

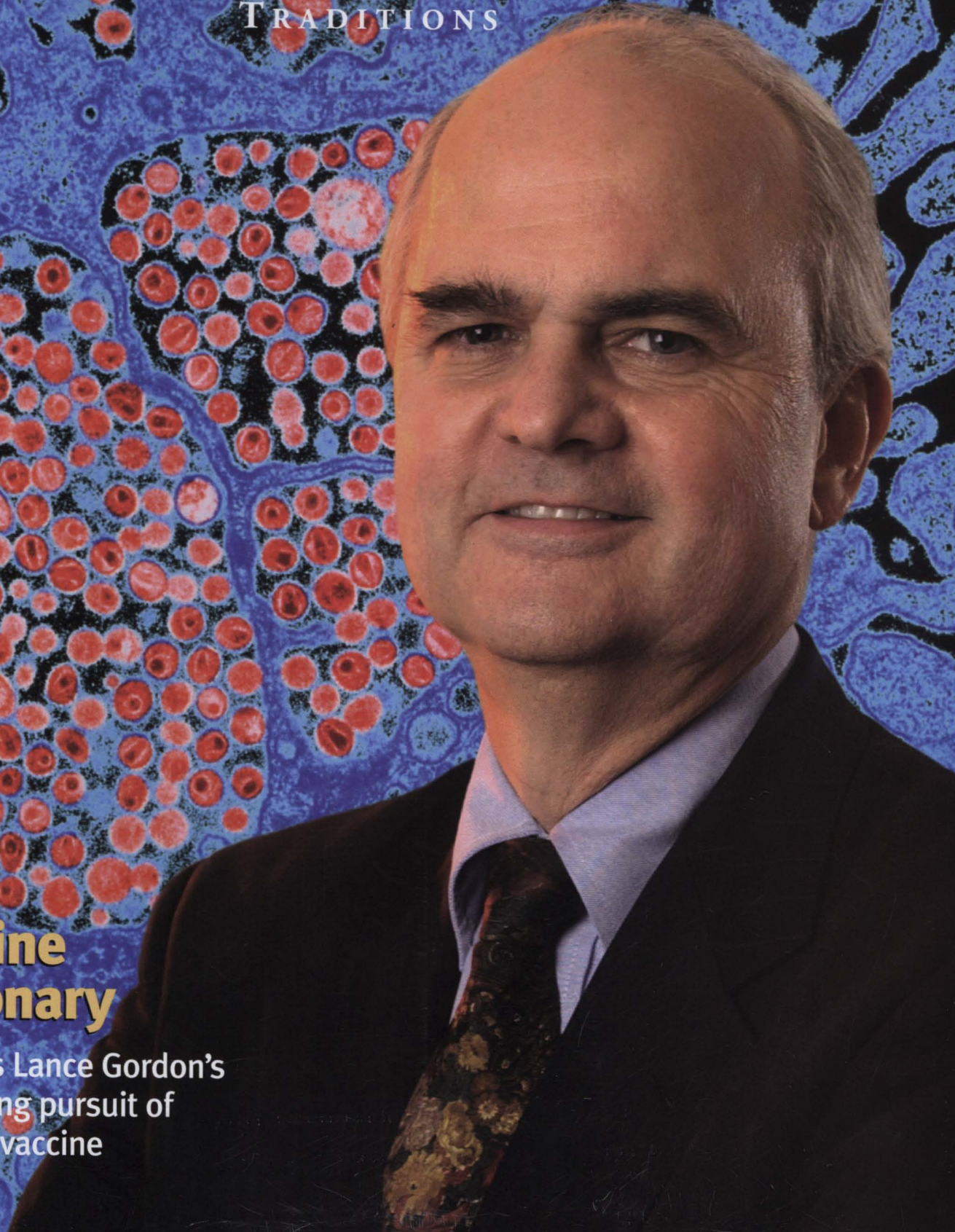
UConn

TRADITIONS

Spring
2003

Vaccine Visionary

Alumnus Lance Gordon's
pioneering pursuit of
an AIDS vaccine



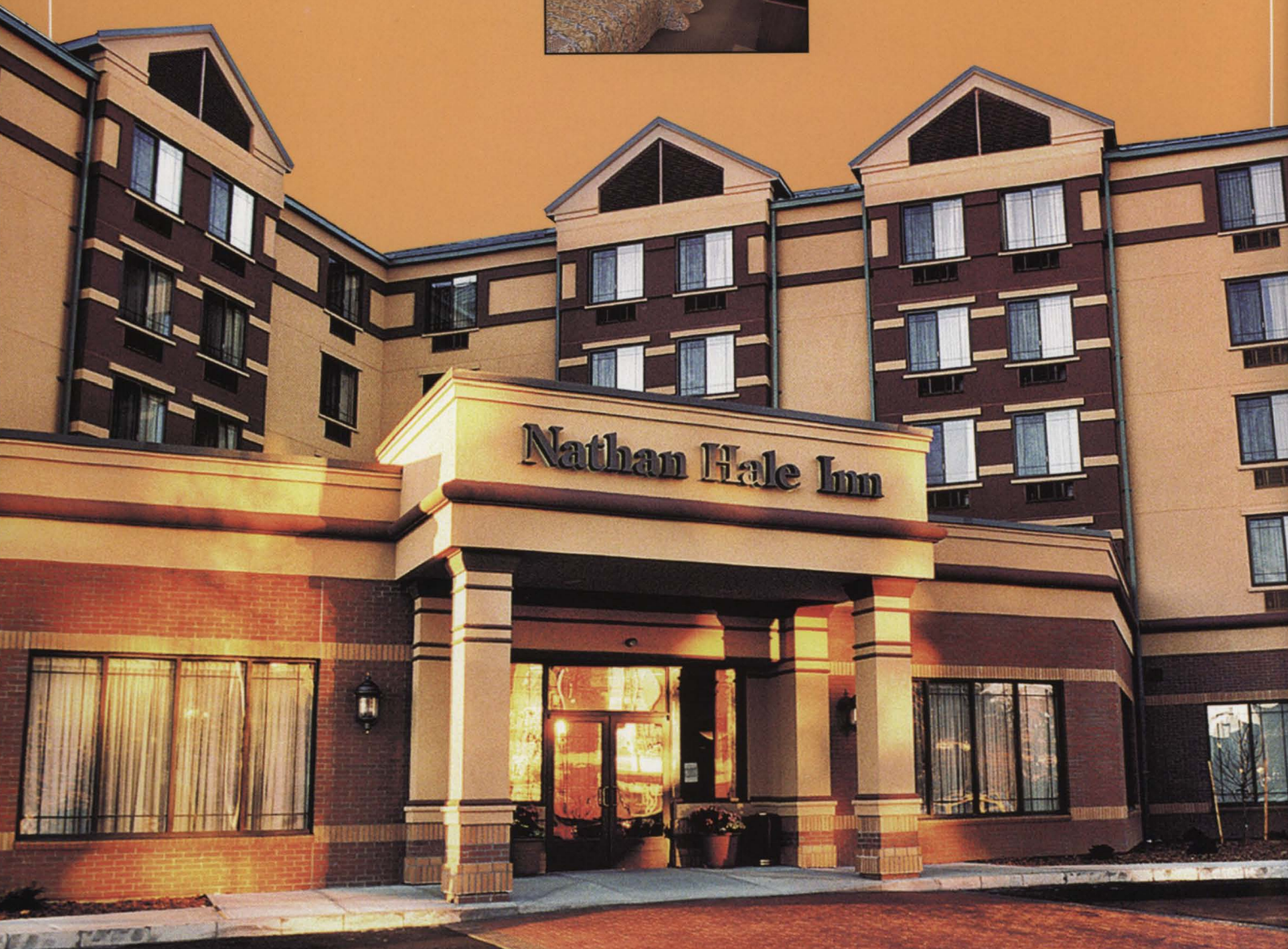


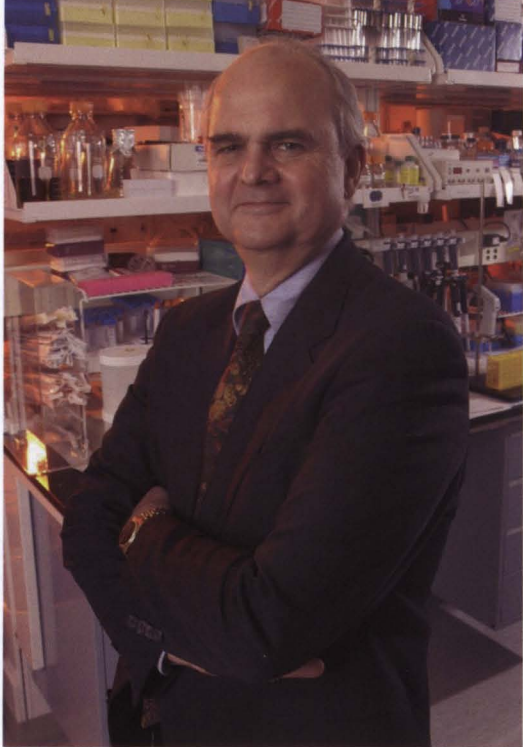
At the University of Connecticut



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

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





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Volume 4, Number 1
Spring 2003

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Vaccine Visionary

An estimated 42 million people worldwide live with HIV/AIDS, including almost 1 million in the U.S. The search for a vaccine to prevent the disease is led by Lance Gordon '78 Ph.D., whose company conducted the first large-scale human trial of an AIDS vaccine. *By Carl T. Hall*

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Giving Back to the Community

Students at UConn learn that education goes beyond studying from books and sitting in a classroom. In locations like Haiti and Washington, D.C., to Connecticut communities such as Hartford and Willimantic, hundreds of UConn students volunteer their time and learn by giving.

By Jim H. Smith

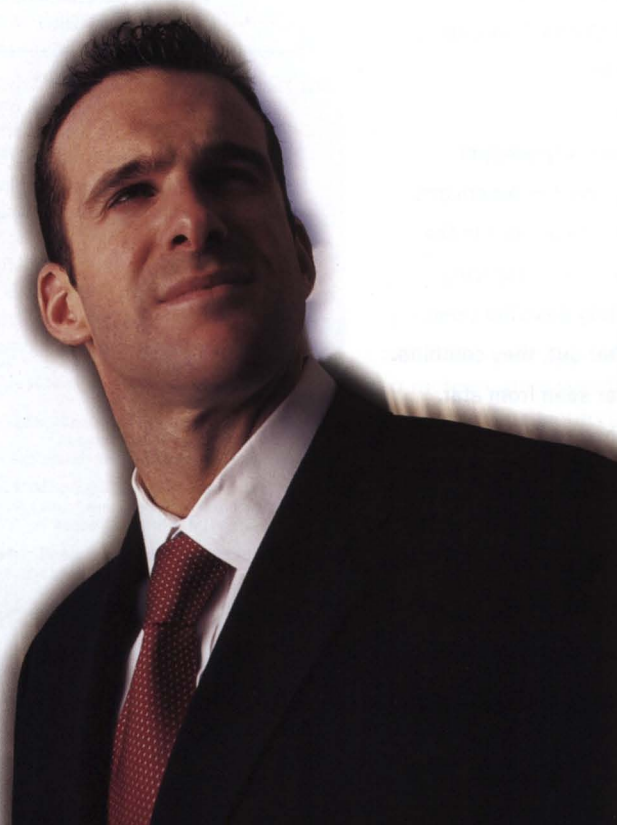


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Brett McGurk '96 (CLAS), a clerk for the chief justice, gets an inside look at the Supreme Court of the United States.

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A Message from the Editor

WWW.ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UCONN.EDU

Two historic figures came to mind as work began on this issue of *UConn Traditions*: Johannes Gutenberg, who mechanized the printing press, and Alexis deTocqueville, the French aristocrat who wrote *Democracy in America*.

Gutenberg's invention of movable type was a major leap forward in progress from individually engraved or cast letters. Mass production of books became possible. Sometime around 1454, Gutenberg produced the first major book printed in the west—what today is known as *The Gutenberg Bible*. Historians tell us approximately 180 copies were printed and that significant parts of only 48 copies have survived the centuries, including two complete copies in the British Library.

Bigger and faster presses evolved over time, but it took more than 500 years before another complete revolution in the printed word came about — the introduction of desktop computers.

The advent and rapid expansion of the World Wide Web and the Internet has taken publications into another new environment. Now you can not only read a newspaper or magazine by holding it in your hand, but also go online to read it or get updated information on stories and articles.

The online version of *UConn Traditions* was launched in February when the Fall/Winter 2002 edition was added to the UConn website. UConnWeb Manager Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS) and senior designer John E. Bailey '84 (SFA) collaborated to transfer the style and flavor of the printed magazine to the Internet. The only section not yet fully available online is Alumni News & Notes, which will begin with the Summer 2003 edition. You can view the online edition of *UConn Traditions* from the UConn homepage (www.uconn.edu) or by going directly to www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu.

Our story on page 30 about students reaching out into the community brought thoughts about Alexis deTocqueville, who observed the voluntary spirit of Americans in the early part of the 19th century. DeTocqueville would recognize that spirit in the dozens of UConn student volunteers who spend several hours each week applying their enthusiastic energy to help others. His words would accurately describe them today: "As soon as individuals with a cause have found one another out, they combine. From that moment, they are no longer isolated people, but a power seen from afar, whose actions serve for an example, and whose language is listened to."

COVER: Lance Gordon '78 Ph.D., before the image of an electron micrograph of a cell producing the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS. (portrait: Peter Morenus, background: Getty Images)

UConn TRADITIONS

Volume 4, Number 1 • Spring 2003

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UConn Traditions is produced three times a year in March, July and November by University Communications, University of Connecticut, 1266 Storrs Road, Unit 4144, Storrs, CT 06269-4144. Phone: 860-486-3530 Fax: 860-486-2063 E-mail: uconntraditions@uconn.edu Letters to the editor and other comments are welcome.

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Want to keep up with news and events at the University? News releases, upcoming events and activities are posted at www.uconn.edu.

UConn Traditions online: www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu



President

Staying on Course To Meet Vital Goals

In the last issue of *UConn Traditions* magazine I had the pleasure of writing about the approval of 21st Century UConn, the State of Connecticut's \$1.3 billion infrastructure investment that continues our building program through 2015 and allows us to complete the work begun with UCONN 2000. I also pointed with great pride to our ongoing success in moving toward Campaign UConn's \$300 million private fund-raising goal. With less pleasure, I outlined concerns about difficulties in the University's operating budget, which are largely due to downturns in the economy in Connecticut and across the nation.

For alumni who attended UConn in the early 1970s, the early 1980s, or the early 1990s, budget problems are a familiar story. We have faced them before, weathered them successfully, and emerged with the quality of our program still intact. We never abandoned our teaching, research and service mission; instead, we looked for more creative ways to implement it. We continue to do so today.

The stories in this issue describe some particularly exciting ventures and look back at the past to demonstrate the strength of our heritage. No less significant, though perhaps harder to convey in a publication like this one, is our ongoing effort to cope with fiscal realities. Through careful planning and the pursuit of efficiencies wherever they can be achieved, we are making optimal use of resources available to us. Building on the progress of recent years, we are attracting external support for research, partnering with the corporate community and with government in programs of public value that enhance our



President Philip E. Austin

resource base, and continuously expanding our level of philanthropic support. We initiated these steps long before the current fiscal crisis, and our success in each area is helping alleviate the effects of budget reductions.

Across Connecticut and, increasingly, beyond our state's borders, UConn is rightly perceived as an institution with a great history that is building on its history by making sustained and dramatic progress on multiple fronts. That continues to be the case today. Applications are up significantly at the same time our applicant pool continues to increase in academic strength and diversity. Our faculty's scholarship enhances the fund of human knowledge and attracts worldwide attention (as witness some of the stories in this issue). The quality of life on campus is enhanced not just with magnificent new buildings but also with new programs and student activities. Our athletic program succeeds not only in winning

games but also in winning the respect and affection of the entire state. We continue to expand our outreach and community service, both at Storrs and the regional campuses. Even in a time of significant challenge, we are clearly on target in meeting vital goals.

The University of Connecticut has many assets, and the presence of a large, active and enthusiastic network of alumni and other friends is high on the list. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead, and we appreciate your active and enthusiastic support.

From the mayor's office

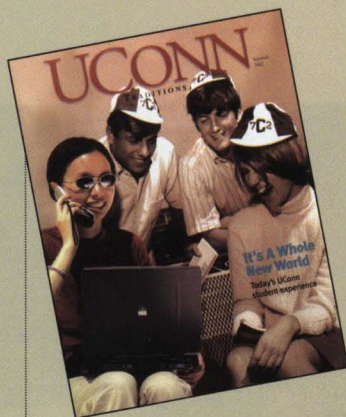
I was pleased to receive the Summer 2002 edition of UConn Traditions, in which my photograph appears on the cover. I don't know if you have information regarding the other individuals in the photograph, but I certainly would appreciate learning the identity of the other individuals.

George A. Spadaro '70 (CLAS)
Mayor, Edison, N.J.

Editor's note: The following letter may shed some light on Mayor Spadaro's request.

That's me!

Did anyone there wonder who those kids were with the '72 beanies on the cover of the Summer 2002 UConn Traditions?



I think I can shed some light on the subject. I don't remember the promo picture, and I have no idea who the girl is, but the guy on the left is George Spadaro '70 (CLAS), who was Associated Student Government vice-president. I know he went on to become mayor of Edison, N.J.

The handsome one on the right is Tim Jerman '70 (CLAS), president of the student government. I know this because I am he, although I have aged a bit.

I moved to Vermont after college for a ski weekend, and I'm still here.

Thanks for the memories!

Tim Jerman '70 (CLAS)
Essex Junction, Vt.

Ukelele memories recalled

While perusing the Fall/Winter 2002 edition of UConn Traditions, I noticed the small photo on page 40 of a group of four co-eds. Something looked familiar, so I got out the magnifying glass to take a good look. Ah ha, the gal with the ukulele is my wife, Gail Kramer Mason '53 (BUS), and the others are Phi Mu sorority sisters of hers, all I believe the class of '53. We can recognize the gal on the left as Ruth Hansen Childs '53 (CLAS), now deceased,

and the gal on the far right as Cindy Rollins Munsey '54 (SFS). The uke may have been mine!

Richard A. Mason '52 (ENG)

Letters to the editor

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

Send letters to:

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As an alum or friend of UConn, you probably already make at least one annual gift. Through an endowment fund you can ensure that your gift continues in perpetuity and you provide ongoing support to the University in any area you choose. Best of all, gifts to endowment are eligible for a 1:2 state match, which can increase the fund's value at no additional cost to you!

For more information, contact Rob Henry at The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. Telephone: 800.269.9965 or 860.486.5152. E-mail: rhenry@foundation.uconn.edu.

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Peter Morinus

A Co-op for the 21st Century

A dramatic new building for expanded needs

The new UConn Co-op opened in a dramatically designed building at the corner of Hillside and Stadium roads, across from Gampel Pavilion. With the addition of nearly 20,000 square feet, the store includes a café, complete with outdoor seating, greater merchandise selections, and on-site storage. There is also a branch of People's Bank and the Co-op's computer repair operations.

"People will be pleasantly wowed by the space inside," says William Simpson, the store's general manager. "Everybody's seen the outside, which has turned heads. I think we'll get a similar reaction inside."

Besides the main entrance, Co-op patrons will be able to access the store from either the first or second floors of the South Parking Garage.



Now located at the corner of Hillside and Stadium roads, the new UConn Co-op includes a greater selection of merchandise as well as additional features that include a café and a branch of People's Bank.

Marcel Dufresne, associate professor of journalism, works with students by emphasizing computer-assisted reporting.



Journalists honor Dufresne with distinguished teaching award

Marcel P. Dufresne, associate professor of journalism, received the national Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award from the Society of Professional Journalists for 2002.

The annual award recognizes outstanding teaching ability, contributions to journalism education, and contributions toward maintaining the highest standards of the profession.

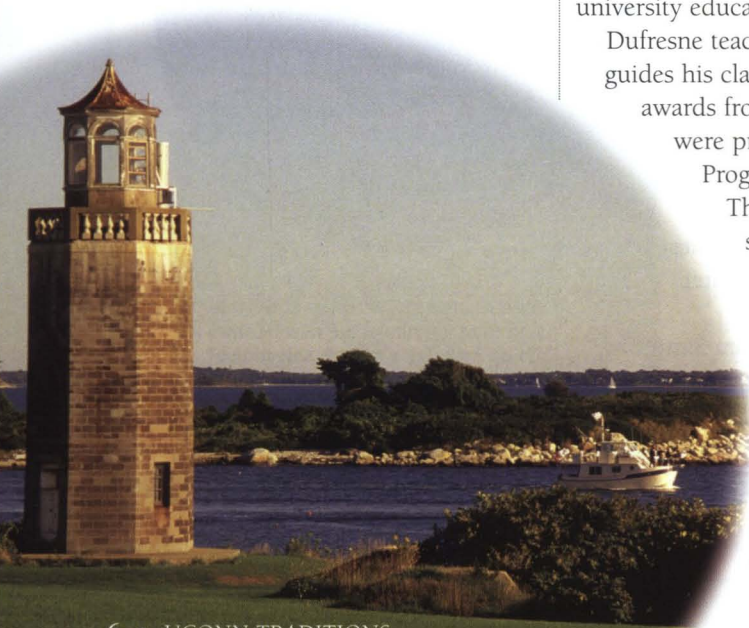
Maureen Croteau, professor and head of the UConn journalism department, says she nominated Dufresne because of the success of his classroom projects and his activity in the profession and because he not only helps his students pass the “editor test” of news skills but also prepares them for the rigors of a Research I university education.

Dufresne teaches in-depth, investigative and computer-assisted reporting and guides his classes through hands-on projects that have won first-place SPJ awards from state and national organizations. Two of the student projects were presented last year at an event sponsored by the University’s Honors Program that showcased outstanding undergraduate student research. The works were among the few presentations made by non-science students.

Last year, Dufresne team-taught with John Breen, an associate professor of journalism, a course in which students worked with *Hartford Courant* editors to produce commentary pieces about the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The pieces were published in May and distributed nationally by the L.A. Times-Washington Post News Service.

Lighthouse added to preservation Register

The 55-foot-tall lighthouse at the Avery Point campus has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of properties recognized by the federal government as worthy of preservation. The 60-year-old sandstone structure, now under restoration, is one of only 23 remaining lighthouses in Connecticut. A listing on the National Register qualifies the building for federal funding for restoration and preservation.



Women's basketball team sets new consecutive win record

The UConn women's basketball team's record-setting 55th straight victory continues to bring accolades to coach Geno Auriemma's talented young group of student athletes.

The 72-59 victory over Georgetown on Jan. 18 broke Louisiana Tech's NCAA Division I women's basketball record of 54 consecutive victories. The Huskies continued their winning streak to 70 games, completing the regular season at 29-0, losing 52-48 to Villanova in the Big East Tournament championship game.

ESPN2's coverage of the women's college basketball game pitting Connecticut at Duke on Feb. 1 was the most-viewed regular season women's basketball game ever on ESPN or ESPN2 and the highest rated in 20 years. In addition, the telecast was ESPN2's third most-watched college basketball game, including postseason and men's action.

On Feb. 20, Auriemma appeared at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., to present to the Hall memorabilia from the landmark victory, including the game ball.

