surwicke '66 (CLAS), '78 M.A.
All in a day’s work
1,898 species identified in 24 hours during BioBlitz 2002

From 3 p.m. May 31 through 3 p.m. June 1, more than 100 scientists from the University of Connecticut and other institutions spread out across the 400-acre Mohegan Park in Norwich, Conn., to identify as many species of plants and animals as possible in 24 hours.

Part contest, part scientific quest and part recreation, BioBlitz is sponsored annually by the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History at UConn in cooperation with the National Academy of Sciences. The public portion of the program featured hands-on, nature-focused activities that helped interpret what the scientists found.

“BioBlitz is a great tool for teaching people about biodiversity and how we are dependent upon it,” says Ellen Censky, director of the museum. “We hope to send the message that there is an amazing amount of biodiversity, even in a developed area such as Norwich. What better way than to see how many species can be identified in a 24-hour period in the city’s Mohegan Park, which comprises upland forest, ponds, wetlands and streams as well as a nationally recognized Rose Garden.”

The 2001 BioBlitz in Danbury, which was featured in a National Geographic Explorer documentary, resulted in the identification of 2,519 species—a U.S. record for a 24-hour biodiversity survey. This year, as reported on NBC’s Today Show, the BioBlitz team identified 1,898 species.

“We have to understand the living world before we can learn to care about it,” says Censky, who organized Connecticut’s first BioBlitz shortly after her arrival at UConn in 1999. “BioBlitz participants come away with a better understanding and appreciation of Connecticut’s biodiversity and what our parks have to offer.”

Board of Trustees select 2002 Distinguished Professors
Five faculty receive University’s highest honor

As pioneers in their respective fields of study, and as attentive mentors to students, five UConn professors were bestowed with the University’s highest honor—Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor.

Yaakov Bar-Shalom, professor of electrical and computer engineering, is one of the world’s foremost authorities on target-tracking, a field with wide-ranging commercial and defense-related applications. Bar-Shalom introduced state-of-the-art graduate courses and developed associated textbooks and software that are used at UConn, the Naval postgraduate school, MIT and other universities. He also advises numerous Ph.D. students in their research studies.

Richard D. Brown, professor of history, is a leading scholar of early American history and is lauded for his scholarship on revolutionary and early national America. Brown has published several acclaimed books, including Strength of the People—described as the “definitive analysis” of an informed citizenry in early America. In his three decades at
UConn, Brown has contributed significantly as a mentor to students, and his graduate-level seminars are among the most rigorous and popular in the department.

David A. Kenny, professor of psychology, is a renowned social psychologist who is a national expert on interpersonal perception and one of the most important methodologists in contemporary social psychology. Kenny’s methodological, empirical and theoretical contributions have been widely referenced—more than 5,000 citations—and have had a major impact on theory and research in the social sciences. Kenny has inspired scores of graduate students, many of whom have gone on to important positions at top research institutions across the nation.

Alexandros Makriyannis, professor of medicinal chemistry and molecular and cell biology, established the Center for Drug Discovery at UConn in 1997. He has made numerous critical contributions in the field of drug discovery and molecular recognition, including a model that details the method in which drugs and hormones interact with the cellular membrane. During his nearly 30 years at UConn, he has mentored more than 150 postdoctoral, graduate and undergraduate students.

William C. Stwalley, professor of physics and head of the physics department, is a leading authority on long-range atom interaction and hailed by colleagues for his strong support of integrating the physics department’s research program into the undergraduate experience. In 1995, he established a National Science Foundation-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates summer program that greatly benefits UConn physics students. He also advanced a number of curricular programs, including the development of a photonics minor that provides students with critical training in laser-based technologies.

**HIGH HONORS**

UConn’s ninth annual Scholars Day, held in April, recognized University students demonstrating outstanding academic achievement this past year. Chancellor John Petersen told the exemplary scholars that their academic excellence and exceptional accomplishments represent “the best of Husky Pride.”

The University honored 40 University Scholars who were selected based on the rigor and imagination of their proposed programs of study and previous academic achievement. Through the University Scholars program, talented and highly motivated students pursue accelerated and nontraditional programs of study.

Also recognized at Scholars Day were 64 Babidge Scholars, who earned a 4.0 grade point average for both the spring and fall semesters, and 1,216 New England Scholars, who earned a 3.5 grade point average or higher for both semesters.

UConn student Maggie Samways, right, discusses her research project with Barbara Meagher, assistant professor of journalism.
The Husky beat goes on and on... UConn maintains its status among athletic elite

The University of Connecticut's 24 intercollegiate athletic programs compiled an overall record of 273-167-13 during 2001-2002. The 13 women's programs were 158-95-3, highlighted by a third NCAA women's basketball championship (see pages 6-7). The 11 men's programs were 115-72-10.

The men's basketball team finished 27-7, the eighth time in 16 seasons under head coach Jim Calhoun that the Huskies have reached the 25-win plateau. UConn finished tenth in the final Associated Press national rankings and tied for sixth in the final ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll. With a 13-3 league record, UConn secured its seventh Big East regular season championship in the past 13 seasons. The Huskies then captured their fifth Big East tournament title, giving the University a league record of 12 men's basketball championships. The Huskies reached the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament, losing to eventual NCAA champion Maryland.

The UConn men's (15-5-2) and women's (18-6) soccer teams each secured Big East regular season titles and went on to compete in the NCAA tournament. The UConn men's indoor track team posted a 5-0-1 record winning their first Big East title since 1997 and a ninth consecutive New England indoor championship. Dan Wilson '02 and Joe Mendel '03 both earned All-America honors in men's indoor track for finishes in the one-mile run and 400-meter dash, respectively. En route to a Big East tournament title, men's outdoor track and field competitors Wilson, Will Thomas, '04 and Paul Pisano '04 were named All-Americans for achievements in the 1,500-meter run, decathlon, and javelin, respectively.

The women's indoor track and field squad recorded a 9-0 record on its way to a third consecutive New England indoor championship crown while the women's outdoor track and field team rolled to an 8-0 record and notched its second straight New England outdoor title. Deirdre Mullen '04 earned indoor All-America accolades in the high jump as did Wadudah Nurul-Islam '02 for her performance in the weight throw.

With a 21-7 record, the women's volleyball team claimed a fifth consecutive season with 20 wins or more. Posting a 9-3 record in the Big East, UConn was seeded fourth in the Big East championship, falling to Notre Dame, the eventual tournament winner.

The UConn baseball squad finished 28-22 overall and finished seventh in the Big East Conference with a 13-12 record. The Huskies led the league in hitting with a team average of .320 and scored 388 runs, the third-highest total by any UConn squad in the 107-year history of the program.

Among the 14 schools competing in the Big East Conference, UConn placed second in both the men's and women's league standings leading to a second place finish overall in the race for the Big East Commissioner's trophy.

(For more complete information on UConn athletics, visit www.uconnhuskies.com.)
Investing in the Future

Academic heft
Five new faculty chairs established

“The growth in the number of endowed chairs and professorships at the University has been one of our finest accomplishments in a time of many great achievements.”

- President Philip Austin

Outstanding faculty research and an ongoing commitment to educating students continue to bolster UConn’s position as a top-ranked public university while contributing in meaningful ways to the state’s economic development and to a better quality of life for Connecticut citizens.

Recognizing the vital role of faculty contributing to University achievement, one-quarter of Campaign UConn’s $300 million goal is targeted to increasing faculty funding and support. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of donors, this past spring the University fortified faculty excellence when it announced the funding of five new academic chairs. President Philip Austin explains, “The generation of knowledge is as important to the mission of a research university as its transmission to new generations of students. Indeed, the closer the linkage between research and teaching, the more effective UConn will be in attaining excellence in both areas.”

Since the inception of UCONN 2000 in 1995, the number of endowed faculty chairs and professorships at the University has more than doubled. “As in virtually every other area of endeavor, the University has made dramatic and rapid strides in adding men and women of extraordinary brilliance to an already strong corps of professors,” Austin adds. “The growth in the number of endowed chairs and professorships at the University has been one of our finest accomplishments in a time of many great achievements.”

Of the five newly endowed chairs, three are at the UConn Health Center: the Janice and Rodney Reynolds Chair in Neurobiology, the UConn Orthodontic Alumni-Ravi Nanda Chair in Orthodontics, and the Albert and Wilda Van Dusen Chair in Academic Medicine. The two remaining chairs are the Robert Cizik Chair in Manufacturing and Technology Management and the GE Capital Professor of Business.

These new chairs represent important opportunities to recruit and appoint teachers, researchers, and visionaries who are at the forefront of knowledge and innovation across academic disciplines.

The UConn medallion signifies the prestigious appointment to one of the University's endowed chairs.
Gilman gift expands exhibition space

New gallery at the William Benton Museum of Art

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Evelyn S. Gilman ’47 (CLAS), an avid patron and supporter of the arts, the William Benton Museum of Art, located at the heart of the Storrs campus, announced plans to construct an addition to exhibit more of its permanent collection. The Benton’s Evelyn S. Gilman Gallery will increase public and exhibition space by nearly 7,000 square feet, allowing many more of the nearly 5,000 works of art in the Benton’s permanent collection to be displayed on a regular basis.

According to museum director Salvatore Scalora, Gilman’s $800,000 gift not only allows the museum to exhibit more of its impressive collection but also re-orient the museum toward the center of campus, providing a focus for creative expression and making the arts a more intrinsic part of the University experience. Poetry readings, guest lectures, student exhibitions and other cultural events will be added. With a café, a new museum shop and an outdoor patio, the Benton Museum will provide another important gathering place near the heart of campus life.

David Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts, adds, “Evelyn Gilman is a dear friend and important ally of UConn’s fine arts programs. I am delighted that the Gilman Gallery will bear her name and be a living tribute to a lover of the arts.”

Groundbreaking for the new addition is set for late summer, and construction is expected to be complete in early 2004.

Campaign UConn progress

As of May 31, 2002, Campaign UConn raised a total of $196 million. This represents 65 percent of the $300 million goal to be raised by June 30, 2004. Funding by campaign priority is as follows: faculty support $49.6M; student scholarships $33.5M; and program support $113M.

A memorable gift

UConn seniors establish September 11th UConn Education Fund

Continuing the time-honored tradition of making a graduation gift to their alma mater, the Class of 2002 established a scholarship fund for the children of the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The class expects to raise more than $30,000 for the endowment, which will fund student scholarships for incoming freshmen.

According to Jillian Hoyt, senior class gift coordinator, this is a compelling opportunity to honor those who lost their lives in the attacks. “After September 11, we wanted to do something to help those whose lives were shattered by the tragedy,” she notes. “As seniors recognizing the value of a UConn education, we felt the best possible gift was to share our educational experience with children of the victims.”

Hoyt noted that the response from seniors and their parents has been overwhelming. With participation close to 50 percent, more than $27,000 has already been raised or committed from approximately 1,000 donors.

Dolan Evanovich, associate provost for enrollment management, commends the seniors’ decision: “Scholarships are a key factor in our ability to recruit and retain talented students,” he says. “But beyond that, the Class of 2002 is leaving a thoughtful and everlasting legacy for the children affected by the events of September 11, many of whom are from Connecticut.”
True blue (and white)
A closer look at UConn's colors

We've always known that UConn's colors are blue and white. But over the years, we haven't always been sure what shade of blue is really "UConn Blue."

Briefly, in the late 1920s, students considered changing from blue and white to blue and orange. At the time, several rival teams in New England also used blue and white—so the Connecticut Agricultural College football team took to wearing orange jerseys. Accordingly, the press referred to them as the "Orangemen."

In 1928, the student government proposed an official change to blue and orange; however, with mounting alumni objections, the students ultimately rejected the idea—but still, there was no standard for colors.

A letter from a Pennsylvania law firm early in 1947 to then-UConn President Albert N. Jorgensen, asked for "an authentic statement concerning the origin of and the reasons for the selection of the official colors of the University." University administrators and faculty offered that the colors had "always" been royal blue and white, although University Comptroller Leonard Riccio responded that the colors were just "blue and white." His source: the color of the corridor walls in Hawley Armory.

In October 1952, Jorgensen appointed a five-member committee to "study the need for official school colors," stemming from a request for new band uniforms. The group found that the colors were never officially accepted—and "by official, we mean that it has not been acted upon by our Board of Trustees," wrote committee chair J. O. Christian, who was then UConn's athletic director.

