

# UConn

| Spring 2008



**Nanotechnology:  
Small world,  
big potential**





# UConn's Stars in the Making

You've recommended your most accomplished friends, colleagues, and former classmates. We've narrowed down your suggestions to the final "40 Under 40."

Be sure to check out UCONN magazine's Fall 2008 edition, where we'll shine the spotlight on 40 outstanding UConn alumni under 40.



University of Connecticut



# Opening world contents

UConn | Spring 2008 | Volume 9, Number 1

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## A small world with big potential

BY STEFANIE DION JONES '00 (CLAS) AND DAVID MCKAY WILSON

| Scientists at UConn are looking for ways to use little things—so small they are unseen by the naked eye and observable only through the most advanced of microscopes—to change the world in a big way. Welcome to the world of nanotechnology.

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## Voices in harmony

BY JIM H. SMITH | Music is a passion for the students who are part of the seven a cappella groups that perform in concert and at special campus events throughout the year with repertoires that include vocal arrangements spanning a wide range of sounds.

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## What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this?

BY GINA BARRECA | UConn's humorist-in-residence dishes the inside story of how she discovered that being funny was a better career choice than selling knock-off designer handbags on the street.

**ON THE COVER:**  
Chemistry professor Fotios Papadimitrakopoulos, right, works on nanotechnology research with graduate students in the "clean room" of UConn's Institute of Materials Science.



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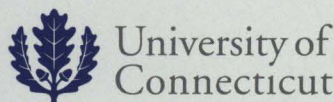
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## From the EDITOR

# The yin and yang of college athletics

## PURSUING EXCELLENCE IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

The yin and yang of college athletics is that student-athletes find themselves caught between the expectation of excellence both in the classroom and on the field of competition. Such has been the case from the earliest days of intercollegiate team sports, which can be traced to the second half of the 19th century, when the first competitions took place in crew, football, baseball, track & field, tennis, ice hockey and gymnastics. At UConn, official competition began in 1896 with football, baseball and ice polo, the forerunner of hockey.

With the glare of the spotlight on every sport today, thanks to the 24/7 world of the Internet and cable television, more is expected of student-athletes than ever before in and out of the classroom. The myth is that student-athletes don't perform as well with their books as with their bodies. The fact is that the 650 student-athletes who represent UConn on the field of play do better than hold their own in the classroom. They excel just as much in the classroom. Forty-six percent of the Huskies earned a 3.0 or better grade point average last year in either or both semesters, many of them earning a place on the Dean's List, which is achieved by only 25 percent of the undergraduate student body.

These academic achievements are noted throughout the year when regional Academic All-Star or national Academic All-American teams are announced. To date, more than 1,000 UConn student-athletes have earned such recognition. In the past, some familiar names were included on this list, including Rhema Fuller '07 (BUS) in football, and Emeka Okafor '04 (BUS) and Rebecca Lobo '95 (CLAS) in basketball. Among the prominent names recognized for their academic achievements recently are football players Donald Brown '10 (ED) and Tyler Lorenzen '09 (BUS), soccer players Karl Schilling '08 (CLAS) and Meghan Schnur '08 (ED), and basketball player Mel Thomas '08 (BUS).

During a half-time ceremony at Gampel Pavilion this past February, UConn celebrated the academic achievements of its student-athletes, including special recognition for those who earned a perfect 4.0 in 2007. These Huskies included Phylcia George '10 (CLAS), Mercedes Ball '10 (CLAS) and Kaitlin Vaughn '09 (CLAS) of track & field; Elizabeth Littlewood '10 (CLAS) and Stephanie Bryant '09 (CLAS) of rowing; William Magin '10 (CLAS) of swimming & diving; Nicole Tritter '09 (ED) of ice hockey; and Megan Doran '11 (CLAS) and Joseph Michaels '09 (CLAS) of tennis. Special recognition went to the women's tennis team, led by coach Glenn Marshall '89 (SFA), which had the top GPA of 3.2.

Also recognized were the staff of the Counseling Program for Intercollegiate Athletes, directed by Bruce Cohen, which assists student-athletes in meeting the challenges they face both in and out of the classroom.

As in athletics, statistics point to the high level of academic achievement at UConn, which is why top student-athletes are attracted to UConn as much for the quality of academic programs as for the quality of competition on the field. As Hall of Fame baseball philosopher Yogi Berra would say, "You could look it up."

*Ken Best*



# Opening Shot

## Sail on, Sailor

Clay Burkhalter '80 (CLAS), '00 M.P.H. of Stonington, Conn., became only the fifth American to complete the grueling 4,230-mile Mini Transat solo sailboat race from France to Brazil last fall, finishing in 12th place overall out of 86 boats. He sailed a 21-foot "mini" *Acadia* designed by Rod Johnstone '67 M.A., one of the world's leading boat designers and founder of J/Boats, headquartered in Newport, R.I.

ANDREW ROSS PHOTO





# Hitting the books

## REORGANIZATION WILL FOSTER INCREASED COLLABORATION

**W**ith record-setting rainfall in February, the drought is over in Connecticut. Students across our campuses are enjoying warmer weather and looking toward the close of the semester. I've been reflecting on this past academic year, which seems to have gone by so swiftly. Since last September, Virginia and I have been getting acquainted with the University and all its constituents. We've visited students and faculty in Storrs and at our

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**"I've been reflecting on this past academic year, which seems to have gone by so swiftly."**

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regional campuses; gotten to know elected officials in Hartford and Washington, D.C.; and enjoyed opportunities to meet alumni and friends in New York, Florida and across Connecticut. We still don't yet have our grades from our first semester here at UConn, but I'm hopeful that we've done pretty well. And now, in my second semester, I'm taking on a few new courses.

**Reorganization 101:** To encourage collaboration between the UConn Health Center and other schools, colleges and centers across the University, I've proposed an administrative reorganization. Under the plan, the deans of the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine will now report to Provost Peter Nicholls in Storrs, as all other University deans do. My "syllabus" in this area hopes to increase the partnership activity across disciplines



that is so essential to today's higher education environment.

**Advanced Research 202:** This reorganization will also strengthen UConn's research and graduate education effort. Part of this task involves expanding the role of the vice president for research, who will have responsibilities connected with all of our campuses, including the Health Center. Establishing such an organizational structure—one that is common at other leading universities—will establish a University-wide vision for our research enterprise, foster inter-departmental and

inter-campus collaboration and, at the same time, enhance UConn's ability to compete for major research grants.

**Academic Planning 303:** It's important to know where we want the University to go and what we want it to achieve, but it's equally as important to know how we can best direct our resources to achieve those goals. The academic plan, prepared under the direction of Provost Nicholls with consultation from the faculty, serves just this purpose. It acts as our blueprint for the future—one focused on pushing research forward, attracting strong faculty and building on our strengths. As you read this, we should be completing the first full draft of our academic plan for submission to the UConn Board of Trustees.

**Extra Credit:** As you may know, I'm now an active blogger. I encourage you to visit my blog, *PresRelease*, at [blogs.uconn.edu/president](http://blogs.uconn.edu/president).

I've learned a great deal these past few months and am grateful for the interaction I've had with alumni, faculty, students and many others. It's my pleasure to invite you to my inauguration on Sunday, April 13, on the Storrs campus. In addition to the formal ceremony, there will be a University-wide festival that includes a dance, fireworks, music, entertainment and a lot of fun. I hope you are able to join us.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mike".

Michael J. Hogan  
President



## Your LETTERS

### Plenty to brag about

I've had a chance to page through the Fall/Winter magazine, and it looks FABULOUS!! I don't have too much time to keep up with UConn, but the magazine is really full of interesting stories. My husband is a Kings Point graduate (Merchant Marine Academy) and is always bragging when he reads his alumni newsletters about how great KP is and how talented the graduates are. UCONN magazine gives me PLENTY to brag about!

Juliette (Moehn) Brown  
'91 (SAH)



### Tulane story disappointing

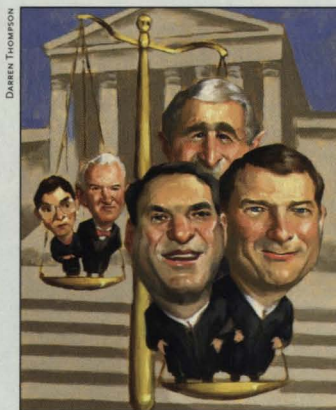
I applaud your efforts to educate the UConn community about the stalled recovery in New Orleans. However, I am disappointed that UCONN would honor a university administrator whose post-Katrina "decisive leadership"

earned his University a formal censure from the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the organization that represents UConn faculty.

Among the report's most troubling conclusions: "In decisions to terminate more than 200 faculty appointments on the grounds of financial exigency, the Tulane University administration made no meaningful distinction between tenured and non-tenured faculty members except in the terms of notice and/or severance pay." As a Tulane faculty member (2004–2007), I observed President Cowen insist to AAUP investigators throughout 2006 that he was strictly following Tulane's faculty handbook, while he cautioned faculty that the handbook was advisory and unenforceable. The AAUP declared him in violation of the AAUP's 1940 *Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure and its Recommended Institutional Regulations on Academic Freedom and Tenure*.

The University of Connecticut should be proud of how its alumni, students and faculty generously responded to the Gulf Coast tragedy. I hope the UConn community will continue to stay engaged in the region.

Donna Lee Van Cott  
Associate Professor of  
Political Science  
University of Connecticut



### 'Politically charged'

I was taken aback by David Yalof's opinion piece masquerading as analysis in the Fall/Winter 2007 edition of UCONN magazine. Yalof's article belongs on an editorial page.

Nonetheless, Yalof's frequent use of politically charged adjectives and phrasing reveals strikingly his bias and disturb-

ing lack of scholarly objectivity, which clearly paints his article an opinion piece, such as "extremely conservative," "brimming with ideologues eager to vote the Conservative line," "one-sided" and "radical calls to revolutionize doctrines."

Frankly, I think you ought to label all future opinion articles in UCONN as such and, at the very least, include a disclaimer saying the thoughts expressed in such opinion pieces are the author's alone. The absence of such a notice and disclaimer is tacit editorializing, which I see as a departure from and contrary to UCONN magazine's long and noble tradition of adhering to the highest journalistic standards.

James F. Blais Jr. '81 (CLAS)

*Editor's Note: A box on the first page of the story indicated the article was an analysis by Prof. Yalof, who is a nationally recognized scholar on presidential politics.*

### 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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# Around UConn

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## Growing interest in a new poinsettia

**'CINNAMON STICK' PLANT HAS UNIQUE SHAPE AND COLOR**

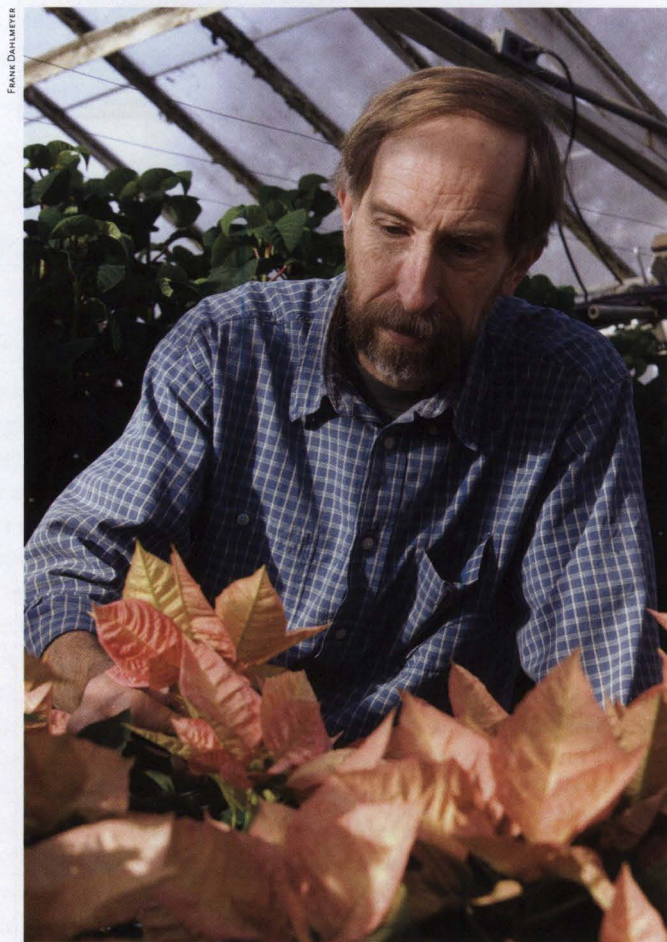
**T**he holiday season may be a long way off for many, but not for horticulturist Robert Shabot, who is working on a new variety of poinsettia.

Shabot, University arborculturist in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' department of plant science, is working with UConn's Center for Science and Technology Commercialization to develop a market for the vase-shaped flower that he has been nurturing.

"Everybody wants something new," says Shabot. "Every year, there's a subtle change."

UConn has been growing poinsettias for many years for teaching, research and sale through the Floriculture Greenhouse. In the past 10 years, the University has also served as a trial site for other new plants and currently is growing more than 1,000 plants of about 90 different varieties.

Known as Cinnamon Stick, the new poinsettia has a unique golden color and shape that makes it unique among this species. After five years of careful propagation and small-scale testing, the plant is undergoing trials in Germany and



Robert Shabot, University of Connecticut horticulturist, examines the unusual vase-shaped flower of his Cinnamon Stick poinsettias.

Colorado. Trial plants are grown for a season and then mostly offered to local customers through the greenhouse. In addition to finding out the plant's hardiness, suppliers and growers are interested in how consumers respond to different colors and shapes.

Shabot says one of the primary concerns in ascertaining the new plant's commercial viability is whether the poinsettia will maintain its characteristics consistently. Each year for the past several years, Shabot has grown 20 to 30 plants of the new cultivar. So far it has performed well and has drawn favorable attention from local growers and from individuals.

The poinsettia, an herbaceous perennial native to Mexico, was introduced to the United States in the 1800s. It is named after Joel R. Poinsett, the first U.S. ambassador to Mexico. Poinsettias

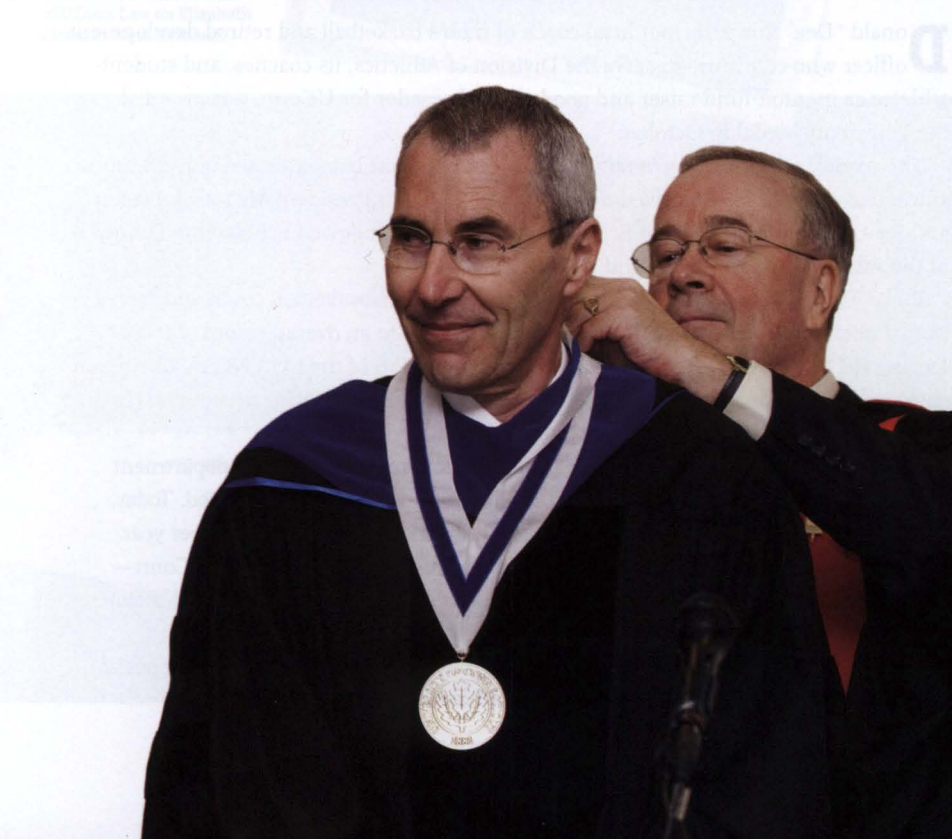
have undergone extensive breeding and selection to produce the hundreds of cultivars that exist today.





# UConn, UConn, UCONN!

The student section in Gampel Pavilion revs up the crowd in the run up to March Madness for the Huskies' nationally ranked men's and women's basketball teams.



## First in the nation chair for mechanistic toxicology

**U**rs Boelsterli, a professor of pharmaceutical sciences and toxicology, is installed as the University's first Boehringer Ingelheim Endowed Chair in Mechanistic Toxicology in the School of Pharmacy by Provost Peter J. Nicholls. The endowed chair was established through a \$1.25 million gift to the School of Pharmacy from Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc. and is the first such chair in the nation. Mechanistic toxicology is the study of how foreign compounds such as drugs, environmental pollutants and industrial chemicals exert potentially damaging effects on cells and tissues. The field is widely regarded as the next frontier for drug development and medical breakthroughs.

PETER MORENO





Coach Dee Rowe on the sidelines during the 1976-77 season.



STEPHEN SAUD

## Rowe honored with University Medal

**D**onald “Dee” Rowe, former head coach of men’s basketball and retired development officer who continues to serve the Division of Athletics, its coaches, and student-athletes as mentor, fund raiser and goodwill ambassador for UConn, was awarded the University Medal in October.

The medal, one of the University’s highest honors, has been awarded only 28 times since its creation. Rowe received the award from UConn President Michael J. Hogan and President Emeritus Philip E. Austin at the Annual Endowed Scholarship Dinner of the Athletic Development Fund.

Rowe joined the UConn community in 1969 as men’s basketball coach and served in that position for eight seasons, leading the Huskies to an overall record of 120-88. During his tenure, the Huskies advanced to the Sweet 16 of the 1976 NCAA Championships and earned berths in the 1974 and 1975 National Invitation Tournaments. He was twice named New England Coach of the Year.

In 1978, Rowe founded the Athletic Development Fund and took the department from a zero base in 1978 to a level of \$2 million in 1990-91, when he retired. Today, the organization for which Rowe laid the groundwork raises \$15.5 million per year.

“Without question, Dee is the most visible and successful advocate for UConn—not just for athletics, for the whole University,” says Tim Tolokan, associate director of athletics/licensing and athletic traditions.