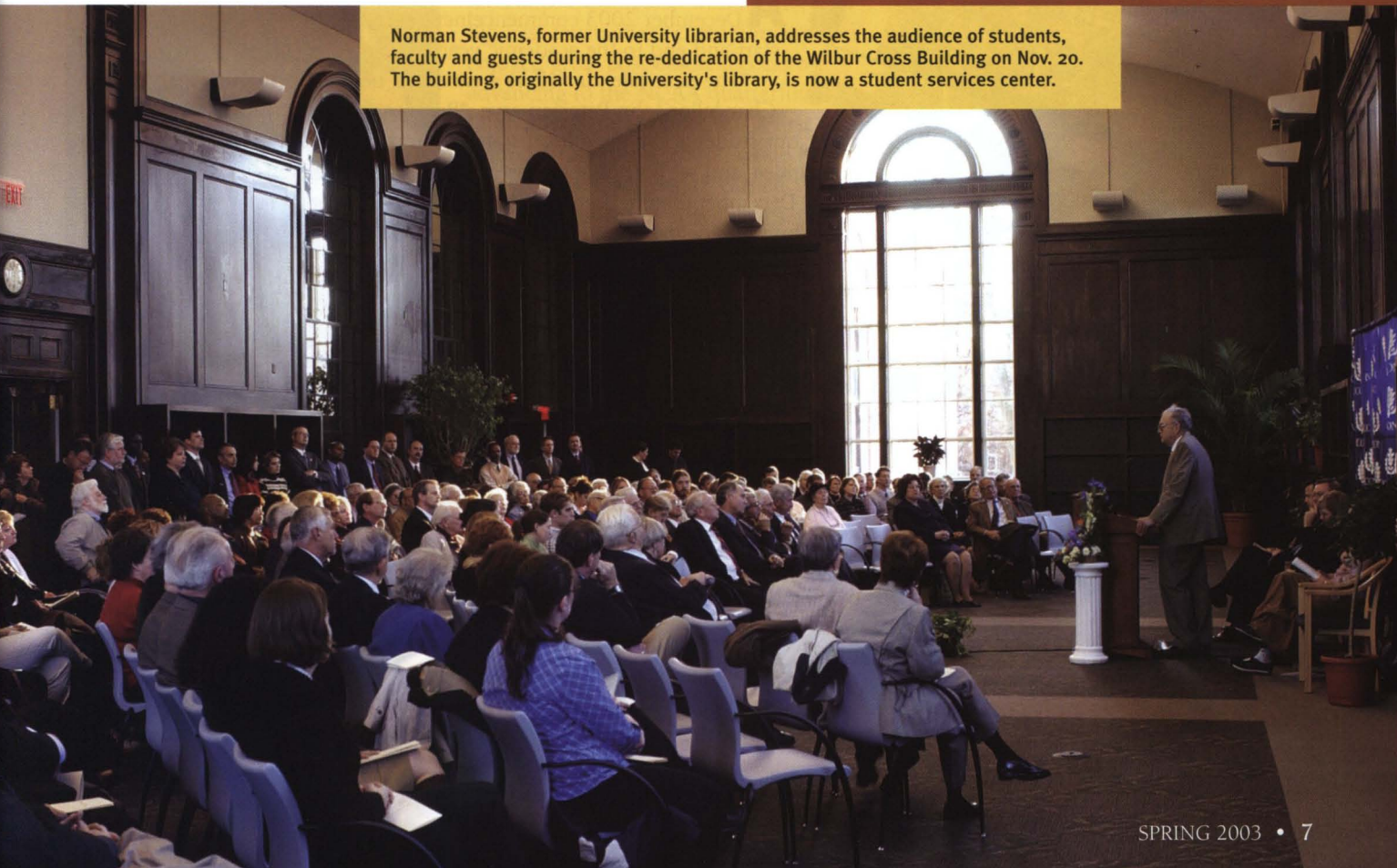


The women's basketball team is all smiles after its record-setting 55th consecutive Division I NCAA victory against Georgetown on Jan. 18.

Bob Stowell

WILBUR CROSS BUILDING RE-DEDICATED

Norman Stevens, former University librarian, addresses the audience of students, faculty and guests during the re-dedication of the Wilbur Cross Building on Nov. 20. The building, originally the University's library, is now a student services center.



Speeding up transcripts by computer

The same PeopleSoft computer system that makes it easier for UConn students to register for classes is also providing a benefit to alumni. By using a toll-free phone number or by going through the University's website, alumni can more easily obtain copies of their UConn transcript.

University Registrar Jeffrey von Munkwitz-Smith says all transcripts since the mid-1970s are now available. The registrar's office processes about 50,000 requests annually.

"It makes the service of providing transcripts a little better and a little easier for our alumni," he says. The new system also cuts down on the amount of correspondence required when requests for transcripts are incomplete. That, in turn, allows the transcript requests to be processed more rapidly.

If you need information on transcripts, go to the UConn home page at www.uconn.edu. Once there, click on Alumni & Husky Fans, which will take you to a page with a link for information on transcripts. You also can obtain a transcript by calling 1-800-759-0373.



Alumni Teams Wanted for 20th Anniversary Oozeball Tournament

The annual Oozeball tournament was highlighted by *Sports Illustrated* as the "Best Mud Volleyball" event in the country. UConn alumni can get back into the action as part of the 20th anniversary tournament on Saturday, April 26, 2003. Organize your alumni team, enter the tournament and try to reclaim the glory of the Oozeball Championship! For more information, contact Kristi Napolitano '94, '01 via e-mail kristi.napolitano@uconn.edu or call 1-888-822-5861.

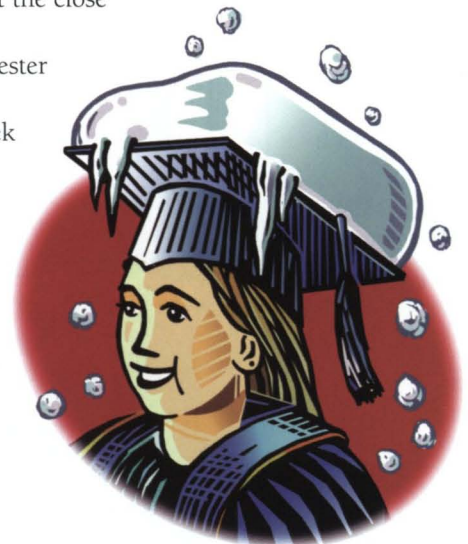
New calendar brings December commencement

A new academic calendar will take effect in 2003-04, highlighted by December 2003 commencement exercises in Storrs and an earlier start and end to the academic year.

"The new calendar offers a variety of new opportunities," University Chancellor John Petersen says. "Because the spring term ends sooner, our students can get a head start in summer employment and interning opportunities, and we'll be able to host more summer conferences." He adds that having a December commencement recognizes the increasing numbers of students who are fulfilling degree requirements at the close of the fall semester.

The new calendar begins the fall semester on the Monday before Labor Day and concludes exams during the second week of December, creating a window for the mid-year commencement.

The start of classes in the spring begins the day after Martin Luther King Day. Spring semester will end one week earlier than currently, and the standard commencement exercises also will take place one week sooner.



John E. Bailey

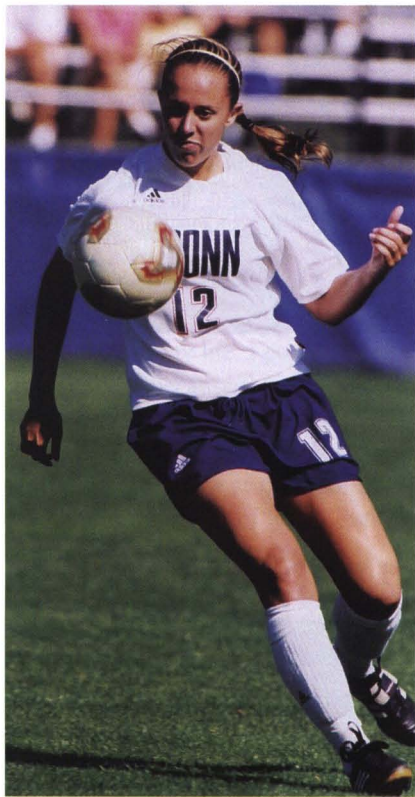
Huskies have a Fall to remember

Three teams advance to NCAAs

The University of Connecticut enjoyed another outstanding fall sports season as Husky teams advanced to NCAA play in three different sports.

After the completion of fall sports, UConn stood 19th in the standings for the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics all-sports competition, which annually gauges the top athletic programs in the country based on participation and advancement in NCAA competition.

Head coach Randy Edsall and the UConn football team posted a 6-6 record in their third season in Division I-A competition. Terry Caulley rushed for 1,247 yards—11th in the nation and first among all freshmen. The Huskies made



Stephen Slade

Kate Foley '03 (CLAS) earned Verizon Academic All-America honors helping the women's soccer team to its first-ever Big East tournament championship.

national headlines when they traveled to Ames, Iowa, and defeated Iowa State of the Big 12 Conference to close out the season. UConn opens play in August at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, Conn., which will be among the premier stadiums in the nation.

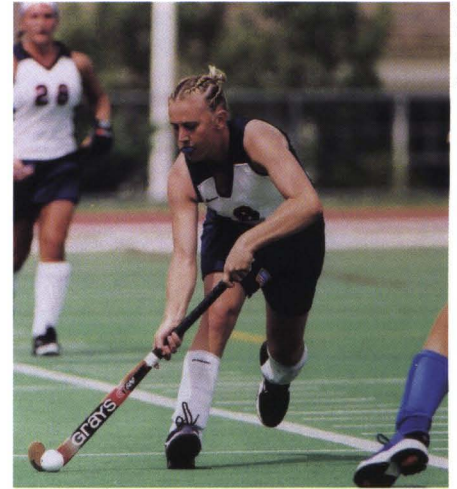
Under the leadership of head coach Len Tsantiris, the women's soccer team compiled a 21-3-1 record and a 6-0 mark in the Big East Conference Northeast Division to win the regular season championship. UConn also won its first-ever Big East tournament championship and enjoyed great postseason success by advancing to the NCAA quarterfinals. Midfielder Sarah Popper was a first team All-America selection while Kate Foley, a pharmacy major, earned Verizon Academic All-America accolades.

The men's soccer team and head coach Ray Reid also advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals and the Big East tournament championship game. Reid and his Huskies posted a 17-6 regular season mark and a 7-3 record in Big East play. Damani Ralph was named

the Big East Conference offensive player of the year while Ralph and Shaver Thomas were named All-America second team.

The UConn field hockey team, led by head coach Nancy Stevens, won both the Big East regular season and tournament titles and played in the NCAA tournament. UConn had a 15-8 final record and was a 5-0 in the Big East. Kelly Cochrane and Lauren Henderson were each named All-Americans.

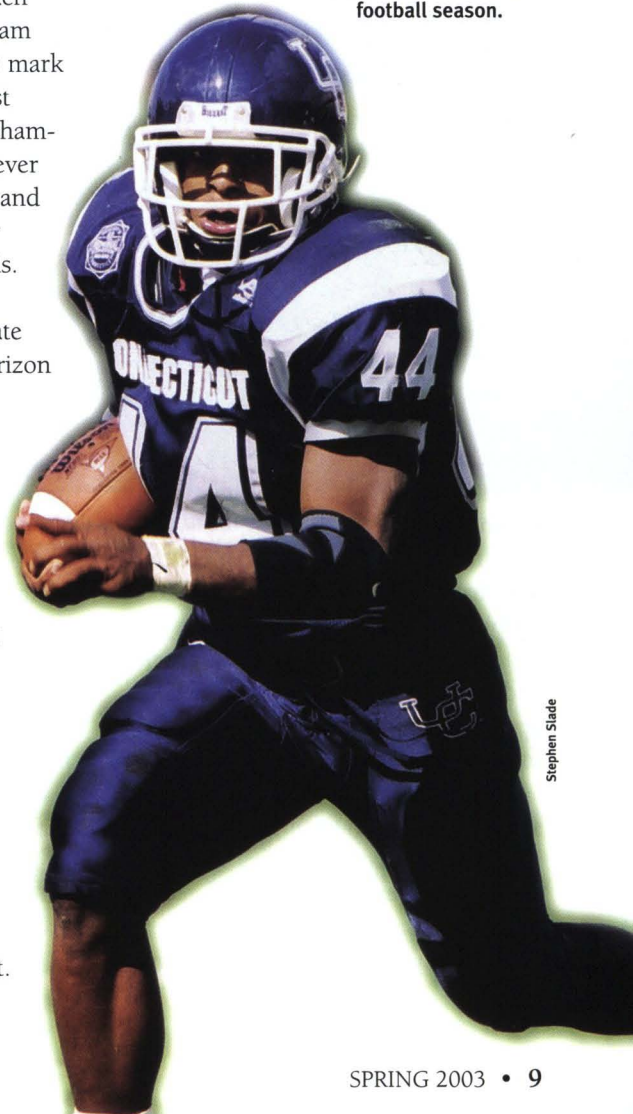
Head coach Kelli Meyers and the UConn volleyball team had a 9-4 record in Big East play and advanced to the semifinals of the conference tournament.



Stephen Slade

(above) All-American Lauren Henderson '05 led the field hockey team to both the Big East regular season and tournament titles and a berth in the NCAA tournament.

(below) Terry Caulley '06 (CANR) rushed for 1,247 yards to lead all freshmen in the nation enroute to four consecutive Husky wins at the end of the football season.



Stephen Slade



Reaching down to touch the earth

Alum establishes Nugget Fund to provide students with field experience

The UConn geology and geophysics department has long offered field research trips for students to examine rock formations and surface details at important sites in the western United States, such as the Grand Canyon or Death Valley.

Studying the processes that continually shape and renew Earth's surface enables geologists to use the long history of the planet recorded in rocks and fossils to predict its future and to apply this knowledge in exploring for mineral deposits and energy resources.

"Getting into the field and touching, smelling and even tasting rocks is a field geologist's dream," says Tim Byrne, associate professor and head of geology and geophysics. "Looking into the Grand Canyon is like looking at a giant

hole in a layer cake. But in this case, what's on view is 500 million years of geologic history."

A recent \$25,000 gift from alumnus Kevin Bohacs '76 (CLAS) will enable more UConn students to learn first-hand about the results of natural forces and processes on Earth's surface and structure. The gift from Bohacs has established the Nugget Fund, a permanent resource that will help offset the travel costs associated with geological fieldwork. Proceeds from the endowment will also support undergraduate research and enhance departmental programs.

Professor Randy Steinen has led student excursions in the past and will lead another this spring. With the help of Bohacs, the students may again head

to the western United States or instead strike out for a more exotic location, such as Hawaii, the tropics or Cuba.

Byrne believes ongoing investments like the Nugget Fund will help UConn remain competitive in the field of Earth sciences. He also hopes to add dedicated laboratory space to recruit new faculty.

"This is an exciting time in the department," he says. "Last fall we admitted one of our largest and most-qualified group of graduate students ever, and we're working with a number of University departments to develop a multidisciplinary program that links Earth, ocean and life sciences."

Center for Women's Health opens

Charlotte Johnson Hollfelder memorialized by husband

Since establishing the Charlotte Johnson Hollfelder Foundation to honor his late wife, Fred Hollfelder has been a tireless supporter of women's health initiatives, including those at the UConn Health Center's John Dempsey Hospital. Through his endeavors, hundreds of uninsured and underinsured women have received mammograms and other vital medical services at the Health Center.

"Everything good that has happened in my life is because of Charlotte. In her memory, I wanted to do something that I could see happen during my lifetime," Hollfelder says in summarizing the reason behind his remarkable and ongoing legacy of philanthropy at UConn. "I've been lucky in my life. I could afford to go to college because the government held out a hand in the form of the GI Bill. And in my career I was fortunate to be in the right place at the right time. But the biggest piece of luck I ever had was having Charlotte in my life."

Fred and Charlotte had known each other since childhood, but they didn't marry until Fred was in his mid-30s. When his job took them to Chicago, Charlotte became involved as a hospital volunteer right away. She continued this work as the couple moved to Ontario and eventually back to Connecticut—where Charlotte volunteered in the X-ray department at the UConn Health Center.

"She cared about people, she really did. Charlotte was charity and community minded," says Hollfelder.

Charlotte was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1993 and although she later recovered, she passed away in 1995 from an unrelated illness. Hollfelder's original thought to establish a health-care tribute to his wife's memory was to endow a chair in clinical oncology at

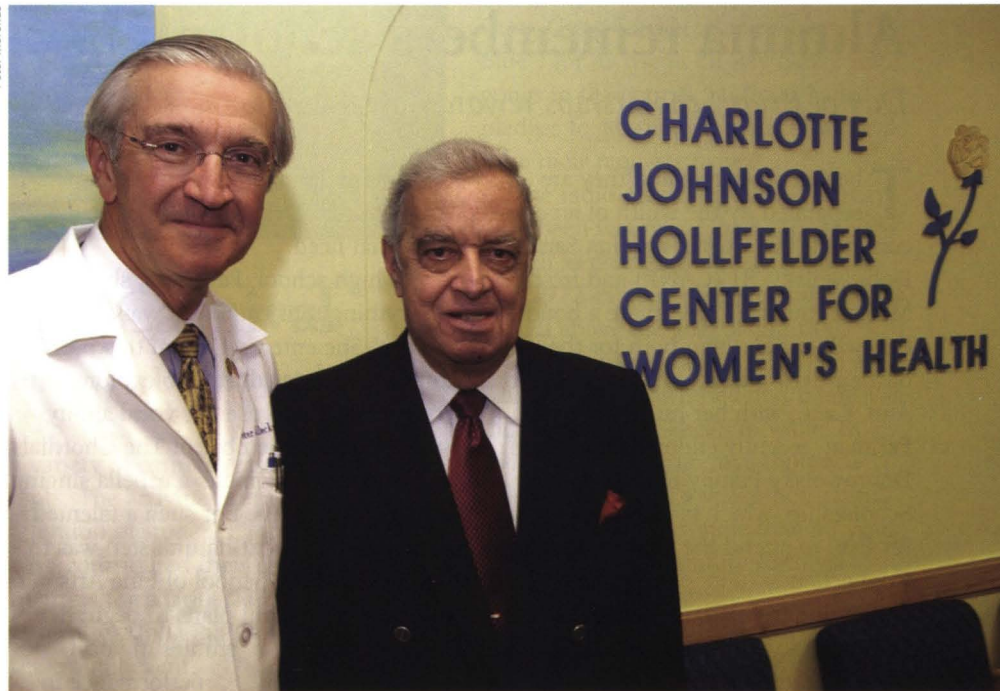
the UConn Health Center. However as he participated more in discussions about women's health care issues, he decided to establish a center covering all aspects of women's health.

The Charlotte Johnson Hollfelder Center for Women's Health was dedicated in September 2002. It offers a variety

women wouldn't receive early diagnosis and treatment that can save their lives. Fred helps take that barrier away. As a person, he brings out the caring side in each of us because he's so sincere in what he does."

"This isn't about me in the least," says Hollfelder. "I want the focus to be

Peter Morenus



Peter Deckers, executive vice president for health affairs at the UConn Health Center, left, with Fred Hollfelder, at the dedication ceremony for the Charlotte Johnson Hollfelder Center for Women's Health.

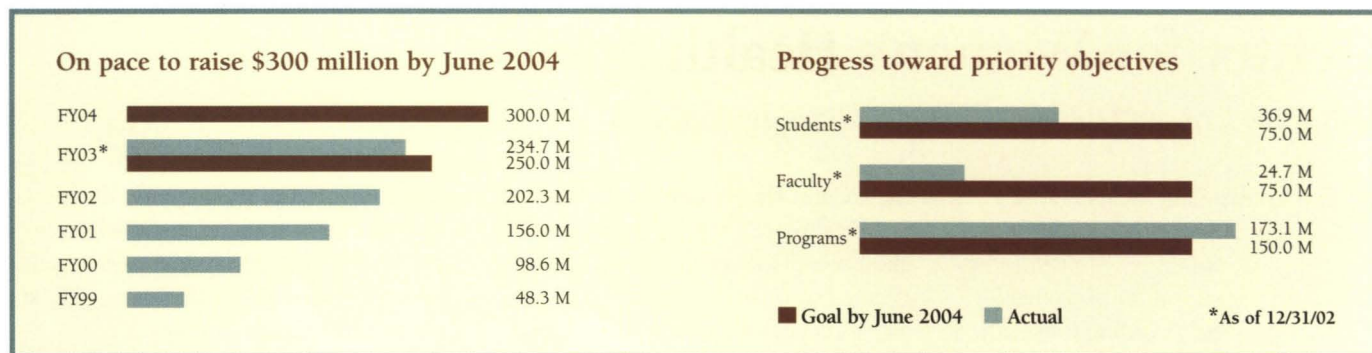
of women's health services, including obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, care for osteoporosis, and new services such as integrative medicine consultations.

Dr. Kristen Zarfos, a breast cancer specialist and assistant professor of surgery who also serves as medical director for women's health programs at the UConn Health Center, says "Without the Charlotte Johnson Hollfelder Foundation, many uninsured

on Charlotte. If someone sees her name on the center and thinks, 'There's a person who gave, maybe I should give too,' then that's the best way I can think of to honor her memory.

"I'll tell you this: You can have all the money and possessions in the world, but there's no feeling like giving, helping someone else."

Campaign UConn Progress



Alumna remembers scholarship aid

Day of Pride Scholarships reward talented students

They've never met and they are separated by the width of an entire continent, but UConn alumna Sandi Dobrowolsky '81 (CANR) and freshman Melissa Paul '06 (SFA) share a bond that will enrich them both for the rest of their lives. Sandi, who lives in Palo Alto, Calif., with her husband, Steve Perlman, recently endowed the Dobrowolsky Family Day of Pride Scholarship, which is making it possible for Paul to attend the University of Connecticut.

Coming from a large family, Dobrowolsky needed financial assistance to attend college. She considered a number of schools, but there was really just one choice for a quality program in plant science. "The financial aid I received made it possible for me to come to UConn and have such a great experience," she says.

Day of Pride Scholarships are awarded to outstanding Connecticut high school seniors with proven academic ability and leadership skills, demonstrated service to their

communities, a commitment to diversity and multiculturalism, and documented financial need.

In high school, Paul says, she "did everything musical that it was possible to do." She entered UConn this past fall and began immediately to explore opportunities to use her vocal ability. She became a member of The Chordials, a well-known women's à capella singing group on campus. For such a talented performer the next natural step was to audition for the School of Fine Arts.

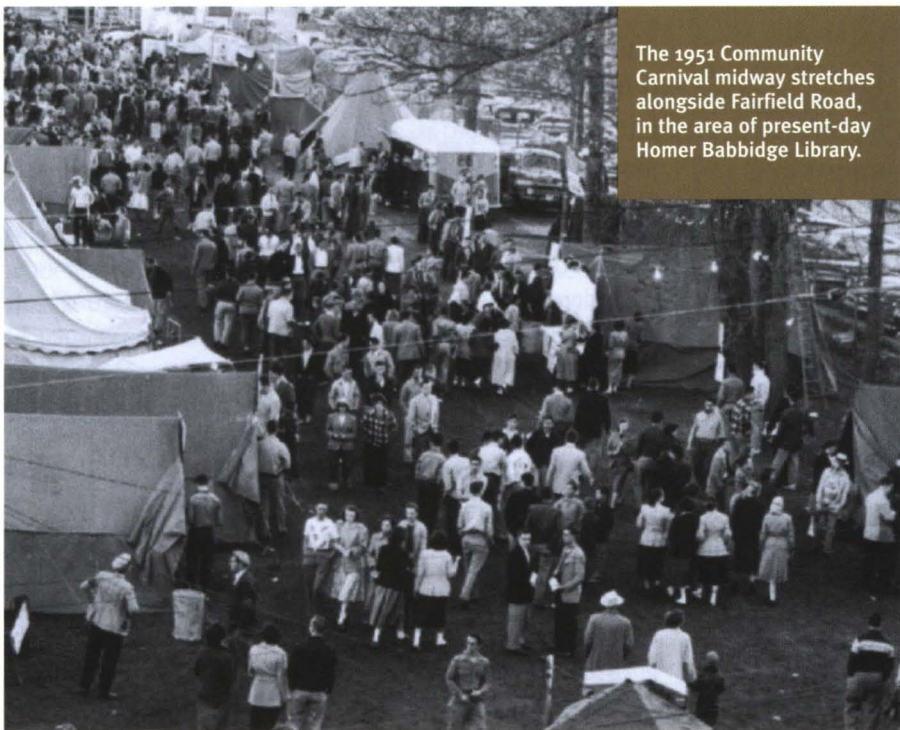
Paul plans to begin her studies in vocal performance in the spring semester.

What does the Day of Pride Scholarship mean to Paul? "I feel so lucky and am so grateful to the Dobrowolsky family because I can attend UConn without the financial burden I would have otherwise," she says.

Perlman sums up the feelings he shares with his wife: "We are very aware that there are many talented high school students who deserve the opportunity to make a contribution. Sandi was one of those kids when she entered UConn, and she has gone on to make a difference in a lot of people's lives. We're pleased to be able to offer the same chance to others on an ongoing basis, which is what the scholarship is for."



Day of Pride scholarship recipient
Melissa Paul '06 (SFA)



The 1951 Community Carnival midway stretches alongside Fairfield Road, in the area of present-day Homer Babbidge Library.

Campus Community Carnival

Student involvement in the community is a UConn tradition

It happened every spring, fueled by the pent-up energies of students facing the close of the academic year and final exams. One faculty member was quoted in May 1954, saying that if students “put half as much effort into their studies, they would all get As.”

But it was energy directed for a purpose. The Campus Community Carnival raised thousands of dollars for charity over the years, and its legacy of the Campus Outreach program and Month of Kindness, among many activities, continues to energize and inspire students today.

It began in the spring of 1948 as the Community Chest Carnival, with 10 tents on a midway established first on Fairfield Road, then the Student Union Mall, and later in the old ROTC hanger. Students from fraternities, sororities and residence halls operated dunking booths, kissing booths, turtle races and

a variety of carnival games inside the tents. The activities attracted the attention of students, faculty and staff who contributed their dimes and quarters for charities. UConn’s service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, sponsored the overall event.

As the carnival grew larger—expanding from one weekend to a week or more—it included a campus-wide parade with a route that traveled down Route 195 from Mansfield Road to North Eagleville Road, rivaling the Homecoming parade with trophies for creative floats. Residence halls also earned awards for raising the most money.