A sweater like those presented to UConn varsity athletes was taken to the head chemist at American Thread Company in Willimantic, Conn., who matched the navy blue garment with a standardized color known as "homage blue." However, the committee recommended a slightly different shade, known as "national flag blue", which the trustees adopted in 1952.

But one paragraph in the Christian letter set the stage for a return of the "blues" over the next several decades.

"All three of these colors [national flag, homage, and midnight] could be used with the different uniforms, and no one could tell the difference unless you saw them side by side. It may be that in picking a uniform for the band that the midnight blue or the homage blue may be more practical than the national flag blue. I doubt that anyone could tell the difference."

It was not until the early 1980s that the issue of standardizing the blue was again addressed. Tim Tolokan, then director of athletic communications, found there was a great degree of variation in the blue used in University publications and uniforms.

Tolokan re-discovered the trustee action of 1952 selecting national flag blue, and under modern color standards, that translated to a shade known as Pantone 289. A standard was set for the color as well as for University logos.

In 1997, the University commissioned Peter Good '65 and Janet Cummings Good '66, alumni of the School of Fine Arts, to create a visual identity for the University. During the development process that would yield the University's oak leaf cluster, the particular shade of national flag blue used by the University was changed from the very dark Pantone 289 to a lighter shade of navy, Pantone 281.

When the new standards were adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1998, the University finally had a definitive "UConn blue."

—Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS) is author of University of Connecticut, a photographic history of UConn published by Arcadia Press.
A plan to move UConn's four health and human development-related schools into a collaborative alliance took effect July 1. The new Division of Health and Human Development allows faculty to combine their strengths to better access private and governmental grants, enhance the experience and skills of students in each of the schools, and direct back to the schools the money saved by combining similar administrative functions.

The reorganization brings the talents and skills of faculty and staff into a strategic alliance while still allowing each school to maintain its autonomy. The schools will be assisted administratively by a centralized staff, which is expected to create savings that will be reinvested into the academic programs. "This creates a foundation upon which the four schools can coordinate and collaborate," says Charles Super, dean of the School of Family Studies. He points to the field of gerontology as one area in which partnership could lead to interdisciplinary research that, combined, will be stronger than several individual initiatives.

The alliance will also allow faculty to use their collective strengths to better access private and governmental grants and improve the experience and skills of students in each of the four schools. Joseph Smey, dean of the School of Allied Health, explains, "Our faculty have embraced this reorganization and are excited by the prospect of collaborating with colleagues in other health-related disciplines." He adds, "We've always been an interdisciplinary school. Now, in terms of numbers, clout and potential, this new alliance greatly enhances our ability to attract external funds and opens up a variety of new opportunities."

Laura Dzurec, dean of the School of Nursing, agrees. "This has great potential. It involves sharing ideas, communicating with one another on a regular basis, and drawing on each other's expertise," she says, "yet it maintains the autonomy of each school. It has the promise of being the best of both worlds."

Cross-disciplinary work is a new model that is giving rise to some of the most innovative academic programs in higher education. In establishing the Division of Health and Human Development, UConn is following a national trend to bring schools and colleges in health-related fields closer together. "Increasingly, health care is taking a more holistic approach, becoming more interdepartmental," says Chancellor John Petersen. "The reorganization will put us in a position to respond to that new dynamic."

"This change is a strategic initiative that will position UConn very positively in the areas of health education and research . . . ."

—John Petersen, Chancellor
The need for greater collaboration among professions in the health fields is rapidly surfacing. For example, the pharmacist is becoming more of a partner with doctors, working with patients and their physicians and leaving the task of filling prescriptions to pharmacy technicians. To fulfill that role, however, new pharmacists need training in areas such as patient consultations and monitoring patients' vital signs.

"Who is going to provide that training to pharmacy students? Those lessons are perfect for nursing school faculty," says Robert McCarthy, interim dean of the School of Pharmacy. He adds that such a collaboration is already in place, with nursing faculty giving lectures to aspiring pharmacists. "Innovations in curriculum and research will be enhanced by our new structure."

As the four health-related schools join forces, the effects will indeed be far-reaching—from enhanced curricular opportunities for students to collaborative research projects for faculty. "This change is a strategic initiative that will position UConn very positively in the areas of health education and research and will help students in each of the schools achieve their individual goals and objectives," says Petersen.

"This has great potential. It involves sharing ideas, communicating with one another on a regular basis, and drawing on each other's expertise."
—Laura Dzurec, Dean, School of Nursing

“Our faculty have embraced this reorganization and are excited by the prospect of collaborating with colleagues in other health-related disciplines.”
—Joseph Smey, Dean, School of Allied Health
School of Dental Medicine

UConn’s first alumni-endowed chair

Alumni of the department of orthodontics in UConn’s School of Dental Medicine have contributed $1 million to endow the UConn Orthodontic Alumni-Ravi Nanda Chair. The chair is the first in the dental school and the first of the University’s 51 endowed chairs funded entirely by an alumni group, honoring the career-long contributions of professor and department head Ravindra Nanda.

“The orthodontics alumni are sending out a strong, supportive message by making this special chair possible,” says Peter Robinson, dean of the School of Dental Medicine. “Through their generosity, they are demonstrating great pride in this wonderful residency program while also showing a great desire to ensure its continued excellence.”

The orthodontics department has been acclaimed for the last 30 years as one of the best in the nation for the superior quality of the faculty and their use of biomechanics, says Len Rothenberg ’74 D.M.D., president of UConn’s Orthodontics Alumni Association. “UConn is the most highly sought-out graduate program because residents are exposed to cutting-edge orthodontics. The alumni want to keep the quality of the program at the highest level.”

With the endowment, which will increase to $1.5 million through the state’s matching endowment program, department head Ravindra Nanda will expand the staff engaged in clinical work and research.

“The chair is our way of giving back to the university,” says Rothenberg, noting the strong academic foundation UConn has provided for its alumni. Indeed, UConn’s 120 orthodontics alumni include two dental school deans, seven orthodontics department heads, 40 university faculty and numerous private practitioners.

Neag School of Education

Confratute turns 25

What is Confratute? Many of the 18,000 educators from around the world who have attended the UConn program describe it an unforgettable experience that sent them back to their classrooms rejuvenated and inspired.

Confratute is a two-week professional development program for educators sponsored by UConn’s Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. Over the years, it has earned a reputation for being one of the best national programs for teachers providing either general classroom instruction or expertise in gifted and talented education. The annual summer gathering is the brainchild of Joseph Renzulli, the Neag Professor of Gifted Education and Talent Development. He also serves as director of the Neag Center and the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented.

Although there have long been summer institutes and conferences geared for teachers, Renzulli designed a program that is unique in the manner in which it engages participants. To do this, he combined the best features of a CONFERENCE, a FRATERNITY and an INSTITUTE, thereby creating Confratute.

“I’ve always viewed Confratute as a microcosm of what a school should be—challenging, encouraging, thought-provoking, interactive and just plain fun,” Renzulli says. Year after year, his team of educators has created an informal learning environment in which participants interact and network with colleagues who share similar concerns, challenges and aspirations.

The response has been staggering. Confratute attendance has grown from 173 people in 1987 to 1,200 participants each of the last three years. Educators from across the U.S. and around the world come to study with the nation’s best-known leaders in gifted education and talent development. This year’s notables include Howard Gardner of Harvard University and Robert Sternberg from Yale University along with Renzulli and his wife and colleague, Sally Reis, professor and head of the educational psychology department at the Neag Center, both of whom are world leaders in their field.
College of Continuing Studies

Innovative leadership program launched

Partnering with the State of Connecticut, the Institute of Public Service (IPS) of the College of Continuing Studies now offers an innovative leadership development program to high-level state agency managers. UConn's Certificate in Government Leadership Program—identified as a benchmark by public and private agencies and consulting firms—is an action-learning experience that focuses on using leadership competencies to solve real-world problems.

"This initiative confirms our commitment to providing the highest quality leadership programs to international, national and state leaders," says Michelle M. Stronz, executive director of IPS. "We are very excited to be a partner with the state of Connecticut on this innovative program."

The program offers 13 day-long workshops at UConn's Greater Hartford campus and a three-day program at UConn's Avery Point campus. "UConn's Institute of Public Service provides a unique and responsive program," says Barbara Waters, commissioner of the department of administrative services and initiator of the program. "Together, we are building a national model for public service leadership training."

This unique initiative is based on the Malcolm Baldridge Criteria for Performance Excellence—an internationally recognized model of management practices. Throughout the program, participants will examine the seven core Baldridge competencies: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, information and analysis, human resource focus, process management and business results.

Program faculty include UConn instructors as well as internationally acclaimed leadership trainers who discuss a variety of specialized topics, such as eGovernment and business-minded tools for government. UConn will award six credits to participants who subsequently enroll in the Masters in Public Administration program.

School of Medicine

'Founding father' recognized

The Green Auditorium, the lecture hall where first-year students obtain their introduction to medical and dental school, has been renamed in honor of John Patterson, the Health Center's first executive director and second dean of the School of Medicine.

Patterson, who is retired and living in Storrs, says, "This is an extremely nice honor, I'm touched to know they still think of me."

Sherwin Cooperstein, one of the original Health Center planning group members and a colleague of Patterson's, remarked that naming the auditorium after him was especially deserved.

"If John Patterson wasn't there, I am not sure the Health Center would have gotten off the ground," Cooperstein says. "When Lyman Stowe (the first medical dean) passed away suddenly, we were fortunate Dr. Patterson was so knowledgeable, and sufficiently experienced to assume a key leadership role and guide us."

If his academic credentials—he holds an M.D., Ph.D. and a D.Sci. (hon.)—and his career as the Health Center's first leader weren't sufficient evidence of his scholarly devotion, then his post-executive career fully illustrates it. Returning to the lab and the physiology faculty, he took up his basic research endeavors and established a program studying cataracts.

"He's unique as far as I am concerned," says Robert Jungas, professor of physiology and the man behind the idea to name the auditorium after Patterson. "When he retired as executive vice president, he returned to the lab and initiated a new research program. It is very difficult to leave administration and return to your field," Jungas says, "to learn new techniques, to take up your tools anew; it is quite a challenge.

"Not only did he do that, but he made important research contributions—particularly concerning the formation of cataracts during diabetes," Jungas says. "It is a great tribute to him."
School of Social Work

Hesselbrock named first Zachs Chair

Michie N. Hesselbrock, professor and director of research at the School of Social Work since 1991, has been named the first Judith M. and Henry M. Zachs Chair in Social Work. She also has been appointed director of the new Ph.D. program in social work at the Greater Hartford campus. Beginning this September, the program will launch with five students, with plans to expand by admitting five additional students annually. It is the only program of its kind at a public university in New England.

The chair and doctoral program are funded by a $1 million gift from UConn alumna Judith M. Zachs ’77 M.S.W and her husband, Henry M. Zachs.

“T...
School of Fine Arts

Access to a national treasure

A new and unique collaborative partnership will unite the School of Fine Arts with one of Connecticut's premier art museums, giving students and faculty members unprecedented access to thousands of pieces of original artwork by many of this country's most influential artists.

The partnership, which began in May, joins the School of Fine Arts with the New Britain Museum of American Art. Founded in 1903, the New Britain Museum has more than 4,000 works of American art spanning over 250 years. The collection includes works by such noted artists as Georgia O'Keeffe, Mary Cassatt, Jacob Lawrence and Andy Warhol.

"The New Britain Museum of American Art is a national treasure," says David G. Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts. "It has a wonderful collection of American art to which members of our community will now have complete access."

The partnership will facilitate the exchange of artwork between the New Britain Museum's permanent collection and the William Benton Museum of Art for exhibition and research purposes. This fall, a Benton exhibit of American realist paintings from the early 20th century will feature numerous works from the New Britain Museum's collection, including paintings by Edward Hopper and John Sloane.

"This partnership will serve to increase the range of prestigious artwork we exhibit on campus for our students, faculty and visitors," says Salvatore Scalora, director of the Benton Museum.

Cooperatively, a summer exhibit at the New Britain Museum incorporates the Benton's collection of works by Childe Hassam and Maurice Prendergast.

In the future, the Benton Museum and the department of art and art history will provide students with the opportunity to examine the original pieces of artwork they are studying in the classroom.

Students will also have the opportunity to gain valuable experience as interns at the New Britain Museum, where they can research works and help curate traveling exhibitions.