In 1991, when Rowe retired from full-time University service, he became a special adviser to the Division of Athletics, a role that continues today.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



# Then & Now

In the nearly nine decades since its founding as the Hartford College of Law, the School of Law has evolved from a six-student night school to its stately Gothic halls on Elizabeth Street in the capital city. Founded in 1921, the Hartford College of Law rented space in various downtown locations until 1940, when it settled on Woodland Street. When enrollment dropped during World War II, the college's board of trustees leased the school to the University of Connecticut. Five years later, on Sept. 1, 1948, full title was conveyed to UConn and the School of Law was established. A new campus was built on Asylum Avenue in West Hartford in 1964, but when student enrollment further increased, a new facility again became necessary and Gov. Ella Grasso signed legislation for the purchase and renovation of the 27.5-acre campus of the Hartford Seminary on Elizabeth Street, which opened in 1984 and remains the home of the UConn School of Law.



Above: Allyn Street, 1921.  
Right: Woodland Street, 1940.  
Below: The current home of UConn Law on Elizabeth Street in West Hartford.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



## Accelerated nursing entry expands to regional campuses

The School of Nursing's accelerated Master's Entry into Nursing program is expanding to UConn's campuses in Waterbury and Stamford, helping to address the projected shortage of nurses in Connecticut.

Carol Polifroni, associate dean of the School of Nursing, says the expansion will occur in Stamford and Waterbury because there is significant interest in the accelerating nursing program in the western and southern portions of the state.

Some 150 students, ranging in age from early 20s to 50s with undergraduate degrees in a variety of fields, have successfully completed the program in Storrs.

The 45-credit program spans 11 months and is geared for those who hold bachelor's degrees or higher in fields other than nursing. Students are in class nine hours a week and are in a clinical setting—working in hospitals and clinics—for 21 hours a week. Successful completion of the program allows a student to begin working as a nurse after passing the Connecticut nursing license exam and to enroll in UConn's master's program in nursing.

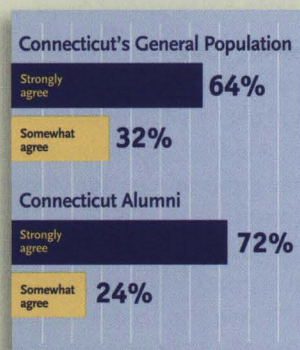
Those admitted to the program must have graduated from an undergraduate program with a 3.0 or better GPA and have earned a B or better in prerequisite science courses.



## UConn By the Numbers

### First-rate University is a top priority

Connecticut alumni and the state's general public agree that a first-rate state university should be a priority for Connecticut



2007 UConn Perception Survey data

## Community college transfer plan expands

Graduates of Connecticut's community colleges who earn associate's degrees with at least a B average will be guaranteed admission to UConn through the Guaranteed Admissions Program (GAP) announced last fall. GAP will provide Connecticut's community college students with admission to any UConn campus—Avery Point, Greater Hartford, Torrington, Waterbury, Stamford or Storrs—provided they complete their degrees in an approved major.

"Connecticut's investments in all of its systems of higher learning are paying dividends by helping to create our highly skilled workforce," says Gov. M. Jodi Rell. "The Guaranteed Admission Program rewards student achievement by offering an opportunity for students to complete a degree at the University of Connecticut."

GAP has been operating as a pilot program since 2004, with students making early application from three community colleges—Three Rivers, Manchester, and Quinebaug Valley—and enrolling in liberal arts programs at UConn's main campus in Storrs.

"This agreement represents a major expansion of opportunity for community college students," says Marc S. Herzog, chancellor of the community college system.

Students who do not participate in GAP may still be eligible to transfer to UConn through a competitive transfer process.

"It's a win-win-win situation," says President Michael J. Hogan. "I'm looking forward to working with our community colleges as we open opportunities for four-year degrees to more of our young people."

Connecticut  
Community  
Colleges

## Students continue hurricane rebuilding effort

Kasey Ryan '09 (BUS), cutting wood, and Madelyn Williams '09 (ED), working on a handrail, were among some 50 UConn students who spent 12 days of their winter break in Biloxi, Miss., during January helping in the cleanup and rebuilding efforts in the continuing aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Student volunteers were recruited by the UConn Community Outreach Alternative Breaks Program to work in collaboration with the East Biloxi Relief & Redevelopment Agency, a nonprofit group that has worked to help individuals, families, small businesses and neighborhoods rebuild after the hurricane damage. It was the fifth UConn student volunteer effort in the Gulf Coast region.







## At the top of his class

**D**aniel Civco '74 (CANR), '76 M.S., '87 Ph.D., professor of natural resources management and engineering in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, received the 2007 Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, the highest national honor an educator in the field can receive. An expert on geomatics who specializes in remote sensing and geographic information systems, he has been director of UConn's Center for Land Use Education and

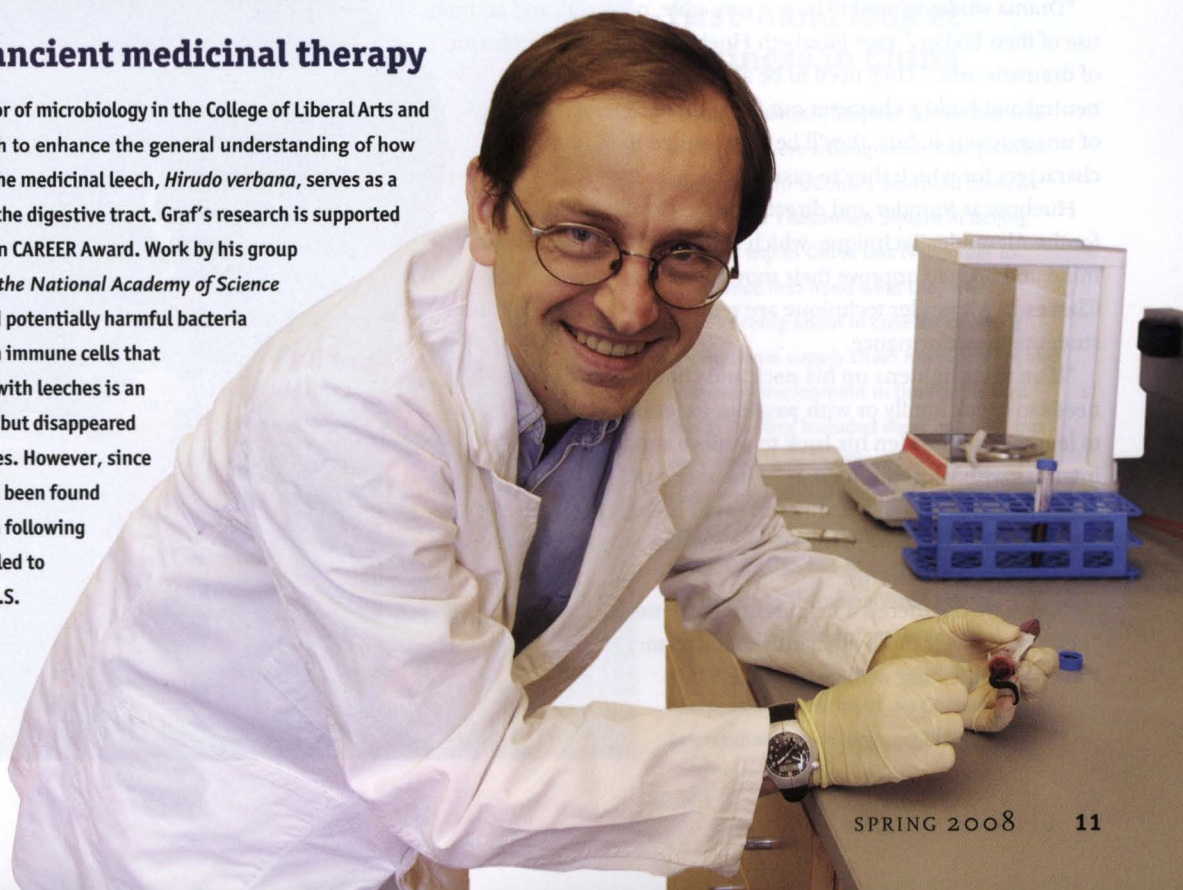
Research since 2002. He is the first member of the CANR faculty to receive such national recognition. Five other UConn faculty members previously have received regional honors from USDA/CSREES.

PETER MORENUS

## Researching an ancient medicinal therapy

**J**oerg Graf, assistant professor of microbiology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, conducts research to enhance the general understanding of how bacteria and animals interact. The medicinal leech, *Hirudo verbana*, serves as a simple model for research with the digestive tract. Graf's research is supported by a National Science Foundation CAREER Award. Work by his group published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science* showed that both beneficial and potentially harmful bacteria interact in similar manners with immune cells that destroy bacteria. Blood-letting with leeches is an ancient medical practice that all but disappeared with the growth of drug therapies. However, since the 1980s, applying leeches has been found to help restore blood circulation following reconstructive surgery and this led to the approval of leeches by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a medical device.

DOUG HANBY





PETER MORENUS



## New era in Social Work doctoral studies

Alex Gitterman, Zachs Professor of Social Work and newly appointed director of the social work doctoral program, talks with his students at UConn's campus in West Hartford. A widely published author with a national reputation for leadership, Gitterman joined the UConn faculty in 1999 after serving as a professor and associate dean at the Columbia University School of Social Work. He says UConn doctoral students are combining a strong foundation in social work and social science theory with advanced skills in research methods and statistical analysis.

## Movement 're-education' helps drama students improve performance

Actors use their bodies as a form of expression. That is why graduate students studying performance in the School of Fine Arts go back to basics to "re-educate" their bodies in how to move.

"Drama students need to have a very agile, powerful, and accurate use of their bodies," says Elizabeth Huebner, an adjunct professor of dramatic arts. "They need to be able to find a physical neutral and build a character out from there. If they have lots of unconscious habits, they'll be very limited in the kinds of characters for which they're cast."

Huebner is founder and director of the Connecticut Center for the Alexander Technique, which helps performers to use the mind and body to improve their movement and performance. Classes in Alexander technique are required for UConn graduate students in performance.

"If an actor tightens up his neck and shoulders every time he needs to speak loudly or with passion, for example, he can learn to lengthen and widen his back to achieve support that doesn't interfere with vocal production," Huebner says.

Acting student Heddy Lahmann says Huebner helps student actors understand how to release the tension in their bodies and turn it into useful energy.

"Once we do, there's a heightened awareness," Lahmann says. "I can use myself more efficiently to tell a story in a theater where I'm communicating with 500 people."



PETER MORENUS



## Improved advising moves UConn to top 20 for retention of students

More than 90 percent of freshmen at Storrs who entered UConn in 2006 came back for their sophomore year, a statistic that places the University among the top 20 U.S. public universities for undergraduate student retention.

Overall University retention and graduation rates also increased. The latest statistics show that 61 percent of freshmen in 2003 graduated in four years, up from 43 percent of those who entered UConn in 1996. Five-year and six-year graduation rates also increased. Improved advising is credited with the increase.

"Research shows that students who receive good advising tend to be more successful, and more graduate on time," says Dolan Evanovich, vice provost of enrollment management.

Over the past five years, UConn has increasingly emphasized helping students to complete their degrees in four years and has developed an infrastructure to support this goal. In addition to improved advising, steps include a wide range of First Year Experience (FYE) programs to help new students adjust to college life, packaging of classes for entering students in certain majors with stringent prerequisites, additional sections of required courses, increased availability of courses during summer and winter intersession and mentoring services for students.

While students are still generally advised by faculty, there also has been a growth in the number of professional academic advisors. The Academic Center for Exploratory Students (ACES) is staffed by professional advisors to provide advising to first- and second-year students who have not yet declared a major.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

### Glen W. Ferguson Mourned

Glen W. Ferguson, who served in the cabinets of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson before leading UConn as president from 1973 to 1978, died in Santa Fe, N.M., in December at the age of 78. After leaving UConn, he served as president of Radio Free Liberty-Radio Europe, president of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and president of the American University of Paris. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Patricia, two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren.



### MBA students gain first-hand look at business in China

Victoria Johansen, Stephen Soldis and Lisa Bratt (L-R) were among more than 30 MBA students from UConn's Stamford campus who visited Tiananmen Square in Beijing during a trip to China last November to experience first-hand what they had been learning about in courses covering international supply chain management and business development in the Pacific Rim. The 11-day trip included meetings with business executives in offices and factories of such multinational companies as Marsh, IBM and GE/NBC in four major cities—Beijing, Jinan, Qingdao and Shanghai. The trip was led by faculty members Wynd Harris, associate professor of marketing, and Timothy Dowding, associate professor of business and director of the Connecticut Information Technology Institute.



## Expanding emergency communication

In the aftermath of last year's tragic shootings at Virginia Tech University, UConn has made significant improvements across all its campuses to enhance emergency communication with the UConn community in the event of a major crisis situation.

"The safety of our students, faculty and staff is paramount," says Barry Feldman, UConn vice president and chief operating officer.

"We have no way to predict if and when a critical situation will occur, but we need to be prepared for all

types of emergencies,

including severe weather problems such as a tornado and other situations. We have redundant systems, so there are multiple ways to get the message out."

In addition to long-standing emergency notification procedures, several additional communication tools have been developed in collaboration with UConn Public Safety.

Enhancements include messages sent to voice mailboxes of all students, faculty and staff; text messages sent to cell phones registered with the UConn Alert Notification System; emergency banners displayed on University Web pages; emergency e-mail communications; activation of newly installed sirens; and recorded messages and flashing lights through the University Code Blue Phone Kiosk system.

The Web site [alert.uconn.edu](http://alert.uconn.edu) serves as the primary Web resource for obtaining information about UConn's alert notification system and will provide ongoing information during a crisis.



## Studying lessons from 1960s youth activism

Yonghong Zhang, an associate professor of political science at Southwest University in Chongqing University in China, is spending a year at UConn as a post-doctoral researcher to utilize the Alternative Press Collection at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center and the resources of the Homer Babbidge Library. Zhang is studying American youth movements and activism in the 1960s and 1970s and related social movements of the period, including the civil rights movement, struggles for racial equality and the feminist movement. He is hoping to develop tools for his own teaching as well as to develop peace education policy for China. UConn's Alternative Press Collection is one of the most frequently used collections at the Dodd Center by students and outside researchers.

## Stamford activities center named for Gaines

The Student Involvement and Activities Center at UConn's campus in Stamford was named in memory of Devin Gaines '07 (CLAS), (ENG), (SFA), who died in a swimming accident last July after achieving the extraordinary accomplishment of earning 276 credits in five years, enough to earn degrees in computer science, cognitive science, theater studies, linguistics/psychology, and an individualized major in cinema, culture, and cognition. He accomplished this while maintaining a 3.2 grade point average. Raised in Stamford, Gaines studied at both the Storrs and Stamford campuses.



## Konovers establish faculty chair in Judaic studies and Jewish life

**A** \$1.5 million gift from longtime UConn philanthropists will endow the University's first faculty chair in Judaic studies and Jewish life.

The Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies will support teaching and research by a leading scholar of Jewish life, history and religion within UConn's Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life, which is part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The faculty chair was established by Doris '50 (NUR) and Simon Konover and the Konover Family Foundation, a collaboration that previously provided the initial funding to establish the Center for Judaic Studies 25 years ago. The most recent support will enable the center to attract a faculty member with an international reputation to develop new courses and provide research leadership in the field of Judaic studies.



Doris Konover '50 (NUR) and Simon Konover

to academic research and teaching, public service and community outreach. It provides an individualized major in Judaic studies and offers one of only six master's degree programs in Judaic studies at a public institution in the U.S. The center has an Israel Study Program and co-sponsors an archaeological dig at Sepphoris in Israel. It is currently the home of the Berman Institute—North American Jewish Data Bank, the central repository of social scientific studies of North American Jewry.

The Konover Chair is consistent with the University's objective of expanding the study of human rights, says Arnold Dashefsky, a professor of sociology and director of the Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life.

Doris M. Konover received her bachelor's degree in 1950 from the UConn School of Nursing. Simon Konover, who received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the University in 1996, is president and chief executive officer of Konover Properties Corp. and a trustee of the Konover Family Foundation.

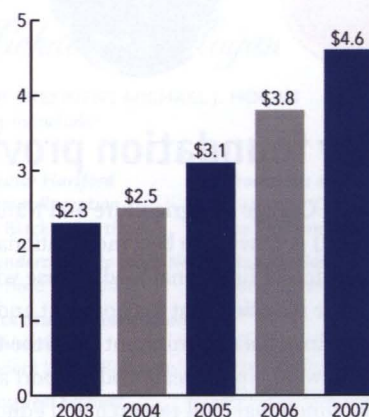
The Konovers are major philanthropists in the Hartford area. In addition to their gifts to the Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life, they have provided support for the UConn libraries, the UConn Health Center, the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center and the Morris N. Trachten Kosher Dining Facility for students.

"The Konover Chair will further strengthen the center's highly regarded programs and leadership in Judaic studies," says President Michael J. Hogan.

"The Doris and Simon Konover Chair recognizes the high level of scholarship the Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life can sustain and the high level of international recognition to which it aspires," says Ross MacKinnon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life is dedicated

Annual Fund Giving  
Dollars in millions



## UConn annual fund hits record \$4.6M

The UConn Foundation received more than \$59 million in philanthropic support during fiscal 2007 to benefit the University's faculty, students and programs, including a record amount for the annual fund.

The total amount raised was \$59.8 million from more than 33,000 donors. Giving from alumni and parents increased by 52 percent, with nearly 29 percent of the overall amount raised from alumni. According to *U.S. News & World Report*, UConn ranks in the top 13 percent among national public universities for alumni giving.

The Foundation's annual fund generated a record \$4.6 million, which is a 17 percent increase over last year and double the amount raised in 2003. Of the total funds raised in 2007, \$2 million was designated for faculty support, \$8.3 million for scholarships, \$23.9 million for programs and \$4.9 million for capital improvements. Approximately \$13 million was designated for activities at the UConn Health Center. Support for UConn athletics was \$20.7 million.

As of June 30, 2007, the University endowment stood at \$336 million, which is a \$37 million, or 12 percent, increase over 2006.





## Family foundation provides recipe for functional food studies

**U**Conn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) is moving to become a national leader in the study and application of functional foods, those with health benefits beyond basic nutrition that may prevent and help treat disease.

A major financial commitment from the Esperance Family Foundation will help to create and support a multidisciplinary center for functional food research and education at UConn, including as many as four new faculty specialists in the area.

Examples of functional foods include a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes rich in antioxidants and other bioactive compounds that may prevent or delay the onset of coronary heart disease, diabetes, cancer and other chronic conditions. Functional foods are now a nearly \$30-billion annual market in the U.S. alone, and some projections indicate the market will soon double.

"Americans are obsessed with their health. If we can demonstrate to the public the benefits of eating certain foods through proven science—and not as a fad diet—there is tremendous

potential in terms of the growth of research at the University, growth of agriculture in the state and improvement of the public health in general," says Ian Hart, associate dean for research and advanced studies in CANR.

The planned center could make UConn one of the few schools across the nation—and the only one in New England—with such a dedicated focus.

Sung Koo, professor and head of nutritional sciences in CANR, says there is an important link between the integration of research with existing medical practice and consumer education.

"We will focus on research, technology transfer, curriculum development and consumer education," he says. "We need to disseminate information about functional foods to consumers so that they can be educated about modifying their dietary habits and food choices, and through translational medicine, we can connect basic research on functional foods to patient care, and nutritional and diet therapies."