By 1957 the CCC had raised more than \$40,000 in nine years. That year about \$5,500 was collected for programs that included the Girl and Boy Scouts, American Red Cross, Mansfield Volunteer Fire Department, Windham

Hospital Fund, and Mansfield Nursing Association. In 1960, the *Connecticut Daily Campus* described it as “the third largest carnival of its type in the United States and the largest on the eastern seaboard.”

Along the way, WHUS, the student radio station, joined, with an annual marathon that attracted pledges from students. In 1961, pledges from a minimum of 25 cents to a maximum of \$25, raised \$1,375 in 81 hours. By the 1970s student disc jockeys enticed pledges by continuously playing an annoying recording they called “The Gong Gong Song” (actually titled “I’m Blue”) for its use of off-key bangs and gongs in the chorus. Students called in pledges to get that song off the air and have their requests played.

The radio marathon and CCC may have been victims of their own success as well as changing student attitudes. The 1972 event raised a record \$19,000—well above the goal of \$12,000.

The next year, only \$16,227 of a \$20,000 goal was raised and interest in the annual event began to wane. By 1978, only the radio marathon was held and in 1979, a walkathon raised about \$1,000. After more than 40 years, the Campus Community Carnival slipped into history.

In its final years, the CCC was eclipsed by its closing event, the highly anticipated Spring Weekend concert, but student service and charitable giving continued. In the 1980s and into the 1990s, there were annual “Jail and Bail” events to support the American Cancer Society, as well as other charitable activities.

The Campus Outreach program was organized in the 1990s and today continues to coordinate student involvement in a variety of causes, from Habitat for Humanity to Red Cross blood drives, keeping alive the spirit of the Campus Community Carnival.

— Mark J. Roy '74 (CLAS)

News

School of Law

Strongest first-year class for School of Law

The current first-year class in the School of Law is the strongest ever, with a median LSAT score of 160 and a higher undergraduate grade point average than that of previous classes.

Students in the class were drawn from the largest applicant pool the Law School has ever seen, up 46 percent over the previous year. Applications for this fall are also at a pace exceeding previous years.

Dean Nell Jessup Newton says applications are soaring because of the School's growing national reputation, which includes a ranking in the top tier of law schools listed by *U.S. News & World Report* and the quality of its programs.

"Applicants are drawn to us because we foster a sense of community among our students and faculty and we have a very appealing 13-to-1 student-faculty ratio," she says. Our excellent programs in insurance, international, and intellectual property law are also big attractions.

As she works to increase the Law School's programs and reputation, Newton keeps a close eye on national trends in legal education. Nationwide, clinical programs have grown in the last decade and will continue to do so, she predicts. In response, the School has expanded its clinical opportunities for students, adding a low-income tax clinic and an asylum/human rights clinic.

With trends in law school education nationally beginning to focus on interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship, the Law School finds itself in the enviable position of already having one of the strongest interdisciplinary faculties in the country. In the near future, Newton plans to add faculty with expertise in health law.

"It's challenging to maintain an upward trend," she notes. "To continue on this path, we will rely increasingly on partnerships with our alumni and our friends in the legal community to maintain a law school that is a continuing source of pride for all Connecticut citizens."

School of Nursing

Nursing professor: AIDS patients' drawings a useful assessment tool

Elizabeth Anderson, an assistant professor of nursing, is using art as a tool for assessing quality of life and coping strategies among AIDS patients.

Anderson interviewed 58 men and women from a long-term care facility and AIDS clinic in Connecticut, inviting some of the patients to draw and discuss images of their perception of AIDS. Many of the resulting drawings offered dramatic insight into the patient's world, which she categorized as either positive or negative images.

Negative images depicted AIDS as an over-powering force that dashes hope. In one such image, a grave adorned with red and white flowers lies beneath a darkened sun. The headstone reads "RIP sister and daughter." Anderson says the image is a patient's representation of what happened to her after being diagnosed with AIDS. The red and white flowers represent love and purity, and their green stems, a world of living things. The sun, concealed by a black cloud, represents the family's sadness.

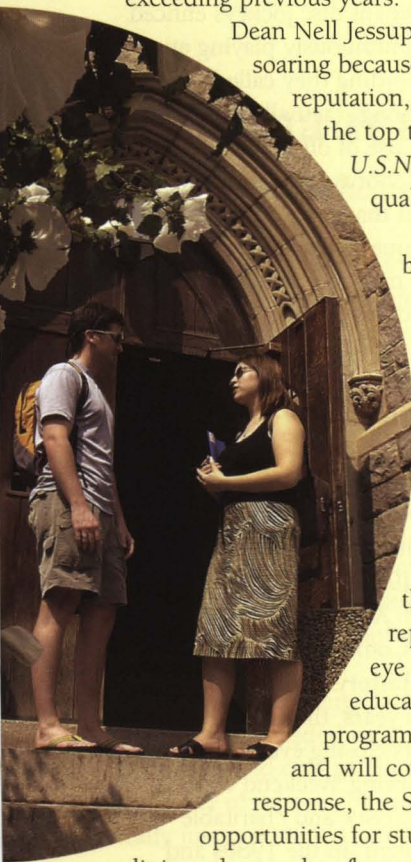
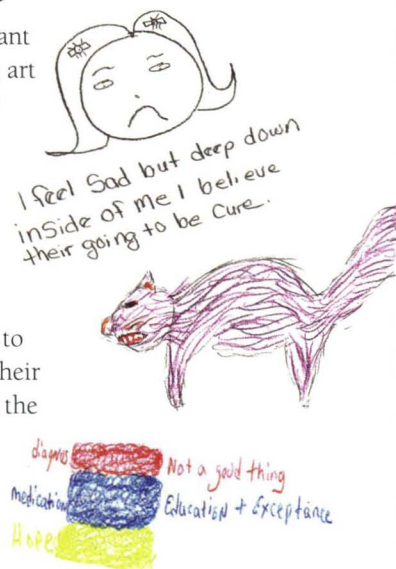
In the positive category, patients viewed AIDS as a challenge or danger that needs to be faced and fought daily. One patient's drawing depicted AIDS as a wild cat that could be kept at bay as long as he was attentive. If he didn't maintain his grip, the wild cat would reach out and scratch him.

Anderson hopes that pictorial representations of AIDS will help nurses evaluate a patient's ability to cope and identify those who need further assistance. She recommends that art be regularly considered as a method for assessing how a patient feels about having AIDS.

She also thinks that the process of imaging AIDS is itself helpful to patients, because it provides them with an opportunity for reflection and self-discovery.

Anderson is conducting another study of people with HIV/AIDS, focusing on the effects of nausea, self-efficacy, and relationships with health care providers on medical advice. She also is asking all individuals in this study to draw images of the disease.

Ultimately these findings could help better train nurses and other health care professionals to care for their patients.



School of Social Work

Borrero reaches out to some of Hartford's most troubled youth

Seven youngsters at Hartford's South Middle School filter into the room, greeting Professor Michael Borrero like an old friend: "Hey, Mister. Whatup?"

The group is one of three that Borrero, professor of social work and director of the Institute for Violence Reduction, runs at the school: two for boys, one for girls. The groups, which meet weekly, are part of an initiative to reduce violence among young people. Taking responsibility is at the heart of the program.

Many of the students come from homes that range from neglectful to abusive, say the school's counselors. Parents have a hard time making ends meet and spend little time with their children.

Borrero, who began working with gangs in New York City in the 1950s, has spent his career trying to help troubled youth. During his work with gangs in Hartford he realized the need for intervention at an earlier stage and launched the South Middle School program in 1997.

The students in the state-funded Institute for Violence Reduction program are South Middle's most troubled. They are referred to the program for being frequently late or absent from school, disruptive in class, or disrespectful to their teachers. Most have previously been suspended and have come before the juvenile justice system.

Participation in the program is voluntary. Borrero emphasizes that if they want to be involved, the kids must behave appropriately and speak candidly. If they act responsibly, Borrero provides them with rewards, such as coveted tickets to UConn Husky basketball or football games.

The program's year-long curriculum features a series of 45-minute sessions examining themes such as violence, courage, love, respect and loyalty. The groups also discuss coping strategies, decision making, anger management, and goal setting.



Peter Morenus

Borrero is assisted by a graduate student participating in an internship as part of UConn's social work program. They work closely with the school's guidance counselors, who provide support to students on a daily basis.

Principal Jim Fagan says, "Mike does things we just can't do. He's made a difference in our school and a difference in kids' lives."

School of Business

Business School climbs in rankings

The School of Business has been named one of the nation's best by *Business Week*. UConn and Yale were the only Connecticut schools included out of more than 1,200 business schools nationwide, and UConn was the only public business school in New England to be ranked.

"We are delighted to share company with the most elite business schools in the country," says C. F. Sirmans, interim dean of business. "It pleases us to have *Business Week* validate what we, our students, and stakeholders already know—that a UConn School of Business education is exceptional."

Business Week's ranking of the nation's top business schools, published every two years, is one of the most closely watched barometers among business schools. This is the first time UConn's School of Business has been ranked among the best in the nation and reflects the upward trajectory of the School during the past few years.

U.S. News & World Report also cites the UConn School of Business as the number-one public business school in New England. *Forbes* magazine ranks UConn's MBA program as having one of the highest return-on-investments in the nation. And, most recently, the *Wall Street Journal* elevated UConn to its list of Top Business Schools for 2003. The latest ranking by *Business Week* places the UConn School of Business among the top 30 at public universities nationwide. "While rankings do not drive our educational and research mission, they do help us to fulfill it by strengthening our ability to attract the best faculty and recruit the brightest students," notes Sirmans. "Prospective MBA students do consider rankings in their choice of an MBA program."

The UConn School of Business now occupies one of the most technologically advanced research and learning facilities in the nation for business education. Its brand-new, state-of-the-art building opened its doors in 2001.

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

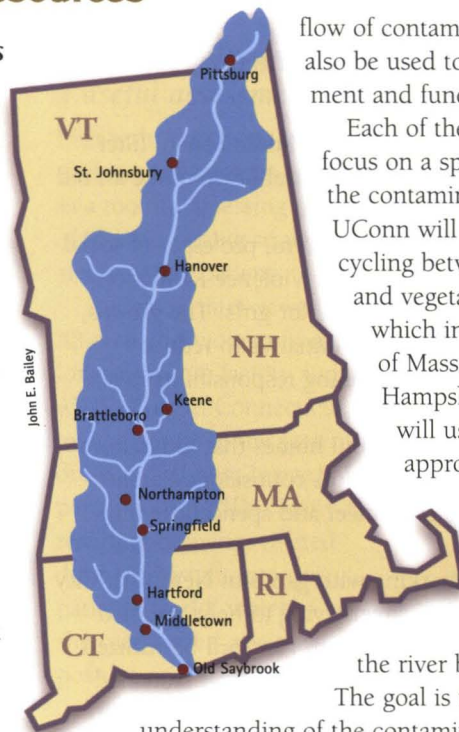
Scientists to study Connecticut River contaminants

Scientists in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources are working with colleagues from three other New England universities in the Connecticut River Airshed-Watershed Consortium to study how pollutants get into the environment. The studies will provide new insight into the movement and contamination caused by pollutants such as mercury, nitrogen, and methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE).

Research has shown that many substances, including nitrogen and mercury, regularly move between the air, water, soil and vegetation. But the processes of how they move have yet to be defined and quantified, making control and cleanup of chemical spills or runoff difficult from engineering and legal perspectives. To gain a more comprehensive understanding of where contaminants in the Connecticut River Basin come from, UConn researchers participating in the consortium aim to define and model the entire pollution cycling process with a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection.

"If you look at only one [environmental] system you can't really solve the problem," says David Miller, professor in the department of natural resources management and engineering. Miller will serve as principal investigator at UConn and will spearhead research into the cycling of pollutants between the atmosphere and Earth's surface.

Miller says the EPA funding will go toward a series of studies aimed at creating and testing models of the two-way



flow of contaminants. The funds will also be used to purchase new equipment and fund several researchers.

Each of the four universities will focus on a specific component of the contamination cycling process. UConn will lead research in the cycling between air, water, land and vegetation. The consortium—which includes the Universities of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont—will use a multimedia approach based on the

Geographic Information System to track how nitrogen and mercury move through

the river basin.

The goal is to develop a complete understanding of the contamination cycle that combines previously understood concepts with new information as it becomes available. These GIS models, which will be constructed at UConn, will allow researchers and policy makers to better understand the entire cycle of contamination movement and then begin to contain and possibly reverse degradation of the Connecticut River Basin.

School of Dental Medicine

Dental School expands service to state

The School of Dental Medicine, already the largest single provider of dental care to the state's neediest residents, will more than triple its services to underserved populations over the next five years with a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The \$1.4 million grant helps the dental school revise its curriculum by increasing its students' commitment of dental care to inner city and other disadvantaged populations in the state from 22 days to 75 days. In addition, the dental school will expand its affiliation with community health centers, a step that provides additional sites around the state where dental care is provided. The grant will also provide additional funds to the Health Center's Health Career Opportunity Programs to strengthen its minority student recruitment.

"Although Connecticut has a high per capita income and a relatively large number of dentists, the state suffers from a severe and growing problem of lack of access to dental care,"

says Monty MacNeil, associate dean for academic affairs for the School of Dental Medicine. "The grant will also help us step up our efforts to recruit minority students into dentistry."

According to a state Department of Social Services report, 71 percent of poor children did not visit a dentist in 1999. The problem is underscored, according to public health officials, by the fact that 54 percent of needy children live in large urban areas where only 18 percent of the state's 2,680 dentists practice.

Currently, more than 50 percent of the 80,000 annual patient visits to the faculty practice at UConn's dental school are by adults eligible for state-assisted health care. And, through its dental clinics around the state, the dental school provides nearly 30 percent of all treatment to needy youngsters under 18.

"In addition to curriculum changes, we will add a public health policy course, so our students gain a better awareness of the environment and the issues they will face as health care professionals," MacNeil says.

Neag School of Education

Teaching out of the classroom

If you want adults to learn, forget the classroom.

That advice comes from Barry Sheckley, recently named Neag Professor of Adult Learning, who has devoted more than 20 years to understanding how adults learn best.

"Most research shows the classroom-based process used to develop proficiency among our adult workforce is not effective. It simply does not work," Sheckley says. "We try to teach adults 'answers' as if we know what future problems they will face. Instead, we should be focused on developing their proficiency, the ability to use information skillfully."

A relatively young field of study, adult learning is one of the key areas for growth identified by the Neag School, which is one of only a few such schools to focus on the discipline. Labor experts predict that 75 percent of the nation's workforce will need retraining over the next five to seven years as different skills are required for new jobs in the changing workplace. Sheckley collaborates with a team that includes two colleagues from his department, Marijke Kehrhan and Sandy Bell, and about 30 UConn doctoral students.

Sheckley's method for making learning more effective for adults is based upon a model known as Professional Learning as Inquiry. Adult learners are guided to frame a task in terms of best practices. The learners then use those principles as a basis for testing ideas to solve problems and complete the task. The goal is to enhance adults' problem-solving, analytical and creative-thinking skills.

"The workforce needs people who can work independently. Those are the skills valued by employers, but they are a by-product, not the central focus, of our current workforce development system," he says.

Sheckley, who works with Connecticut state agencies, local school districts and private industry, does not conduct quick one-day seminars, saying such sessions are not effective. Instead, he works with employers to set up



Barry Sheckley, Neag professor of adult learning

programs that minimize classroom instruction and maximize the educational potential of the "ecology," or environment, within an individual's workgroup—the forum in which most learning actually occurs.

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School of Engineering

Shaw receives international award

In a state known as the "Land of Steady Habits," if your time is spent trying to change things, the result had better be good. In the case of Montgomery T. Shaw, professor of chemical engineering, his achievements changing the chemical structure of materials have been recognized as among the best.

Shaw received the 2002 Society of Plastics Engineers International Award, which has been awarded since 1962 to acknowledge outstanding achievement by distinguished scientists and engineers.

Shaw has established an international reputation in the process of mixing chemicals into new components, known as polymer science and engineering. More specifically, he is known for his pioneering work in polymer rheology, the science of changing the shape and flow of molecules to create new substances. He is also considered one of the foremost authorities on the thermodynamics of polymer mixtures, how heat is used to create new mixed substances.

His activities in thermodynamics began in 1970 on his first work assignment when he was at Union Carbide. "My job was to come up with a commercial polymer alloy that could combine the properties of some of their existing products," he recalls. "It sounds like a fairly straightforward assignment. You just take them and mix them. But it's not very easy at all. It started my interest in thermodynamics that has kept me busy for a long time."

The challenge of polymers is to be able to combine substances to create a better material without losing the key properties of the original materials. Shaw cites the example of making parts for optical lenses in cameras by using pre-cast molded polymers instead of grinding glass. "You don't want a lens that is going to distort the image simply because it was molded quickly," he says.

An emerging area of polymer development is electro-responsive materials—studying how substances react to the introduction of an electrical field. For example, if a gel can be charged with electricity so that it stiffens, it could be used possibly to dampen sound or other types of vibrations, Shaw says.

"Being selected by a panel of experts from a list of very highly competitive and prestigious people is an honor," Shaw says about the award, which includes an honorarium and a plaque made of acrylic, which is, of course, a polymer.

School of Pharmacy

First year experience

Last fall, freshman students interested in pharmacy were eased into the field with special living arrangements and a new First Year Experience (FYE) course. They spent time with deans and fraternized with pharmacy students. Some even joined professional organizations.

The School of Pharmacy's new living and learning community is part of a broader initiative by the Department of Residential Life to allow students with similar academic interests to live and learn together.

"It was a great opportunity for the School of Pharmacy to work with freshmen," says Pat Toce, director of experiential education for the School of Pharmacy, who designed and taught the introductory FYE course. "They took classes and dined with our deans and faculty and participated in many pharmacy activities." While the focus in the course was pharmacy, it also covered basic university learning skills.

Toce says that having upper-level pharmacy students such as Elizabeth Palillo '06 (PHR) as mentors in the class was invaluable: "They understand the needs of freshmen coming into the program and are there to answer questions."

Introducing freshmen to the world of pharmacy early in students' careers is particularly important because UConn's future pharmacists must complete two years of pre-pharmacy requirements before being admitted to the School of Pharmacy for an additional four years.

"It was an amazing semester," says Palillo, who is also a resident assistant. "In the past, a pharmacy student wouldn't have a link to pharmacy until the fifth semester at UConn."

The course gave students "a real inside look at pharmacy," she says. "We had some classes with the dean and associate dean. We had pharmacy students at all levels come and talk to the class. We even discussed the application process and future classes they'll need."

Freshman Tyson Thornton says he was impressed with the program. "We got to talk to the dean and students already in the program. It took some of the fear away of what was coming," he says.

Interim dean Bob McCarthy says the program helps students begin to establish a connection to the School of Pharmacy early on. "This is a way for us to connect with brand new students right out of high school," McCarthy says. "They feel they're part of pharmacy even though they're not in the program officially. One of the most exciting things about it is that the students gain a clearer understanding of what to expect when their formal pharmacy training begins."

School of Medicine

Poison Control Center helps save lives

When anthrax mysteriously began to sicken and even kill people in 2001, panicky calls started coming into the UConn Health Center's Connecticut Poison Control Center.

"People wanted information about anthrax and their chances of getting sick from it—immediately," says Laura Caperino Crean, a lead poison control specialist. "We had to gear up quickly so we could answer their questions."



Peter Morenus

The same thing happened several years ago when a chemical explosion at a pool supply company rocked a neighborhood in Manchester, Conn. The calls—about 100 a day—come in from around the state, around the country and the world, asking Health Center staffers about the consequences of exposure to poisonous or hazardous substances.

Most calls come from the public. Nearly two-thirds are related to accidental poisonings in children. Other calls about the toxicity of a substance come from doctors, emergency rooms, police departments or companies around the state.

"Our staff has access to a vast amount of expertise and information that helps us respond immediately to calls," says Marc Bayer, a board-certified toxicologist and medical director for the Poison Control Center.

The Center is linked to the Toxic Exposure Surveillance System, which contains detailed toxicological information on more than 24 million poison exposures reported to U.S. poison centers. The risks of poisoning often come from everyday substances found in the home, such as cleaning materials and medications.

The practice of toxicology has changed dramatically in recent years, says Crean. She recalled that in the past most people were sent to emergency rooms routinely because there was not enough information available about how most toxic substances affected children or adults. Now the Poison Control Center provides life-saving information that can be communicated quickly over the telephone. The phone number is: 1-800-222-1222.

School of Family Studies

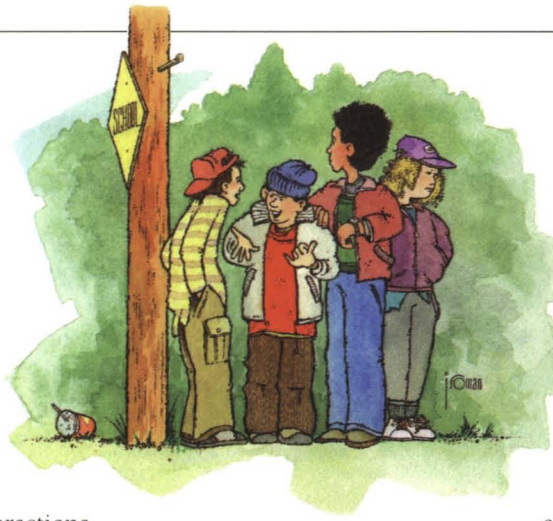
Innovative approaches to truancy reduction

Anita Garey spends a lot of time before a judge, but she's not in trouble. Her research has taken her to truancy court.

Garey, an associate professor of family studies and sociology, is conducting research on the team approach to truancy reduction. She is performing observational research in three truancy courts in Rhode Island, taking detailed field notes on the interactions among the participants—a magistrate, truant officer, guidance counselor, social worker and family members. Garey is aided in her research project by Marina O'Leary, a doctoral student in family studies who is serving as a research assistant for the study.

The truancy court program, an arm of the state family court, is an intervention aimed at reducing school absence, preventing youngsters from dropping out of school, and improving each child's opportunity for academic achievement. The courts, located in middle schools, are set up much like real courtrooms.

"The truancy court team works together to discover and address the underlying causes of truancy in each case," says



Garey, who was awarded a UConn Humanities Institute Fellowship for the current academic year to pursue her study of truancy.

According to Garey, in most states truancy is dealt with in a punitive manner that has not proven effective in increasing school attendance. Most youngsters choose truancy court over family court, where they could receive a sentence, be put on probation, and have the charge recorded on their records.

Although there is much research on truancy itself, little research has been done on intervention processes, such as truancy court. Garey's presence at the sessions allows her to see first-hand how the team approach works. One of the goals of her research is to find out what works in the team process and what doesn't. What is most important about truancy court, says Garey, is that it offers an intervention that can prevent bigger problems: "Having more people looking at the whole picture can help."

School of Allied Health

Cytogenetics grows as an area of specialty

As advances in medicine transform science fiction into reality, the field of genetics has become one of the cutting edge areas of research and study. In the School of Allied Health, the Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Program is attracting students at a time when there is an increasing demand for specialized allied health professionals.

"It's a really hot area," says Martha Keagle, director of the program, which is generally known as cytogenetic technology. "We're seeing that the future of diagnostic medicine is in the realm of genetics. Virtually all human disease and disability have some genetic component to it. The need for people with the specific skills they get at UConn will explode."

Cytogenetic technology is a highly specialized branch of cytotechnology, which is the study of cell samples from the body for the detection and diagnosis of disease. Cytogenetic technologists study the changes in chromosomes and their relationship to disease.

"Where cytology is looking at changes in the cell nucleus that may show a cell is cancerous, cytogenetics looks below

that level," Keagle says. "We look at prenatal diagnosis, birth defects, couples experiencing infertility and other much broader areas."

Students seeking a degree in cytogenetic studies have already completed a bachelor's degree in a scientific discipline or in medical technology before pursuing the specialized one-year graduate program that provides students with skills that can be used in several fields. The program includes a clinical practicum at the UConn Health Center followed by monthly rotations to cytology laboratories in Connecticut.

The UConn cytogenetics program is one of only eight in North America and one of two in New England, according to the Association of Genetic Technologists.



School of Fine Arts

First Sackler Composition Prize awarded

Composer and pianist Gabriela Lena Frank received the first Raymond and Beverly Sackler Music Composition Prize, a \$20,000 award that supports and promotes composers and the performance of their new musical works.

"The prize is part of a broader program promoting innovation and the creative spirit within the UConn School of Fine Arts," says David G. Woods, dean of the school. "It recognizes cutting-edge creative exploration and reflects the essence of creativity that is the heart of the school."