School of Business

'Real world' accounting program sees highest enrollment ever

Defying a trend of falling accounting program enrollments at many colleges and universities nationwide, UConn is attracting record numbers of accounting students with a program designed around the real world of business. In fact, with 330 undergraduate majors, 100 master's degree candidates, and seven active Ph.D. candidates this past spring semester, UConn's accounting program enrollment was the largest ever.

Dick Kochanek, professor and head of the accounting department, says reasons for the increase in enrollment include stability and opportunity. The accounting program graduates approximately 100 accounting majors annually. Of these, more than 90 percent have jobs within three months of graduation, with starting salaries of $40,000 or more.

Orientation for all UConn accounting students begins at the undergraduate level with "Introduction to a Profession," a program developed by Kochanek. Recognized by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Accounting Profession as one of the most innovative college accounting courses in the nation, the one-credit, five-night seminar exposes students to an array of interesting careers, ranging from financial analysts to revenue agents. During the course of the program, students interact with approximately 40 different accountants who are at various stages in their careers. The accountants, many of whom are UConn alumni, share their experiences, ranging from what they would have done differently when searching for a job to the pros and cons of working in different-sized firms.

Further contributing to its "real world" approach is the accounting program's extensive internship program. Each year about 70 percent of UConn's undergraduate accounting majors intern at Connecticut companies. The internships allow students to earn on-the-job paid experience that is relevant and rigorous and benefits the employers as well as the students.

This valuable work experience coupled with the strength of its academic program have made UConn a key recruiting school for national and regional accounting firms. "We are the number one supplier of new accountants in the state," Kochanek adds.
School of Law

Insurance law post 9/11

The insurance industry was one of the first business sectors to respond to the events of Sept. 11, with executives and regulators trying to assess how to fairly and effectively compensate the businesses and people directly affected by the terrorist attacks. Six months after the tragedy, the School of Law's Insurance Law Center held the first international conference to examine the impact of the attacks on the liability and insurance industries.

The symposium, "Liability and Insurance after September 11th," held in March, hosted insurance regulators, academics and attorneys from around the world. "Six months after September 11, we were able to take a step back and examine how the events affected the insurance industry," said Tom Baker, director of the Insurance Law Center.

Many panelists noted that the industry wasn't prepared for the attacks. "It was a risk that no one really imagined could happen," said Roger Singer, general counsel for OneBeacon Corporation.

A broad spectrum of topics relating to the attacks was analyzed during the two-day event, such as the issue of compensating victims of the tragedies and the government's role in the development of the Victims' Compensation Fund.

According to Larry Stewart, president of Trial Lawyers Care, the Fund spreads the losses across all U.S. taxpayers. "This was an attack on America, its institutions, its culture, its way of life. There is an appropriateness in the government's stepping in to aid the victims," said Stewart.

According to conference participant François Ewald, a professor at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers in France, the ongoing risk of terrorism poses new challenges for the insurance industry. "We can either invent a new type of insurance to compensate for acts of terrorism, or insurance will have lost its universality to compensate for losses," Ewald said. "It is the risk of liberty that has to be insured."

School of Engineering

Taking campus by storm

Emmanouil Anagnostou wants to become what he calls a "nowcaster," and the research he has undertaken to achieve that objective has earned him one of the National Science Foundation's 2002 Early Career Development (CAREER) awards. A hydrology and natural hazards expert, Anagnostou is enamored with the study of the kinds of weather most people love to hate—floods, lightning, and hurricanes, to mention a few.

Instead of forecasts based on predictions of what is expected to happen, he is developing new methods and tools for precise precipitation measurements as they occur in real time, thus creating a "nowcast." For Anagnostou, assistant professor of engineering, it is a matter of saving lives and property.

"To design or construct anything, we need first to account for nature and its effects on our designs," says Anagnostou. "I want to study the implications of severe weather and precipitation and make that information available to engineers of man-made structures."

One of his tools, the X-band Polarimetric On Wheels (XPOW), recently appeared on Horsebarn Hill as part of his $423,000 CAREER award. XPOW is a specialized radar unit mounted on the back of a flatbed pickup truck. As a mobile unit, it can be deployed to various locations where it collects a variety of data from severe weather systems.

Earlier this year, the unit was stationed in the Florida Keys as part of Anagnostou's three-year NASA-funded project to improve hurricane landfall predictions. Although no hurricane was forecasted for Storrs, XPOW provided hands-on experience for Anagnostou's students studying applications in flood prediction for the Mansfield reservoir river basin.

This summer, his CAREER research moved to western Oklahoma and then to NASA's Wallops Island facility in Virginia, where the technology was used jointly with other research instruments to improve methods for real-time rainfall estimations.

Professor Emmanouil Anagnostou atop Horsebarn Hill with XPOW, a specialized mobile radar unit, used to collect data from severe weather systems.
Collaborative HIV/AIDS research fostered

Health intervention research, particularly for high-risk populations, requires increasingly diverse collaboration among disciplines.

In response to this reality, UConn’s Jeffrey Fisher, professor of social psychology and director of the Center for Health/HIV Intervention and Prevention (CHIP), joined Richard Rockwell, director of UConn’s Institute for Social Inquiry (ISI), to create an international lecture series—HIV Intervention and Prevention and Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapies. The series unites UConn researchers who work in areas related to HIV/AIDS and promotes their collaboration on future research initiatives.

“Effective interventions that reduce health-risk behaviors involve contributions from specialists in many fields, including medical research, behavior change theory, social work, community medicine, communication, and a range of other social disciplines,” says Fisher. “A lecture series featuring internationally renowned speakers is a natural way to get researchers from diverse disciplines within UConn to explore collaborative research opportunities. We are now laying the groundwork to move these initial contacts into new projects.”

Fisher says that CHIP and ISI are creating a network of UConn researchers with expertise related to HIV/AIDS, psychology, and public health so that multidisciplinary teams can be assembled to develop new programs for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention as well as be positioned to effectively respond to requests for grant proposals. “We are constantly exploring opportunities to engage our new collaborative network of HIV/AIDS researchers,” says Fisher.

The series premiered this past February with keynote speaker Kevin O’Reilly from the World Health Organization, who described efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS intervention strategies in developing countries. The lecture series, which continued throughout the spring semester, is scheduled to continue through 2003.
Preventing blindness

UConn researchers identify glaucoma gene

It may now be possible to identify potential glaucoma sufferers even before they are born thanks to research advances at the UConn Health Center. Mansoor Sarfarazi, professor of genetics and scientific director of the Surgical Research Center at the UConn Health Center, and his colleagues have discovered a genetic warning sign to spot the disease more reliably.

Sarfarazi recently discovered the genetic mutation responsible for the most common form of glaucoma. This form of the disease affects 33 million people worldwide and accounts for half the cases of glaucoma, which is the second-leading cause of blindness.

An additional outcome of this research is a technique that allows ophthalmologists to screen for the gene mutation in the relatives of glaucoma patients and to provide critical early detection information to those individuals whose genetic patterns suggest a high possibility for future development of the disease.

Value of early detection

Reliable early detection of glaucoma is important, says Sarfarazi, since the disease can proceed so slowly that it goes unnoticed. "Some patients," he says, "may be losing their sight very slowly and over a period of 30 years." If it goes untreated this long, glaucoma permanently narrows the field of vision, eventually causing blindness. But if detected early enough, Sarfarazi says, glaucoma can be slowed or even stopped with medication.
Reliable early detection of glaucoma is important, says Sarfarazi, since the disease can proceed so slowly that it goes unnoticed.

The test for the glaucoma mutation—identifying one gene among 30,000 to 40,000—is the fruit of a thorough search by Sarfarazi and his research associate Tayebeh Rezaie, a visiting instructor at the Surgical Research Center. To initiate the research, they obtained DNA samples from the members of 54 families with a history of glaucoma and compared this DNA with data derived from the Human Genome Project, a map of human genetic material.

Sarfarazi and Rezaie identified a spot on one chromosome that was unique to those families with a history of glaucoma. The researchers scrutinized the genes in this segment of DNA to determine which one might be causing glaucoma. They found that one of the genes produces a protein present in the eye and then discovered that glaucoma patients and their relatives had a mutation in this gene.

Premature cell death

With a relationship between the mutation and one form of glaucoma established, Sarfarazi sought to understand exactly how the mutation causes the disease. Because each gene is a blueprint for a protein with a specific biological function, they studied the protein produced by the gene that they had linked to glaucoma. They dubbed the protein optineurin.

The researchers found that optineurin is present throughout the eye and that it interacts with other important proteins, including one that induces premature cell death. They speculate that the glaucoma mutation causes the body to produce optineurin that is unable to fulfill its normal role of suppressing the destructive protein. Uninhibited, the destructive protein begins to kill cells surrounding the optic nerve and, eventually, the optic nerve itself.

This cell death, Sarfarazi says, causes the gradual narrowing of vision known as “tunnel vision” that is indicative of glaucoma.

Because the protein produced by the glaucoma gene is present with remarkable similarity throughout the evolutionary tree, Sarfarazi says, it must be very important in eyesight. “If a protein didn’t have a significant biological role,” he says, “it wouldn’t have been preserved in the evolutionary process.”

Sarfarazi and Rezaie hope to take their understanding of glaucoma genetics even further. Eventually, they may be able to develop a drug to counteract the effects of the genetic mutation, Sarfarazi says.

The researchers have also identified several genes that may cause other forms of glaucoma.

Further advances in glaucoma research would continue a tradition of excellence at the Sarfarazi laboratory. Bob Ritch, professor and chief of glaucoma service at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary in New York City, says “Sarfarazi is one of the leading researchers in the world working on the genetics of glaucoma.”

Sarfarazi’s research also promotes one of his long-term interests. “I’ve always been fascinated by how sight gets from the eye to the brain and how we see and interpret things in our day to day lives,” he says. “And I wanted to find out why some people have been deprived of sight.”

—Brett C. Evans ’03 (CLAS)
From biology to pep band

A remarkable four years

Introduced to the University through the UConn Summer Mentor Connection, Andrew Greenstein '02 (CLAS) recently completed an extraordinary four years as a Nutmeg Scholar and University Scholar.

During the past four years, Greenstein not only earned a B.S. in molecular and cell biology but designed and conducted an undergraduate laboratory research project and also wrote and defended a challenging thesis on the structure of a human cannabinoid receptor.

"Andy has been just the kind of student envisioned by the framers of the Nutmeg Scholarship Program," says Kathleen Usher of the University Honors Program. "He has proven himself an extraordinarily talented scholar and a wonderful person who has given of himself and enriched the University."

Greenstein spent two summers conducting laboratory research at Pfizer, another as a Howard Hughes Summer Fellow, and the spring semester of his junior year studying in Australia. "He is so focused, so energetic, and so capable. He really loves research. He's a team player who appreciates the value of collaboration with fellow students," says Debra Kendall, professor of molecular and cell biology.

Professor Judith Kelly first encountered Greenstein in her undergraduate biochemistry course. "Andy has a remarkable intellect and a thirst for knowledge. He is the sort of student who is fun to have in a class and who challenges a professor to do her best."

While at UConn, Greenstein also gained a reputation for a great sense of humor and an ability to have fun. He co-founded the UConn colony of the Beta Theta Pi social fraternity and the Ultimate Frisbee Club and played in the UConn Marching Band and the Women's Basketball Pep Band.

"I couldn't imagine a better or more fulfilling undergraduate experience than the one I've had here at UConn," Greenstein says. "I've learned so much since I first came here, and I've had every learning opportunity that I could possibly have hoped for. UConn has prepared me to excel in my field, and I will be forever grateful for all the help that my professors, the staff, and the administration have given me."

This fall, Greenstein plans to attend the University of California-Berkeley, pursuing a Ph.D. in structural biochemistry. —John Wray
Kelley Meyer was enrolled as a freshman at UConn in September 1999 when she was invited to join the famous Lord of the Dance production.

For the champion Irish step dancer from South Windsor, Conn., it was an offer she simply couldn't refuse.

"I had always wanted to come to UConn," says Meyer, "but this was the chance of a lifetime to travel with the world's greatest Irish step dancing company. So I talked it over with my parents, we met with UConn's admissions office, and it was agreed I could defer my entrance until my tour was over."

Meyer started taking Irish step dance lessons at five, and by the time she was a high school senior, she was a six-time New England champion and ranked consistently in the top ten nationally.