## Satell scholarships aid global internships, studies

**U**ndergraduate students at UConn will have the opportunity to gain essential experience and skills for nonprofit and social entrepreneurial careers with two new scholarships created for internships and study abroad.

The Ed Satell Non-Profit Internship Program and the Ed Satell International Social Entrepreneurship Fund were established with a gift of \$100,000, split evenly between the programs, by Edward Satell '57 (BUS) to mark the 50th anniversary of his graduation from the University.

Satell, founder, president and chief executive officer of Progressive Business Publications in Malvern, Pa., says he wants to help students explore what they are passionate about and become conscientious global citizens.

"Each generation makes its own contribution, building on what was done by the previous generation," says Satell. "Students now have the opportunity to contribute in their own way to

make this world a better place. Social entrepreneurship has had an impact in many countries around the world. It allows people to have the dignity to earn money and be independent. It advances society and advances democracy."

The internship program will support students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who are working in unpaid positions with nonprofit organizations, such as museums or government agencies that address poverty.

"Nonprofits often do not have the resources to offer paid internships," says Douglas Hamilton, professor of physics and associate dean of the College. "The gift of these scholarships opens up new opportunities for students in this important part of our social economy."

Recipients of the Ed Satell International Social Entrepreneurship Fund will be selected by UConn's Office of Study Abroad, offering aid to students working on social entrepreneurship

projects related to economic and social development in other countries.

"One of the most effective ways for students to help the poorer people of the world rise out of terrible poverty is through social entrepreneurship, including the development of micro-finance and micro-credit business opportunities," adds Ross Lewin, director of the study abroad program. "By participating in this program, our students will acquire an extremely valuable set of business skills, but also the intercultural knowledge, skills and attitudes required to affect problems of global significance."

Satell's two charitable foundations, the Satell Family Trust and the Progressive Business Publications Charitable Trust Fund, actively support diverse philanthropic projects focusing on four areas, including medical research, disadvantaged children, community organizations and education.



**JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

860-486-1629  
www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com

April 3, 7:30 pm  
**PAUL GALBRAITH**  
Classical Guitar

April 5, 8 pm  
**LATIN FEST 2008**  
Dance Cabaret



Latin Fest 2008

April 11, 7:30 pm  
**BEAUX ARTS TRIO**  
Piano, violin, cello

April 24, 8 pm  
**DAVE HOLLAND SEXTET**  
Defining the best in jazz

April 24–May 3, 8 & 2 pm  
**THE THREEPENNY OPERA**  
Connecticut Repertory Theatre

May 2–3, 8 pm  
**AUDRA MCDONALD, soprano**  
Cabaret

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

Through April 6  
**MEET THE SAMSAS**  
Puppet Arts Production

Beaux Arts Trio

**THE WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART**

860-486-4520  
www.benton.uconn.edu  
Open T-F: 10-4:30 pm, S-Sun: 1-4:30 pm  
(Closed May 24-25 and July 4-6)

Through May 11  
**ROME ITALY AND EUROPE**  
Evelyn Simon Gilman Gallery

April 12–May 11  
**THE MFA EXHIBITION**  
East Gallery

June 3–Aug 10  
**COLLECTOR'S GRAPHICS: LITHOGRAPHY IN THE EARLY '60s**  
Evelyn Simon Gilman Gallery

**BALLARD INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM OF PUPPETRY**

860-486-4605  
Open F-Sun, Noon-5 pm

April 27–Nov. 16  
*Puppets Through the Lens: The Puppet in Film, Television and the Internet*

**J. ROBERT DONNELLY HUSKY HERITAGE SPORTS MUSEUM**

860-486-2240  
Open M-F., 8 am-5 pm

National Champions Gallery,  
Connecticut Basketball Rotunda,  
Motor City Bowl Display,  
UConn All-Americans, NCAA  
Championship Trophies

**HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY**

860-486-2516  
Open M-Th, 8 am-2 am; Fri, 8 am-10 pm;  
Sat, 10 am-10 pm; Sun, 10 am-2 am

*Pamela Bramble and Frank Bramble:*  
*Remnants, Glyphs and Palimpsests*  
Gallery on the Plaza and Stevens  
Gallery, Through May 16



**Inaugural Events**

2008

INAUGURATION

*Michael J. Hogan*

INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT MICHAEL J. HOGAN

April 10-13, Activities to include:



**Greater Hartford Alumni Reception**  
Joe Black's, Hartford

**Founders Society Black-tie**  
Hartford Marriott

**Black Student Association Fashion Show**  
Student Union Ballroom

**Inaugural Festival**  
Dow Field & Fairfield Way

**Procession & Ceremony**  
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

**Student Gala**  
Rome Commons Ballroom

**Fireworks**  
Viewing from various campus locations

For more information: <http://president.uconn.edu/inauguration>

*She Sells Sea Shells: Lynda Susan Hennigan, Recreator of Sailors' Valentines*  
Gallery on the Plaza, May 27–Aug. 15

*In Plain Sight: Paintings by Janice Trecker*  
Stevens Gallery, May 27–Aug. 15

**THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER**

860-486-2516  
Open M-F, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

*Ken Dubay: The Art of the Woodturner*  
May 27–Aug. 15

**WILBUR CROSS GALLERY**

Open M-F, 8 am-5 pm

**Permanent Exhibit – The UConn Story: The History of the University of Connecticut**

**CONNECTICUT STATE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

860-486-4460  
Open T-Sat, 10 am-4 pm

**Permanent Exhibit – Human's Nature: Looking Closer at the Relationships between People and the Environment**

**ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY GREENHOUSES**

860-486-4052  
Open M-F, 8 am-4 pm;  
through May 12

**UConn ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

888-UC-ALUM-1  
June 6–7–Reunion Weekend

For updated information about activities, scheduled exhibitions, museums and Web sites, go to <http://uconn.edu/attractions/>

**Regional Campus Happenings**

**AVERY POINT**

**Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art, Branford House:** April 25–June 8–Works by Jim Sardonis, Lois Goglia, Denn Santoro and Carol Dunn.  
June 13–July 27–Works by Mary Louise Long, Felix Bronner, Rudy Muller and Rita Dawley.  
For info call: 860-405-9052.

**STAMFORD**

**Campus Art Gallery:** Through May 31, Juried Photography Show.  
June 1–Aug. 30–J. Seward Johnson Exhibit. For info call: 203-251-8400

**TORRINGTON**

**All Events: Francis Hogan Lecture Hall**  
All events 6:30-9 pm  
Litchfield County Writer's Project:  
April 2–Helen Houghton and Jack Gilpin; April 9–Elizabeth Thomas and Carol Potter; April 16–Susan Kinsolving and Elizabeth McDonald; April 23–Robin Magowan, Juliet Mattila, Lisa Starr and Bhuchung Sonam; April 24–Honor Moore; April 30–Frank McCourt.

**UConn HEALTH CENTER**

**The Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride**  
June 8–Benefits the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center and Coaches vs. Cancer. Riders 14 years and older. For information: [www.jimcalhounride.kintera.org](http://www.jimcalhounride.kintera.org).



# Hockey goalies off the ice face off

**I**ce hockey goalies **Brittany Wilson '09 (ED)** and **Beau Erickson '10 (BUS)** talk about the key position each holds on their respective teams. Wilson earned All-New England honors last year and recorded her 13th win of the year midway through this season, becoming UConn's career wins leader with 33 victories. Erickson had recorded nearly half of UConn's wins this season and made a career-high 45 saves in one game before suffering a temporary knee injury.

## ■ How did you decide goalie was the position you wanted to play?

**Beau:** Like a lot of kids, I fell in love with the equipment. When you're 5 or 6 years old, you see all that cool stuff.

**Brittany:** I thought: I don't have to skate. Then the first time I put the equipment on, I told my Mom I wanted to play goalie.

## ■ Many athletes are superstitious with their routines, like how they get dressed for a game. Is that the way it is for you?

**Brittany:** I try to keep my pre-game warm-up the same, but as far as equipment, I try not to be regimented because if something goes wrong, then you're freaking out about it.

**Beau:** On game day, I'm pretty mellow. I like to get to the rink for a morning skate, get a nap in, a good meal, hit the shower and then go through my pre-game routine.

## ■ What is it like to know you're the one who has to stop the other team from scoring?

**Beau:** It's pretty exciting. If you're on your game, you can really control the game and dictate its outcome. It's thrilling to be the last line of defense.

**Brittany:** I agree. At the same time, there's a lot more pressure because if you make a mistake the puck usually ends up in your net.

## ■ On a penalty shot, what goes through your mind?

**Beau:** I prefer a guy to take a deke—go left or right—rather than a shot. I try to challenge a bit more and take away what I can give him.

**Brittany:** I have a routine that I've used since I was 8 years old. I get a good depth outside my crease, make a couple of cuts, get comfortable and let them make a move. I don't force them to be aggressive. I let them make the first move and follow it.

## ■ What do you do when the action's at the other end of the ice?

**Beau:** (laughs) I'm praying for a goal. No, I like to sit back, observe and wait

to see what's going to develop when it comes back my way.

**Brittany:** I try to pick up what the other players are doing. You'll notice habits of certain players, what they like to do, and read off that to cut down their angles.

## ■ What do you do before a game to prepare for the other team?

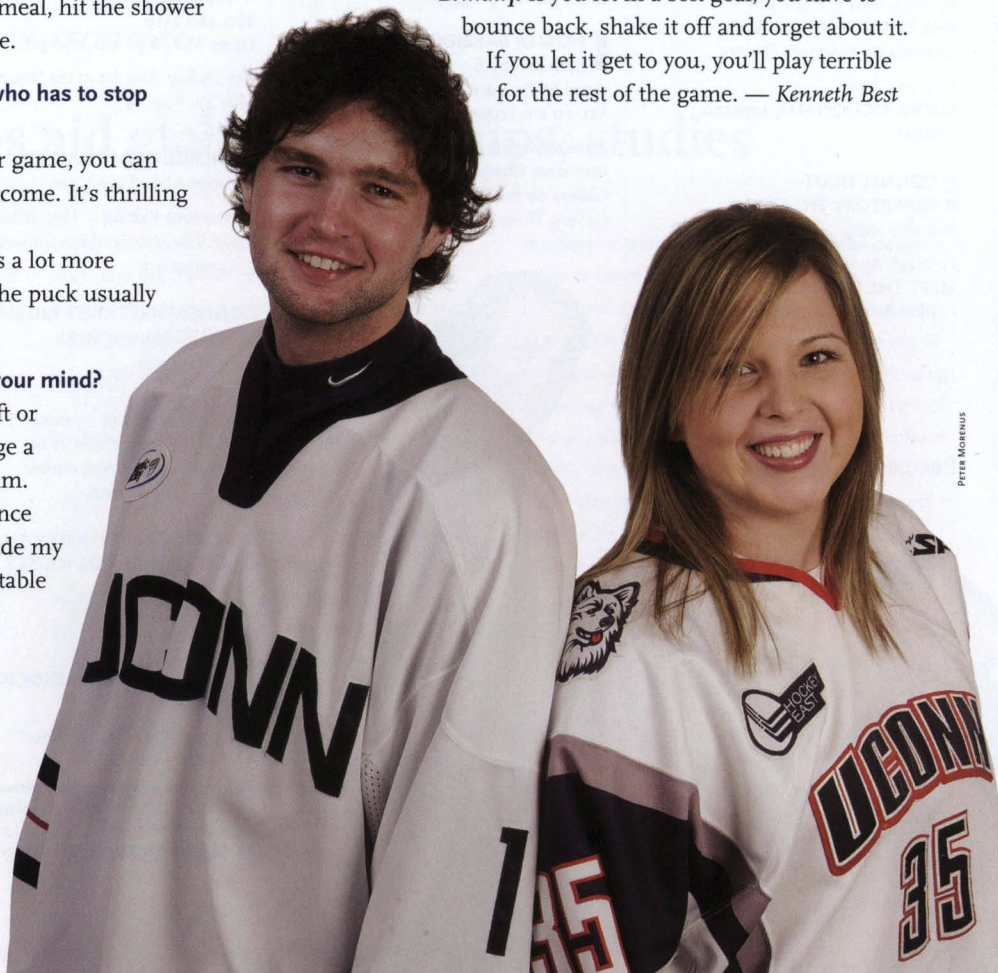
**Beau:** You know who their big players are, if they're a good transition team and what they like to do in certain situations. You can't go out there blind. If you sit back on your heels, you're going to get beat.

**Brittany:** In the guys' games, they just whale pucks right at you. In women's hockey, teams try to make the extra pass; it's more finesse. I have to be aware of where their players are and what system they're going to run.

## ■ What is the hardest mental aspect of being a goalie?

**Beau:** Confidence is huge. If you are confident in your ability, no matter who you play, you're going to make a few more saves. Confidence is something you can't teach. You just develop it. If you lose your confidence, it makes your job that much harder.

**Brittany:** If you let in a soft goal, you have to bounce back, shake it off and forget about it. If you let it get to you, you'll play terrible for the rest of the game. — *Kenneth Best*



PETER MORENO





## Stevens enshrined in Field Hockey Hall of Fame

**F**ield hockey head coach Nancy Stevens was enshrined in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) Hall of Fame in early January. Stevens completed her 18th season as UConn head coach and her 28th season overall last fall. She is the fourth coach in NCAA field hockey history to reach the 400-win plateau and has guided the Huskies to 10 Big East regular season titles, 10 Big East Tournament titles, 12 NCAA Tournament appearances and four berths in the national semifinals (1998, 1999, 2006 and 2007). She joins former head coach Diane Wright (1975-1989), who led the Huskies to the first-ever NCAA field hockey championship in 1981 and a second UConn title in 1985, as a member of the NFHCA Hall of Fame.

## Husky[STATS]

TITLES, AWARDS, AND TOURNEY PLAY

### FIELD HOCKEY

The team finished 22-3, Big East regular and tournament titles, NCAA semifinals. Lizzy Peijs '08 (CLAS): NFHCA All-American, first team; Big East Offensive Player of the Year. Jennifer Kleinhans '09 (ENG): NFHCA All-American, second team; Big East Defensive Player of the Year. Meghan Wheeler '09 (CLAS): NFHCA All-American, second team; All-Big East, first team. Lauren Aird '08 (CLAS): All-Big East, first team. Melissa Gonzalez '11 (CLAS) and Lindsay Leck '09 (CLAS): All-Big East, second team.

### FOOTBALL

The team finished 9-4, Big East champions, Meineke Car Care Bowl participant. Randy Edsall: New England Coach of the Year, Boston Gridiron Club. Danny Lansanah '08 (CLAS) and Donald Thomas '08 (CLAS): All-Big East, first team. Andre Dixon '10 (CLAS) and Tyvon Branch '08 (CLAS): All-Big East, second team.

### MEN'S SOCCER

The team finished 20-3-1, Big East regular season and tournament titles, NCAA quarterfinals. O'Brian White '09 (CLAS): Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy Winner; NSCAA

National Player of the Year; Soccer America National Player of the Year; All-American, first team; Big East Offensive Player of the Year. Julius James '08 (CANR): All-American, first team; Big East Defensive Player of the Year, All-Big East, first team; MAC Hermann Trophy Semifinalist. Toni Stah '10 (CANR): All-Big East, first team. Ryan Cordeiro '08 (CLAS) and Akeem Priestly '09 (CANR): All-Big East, second team; Josh Ford '10 (ED): All-Big East, third team.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

The team finished 14-6-2, Big East regular and tournament titles, NCAA quarterfinals. Megan Schnur '08 (ED): All-American, first team; Big East Midfielder of the Year; All-Big East, first team. Brittany Taylor '09 (CLAS): All-American, first team; Big East Defensive Player of the Year; All-Big East, first team. Elizabeth Eng '09 (CLAS) and Karyn Riviere '08 (ED): All-Big East second team; Kacey Richards '11 (CLAS) and Annie Yi '10 (CLAS): All-Big East third team.

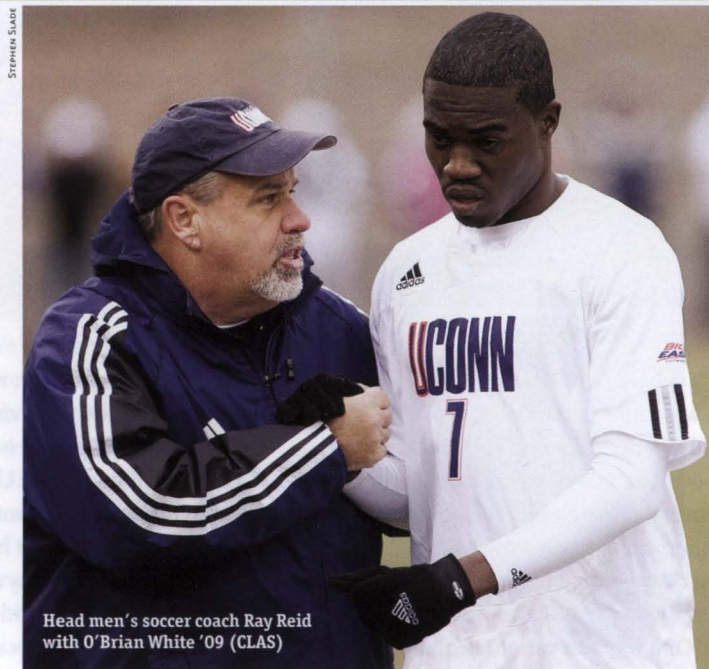
### VOLLEYBALL

The team finished 19-11. Sade Chambers '08 (CLAS): All-Big East, first team. Bridget Denson-Dorman '10 (CLAS): All-Big East, second team.

## Husky soccer elite

### O'BRIAN WHITE WINS HERMANN TROPHY

**S**occer forward O'Brian White '09 (CLAS) swept the collegiate soccer world's major awards for 2007, winning the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy, the most prestigious individual award in intercollegiate soccer; National Soccer Coaches Association of America Player of the Year Award; and Soccer America Player of the Year Award. He also was a First Team All-American honoree. Head men's soccer coach Ray Reid earned his 300th career win on Sept. 28, 2007, when the Huskies defeated St. John's at Joseph J. Morrone Stadium. He is among the upper echelon of soccer coaches in terms of winning percentage. He is the winningest active NCAA Division I coach and 10th all-time. He has a career record of 312-76-33, including a UConn record of 166-59-18.