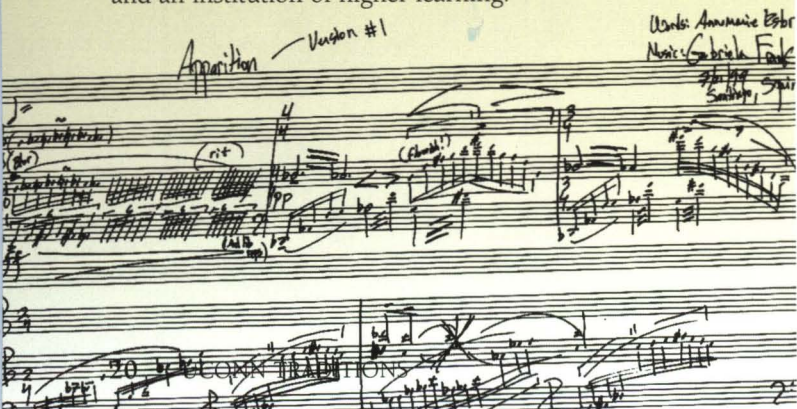
Frank's composition for solo violin and a chamber ensemble of 11 players, "An American in Peru," will have its world premiere in Storrs in the spring. A second performance will take place at UConn's Stamford campus.

"An American in Peru" tells the story of Frank's Jewish father and his experiences in Peru as a Peace Corps volunteer in the 1960s. The piece documents the blending of her father's Jewish roots and Klezmer tradition of Jewish folk music with his Peruvian experience and the music he heard in Peru's coastal deserts, Andean mountains, and Amazonian rain forests.

Frank's winning proposal for the inaugural Sackler Prize was chosen from entries submitted by composers in 20 states and nine other nations.

"Words can't adequately express the pleasure and honor I feel at having been selected as the first winner of the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Music Composition Prize," says Frank. "It is not just an opportunity to bring to life a large work using the talents of terrific players but also a chance to set a high standard of imagination and craft for future recipients of the prize."

The prize was established through a gift from Raymond and Beverly Sackler, distinguished philanthropists and frequent donors to the University. The Sacklers fund several important initiatives at the School of Fine Arts, including an artist-in-residence program, the Master Artists and Scholars Institute, and the Art and Archeology Lecture Series. The Sacklers were also instrumental in forging a partnership between the Metropolitan Opera and UConn, the first collaboration of its kind between the historic opera company and an institution of higher learning.



College of Continuing Studies

Training for bioterrorism readiness

The University is taking a leadership role in helping Connecticut's healthcare professionals prepare for the threat of bioterrorism by offering a leadership training program through the College of Continuing Studies and the UConn Health Center.

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks on Washington, D.C., and New York City, and the subsequent anthrax incidents that led to the death of a Connecticut woman, the state's emergency preparedness plans have been revised to include a Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness Training program for emergency and health care professionals.



Training is free and offered through a cooperative agreement between the state Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control. The series of eight sessions began in December and will continue through July 2003 at UConn's Hartford campus.

The 20-hour training program includes 14 hours of classroom work and six hours of Web-based learning activities in subject areas such as basics about biological, chemical and nuclear agents; public health preparedness; developing an organizational response; and effective project management.

There is also a full-day computer-based simulation of a bioterrorism crisis situation. The simulation provides participants with the opportunity to demonstrate teamwork, problem solving, leadership, decision-making, crisis management and negotiating skills.

Initial content for the program was developed in consultation with Michael Grey, division chief of occupational medicine at the UConn Health Center. A variety of health care professionals representing organizations from throughout the state, including the Connecticut Hospital Association and the Department of Public Health, worked to finalize the program.

"The demands on state and local public health groups concerning readiness are extensive," says Martha McKerley, program manager in the College of Continuing Studies, who helped develop the content areas for the program. "The college's training program provides information and practical guidance to help public health professionals enhance their agency's level of readiness."

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Identifying autism early

If Deborah Fein had her way, every young child in Connecticut would be screened for autism, because early detection and intervention are more likely to result in successful treatment of the disorder.

Fein, a psychology professor, received two federal grants to conduct screening for autism, a developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and is disruptive to social relationships, communication and imaginative play. It is a common developmental disability, affecting at least 1 in 500 children.

The grants allow Fein and her fellow researchers to screen thousands of children through pediatricians' offices and early intervention centers and compare three different screening devices in the form of questionnaires. One grant is for nearly \$2.5 million for five years from the National Institutes of Health. There is a separate \$800,000 grant over four years from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

In Fein's project, parents of children aged 18 to 24 months are asked to spend five to 10 minutes completing the screening devices when they take their children to the



Deborah Fein, professor of psychology

doctor, who then send her the completed questionnaires to be scored.

The project also evaluates treatments for autism. Children who were diagnosed with autism and received treatment at an early age will be examined again at age 4 to determine what type of intervention results in the most successful treatment. Screenings will also be given to the younger siblings of children who have

already been diagnosed with autism, to determine whether they also will work for the younger siblings.

"By giving the screening devices to parents, pediatricians allow parents to get a diagnosis without waiting to get into autism specialty clinics, which often have lengthy waiting lists," Fein says. "Though a diagnosis of autism can be upsetting, getting the diagnosis increases the amount of help available from the state and improves the child's prognosis."

In other cases, Fein says, parents are concerned about autism, but it turns out the child has mild developmental delays and is not diagnosed as autistic.

Bio/Physics Building brings departments together

Professor David Benson no longer has long walks through the Torrey Life Sciences Building, trying to meet with colleagues in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology who were located on various floors.

"It's a wonderful facility," says Benson of the new Biology/Physics Building that now stands as the tallest building on the main campus at 110 feet high. "This facility will help us recruit graduate students, post doctoral students and faculty."

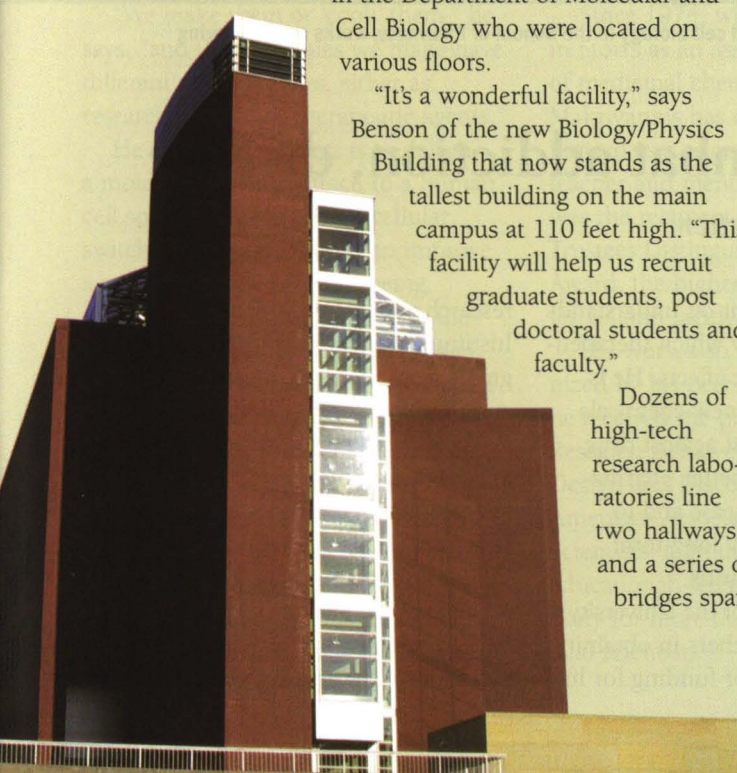
Dozens of high-tech research laboratories line two hallways, and a series of bridges span

a six-story atrium, connecting the research and office wings on one side of the building. Another enclosed bridge connects the complex with the Torrey Life Sciences Building, which is scheduled to be renovated during the 21st Century UConn program in 2005.

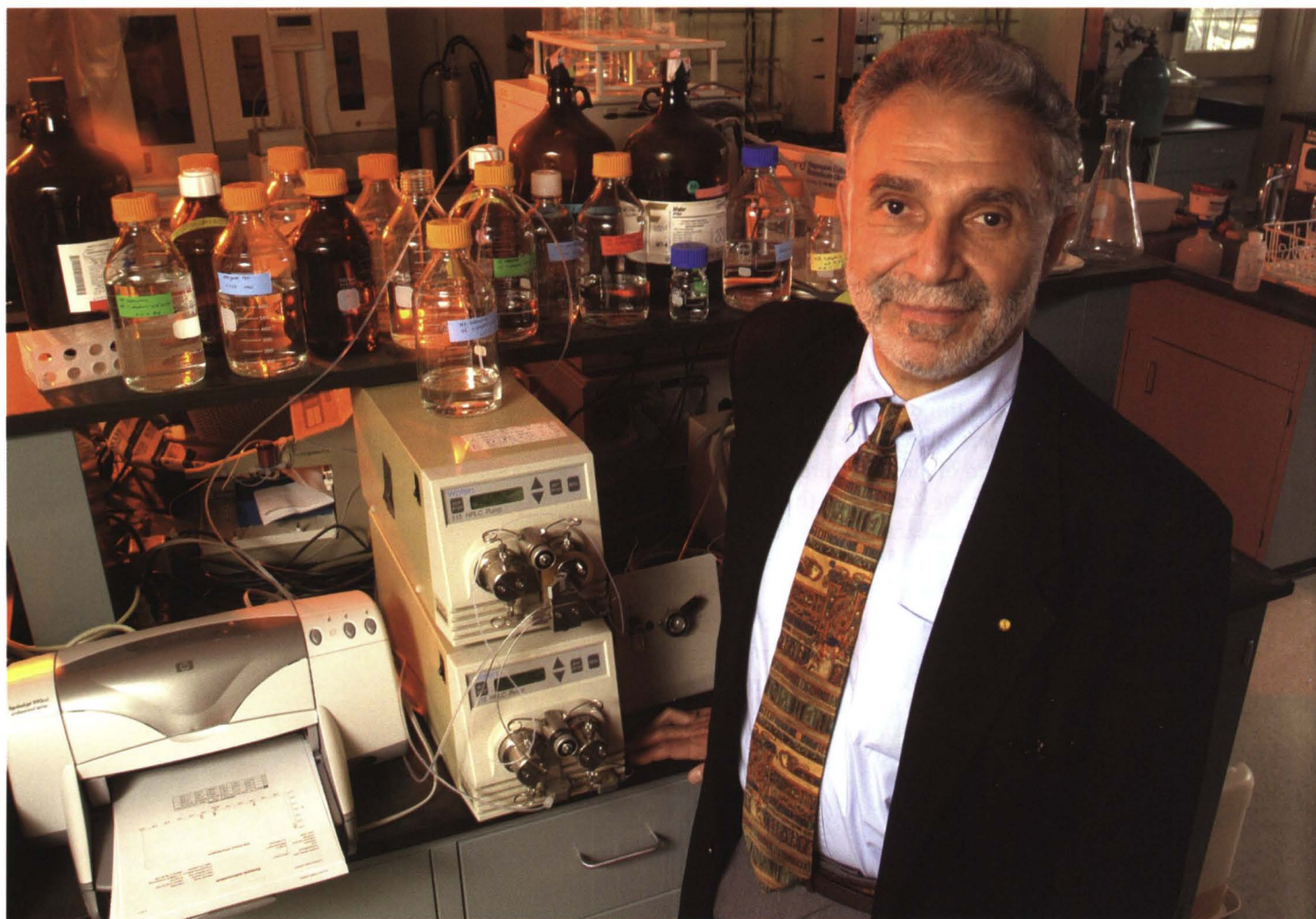
Like other UCONN 2000-financed projects, the Biology/Physics Building offers data jacks throughout the facility for laptop computers. There is also audio-video capability in each of two 150-seat lecture halls and in every conference room and lounge. The building's labs and offices are located in separate wings and the space is climate-controlled.

The 111,000-square-foot building includes 22,000 square feet for physics labs and offices that will focus on laser technology research. Members of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology will work in a rooftop greenhouse and will display collections on the first floor. The Biotechnology Center will share the new building.

The building also will become home to more than 125,000 specimens—birds, mammals, fish, parasites, and vascular plants among them—from the University's natural history collection.



Peter Morenus



Alexandros Makriyannis, a professor of medicinal chemistry and molecular and cell biology in the School of Pharmacy, works on discovering therapeutic drugs.

Designing molecules to combat addiction, disease

The search for the right recipe to help people feel better

A team of chemists—students and research fellows from the United States, Australia, Africa, China, India, Greece, and France—work side-by-side in a School of Pharmacy laboratory, manipulating and designing molecules. They are learning how drugs are developed from a world leader in drug discovery, Alexandros Makriyannis, a professor of medicinal chemistry and molecular and cell biology in the center for drug discovery at UConn.

Makriyannis is intent on understanding the mechanisms by which therapeutic drugs produce their effects. He is working to synthesize new chemicals that will aid in the fight against drug addiction, to develop better pharmaceuticals to combat disease and to ease the pain caused by long-term conditions such as arthritis.

Makriyannis is one of the University's most successful researchers in obtaining research funding. Major funding for his

research comes from the National Institutes of Health, with additional grants from the state of Connecticut and the pharmaceutical industry.

He currently directs a research group of 35 assistant professors, visiting scholars, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students. He also has welcomed high school students into his labs.

“One of the attractive features of being a scientist is that science eliminates lots of barriers between people—

barriers of country, religion and age—because everyone is excited about what they're doing and the potential for making discoveries," says Makriyannis.

It is the science that drives him, the challenge of learning and discovering something new. "You want to direct your efforts to something that will help people," he says. "I like to conduct research which has an anthropogenic content, where you can relate it to

"The challenge is to design a molecule that will attach to a human cell so that it would turn certain cellular switches on or off, helping to improve a patient's health and well-being"

human beings ultimately. We do work with concepts, which are sometimes quite intricate; however, we want to ultimately apply our results to human beings."

At the heart of Makriyannis' research is an approach that involves designing new molecules that take on specialized biochemical properties. He has used various approaches to design the molecules, including computers and other experimental methods.

"We make them or 'cook' them," he says, "and the molecules we make have different potential uses, either as research tools or as therapeutic agents."

He says the challenge is to design a molecule that will attach to a human cell so that it turns certain cellular switches on or off, helping to improve a patient's health and well-being.

In collaborative research with the Brookhaven National Laboratories in New York, Makriyannis has developed a new molecule that acts as an imaging agent to allow a scanner to detect diseased tissue. He says this could have significant diagnostic capabilities involving early detection of some degenerative diseases, such as Huntington's chorea and Alzheimer's disease, long before there is massive degeneration in the patient.

The pioneering research is one of three major advances in Makriyannis' lab during the past several years in the field of molecular research with a class of molecules found in the hemp plant that interact with a biochemical system known as cannabinoids.

His work with cannabinoids research has also led to a new approach in treating pain caused by degenerating nerves that could provide help for individuals

suffering pain caused by diabetes, shingles, or cancer.

In another project, Makriyannis discovered a protein transporter, which has been shown to have a major role in regulating a number of body functions and activities. This is being used in the development of medications for the treatment of disease conditions such as multiple sclerosis and some complications in the body's circulatory system.

Since 1974, when he arrived in Storrs as an assistant professor of medicinal chemistry, Makriyannis has distinguished himself as a scientist, scholar, teacher and mentor. In 2002, he was the recipient of the Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor Award, the highest academic title for UConn faculty members.

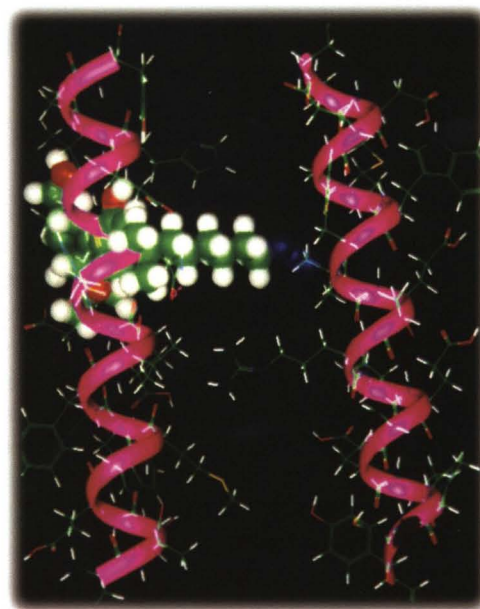
His work also has been recognized by his peers. Last November he received the prestigious 2002 Research Achievement Award in Drug Design and Discovery from the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, a group that serves as an educational, scientific and scholarly body for more than 11,000 pharmaceutical scientists.

During his career, Makriyannis has served as advisor and mentor to hundreds of students at the postdoctoral, graduate, and undergraduate levels. Many of his former students now hold top industry posts.

Stephen Fesik '81 Ph.D. among the first graduate students Makriyannis mentored, has distinguished himself as a scientist and is currently divisional vice president of cancer research at Chicago-based Abbott Laboratories. Bonds between the two remain strong: Fesik has returned to UConn to give talks, and his former professor has met with Abbott's scientists.

"Alex has a style that makes you think for yourself and then follow up. Through his guidance, I learned to think about science," Fesik says.

— *Claudia G. Chamberlain*



This is a computerized, three-dimensional view of a new molecule that was developed in the UConn laboratory of Alexandros Makriyannis.

Students

Peter Morenus



Man in constant motion

Business student set to finish triple major

James Patrignelli's '03 (BUS) innate drive to excel in varied experiences has made him a student in constant motion at UConn over the past five years.

A high school honor society member and senior class president, Patrignelli used a six-year stint with Connecticut's National Guard to serve his country while beginning his studies at the UConn campus in Waterbury.

Along the way he managed to become active in both a professional and a social fraternity, earn enough credits to carry a triple major—Management Information Systems, International Trade, and Economics—and also work part-time for Pratt & Whitney.

"Getting lots of faculty attention has helped me do well academically despite the heavy workload. None of my classes at the Waterbury campus had more than 20 students," Patrignelli says.

He pledged Delta Sigma Pi, the professional business fraternity, one year after accruing enough credits in his

MIS major, and enrolling at the Storrs campus, where he was president of that organization last fall.

"Delta Sigma Pi has helped me build incredible relationships. It has been one of the best experiences I've had," he says. In fall 2002, he also served as homecoming chair for his social fraternity, Kappa Sigma.

Pragmatic by nature, Patrignelli's goals initially had not included studying abroad. But after attending a study abroad workshop sponsored by the International Business

Program, he considered it. At the time, he was working at the Lodewick Visitors Center, and he mentioned the possibility to fellow student tour guides. Their enthusiasm for the undertaking was contagious.

"The student staff there do everything, from Marching Band, to living abroad, to managing athletic teams. They're very vocal about making the time to get involved. They convinced me to go," he says.

Patrignelli found great satisfaction studying international marketing and finance, as well as entrepreneurship, during a semester in Italy. While traveling to Europe's great capitals, he saw the headquarters of prestigious U.S.-based corporations and experienced an epiphany—his dream job would be a business career overseas.

When Patrignelli graduates in May, he hopes to begin working in Boston, New York City, or Stamford. He is pursuing positions at financial firms because they can uniquely allow him to become directly involved with his three areas of interest.

"I've had a great time here at UConn, making so many friends. Both of my fraternities have very active alumni, so I'll return often—unless I land that dream job and can't hop a plane back to America," he jokes. — *Lauren Davis Shea*

A passion for music, a calling for medicine

Erika Avery finds balance in one of UConn's most highly selective programs

For as long as she can remember, Erika Avery '05 (CLAS) dreamed of becoming a doctor so that she could help people. It's an aspiration that guided her to enroll in a new program at the University of Connecticut that allows students to graduate with a combined undergraduate and medical degree. She is among the first group of exceptional students to enroll in one of UConn's most highly selective programs.

Eight years seems like quite a commitment for an 18-year-old to make. For many, college is a time for exploration, an opportunity to dabble in disciplines that span the academic spectrum.

Conceding a plethora of physiology courses are in her future, Avery's decision to attend UConn hinged upon the quality and flexibility of its undergraduate program. With four years to investigate her many academic interests before concentrating another four years on medical school, she is pursuing a solid liberal arts foundation.

"UConn's program relieves the demand to take only pre-med courses as an undergraduate to do well on the Medical College Admission Test," says Avery, who is the recipient of a Leadership Scholarship. "As long as I maintain my grades and get an acceptable score on the MCATs, I'm essentially guaranteed a spot in UConn's medical school. So, I can use this time to really gain a well-rounded education."

Her determination to explore many areas of learning is clear. Avery says she is fascinated about how cultures and organisms evolve as a result of their location, owing to her Japanese-American heritage. Her mother is Japanese and Avery has spent two months each year in Japan for several years. She is majoring in biology and will minor in geography. But her lifelong passion is for music.

"I love music for its self-expression and interpretation," Avery says. "It's an art, not a concrete pursuit with a single direction."

Playing the koto, a Japanese harp, Avery seizes opportunities to perform on campus at venues such as the International Festival sponsored by the Honors Council. She and a fellow UConn musician performed throughout Connecticut during winter break.

Avery and her classmates realize they are in a unique position to blaze a path that others will follow in a new program that they are helping to pioneer.

Avery's true calling, however, is the study of medicine. An anatomy and physiology course in high school provided her the chance to take the first step in the classroom toward becoming a doctor. Performing volunteer work at Griffin Hospital in Derby, Conn., during junior and senior years provided the next step, bringing her into the realm of helping patients.

"I feel blessed to live in a country in which health care is so advanced and readily available," says Avery. "I want to help people who are less fortunate, and medicine is such a great instrument to accomplish this—either through direct patient care or educational programs that improve quality of life."

Avery and her classmates realize they are in a unique position to blaze a path that others will follow in a new program that they are helping to pioneer.

"Everyone involved has been extremely supportive and especially in tune to our input," Avery says. "Nowhere else would I have the opportunity to shape this type of program."
—John B. Williams



Peter Morenus



Lance Gordon '78 Ph.D. and the search for an AIDS vaccine By Carl T. Hall

In the film version of *And the Band Played On*, a book about the origins of the AIDS epidemic, written by Randy Shilts, Matthew Modine played the role of a hotshot disease investigator at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Modine's character was Don Francis, who would later start the company now known as VaxGen Inc.—one of the first commercial ventures to take on the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS.

I talked with Francis at some length in early 1996, the formative stage of his odyssey to find a vaccine against AIDS. Even then, he was incensed by what he considered to be pointless naysaying.

"Where's the urgency?" he demanded to know. "If you have a fire raging out of control, do you load the fire trucks with water and then sit around and polish them?"

These days, the pursuit of the AIDS vaccine is gaining momentum, even if the urgency is less than might be desired considering the scope of the AIDS disaster. Now, however, it is up to Lance Gordon, a University of Connecticut-trained immunologist, world-class vaccine inventor and current CEO of VaxGen, to prove that the formula to quell the AIDS epidemic soon may be at hand.

VaxGen was spun off from the biotech pioneer Genentech in 1995 to focus on innovative strategies for preventing infectious disease, including the development of an AIDS vaccine. One of Gordon's responsibilities is analyzing the key findings from the first large-scale human trial of a vaccine against HIV, called AIDSVAX, among gay men in North America, Puerto Rico and the Netherlands. The trial tested the effectiveness of a synthetic copy of an AIDS-virus protein known as gp120. There is also a companion study in Thailand that will be ready for analysis later this year.