"I was always serious about my schoolwork and a good student," says Meyer, "but Irish dancing up to that point had been my life." During the next two years, Meyer toured with Lord of the Dance all over the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil.

A New Focus Evolves

"Before I went on tour," says Meyer, "I had planned to major in physical therapy at UConn, but having undergone two major injuries and many months of intense physical therapy during my dancing career, I decided I'd had enough of physical therapy for a lifetime."

While on tour with Lord of the Dance, however, Meyer became interested in contract negotiation and found that she really enjoyed finance and law.

"When I re-registered at UConn in September 2001," says Meyer, "I knew I wanted to become a corporate lawyer with a strong background in finance, so I'm doing a pre-law program with a major in finance, and I hope to go on to UConn Law School after I graduate."

That's a lot to say in one breath, especially for a UConn freshman, but Meyer is not wasting any time. She came to UConn with co-op credits, took a full course load in both the fall and spring semesters, completed another course during the winter intersession, and is taking three more classes this summer.

"If all goes well," she says, "by this fall, just one year after starting as a freshman, I will have 55 credits and will be starting my junior year!"

So far, she has managed to do all this with a GPA of 3.6.

"I'm really glad that I had those two years on the road," Meyer says. "It was a wonderful experience, and now I'm fully focused and happy to be here at UConn and enjoying college life."

When she's not in class or studying, Meyer works in the men's soccer office and teaches two Irish step dancing classes to students who have recently established the UConn Celtic Club.

"It's all pretty hectic," she says, "but I'm kind of used to that and I'm having a great time." — John Wray

Today’s UConn Student Experience

A two-day summertime orientation session kicks off UConn’s New Student Experience, a holistic approach to easing the freshman transition to undergraduate life. While orientation takes care of the basics—registering for fall classes, obtaining student ID cards, and getting a feel for the campus geography—it also raises a variety of issues about adjusting: What is it like to have a roommate? What are the academic expectations at the University? To whom can you turn to help resolve various problems or difficulties?

These threads are then carried through and woven into the Husky Week of Welcome (WOW) in August, which immediately precedes the start of the first semester as a more comprehensive introduction to academic, social, and community expectations and responsibilities.

When classes begin, the New Student Experience continues via one-credit First Year Experience skills courses—covering everything from time management and study skills to responsible decision-making. These learning skills classes are all geared toward getting freshmen on the right track for academic success and personal adjustment.

It’s A Whole New
By Leslie Virostek

Class registration circa 1972

Class registration 2002
For John Minton, a Long Island native who will be a junior this fall, the optional, one-hour-a-week skills course provided an excellent introduction to the University. Minton recalls the "scavenger-hunt" assignments that led him to discover numerous campus resources and opportunities. For example, being sent to retrieve a particular book in the library helped familiarize him with the facility, while obtaining the form for starting a new club acquainted him with the Student Union and showed him how easy it was to get involved. Minton, who is now a tour guide at the University's Lodwick Visitors Center, says he is an advocate for the first-year skills course: "I recommend it to every prospective student."

Where you live is often a way of life

There's no doubt that the New Student Experience is profoundly changing the way the newest members of the UConn family launch their undergraduate careers. But this initiative is only one example of how dramatically the entire student experience has evolved in recent years.

Traditional residence halls, for example, have evolved into facilities designed to enhance the shared living-learning experience. Director of residential life Carole Henry notes, "The most important thing about residential life is the sense of community." To that end, she says, new residence halls and those being renovated are increasingly incorporating large common rooms and cozy floor lounges, as well as computer labs, recreation rooms and cyber-cafés.

Undergraduates today—most of whom live on campus—also have more housing options than ever before, and as new residence halls are being constructed or renovated, amenities are improving dramatically. Consider the newly constructed South Campus: In its spacious four-person suites students share a common living room, two double bedrooms and a bathroom.

The new Hilltop residence communities, meanwhile, feature a variety of suite and apartment styles. Meccariello says her two-person apartment represents the pinnacle of University housing options. Fully furnished, it features central heat and air-conditioning, a washer and dryer, double beds, a private bathroom, walk-in closets, and prewired cable, Internet, and local and campus phone services.

The Hilltop Apartments, providing new housing options specifically designed for juniors and seniors, feature fully furnished kitchens, including such amenities as dishwashers, garbage disposals and full-size refrigerators, making cooking at home a viable option for students. These new apartments are carefully designed to meet progressively the needs for privacy and independent living as students mature.

Similarly, campus dining halls are also being renovated with variety in mind. The new Northwest Marketplace and South Campus dining hall feature numerous stations where students can choose from pizza, pasta, or salad bars; "comfort foods" such as mac 'n' cheese; and Chinese food.

An online learning experience

If living at UConn has changed enormously in recent years, so has the learning experience. Consider the research paper assignment: Fifteen years ago, the task would have included a trip to the library to pore over card catalogues and other paper-based resources that were not available elsewhere on campus. Today, the residence halls are wired, and students plug in their laptops to do online bibliographic searches of both UConn's library and the Internet. "We don't need
to go to the library," says student Christian Geslien. "We can access the library from our rooms."

The same technology that brings the Homer Babbidge Library to a student's room or nearby computer lab also extends the classroom in a similar fashion. More than 800 courses at UConn have an online component through a program called WebCT. Geslien explains that professors use WebCT to electronically post lecture notes and supplemental material—images or graphs—from class. Then, at any time, students can download the information. It's like being able to re-experience that particular class session whenever they choose. This is a huge contrast to what Annelisa Freund '91 (PHR) remembers. Only ten years ago, she says, the School of Pharmacy was considered technologically advanced because it made audiotapes of its classes available to students.

Even discussion among classmates and instructors can occur online. Recent graduate Suresh Dhandapani '02 (BUS) says that some of his professors have required or encouraged online discussions and review sessions before major tests. One notable advantage, he says, is such dialogue is not time-limited, as an actual meeting would be: "Over the course of the day, you can check in periodically and see what other people have asked and answered."

Minton observes that online technology has made professors and students more accessible to one another. What if you need your teacher to clarify a concept that you didn't quite grasp in class? Today you don't have to wait in line outside a faculty member's office during his or her office hours. E-mail is such an integrated part of university life that students can send a question to a professor and expect to receive a response that same day, if not within a few hours.

**No lines, no waiting**

Not surprisingly, technology has also transformed the way students conduct their nonacademic university business. For example, registering for classes used to involve waiting in long lines to obtain multiple signatures on registration cards. Today students register online.

Of course, not everything can or should be done by computer, and last year the University made taking care of business affairs a lot easier by consolidating important offices in the newly refurbished Wilbur Cross Building. Wilbur Cross offers one-stop shopping for students who need to change courses after classes begin, ask questions about financial aid, obtain ID or dining cards, or even pay their University bills.

"We want to make student services as seamless as possible," says Dolan Evanovich, associate provost for enrollment management, "so that students can focus their time and energies on the academic experience and the co-curricular experience."

As Evanovich notes, though the fundamental universality of the UConn experience remains the same, the changes of recent years have been more than mere window-dressing. Helping students start off on the right foot, offering more variety and better options in housing and dining facilities, using technology to enhance teaching, and making other business more convenient have all helped UConn earn a place among the best public universities in the nation. Says Evanovich, "We have worked very hard to become a first-choice university for many of the best and brightest students in Connecticut and across the country, and we've achieved that."
When I was a student, we’d be working in the lab," says Jen Barnhart. She pauses. The sentence hasn’t ended. She simply wants to infuse a little drama into the next two words, “very late.”

Point made, she goes on: “There was a couch, and sometime in the wee hours you’d collapse on it. You’d be exhausted, but your mind would still be going. And then,” another pause, “suddenly you’d be aware of all the eyes...staring at you.”

There are, indeed, eyes everywhere in the Sprague Hall labyrinth. Impish visages peer from behind the stacked jigsaw pieces of dismantled worlds. Delicate figures dangle helplessly from strings. Plaster molds of faces—mute and inscrutable as death masks—line an alcove.

This is the laboratory of the UConn Puppet Arts Program. Visiting it may be as close to actually penetrating the creative mind and standing in proximity to its nuclear core as you’ll ever get.

The 10 graduate students and 17 undergrads who are often here around the clock are a special breed. Enter any room in this Twilight Zone and you find yourself surrounded, overwhelmed by evidence that puppeteers are, unquestionably, capricious gods.

Busy creators, they employ a toolbox packed with everything from duct tape to outrageous imagination. Some of the bold experiments they conjure thrive to populate fantastic worlds. Some are stillborn and consigned to limbo in dark corners of this strange and wonderful workshop. In time, they may come to inspire someone else.

If you can dream it, you can build it here. In this realm, there is no greater coin than possibility. Everything the puppeteers touch crackles with it.

Crossroads of the Arts and Sciences

If you imagine UConn must be among the few universities offering degrees in puppetry, you are correct. Otherwise, whatever you think the program is, you are likely to be wrong.

It was founded by Frank Ballard, who, in 1956, was appointed to the faculty of what was then the Department of Speech and Drama. Ballard’s primary job was set design and technical direction for the Harriet S. Jorgensen Theater, which had just opened, to fanfare, the previous December. He tackled that task with zeal.

In 1962, the Drama, Art and Music Departments became the School of Fine Arts. Professor Ballard added puppetry to the curriculum two years later, with the introduction of a graduate program in drama. Over the next 28 years, under Ballard’s tutelage, more than 400 student puppet presentations—including lavish productions of Macbeth, Hansel and Gretel, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Peer Gynt, The Mikado,
Professor Bart Roccoberton leads students in a critique following an undergraduate puppet performance.

The Ring of the Nibelung and Babes in Toyland—showcased puppetry’s extraordinary range of potential.

Ballard served as the program’s director until 1990, when he was succeeded by Bart Roccoberton. A speech and technical theater major at Montclair State University in New Jersey, Roccoberton discovered puppetry serendipitously. Three credits short of his degree in 1973, and with no prior experience, he decided to do a puppet show. A man of diverse creative interests, he learned—on the way to building puppets, creating sets and mounting a production of Bertolt Brecht’s The Beggar or the Dead Dog—that, “Within puppetry I could touch virtually everything I liked to do.”

So, he enrolled at UConn as a graduate student, studying under Ballard. In the quarter century since The Beggar or the Dead Dog, he has established an international reputation, founding and directing the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center’s Institute of Professional Puppetry Arts; creating and performing characters for television, New York theater and special commissions; conducting hundreds of popular workshops; and crisscrossing America with his own troupe, the Pandemonium Puppet Company, and students from UConn and the O’Neill Theater Center. This spring, The American Puppet, a video documentary about the history...
students, nearly all graduates find employment. And the remarkable range of jobs they fill speaks volumes about the puppetry field. Alumni perform in and design for theaters around the world. Many appear in, build for and manage internationally recognized television programs and films. Some write books. Others design toys. Many are teachers. Some direct prominent schools and museums.

‘This is where I was meant to be’

“When I was at UConn, the joke went something like this,” says Barnhart, who graduated in 1994 with a BFA degree in acting. “People would say, ‘Oh, you’re a puppet major. And you get to play with dolls?’”

These days, the Brooklyn, New York, resident gets to play with lots of dolls. She is one of several UConn alumni who have worked on the popular PBS puppet show Between the Lions. In addition, she has worked on Jim Henson’s Bear in the Big Blue House and The Disney Channel’s The Book of Pooh. Last year, she made it to Sesame Street, arguably the holy grail of television puppetry. In between TV gigs, she has found consistent opportunities to explore puppetry in what she describes as a renaissance currently bubbling in New York, where a vibrant community of young puppeteers doggedly promotes the message that puppetry is not just for kids.

“When I arrived at UConn I didn’t even know there was a puppetry program,” the University Scholar confesses, but she’d always been interested in puppetry and quickly discovering that “this is where I was meant to be.”

Now an active puppet performer, she says, “If I was just an actress living in New York, I’d be one of about 20,000 tall, blonde, deep-voiced actresses. The Puppet Arts Program has made all the difference, and I feel blessed.”

Talk with other alumni, and that’s a sentiment you will hear, again and again.

David Regan, of Storrs, completed his B.A. degree in puppetry in 1995 and then earned a master’s in design. A freelance designer/builder/performer, he has produced both puppets and sets for several groups, including Sandglass Theater and Crabgrass Puppet Theatre, two Vermont companies, and Integrity Designworks, an Ashford, Conn., company whose clients have included the Houston Grand Opera, the Boston Ballet and several Broadway shows.