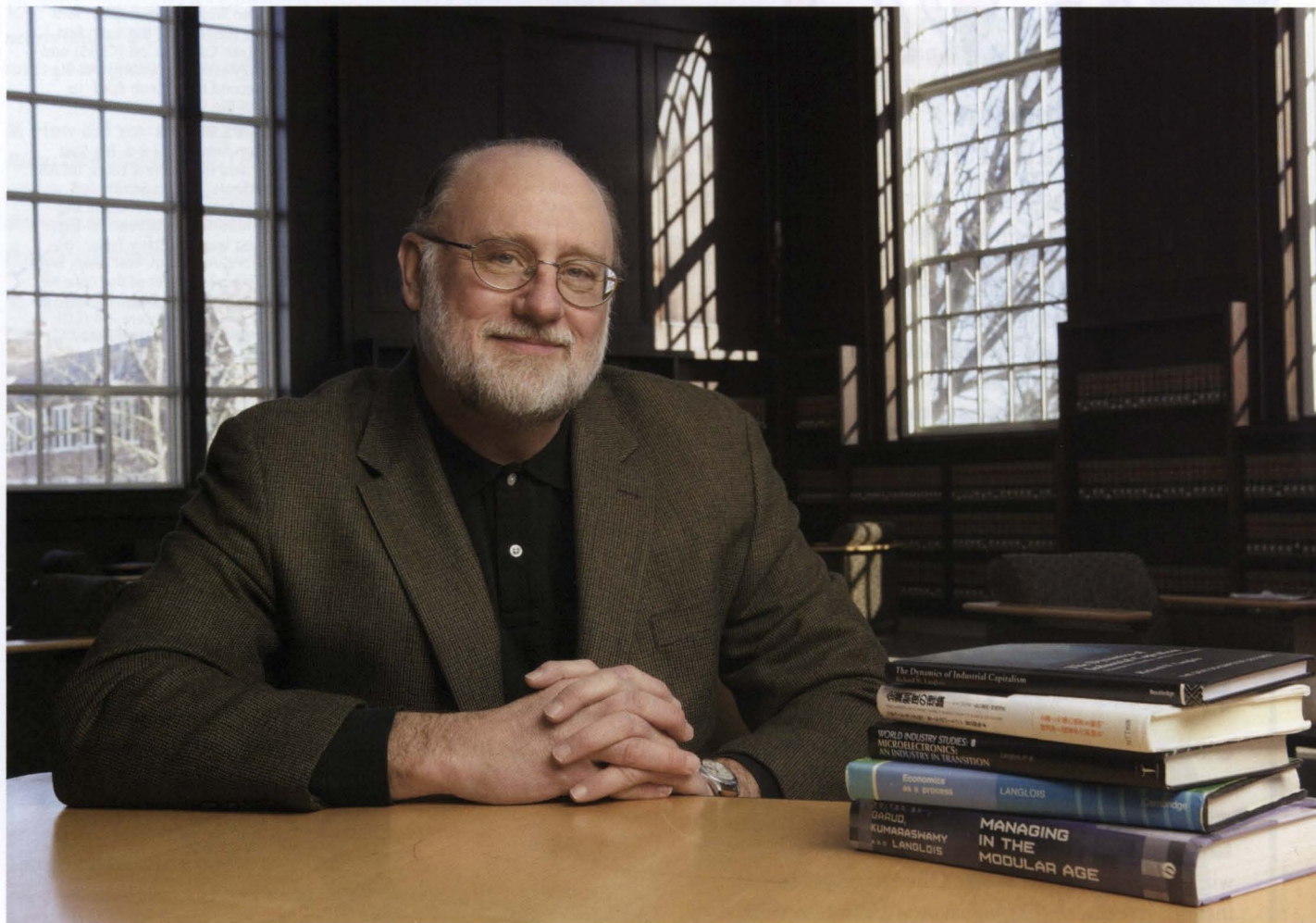
Head men's soccer coach Ray Reid with O'Brian White '09 (CLAS)



## How much organization does a company need?

RICHARD LANGLOIS CHALLENGES CONVENTIONAL THINKING OF HOW BUSINESSES ARE STRUCTURED

LARRY NACLER



**R**ichard Langlois, professor of economics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, spends his time thinking about how businesses are organized. His seminal research into the economics of organization has led the way in challenging conventional thinking and exploring new ideas about the subject.

“One way you can think about organization is that we assume there is a thing

called the firm and then we ask the question, what can we do to make it run better, be more profitable, more successful?” says Langlois, who serves as UConn’s director of undergraduate economics. “In some ways I’m asking a more fundamental question, which is—why should these things be organized inside firms at all?”

Langlois explores how modern corporations moved from working within the

context of industrial corporations—controlling all aspects of their business—to specialized entities connected by markets and networks. His writings place the work of Joseph Schumpeter and Alfred Chandler—two of the last century’s most important analysts of the modern corporation, who focused on vertically integrated businesses—into a larger theoretical framework in the context of business history.



One of Langlois's most recent papers, "Organizing the Electronic Century," challenges one of Chandler's last major works, which describes the emergence of the electronics industry and argues that large companies such as RCA led economic growth.

Langlois takes the position that for some technologies, large companies with research and development laboratories effectively might have slowed economic growth because they controlled the patents and intellectual property for electronic devices. This, he says, discouraged innovation.

"The radio was a lot like the personal computer; there were hobbyists and it was easy to assemble. It was almost like a modular system," Langlois says. "RCA owned all the patents for the radio. That actually limited innovation because you had no incentive to invent a better piece for the radio. No one would buy it because even if they used your piece, they still had to pay RCA for the other pieces."

Looking at classic, vertically integrated companies such as IBM and Standard Oil (today's ExxonMobil) demonstrates the change in how businesses are now organized, he explains. In the oil industry, Standard Oil owned everything from the oil exploration and oil refinery businesses to gas stations. Companies such as IBM made their own transistors, built computers and developed operating systems. Today, large corporations in the computer industry are separate businesses—Microsoft writes software, Intel makes processors and Dell assembles the computer.

"When you think about globalization, there are real issues of how firms are organized," he says. "The division of labor is organized among several multinational companies all over the world. I'm making the argument that in the U.S. multinational corporations emerged because markets weren't working very well."

Globalization is part of the reason

for this change in the organization of economic activity. "In the 19th and early 20th centuries," says Langlois, "vertical integration had advantages because markets were relatively sparse and borders protected by geography and tariffs. Often large integrated firms were ahead of the markets."

Langlois explains that after a quarter century of post World War II recovery, the economies of Japan and Germany returned to the world market, creating increased competition for American products. Reforms in India and China and the former Soviet Union created markets that previously were not available, developing thicker and stronger markets around the world.

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### "When you think about globalization, there are real issues of how firms are organized . . ."

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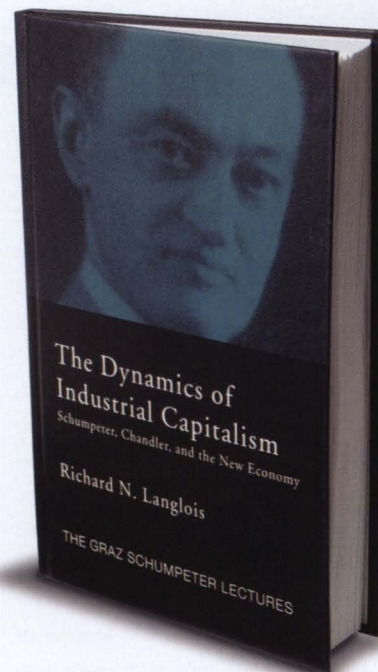
The turbulence of globalization also made the economy more unpredictable. "If the economy is entrepreneurial, it should be unpredictable," he says. "Forty years ago, who would have predicted iPods and the Internet. Science fiction writers didn't think about personal communicators until "Star Trek." People are going to come up with innovations in organizational forms. We've seen it in financial instruments before. Things get tried, if they don't work, they don't last very long."

Since arriving at UConn in 1983, Langlois has established an international reputation for his scholarship on business history, the role of transactions costs, the organization of production and the new institutional economics. His undergraduate degree at Williams College and his master's at Yale were awarded in physics.

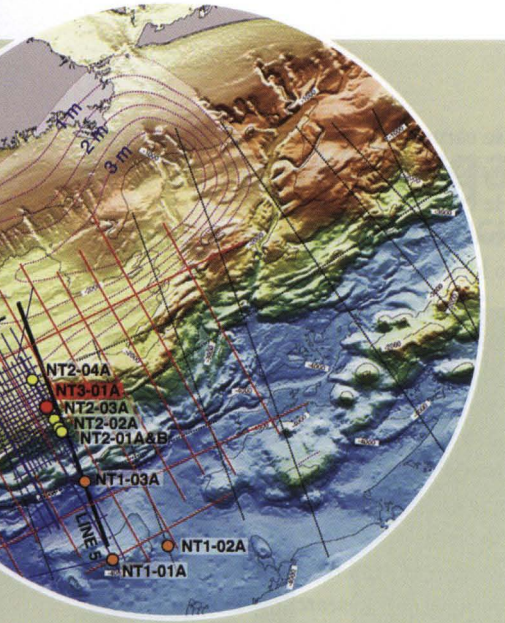
He earned both a master's and doctorate in economic systems at Stanford University. He credits such an unusual path to economics as part of his different approach to looking at the subject.

"Not coming from a traditional background has something to do with it," says Langlois, who began his academic career at New York University. "And part of it is that UConn allowed me to keep doing what I was doing and publish books instead of publishing in journals, which is the usual expectation for faculty."

Langlois, who received the 2007 Faculty Excellence in Research Award from the UConn Alumni Association, continues to be sought out for his innovative views on business organization. He attended a conference in Japan late last year with a group of international scholars who are examining new forms of business organization. They plan to collaborate on what will become the *Oxford Handbook of Business Groups*. — Kenneth Best







## Tracking Earthquakes in Japan

This seismic map of the southwest coast of Japan is part of the research gathered by UConn geologist Tim Byrne, associate professor with the Center for Integrative Geosciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, who was a member of a scientific expedition that spent six weeks on a drilling ship in the Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone. The scientists are participating in a long-term expedition that will take seismic images, examine the composition of sediments, collect core samples to study, position sensors on the ocean floor, and search for faulting zones in Japan, where there are thousands of earthquakes every month. In early 2009, Byrne will be a co-chief scientist on another three-month stage of the work.

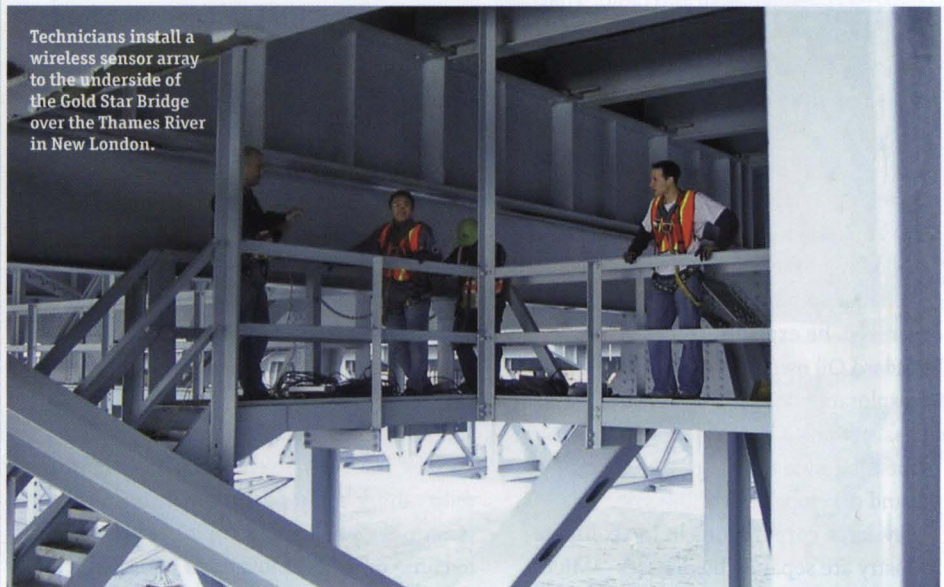
## Monitoring bridge safety in Connecticut

UConn engineers continue to break new ground in monitoring the safety of bridges, even as safety issues have gained new attention following the collapse of a bridge spanning the Mississippi River last summer during evening rush hour in Minneapolis.

John DeWolf, professor of civil and environmental engineering in the School of Engineering, has spent more than two decades on field research involving the monitoring of bridges in Connecticut after the 1983 collapse of the bridge on I-95 crossing over the Mianus River in Greenwich. His studies involve quantifying metrics that reduce the subjective nature of the inspections and enhance bridge safety.

One of the new systems DeWolf and his team have deployed is the first of its kind: a wireless sensor array that relies on solar panels for its power source, allowing the team to keep an array in place and capture critical data over long periods. Currently, sensors are powered by batteries that must be replaced periodically. The solar array is being tested on the Gold Star Bridge, a pair of steel truss bridges that carry about 117,000 vehicles daily over the Thames River on both I-95 and Route 1 between Groton and New London.

DeWolf and his research team have used from 12 to 52 sensors on any one bridge. The arrays may include a combination of tilt meters, accelerometers, strain gauges and thermocouples that measure tilt, vibration, strain and temperature at various locations on a bridge.



Technicians install a wireless sensor array to the underside of the Gold Star Bridge over the Thames River in New London.

"We have learned a great deal about how bridges perform over time," he says. "Our field research has allowed us to develop techniques for structural health monitoring of bridges that can be applied broadly to assess the bridge infrastructure."

DeWolf currently has custom-tailored, long-term monitoring arrays installed on six bridges that are part of the Connecticut interstate network. His objective with these studies is to better understand how bridges perform and degrade over time, under different weather and temperature conditions, and with varying use and to develop assessment guidelines that can be applied uniformly and universally.





## Better understanding of long-term care needed

Connecticut residents have a lack of understanding about long-term care issues, according to findings in the state's first long-term care needs assessment in more than 20 years, conducted by researchers at the UConn Health Center.

"People aren't planning for their future needs," says Julie Robison, assistant professor of medicine and a leader of the UConn research team that conducted "The Connecticut Long-Term Care Needs Assessment," authorized by the General Assembly. "They aren't planning because they don't understand what long-term care is, who needs it, how much it costs, who pays for it or what choices are available to them."

Most of the more than 6,000 residents who responded to the statewide survey believe eventually they will need long-term care, but few say they can afford it and though their life savings could quickly be drained, few are planning ahead.

The average 30-month nursing home care stay—just one part of the equation—is \$272,000, says Robison. Compounding that, many people erroneously believe long-term care refers exclusively to nursing home care, particularly for older adults. However, planning for long-term care should encompass services and support needed for extended periods by people of all ages who need help due to a disability or chronic illness.

Nationally, 10 to 15 million Americans currently need long-term care services and support. Government estimates suggest the number could nearly double to 27 million by 2050. UConn researchers say the same pattern holds true for Connecticut. More than 188,000 state residents 40 years of age and older currently require long-term care, and the number is expected to jump nearly 30 percent, to 240,238, by 2030. Connecticut's Medicaid program already spends more than \$2.2 billion a year on long-term care services.

The full survey and executive summary is available on the Connecticut Commission on Aging Web site: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/coa/>.

## Math research center develops formula for collaboration

A new interdisciplinary center for research in mathematics education has been established, combining the expertise of mathematics faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and the Neag School of Education.

UConn's Center for Research in Mathematics Education was developed by Tom DeFranco, associate dean of the Neag School, and Charles Vinsonhaler, professor emeritus of mathematics in the math department of CLAS, who sought to create "a bridge between two cultures."

The seed for the center was planted more than 10 years ago when DeFranco and Vinsonhaler, then-chair of the math department, began discussing and working on issues in mathematics education. They collaborated to write a book on mathematical problem solving, taught an innovative course on mathematics pedagogy to math department teaching assistants,

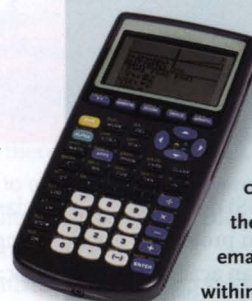
co-authored research articles, and jointly secured grant funding.

Most important, says DeFranco, their collaboration resulted in the establishment of a "mathematics education presence" within the math department.

DeFranco, a professor in the Neag School who holds a joint appointment in CLAS, is director of the new center, which he hopes will blend the math department's orientation toward content and the Neag School's focus on pedagogy and performance for those training to teach mathematics.

DeFranco and Vinsonhaler believe that by drawing upon the expertise of faculty in both the Neag School and the department of mathematics, the center can improve the teaching and learning of mathematics throughout the University, as well as in the state of Connecticut.

The center's mission focuses on putting together a comprehensive research agenda to enhance "the quality of mathematics curriculum, instruction and assessment," DeFranco says.





# 'A work in progress'

ROBERTO CRUZ CLOSES IN ON ACADEMIC MILESTONE



**R**oberto Cruz '08 (BGS) describes himself as “a work in progress,” even as he is about to achieve an academic milestone at UConn that has taken two decades to complete.

Growing up in Puerto Rico, he dreamed of becoming a doctor. In 1988, after graduating from high school, he moved to New York with his mother and siblings and was accepted into New York University's pre-med program. When financial realities got in the way, he began working full-time as a nursing assistant and in health related, customer service jobs.

Yet he continued his educational quest, studying part-time at several schools. By 2001, Cruz had earned a certificate in health care administration from NYU. In 2005, still working full-time, Cruz enrolled in the human services program at the City University of New York's Manhattan campus. Even as he worked and attended

classes, he found time to volunteer as an English as a second language teacher at a local Hispanic senior center. But, he felt something was still missing. “I wanted to get my education back on track and recognized I needed to earn at least a bachelor's degree,” he says.

Some friends who had graduated from the UConn School of Social Work suggested he consider the bachelor of general studies program at UConn's Greater Hartford campus. In fall 2006, Cruz relocated to Connecticut, secured a job as a client services account manager at United Health and also became a full-time student.

Cruz credits his UConn advisor, Susan Graham-Handley, with helping him develop an individualized program focusing on urban and health care management.

“She has helped me better identify a vision of what I really want to do, which is work in community outreach programs or

with hospital-based organizations within a community setting—to be able to make a difference,” Cruz says.

This spring, Cruz is doing an internship at the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford with Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, professor of nutritional sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and director of the Center for Eliminating Health Disparities among Latinos.

“Prof. Pérez-Escamilla lectured in one of my classes and afterwards I asked him if I could help with any research,” says Cruz, who is working as a research technician and has been collecting and interpreting data for the Diabetes Among Latinos Best Practices Trial. He also is working on an independent study about the uninsured Hispanic population in Connecticut with Marysol Asencio, associate professor of

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**“I wanted to get my education back on track”**  
—Roberto Cruz '08 (BGS)

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Human Development and Family Studies & Puerto Rican and Latino Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In 2007, Cruz was honored with the University Continuing Education Association award as the outstanding continuing education student for New England in recognition of his academic achievements and service to the community. The award qualified him as one of five finalists for the national award.

For Cruz, the quest continues. He has been accepted into the master in public health program at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, beginning next fall.  
— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)



## Establishing Husky ties that bind

**S**tefanie Landsman believes the process of instilling a student's lifelong involvement with UConn should commence even before a student's arrival on campus.

"We want to build those connections from the beginning," says Landsman, who will graduate in May from the Neag School of Education with a master of arts concentration in higher education and student affairs that included field work in administrative offices in Storrs. "We worked with UConn admissions to get out-of-state students so we could pair them with current students before they arrived on campus. We found it was one of the most beneficial times to get questions answered and lessen their anxiety about starting life on campus."