When Gordon announced his initial findings in February, the results of the AIDSVAX trials did not provide the definitive results hoped for, but produced some intriguing hints for protections against HIV in the black and

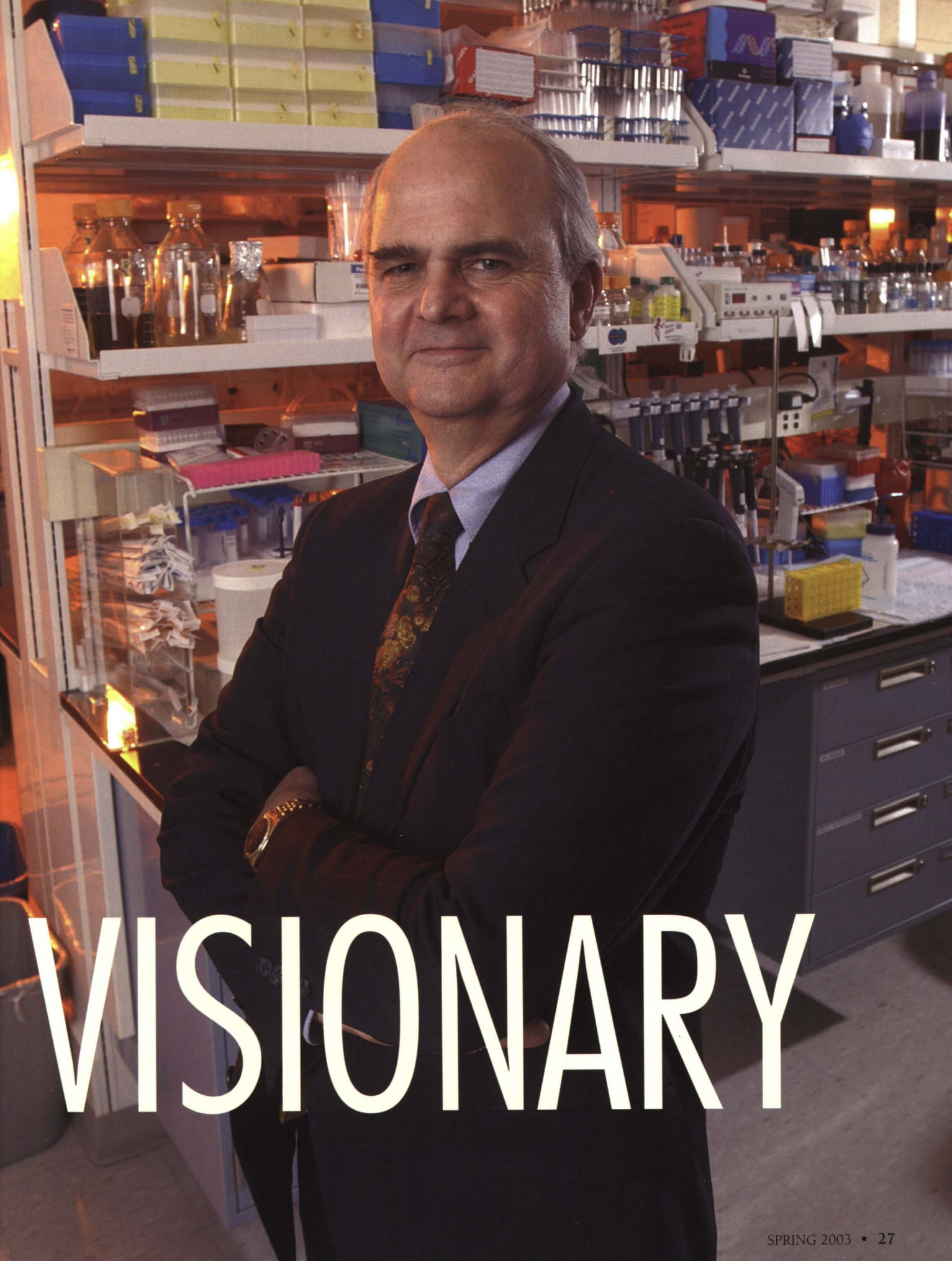
non-Hispanic minority volunteers who received the vaccine.

"The results are fascinating and surprising," Francis, who is now president of VaxGen, says. "We think they're scientifically and socially important. It's at least a beginning."

These AIDS-virus trials mark a turning point in the AIDS epidemic. Anti-viral regimens have turned the invariably fatal disease into a more chronic, treatable condition. But some 40,000 new HIV infections happen every year, according to CDC reports. It's up to Gordon and other vaccine pioneers to bring that number down.

Gordon made the rounds late last year at the UConn Health Center, where he spoke with several faculty members in the School of Medicine about potential collaborations and clinical investigations. Besides

VACCINE



VISIONARY

spearheading the push for the first AIDS vaccine, Gordon also is charged with broadening his company's portfolio, lately winning government contracts to develop a new vaccine against anthrax and planning for other bioterror-related projects.

"He's incredibly sharp," says infectious disease specialist Stephen Wikel, who works on mosquito-borne diseases as part of the UConn Center for Microbial Pathogenesis. "It's pretty obvious that he's a good businessman and certainly a competent scientist."

Gordon is prominent in vaccine circles for developing the first conjugate vaccine, a technology that links proteins and bacterial components to produce the desired immune response for protection against a disease. The first such vaccine proved successful against the microbe that causes meningitis in children.

Gordon, whose résumé includes CEO stints at Oravax and North American Vaccines, moves into the AIDS vaccine spotlight with the same ears-wide-open attentiveness and careful focus to detail that seem to have marked his entire career. He was a Ph.D. student at UConn in the mid-1970s, where he earned his doctorate in immunology in 1978. His advisor, Irving Goldschneider, was one of three people who invented the first vaccine against adult meningitis, a devastating bacterial infection of the central nervous system.

"I knew about the work that was going on," Gordon says, adding that discussions with Goldschneider helped stimulate what became a lifelong interest in vaccines.

At VaxGen headquarters in Brisbane, Calif., just south of San Francisco, a typically balmy winter day passes these days with little time to spare. There are

scientists to consult, regulators to cajole, investors to reassure.

Yet Gordon still found a bit of time to reminisce. In fact, he seemed to welcome the opportunity to look back, a respite during a period when all the pressure is on him to look forward.

His career interest in battling disease

Anti-viral regimens have turned the invariably fatal disease into a more chronic, treatable condition. But some 40,000 new HIV infections happen every year, according to CDC reports. It's up to Gordon and other vaccine pioneers to bring that number down.

has a personal dimension. As a child, he was afflicted by polio, sustaining a 20 percent loss in muscle mass and still earning varsity in track during high school. Early in his corporate career, while working at Connaught Laboratories in Pennsylvania, he scored

his first big success, designing the first conjugate vaccine against the widely feared *Haemophilus influenzae b*, known as Hib. Such vaccines resulted in a 99.1 percent reduction in a systemic disease that once caused most of the acquired mental retardation cases in the United States and killed 5 to 10 percent of infected infants.

Despite such past successes, Gordon made no predictions about the ongoing battle against HIV. In a lengthy interview and several e-mail exchanges just before the AIDS-VAX trial results were released, Gordon simply pointed to the evidence at hand, mostly from primate studies and small-scale human testing. The data suggest that gp120 in VaxGen's formulation can be reliably counted

UConn leading the way in smallpox immunization



Robert Fuller, M.D., director, Department of Emergency Medicine at the UConn Health Center, receives the smallpox vaccination from Marcia Trapé, Clinical Director for Employee Health. Staff from the UConn Health Center and the Connecticut Department of Public Health received the first smallpox vaccinations as part of the nationwide program to protect health care workers.

Fuller says the program was scheduled to reach every hospital in Connecticut by the end of March in order to vaccinate teams of health care workers statewide. Additionally, each week a clinic at the UConn Health Center provides vaccinations for independent health care providers.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

42 Million

As of the end of 2002, an estimated 42 million people worldwide—38.6 million adults and 3.2 million children—were living with HIV/AIDS.

850,000 to 950,000

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 850,000 to 950,000 U.S. residents are living with HIV infection.

40,000 new infections

Approximately 40,000 new HIV infections occur each year in the United States, about 70 percent among men and 30 percent among women.

fifth-leading cause

AIDS is now the fifth-leading cause of death in the United States among people aged 25 to 44.

Source: National Institutes of Health

more effective combinations, including a plan to try it in conjunction with a much different anti-HIV strategy known as a “prime-boost” vaccine.

“There are many different strategies,” Gordon says. “Many different companies and organizations over the years have had many different ways of taking on the challenge.”

He jabbed a finger into the tabletop to emphasize the point: “This is the only one,” he says. “The only product in advanced trials on HIV so far. There is a lot going on in terms of preclinical investigation. But this is the only one in field trials.”

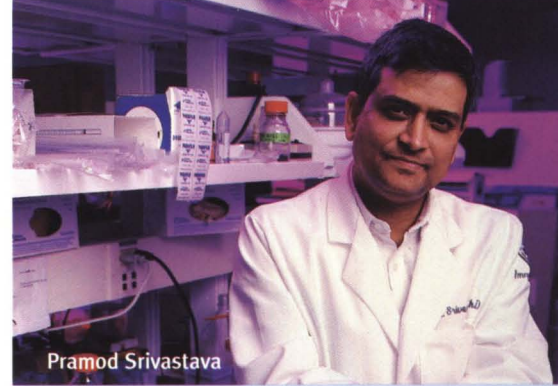
Creating an AIDS vaccine is nothing if not a passion at VaxGen, starting with Don Francis and his railing about official inaction in the early going, now embodied in Gordon’s quieter determination to unlock the mystery.

It’s extraordinarily complicated: One must first work out all the molecular details, then prove the safety of the formulation, then show that it can be manufactured. Then the real challenge: showing an unproven vaccine contender can be tested safely in the field without engendering risk-taking behavior, which of course would increase the infection rate in the very population the vaccine is aimed at protecting.

The idea behind gp120 is deceptively simple: Show the body the nontoxic “flag” from the surface of the AIDS virus so that the immune system will know what to do when the real viral invaders come along. The problem is that the HIV invaders can change flags: One of the hallmarks of the AIDS virus is its ability to rapidly mutate. Beat it down in one form and it bounces right back in another.

Moreover, even if the original AIDS VAX or subsequent versions prove capable of quelling the HIV infection rate, there are also economic factors to consider: Will those who need it—including people in the poor nations

Continued on page 50



Pramod Srivastava

Making marks in vaccine research at UConn

UConn scientists are pioneering new fields of discovery to find ways to fight diseases in humans and animals through innovative vaccine research.

Pramod Srivastava at the Center for Immunotherapy of Cancer and Infectious Diseases in the UConn Health Center is pioneering a new approach in the fight against cancer and infectious diseases.

Believing that each tumor is unique, Srivastava has developed individualized vaccines of purified heat shock proteins taken from each patient’s tumor. This vaccine alerts the body’s immune system to attack the invading cancer without harming healthy cells, unlike more traditional cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiation.

This trailblazing theory of fighting cancers is showing great promise. Clinical trials for a vaccine for breast cancer and kidney cancers and leukemia and melanoma are currently underway at the UConn Health Center.

In UConn’s Center of Excellence for Vaccine Research, projects are underway to develop novel vaccines that will prevent diseases in food animals such as cows, chickens and pigs.

“Despite advances in veterinary medicine and animal husbandry, pathogenic microbes are now, and will continue to be, the most significant cause of animal disease and economic loss to the U.S. food animal agricultural community,” says Steven J. Garey, director of the center.

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Plum Island, N.Y., research laboratory, Garey says UConn researchers are developing vaccines to fight respiratory disease in cows, pigs and chickens. They have a patent pending on a vaccine, researched and developed in UConn labs, to prevent respiratory disease in chickens.

At the Center for Microbial Pathogenesis at the UConn Health Center, a research team led by Stephen Wikel is focusing on how to prevent the spread of disease from the bites of ticks and mosquitoes. Insect bites not only cause inflammation in animals and humans but also are how diseases are transmitted.

“What we’re focusing on is the identification of saliva in ticks and mosquitoes that can be used to induce an immune response to block feeding,” Wikel explains. “If you immunize dogs and humans, you’re protecting target hosts and can prevent them from getting infected.”

They are using this knowledge to develop a vaccine to target molecules introduced by the tick that are essential for feeding and transmission of disease.

on to create neutralizing antibodies in those who take the injection, a trait known as “immunogenicity.” How that may translate in the real world is anyone’s guess—and Gordon is not one to guess whether any HIV vaccine will ultimately work.

“I can tell you the rationale is very solid,” he says. “The product is highly immunogenic in everyone who’s received it. It’s been very stable throughout 30,000 doses, and there’s been no significant product-related adverse events. It showed 100 percent protection in the chimpanzee models of the disease, which are the best models and really the only model for human disease.”

Gordon realizes better than anyone that the odds are against anything approaching 100 percent effectiveness. Few experts, in fact, expect any first vaccine will prove potent enough to stop AIDS dead in its tracks. The important point is that AIDS VAX is the only product so far to have made it into advanced clinical trials. Even before the findings were made public, plans were being laid for further studies and testing of AIDS VAX in perhaps

Giving Back

UConn student volunteers
reach out to help others

BY JIM H. SMITH

There is a community on the outskirts of Port au Prince, Haiti, that is called the City of God. Despite its lofty name, it is not a place the tourists visit. Haiti is one of the most densely populated nations in the world. It is so poor that “its economic and social indicators compare unfavorably with those of many sub-Saharan African countries and are far lower than the average for Latin America and the Caribbean,” according to the World Bank Group. Life expectancy is just over 50, slightly higher than it was in the United States in 1900, when antibiotics and the cures for a host of diseases, including tuberculosis and polio, were still decades in the future.

Fully 80 percent of Haitians live in abject poverty. And home for many of them is the City of God.

“They have . . . nothing,” says Rob Boncoddio '04 (CLAS) of Monroe, Conn., pausing as he searches for words to describe what he observed there during a trip in December. “They live in huts so small that they have to take turns sleeping. They drink incredibly dirty water.”

And they make for a brisk business at Mother Theresa's Home for the Dying, where people succumb to AIDS, tuberculosis and malnutrition daily. Remarkably, what they do not succumb to, Boncoddio says, is hopelessness. This paradox is one of the things he remembers most vividly about his second trip to the Western Hemisphere's most-impooverished nation.

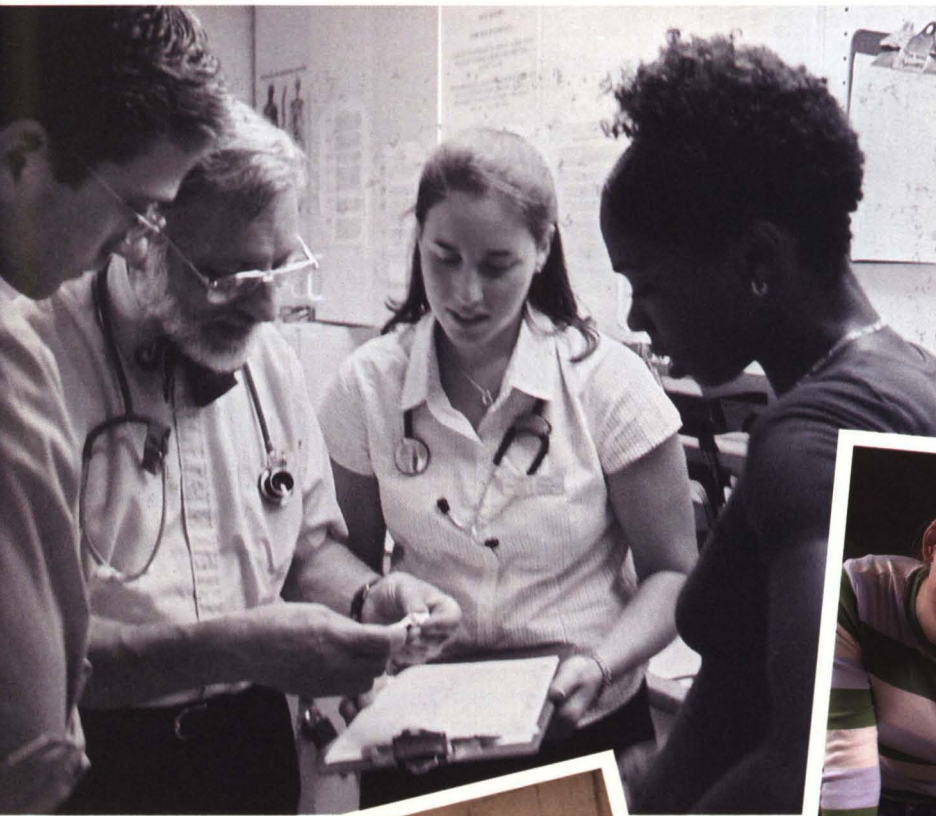
“The Haitians have such faith,” he says, “such hope that things will turn around. Everywhere we went we met people who told us they think things will improve. It's the

message they wanted us to bring home with us.” Boncoddio was in Haiti as one of two UConn student leaders of what is called an “immersion experience.” Six undergraduates accompanied them on the trip.

The purpose of the trip, part of a slate of UConn programs collectively referred to as Community Outreach, was to expose students to the world of communities around them. It is about broadening the scope of experience—the essence of education—and opening students' eyes.

In Haiti, Boncoddio and his fellow students were not, for instance, subjected relentlessly to squalor. Like many of the world's poorest nations, Haiti is a study in contrasts and it is often in the contrasts (and similarities) between cultures that the best learning occurs. Although the students visited Haitian hospices, orphanages, and a home for children with AIDS, they also dined at a fine restaurant and spent a day at a beautiful tropical beach.

Closer to home, Boncoddio is the student coordinator for a program called Mansfield Middle School Tutors. It is one of a number of activities run by the Office of Community Outreach, part of the Department of Campus Activities, that offers students opportunities to engage in service activities that enhance the quality of life for others in the community while enriching and expanding the learning experience at UConn. About 40 students in the program regularly help a group of Mansfield youngsters each week. “I really like what I'm doing,” he says. “I feel very lucky to be involved with these kids. We all get rewarded by seeing them make progress.”



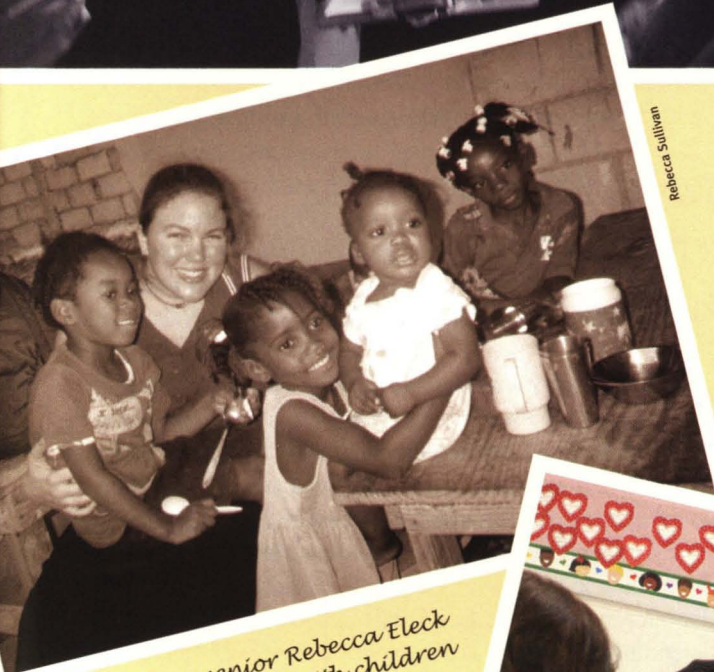
Peter Morenus

Fourth-year medical student Tyler Taigen, left, supervising physician Peter Immordino, and third-year student Tamar Lipof, consult with a patient during a clinic at the South Park Inn homeless shelter in Hartford.



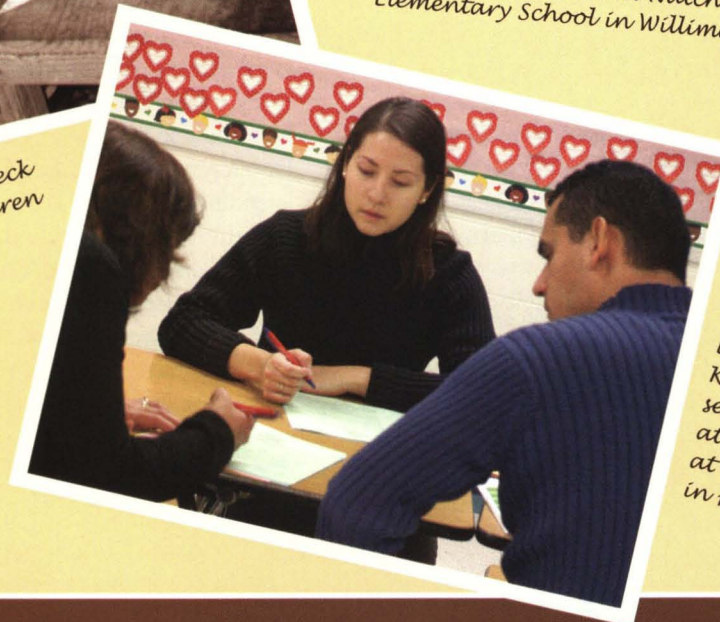
Peter Morenus

Jessica Loughlin, an undergraduate student, volunteers at Natchaug Elementary School in Willimantic.



Rebecca Sullivan

Graduating senior Rebecca Eleck volunteers in Haiti with children at a local feeding program.



Students from the Schools of Law and Business work with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Left: Catherine Krogh, a fourth semester law student, at the VITA program at Sanchez School in Hartford.

Boncoddio is one of hundreds of students each semester who participate in a wide range of “service-learning” programs that give them opportunities to make a contribution to community organizations across Connecticut and broaden their experiential base simultaneously.

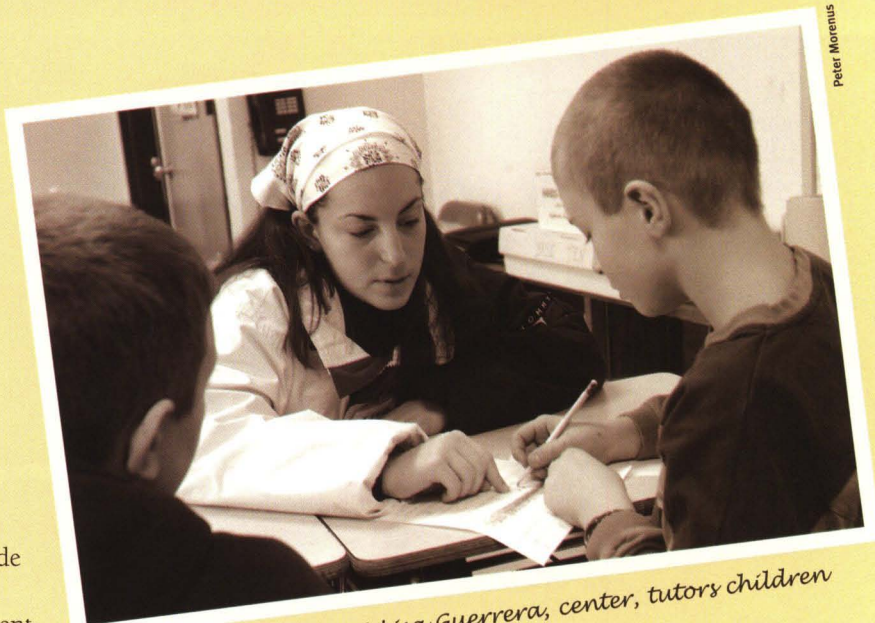
“What many students come to realize is that a formal classroom education is only one part of their college experience. They find that they can engage in an enriched and total educational experience both inside and outside of the classroom,” says Vicky Triponey, UConn’s vice chancellor for student affairs. “They experience many other kinds of learning and, in the process, they discover that they truly can make a difference in the lives of others and give back in a positive way to the larger community through volunteer service.”

Whether it is a group of soccer players collecting toys for disadvantaged children or the softball team adopting a family to help make their holiday season by collecting gifts on a wish list, students collectively or individually find activities they can participate in to make a difference.

“Students become involved with Community Outreach for a lot of reasons,” says Program Advisor Monika Doshi. “Some become involved for altruistic reasons. Some are testing potential careers. For some students it’s a class requirement. Others are looking for work/study opportunities.”

Regardless of their reasons for getting involved with community service, for many of the students the experience is significant, even life-changing. And that, Doshi asserts, is one of the best definitions of a meaningful education.

Carrie Malcolm, a junior from Middlefield, Conn., is a good example. When Malcolm enrolled at UConn, in 2001, she was a political science major. She intended to embark upon a career in law. And then she signed on to tutor young children in a program sponsored by the Willimantic Housing Authority.



Peter Morenus

Undergraduate student Lisa Guerrero, center, tutors children at Mansfield Middle School.

Regardless of their reasons for getting involved with community service, for many of the students the experience is significant, even life-changing. And that is one of the best definitions of a meaningful education.

Created 15 years ago, Project Academic Advancement is an after school program whose participants are primarily Hispanic. Some 35 youngsters are enrolled in the program and meet regularly with tutors from UConn. Many of the participating students Malcolm met on her first afternoon in Willimantic could not speak English. Helping them learn, she says, changed her life.

“When I met the kids and started working with them, I soon realized I could have a significant impact on their lives, working with them one-on-one,” she recalls. “Up to that point in my life I had never encountered children as disadvantaged. They would be so happy to see us when we would arrive. And you could see in their faces that they were sad when we left.”

By the end of her second semester, Malcolm’s career plans had undergone a striking revision. Today she is a Human Development and Family Studies major. Currently she is spending a semester at the Salvation Army’s Marshall House, a Hartford shelter for children in foster care. She wants to become a social worker. She wants to help children.

It is not only UConn students who benefit from community service, however. More than 70 percent of the youngsters who have enrolled in Project Academic Advancement during the last 15 years have completed high school and are working productively, says Lorri Vilorio, the program’s director. Twenty percent of the students, in defiance of the

poverty in which they grew up, have gone on to college.

“We could not have had this program without the support of the UConn student tutors,” says Vilorio. “They were essential.”

Another successful outreach program is the South Park Inn Homeless Shelter Medical Clinic, a student-managed and staffed facility serving Hartford’s homeless population since 1987. Dental and medical student volunteers keep the clinic doors open two days a week, funding operations with an annual road race and support from benefactors. More than 750 patients receive care each year.

“It’s a real-world experience that lets us do more and more as we become more comfortable,” says David Shapiro, a surgical resident at the UConn Health Center who worked at South Park Inn as a student at the School of Medicine.

For participating students and community organizations, alike, the programs such as this one and those sponsored by Community Outreach are a success story building enduring bridges between the University and the communities around it. On both sides of those bridges pre-existing notions about other cultures are routinely shattered.