“Before I became involved in the Puppet Arts Program, I was exploring too many different career directions,” says Regan. “The program threw open the biggest door in my life. I discovered puppetry incorporates 90 percent of my interests. I love performance, but when I was exposed to scenic design, I took to it like a fish to water. It is one of the main staples of what I do now.”

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Are you ready for some football? Mark the date—August 30, 2003—that’s when the University of Connecticut football team takes the field against Indiana University. It won’t be just any football game, and it won’t be at just any field. It will be the first game UConn plays on Rentschler Field—the new 40,000-seat, state-of-the-art, fan-friendly stadium that will represent the new Husky home field advantage. So let the countdown begin.

We’re constructing a new stadium designed first and foremost for college football.

This isn’t a stadium where college football is an afterthought. Rentschler Field will be an old-fashioned, honest-to-goodness college football stadium. True, there will be assorted special events at the stadium, but it is being built primarily for football—UConn football.

Designed by Ellerbe Beckett, one of the nation’s premier sports architecture firms, the stadium will be a stunning piece of architecture, marrying a classic horseshoe-shape design with an elegant 140-foot glass tower containing 40 luxury suites.

“There won’t be a bad seat in the place,” says Mike Mehigen ’74 (BUS), ’87 M.B.A., who oversees both the stadium and Adriaens Landing development projects for the state of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management. “It is spacious and open. You’ll be able to see the action even while you’re getting your hot dog. And from the upper seats, you’ll enjoy a view of the Hartford skyline.”

The new stadium is located in East Hartford—an easy drive for every alum living in Connecticut. There are more than 93,000 UConn alumni living in Connecticut, and every one of them is within driving distance of Rentschler Field.

“The stadium is practically in the state’s geographic center,” says athletic director Lew Perkins. “So everyone—students, alumni and fans—can get involved in UConn football.”

There will be priority seating for contributing alumni—at home and on the road.

People in Connecticut are getting into a football frame of mind. Last year, over 7,500 season tickets were sold for games at Memorial Stadium—an all-time record.

What about tickets for games in the new stadium? That will be addressed by implementing a new preferred-seating system prior to the 2002 season.

“We’re trying to make the system as fair and easy as possible,” Perkins promises. “Being an alumni supporter of UConn athletics, for example, will be an advantage for purchasing tickets, both at Rentschler Field and at away games, which is good news for out-of-state fans.”

We’ve scheduled the best competition.

UConn will not only be playing in a first-rate stadium but will also be playing against first-rate competition—Boston College, Iowa State, Vanderbilt, Navy, Duke, Indiana, Baylor, North Carolina and Georgia Tech. This year we’re excited about the opportunity to play a
number of challenging teams, including Miami, the defending national champion. And in 2005, we become a full-fledged member of the Big East.

“When UConn basketball was in its first years with the Big East,” notes head coach Randy Edsall, “fans came out to see exciting games with great competition, including opposing players such as Patrick Ewing and Chris Mullin. Now they come out to see UConn, not the competition. We expect the same thing will happen with football.”

Paul Young, president of the UConn Club, agrees. He thinks alumni will embrace UConn football the way they’ve embraced men’s and women’s basketball.

“I’m 100% convinced UConn will build upon a strong tradition of athletic excellence and build a highly competitive team. Before long, we’ll be spending lovely fall afternoons in a great football stadium watching a great UConn football team,” he says.

A new television contract with WFSB will broadcast select home and away games beginning with the 2002 season.

“One of our goals,” says Tom McElroy, deputy athletic director, “is to develop a strong following for our football program. Our new partnership with Connecticut WFSB-Channel 3 will help build a broad fan base for UConn football.”

As part of the TV contract, coach Edsall will have his own weekly show to go over X’s and O’s, spotlight Husky players, and analyze the competition.

Donors have run with the ball when it comes to supporting UConn football.

The new stadium and UConn’s move to Division I-A has generated an incredible amount of private support for the football program.

Recently, UConn received a significant gift from Robert G. Burton toward the construction of a valuable new football facility. The new building, to be located behind Gampel Pavilion, will be called the Burton Family Football Complex.

Burton is the father of former team lineman and captain, Mike Burton ’99 (CLAS), who played for UConn from 1996–1999.

Division I-A football will contribute to UConn’s climb into the top ranks of public higher education in the nation.

UConn is experiencing unprecedented change which is seen throughout the institution. UCONN 2000—the $1 billion building program—is renovating and revitalizing our campuses. Enrollments are at an all-time high, with average SAT scores 30 points higher than just seven years ago. Research awards and private giving are breaking records annually, with our endowment now exceeding $205 million.

“If you’re a member of the UConn family, these are the best of times,” says Perkins. “Our football program and the stadium are a part of this transformation and will be another important source of UConn pride.”

Major college football will add a new dimension to UConn’s vibrant student life.

With a new stadium and an evolving Division I-A program, UConn students are sure to establish some new football traditions. Maybe it will be pre-game pep rallies or parades, maybe a stadium filled with furiously waving Husky hankies. A traditions committee has even been established to help develop new UConn traditions.

Vicky Triponey, vice chancellor for student affairs, says “we’re collecting many exciting ideas now. But like most

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Construction of the new UConn stadium at Rentschler Field is proceeding on schedule and will be ready for the 2003 season kickoff.
Repairing the brain

Professor Ben Bahr’s research may unlock mysteries of Alzheimer’s disease

The human brain consists of about 100 billion neurons that communicate through an electrochemical process. Information from one neuron flows to another neuron across a tiny gap called a synapse. But in Alzheimer’s patients, neurons are not allowed to communicate properly.

Contributing to these events are lysosomes—tiny bags of enzymes that act as garbage disposal for neurons by processing and recycling proteins and carbohydrates—that have become disrupted. This disruption occurs during the very early stages of Alzheimer’s disease, and it all happens before the cells actually die.

Bahr’s goal is to get to the cell before it dies and activate the self-repair mechanism to promote survival. Since it is impossible to conduct this type of research on a living human brain, Bahr developed a method for keeping portions of rat brain alive while keeping the same electrical connections that are found in the human brain intact. Using this model, lysosomes were treated with inhibitors that replicated the protein deposits and synapse loss found in brains afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease.

Bahr discovered that the internal repair system activated during stroke was not triggered during a lysosomal disturbance. Instead, he found a pronounced increase in the digestive enzymes used by lysosomes to process accumulated protein deposits inside neurons.

The next step was to find a way to bolster the enzymatic response to augment the brain’s defense system. Using a drug called Lypex, Bahr found that, in fact, the enzymatic self-repair response increased.

“Our work not only indicates that the Alzheimer’s brain is constantly trying to repair itself but also explains the long battle patients often endure as the brain mounts its own defense against the disease,” says Bahr. —Janice Palmer
How to get from Storrs to Sesame Street

UConn educator instrumental in Music Works program

Assistant professor of music Linda Page Neelly, a nationally recognized authority on early childhood music education, serves as chief content advisor to Sesame Street Music Works.

Recently, Neelly, assisted by a UConn graduate student, worked with the Sesame Street website designers to create developmental musical programs for adults and children to explore together on the site. With Neelly's guidance, UConn students identified international, multicultural instruments that were integrated into the website.

Neelly also helped produce a video that is available as part of the Sesame Street Music Works program and is currently working on ways to integrate new musical content into upcoming seasons of the Sesame Street television show.

"For the first time, parents, children and their teachers have a source for self-directed interactive learning of basic musical concepts. It's fun to use and makes early learning of music a pleasure," she says. Equally important, she adds, these early musical learning experiences may significantly improve the children's overall performance in school.

Neelly, who joined the UConn faculty in January 2001, says one of the important aspects of her work is researching the link between early musical learning and later success in life and school. Discussing the need for research funding to explore further the relationship between music and childhood development, Neelly recently appeared before the Congressional Education Caucus in Washington. The funding is being sought under the No Child Left Behind Act, which recognizes music as part of the core curriculum for early childhood development.

"We need financial resources to show how the process of learning music intersects with other areas of early childhood development," Neelly says. "Our experience tells us that this is so, and the clues are there," she says, "but much more research needs to be conducted, and we need funding to support an appropriate research agenda."

Neelly serves as a consultant on early childhood music to other organizations, including the Metropolitan Opera Early Notes Music Program in New York City, the Washington National Opera, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children. —John Wray
**Creative Currents**

**Recent works by alumni and faculty**

**An American Sin**
Frederick Su '73 M.S., '79 Ph.D.
(bytextwrite)

In this novel about an Asian American fighting in the Vietnam War, Frederick Su presents a unique perspective of growing up Asian in mainstream American society. From the racism he experienced as a youth in Nevada to the "sin" he commits in Vietnam, the novel's protagonist, David Wong, is driven by a need to fit in. This need leads Wong to volunteer for duty in Vietnam with the U.S. Marine Corps, and ultimately results in a horrific act that haunts him the rest of his days. Su says he was moved to write the novel because, "even in war, there is right and wrong." “It is possible to commit murder in war, just as American troops did at My Lai, where over 500 unarmed Vietnamese civilians were massacred," says Su. "I also wanted to portray the male minority American viewpoint away from the cultural enclave of Chinatown. Wong is cast in the vast physical and cultural landscape of America. Through his redemption, he finds love and the self-esteem to stand up for himself and his race." (For more information on An American Sin, go to www.bytextwrite.com.)

**Landscape With Figures: Nature and Culture in New England**
Kent C. Ryden '84 M.S.
(University of Iowa Press)

Kent C. Ryden does not deny that the natural landscape of New England is shaped by many centuries of human manipulation, but he also believes that nature is everywhere, close to home as well as in the remote wilderness, in the city and in the countryside. In Landscape with Figures, Ryden dissolves the border between culture and nature to merge ideas about nature, experiences in nature, and material alterations of nature. Ryden takes his readers from the printed page directly to the field and back again. He often bypasses books and goes to the trees from which they are made and the landscapes they evoke, then returns with a renewed appreciation for just what an interdisciplinary, historically informed approach can bring to our understanding of the natural world.

**Why do the French love Jerry Lewis?**

Anyone interested in the history of comedy—on stage and in film—will not want to miss Professor Rae Beth Gordon's latest book, Why The French Love Jerry Lewis (Stanford University Press, 2001). The book was featured in the Chronicle of Higher Education last year, and was named Outstanding Academic Book of 2001 in the performing arts by the journal Choice.

Don't expect to hear much about Jerry Lewis, however. In her book, Gordon, a professor of modern and classical languages in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, focuses on the development of a special kind of comedy that first appeared in the music halls of France in the 1880s. It was a comedy characterized by the kinds of frenetic movements, tics, facial grimaces and other bizarre behavior that mimicked various nervous disorders such as hysteria, epilepsy and Tourette's Syndrome.

The French public was fascinated and entertained by watching these behaviors—which reflected many of the nervous diseases just being recognized and written about in the popular press—on the café-concert stage. Gordon's research on popular entertainment in France between 1880 and 1914 has led to a work that describes the concurrence of discoveries being made in experimental psychology of the time and the public's fascination with these mysterious subjects, as reflected in popular entertainment.

By the dawn of the 20th century, the various frenetic movements and facial contortions exploited by French café-concert entertainers were being used in early film comedies. Gordon traces how these movements became the "signature" of such film comics as Charlie Chaplin and his predecessors in French comic film. The Keystone Kops were actually the progeny of the French comic film characters Boireau and Bosetti.

What is important about this style of entertainment, says Gordon, is the reaction it evokes in the spectator. The physical effect of such comedy, she says, is muscular tension and shocks to the body, giving way to sudden release of tension through laughter.

This is where Jerry Lewis comes in because, as Gordon points out, Lewis' comic style and on-stage antics mimicked those of the classic French actors of the café-concert and French comedic films of 50 years before.

**Also of Interest**

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**1930s**

Ruth Nielsen '38 (SAH) and Edward Sammis '37 (ENG) have been married for 61 years. They have three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Edward received his masters in applied science from Adelphi University in N.Y.

**1940s**

Stephen M. Straight '40 (CLAS) received a lifetime achievement award from the Pioneer America Society in October 2001.

Dorothy C. (Calvert) MacFarland '41 (CLAS) and husband, Bob, celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary on April 8, 2002, in Boulder, Colo. Dot is a member of the Lewis L. Beach Society.