She used a similar approach to build connections while serving as a graduate assistant in the Office of Student Affairs, where she helped to expand the Huskies Away From Home program, which assists new out-of-state students transition to campus life and the Storrs community.

"Being an out-of-state student at a large state university is really a unique experience," says Landsman, who is from New Jersey. "For these students, the majority of their in-state peers live much closer to their family and friends than you do. A lot of their friends came to UConn, too, so they are already connected socially. Knowing how these students feel—and feeling it myself at times—has really allowed me to address certain issues that might have been overlooked by someone more familiar with Connecticut, like issues of transportation or planning events over holiday weekends."

As program director, Landsman transformed Huskies Away From Home from a straightforward peer mentoring program to a recognized student group with an executive board holding monthly social events and that participates in other activities.

When she first joined the program last year, there were 25 returning mentors, mostly juniors and seniors. This year there were 160 mentors, 180 first-year students, and another 90 students who wanted to expand their involvement with the social network through involvement with events such as pizza parties, ice skating, study breaks during finals week or participation on intramural teams.

Landsman was able to bring her enthusiasm for helping students to other projects. During an internship at the UConn Alumni Association (UCAA), Landsman developed an undergraduate student relations outreach initiative aimed at increasing involvement and boosting membership with UCAA upon graduation. She also worked with the Student Alumni Association to address issues such as student recruitment, retention and event planning to engage more current students with UCAA.

Landsman says she was attracted to UConn's higher education graduate program because of its hands-on, less theoretical methodology. Students are teamed into small groups, so they can bring their varied experiences together to work on class assignments, and there are required field internships and assistantships. She says being involved with first-hand experiences is a catalyst for her graduate work and notes that UConn's graduate program has exceeded her expectations.

Landsman praises John Saddlemire, UConn vice president for student affairs, for being "incredibly supportive" and providing her with the opportunity to get involved with areas of higher education administration that she wanted to pursue.

"He really helped me better understand the options in the field, which really has enabled me to grow a lot professionally," she says.

The admiration is mutual.

"Stefanie brings a calm sense of professionalism to whatever job she is asked to do," Saddlemire says. "You can always count on her to deliver at a high level."

— Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)





# Investigating a small world with big potential

By Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS) and David McKay Wilson

What if harmful carbon dioxide emissions—the primary cause of global warming—could be stripped from the atmosphere and harnessed to create useful products, such as pharmaceuticals or renewable fuels? Suppose newly developed chemotherapy drugs could target cancer cells with unparalleled precision, sparing healthy cells from damage and, consequently, patients from unpleasant side effects.

Although still generations away, such scientific breakthroughs are not as far-fetched as they might have once seemed. Faculty members and graduate students at the University of Connecticut are among those leading the way in this emerging area called nanotechnology.

A burgeoning field of promise viewed by some as the next technological frontier, nanotechnology is expected to bring about widespread changes in the world similar to the transformations that followed development of the computer in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Although still in its infancy, many researchers predict that


nanotechnology will change everything from how we store information and treat illness to how we power our cars and heat our homes. In short, scientists are looking for ways to use little things—so small they are unseen by the naked eye and observable only through the most advanced of microscopes—to change the world in a big way.

How small is the nano world? With a single nanometer equal to one-millionth of a millimeter, even a million nanometers reach only across the head of a pin. In nanotechnology research, scientists are literally working on the atomic level,

studying and manipulating matter on an ultra-small scale—typically measuring between a mere 1 and 100 nanometers.

## A Promising Investment

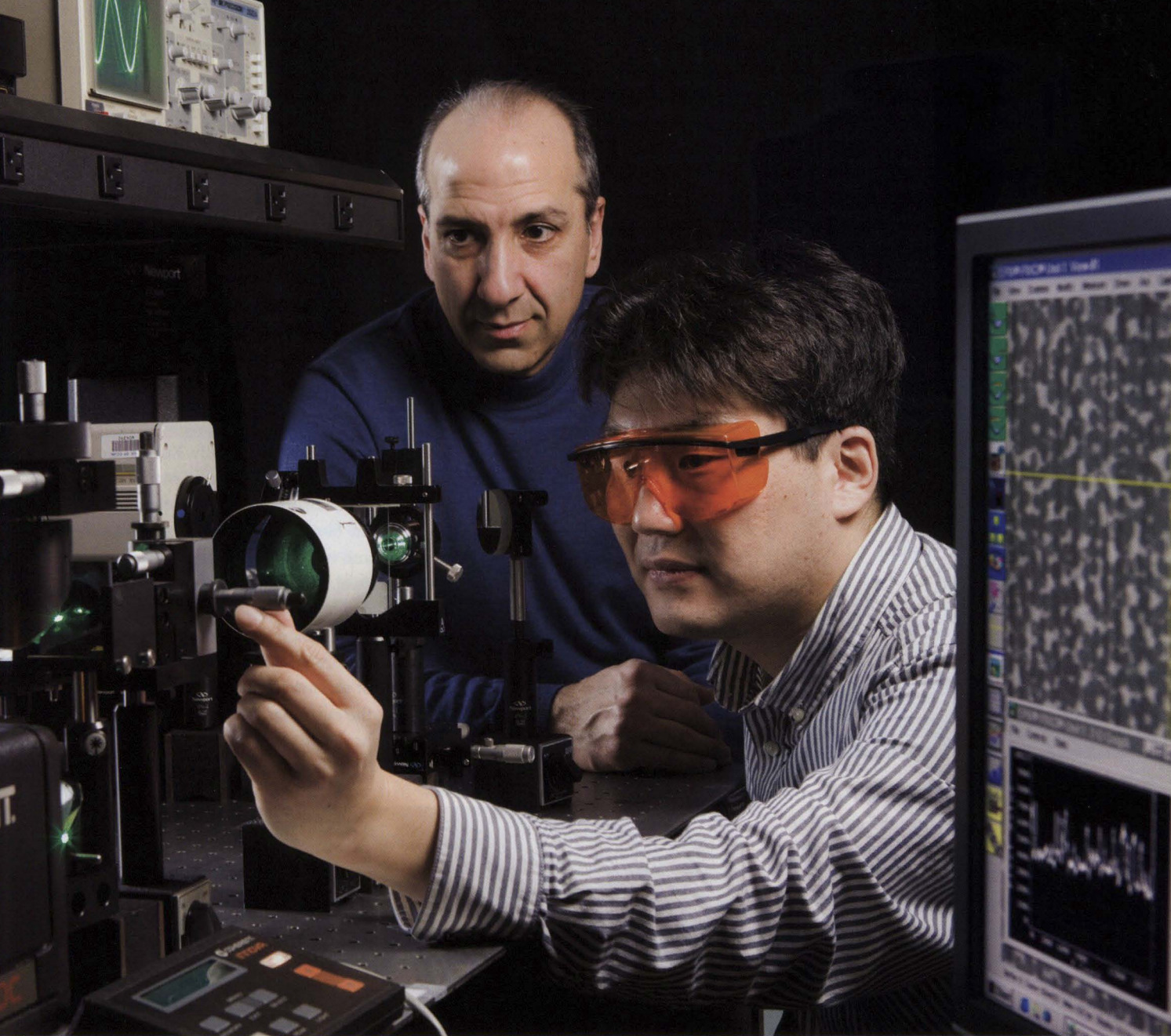
In recent years, UConn has emerged as a leader in nanotechnology research in Connecticut, and “the state is starting to pay attention,” says Mehdi Anwar, associate dean for research and graduate education at the School of Engineering. UConn’s investment in this cutting-edge technology is extensive, with more than 60 faculty plus dozens of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows involved



Bahram Javidi, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of electrical and computer engineering, is developing a way to measure how nanoorganisms interact with light.

PHOTOS BY LARRY NAGLER





in myriad research projects backed by more than \$20 million in research grants and contracts. Over the past fiscal year, the University devoted more than \$1.5 million to support lab facilities and instrumentation essential to this work, and additional plans are in place to build or renovate research space for scientists and engineers in the coming years.

Such an investment, many believe, is well worth it. "There's a real buzz now about nanotechnology," says Harris Marcus, professor of materials science and engineering and director of the University's Institute of Materials

Science, an interdisciplinary research center housing state-of-the-art equipment and laboratories where much of UConn's nanotechnology studies are concentrated. "And while the buzz may fade away, the research is going to be profound."

The number of potential nanotechnology-based applications—in fields as diverse as manufacturing and military defense to medicine and renewable energy—is astounding. UConn faculty in engineering, physics, chemistry and other sciences are coming together to carry out work that could someday lead to the development of cleaner energy

sources, earlier diagnoses of disease and many other innovations that are only beginning to take shape.

#### **Life-Altering Advances**

Take, for instance, the potentially life-saving research performed by scientists at the UConn Health Center. At the R.D. Berlin Center for Cell Analysis, Liisa Kuhn, assistant professor of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials and skeletal development, is exploring the possibility of using nanoparticles to deliver anti-cancer drugs directly—and more accurately than ever before—to tumors and lymph nodes. Such





**Liisa Kuhn, assistant professor of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials and skeletal development at the UConn Health Center, is studying the use of nanoparticles to deliver anti-cancer drugs directly into tumors.**

tinuously monitoring metabolic processes, such as blood glucose levels. For the more

than 20 million Americans currently suffering from diabetes, such a sensor would prove to be indispensable.

Nanotechnology could even play a key role in protecting patient medical records, according to Eric Donkor, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering. "If, for example, someone's medical information must be transmitted from one doctor to another," Donkor explains, "we want that information to be as secure as we can make it." Donkor's research focuses in part on building tiny semiconductor particles—with dimensions of only 10 to 20 nanometers—into networks of special fibers, similar to fiber optic cable. These fibers would transmit and process information using light—remarkably, a

### In the Right Direction

"Nanotechnology will make a fundamental change in the way we live and work," says UConn chemistry professor Challa Vijaya Kumar, who compares the advent of nanotechnology to the dawn of the Stone Age, when humans first learned to make and use tools. In considering the developments that could emerge as nanotechnology research efforts intensify, Kumar is optimistic about the next "leap in our civilization." He envisions nanorobots that flow through the bloodstream, repairing damaged cells, and nanomaterials 100 times stronger than steel. His own research involves removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and converting it into practical products using nanocatalysts. All this, he says, is the "kind of sophistication [that] is impossible with the current technology." Nanotechnology, however, could make it a reality.

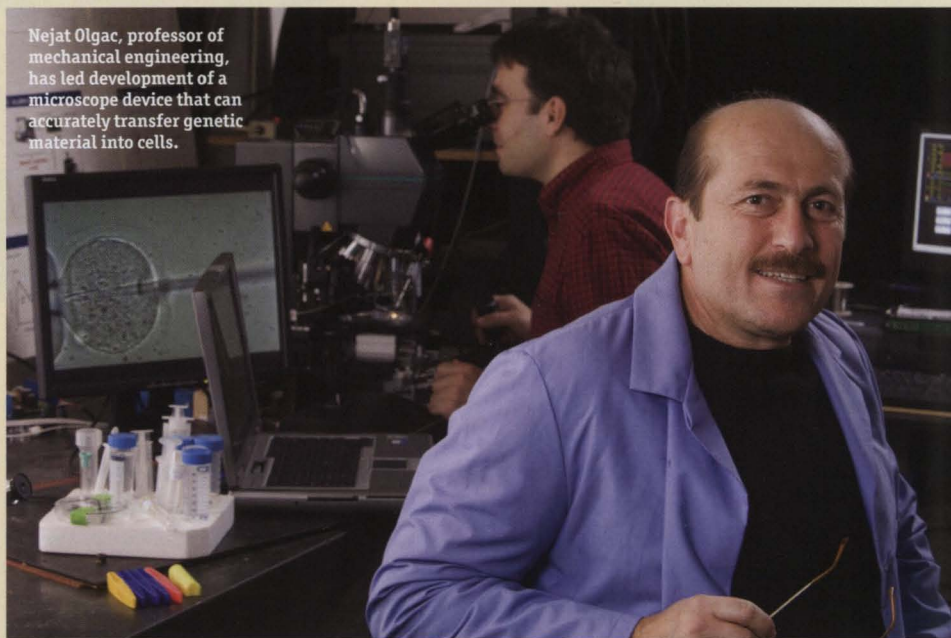
Still other studies, even in the early

a breakthrough would serve as a more effective treatment against the spread of cancer while reducing the toxic side effects for nearby healthy cells.

Equally as promising are the multidisciplinary endeavors explored by UConn chemists such as Robert Birge, the Harold S. Schwenk Distinguished Chair of Chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Heavily dependent on nanotechnology and biomolecular electronics, Birge's research includes a long-standing project dedicated to producing an artificial retina that could restore vision for people who have lost their sense of sight.

At the same time, Fotios Papadimitrakopoulos, a chemistry professor and the associate director of the Institute of Materials Science, has spent the past decade teamed up on a mission to construct special nano-sized sensors that could greatly improve quality of life for people with diabetes. Working with fellow scientists in the Schools of Engineering and Pharmacy, Papadimitrakopoulos envisions these sensors—wireless and implanted in humans—capable of con-

**Nejat Olgac, professor of mechanical engineering, has led development of a microscope device that can accurately transfer genetic material into cells.**



single photon at a time. Communicating confidential medical, governmental, or business data utilizing this fundamental, indivisible particle of light, Donkor says, "is the secret to securing information."

stages of development, offer a glimpse into a wealth of possible future benefits. Bahram Javidi, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering, and his team have developed a novel way to





Graduate students Newton Wahome and Pauline Gay Padilla are working with Peter Burkhard, associate professor of molecular and cell biology, to explore how proteins on the nanoscale could help develop advanced vaccines for HIV.

partnership, partnership,” says associate dean Anwar. “This is a University-wide

effort. It is not concentrated in one department. We need to involve each and every discipline to get something done. When we bring partners together, it will all start to make sense.”

Even beyond the University, that message seems to be getting across. The state of Connecticut, through the Connecticut Office of Workplace Competitiveness and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology is taking steps to fund new projects and further collaboration between UConn researchers and Connecticut businesses.

“It’s all about bringing industry and the university researchers closer together,” says Deb Santy, director of the Small Business Innovation Research program at the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. “Businesses...go to the univer-

view and recognize different bacteria species using a special imaging system that measures how nanoorganisms interact with light. Unlike the invasive—and time-consuming—processes currently used to identify such organisms, this technique not only leaves the cell undamaged but also provides real-time results. Having the ability to distinguish microorganisms using this method could eventually allow scientists to automate the monitoring of water supplies for harmful pathogens or to identify, detect and track pandemics such as avian flu far more quickly than previously possible. “What is good is that the devices, such as lasers and detectors, needed to make these instruments and these discoveries are all moving in the right direction,” Javidi says. “They are all becoming more available in the domains where we need them.”

UConn’s Institute of Materials Science is the place where sophisticated microscopes and other advanced lab equipment make it possible today for scientists to probe, evaluate and manipulate materials on the nano level. This high-tech instrumentation is accessible to University faculty and graduate students engaged in cutting-edge studies of materials science and engineering, including nanotechnology. “Smaller and smaller is where everything is going,” says Marcus, the Institute’s longtime director. “This instrumentation is absolutely necessary to doing nanotechnology research.”

So in demand are the Institute’s research facilities that about 40 companies

located across the Northeast—from the manufacturing, pharmaceutical, chemical and even sporting goods industries—have signed up as members of the Institute in order to attain the right to use its coveted technology.

“They have problems, and they come to us to leverage our expertise,” explains Brian Huey, assistant professor of chemical materials and biomolecular engineering, who came to UConn in 2003 from the National Institute of Standards Technology in Washington, D.C., to bolster UConn’s

**“It’s all about bringing industry and the university researchers closer together.” –Deb Santy**

nanotechnology efforts. Since his arrival, UConn has added two atomic force microscopes—the core of advanced nanotechnology research—and Huey’s staff has trained numerous faculty and graduate students to use the instruments.

#### **A Remarkable Opportunity**

By the year 2014, Connecticut’s Office of Workforce Competitiveness estimates more than 25,000 workers in the state of Connecticut will produce nanotechnology-enabled applications and manufactured goods and worldwide sales of products incorporating nanotechnology are predicted to amount to \$2.9 trillion in revenue.

Among UConn faculty involved in nanotechnology, all believe collaboration is necessary to make such predictions a reality. “It is all about partnership,

sities to see what they are doing in nanotechnology and see what they are willing to share with industry.”

In addition, scientists and state policymakers are looking to establish a Connecticut Center for Nanoscale Sciences, backed by a partnership between UConn, Yale University, and the state and federal governments. The center would encourage collaboration between scientists at both universities as well as a sharing of the high-priced equipment needed for the research.

And there is no time to lose.

“Nanotechnology really is the future,” says Donkor. “If minds meet together, if we can find a niche and be prominent in that area ahead of time, I think that is critical.”





# In Voices

the winter of 1998, Amity Wahl '99 (BUS), Bonnie Panda '01 (CLAS) and Liz Conklin '00 (CLAS) found one another as creative people so often do, attracted to the "vibe" of kindred spirits. They enjoyed singing as members of the UConn Chorus but also were drawn to the sound of a cappella vocal groups—tight harmony and voices approximating the sounds of musical instruments.

With no a cappella groups on campus at the time, the three young women decided to start one. They blanketed the campus with bright yellow flyers inviting students to audition. A handful of vocalists showed up to sing in a small classroom in Arjona Hall on a cold winter night, enough to form a group, and they named themselves The Chordials.

The group began "scrounging music from many different sources," recalls Wahl, and in the spring of 1999, The Chordials did their first "official" concert. Nothing could have prepared them for what happened at auditions the following September,

when so many people showed up that they had to schedule a second night of tryouts. Since most of the hopefuls were women, they decided to make The Chordials an all-female ensemble.

Before the year was over two other a cappella groups had formed. The women of Rubyfruit distinguished themselves from The Chordials with a repertoire that included songs with a feminist theme. And A Completely Different Note—known by the acronym CDN—would become the University's first male group.

Today the three groups that were the vanguard at UConn are still in existence and stronger than ever. And they have been joined by the Conn-Men; A Minor—the University's first co-ed group; Extreme Measures, often called Ex-M; and Shir Modulation, the newest.



The a cappella group  
Extreme Measures  
performs at the Student  
Union Theater.



# in harmony

a cappella sounds a new note on campus

"Music is a passion for all of us," says Laura Weismantel '09 (ENG), a mechanical engineering major in A Minor, whose members include no music majors. "It's something we simply love, and the a cappella groups provide us with an opportunity to express that."

Steven Bourque '09 (SFA), a music education major in the Conn-Men and vice president of the A Cappella Association, agrees. "We get a lot of positive feedback from the audiences," he says. "People are impressed that singers can make music like this with only their voices. Besides that, I've made some great friendships. A cappella has been a really positive college experience for me."

While many academic majors are represented

in vocal groups, the work of organizing, rehearsing and performing offers music majors opportunities to arrange music, lead an ensemble and hone their teaching and directing skills. Ehren Brown '03 (SFA), '03 (ED), '06 M.M., a co-founder of CDN, says a cappella "really was the most pivotal experience in my college career." Arranging and directing the group helped him to land his first job, as assistant conductor of the Vernon (Conn.) Chorale. Today he conducts that group, serves as assistant conductor of the Hartford Chorale and sings with two professional choirs.