“Before I got involved with Community Outreach I had never worked with disabled people,” says Paul Pisano, a junior physical therapy major from Tom’s River, N.J., who coordinates a program called Campus Connections. The student volunteers in Pisano’s program meet regularly with a group of people, primarily adults, from the Easter Seals Center in Willimantic. Many of them are mentally challenged. Often they require wheelchairs. About half are not verbal.

Pisano and his peers meet their disabled companions in the Student Union and spend time with them doing crafts, directing a physical activity, and getting to know and understand them. “I was nervous when I first got involved with Campus Connections,” says Pisano, an All-American track and field athlete who holds UConn’s javelin record. “But then I got to know the people from Easter Seals and really understand them and their needs. Now I always look forward to meeting them. It is the highlight of my day. I always feel more hopeful after working with them.”

It is an essential message of Community Outreach. Hope, as Rob Boncoddio will quickly tell you, is a hallmark of any community—even those in the darkest corners of the world.



Plunging into an Urban Experience

By Kimberly Perkins '03 (SFS)

A group of 12 student volunteers met each week from October to December to learn about one another and areas of Washington, D.C., where we would be volunteering in an Urban Plunge during last January’s semester break. However I was still surprised by the reality of the exhausting 12 to 17 hour days that we experienced.

On our second night, after a day of delivering food to terminally ill patients, six of us spent the night as chaperones in a shelter for women recovering from substance abuse. Many of these women were old enough to be our mothers, but here we were reversing the roles telling them when it was time to go to bed. I was always taught to respect my elders and listen to them. That night I had many questions. What if they did not listen? What if they became angry? But everything went smoothly.

Another night two homeless men from the National Coalition for the Homeless talked to us about what led to their situation. Both men were raised in middle class families but ended up on the streets. One could not read and unknowingly signed fraudulent contracts when selling his house, which cost him his home and thousands of dollars. The other was working until he had a mild stroke and ran out of money because he did not have health insurance.

As they spoke about the two years they have lived on the streets, I realized how unpredictable life is. It scared and upset me. My heart ached to see the suffering of these two good-hearted, intelligent, selfless men.

These stories only scratch the surface of emotions during that week in a city that is associated with power and prosperity. We saw endless poverty.

I have thought each day about what we experienced in Washington and how lucky I am to have a caring and loving family. The other students in our group helped me through the intensity of that week. With their help and support it was a great learning experience and reinforced my decision as a Human Development and Family Studies major to have a career helping young people so they will not experience the hardships I saw first hand.

A Supreme



Experience

Brett McGurk '96 (CLAS), a clerk for the chief justice, gets an inside look at the Supreme Court of the United States.

BY MATTHEW JENNINGS

Relaxing in a Washington, D.C., teahouse, calmly sipping a cup of green tea, Brett McGurk '96 (CLAS) hardly looks like someone who has not finished packing for a trip to Italy that is just hours away. Perhaps when you have worked for the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, a certain measure of unflappability has become second nature.

The moment surely is not as nerve-racking as his initial meeting with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist in the winter of 1999. Having spied the University of Connecticut on his potential law clerk's résumé, the chief justice quizzed McGurk on the five smallest states, based on area (Rhode Island, Delaware, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire). Imagine the butterflies in the stomach when McGurk was asked to write the first draft of an opinion for the most powerful jurist in the land; or when traces of anthrax turned up at a mail facility serving the Supreme Court, and he was placed on a 10-day regimen of antibiotics.

No, all things considered, taking time to talk about a job he loved and an institution he reveres—with or without a transatlantic flight looming on the horizon—would prove to be no hardship.

In fact, McGurk seems to relish talking about his year-long tenure as a law clerk to the nation's top jurist. Although not lacking confidence, McGurk is modest for someone who has clerked in the nation's highest court. Rather, he seems to enjoy the simple matter of talking about the court, about the men and women behind it, and about the court's impact.

The fact that McGurk had never set foot in the halls of the Supreme Court building before arriving for his interview in 1999 is about the only surprising detail in his rapid ascent to his clerkship on the high court. When he was at UConn, political science seminars taught by Bob Gilmore and George Cole sparked an interest in government and law that has

influenced every step he's taken since leaving Storrs in 1996.

"If not for UConn, I wouldn't have the clerkship," McGurk says. "UConn taught me how to think. I was very lackluster until I was accepted into the Honors Program in political science. It was very challenging and my colleagues were as bright as anyone I've come across before or since. I am forever indebted."

At UConn, McGurk was Phi Beta Kappa, a graduate of the honors program, an R.O.T.C. cadet, a University Scholar and recipient of the Katherine Pardee Prize for Outstanding Thesis in the area of political science. He attended Columbia Law School, where he was the senior editor of the *Columbia Law Review*, and had already nailed down consecutive clerkships on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York when he joined a multitude of applicants for one of only 35 clerkship spots at the Supreme Court.

"My experience put me in the hunt for a spot," McGurk says, "but after that, so much luck was involved. It was like winning the lottery."

Chief Justice Rehnquist can be assisted by as many as five law clerks, but generally chooses only three. Getting in the door was hard enough; making the final cut, McGurk faced even slimmer odds. Yet with a flawless résumé, impeccable references, and solid rapport with the chief justice—McGurk passed the geography pop quiz by naming four correct states—the young lawyer learned a week after his interview that he would be moving to Washington for the 2001-2002 session.

McGURK'S REVERENCE for the man he affectionately refers to as "The Chief" is palpable. Himself a former Supreme Court clerk (for Justice Robert Jackson in 1952-53), the chief justice made sure his clerks had significant assignments, McGurk says, but he also made time to get to know each

one personally. An avid tennis player, the septuagenarian jurist would play doubles with his clerks once a week.

Each morning, Chief Justice Rehnquist would meet with his clerks to dole out assignments and discuss pertinent topics of the day. It was the clerks' responsibility to wade through the numerous petitions for the Supreme Court to review a lower court decision, known as a *writ of certiorari*; write a memo on the merits of each case; and make a recommendation on whether the Court should grant or deny the petition. There were also briefs to be reviewed and discussed. Occasionally the ultimate task would arise: drafting an opinion for the chief justice.

"IF NOT FOR UCONN, I WOULDN'T HAVE THE CLERKSHIP. UCONN TAUGHT ME HOW TO THINK. IT WAS VERY CHALLENGING, AND MY COLLEAGUES WERE AS BRIGHT AS ANYONE I'VE COME ACROSS BEFORE OR SINCE."

"Without a doubt, one of the most rewarding things I have ever done," McGurk says. When the occasion arose, Chief Justice Rehnquist would hand a clerk notes from conference with the other justices and would sketch out a brief road map on writing the opinion. The clerk then had 10 days to complete a first draft, at which point the chief justice and the clerks would revise the opinion until it was in final form. "Nothing leaves chambers until he's happy," McGurk says with a slight smile.

Yet all the experience and prep work couldn't prepare McGurk—or the Supreme Court, for that matter—for what would unfold on Sept. 11, 2001.

MCGURK FIRST LEARNED about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in his daily morning meeting with the chief justice. For security reasons, clerks do not have Internet access on their desktop computers; McGurk remembers grabbing a portable radio and donning headphones to learn about what was transpiring in New York and across the Potomac River at the Pentagon. Rumors began to fly around the building that the court was a target, but they couldn't evacuate immediately—legal issues still needed to be dealt with before the building could be emptied. The next day, "we went back to work," McGurk says. "It was agreed that the best thing was to carry on as before.

"I felt a sense of proud defiance," he says. "It may sound corny, but there was something symbolic in the fact that even 9/11 hadn't stopped this country—or the court—from going about its business."

Then, on Oct. 14, a letter laced with anthrax was opened in the office of then-Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, which is across the street from the Supreme Court building. "We were all thinking it was a matter of time before some thing happened to us," McGurk says. Less than two weeks

Continued on page 50

UConn's Supreme Trio in Hartford

For students seeking to meet the demands of studying the law, any aspirations about some day reaching the highest levels of the legal profession are perhaps only a daydream.

"It was something I never really considered as a law student," says **Richard N. Palmer '77 J.D.**, one of three UConn School of Law alumni who serve as associate justices of the Connecticut Supreme Court. "I think virtually every day how fortunate I am to discharge the responsibilities of this office."

Justice Palmer, along with **Joette Katz '77 J.D.** and **Christine S. Vertefeuille '75 J.D.** hold three of the seven seats on the state's highest court, making decisions that ultimately may affect the lives of all the state's citizens.

All three of the justices remain actively involved with the School of Law, either as guest lecturers or participants in Moot Court sessions with students. Justice Katz previously served as a member of the faculty and also as a member of a dean's search committee. Justice Palmer served on the search committee that selected Dean Nell Jessup Newton. Justice Vertefeuille addressed the current class of first-year law students.

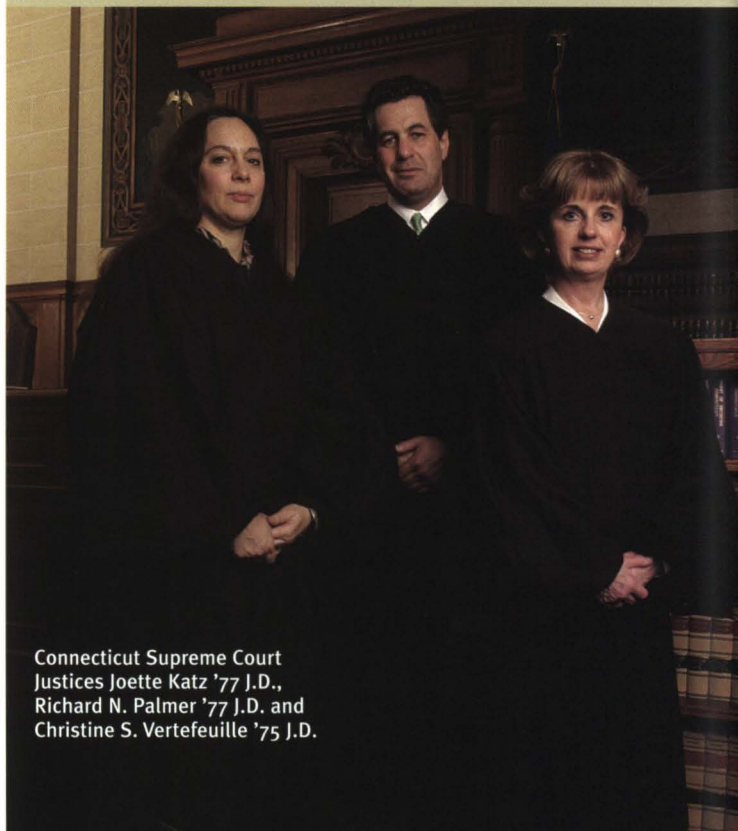
The justices say that seeing so many of their former classmates and fellow alumni in court and throughout their travels makes the UConn School of Law experience unique.

"The school attracts national talent," Justice Katz says.

"We see people we went to UConn with all the time at functions and in our court. It's like being in a club that is sustaining. You don't get that when you go to law school in another state and then come back to practice."

"I'm tremendously proud of the law school," says Justice Vertefeuille. "As good a school as it was when we went there, it has a greater national reputation today. We are invited to do Moot Court at many law schools. We're just thrilled to see the caliber of our law students. They are so good."

Peter Morenus



Connecticut Supreme Court Justices Joette Katz '77 J.D., Richard N. Palmer '77 J.D. and Christine S. Vertefeuille '75 J.D.

Faculty

A way of thinking

Philosopher questions what defines the good life

The nature of a philosopher is to ask questions that have no simple answers. It requires a great deal of thinking to generate questions that will compel others to really ponder the answers.

Philosophy professor Joel Kupperman has been thinking quite a bit about the topics of two books he is writing: *Ethics and Qualities of Life*, about ethical theory, and *Six Mistakes About the Good Life*, which centers on simple but misleading ideas concerning what is most desirable in life.

“There are different kinds of good lives,” says Kupperman, who has drafted the first chapters of *Six Mistakes About the Good Life*. “Rather than giving examples of different kinds of good lives, I thought I could say something much more crisp and definite. Obviously, happiness is good generally, but it’s not the ticket. You have to look at the context, at whole lives.”

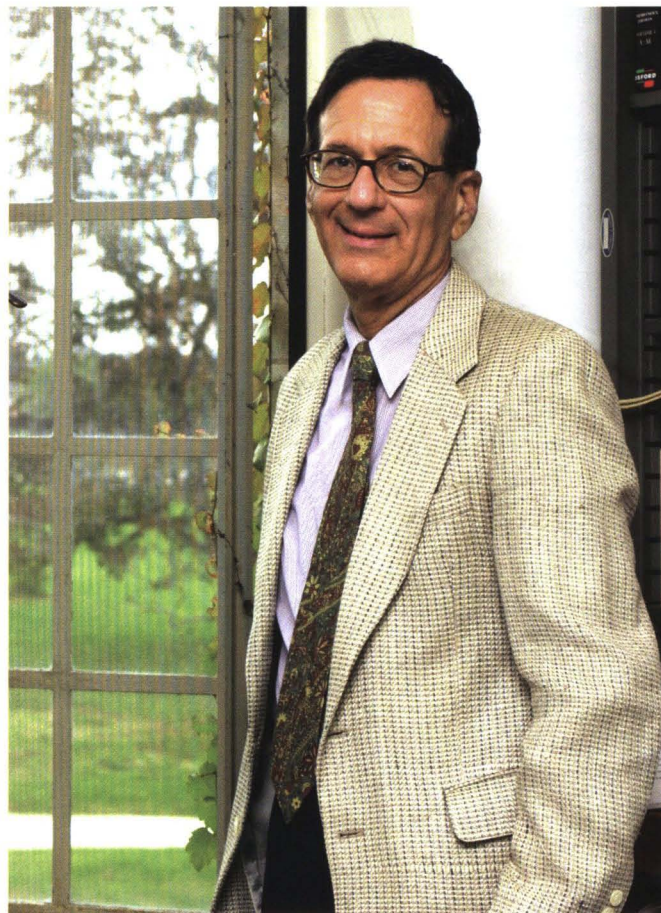
Kupperman, who has been at UConn since 1960 and has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Asian and comparative philosophy and ethics, believes his students leave his class with questions they will continue to think about—“that they might think about something relating to their lives that the average person doesn’t think about and have a set of ideas that they use as jumping-off points,” he says.

“When I went to college, I had a very conventional idea of what to think about in life—it had to do with success, various kinds of pleasure, certain milestones, having a family,” says Kupperman, who received a Chancellor’s Research Excellence Award for his work in philosophy. “But there’s more to think about, and if you have more ideas that you can get from great philosophers, you have a richer sense of what the possibilities are.”

Kupperman’s last four books are *Character; Value... And What Follows*; *Learning from Asian Philosophy*; and *Classic Asian Philosophy: A Guide to the Essential Texts*.

Kupperman, whose major work is in ethics, says Asian philosophy meshes well with his sense of the world. He says his research started slowly, “in part because I was searching for approaches to ethical philosophy different from those that were and are still dominant.”

Part of that search brought him back to the Chinese philosophy that he had studied as an undergraduate. “It seemed to me that the great classical Chinese philosophers asked questions that had not been asked by most Western



Shannon McAvoy

philosophers in the last couple of hundred years, and that these led to important insights,” he says.

“Obviously, happiness is good generally, but it’s not the ticket. You have to look at the context, at whole lives.”

Kupperman says classical Chinese philosophy engages much more directly—and in far greater detail—with problems of everyday life than Western philosophy does, which centers on dramatic one-time choices, the big moments in life when people have to make decisions that will have major consequences. But these moments, for most people, don’t come up very often.

Chinese philosophy is more focused on personal style and how people relate to those around them. Relationships with the world begin with how individuals relate to those close to them, Kupperman says.

“What Asian philosophy does much better than many Western philosophies,” he says, “is give you a sense of the texture of life in the moments between those major choices, the things that make life worth living, and also helps you prepare for the major choices.” — *Sherry Fisher*

Ironing out good nutritional habits

Childhood anemia rates are a cause for concern

Searching for a nutritional solution to low red blood cells, Ann Ferris has spent her professional career pursuing unexpected leads.

A nutritional sciences professor at UConn for the past 25 years and one of the University's top 10 grant-funded researchers, Ferris once wanted to become a pediatrician. Instead, she pursued a career as a nutritionist and followed in the footsteps of her graduate advisor, studying growth differences in breast-fed and formula-fed babies.

Ferris now heads the University's Family Nutrition Program, a cluster of projects that seek to solve nutrition problems through a combination of research and community education.

She is currently examining why children living in Hartford, Conn., have elevated occurrences of childhood anemia, the condition of having low red blood cells. The project began as an offshoot of a nutritional survey of Latino children that showed an unexpectedly high frequency of the indicator for anemia, low hemoglobin in red blood cells.

In a follow-up review of 300 medical charts selected randomly at three major primary-care centers in Hartford, Ferris confirmed that as many as one in three children in Hartford between the ages of 18 and 36 months have deficient hemoglobin levels. The percentage, akin to rates in developing countries, contrasts with a figure of 7 percent nationwide in the United States.

Ferris says the findings are a major cause for concern. "Anemia has consequences for children," she says. "They're not just tired. The condition affects how well they can learn." The high rate of anemia was not news to the urban community. Ferris says almost everyone in that population has a family member with either anemia or diabetes.

Although anemia has a range of causes, Ferris has established that among Hartford toddlers, it derives primarily from



Professor Ann Ferris meets with families in Hartford to determine why so many children living there have anemia.

iron deficiency. She says a shortage of iron may adversely affect children long before it shows up as deficient hemoglobin.

Ferris has also documented a preliminary link between iron deficiencies and infections among study participants.

"The primary food for bacteria is iron, and one of the body's first responses to infection is to aggregate iron—collect it as a mass," she says. "This makes the iron unavailable to become part of red blood cells."

The children in the current study have their blood screened for both anemia and iron-deficiency at family resource centers in Hartford. The results are available right away and services, including consultation with a registered dietician, are offered on the spot.

Under basic treatments, a mother whose offspring is anemic is told to give the child more iron; however Ferris found that some children's iron intake might be

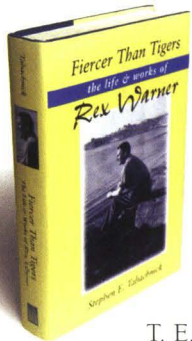
adequate or even too high. Almost all the iron is coming from cereals, however, and may not be readily absorbed by the body. "We suggest adding a small amount of meat to their diet," she says.

Ferris says she is also learning from the families, who use a variety of traditional remedies, including herbs and certain food combinations, and from health care providers who find that simply adding more iron to a child's diet is ineffective. "What started out as a lab-based model is not turning out that way," she says. "We're trying to solve the problem together with the families, the health care community, and community support systems."

The approach can be challenging, however. "It's very difficult," says Ferris, "to counsel people without telling them what to do, to bring them through the process so they can make their own decisions about what's appropriate for their children." — Elizabeth Omara-Otunnu



Recent works by alumni and faculty



Up close and personal with a doctoral mentor

Stephen Tabachnick Ph.D. '71 was drawn to pursue his doctoral degree at the University of Connecticut because he thought the best person to guide him in his dissertation on

T. E. Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia, was Rex Warner, who taught in the

English department from 1963-1974.

Warner, a historical novelist and accomplished translator of Greek and Roman texts who died in 1986, was the author of such historical novels as *The Young Caesar* and *Imperial Caesar*; the translator of Thucydides' *The Peloponnesian War*; and the translator of the Greek poet George Seferis, who won the Nobel Prize in 1963.

Tabachnick, now English department chair at the University of Memphis, was reluctant to become the biographer of his teacher and friend. He was persuaded to tackle the job by his wife, Sharon, who encouraged his writing *Fiercer Than Tigers: The Life and Works of Rex Warner* (Michigan State University Press).

"It was such a vast job. Rex had done an enormous amount of writing," he says. "Because I was so scared and worried I wouldn't be able to do it, I went about it in a very obsessive way."

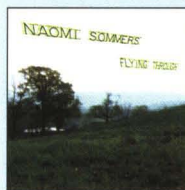
Tabachnick's previous four books, about Lawrence and the author-traveler Charles Doughty, were written as studies, not biographies. He made a key decision in writing about Warner: It would be a life and works instead of a life-and-times treatment.

"There is an important distinction. With most life-and-times books, what you have is a subject and not enough primary material, so you fill in with what life was like during the subject's time," Tabachnick says. "In this case the amount of material was enough. When you have a vast amount of primary material and no one has looked at it before, you're obligated to look at it all."

Tabachnick says one of the great surprises in writing *Fiercer Than Tigers* was learning more about Warner's personal life and history, including his experience in England during World War II, his political views, and his two marriages.

"When you work with somebody as his student and then you do a biography, you see a much fuller person," he says. "It's like a window opening fully after you've had the shade down halfway."

ALSO OF INTEREST



Flying Through

Naomi Sommers '00 (CLAS)
(American Melody)

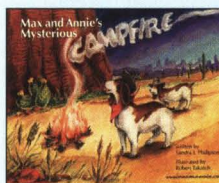
Naomi (Rosenthal) Sommers grew up singing on the family-styled bluegrass and folk recordings made by her father, the respected multi-instrumentalist and singer Phil Rosenthal. She began writing and recording her debut album while completing her degree in English literature at UConn.

Her first solo effort is a contemporary blend of folk, bluegrass and blues with mature lyrics and skilled musicianship. A natural storyteller who changes her lyrical mix, Sommers writes simply and directly in compositions such as "Hard to Love You" and "I Can't Find You." But more often she weaves a narrative slice of life story, as in the dark-themed tale of a doomed relationship in "The Way of Innocence."

She also experiments by uniquely combining instrumentation, such as using a mandolin, normally associated with bluegrass, on a song with the bass trombone or flugelhorn, mostly heard in jazz or classical music.

As she begins thinking about her next CD, Sommers has settled into an active musical community in the Boston area and has formed a band that focuses on vocal harmonies.

Max and Annie's Mysterious Campfire



Sandra Phillipson '95 (ED) 6th Year
(Chagrin River Publishing)

The latest in Phillipson's illustrated storybook series about the adventures of Max and Annie takes the two dogs to the Arizona desert, where

they make friends with other animals when they are invited to a campfire. Max finds himself confronting a mountain lion, who is the local bully. Annie helps Max to save those gathered around the campfire by figuring out a way to frighten away the mountain lion.

As in all of her books, there is an accompanying series of writing projects and activities at the back of the volume, this time including a campfire song written by Phillipson.

Phillipson began the series—aimed at children in grades K-4—with a book based on the real-life story of how her dog, Annie, lost a leg to cancer yet has thrived. The book is now the basis for an upcoming feature film, *Miracle Dogs*, to be aired later this year on the Animal Planet cable channel.

News&Notes

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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



SAVE THE DATE!

■ **Reunion Weekend**
Classes of 1943, 1953 and
Classic (1952 and earlier)

Mark your calendars! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 27-28, 2003. Schedule includes tours of campus; keynote speakers, including Associate Head Women's Basketball Coach Chris Dailey; classroom seminars, a dinner Friday evening at which the Class of 1953 gift will be pre-

sented. Saturday features a New England Clambake and Greek Sing Contest. Check your mail in May for registration information or check our website, www.uconnalumni.com, for program updates.

■ **Special Interest Reunions**
Interested in getting reconnected with that special group of friends (dorm, fraternity, sorority, student organization, athletic team, intramural team, etc.)? Let the UConn Alumni Association help.

If you have questions regarding reunions, please contact Kim Lachut '90 at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1 or e-mail: kimberly.lachut@uconn.edu. You may also check the UConn Alumni Association website at www.uconnalumni.com for up-to-date information.

1930s

Miriam Lillian Cupinsky '37 (CLAS) has retired after a long and distinguished career in the education field. Miriam has been enjoying china painting, mosaics, and a trip around the world during her retirement.

1940s

Robert N. Deming '41 (CANR) and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 16, 2002.

Betty Gray Blaine '44 (BUS) won first place at the Literary Arts Festival in Trumbull in the non-fiction adult category for the second consecutive year.

Stewart J. Petrie '46 (CLAS) sent two of his most recently published books, *Letters and Journal of a Civil War Surgeon*

and *Captive of Libby Prison*, to the UConn library.

Dorothy L. Rix '47 (CLAS) celebrated her 51st wedding anniversary on Sept. 2, 2002, with her husband, LeRoy C. Brown, with a trip to Scandinavia and Russia.

Judith Humphrey Shaw '48 (CLAS) was honored at the Fourth International Workshop on Cestode Systematics. Judith was honored because of her support of teaching and research in parasitology, which was funded by a grant from UConn.

J. Paul Levine '49 (BUS)



received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Moving & Storage Association.

1950s

Robert E. Davis '51 (BUS) was elected governor general of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants at its 36th general congress in Plymouth, Mass., on Sept. 10, 2002.