**1950s**

Harris Chaiklin '50 (CLAS), '52 M.A. has been chosen as a member of Social Work Pioneer, an honorary group sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers.

Carlos Fetterolf '50 (CANR), an appointed member of the National Sea Grant Review Panel, chaired the recent assessment of the Connecticut Sea Grant Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Peter Zikowitch '51 (ED) is president of the West Hartford Retired Teachers Association, and recently served as editor of the 2002 edition of the Connecticut School Counselors Association directory.

Margaret (Wessels) Sumoski '53 (SFS) and Theodore Sumoski '54 (ENG) are now retired and reside in White Plains, N.Y.

Tina Lewis '55 (ENG) is proud to announce she recently published her first book, Justice Denied: Politics, Perjury and Prejudice in the Lottery.

Morton Lurie '55 (BUS) retired as senior program from IBM. Morton is a life member of the American Philatelic Society.

Richard B. Nelson '56 (BUS) retired from Dupont as project manager in product development.

Joel L. Salberg '57 (CLAS) retired from GGS Information Services in February 2002 after being with the company for 18 years. He and his wife, Elisabeth, live in Auburn, Maine, where Joel is now involved with the Community Little Theater.

Jon Dayton '58 (CLAS) is a manager for Real Estate One of Traverse City, Mich. After 26 years as a pilot, in 1984, he retired from the U.S.A.F. with numerous combat awards and decorations.

Paul Theiner '58 (CLAS) is a retired professor of English from Syracuse University. He was recently profiled in the fall issue of Connections, Syracuse's College of Arts and Sciences biannual publication.

Philip Raymond Baker '59 (SFS) and his wife, Winnie, received the Butler Human Rights Award for their lifelong work in human rights, specifically assisting international students. Philip recently retired as head of the Modern Languages Dept. at South Dakota State University.

**1960s**

Morton L. Arkava '60 (CLAS), a former professor at the University of Montana, is the author of two trail guide books, Hiking the Bitterroots and Hiking the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness.

RoseMarie Amodeo-Levine '61 (CLAS) belongs to the Community Liaison of Eliza Huntington Home in Norwich, Conn., and is the host and producer of Senior Shop Talk on Public Access Television. She recently welcomed her new granddaughter, Abigail Rose, to join twin brothers, Alex and Nick Levine—all the children of Barry Levine '85 (CLAS).

Joel Mandell '61 (CLAS), '66 J.D. was elected in November 2001 to his fifth consecutive term as a member of the Simsbury Board of Selectman, serving as deputy first selectman.

Michael W. Gozzo '62 (BUS) was recognized as Volunteer of the Year, 2001, by APICS Silicon Valley.

Elliot Kalner '62 (CLAS) has retired from the Greenwich public school system after teaching 30 years. He recently co-authored a book titled Advanced Placement: U.S. and Comparative Government and Politics.
A career dedicated to curing cancer

Where others see obstacles, Carolyn Dilworth Runowicz, M.D., ’73 (CLAS) sees only opportunities. A renowned expert on the treatment of gynecologic cancers, Runowicz is hopeful about the medical community’s quest to cure cancer. “There are just so many things happening in oncology every day,” she says. “We’re moving into targeted therapies, where the medical community is beginning to understand the molecular basis of cancer and subsequently designing therapies based on the characteristics of individual tumors.”

Assuming many roles, Runowicz targets cancer with a variety of approaches. As vice chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital in New York City and a physician with a busy practice, she attacks the disease one individual at a time. Active in numerous national medical societies and a member of the National Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, Runowicz is among the doctors who address cancer as a public health issue, by helping to develop mammography screening guidelines, for example. She is also director of gynecologic oncology research for Continuum Health Partners, Inc., a consortium of four hospitals, which tests therapies for women’s cancers through large clinical trials.

Runowicz also battles cancer as an educator and author. A professor of obstetrics, gynecology and women’s health at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, she is the author of three books for the general public, including Women and Cancer—A Thorough and Compassionate Resource for Patients and Their Families.

Winner of UConn’s 2002 Distinguished Alumni Award, Runowicz doubts she would even be a doctor if not for her alma mater. She started out in the physical therapy program, but her talent and performance so impressed the faculty that they urged her to switch to pre-med. “All along the way, I had tremendous support,” says Runowicz. In particular, she remembers fondly professor of biology John Rankin, who nominated her for scholarships, honors and awards, and professor of chemistry James Stewart, who, she says, “kind of adopted me.” She notes, “I went in as a very naïve student, and I came out very goal-oriented and driven to succeed. And obviously I had these role models who took a genuine interest in me.” —Leslie Virostek
Frank J. Bachyrycz, C.P.M. '71 (PHR) is director of pharmacy services at New Milford Hospital in New Milford, Conn., and adjunct professor in pharmacology at Western Connecticut State University. He was selected as honoree at the tenth annual Spring Charity Ball, sponsored by the Southwestern New England Unit of the American Cancer Society.

Pete Glass '71 (ED), '75 (SFA) is UNLV’s program coordinator for Greek life and recently received the 2002 Outstanding Greek Adviser of the Year Award at the West Regional Greek Conference.

Katherine Harman Harding '71 (CLAS) recently illustrated Simon, Irish Boy Encounters New Orleans, a book written by an Indianapolis author, Laura Sheerin Gaus. Katherine is affiliated with the Woodburn & Westcott Gallery in Indianapolis, Ind.

Mark Kurtz '71 (CLAS), after 22 years as general manager of Thames Printing in Norwich, Conn., Mark has joined AM Lithography of Chicopee, Mass., an in an executive sales position. He currently resides in West Hartford, Conn.

Kenneth D. Taylor '71 (ENG), '74 M.S., '81 Ph.D. has been named as president of the RELA division of Colorado MEDtech Inc., a Boulder (Colo.)-based provider of advanced medical technology outsourcing services and medical imaging system components and accessories.

Eddie Torres '72 (ED) '73 M.A. retired in 1993 after 20 years from Edgewood I.S.D. as a bilingual teacher. Eddie is also founder and president of the Good Earth Vegetarian Association and the founder of Los Rosarios de San Antonio.

Steven P. DeMorro '73 (ED) was recently appointed vice president of client services for Meridian Resources.

Floyd Melvin Franklin '73 (CLAS) was recently promoted as a policy analyst within the wage & investment division of the Internal Revenue Service, headquartered in Atlanta, Ga.

Mary Ellen (Dickens) Duncan '74 (ED), president of the Howard Community College in Columbia, Md., was recently named to Maryland's Top 100 Women's list.

Frank Kane '74 (CLAS) was elected to the board of directors of the American Board of Family Practice and recently gave a sports symposium at the Yogi Berra Museum.

Francis Gibbons '74 (CLAS) was promoted to chief for the antiterrorism assessments division of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in Virginia.

Richard J. Zarbon '74 (CLAS) 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.

Rosalyn Cama ‘75 (SFS), a healthcare interior designer for over 20 years, was recently elected chair of the board of directors of the Center for Health Design.

Donald P. Iannicelli '75 (ENG) and Eric C. Watters ‘88 (ENG) have opened a new office in Cheshire, Conn., for the environmental and geotechnical engineering consulting firm GeoInsight, Inc.

Gerald Wadsworth '75 (SFA) is founder and president/CEO of Pet Partys, a franchised company that produces birthday parties for pets.

Gail Pezzullo ’76 (PHR) is an obstetrician/gynecologist in private practice in Sunrise, Fla., and is the chairman of the department of OB/GYN at Plantation General Hospital. She resides in Plantation, Fla., with her husband, Bob, and her four children, Danielle, Brett, Kyle, and Drew.


Carol (Schumaker) Thompson '76 (CANS) lives in Hampden, Mass., with her husband, Buddy, and two sons, Trevor and Kyle.

Howard B. Walitt '76 M.B.A. is the special education records secretary for Mesa County Valley School District #51 in Grand Junction, Colo.

Cynthia Chernecky '77 (NUR) was awarded the Mary Novotny Excellence in Cancer Nursing Education Award by the Oncology Nursing Society and Ross Products of Abbott Laboratories.

Albert E. Desrosiers '77 (CLAS) is a partner in the law firm of Cousins, Johnson and Desrosiers, P.C., in Stratford, Conn., and was recently recognized by the Connecticut Bar Association as a board certified Worker's Compensation specialist.

Stephen Duxsey '77 (CLAS) worked as associate professor at UMass and has conducted animal disease research at both Harvard Medical School and Yale University.

John “Buzz” Kanter '77 (CLAS) was inducted into the National Motorcycle Museum and Hall of Fame in March.

David Katz '77 (BUS) was recently hired by Cronin and Company, Inc., to lead its direct marketing division.

Robert S. Kravchuk '77 (BUS; CLAS) co-authored with David H. Rosenbloom the recently published textbook, Public Administration: Understanding Management, Politics and Law in the Public Sector 5th Ed., which has become the best-selling college textbook in its field in the United States. Robert is currently an associate professor of public affairs at Indiana University.

Mark Kimball Moulton '77 (CANS) has authored 11 inspirational, illustrated children's books and currently lives in Riverton, Conn.

Elizabeth Robinson '77 (NUR) retired from the Connecticut Health Dept. in 1984 and is currently the president of Friends of Mansfield Hollow.

Mark Tangarone '77 (ED), '82 6th year was chosen by the government of Japan as a Fulbright Memorial Fund scholar.

Stuart V. Corso '78 D.M.D. completed six years of service on the executive board of the Vermont State Dental Society in October 2001. This past year he served as president of the executive board.
Janina Curtis ’78 (CLAS) has been serving as the president of the board of trustees of the Eliot Montessori School. She is also a senior project manager with Rizzo Associates.

Marilyn Diaz ’78 (CLAS), who recently served as UConn’s Day of Pride 2002 keynote speaker, is president of the CT Hispanic Bar Association for 2002 and is deputy regional president of the Hispanic National Bar Association.

Steven I. Garson ’78 (BUS) is a principal in Better Cost Control, an overhead cost reduction consulting practice in Boston, Mass. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Newton, Mass.

Paula S. Gladue, ’78 Ph.D. is now working for the United States Department of Agriculture.

Geoff Smith ’78 (CLAS) joined Banknorth Insurance Group as senior vice president.

Rick Beaulieu ’79 (BUS), ’80 M.B.A. has been appointed president of BAE Systems Ordnance Systems Inc., in Kingsport, Tenn.

Patricia Disantis ’79 (CLAS) is the owner of Patricia’s Favorite Things and sells her handmade products at craft fairs all over New England. Patricia resides in Wallingford, Conn., with her two children, Danielle and Matt.

Scott Gilbert ’79 M.B.A. was named Leader of the Year by the Los Angeles Advertising Agencies Association for his dynamic, pioneering contributions to the advertising community during 2001.

Michael D. Maley ’79 (CLAS) recently joined Vidim Systems, Inc., in Boulder, Colo., as the vice president of business development and marketing.

Jeffrey L. Mikutis ’79 (CLAS) is a board certified orthopedic surgeon fellow trained in pediatric orthopedics. Jeffrey currently resides in Dayton, Ohio.

James E. Scott ’79 (CLAS) is a managing director in the municipal securities group with UBS PaineWebber in New York City.

David Yellen ’79 (CLAS), ’91 M.A. was named education director/principal at the CREC Polaris Center, a comprehensive day school and residential treatment program for adolescents. David has also been chosen to serve a three-year term on the commission for public elementary and middle schools for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

1980s

Kevin C. Donohue ’80 M.A. is the owner of Greywolf Technologies, which was named the Small Business of the Year for 2002 by the Windham Chamber of Commerce as well as Business of the Year by the Connecticut Board of Education for the Blind. Greywolf proudly hosts the e-commerce site for UConn Co-op, www.huskydirect.com.

Robert E. Sosnowski ’80 (CLAS) is president, CEO and co-founder of DexGen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in Manasquan, N.J. DexGen’s research focus is on developing compounds to treat homocysteine-related disease states.

Proud alum pays homage to his father

When Keith Fox ’80 (BUS) was a youngster, his dad, Auran Fox, helped Keith and his brothers start a stock club. Through that experience, the boys learned important and enduring lessons about business. They were, Keith Fox will tell you, some of the most important lessons his father gave him. And they were lessons that clearly took root.