But the groups, as well as the UConn A Cappella Association, also require business managers and other leaders, and those roles provide valuable experience for non-music majors. "Most collegiate a cappella

BY JIM H. SMITH  
Photos by Peter Morenus



is completely student driven," says Collin MacDonald, a graduate student who is planning a career in secondary education and who sings in and serves as business manager of CDN. "Commitment is big. You absolutely have to show up for rehearsals and the gigs. It's not a hobby."

That work ethic, says Brown, is central to a code of responsibility all the groups adopted early. And, he adds, it has helped them to remain vital. Though participation is fun, it is made clear to new members that it is also hard work. Yet former members inevitably say that discipline pays off in their post-university careers.

The a cappella form of vocal singing has a collegiate tradition stretching back nearly a century, to the founding of Yale's Whiffenpoofs in 1909. But it has probably never been more popular on college campuses than it is today. According to



## The Chordials

nationwide. Collegiate a cappella is "a growing trend of increasing strength," says Jonathan Minkoff president of the Contemporary A Cappella Society (CASA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion and encouragement of contemporary a cappella music. He attributes that popularity to the flexibility of the a cappella format and to the Internet. The popular YouTube Web site offers dozens of clips of a cappella groups performances, primarily college students.

"The popularity of these groups speaks to the power of music in people's lives," says Robert Miller, UConn professor of music in the School of Fine Arts and advisor to both the UConn



## A Completely Different Note

the Web site College-Acappella, there are more than 2,000 a cappella groups at some 400 colleges and universities

A Cappella Association and one of the University's groups, The Conn-Men. "We hope music instruction in schools encourages lifelong interest in music, and the students who participate in the a cappella groups certainly exemplify that. For these students, music and singing become enduring parts of their personal identity."

Though some colleges and universities have many more groups, Minkoff calls UConn a "top tier a cappella hotbed." Scarcely a week goes by when one of the University's groups isn't performing somewhere on or near campus.

UConn's vocal groups also undertake public service projects and regularly perform for many local events in the communities surrounding the UConn campus. At the request of the Department of Music in the School of Fine Arts, they enliven trustee dinners, donor presentations and other University functions. In return, the department provides them with rehearsal space.

A cappella is so venerable that its umbrella covers a host of musical idioms—madrigals to Gregorian chanting, doo-wop



“The a cappella form of vocal singing has a collegiate tradition stretching back nearly a century.”

to barbershop. Most contemporary collegiate groups mix it up, performing music reflecting a few generations of shifting tastes. And since they often spice their performances with humor and choreography, the audience reception usually ranges from warm to frenetic. When five groups performed a joint concert in the first-floor lounge of the Student Union one Saturday night last November, they attracted an enthusiastic crowd of students and parents that soon outstripped seating capacity, even on a night with the remnants of Hurricane Noel blowing through the state as the Huskies football team played Rutgers at Rentschler Field.

The songs performed that night included hip-hop and contemporary hits like Gnarls Barkley’s “Crazy” as well as tunes students’ parents might have enjoyed during their collegiate years, such

as Crosby, Stills & Nash’s “Helplessly Hoping,” Bill Withers’s “Ain’t No Sunshine,” and Fleetwood Mac’s “Go Your Own Way.” That egalitarian blend is a by-product of the democratic way most groups’ members listen to and adopt new music each year. And they will tell you that it is one of their greatest strengths as performing artists because they usually have something in their bag of tricks to appeal to everyone.



## The Conn-Men

The vocalists’ involvement with music often continues beyond UConn. As an alumna, Amity Wahl joined several Rubyfruit alumnae—Kate (Edgerly) Diaz ’01 (CANR), Beth (Gambin) D’Amato ’97 (ED) and Andrea Barnes ’00 (CLAS) in Harmonious Soul, a Connecticut women’s group who performed for the Indigo Girls, Noel Paul Stookey (of Peter, Paul and Mary) and, in 2006, as entertainment at an a cappella competition judged by the godfathers of contemporary a cappella, Rockapella, at UConn. Wahl has since moved on to work with Singing Bridge, an indie rock band, and Panda, one of the original Chordials, has launched a solo career, recently making it to the regional finals of the Nashville Star Competition.

To mark 10 years of a cappella at UConn, Wahl and many former members returned to UConn in March 2008 for an anniversary concert.

For a sampling of UConn’s a cappella groups, go to [www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu).



# What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this?

An English professor talks about why humor is important

By Gina Barreca

**I**n every audience I talk to there's always somebody wearing a Huskies sweatshirt. I've even talked in Perth, Australia, which is as far as you can get from Storrs, Conn., while still remaining on the planet. Yet people still wanted to know if I had any of the women's basketball players in my classes.

Apparently UConn graduates get around.

I'm often invited to speak by professional, community, educational, and medical groups about the importance of humor, but I notice that during the question and answer part of the presentation, the UConn alums ask the same question: "Dr. Barreca, how did you decide to become a scholar of humor in literature and other aspects of contemporary culture?" I know that what they're really saying is, "Gina, how did you get into this line of work?" They want to know how I ended up being a professor at UConn for 20 years instead of selling knock-off Louis Vuitton bags on the street, which, as far as they can see, was my only other career alternative.

I've decided that it's time to tell the story—the real story. Here goes: In my third year as an undergraduate at Dartmouth College, I wrote an essay for a comparative literature course on *In Praise of Folly*, by Erasmus. (You thought maybe my real story would involve something having to do with Don Rickles?) I wanted to write the paper as a parody, where I would imitate the voice of Erasmus' narrator and discuss the follies of contemporary life.

In other words, I wanted to be funny. That would have been easy. I did not want to write about humor. That would be hard.

It seemed to me that humor was a lot easier to imitate than to analyze. My professor, however, didn't let me get away with it.

"I know you can do something funny and sharp," he said, "so, instead, why don't you try to do something that's difficult for you?"



JOHN S. DYKES ILLUSTRATIONS



It was the first time that a professor I respected threw down that particular sort of intellectual gauntlet. It was one that, in effect, dared me to sidestep the easy path and throw myself headlong into what I would later see was real scholarship.

I did the paper on how humor functions in Erasmus, and I never looked back.

I challenge my own students in precisely the same way: "Why not try something entirely new?" I ask them. "How about trying to take your work very seriously—and yourself, well, maybe not so much?"

Graduate school, to which I took a circuitous route, was not exactly a laugh a minute, but it did lead me to write papers on satire: first on the subversive humor of Samuel Richardson's novel *Pamela* and then on George Eliot's s novel *Middlemarch*. After that, I started reading modern British literature, looking for the ways that humor had changed in the hands of the modernists. I realized that I loved the novels of Elizabeth Bowen, Muriel Spark and Fay Weldon, and I also realized that the only way I would complete a Ph.D. was if I worked on a subject I found genuinely compelling.

I knew, for example, that I wanted to write about issues concerning the lives of women as presented in literature, but when I spoke to my professors about this, they assumed I meant the lives of women as created by male authors. "Why not discuss working women in Dickens?" asked one. "How about Becky Sharp as a capitalist?" asked another. "How about I deal with women writers' humor and comedy?" I replied. "We don't think that's such a good idea," they chorused. "If it was, somebody else would have already done it."

I'm not sure what gave me the courage to resist their lack of enthusiasm—perhaps I wanted to be a pain in the collective academic neck? Or perhaps it was simply an instinctive survivor mechanism, one for which I remain—even after all these years—supremely grateful.

As I started writing about humor and women, I learned to be more confident about being a funny woman. The first book I



ever had published was based on a panel I had organized at a Modern Language Association Conference on the topic of sex and death in Victorian literature. The title of the panel was (ahem) "Coming and Going."

I'm not sure what gave me the courage to resist their lack of enthusiasm—perhaps I wanted to be a pain in the collective academic neck?

Although Macmillan of London gave me a contract for the collection of critical essays under the same title, they wouldn't actually print it on the front cover. ("Dr. Barreca," says British editor, "we would like you to change the title of the

collection." Says I, as disingenuously as possible "Why?" To which British editor replies, "We feel the title is, well, redundant." Finally unable to contain myself, I blurt "Oh, I figured maybe you thought it was *obscene*.")

The book was published under the title *Sex and Death in Victorian Literature* in 1987—the same year I got my Ph.D. and was hired at the University of Connecticut.

The next collection I edited, *Last Laughs: Perspectives on Women in Comedy*, concerned itself directly and unapologetically with the topic of women's humor. It was followed shortly thereafter



by another critical collection, *New Perspective on Women and Comedy*. The first book I wrote cover to cover was *They Used to Call Me Snow White but I Drifted: Women's Strategic Use of Humor*, which was loosely adapted from the research I did for my dissertation. The scholarly version was published by Wayne State University Press as *Untamed and Unabashed*, but *Snow White* used examples from "The Patty Duke Show," "The Dating Game" and "Saturday Night Live" instead of Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, and Virginia Woolf and led to appearances on *The Today Show*, *20/20*, *48 Hours*, and *Oprah*. I might not have done as much television if I'd stuck exclusively with Erasmus.

It's been enormous fun, and it's allowed me the great privilege of encountering people I'd never otherwise have had the privilege to meet, such as the ones with the Huskies



sweatshirts and the questions about how I got started. Humor has been a central part of my work at UConn—both inside and outside the classroom.

Finally, an answer to the other question I get during Q & A: although only one of the players from the women's basketball team has ever been a student of mine, I've had remarkable students in every class during my years at UConn. I'm proud to declare that almost all of them have been smart enough to get

the punchline.

As far as I'm concerned, that's a great indicator both of—and for—success.

Gina Barreca, an author and a columnist, is a professor of English and feminist theory in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Her latest book is *Babes in Boyland: A Personal History of Co-Education in the Ivy Leagues* (University Press of New England). She writes a blog for The Chronicle of Higher Education at <http://chronicle.com/review/brainstorm/barreca/>

## Gina Barreca's Guide to Humor

■ When we can really laugh, we've declared ourselves the winner, no matter what the situation, because our laughter is an indication of our perspective and control. Paradoxically, to be able to lose yourself in laughter is proof that you are confident enough to risk a moment of joyful abandon.

■ Humor allows you to elevate and explore rather than denigrate or hide your feelings. Humor doesn't dismiss a subject but rather often opens that subject up for discussion, especially when the subject is one that is not considered "fit" for public discussion.

■ The creatively witty person in a group is among the most powerful of its members. As long as his or her humor is used to draw the individuals together under the aegis of the comic moment (as opposed to tearing down or "gagging" members of the team into silence), the witty person is one of the most valuable leaders in any workforce.

■ A joke is never just a joke. It never has been. Humor is about risk and privilege; for women and other groups traditionally exiled from the centers of power, it can signal the transformation of speechless outrage to persuasive, vocal and creative audacity.

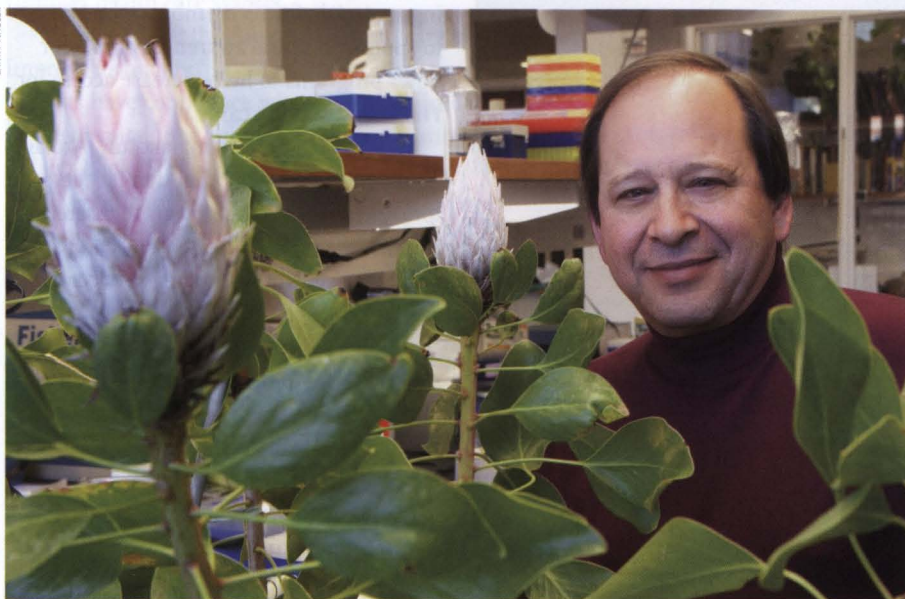
■ Why has a feminine tradition of humor remained essentially hidden from the mainstream? Due to the "Tupperware Mentality" that sought to preserve humor by keeping away from potentially hazardous male criticism, working women of earlier generations did not believe in taking the risk. We have come to see in the last 20 years, however, that carefully cultivated risk-taking is essential for success. Humor can be a great part of the process and reward of success.

■ If you have ever tried to run a group or teach a class, you know that when your audience laughs at you, you've lost them; equally true is that if you can get them to laugh with you, you've got them. Humor can be a crucial way of meeting goals—or sabotaging them. It is potent and needs to be used with thought, insight and intelligence.



# Renaissance scientist

KENT HOLSINGER'S RESEARCH OPENS NEW PATHS FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW



When he learned that he would receive the UConn Alumni Association's 2007 Award for Excellence in Science Research, Kent Holsinger says he was appreciative of what such recognition signifies to the University community.

"It's the fact that the Alumni Association recognizes that research and scholarship are an inextricable part of how a great university functions," says Holsinger, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "It also recognizes that along with service and teaching, all three are an important part of what makes a world-class university."

Holsinger has been described as a "renaissance scientist" by his peers, a world-class researcher who opens new paths for others to explore by seeing fresh ways to examine scientific questions, illustrated by the diversity of his publications, his sole authorship of many papers and his status as lead researcher in more than half of his collaborative studies.

One of the hallmarks of Holsinger's

approach to research is his passion for statistics, specifically his understanding of statistical theory and studying biological questions by using Bayesian statistical methods, which combine historical knowledge with current data to forecast future trends. This has helped him to address questions in his area of expertise, which is in the evolution of plants and plant population genetics, the study of processes that affect how genes evolve and how the frequency of different gene types changes plants over time.

Currently he is studying a small group of flowering plants within the genus *Protea* in South Africa, a genus that has evolved to into about 400 related species across the nation's Cape region. His research focuses on a tightly knit group of six species.

"We're trying to determine whether the speciation happened just because they were isolated on different mountain tops or because the environments were so different that they adapted to those environments," he says, noting that the same

family of plants can be found in South America and Australia, two continents that were originally joined with Africa before the breakup of land masses as part of Earth's evolution.

Another factor in Holsinger's productive research career is his exceptional way of viewing scientific questions. He sees different aspects of situations by viewing the abstract principles that contribute to a problem rather than only the concrete manifestation of the situation.

"Part of it might be that I'm a liberal arts guy," he says. "I went to a small liberal arts college in Idaho and had a double major in biology and chemistry, with a minor in philosophy. It may be a reflection of the fact that I do look at the world differently."

After completing his doctoral degree in biological sciences at Stanford University, Holsinger arrived at UConn in 1986, where he has taught classes, conducted

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**One of the hallmarks of Holsinger's approach to research is his passion for statistics...**

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research and guided graduate students, one of the most satisfying parts of his work.

"One of the things that is really fun about being at a university is when I'm working with graduate students, at some point in their career they realize they know more than I do about something," Holsinger says with a smile. "When you see them with that light, that's very satisfying. When they finish their studies, if students don't know more than I do about some piece of their dissertation, there would be a problem because they should be the world expert on what they've studied." — Kenneth Best



# Pioneering better access to care

ARTEAGA LEADS HISPANIC DENTAL ASSOCIATION



**S**arita Arteaga '90 D.M.D. relishes her role as president of the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA), a group of 2,500 that includes dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants and 31 student chapters.

"I'm helping build the collaborations and partnerships that support our mission to improve oral health for the Hispanic community," says Arteaga, assistant clinical professor in the department of oral rehabilitation, biomaterials and skeletal development at the UConn Health Center. "I can see how much we are growing HDA, and I feel my work will affect how we move forward."

There are 150,000 dentists in the United States, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, with Hispanics and African-Americans making up less than 10 percent of the practicing dentists in the nation. HDA, which was established 20

years ago, focuses on improving access to care and recruiting more Hispanics into dentistry.

"We know people are more likely to go to a provider with which they feel com-

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**"We want students to understand the need for our mission before they go out into the community."**

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fortable," Arteaga says, noting that other roadblocks facing the Hispanic community include lack of access to treatment because of transportation problems, dentists' reluctance to accept Medicaid, and language and cultural issues such as lack of knowledge about the importance of daily dental care.

The association also is preparing training materials for its members who want to sponsor cultural awareness classes or other programs to help increase access for Hispanics seeking care.

Elected HDA president last July, Arteaga meets regularly with other dentists, legislators and government officials to discuss important oral health care issues and suggest strategies for improving services to the Hispanic community.

Arteaga's interest in dentistry was sparked by helping her mother—a single parent raising two daughters in New York City's South Bronx while working as a dental assistant—to study for classes that led to a 30-year career as a dental hygienist.

After graduating from New York University with a bachelor's degree in biology, Arteaga earned a D.M.D. at UConn's School of Dental Medicine and did a general practice residency at Bronx Municipal/Albert Einstein Hospitals. Returning to Connecticut in the early 1990s, she worked as an associate in several private dental practices and began teaching operative dentistry and prosthodontics at UConn in 1995.

Even with her organizational leadership and teaching responsibilities, Arteaga works closely with dental students. She brings UConn students to assist with oral health screenings in the community and serves as advisor to the HDA's student chapter in the UConn School of Dental Medicine, a role she plans to continue when her term as HDA president concludes.

"We want students to understand the need for our mission before they go out into the community and start providing treatment," she says.

— Kristina Goodnough



## Liu helps patients stay healthy, live longer, spend wisely

**A**s a physician, Davis Liu '97 M.D. wants to help his patients to stay healthy. On a daily basis, he helps them make better decisions about their health care and to negotiate an increasingly complex health care system.

"My bias is that the American health care system needs to improve its quality," says Liu. "It should be more user-friendly, so patients have confidence when they walk into their doctor's office or the hospital they know that they are getting the latest care."

Liu's book, *Stay Healthy, Live Longer, Spend Wisely: Making Intelligent Choices in America's Healthcare System* (Stetho Publishing), provides patients guidance on navigating their way through the maze of U.S. health care by offering guidance on everything from selecting the right health insurance coverage to understanding the difference between generic and branded drugs and the value of body scans and herbal and dietary supplements. His advice is backed with citations and referrals to the most recent studies by major health and science organizations and includes an appendix of Web site links.

Liu says even with patients today doing their own research about health issues, the basic formula of doctors talking and listening to patients can help ease confusion.