Brickford Sylvester '53 (CLAS), '58 M.A. has three books forthcoming: *Reading the Old Man and the Sea* (2004); *Hemingway, Cuba, and the Cuban Works* (2003, co-edited with Larry Grimes); and *Hemingway and War* (2004, co-edited with James Meredith). All are from Kent University Press.

Paul E. Zopf, Jr. '53 (CANR) is Dana professor emeritus of sociology and currently college marshal at Guilford College, where he taught for 34 years. He is the author of 14 books and currently is consultant to the U.S. Department of Agriculture on rural development. He has been married for 46 years and has one son.

Henry Eisen '54 Ph.D. is a professor emeritus at the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions at St. John's University.

Richard Kings Ney '55 (BUS) recently retired from a career in industrial sales/sales management. He is busy traveling and visiting his three children and four grandchildren.

Paul L. Peck '56 (BUS) a minister and former Syracuse University vice president, donated a collection of 20th century books to the E. S. Bird Library at Syracuse University. He is also credited with raising the funds to build 10 University buildings, including the library.

Andrew J. Fritz '57 (CLAS) retired from his private dental practice after 41 years in April 2002. He also retired in 1997 as a colonel and deputy commander in the U.S. Army Reserves, completing 23 years of active service in staff and command assignments.

Michael F. Tobin '57 (CLAS) retired as professor emeritus after 25 years as a member of the graduate faculty at Southern Connecticut State University. He also is now retired as a captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and as the executive director of the Elementary Middle School Principals' Association of Conn.

Lewis Turco '59 (CLAS) poet and essayist, recently published *The Green Maces of Autumn: Voices in an Old Maine House*.

1960s

William Howard '60 (CLAS) retired in January 1996 and has completed his lifetime goal of playing more than 1,000 golf courses before the end of the

ABBREVIATION KEY

School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

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

Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

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

PROFILE

Banking on a new world of business

It was clear from the beginning of his days at UConn that **Paul Speltz '69 (BUS) '72 M.B.A.** enjoyed a challenge.

A native of New Canaan, Conn., Speltz spent his first two years at UConn's Stamford campus. As the head of student government there, he became interested in creating a sense of unity among UConn's regional campuses. Recruited by then-UConn President Homer Babbidge, he established a weekly closed circuit TV news broadcast from Storrs to the other campuses in 1967. He also was instrumental in ensuring ticket allocations for students from the regional campuses for Storrs athletic and cultural events.

As a business major, Speltz was clearly an entrepreneur. During his senior year, he founded the Theta Iota chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, the honorary business fraternity. The son of a General Electric executive who traveled extensively, Speltz had a thirst for travel and was especially interested in Asia.

After completing his MBA, he took a job with a consulting company in Asia, eventually starting his own company specializing in trade with China. Over the next three decades he worked in international trade as the owner of his business or with other major companies.

His latest challenge is on the world stage that he has traveled so often during his career in business. Last year he was nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as the U.S. executive director of the Asian Development Bank, a post that carries the



rank of ambassador.

In his new role, Speltz directs the ongoing work of the bank, which manages more than \$5 billion in loans through 22 offices worldwide. Its newest office is in Kabul, Afghanistan, where Speltz is optimistic that the bank can play an important role helping

that impoverished nation rebound in the post-Taliban era.

Today, Speltz and his wife, Renee, make their home in Houston. Despite his increasingly demanding commitments abroad, however, he has remained actively involved with his alma mater.

He was inducted into the School of Business Hall of Fame five years ago and, as a member of the school's Board of Advisors, has played a role in helping the school achieve national prominence. In April he will be in Connecticut when the School of Business hosts a conference to explore opportunities for a number of countries through the Asian Development Bank.

And, no matter what time zone he is in, Speltz manages to find some time to keep up with Husky basketball. —*Jim H. Smith*

20th century and another 100 or more courses in this first century of the new millennium.

Michael Norman '60 (CLAS), former president of the Manchester Educational Association, is presently chairperson of the Legislative Action Committee for the Association of Retired Teachers for Connecticut and the Retired Teachers of Manchester. He also serves as editor of the *Hadassah Headlines* for Manchester, Conn.

Jerry S. Copsinis '61 (CLAS) retired from the West Hartford Public schools. He now is serving as a college supervisor for student teachers at St. Joseph College.

Richard Domaleski '61 (PHR) announces the marriage of his son, Richard M. Domaleski, to Maritza Rodriguez.

Marcia N. Doohen '61 (NUR) was awarded the Circle of Caring Award, an annual award for the employee with the longest length of service with Hospice of the Florida Suncoast in Pinellas County, which is the largest hospice in the world. She has been a registered nurse for 20 years.

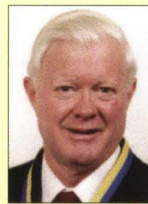
Bernard Fried '61 Ph.D., professor emeritus of biology at Lafayette College, has been selected to appear in the 57th edition of *Who's Who in America*. His research has led to important advances in the effort to conquer tropical diseases caused by parasitic flatworms.

Anthony Reveaux '61 (SFA) recently published the book *How to Do Everything with iMovie 2*.

Joel Hirschhorn '64 (CLAS), a criminal defense attorney and founder of Hirschhorn & Beiber, P.A., has been named

president of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers, a national honorary legal society for outstanding criminal trial lawyers, founded in 1978.

Jack Carl Norbeck '64 (CANR) was recently awarded the



American Medal of Honor for his efforts to preserve the history of the American Steam Traction Engines as founder and president of Norbeck Research. He lives in Coplay, Pa.

Jerold Wanosky '64 (CLAS) has been elected to the Milford (Conn.) Board of Aldermen. He served as chairman of the Milford Board of Education and is also a retired school administrator. He is an adjunct professor of education at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn.

Stephen I. Cohen '65 (CLAS) is manager of information technology contracting for the county of Los Angeles in Downey, Calif.

Robert E. Lieb '65 (CLAS) is in his 29th year as a senior public health advisor with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in Atlanta, Ga. He and his wife, Marlene, live in Grayson, Ga. Their son, Jason, graduated in May 2002 from Michigan State University.



John J. Maynard '65 (ED) retired after 33 years in the airline industry. He was an instructor for Pan American and Delta Airlines and has had extensive assignments in Taiwan, Japan, India, Peru and Brazil. He now resides in Boston, Mass.

Ken Wolk '65 Ph.D. is teaching the history of the Holocaust at Stony Brook University, Suffolk County Community College, and Nassau Community College since retiring in 2001 from Smithtown High School in Smithtown, N.Y. He also teaches Holocaust-related courses at area teacher centers and the Nassau County Holocaust Center.

Barbara Rescher Perry '66 (SFS) was recently promoted to corporate vice president for administration, Integrated Systems Analyst Inc., Arlington, Va.

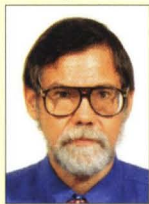
Margaret Ruth Wynkoop '66 (CLAS) recently published *The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth*, by Scholastic-N.Y.

Richard O. Benton '67 (CLAS) just finished his full-length science fiction novel, *I Wish I May*. He is working on his second novel, *Moonlight Man*.

Ronald J. Ferreri '67 M.A. is vice president for development and college relations at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala.

Charles Lipson '67 (BUS) was married on May 25, 2001, to Iris Morgan. His son, Marc, is a second-year law student at the University of Southern California. Charles is the proud grandfather of twins, Morgan and Matthew Wrigley, born on July 12, 2002.

Jeffrey Resnick '67 J.D. has lived in St. Croix since 1964 and has been a U.S. magistrate judge since 1989. Jeffrey is married to



Margery (Peggy) O'Connor.

Linda Begely Soroff '68 (NUR) joined the nursing education and research department at Danbury Hospital. She received her Ph.D. in anthropology from SUNY Stony Brook and specializes in transcultural

nursing care. She lives in New Fairfield, Conn.

John A. Copeland, Jr. '68 (CLAS) was inducted into the North Haven (Conn.) High School Hall of Fame on Nov. 9, 2002.



Mark R. Lazaroski '68 (CANR) was elected to a two-year term as secretary of the National Catholic Cemetery Conference. He is currently executive director and general manager of Catholic cemeteries of Syracuse, N.Y.

1970s

Edwin W. Slade '70 (CLAS), '77 Ph.D. was elected District 2 trustee for the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Janine Bernard '71 M.A., professor and chair of counseling and human services in the School of Education at Syracuse University, has co-authored *The Ethics of Clinical Supervision in Counseling*, edited by R. R. Cottone and V. M. Tarvydas (Merrill Publishers, 2002).

Ronald J. Durie '71 MBA joined Blum Shapiro, a certified public accounting and business consulting firm, as a principal in the health care group.

Robert E. Schnare, Jr. '71 M.A. received the Society of American Archivists' 2002 Preservation Publication Award for his publication, *Bibliography of Preservation Literature, 1983-1996* (Scarecrow Press, Inc. 2001.)

Richard M. Travone '71 M.S.W. was recently named golf writer for *Prime Time Magazine of Cape Cod* and *Prime Time Magazine of R.I.* He is in his second career as a teaching

PROFILE

Social Worker With a Song

Some days it can be difficult for **Lara Herscovitch '95 M.S.W.** to think of her passion for music as a blessing. As the director of programs at the Greater Bridgeport Area Foundation in Connecticut, her days are filled with attending meetings, writing reports, and reading thick files of grant applications. In between she is carving out a reputation as a singer-songwriter.

"Music will always be a part of me. I can't help that. It's biology. I've either been blessed or cursed with it, depending on how you look at it," she says.

After graduating from UConn, Herscovitch worked as an education specialist for Save the Children, traveling throughout the world. She carried her guitar as a traveling companion, writing songs and playing the guitar in places like Bolivia, Ethiopia, Thailand, Ecuador and Honduras. Returning home later and taking her position in Bridgeport, an unexpected invitation to perform with a friend in New York City launched her second career.



In 2000 she released her first CD, *Sin Tierra*, and last November she completed *There*, her second compilation of original music on her own record label, La Rama Records (www.laramarecords.com).

Over the past three years she has developed a following in Connecticut, performing at the New Haven International Festival of Arts & Ideas, in the New England region, and in New York City.

Herscovitch says she feels that both of her worlds compliment and influence each other. Her job in social work influences her songwriting, and her music helps her spread the word of her deep commitment at working in a field that tries to make the world a better place.

"I would love to have the opportunity to focus on music full time. But maybe because I have to do both, I believe that my day job feeds my music," she says. "Social work and working with the high caliber of people that I do in the arts, in education, in health and human services, and in the environment is so incredible. I like to believe that any artist is a better artist if they are balanced as an individual. I may believe that out of necessity right now, but I'd love the opportunity to test my theory."

golf pro at Washington Village Golf Course in Coventry, R.I.

Patrick Handfield '72 (PHR) spent nearly 12 years as a pharmacist on the border of Mexico and Texas in both a hospital and retail setting. He is now living in the mountains of eastern Tennessee.

Wesley Slate '72 (CLAS) returned to teaching this past fall after retiring from Lucent Technologies following 21 years in telecom sales. His wife, **Georgia Bills '79 (ED)** is in her 10th year as director of fine arts at Glen Orquhart School in Beverly Farms, Mass.

Daniel Barney '73 (ED) '75 M.A. is president and chief operating officer of ACT Incorporated's workforce development division.

Alan J. Barth '73 (CLAS) moved to Ra'anana, Israel, and joined the law offices of Dr. Mark Friedman in Tel Aviv. He is specializing in information technology and commercial law.

Kelvin W. Cole '73 (PHR) has traveled abroad 10 times since 1996 in Eastern and Western Europe. He has also traveled the Balkans, Yugoslavia, Turkey, North Africa, Tunisia, and more.



Jeff Davidson '73 (BUS), '74 M.B.A. has just published his 32nd book entitled, *The Complete Guide to Public Speaking*.

Gail (Scanlon) Zeisser '74 (SFS) is facilities operations manager for Battelle Memorial Institute, responsible for administration, maintenance and operation of the new \$22 million, 80,000-square-foot research and development facility in Aberdeen, Md.

Frank Cappabianca '74 (BUS) celebrated the 10th anniversary of his business, Shadow Products, a wholesaler dealing in auto paint, supplies and tools.

Lynne Maquat '74 (CLAS) received the 2002 Davey Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to cancer research at the University of Rochester Medical Center's James P. Wilmot Cancer Center, where she is a professor of biochemistry and biophysics and a research scientist.



Mary Fischer '75 (BUS), '76 M.A., '83 Ph.D., a professor of accounting at the University of Texas at Tyler, was recently named by the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants as one of the organization's 2002 outstanding accounting educators.

Paul F. Pizzo '76 (CLAS) was named broker-dealer-coordinator in the life marketing department of Travelers Life and Annuity Company. In November 2002, Paul passed the NASD Series 6 examination.

Harriet Munrett Wolfe '76 (CLAS) was appointed executive vice president, general counsel and secretary for both Webster Financial Corporation and Webster Bank after previously serving as senior vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary.

Paul Bourbeau '77 (CLAS) director of the Microbiology Laboratory of Geisinger Medical Laboratories, was elected chair of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory of the clinical microbiology division of the American Society for Microbiology.

Robert S. Kravchuk '77 (CLAS/BUS), associate professor in the school of public and environmental affairs at Indiana University, published *Ukrainian Political Economy: The First Ten Years* with Palgrave/Macmillan in December 2002. The book chronicles and analyzes Ukraine's troubled political and economic transition since the fall of the U.S.S.R.

Richard Partington '77 (BUS) has been named to the American Library Association's Best Books for Young Adults Committee. His online reviews of children's and young adult literature appear at www.richiespicks.com. He and his wife, Shari, and their four children live in Sebastopol, Calif.

Marilyn Diaz '78 (CLAS) was recognized as a "New Leader of the Law" by the Connecticut Law Tribune. The award recognizes attorneys admitted to the bar for 10 years or less whose work has made a dramatic and positive impact on the law or the profession. She works for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is president of the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association.

Kathleen Snow '78 (PHR) was honored with the 2002 Bowl of Hygeia Award by the Arizona Pharmacy Association during its annual meeting. The award is given to a licensed Arizona pharmacist who has compiled an outstanding record of community service that reflects well on the pharmacist as well as the profession.

Diane Kneer '79 (NUR) was promoted to director of nursing for the birthing center, Watauga Medical Center, Boone, N.C.

Michael Russo '79 (ENG) is the senior director of sales for North America for Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.

1980s

Paul Joseph Alaimo '80 (BUS), '00 MBA and his wife announce the birth of their second child, Michael Thomas, on Sept. 29, 2002. Michael joins his older sister, Sarah Elizabeth. Paul is a sales executive for the Samsonite Corporation. The family reside in Enfield, Conn.

Houston Putnam Lowry '80 M.B.A. was recently appointed the American Bar Association's representative to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.



Steve Straight '80 (CLAS), '89 M.A. just published his first full-length book of poetry, *The Water Carrier* (Curbstone Press). It will be available in April 2003. He is a professor of English at Manchester (Conn.) Community College.

James M. Sullivan '80 M.A. retired from the New York City Police Department where he was a sergeant serving New York City for 20 years. He is teaching adapted physical education in Longmeadow, Mass.

Laura Zakrewski Tompkins '80 (CANR) and her husband, Mark, announce the adoption of their son, Christopher William, on Aug. 1, 2002. The family reside in Terryville, Conn.

Richard Zuromski '80 Ph.D. consults in the area of organizational development and training through his company jobPerformance.com. He and his wife, Alexandra, reside in Camarillo, Calif.

Thomas Burns '81 (CLAS) married Ann Underwood in October 2000. The couple welcomed their first child, Jack Thomas, in July 2001. Thomas is celebrating his 20th year with People's Bank.

John H. Driscoll, Jr. '81 (CLAS) was promoted to senior vice president by the president and chief executive officer of U.S. Trust in Connecticut.



Blanca Reyes '81 M.A., '96 Ph.D. is the current host of the *Dr. Blanca Show* on AM radio 1230, Hartford. The theme of the show is "filling up la taza," which is a concept developed through Blanca's research.

Barbara Lane Giacomelli '83 (PHR) was promoted to vice president at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, Pa., and has just built a home in Vineland, N.J.

Elizabeth Selkirk Goggins '83 (BUS) and her husband, Glenn Goggins, of Larchmont, N.Y., announce the birth of William

Scott Goggins, born Aug. 14, 2002. He joins siblings Kevin and Caroline.

Susan Mary Kapp Monaghan '83 (ENG) and her husband, John Kapp Monaghan, of Piermont, N.H., announce the birth of Matthew Liam, born on Mar. 19, 2002. He joins his sister, Eve Carling.

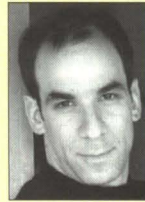
John L. McFarland '83 (CLAS) and his wife announce the birth of their third daughter, Kelsey Maura. She joins her sisters Meghan Kelly and Shannon Kerry. John is a staff claim representative for Allstate Insurance in Farmington, Conn. The family reside in Watertown, Conn.

Catherine Nettles Cutter '84 (CANR), '87 M.S. is an assistant professor of food science and has been named the first Casida professor at Penn State University. The Casida professorship is a new program developed by Lester Earl and Veronica Casida as a career development professorship for food safety in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Heidi J. C. Ellis '84 (CANR), '90 M.S., '94 Ph.D., clinical associate professor, Computer Science, Rensselaer at Hartford, was one of five Connecticut women who received the 2002 Woman in Motion award from the Arthritis Foundation, Southern New England Chapter. The award honors women who have been particularly successful at balancing family, career and philanthropy. The award was presented by Lieutenant Governor Jodi M. Rell at the First Annual Crystal Ball held at the Stamford Marriott last September.

Jeffrey M. Siegel '84 J.D. heads the estate planning and tax department at Cooley, Shrair, P.C. in Springfield, Mass. He also has been appointed to the Springfield Cultural Commission, following two years as president of the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz.

U. Jonathan Toppo '84 (SFA)



is returning to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland for his 13th season. So far, he has been cast as Menas, Ensemble in *Antony and Cleopatra* and Flute, Ensemble in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Valerie Whiterock '84 (CANR) was recently promoted to associate research scientist at Bristol Meyers Squibb in Wallingford, Conn. She resides in East Hartford, Conn.

Michael Dugan '86 (CLAS) has joined the government and community relations firm of M. P. Guinan Associates, based in Hartford, Conn., as vice president of government relations.

Carolyn Fortuna '86 (CLAS) passed the national board for professional teaching standards certification requirements for young adolescents in English language arts.

Annette Kapteina Tibolla '86 (CLAS), '89 M.A. and Thomas Tibolla announce the birth of twins, Jacqueline and James, on March 7, 2002. They join their older brother, Daniel. Annette is employed as a senior research associate in the department of biology at Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals.

Eugene Robida '86 (ENG) and **Sheila Robida '97 M.B.A.** announce the birth of their third son, Nathaniel, born on Sept. 20, 2002. He joins his brothers, Matthew, 4, and Justin, 2. The family reside in Chester, Conn.

James M. Sconzo '86 (CLAS) a labor and employment attorney for Halloran & Sage, will serve as Connecticut representative for the National Employers Counsel Network, which provides editorial content for state-specific employment law newsletters.

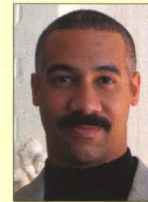
Kimberly St. John-Stevenson '86 (CLAS) recently joined Brown, Flynn Communications,

Ltd., as a senior account executive. She previously served as development director for the Great Lakes Theater Festival in Cleveland, Ohio.

Greg Valente '86 (CLAS) was recently promoted to general manager of the eastern region of Globix Corporation in New York. He is the father of three children and resides in Westport, Conn.

Mary S. Dunn '87 (BUS) and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Jane, on Aug. 1, 2001. The couple also has a 3-year-old son, Ryan. Mary was named to the board of directors of the Literacy Center of Milford, Conn.

David A. Edgar '87 (BUS) was promoted to vice president at Heath Insurance Brokers in Farmington, Conn. David resides in Avon, Conn., with his wife, **Karen Edgar '88 (NUR)**, and their three children, Ryan, Evan and Taylor Rose.



Steven Friedman '87 (BGS) was elected to the board of the Association of Personal Historians as the regional chairperson. APH is a professional organization whose members help people record and preserve their stories and memories.

Michael A. Hardesty '87 (BUS) has just returned to his hometown of Mystic, Conn., and has joined the law firm O'Brien Shafner Stuart Kelly and Morris. His primary practice is litigation and appeals, commercial litigation, construction litigation, and business organizations.

Kristen McGurn '87 (CLAS) has joined the Boston office of the national law firm Seyfarth Shaw as an associate in the commercial litigation practice.

Karen Avitable '88 (CLAS) was promoted to executive editor of *The Berlin Citizen* and a new newspaper, *The Plainville Citizen*,

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

Marci Anne Byiteck '97
Alphonse Chapanis '37
Linda M. Crum '79
Thomas Dowling '42
Stephen L. Drawbridge '70
George M. Eckle '42
Deborah B. Elkins '55
Howard E. Evans '40
Karen A. Golden '00
June P. Gustavson '51
Joanna Higgins '52
Richard Leavitt Hilton Jr. '63
Henry Katzenstein '54 Ph.D.
Andre Kocay '69
Ida Lidofsky '40
Harold Litvin '41
Gary D. Marder '85
Robert Margucci '55
Robert F. Masek '64
Robert A. Nemeth '57
Tobias Philbin Jr. '40
James J. Philbin '48
John P. Ponziani '70
Francis G. Rost '56
William T. Saltus '53
Howard R. Snedeker Jr. '55
James A. Verinis '41
William Wagner Jr. '60

FACULTY

Reinhold A. Dorwart
Harold Seidman
Walter R. Whitworth

STAFF

Joseph Gianelli
Thomas J. Tighe

which began publication on Sept. 12, 2002. Both papers are in Connecticut.

Tim Brown '88 (BUS) and his wife, Marleigh, announce the birth of their son, Harry David, on Aug. 27, 2002. The family reside in Boston, Mass.

Michael H. Homiski '88 (SAH) has been employed for 10 years with Pfizer Inc. in the genotoxicology department. Michael has two sons, Nathan, 12, and Chad, 9.

Kate Honan-Carter '88 (SFA) and her husband, Michael, welcomed their first baby, Margaret "Greta" Honan-Carter on Oct. 8, 2002. Kate continues her career as an opera singer with recent performances at the New York City Opera in *Madame Butterfly*, Washington Opera at the Kennedy Center in *Don Quichotte* and Opera Delaware as Rosina in *Barber of Seville*.

R. Bryan Fitzgerald '88 (CLAS) announces the recent birth and christening of his baby daughter, Alexandria.

Matthew T. Keen '88 (CLAS) and **Julie Coté '90 (CLAS)**, '95 (SAH) were married on June 22, 2002. Matthew is a teacher at Oliver Wolcott in Torrington, Conn. Julie is a physical therapist at McLean in Simsbury, Conn. The couple reside in New Hartford, Conn.

Mark Sudol '88 (CLAS) announces the birth of his first child, James Matthew, born on June 30, 2002.

Mark Tveskov '88 (CLAS), '92 M.A. is an assistant professor of anthropology at Southern Oregon University. He completed his Ph.D. in 1999 at the University of Oregon. He, his wife, Zanne Miller, and their twin daughters, Clio and Julia, live in Ashford, Ore.

Dana (Zacking) Spiel '88 (SFS) and Andrew Spiel announce the birth of their second daughter, Alexandra Nicole on Aug. 5, 2002. She joins her big sister, Victoria, who is 2. The Spiels reside in Chandler, Ariz.

Margaret Forgione '89 (SFS) was appointed Manhattan borough commissioner in February 2002. She is the agency advocate for the delivery of transportation services in the borough and advises the NYC transportation commissioner on all sensitive policy issues affecting transportation in the borough.

Jo-Ann Caputo LoRusso '89 (SFS) and husband, Vincent, announce the birth of their twin sons, John Vincent and James Bartholomew, on Dec. 5, 2001. The twins join their 4-year-old sister, Joelle Marie. Jo-Ann is a writer for the cosmetics industry and is a nationally recognized makeup artist.

Dave Oldham '89 (BUS) and his wife, Jill, are proud to announce the birth of their first child. Their daughter, Kelly Nicole Oldham, was born on Nov. 21, 2002.

Jennifer Pepper '89 M.F.A.



has been an assistant professor of fine arts at Alfred University since 1999. She has had recent exhibitions in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N.Y., Utica, N.Y.; and Almeria, Spain.

Paul Resetarits '89 (ED), '98 Ph.D. is professor of industrial technology and chair of the department of manufacturing and construction management at Central Connecticut State University. He was recognized as an "Outstanding Industrial Technology Professor" in the university division of the National Association of

PROFILE

From Oregon to the Big Apple

Davis Coen '02 (CLAS) is one of only 25 recent college graduates to be selected by the City of New York for a high-level internship in city government. As an Urban Fellow joining the more than 400,000 employees working for about 250 different city agencies, Coen's primary challenge has been to understand the complex workings of such an enormous governmental system and to find a way as an individual to make a contribution within it.