After graduating from UConn with a degree in marketing in 1980, Keith and his older brother opened one of the nation’s first computer stores in Norwalk, Conn. The following year, Keith joined Apple Computer, where he worked in various management positions for 15 years.

In 1996, he joined Cisco Systems, Inc., as vice president of Worldwide Corporate Marketing. There, he created a strong corporate identity program for Cisco; initiated channel and technology partner naming conventions; established the Cisco Networking Academy, which currently serves approximately 9,000 schools in 140 nations worldwide; launched the global e-learning initiative; and introduced the Cisco brand to television for the first time in the company’s history.

Along the way, Keith Fox has established himself not only as an international leader in the marketing field but also as a legitimate web guru, a technology that wasn’t even available to consumers when he graduated.

Now, he has left Cisco to start his own company, Brandsoft Inc., which will provide software and consulting services and help CEOs and other corporate leaders more effectively employ the web to deliver on companies’ brand promises.

Simultaneously, Fox has found a way to link his professional interests with those of his alma mater while paying homage to his father. He has endowed the $1 million Auran Fox Chair in E-Business at the School of Business. The endowment will help attract innovators to UConn who understand the enormous potential of the web and the Internet and their implications for the global economy.

“I’ve always had a passion for challenges, for solving problems,” Fox says. “I find the use of technology to solve business problems fascinating, and the growth of the web and the Internet have simply amplified that. I owe a lot of my success to my father. He instilled in my brothers and me a value system based on integrity, discipline and hard work. It has served us well.” — Jim H. Smith
Anthony Giaquinto ’81 M.S. was appointed global marketing manager of the synthetics division of ExxonMobil.

Robert Molleur ’81 (CANR) is the national program manager for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forestry Incentives program and recently lectured at the Yale University School of Forestry on sustainable forest management on private lands.

Alex L. Hasychak ’82 (CLAS) is a U.S. Border Patrol special agent for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

James R. Hupp ’82 M.D., ’91 D.M.D. has been appointed dean of the School of Dentistry at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Patricia Vinkenes ’82 (CLAS) was promoted to acting deputy dean of the School of Dentistry at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Gary Draghi ’83 (BUS) and Elizabeth Daley Draghi announce the birth of their daughter, Carolina Mary, on January 8, 2002. Gary, a chartered financial analyst and certified public accountant, resides with his family in Wallingford, Conn.

Suzan Hanson ’83 M.M., soprano, returning home in March 2002, was lauded for her performance as Rosalinde in Connecticut Opera’s Die Fledermaus.

Janet M. Hogan ’83 (ED) and John R. McMullen ’96 M.B.A. announce the birth of their fifth child, Caroline Margaret, on October 10, 2001. Caroline has two brothers, John and Timothy, and two sisters, Mary Kathryn and Eileen. They reside in Stamford, Conn.

Regina Bobroske ’84 (BUS) and her husband, Ted, proudly announce the birth of their son, Theodore Gerhardt II, on June 20, 2001. Teddy joins his big sister, Elizabeth, age 4.

Leslie (Holmes) Meyer ’84 (CLAS) and husband, William Meyer, announce the birth of their son, Erik William, on July 4, 2001. Erik joins sisters Jessica and Stephanie. The family resides in North Haven, Conn.

Edward (Ed) Barosky ’85 (CLAS) was promoted to global account director of AT&T Business Worldwide Services in January 2002. He and his wife have two children and reside in the San Francisco Bay area.

Mark D’Ambrosio ’85 (CLAS) and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of their third child, Noah Christopher, on April 20, 2002. He joins his brother, Luke, and sister, Sophia. Mark works for Walgreens in Hamden. He and his family reside in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Peter DeNoia ’85 (BUS) was named regional director of customer logistics in the New England region for Nabisco Inc., a division of Kraft Foods. Pete currently resides in Falmouth, Maine, with his wife, Maura, and his daughters, Katie and Caroline.

Bernard J. Garbutt III ’85 (BUS), ’90 J.D. has been elected partner of the international law firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, resident in its New York office. Bernie is a member of the firm’s litigation department and focuses on complex commercial litigation, securities fraud, class actions, and mass tort lawsuits.

—Jim H. Smith

**PROFILE**

**Broadcaster sows seeds of support for his alma mater**

When it comes to UConn boosting, Connecticut native Jason Russell ’92 (CLAS) is something of a Johnny Appleseed. There’s an active alumni chapter in western Massachusetts now, thanks to Russell, who graduated in 1992, and another he helped establish in Pittsburgh.

“I had a great experience at UConn,” says Russell, morning meteorologist on News40 in Springfield, Mass. “I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”

As a communications major, Russell began his career in Storrs. And it was here that he met his future wife, Jennifer Bidwell, an English major and 1992 graduate.

To support himself while completing his education, Jason worked at WHUS, honing his broadcasting skills as the “Voice of the Huskies.” During his senior year, he broadcast more than 75 events. After graduation, Jason took an advertising sales job with WFIT-TV, the NBC affiliate in Hartford, but held onto his dream of a career in broadcasting.

At WFIT, meteorologists Brad Field and Art Horn encouraged him to pursue his passion for weather. So, while completing an additional degree in meteorology, Jason worked his way into a broadcasting career that took him on a circuitous route—first to Saginaw, Michigan; then to Springfield, where he and Jennifer raise their two children—Sara Ashleigh, 2, and Thomas David, born earlier this year.

Along the way, he has never forgotten the important role UConn played in launching his career. Sowing seeds of support for his alma mater, Jason started the Pittsburgh and western Massachusetts alumni chapters and has tracked down alumni wherever he goes.

In addition to playing an active role as an alumnus, he also strives to help out young people at the start of their careers.

“I got a great education at UConn,” says the weatherman, who made a point of wearing a UConn jersey on air during the NCAA basketball tournaments. “It was where I began my career in broadcasting. I would welcome the opportunity to help any young person considering a similar career.” —Jim H. Smith
Karen A. Gloria ’85 (CLAS) and her husband, Craig Loomis, announce the birth of their first child, Vivian, on October 3, 2000. Karen has taught astronomy at Williams College. The Loomis family now resides in Cloudcroft, N.M.

Peter Howard ’85 (BUS) has been named the national account executive for Graebel Industries, a privately held relocation company based in Aurora, Colo.

John E. Leandri ’85 (BUS) and his wife, Barbara, announce the birth of their first child, Vivian, on October 3, 2000. Aurora, Colo.

Kar en A. Gloria ’85 (CLAS) announces the birth of twins, Quilla and Zoe, in New York City.

Jennifer A. Osowiecki ’85 (CLAS) and her husband, Craig Loomis, announce the birth of their first child, Vivian, on October 3, 2000. Aurora, Colo.

Terry Shedd ’85 (CANR) announces the birth of their daughter, Anna Rose, on October 5, 2001. She joins her two brothers, Steven and Michael. They reside in Gales Ferry, Conn.

Jennifer A. Osowiecki ’85 (PHR), ’94 J.D. recently became a partner at the law firm of Pepe and Hazard LLP. Jennifer practices in the area of civil litigation in the firm’s Hartford, Conn., office.

Terry Shedd ’85 (CANR) announces the birth of their daughter, Anna Rose, on October 5, 2001. She joins her two brothers, Steven and Michael. They reside in Gales Ferry, Conn.

Bernadette Petrillo ‘88 (CLAS) and husband Philip Blaze ‘87 (ENG) announce the birth of their first child, Christopher Vincent, on May 18, 2001. Phil is a senior project engineer for Stanadyne Automotive Corporation in Windsor, Conn. Bernadette is director of marketing for Beazley Company in New Haven, Conn. The couple resides in Cheshire, Conn.

Ronald W. Poole ’88 (BUS) recently joined Cayuga Bank as a commercial product manager.

Jane (Winston) Blauvelt ’89 (PHR) and Robert Blauvelt announce the birth of their son, Daniel, on April 10, 2002. Daniel was welcomed by his sister, Sarah.

Debra Such ’89 (SFS) started a concierge business that provides personal and corporate services to busy individuals and companies in Fairfield County, Conn.

Laura Sandburg Klimaszewski ’87 (ED) and husband, Joe, announce the birth of their second daughter, Natalie Jean, on July 13, 2001. Laura, a special education teacher, resides with her family in Huntington, Conn.

Anne Alzapiedi ’88 (CLAS) is pleased to announce the adoption of her daughter Katherine Mac Lin Alzapiedi from the People’s Republic of China. Anne is currently a global human resource manager for GE Plastics in Pittsfield, Mass.

Anne Marie Raubeson Heffernan ’88 (CLAS) was recently elected to the West Haven board of education.

Ken Kaudano ’88 (CLAS) was recently promoted to vice president of technology investment banking at Morgan Stanley. Ken also serves on the student scholarship committee at the New York Society of Security Analysts.
In Memoriam

ALUMNI
Salvatore L. Alessi '43, '57 Ph.D.
Paul Anastasion '52
Joseph D. Anroman '76
Marjorie Bass '89 M.S.W.
Ronald E. Becht '78 Ph.D.
Lelia E. Bishop '37
Russell D. Capen '63 6th year,
Robert Davis van Haagen '59
Cornelius J. "Neil" Scanlon
Timothy James Westell '04
Lori Stephens '91 (ED) was
inducted into Kappa Delta Pi,
an international honor society
for education, and is engaged
to marry to Chuck Mulligan
of Brewster, N.Y.
Neil Ayers '92 (CLAS), '95
M.P.A. and Hedy (Klein) Ayers
'95 M.P.A. announce the birth
of their first child, Jackson
Scott, on December 19, 2001.
Neil is a policy analyst with
the Connecticut General Assembly,
and Hedy is the municipal
service coordinator with the
Capitol Region Council of
Governments. The family
resides in Windsor, Conn.
Bob Banning '92 (ENG) and
Barbara Banning '94 (PHR)
welcomed their first child, Grace
Dorothy, on March 30, 2002.
Corryne (Riedinger) Hamilton
'92 (CLAS), '02 M.B.A. was
married to Jamie Hamilton on
October 17, 1998.
Jennifer Barletto Klein '92
(CLAS) and Lenny Klein '93
(BUS) announce the birth of
their first son, Samuel, on
December 18, 2002. Jennifer is
a high school history teacher
and Lenny is a high school math
teacher.
David J. Moonay '92 (CLAS)
is now the rheology lab supervisor
at Brookfield Engineering Labs
Inc., in Middleboro, Mass.
Jason Russell '92 (CLAS) and
Jennifer (Bidwell) Russell '92
(CLAS) announce the birth of
their second child, Thomas
David, on February 12, 2002.
The family resides in Westfield,
Mass.
Eugenia Aeschlimann '93
(CLAS), '00 M.B.A. and Jeffrey
Aeschlimann '93 (PHR)
announce the birth of their
daughter, Jordan Eugenia, on
February 2, 2002.
Janice Banche '93 (CLAS) and
Michael McGlynn '95 (BUS)
announce the birth of their
daughter, Julia Mary, on January
11, 2002. The family resides in
Ashland, Mass.
Robert Cabana '93 (BUS) and
Kathleen (Hunihan) Cabana
'94 (NUR) announce the birth
of their second son Kyle Robert,
his two-year-old brother, Ryan
Charles. The family resides in
Glastonbury, Conn.
Dominick Cristofaro '93
(BUS) and Christina Stavrou
'94 (SFS), '98 M.S.W. were
married on May 26, 1996. Their
first child, Alexandra Cristofaro,
was born on December 13,
Susan Lundin '93 M.P.H.
received the Tarbell Medallion from
Springfield College for
meritorious service. She has
been a trustee since 1995 and
is also currently chair of the
student affairs committee of
the board.
Betty Jo Pakulis '93 (BGS)
is the regional director for the
Center for Policy Alternatives, a
D.C.-based organization that
works on a variety of public
policy issues, which involves
building a network of state
legislators, grass roots organiza­
tions and advocacy organiza­
tions around state policy issues.
Caren Prommersberger '93
M.A. and husband, Richard
Panchyk, announce the birth of
daughter, Elizabeth Eve, who
joins brother, Matthew William.
Jennifer (Rollberg) Robinson
'93 (CLAS) and husband, Paul
Robinson Jr., announce the birth
of Abigail Owen Robinson on
March 3, 2002. Jennifer is the
criminal casework coordinator at
the Superior Court for the
Judicial District of Fairfield.
Christine Scherma '93 (SFS)
and Marc Marin '92 (CLAS)
announce the birth of their son,
Kyle Joseph. Marc teaches lan­
guage arts in Fairfield, Conn.
Christine is a social worker in
Milford, Conn. The family
resides in Trumbull, Conn.
Gabrielle Bossio '94 (SFS)
was profiled in the National
Organization of Italian American
Women newsletter for her
abstract paintings, entitled
Dust and Thaw, which were
recently featured in a women's
art exhibit.
Kevin DeMarco '94 (CLAS)
and wife Joan Lambert '94
(CLAS) announce the birth of
their son, Ryan Joseph. Ryan
joins brother Shaun
Christopher.
George Ferencz Jr. '94 (CLAS)
was named chief technology
officer of Textile Rental Services
Association of America in
Alexandria, Va.
Jennifer Colangelo Fricke '94
(SFS) and Richard Fricke '94
(CLAS) announce the birth of
their first child, Charlotte Grace,
on October 7, 2001. The family
resides in Rowayton, Conn.
Anna Long '94 (CLAS) married
Jonathan Brimfield on October
7, 2000. They had their first
child, Jackson Thomas, on
March 6, 2002, and resides in
Raleigh, N.C.
James R. McGrath '94 (CANR)
and Christine Wisenbaker
McGrath '93 (CANR) were
married in 1999. James is a
senior planner at Berkshire
Regional Planning Commission
Attention alumni authors!
As part of the new UConn Alumni Center, an Alumni Library and
Resource Room is being created to serve the alumni and University
community. Alumni and faculty members who have published
books on any subject are encouraged to donate copies of their
books for possible inclusion in the library. Books should be sent to:
Alumni Library, UConn Alumni Association
Alumni Drive, Unit 3053, Storrs, CT 06269-3053
in Pittsfield, Mass. Christine is a senior project manager at Okerstrom-Lang Landscape Architects in Great Barrington, Mass.