"Patients want to have a conversation with their doctor. They don't want to be dictated to," says Liu, a board-certified family practice physician with Permanente Medical Group, in California. "Patients are looking for reassurance and advice. Even in the 21st century, the key for doctors still is getting

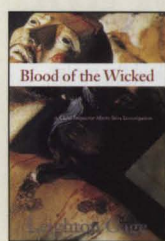
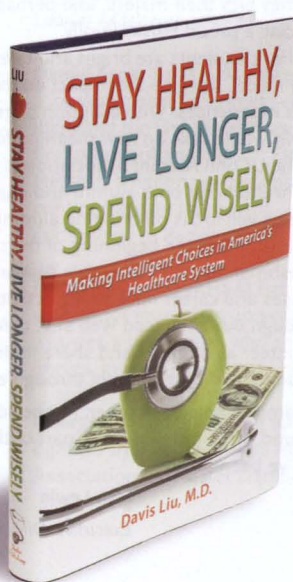
a good patient history. Ninety percent of the time, the correct diagnosis depends on what a patient tells the doctor."

One subtext in *Stay Healthy* is Liu's argument that good health is a person's most valuable financial asset.

"People don't recognize the greatest financial asset they have is their earning power. Staying healthy affects that," he says, noting that a 2004 RAND Corporation study of 25-to-54-year-olds over 10 years indicated that people who reported being in "excellent" health at the beginning of the decade saw their median net worth nearly double by the end of the study, while those in poor health reported a decline in their wealth by 50 percent.

Citing a 2005 National Committee for Quality Assurance Report, Liu says more than 83,000 Americans die prematurely because they did not have basic preventive care for high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer.

"It is a reflection of the health care system's failure to keep us healthy," he says. "Until there is meaningful health care reform, the responsibility of what to do to stay healthy rests with the patient." — *Kenneth Best*



**Blood of the Wicked:**  
A Chief Inspector Mario Silva Investigation  
Leighton Gage '63 (CLAS)  
(Soho Crime)

Gage's debut novel describes a Brazil that tourists never encounter. Justice is hard to

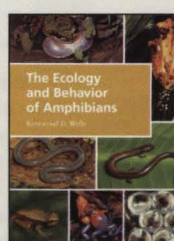
come by in the remote Brazilian town of Cascatas do Pontal, where peasants confront the owners of vast estates after the bishop arrives to consecrate a new church and is assassinated. The action centers on Mario Silva, chief inspector for criminal matters of the federal police of Brazil, who is dispatched to the interior to find the assassin. Silva must battle the state police and a corrupt judiciary as well as criminals. Gage's writing is being described as "intelligent and powerfully evocative...a book that makes you care...a novel as rich and complex as Brazil itself."



**Hip-Hop Revolution: The Culture and Politics of Rap**  
Jeffrey O. G. Ogbar  
(University Press of Kansas)

Ogbar, associate professor of history and director of UConn's Institute for African American Studies, celebrates

hip-hop and confronts the cult of authenticity that defines its essential character, which dictates how performers walk, talk and express themselves artistically while also influencing the consumer market. The author deftly combines a clear affection for the hip-hop culture with a scholar's detached critique of his subject. *Hip-Hop Revolution* provides a balanced cultural history that looks past negative stereotypes of hip-hop as a monolith of hedonistic, unthinking noise to reveal its evolving positive role within American society.



**The Ecology and Behavior of Amphibians**  
Kentwood D. Wells  
(University of Chicago)

Wells, a world-renowned herpetologist and head of UConn's widely recognized department of ecology and

evolutionary biology, has synthesized 70 years of research in the field of amphibian biology into a definitive reference book. His comprehensive approach celebrates the diversity of amphibian life and the ecological and behavioral adaptations that have made creatures living on land and in water an important part of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. With an eye toward modern concerns, Wells also includes a chapter dedicated to amphibian conservation. This is a long-awaited book that is already being described as a masterpiece of clear writing and scholarly information.



# Alumni 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; by e-mail to [alumni-news@uconn.edu](mailto:alumni-news@uconn.edu); or online at [www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu](http://www.alumnimagazine.uconn.edu).

## Alumni Weekend:

### SAVE THE DATE

June 6 -7, 2008

Mark the dates on your calendar! On Friday and Saturday, June 6th and 7th, join alumni from Classes of 1943, 1948, 1953 and 1958, African American Council, Cheerleaders, Marching Band, and Student Leaders for Alumni Weekend as we roll out the "blue" carpet to our alumni and their families!

Come and see what's new on campus as well as reunite with old friends. The schedule of events includes tours of campus, keynote speakers, New England Clambake and much more. Check our Web site, [uconnalumni.com](http://uconnalumni.com), for program updates.

Alumni Weekend is open to all alumni and their families. Even if you are not an alum from one of the above mentioned classes or groups, we welcome you to join us.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lachut '90 at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-822-5861 or by e-mail at [reunions@uconnalumni.com](mailto:reunions@uconnalumni.com).

## From the Alumni Association

**I**n the fall of 2007, more than 3,000 freshmen walked into their first UConn class full of aspirations and began following a long tradition of Huskies who came before them. They came from every corner of the state, across the country and around the globe, eager to learn from a world-class faculty and become future educators, scientists, pharmacists, artists, doctors, farmers, nurses and business and community leaders. As they pick their majors, and perhaps change their minds, they already know they are part of something special: a proud Husky family.

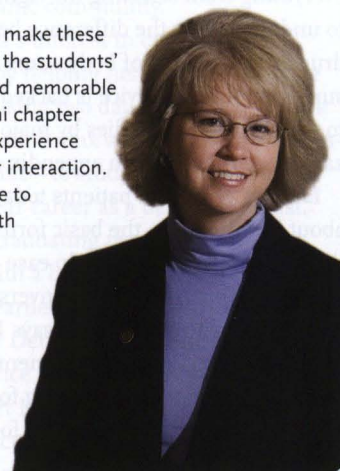
These students are bright and talented. Yet they can still benefit from the guidance and wisdom of those they follow. Imagine the impact on their lives if they could tap the network of UConn alumni to learn from their experiences. With a UConn degree and the support of the alumni network, being part of the Husky family would take on new meaning for them.

The UConn Alumni Association is introducing several opportunities to make these connections for both alumni and students. Events scheduled throughout the students' careers will focus on bringing alumni and students together in unique and memorable settings. From the beginning of their journey as new students with alumni chapter "Freshman Picnics" to Family Weekend, Homecoming, the Senior Year Experience classes and career networking activities, there are many opportunities for interaction. Through our enhanced Web site, coming this summer, alumni will be able to volunteer as mentors and share their expertise and experience directly with students and other alumni through e-mail or conversations.

Families help each other. I hope you'll show the Class of 2012 and beyond what it means to be part of the Husky family. You should know. You've been there.

**Lisa Lewis**

*Executive Director, UConn Alumni Association*



## 1940s

**John Adams '46 (CLAS)** was a member of the class of 1941 but obtained his degree in 1946 after spending 18 months as a POW in Germany. After earning a dental degree from St. Louis University Dental School in 1950, he had a dental practice in Milford, Conn. He has been married to his second wife, Breta, for 17 years.

## 1950s

**Jeremiah Wadsworth '50 (CANR)** retired in 1994 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture ASCS/FSA. He and his wife, Lois, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August 2007.

**John T. Redman '52 (BUS)** is enjoying retirement with his wife of 52 years. The couple lives in Ponce Incet, Fla., near their daughter Lisa.



**Rudy J. Favretti '54 (CANR)**, professor emeritus of landscape architecture at the University of Connecticut, published the

book *Jacob Weidenmann: Pioneer Landscape Architect* in 2007 with Wesleyan University Press.

**John H. Cable '55 (RHSA)** retired after operating Burnt Hill Blueberry Farm in Heath, Mass., for 36 years. He is the founder of Litchfield Hills Historical Automobile Club in Torrington, Conn., and master judge of the Classic Car Club of America.

**Hannah Korobkin '55 (SAH)** is retired after working for more than 40 years as a physical therapist. She volunteers at the YMCA and a hospital on a regular basis and was married to **George Korobkin '56 M.S.W.** until his death in 1997.



**Janet Warshaw '55 (CLAS)** retired as manager of the Ocular Pathology Lab at the University of Rochester Medical Center in

Rochester, N.Y.



**Paula Armbruster '56 (CLAS), '74 M.S.W.**, the former director of outpatient services and former director of social work training of Yale University's Child Study



Center, was named Cambridge Who's Who Professional of the Year in Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

**Michael W. Gordon '57 (BUS), '63 J.D.,** John H. and Mary Lou Dasburg Professor of Law at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Fla., served as the inaugural Fulbright Distinguished Professor at the Universidade Catolica Portuguesa in Lisbon, Portugal. He was elected to the American Law Institute and to honorary membership in both the Academia Mexicana de Derecho Internacional Privado y Comparado and the Guatemalan Bar Association.



**Richard A. Johnson '57 (CLAS),** a singer in the Rose City Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society and the Preston

Community Chorus and Central Baptist Choir in Norwich, Conn., received a 50-year pin as a member of the Society for the Preservation of Barbershop Singing.

**Robert Gregory '59 (SFA),** director of economic and community development for the City of Milford,

Conn., received the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Milford Chamber of Commerce for 19 years of service to the chamber.

**Allan Krasnow '59 (PHR)** is a pharmacist at CVS and plays saxophone in four bands. He is also a justice of the peace in Connecticut.

**Francis Manning '59 (CLAS)** was recognized by the Town Council in Southington, Conn., for his career as an editorial cartoonist for the *Meriden-Record Journal* for more than 40 years. He recently donated his original art to the Southington Historical Society.

## 1960s

**David Connell '61 (CLAS), '62 M.A.** is the author of the novel *Poverty Tale*, released in 2007 by PublishAmerica.

**Andrew DePino, Jr. '61 (CLAS)** recently retired after 33 years of teaching science and physics at Enrico Fermi High School in Enfield, Conn., and at community colleges. Prior to teaching, he was a research physicist for the Atomic Energy Commission in Richland,

Wash. He and his wife, Lois, now reside in Westminster West, Vt.

**Bernard Fried '61 (CLAS)** is the co-author of the book *Food-Borne Parasitic Zoonoses: Fish and Plant-Borne Parasites*, to be released in 2008 by Springer.



**Joel Mandell '61 (CLAS), '66 J.D.,** town meeting moderator for the town of Simsbury, Conn., was named a "Connecticut Super Lawyer" for 2008 by *Super Lawyer Magazine*.

**Daniel Scott '61 M.S.W.** retired after a 46-year career in human services, including the last 16 years as the first president and CEO of Emerald Heights, a nationally recognized continuing care retirement community in Redmond, Wash.

**Leif Erickson '62 (RHSA)** has worked for more than 40 years as a farrier, a blacksmith who shoes horses, in the Gilmanton, N.H., area.

**George Shaboo '62 (ENG)** was recognized by the Old Timers Athletic Association of Greater Danbury,

Conn., for his contributions to the city's sports heritage as one of Danbury's top baseball players in the 1950s.



**Naomi (Pincus) Cramer '63 (CLAS)** retired after a long career teaching high school home economics in Windsor, Conn.

She lives with her husband, Mark, in Windsor and Sarasota, Fla.

**Lawrence Demott '63 (CLAS), '65 M.A., '86 J.D.** continues to pursue his interests in horticulture and nutrition after retiring from the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services in 2007.

**Leighton Gage '63 (CLAS)** wrote *Blood of the Wicked*, published earlier this year by Soho Press. See Creative Currents on page 39.



**Holley Ulbrich '63 (CLAS), '64 M.A., '69 Ph.D.** is the author of *The Fellowship Movement: A Growth Strategy and Its*

*Legacy*, published by Skinner House Books.

## Bob Rotella's winning ways

After Padraig Harrington plunked two balls into a creek on the 18th hole at the 2007 British Open, it seemed his quest for a major title would again end in disappointment. But after a quick conversation with **Robert Rotella '74 M.A., '76 Ph.D.** on the putting green, Harrington regrouped to win in a playoff. "I wouldn't have won the British without Bob," he says.

Rotella is one of the top sports psychologists in the world with a roster of clients on the PGA, LPGA, European and Senior tours. His book, *Golf Is Not A Game of Perfect*, is one of the top-selling golf books.

"A lot of my work is about encouraging people to have huge dreams and to visualize them," says Rotella, who also consults with corporate executives. "It's amazing when you can see something clearly in your head, that it gets easier to do it."

Rotella's road to sports psychology began when he was a basketball and lacrosse player at Castleton State College in Vermont and his coach brought in a group of intellectually challenged children to learn basketball skills. He later worked in a special needs program, teaching students to swim. When a group of UConn professors arrived in Vermont to evaluate that program, they were impressed with Rotella and offered him a graduate scholarship. He also was able to coach lacrosse at UConn.

Near the end of his master's studies at UConn, Rotella took an elective course in the social psychological skills of sport that set him in a new direction. He decided to continue at UConn to pursue a doctoral

degree in performance psychology and the psychology of excellence.

After earning his doctorate, Rotella headed to the University of Virginia, where he initiated its doctoral program in sports psychology and spent two decades working with its athletic teams. His first golf client was Denis Watson, a PGA player who after working with Rotella began to have more success winning tournaments. Since then Rotella's clients have won at least 25 of the 40 tournaments played for each of the past 15 years and include an all-star lineup of pros such as Davis Love III, Tom Kite, Julie Inkster and Pat Bradley.

"I try to get the athletes and executives I work with to put fears and doubts aside," he says. "What you learn is that as long as you do everything you can with your talent, you'll have a great time in life." — *Kenneth Best*



SCOTT HALLERAN/GITTY IMAGES



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

**Richard Lindgren Sr. '65 Ph.D.** has served as an adjunct professor of educational leadership at Central Connecticut State University for the past 41 years.



**John Trocciola '65 M.S.** is a private consultant after working at United Technologies for over 40 years. He received a 2007

Fuel Cell Seminar & Exposition Award, given annually to those who have made remarkable advancements in fuel cell technology.

**Angela Kelly-Shelby '66 (NUR)** is a consultant for various state and local agencies, after working for more than 40 years as a certified nurse specialist.

**John Surowiecki '66 (CLAS), '78 M.A.** is the recipient of the 2007 Pegasus Award in Verse Drama. He resides in Amston, Conn.

**William Byxbee '67 (CLAS)** retired as dean of San Diego State University's College of Extended Studies. He lives with his wife in the Washington, D.C., area.

**Beverly Goulet '67 (CLAS)**, director of the Norwich (Conn.) Human Services Department, received the Palmer Davies Leadership Award in recognition of her work toward fostering an environment of community spirit in Norwich, Conn.



**Robert Clark '68 (BUS)**, president and CEO of Shenandoah Life Insurance Company, in Roanoke, Va.,

was appointed to the board of directors of LL Global Inc., the umbrella organization of the Life Insurance Marketing Research Group and Life Office Management Association, the world's largest insurance and financial trade associations.

**David Paulson '69 (CLAS)** is sales manager at Largo Preserve in southern Sarasota County, Fla.

## 1970s

**C. Marshall Davidson '70 M.B.A.** is semi-retired as executive director of the Woman's Seamen's Friend Society of Connecticut after 53 years in engineering and manufacturing.

**George DeLeone '70 (ED)** was named tight ends coach for the Miami Dolphins. A veteran of 37 seasons as a football coach, he most recently was the offensive coordinator at Temple University. He previously held several coaching positions at Syracuse University and also served as offensive line coach for the San Diego Chargers.

**Joseph Andrew Camille Vautour '70 M.A., '76 Ph.D., '86 J.D.** heads "Project Opening Doors" of the Connecticut Business & Industry Association Education Foundation, which encourages students to explore science and technology-based careers.

**Margery Daniels '71 (ED)** is executive director of Middlesex Partnerships for Youth in Cambridge, Mass. She previously was an educator in public school systems for 36 years, most recently as assistant superintendent of the Newton (Mass.) public schools.



**Stephan Jespersen '71 (BUS)** is the director of advertising acceptability at *The New York Times* and is responsible for

guaranteeing that advertisements in *The Times* do not conflict with the company's ideals.

**Carol McGlinchey '71 (CLAS)** is a past-life regression therapist and psychic medium and is a member of the International Association for Regression Research & Therapies. She conducts workshops and takes on private clients at her practice, Infinite Quest, in Housatonic, Mass.

**John W. Rafal '71 (CLAS)**, president of Essex Financial Services in Essex, Conn., was named the nation's top independent financial adviser by *Barron's*.

**Guy Desaulniers '72 (CLAS)** was promoted to chief operating officer at Career Concepts USA in Carey, Ill.

**Marja M. Hurley '72 (CLAS), '76 M.D.**, associate dean of the UConn School of Medicine and director of the Office of Health Care Opportunity Programs, was appointed to the advisory committee of the Higher Education PK-16 Council in the Connecticut Department of Higher Education, which encourages and prepares students from low-income and first-generation families to pursue postsecondary education.

**Brenda Needham '72 (CLAS)** is the 2007 Vermont Superintendent of the Year. She is superintendent of schools in Windsor, Vt.

**D. Wesley Slate Jr. '72 (SFA)** is member of the city council in Beverly, Mass. His wife, **Georgia Bills '72 M.A.**, teaches musical theater at Walnut Hill School in Natick, Mass.



**Janice Kasper '73 (SFA)** served as artist-in-residence at Denali National Park in Alaska, August 2007.

**Jane Huffman '73 (CLAS), '77 M.S.**, professor of biological sciences at East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, Pa., received the Distinguished Professor Award, the highest faculty award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the university.

**James Narus '73 M.B.A.**, a professor of business marketing at the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University, in Winston-Salem, N.C., co-authored *VALUE MERCHANTS: Demonstrating and Documenting Superior Value in Business Markets*, published by Harvard Business School Press.



**David W. Spitzer '73 (ENG)**, a partner in the technical consulting firm Spitzer and Boyes LLC in Chestnut Ridge,

N.Y., was named an ISA Fellow in recognition of his contributions to flow measurement and variable speed drives for process control.

**Joel Becker '74 M.S.**, CEO of Torrington Supply Co., in Waterbury, Conn., and chairman of the board of trustees of Waterbury Hospital, received the 2007 Malcolm Baldrige Community Award for enhancing economic growth in the Waterbury area.

**Tyrone Cannon '74 (CLAS)**, library dean at the University of San Francisco, received his Ed.D. in May 2007 from the USF School of Education.

**Mark Graham '74 M.F.A.** is on the board of the Theater Artists Workshop in Norwalk, Conn., and has directed more than 75 plays and musicals.

## Abbreviation Key

*School — College for baccalaureate degrees:*

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

*Graduate/professional degree:*

**M.A.** — Master of Arts  
**M.M.** — Master of Music  
**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.P.A.** — Master of Public Affairs  
**M.P.H.** — Master of Public Health  
**M.S.W.** — Master of Science  
**M.S.P.T.** — M.S. in Physical Therapy  
**Ph.D.** — Doctor of Philosophy  
**D.M.A.** — Doctor of Musical Arts  
**J.D.** — Juris Doctor  
**M.D.** — Doctor of Medicine  
**D.M.D.** — Doctor of Dental Medicine  
**Pharm.D.** — Doctor of Pharmacy  
**6th Year** — Six-Year Certificate

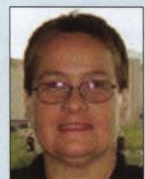


**William Kohlhepp '74 (CLAS)** is director of the Undergraduate Entry Master's Level Physician Assistant Program at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn. He earned a doctorate in health sciences from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in December 2007.