The experience has been humbling for the Fellows, who are bright and motivated but also very inexperienced in the "real world" and in the workplace, according to Coen. He says, "We are surrounded by people who have dedicated their lives to public service and to their fields."

Coen, a former writer and editor for the *UConn Daily Campus*, works for the commissioner of the Department of Homeless Services, under the direct supervision of the director of communications. His responsibilities include writing press releases and assisting the media. Coen notes, "With a lousy economy and unemployment rates rising, the number of homeless people has increased, which has compounded or exacerbated problems that may have already existed within the shelter system."

Coen also contributes to projects related to improving communications between the agency and those who depend on its help. His work is rewarding both because of his interest in journalism and because he's "helping people who need it—there's something really gratifying about that."

Peter Morenus



The nine-month fellowship appealed to Coen, an Oregon native, because of his desire to live in New York, which he calls "probably the most exciting city in the world." He also notes many of his predecessors used the fellowship as a springboard to careers in law, politics and journalism as well as city government.

At UConn, Coen was a University Scholar—able to develop his own plan of study for his final three semesters. Majoring in history and classics, he wrote his thesis on the interaction between Jews, Greeks and Romans in ancient Palestine.

He believes the analytical and critical-thinking and writing skills he developed at UConn have helped in his current position and will be beneficial no matter where he goes when the fellowship ends in May. He says, "I was very lucky to have a really well-rounded liberal arts education at UConn." — *Leslie Virostek*

EXA

Sigma Chi Alpha Reunion

The brothers of Sigma Chi Alpha will host a reunion on Aug. 30, 2003. Festivities will include pre-game tailgating for the opening day football game at Rentschler Field followed by an evening dinner dance at the Quality Inn in Vernon, Conn.

For more information contact David Brangaccio at 203-374-6308 or by email at fdb7287@cs.com.

Industrial Technology during the fall NAIT convention in Panama City Beach, Fla.

Richard Stoelzel '89 (SFA) was awarded the prestigious title of "Distinguished Visiting Professor" at the Shenyang Conservatory of Music, People's Republic of China. He is only the second American to receive this honor.

**1990s**

Amy L. Brouwer '90 (SAH) and **James R. Gahan Jr.** were married Oct. 19, 2002. She received her M.A. in health care administration from Framingham State College and is a physical therapist for the Visiting Nurses Association of Southern Worcester County, Webster, Mass.

Dustin Brown '90 (CLAS) and **Debra (Sulser) Brown '93 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their son, William Joseph, on Aug. 13, 2002.

Glenn Horowitz '90 (BUS), '93 M.A. is a physical education teacher with the West Hartford public schools.

Leah A. Russack '90 (CLAS) received a doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University. She has been married for six years to her husband,

Joe, and their son was born on July 6, 2000. Leah is a clinical therapist for St. Francis Care Behavioral Health.

Stanley S. Bator '91 (BGS) recently passed the Connecticut State Boaters course. Stanley currently resides in Stamford, Conn.

Paul Calabrese '91 (CLAS) was married to Kristin Schlesinger on Oct. 5, 2002.

William Cullina '91 (CANR) is a nursery manager and author at the New England Wild Flower Society. Bill recently received the Honorary Silver Medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Bill also just had his latest book published, *Native Trees Shrubs & Vines: A Guide to Using, Growing and Propagating North American Woody Plants*.

John E. Dickson, Jr. '91 (CLAS) and his wife, Tracy, announce the birth of their son, John "JT" E. Dickson III. JT was born on Aug. 22, 2002. The family live in Deep River, Conn.

Allan Metz '91 (CLAS) recently published a new book which he edited and compiled, *Blondie, From Punk to the Present: A Pictorial History*. The book takes a closer look at the rock band Blondie and its lead singer, Deborah Harry.

Theodore S. Montgomery '91 (BGS), vice president MetroHartford Regional Economic Alliance, received a certificate of completion in economic development from the College of Continuing Education at the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute.



Jaye (O'Brien) Smith '91 (SAH) and **Chuck Smith '91 (BUS)** announce the birth of their second daughter, Meghan Brenna, in September 2002. Meghan joins her older sister, Katie.

Doug Bohl '92 (ENG) recently earned his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Michigan State University. He and his wife, **Coreen (Zunner) Bohl '92 (CLAS)**, also announce the birth of their second son, Noah Gordon, in June 2002. Bailey David is Noah's proud older brother.

Kelly Biteck '92 (SFS) became a mother for the first time on Aug. 14, 2002. She and her husband, John Oraziotti, are the parents of Sabrina Marci. They reside in Stratford, Conn.

Christopher J. Cosgrove '92 (CLAS) and **Jeanmarie A. Cehi '95 (CLAS), '99 D.M.D.** were married on July 14, 2001, at St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan, Conn. The couple honeymooned in Australia. Jeanmarie currently practices in Newington, Conn., and Christopher is a senior employee development consultant for Hartford Life Insurance Company in Simsbury, Conn.

Sarah Lockard '92 (CLAS) is working as a sports producer and reporter for CN8 cable television news in Philadelphia.

Pamela Mingo '92 (CLAS) and her husband, James, announce the birth of their daughter, Jenna Elizabeth Mingo, born on Oct. 4, 2002. The family reside in Gurnee, Ill.

Kim Hoppe '92 (CLAS) has been named as the media relations manager for the corporate headquarters of INTERIORS by Decorating Den, the world's largest interior decorating franchise. Most recently, Kim was the senior newsroom producer at WJZ TV, Baltimore's CBS affiliate station.



Donna R. Jarvis '92 (CLAS) and her husband, Kevin Foster, announce the birth of their first child, Anna Madeline Jarvis Foster, born Aug. 18, 2002. Donna is vice president in charge of life and health

reinsurance underwriting at AXA Corporate Solutions Life Reinsurance Company in New York, NY.

Jennifer Ilene Kaufman '92 (CLAS) is working in interior design in Denver, Colo., and married Robert Gresham on Sept. 21, 2002.

Stacy Biteck '93 (SFS) was married Aug. 24, 2002, to Michael Assunto in Fairfield, Conn. They reside in Stratford, Conn.

Pamela Carlson Larson '93 (CLAS), '96 M.B.A. and **Paul Larson '95 M.B.A.** announce the birth of their daughter, Jenna Grace, on May 10, 2002, in Atlanta, Ga.

Sarah Maloney '93 (SFA) was married to Alvin Cruz in May 1999. The two have a new baby boy, Ethan Joseph, born on May 17, 2002. The family live in New Jersey.

Noah Myers '93 (CLAS) and **Robbin Doiron Myers '91 (SFS), '99 M.B.A.** announce the birth of their son, Kyle Colman, on June 20, 2002. Kyle joins his older brother, Nicholas Noah. Robbin is vice president of marketing at Webster Financial Advisors. Noah is a first vice president and senior portfolio manager at Smith Barney. The family reside in Lyme, Conn.

Janene L. Vanderoef '93 (CANR) is working in Las Vegas, Nev., for Bechtel as a senior environmental scientist.

Rebecca Cole '94 (SFS) is married, with two children ages 4 and 1. Rebecca works part-time as a Montessori school teacher.

Caryn Kalner Czarnecki '94 (SFS) married Kevin Czarnecki on Aug. 18, 2002. A second-grade teacher in Norwalk, Conn., Caryn resides in Norwalk.

Darrell Galasso '94 (BUS) received his Accreditation in Business Valuation (ABV) from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Darrell works for Kostin,

Ruffkess & Company, LLC, where he has worked since 1994.

Matthew Kehl '94 (BUS) married Jill Hmbrozaitis in November 2001. The couple also announce the birth of baby Megan Grace Kehl on Aug. 10, 2002. Matthew works at ADP as a senior sales representative. The family live in Glastonbury, Conn.

David A. Lynch '94 (CLAS) and **Marikate A. Moriarty Lynch '95 (BUS)** announce the birth of their daughter Madison Kate, on May 30, 2002. The family reside in Mystic, Conn.

Brian B. Park '94 (PHR) and his wife, Susan, announce the birth of their son, Davis, born on Oct. 20, 2002. Brian graduated from the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in August 2002.

Susan Sanford '94 (SAH) is the manager at Martha's Vineyard Hospital and Rehabilitation and Wellness Services in Martha's Vineyard, Mass. She received her master's in acupuncture from New England School of Acupuncture last May.

Jeffrey Stanton '94 M.A., '97 Ph.D., an assistant professor of information studies in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, was profiled in *Syracuse University Magazine* regarding his research on the introduction of technology into work organizations and its impact on individual and organizational effectiveness.

Christopher Fee '95 M.S. was granted tenure as an assistant professor of English by Gettysburg College, effective Sept. 1, 2003. He is the author of *Torture, Transcendence and Trans-*



mutation: The Power and Purpose of Pain in the Poems of the Old English Vercelli Book, which is to be published later this year. He is also the co-author of *Gods, Heroes and Kings: The Battle for Mythic Britain*, published in 2001. He completed his doctorate in English language at the University of Glasgow in Scotland.

Gail Montany '95 (CLAS) is a senior editor at the *Caledonian Record* in St. Johnsbury, Vt. It is Vermont's third-largest daily newspaper. Gail also teaches journalism at Lyndon State College in Lyndon, Vt.

George S. Pasiakos '95 (CLAS) and **Cindy L. (Carpenter) Pasiakos '97 (ED), '98 M.A.** announce the birth of their first child, Anna Christine, born on Aug. 15, 2002. The Pasiakos family reside in Norwalk, Conn.

Lisa Sinopoli '95 (SFA), '98 M.A. has been promoted from assistant director of development for athletics to director of the Orange Pack in the athletics department at Syracuse University. She oversees the day-to-day operation of fundraising for Syracuse University athletics.

Amanda Sullivan '95 (CLAS) and **Chris Lasaracina '96 (BUS)** announce the birth of a son, Luke Christopher, born Mar. 30, 2002. He joins brother Colin, born Feb. 7, 2000. Amanda is a sixth-grade teacher in Colchester, Conn. Chris is an attorney with Shipman and Goodwin in Hartford, Conn.

Lynn S. Abrahamson '96



(M.P.H.) assumed the presidency of the Connecticut Public Health Association on Jan. 1, 2003.

Lynn resides in South Windsor, Conn., with her husband, Dan, and their two sons, Garrett, 17, and Keith, 13.

Caryn Bello '96 (CLAS) completed work on her doctorate in clinical psychology. She graduated from Indiana University of Pa. with an M.A. in '99 and a Psych.D. in '02. She is currently working at Harvard University health service.

Michael Carlon '96 (CLAS) and **Nicole Carlon '94 (SFS)** recently became the proud parents of triplets, Grace Marie, Patrick Gordon, and Margaret (Maggie) Louise. Michael was recently promoted to director, global interactive advertising, at MasterCard International in Purchase, N.Y.

VON DER MEHDEN RECITAL HALL

Spring 2003 Highlights

Von der Mehden Recital Hall, the performance home of the Department of Music, hosts nearly 100 ensemble concerts, faculty, guests artist and student recitals annually. *Sound Excursions*, a world music series, is presented with the support of numerous sponsors, including the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.

All concerts, including student recitals, and schedule changes can be found at www.sfa.uconn.edu (What's On) or by phoning the 24-hour event line at 860-486-2106.

Symphonic Band Thurs., May 1, 2003, 8 p.m.

The University of Connecticut Symphonic Band, led by conductor David Mills, presents a concert as part of the *Big Sound Series*. The program includes a salute to Aaron Copland and two suites for band, one by David Stanhope and one by Darius Milhaud.



Earthdance Film Festival Friday, April 11, 2003, 7:30 p.m.

The third annual Earthdance Film Festival will screen selected works produced by students during the Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 semesters. Categories include narrative, experimental and animated films, as well as music videos and documentaries. This free event is presented by the UConn Student Film Organization in conjunction with the School of Fine Arts. Above: A scene from Blake Harjes' 2002 film, *Hero*.

David Christiano '96 (CLAS) is a senior technical analyst with Georgia-Pacific Corp., and is engaged to be married to Susan Maurizio, owner of a public relations firm.

Joseph L. Delutrie '93 (CLAS) and **Kristine E. (Wiley) Delutrie '94 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their third child, Matthew Lawrence, born on Aug. 11, 2002. He joins sisters Julia, 5, and Ryan, 3.

Jonathan H. Fink '96 (BUS) joins Blum Shapiro, a certified public accounting and business firm, as a manager in the firm's accounting and auditing group.

Mark Gualandi '96 (CLAS) was recently promoted to general manager for the Fastenal Company in Bohemia, N.Y. Mark announces his engagement to Michelle McNat. The couple reside in Long Island, N.Y.

Alanna M. Nickerson '97 (CLAS) was married on March 11, 2000 to Gerald A. Dayton, Jr. She is a teacher's assistant for the recreation department in Plainfield, Conn.

Jonathan A. Harris '98 M.B.A., '98 J.D. has joined the law firm of Wildman Harrold in Chicago, Ill., as part of the firm's intellectual property section, concentrating his practice in patents, trademarks and e-commerce.

Nader Jalili '98 Ph.D. is an assistant professor in the mechanical engineering



department at Clemson University with research interests in the fields of system dynamics, controls, mechatronics, and active vibration control. He received the 2002 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement award from the Department of Energy through Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU).

Michelle M. Laccione '98 (ED), '99 M.A. and **Daniel I. Kodish '98 (ED), '99 M.A.** were



married on June 22, 2002, at the Farmington Club in Farmington,

Conn. Michelle is a science teacher in Windsor Locks, Conn., and Daniel is a social studies teacher in Middletown, Conn. The couple reside in Wethersfield, Conn.



Adam Mauriello '98 (CLAS) has joined the law firm of Zeldes, Needle & Cooper as an associate with a focus on commercial litigation.



Samuel Olmstead '98 (ENG) was promoted to Engineer 3 at Woodard & Curran in Cheshire, Conn.

Gia Pear '98 (ED) married Matthew Sweeney on Oct. 19, 2002. Gia is a recreational therapist at St. Elizabeth's Adult Day Health Center in Boston, Mass. The couple reside in Brighton, Mass.

Ricardo Velez '98 (BUS) joined the Mass Mutual Financial Group in Farmington, Conn., as a financial services professional, specializing in insurance and retirement planning.

Lindsey Hescok '99 (CLAS) is working in Middlebury, Vt., with the counseling service of Addison County as an employment representative for adults who have developmental disabilities. Lindsey also works part-time as the assistant at Lynn Yarrington's weaving studio and as a mentor.

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

The UConn Alumni Association is pleased to announce that it will be awarding scholarships to students who are considered UConn "Legacies."

■ **An applicant's grandparent, parent or sibling must be a UConn alum and a current dues paying member of the UConn Alumni Association.**

Visit www.uconnalumni.com to complete the online application and view the list of eligibility requirements and criteria. Please direct all questions to Kristi A. Napolitano '94, '01 toll free at 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 or by email, Kristi.napolitano@uconn.edu

Maya J. Satmary '99 (CLAS) has been promoted to executive coordinator in information technology services at Yale University in New Haven, Conn.

Carolyn Zambelli '99 J.D. is an associate at Shipman & Goodwin LLP. Carolyn and her firm were awarded the volunteer law firm of the year award by the Pro Bono Partnership, recognizing outstanding pro bono work on behalf of community-based non-profit organizations.

2000s

Shannon Cholewa '00 (SFA) and **Brian Stevenson '01 (SFA)** were married on July 27, 2002 in Norwich, Conn. Shannon is an elementary music teacher in Groton, Conn., and Brian is a high school choral director in Portland, Conn.

Bryan Connolly '00 M.S. has recently joined the New England Wild Flower Society's conservation staff as volunteer coordinator of the Invasive Plant Atlas of New England collaborative.

Michael Croft '00 M.A. and **Alisa Schock '00 (CLAS)** were married in Ellington, Conn., on July 6, 2002. Michael is a high school teacher at Shepaug Valley High School and Alisa is a high school math teacher at The Gunnery. They live in Washington, Conn.

Edward Spyros '00 (BGS) was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Bristol, Conn., police department in October 2002 and has assumed duties as a shift commander.

Lorri Anne Webb '00 M.S. joined Carter, Belcourt & Atkinson, P.A., C.P.A.s (CBA) as a senior staff member in its Tampa office.

Ronald Palmer Jr. '01 (CANR) was married to **Mary Wattick '01 (NUR)** on Oct. 26, 2002. Ron is a career firefighter with the Willimantic Fire Department, and Mary is a registered nurse at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. The couple reside in Mansfield, Conn.

Alumni News & Notes compiled by Brian Evans and Tina Modzelewski

News & Notes Online

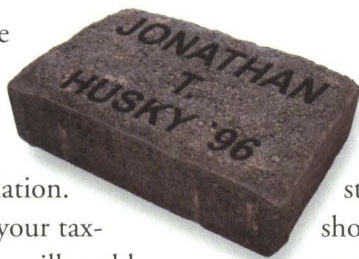
Alumni News & Notes will go online beginning with the Summer 2003 edition of UConn Traditions. Look for it at www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu



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Lance Gordon

Continued from page 29

of sub-Saharan Africa, regions of the former Soviet Union and an expanding list of Asian countries—be able to afford it? How much profit will likely be in it for the company that Gordon must make profitable?

Better than just about anyone, Gordon knows the perverse economics of preventive medicine: For 2002, VaxGen reported a net loss of \$31.7 million.

“Vaccines have traditionally been viewed as the poor stepchild of the pharmaceutical industry,” he says, noting that many don’t view vaccines as a part of the industry at all. The global vaccine market is worth about \$6 billion in sales per year, including all products, from all manufacturers, in all countries. Some individual drugs command more than that. Moreover, once a vaccine is truly effective, people tend to stop worrying about the disease—and cease being willing to pay big money for a vaccine against what comes to be perceived as a nonexistent threat. That’s why many old-line vaccine makers have dropped out of the business in recent years. Companies that are left must wrestle with manufacturing difficulties, escalating liability costs, regulatory hassles and price controls.

Meanwhile, Gordon is trying to make sure his company’s fate does not rest solely on any single product. In December,

for example, VaxGen announced an agreement with a Japanese company that will allow VaxGen to initiate development of a smallpox vaccine that has been used in Japan for over 20 years with a frequency of reaction much lower than the vaccine currently being used in the United States. VaxGen is awaiting U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval to proceed with clinical trials.

VaxGen also has been awarded a contract from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to develop a new anthrax vaccine and to create a feasibility plan to manufacture an emergency stockpile of 25 million doses.

Gordon vows the work with AIDSVAX will go on until the FDA approves it as being effective against HIV infection. “We intend to continue development of this vaccine through licensure, including additional studies as necessary, for use in groups in which the vaccine demonstrated a significant reduction in infection,” he says. “We also will continue our work on the vaccine to make it more broadly effective.”

All of this does not leave much time for relaxing with his hobbies. “I enjoy spending time with my family, and woodworking and restoring classic cars are my hobbies, but vaccines are my passion,” he says. “I really enjoy it and get enormous satisfaction from working in this field. Vaccines have been incredibly effective in eliminating some of history’s greatest scourges. There’s no other field where I can imagine having more impact on the quality and quantity of life.”

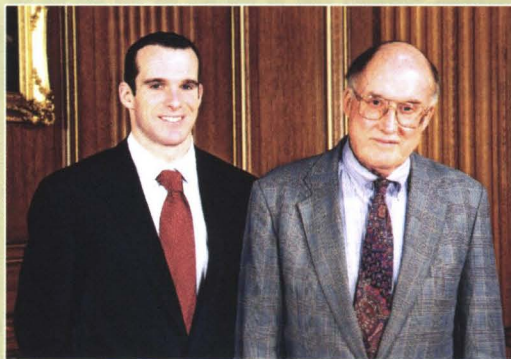
Brett McGurk

Continued from page 36

after the Daschle letter tested positive for anthrax, the Supreme Court building was ordered shut down for anthrax testing.

All Supreme Court employees were placed on an antibiotic regimen, mail service was disrupted, and oral arguments were temporarily relocated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, but “the Court didn’t miss a beat,” McGurk says with more than a touch of pride in his voice.

That sense of pride seems to be reflected in McGurk when he talks about the Supreme Court. “It’s an awe-inspiring institution,” McGurk says. “Think about it. The Supreme Court takes only cases that divide lower courts, presenting very difficult questions. Often there are no objectively right answers to those questions, yet the Court has a responsibility to provide answers, and it does so through genuine intellectual debate and dialogue. It also remains a human institution, managing to separate sincere disagreements from personal relationships.”



Brett McGurk, left, with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, William H. Rehnquist. McGurk served as a law clerk for the chief justice.

McGurk swirls what’s left of the tea in his porcelain cup and ponders where his career is headed. He would like to return to government some day (his award-winning thesis addressed the social ramifications of gated communities), but first there are other avenues he would like to explore.

As one of four recipients of the prestigious Temple Bar scholarship, McGurk was selected to spend a month in London, where he would shadow barristers and serve as a marshal for a High Court Justice as

part of an intensive program to learn about the English legal system. An associate position with the international law firm Kirkland & Ellis also awaits, but first there is Italy.

He must go finish packing, but he is still talking about the Supreme Court. Asked whether he would like to be a judge some day, McGurk smiles and says that he thinks it’s something he would enjoy. And the high court? He won’t take the bait.

“I was honored to serve as a clerk on the Supreme Court of the United States,” he says, leaving out an important piece of information: Three of the nine sitting justices also once served as law clerks at the Supreme Court.



Portugal

Featured Journey

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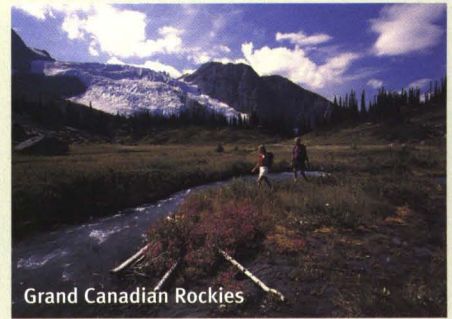
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Mary Kocol '84 (SFA) has established a reputation for being able to transform ordinary domestic and street scenes into dramatic works of art through her highly acclaimed photographic techniques. She has exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the William Benton Museum of Art at UConn. She has served as a visiting artist at Harvard University, Philips Academy, Massachusetts College of Art, San Francisco Art Institute, School of Museum Fine Arts and the Photographic Resource Center. Kocol's animated short films have been screened in museums and film festivals internationally, and she has won Best Animated Film prizes at the New England Film & Video Festival, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Utah Film Festival, Humboldt International Film Festival and Hiroshima Animation Festival. Her many other awards include a 1993 Guggenheim fellowship for photography.

Artist's Statement

"Photographing at dusk achieves dramatic color, night shadows, and creates stillness within a city in motion. Film can record the varied energies associated with the movement of light. During a long exposure, the film 'remembers' the actions of light moving before it and saves these movements on a single frame, so that they are seen as if they occurred at the same time. The camera is used to capture alternative sources of light: moonlight, man-made lighting, moving headlights, fire truck lights, etc."

Canal and Gondola at Night, Venice.

© 1994, Mary Kocol
www.kocomotion.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 to uconntraditions@uconn.edu

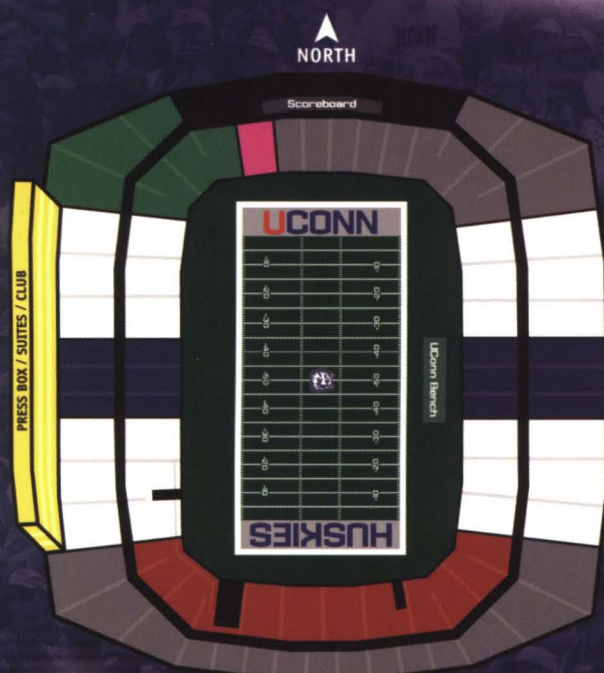
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Peter Morenus



Four UConn presidents gathered on campus to celebrate the rededication of the Wilbur Cross Building.
From left: John DiBiaggio (1979-85), Philip Austin (1996-present), Harry Hartley (1990-96) and John Casteen (1985-90).



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