Amy (Mang) Seneshen '94 (CLAS) married David Seneshen in January 2002 and practices corporate and transactional law in Denver, Colo.

Diane Bergami '95 (BUS) was married to Michael Blake on August 18, 2001, in Trumbull, Conn.

Darsi A. Cocozza '95 (CLAS) is now employed as a psychologist with the Trumbull public schools. She was married to Jason Baer on July 8, 2000. They reside in Ridgefield, Conn.

Kristen Frattarola '95 (SFS) and Frank Ingarra were married on July 8, 2000, in Greenwich, Conn. Kristen is a kindergarten teacher at Brunswick School in Greenwich, Conn. The couple resides in Stamford, Conn.

Tom Hull '95 (CLAS) was married in August 2000. He has been with mangiert/solutions, an executive search firm specializing in direct marketing, since 1997 and was promoted to partner in April 2000.

Vincent C. Kozlowski '95 (CLAS) works for Empire Blue Cross in New York City and is pleased to be back after the temporary relocation from the World Trade Center after 9/11.

Jennifer Aitken '96 (ED) and Jay Smolenski '96 (ED) and Jay Smolenski proudly announce the birth of their first son, Jacob Roger, in March 2002.

Jennifer (Creem) Aitken '96 (ED) is currently working for HealthReach, a dental center for children in Exeter, N.H.

Judy Edwards '96 (BUS) is the new executive director of the Multnomah Bar Association in Portland, Ore.

Teresa Harris '96 (ED), '97 M.A. and her husband, Charles Hicking, announce the birth of their son, Nathaniel Michael, on November 20, 2001.

Jill (Pratt) Shea '96 (PHR) and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of their son, Aidan Matthew, on November 10, 2001.

Jennifer (Eddy) Smolenski '96 (ED) and Jay Smolenski proudly announce the birth of their first son, Jacob Roger, in March 2002.

Flavio Baltazar '97 (CLAS), after working at the United States Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, D.C., for almost two years, will transfer to North Carolina to the U.S.C.G. cutter Elm.

Joseph B. Geraci '97 Ph.D. retired as an administrator with the New Britain School District and is currently on the adjunct faculty at Mitchell College in New London, Conn.

Student Union & Student Leader 50th Anniversary Reunion

All SUBOG, USG, Student Organization Alumni, Staff and Friends

Don't miss the alumni event of the year Saturday, October 19, 2002, on Homecoming Weekend. More information on the event can be found at www.ca.uconn.edu, by contacting Kevin Fahey at kevin.fahey@uconn.edu or by writing to:

Student Union Alumni Reunion
2110 Hillside Road
Storrs, CT 06269-3008

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

A charitable trust or other planned gift may enable you to receive income for life and at the same time support the University of Connecticut. Benefits to you also include a charitable income tax deduction and a possible reduction or deferral of capital gains tax.

For more information, contact Nancy Schroeder at The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. Telephone: 800.269.9965 or 860.486.6216. E-mail: nschroeder@foundation.uconn.edu.

The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. is a tax-exempt corporation dedicated exclusively to benefit the University.
You don’t join organizations to collect trinkets. You join to make a difference. When you become a member of the UConn Alumni Association, you become part of an organization that is supporting UConn in ways that matter most: providing support for students, awards for faculty teaching and research excellence, and funding for events for new and prospective students as well as alumni. Sure, membership in the Association affords you an assortment of discounts and other benefits, but you will have the special benefit of knowing you are part of a team helping a new generation of UConn students. It’s not about getting stuff. It’s about helping students.

Join the UConn Alumni Association today
1-888-UC-ALUM-1
www.uconnalumni.com
Kickoff Countdown  
Continued from page 36

of our UConn traditions, new traditions will most likely come from the students themselves, based on their experiences at the games.”

“One thing we know for sure,” she adds, “is that football will have a very positive impact on student life. It will continue to support a more cohesive UConn community. It’s a chance to have fun together—students, faculty, alumni, UConn football fans—and show our pride in our great University.”

College football is more than a game—it’s an event.

A college football game has no time constraints when it comes to expressing UConn pride and enjoying the gridiron experience.

“It can be an all-day event,” explains coach Edsall. “You start a few hours before the game with a tailgate barbecue, a chance to be with friends and family or catch up with fellow alumni. Then you go to the game and there’s the captivating pageantry—the bands, the mascots, the cheerleaders, puppeteers.”

For ticket information call: 1-877-AT-UCONN (1-877-288-2666)

not to mention the young men playing their hearts out for our University.”

“Of course, what we need to do,” coach Edsall explains, “is continue to build a strong program and win games. We began by beating Rutgers last year, and we want to continue surprising opponents. And when we get very good, we’ll get to a bowl game. Now that’s something our fans and alumni have never experienced before. Imagine how exciting that will be.”

Stadium construction is on schedule.  
Kickoff is only a year away!

There’s only one year to go before crisp autumn Saturdays in East Hartford, tailgate parties, hard-fought games against national rivals, and the roar of 40,000 die-hard Husky fans will become a Husky tradition.

Break out your blue paint, don your favorite UConn sweatshirt, grab your lucky Husky hat and get ready to head to Rentschler Field. A new era is about to begin.

Puppet Arts Program  
Continued from page 33

“The Puppet Arts Program offers a tremendous atmosphere for learning and creativity,” says 1998 graduate Jared Jenkins, a New Yorker whose work is primarily in television. For Between the Lions, he has served as associate producer, production manager and puppet captain. He has also done work for Comedy Central as well as live events, including the White House Easter Egg Roll. “I went into the program planning on a career in performance, but I discovered I was good at management.”

“It is not our intent to create only puppeteers,” says Roccoberton. “We pose a question for students. What’s your passion? Identify the passion, and we can help students find ways to follow it to rewarding careers.”

Forty years after its founding, the Puppet Arts Program is still breaking new ground. This year, Jane Henson, co-founder of the Muppets with her husband, Jim Henson, made a substantial donation to the puppetry program, sponsoring visits of prominent guest artists in the coming academic years. And the museum’s growing collection, which includes dazzling creatures invented by Ballard, Roccoberton and many other luminaries in the field, continues to grow.

Most important, next year the program will expand into newly renovated space at the Mansfield Depot Campus, where the museum already occupies several cottages. The new space will open breathing room for the overflowing laboratory and offer new production studios as well, reflecting the fact that this program, like the extraordinary discipline it celebrates, remains a work in progress.

The Ballard Museum and Institute of Puppetry is open April to November from noon–5 pm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Large groups can be arranged at other times by calling (860) 486-4605.
Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Shaw Festival
Stay in the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, voted prettiest town in Canada! October 8–11, 2002

A Killarney, Ireland, Getaway
November 3–8, 2002
Second departure added November 10–15, 2002

Featured Trip
Magical Britain—with a Harry Potter twist!
November 26–December 1, 2002
(over Thanksgiving break)
A Harry Potter-themed Thanksgiving feast in the land of the Pilgrims, England!
Treat yourself or take your family and create some wonderful Thanksgiving memories!
Enjoy a four-night stay at the Marriott Regents Park in London. Your private guide will be with you throughout, visiting Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, the Tower of London, the London Dungeon, the London Eye and sites used for filming Harry Potter, including, Platform 9 3/4, Diagon Alley and Gringotts Bank. A true highlight will be the Natural History Museum, where a UConn alum is a member of the staff and will guide you through the public areas of the museum as well as behind the scenes.
Free time will be available for personal sightseeing and holiday shopping. The lights will be aglow on Regent Street and the decorated windows in Harrods are outstanding.
An optional tour to Oxford and Gloucester will be offered, and arrangements will be made for optional West End theatre tickets or tickets to the newest Harry Potter film!

Go beyond travel and tourism—volunteer in Vietnam!
With Global Volunteers
January 4–18, 2003

Panama Canal
Traverse the storied Panama Canal and visit the tropical islands of Aruba, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, St. John and St. Thomas.
February 1–12, 2003

Cuba
Rediscover Cuba, a culturally and historically rich country.
March 14–20, 2003

Alumni College—Italian Lakes
Experience the magnificence of Italy's lake district. April 7–15, 2003

Holland and Belgium—Village Life
Cruise to charming towns of the 17th-century Dutch Golden Age on board the M.S. Prussian Princess.
April 25–May 3, 2003

Berlin to Prague—the Elbe River
Cruise the Elbe on the deluxe river vessel the M.S. Königstein. Pre- and post-cruise stays in Berlin, Prague, Czesky Krumlov and Vienna!
June 4–20, 2003

For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call toll free 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 (1-888-822-5861).
Good is the theme of an unusually tall calendar in a canister, created by graphic artists Jan Cummings Good ’66 and Peter Good ’65. GOOD 2003 is the latest in a series that began nine years ago. The first, based on the theme of Change, was followed by Experience, Balance, Time, Ideas, Numbers, Slow and Food.

Peter and Jan met as art students at UConn in the early 1960s. Three decades later, they were invited to create a new graphic identity for the University. The oak leaf symbol and UConn identity system are among their proudest accomplishments. And the calendar they produce each year is a favorite collaboration.

With art, illustration and photography embellished with quips and quotes from a myriad of disciplines and eras, each month of the Cummings & Good calendar focuses on a different aspect of the chosen theme. And each calendar is introduced with a provocative essay by the Goods’ philosopher son, Justin.

The Good theme seems especially appropriate at this time of introspection and inquiry. What is good? And just what does it mean to be a good person, a good neighbor, a good nation?

Good News, Good at Heart, Being Good, Good Woman, Good Night and Good Enough (illustrated here) are a few of the subjects explored in GOOD 2003.

Peter Good and Jan Cummings Good were married on the Storrs campus in 1965. Today they live and work in the Connecticut River valley town of Chester, where they are partners in the internationally recognized graphic design studio, Cummings & Good. In 1997, Peter and Jan were awarded the University Medal—the University of Connecticut’s highest honor—for “outstanding professional achievement, leadership and distinguished public service.” And in 1999, a major Cummings & Good retrospective was featured at The William Benton Museum of Art. Peter and Jan’s studio is located in a landmark Greek Revival building in Chester center. View their graphic design, illustration (and the calendar) at www.cummings-good.com.

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 uconntraditions@uconn.edu.
For registration information and a more detailed schedule, contact Kim Lachut at the Alumni Association, 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 or 860-486-2240 or by e-mail at homecoming@uconnalumni.com. Visit us on the web at www.uconnalumni.com
Erzsebet Pocsi, an environmental engineering major, blows bubbles during the 2002 Commencement Ceremony.