**Stephen Russo '74 (BUS)** is vice president of human resources at PPL Corporation, an energy company headquartered in Allentown, Pa.

**John F. Sharry '74 (CLAS)** is senior vice president and head of business development for alternative products at the Phoenix Companies, Inc., in Hartford, Conn.

**Brian Clarey '75 (BUS)** was promoted to senior vice president of construction lending for Sun National Bank's South Jersey market. He has more than 30 years of experience in commercial real estate lending and underwriting.



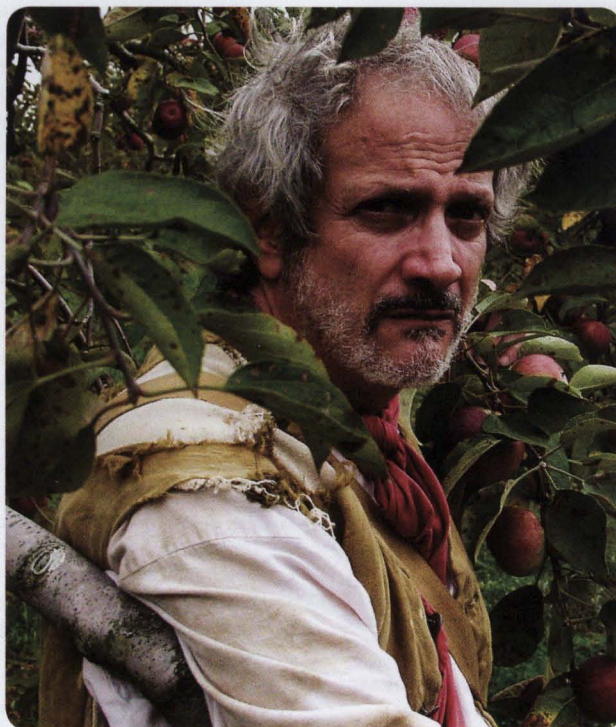
**Gloria Giroux '75 (CLAS)** is the author of the novel *Fireheart*, the first book of a science fiction trilogy, released

in November 2007 by iUniverse, Inc. She is currently working on the second and third installments.

**Rebecca Jacobs '75 (ED)**, a BEST mentor and a supervisory teacher for student teaching at Amity Regional Middle School in Orange, Conn., was appointed for the third year as team leader for the school's Life Arts Team.

**Peter Kirk '75 (CLAS)** is president and chief financial officer of BNC Financial Group, Inc., a multi-bank holding company with The Bank of New Canaan and The Bank of Fairfield as its subsidiaries. He lives in Waterford, Conn., with his wife **Marsha (Smith) '75 (CLAS)**.

**Robert Lang '75 (CLAS)** is a broker associate at William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Farmington, Conn., specializing in homes and investment properties.



FRANCIS FILMS

## Bringing Micah Rood legend to life

Ron Palillo '72 (SFA) recently portrayed 18th-century apple-farm owner Micah Rood in the short film *The Curse of Micah Rood*, based on a rural legend from Norwich, Conn. The screenplay was written by Nicholas Checker '77 (SFA). The film was made in various locations around southeastern Connecticut and will be entered in prominent film festivals after being shown in local movie theaters.

**Bruce Lubin '75 (CLAS), '77 M.B.A.** is president of Illinois Commercial Banking at PrivateBancorp, Inc. in Chicago. He is also an active community leader serving on the boards of numerous schools, the Cancer Treatment Research Foundation and the Hillcrest Educational Foundation.



**Thomas Pastor '75 (ENG), '77 M.S.**, vice president of codes and standards for the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co., in Hartford, Conn., received the J. Hall Taylor Medal, presented for distinguished service in the field of codes and standards pertaining to the broad fields of piping and pressure vessels.

**Bradley Rock '75 (CLAS)**, president and CEO of Bank of Smithtown in Smithtown, N.Y., was elected chairman of the American Bankers Association.



**Susan Rovinski '75 (CLAS), '81 M.A.** was named database analyst for Internet services in the office of University Communications at UConn. She previously was an application developer for The Hartford.



**Michael Rubino '75 (PHR)**, director of pharmacy services at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Conn., received the Paul G. Pierpaoli Award from the Connecticut Society of Health-System Pharmacists, presented annually to a hospital pharmacist for outstanding service and dedication to the profession.

**Anthony Singe '75 Ph.D.** is semi-retired after working for many years in public education, most recently as superintendent of schools in Locust Valley, N.Y.

**Michael C. White '75 M.A.**, professor of English at Fairfield University, Fairfield, Conn., published his most recent novel, *Soul Catcher*, in August 2007 with William Morrow.

**William DiYeso '76 M.A.** is the author of *Almost Home*, a young adult novel published by PublishAmerica. He was an educator for 35 years and helped establish the TLC Group Home in Manchester, Conn., for abused and neglected teens.

**Donna (Albani) Fazzino '76 (CLAS)**, paraprofessional and job coach at Portland (Conn.) High School, received a Distinguished Service Award, given to members of Gamma Sigma Sigma service sorority, for service work exceeding sorority commitments.

**Steven Gordziel '76 Ph.D.** is practice head of pharmaceutical development at PharmaDirections, Inc., a drug development management firm based in Cary, N.C.



**William Ryczek '76 (BUS)** recently published his fourth and fifth sports history books, *The Yankees in the Early 1960s* and *The Amazon' Mets 1962-1969*, with McFarland.

**William Cullen '77 (CLAS)** has his own legal practice in Birmingham, Ala., specializing in Social Security Disability law.

**Stephen Doxsey '77 (CLAS)**, professor of molecular medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass., received a \$1.5 million grant from the W. M. Keck Foundation to continue his research on stem cells, cancer and aging.

**Tracie Ezzio '77 (PHR)** owns and operates Pepperell Family Pharmacy in Pepperell, Mass.

**Pamela Kahn '77 (BUS)** is the vice president of marketing for Gifford's Ice Cream and Candy Co. in Washington, D.C.



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES



**Robert Kravchuk '77 (BUS), '77 (CLAS)** is chairman of the department of political science at the University of North Caro-

lina-Charlotte. He is the author of several books on the former Soviet Union and is currently completing a book on the collapse of the USSR.

**Robert Kravacs, Jr. '77 (CLAS), '81 D.M.D.** is a volunteer clinical instructor at the UConn School of Dental Medicine in the undergraduate prosthetic clinic.



**Paul Mariano '77 (BUS)**, head of Mariano, McGrath & Associates, combined his firm with Charter Oak Insurance and

Financial Services in fall 2007.

**Edward J. "Ned" Popkins Jr. '77 (CLAS)**, business editor at the *Orlando Sentinel*, received the Russell C. Hill Award from the Boy Scouts of America, the Scouts' highest recognition for service to its Learning for Life

character-education program for schoolchildren. His wife, **Marianne McClain Popkins '77 (CLAS)**, is executive director of the Winter Park (Fla.) Historical Association. They live with their three sons in Orlando, Fla.

**Karen Rogers '77 (NUR)** was appointed director of education at Franklin Community Health Network in Farmington, Maine. Rogers and her husband, Bill, have two sons, Kyle and Christopher, and a daughter, Brittany.

**Michael Klemens '78 M.S.** is director of conservation science at Scenic Hudson, a valley nature-preservation group in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. He also is a member of the science staff at the American Museum of Natural History and has authored a number of publications.

**William J. Luddy '78 J.D.**, professor of management at Rensselaer-Hartford, is chair of the United Nations Center for Electronic Business and Trade Facilitation and has been active in the global e-commerce field for the past 10 years.

**John Calka '79 (CANR)** was promoted to the rank of sergeant at the Westport Police Department in Westport, Conn. He lives in Darien, Conn., with his wife and their two children, Alexandra and Elizabeth.

**Daniel Ciaburri '79 (CLAS), '83 M.D.** is the chief medical officer of Kinetic Concepts Inc. in San Antonio, Texas.

**Richard Croarkin '79 M.B.A.** is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Alcon, Inc., in Fort Worth, Texas.

**David Grimaldi '79 (CLAS)**, curator of invertebrate zoology at the American Museum of Natural History, in New York City, received the Thomas Say award, which recognizes significant contributions and outstanding work in the fields of insect systematics, morphology or evolution.

**Edward Machuga '79 (CLAS)** is vice president of sales and marketing for Epitome Biosystems in Waltham, Mass.

**Diane McCarthy '79 M.S.W.** is general counsel of the Joslin

Diabetes Center and co-chair of the health law membership committee of the Boston Bar Association.

**Mark Stevens '79 (CANR)**, program director for the Zoo & Aquarium Science associate's degree program at Davidson County Community College in Lexington, N.C., was a finalist for the 2007 Excellence in Teaching Award from the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges.

**Lisa (Carter) Taylor '79 (CLAS), '82 M.A.**, a writer-in-residence at EASTCONN, one of six Regional Educational Service Centers, and a creative writing teacher in Hampton, Conn., published her third book of poetry, *Talking to Trees*, in September 2007.

### 1980s

**Michael Alberts '80 (CLAS), '87 M.B.A.** joined Putnam Savings Bank in Putnam, Conn., as senior vice president of commercial lending. He is also a state representative for the 50th District in Connecticut.

## A natural multitasker makes her mark

**Yvonne Davis '04 M.A.** enjoys a challenge, and it has been that way for as long as she can remember. By the time she was 4 years old, Davis says, she had announced to her parents that she would one day "know the president and travel the world."

Today, Davis does know President George W. Bush, having served as a member of the 2004 African Americans for Bush National Steering Committee, and she has traveled the globe, now at 53 countries and counting. As president and CEO of DAVISCommunications, a company she founded in 1996, Davis works with companies around the world to develop communication strategies and provide professional training to help reach their business goals.

Davis and her colleagues coach individuals and firms of all sizes in public relations; offer insight into effective management practices; and conduct training and workshops focused on leadership, negotiating skills, and other areas. Last February, Davis traveled to Tanzania to run an intensive, two-week course she developed on women's leadership in government.

She also lectures to audiences worldwide on a range of topics, including American presidential politics, small business and crisis communications. She says leadership and ethics have become a new focus for her recently.

Davis doesn't stop there. She has attained multiple advanced degrees, including a master's degree in political theory from UConn in 2004, and is currently seeking a doctoral degree in leadership and the mastery



of change from the Thierry Graduate School of Leadership in Brussels, Belgium.

"I'm a natural multitasker," Davis admits. "I have the philosophy that a person can achieve even their craziest thoughts—they just have to persevere. Once the momentum is in that direction and you have the tools, there is really nothing to stop you."

Davis says her UConn education is a factor in developing her career. "The UConn political science department gave me a strong foundation," she says. "Looking at what I do now worldwide, I can connect it directly to my time at UConn. I was able to apply my learning almost immediately.

"I'm living what I studied. Every day in my life is an adventure."

—*Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)*



**Lisa Allen '81 M.A., '88 Ph.D.** is the senior director of quality and patient safety at UMass Memorial Medical Center.

**Tris Carta '81 D.M.D.**, a dentist in Manchester, Conn., is president of the Manchester Road Race.

**Mary E. Greene '81 (CLAS)**, plant controller at Rubbermaid Commercial Products in Winchester, Va., represents Frederick County on the Lord Fairfax Community College Board in Middletown, Va.

**Matthew Guarino '81 (6th year)**, is the principal of the Middle School of Plainville in Plainville, Conn.

**Karen Palasek '81 (CLAS)** is the director of educational and academic programs at the John Locke Foundation in Raleigh, N.C.

**James Doing '82 (SFA), '84 M.M.** is a professor of voice at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He also performs around the world, specializing in the music of J.S. Bach.

**Maria Gawryl '82 Ph.D.** is a senior director and program executive with EnVivo Pharmaceuticals in Watertown, Mass.

**Paul Martha '82 M.D.** is the chief medical officer for Elixir Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in Cambridge, Mass. He has over 14 years of industry experience as an endocrinologist.

**Richard T. Roth '82 (BUS)** is a principal with Deloitte Consulting LLP and leads Deloitte's Global Benchmarking Center in Atlanta.

**Kevin Sullivan '82 J.D.** is the president and chief executive officer of The Children's Museum, based in West Hartford, Conn., which serves as a hands-on science and learning center for children, families and teachers.



**Peter Sumbly '82 (CLAS)**, associate director of the Ed McMahon Mass Communications Center at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn., received a 2007 Excellence in Teaching and Service to Students Award from Quinnipiac.

**Paul Vezzetti '82 (CLAS)**, regional information technology manager for the U.S. Department of Labor in Philadelphia, is a colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve assigned to the Joint Functional Component Command for Network Warfare. He lives with his wife and three children in Bucks County, Pa., where he is active in farming, serving on the boards of several agricultural associations.

**Philip Wilson '82 (CLAS)** recently celebrated 12 years as owner of Limousines Plus, a limousine service in Wolcott, Conn.

**Toni Duval '83 (CLAS)** is the founder and president of TLD – Training and Leadership Development in Knoxville, Tenn., a full-service training and skill development consulting firm. She also writes a business column for the *Knoxville News Sentinel* of Knoxville, Tenn.

**Parveen Gupta '83 M.B.A.** is chairman of the accounting department at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. He has been working at Lehigh since earning his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University in 1987.

**Michael Lanza '83 (CLAS), '86 J.D.** is executive vice president and general counsel with Selective Insurance Company of America in Sparta, N.J.

**Jill Maguire '83 (BUS)** is assistant vice president of business development at Ridgefield Bank in Ridgefield, Conn., a division of Fairfield County Bank Corporation.

**Carolann Norris '83 (ED)** was promoted to associate athletics director of Brown University in Providence, R.I., after coaching field hockey and women's lacrosse for 24 years.

**Robert Sorcher '83 (CLAS)** is chief content officer for Cartoon Network, based in Los Angeles, Calif. He was previously executive vice president of programming and production for AMC Network.

**Michael Antonini '84 (BUS)** married Amy Suzanne Okrepkie in June 2007.



### America's top history teacher

**Maureen Festi '72 (ED), '81 M.A.**, center, a fifth-grade teacher at Stafford (Conn.) Elementary School, became the first elementary school teacher to be named a Preserve America History Teacher of the Year by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, which recognizes outstanding American history teachers. She received the award at the Museum of the City of New York on Nov. 16, 2007, from First Lady Laura Bush, and Anita (Bevacqua) McBride '81 (CLAS), right, assistant to the president and chief of staff for Mrs. Bush.

**Raymond DiDonna '84 (CLAS)** is vice president of group reinsurance at The Hartford. He previously served as president of Union Fidelity Life Insurance Company, a subsidiary of General Electric Insurance.

**Eric T. Johnson '84 (CLAS)** and his wife, Suzanne, announce the birth of their son, Thomas Joseph Johnson, who joins a daughter, Hannah. Eric is a Conservation Police Officer and lives with his family in Easton, Conn.

**Pablo Malavenda '84 (CLAS), '92 M.A.** is associate dean of students at Purdue University.

**David Pazdar '84 (CLAS)** owns and operates Pazdar Winery in Scotchtown, N.Y., which received two 2008 Scovie awards, recognizing top food products from around the world.



**Judith Pepin '84 M.S., '87 Ph.D.**, senior scientist in the scientific writing and editing section of Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals, is treasurer of the American Medical Writers Association.

**Craig Ashmore '85 (ENG)** is senior vice president for planning and development at Emerson, based in St. Louis, Mo.

**Roger Ballentine '85 (CLAS)**, president of Green Strategies Inc. in Washington, D.C., joined the board of directors of the Environmental Power Corporation, a developer and owner of clean energy production facilities.

**Col. Marc Caouette '85 (PHR)** serves as the chief of pharmacy education and readiness training at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

**William E. Evans '85 Ph.D.** completed and self-published his autobiography *My Journey—Memoirs of Spiritual Faith*.

**Susan (Pearson) Gambardella '85 (CLAS)** is regional vice president of national sales for The Coca-Cola Company, and is responsible for revenue and profit growth across 19 states. She and her husband, **Mark Gambardella '85 (BUS)**, and their two children, Nicholas and Natalie, live in Dallas, Texas.



## In Memoriam

## ALUMNI

Charles Goodall '37  
 Myrtle F. Thomas '40  
 Pasquale "Pat" Ierardi '44  
 Wanda Hurley '47  
 James N. Barlow '48  
 Edmund Dreznek '48  
 Robert G. Gillespie '48  
 Margaret Adams '49  
 Arthur R. Deyorio '49  
 Mark I. Hart '49  
 Preston "Bud" King '49  
 Tim Branton '50  
 Earl Carini '50  
 Philip Clang '50  
 Norman Comollo '50  
 Ralph B. Hayes '50  
 Frederick Hurd '50, '51  
 Robert Hurney '50  
 Edward Lassen '51  
 Anthony Ferrara '52  
 Bernice Miller '52  
 Stanley Pazdziora '52  
 William Reilly '52  
 Francis Vignati '53

**Daniel Morley '85 (CANR)** is the policy development coordinator for responsible growth planning in the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management in Hartford. He lives in West Hartford, Conn., with his wife, Cathy, and son, Sean.

**Briggs Morrison '85 M.D.** has joined Pfizer Global Research and Development as senior vice president of clinical development. He previously held senior research and development positions at Merck Research Laboratories.

**Timothy Shannon '85 M.D.** was appointed president and chief executive officer of CuraGen Corporation, based in Branford, Conn., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on oncology. He previously served as

executive vice president of research and development, and chief medical officer of CuraGen.

**William H. Brewster, Jr '86 (ENG), '91 M.B.A.** is vice president of Gerber Technology in Tolland, Conn., responsible for global marketing and product management. He holds eight United States patents.

**David Brigham '86 (BUS, CLAS)** was appointed Edna S. Tuttleman Director of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Museum in Philadelphia, Pa.

**Mark Caswell '86 (SFA)** received his master's degree in interactive communications from Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn. He is a video technician for ESPN in Bristol, Conn., and lives in Prospect, Conn., with his wife, Tracy, their twin sons, Joshua and Mathew, and daughter, Cameron.

**Ronald Drotos '86 (SFA)** is the director of the Wilton Singers in Wilton, Conn.

**Mark Iadarola '86 (BUS)** is senior vice president of MidCap Business Credit, a commercial finance company. He is a member of the Turnaround Management Association and is involved in various charitable activities. He lives in Cheshire, Conn., with his wife and two daughters.

**Thomas Murphy '86 (CLAS)** was named senior vice president of corporate sales and services by the New York Mets. He previously was vice president of sponsorship and entertainment with MasterCard.

**James Turner '86 M.B.A.** is vice president of product management with Synacor, a Buffalo technology company. Previously he served as vice president for digital media at A&E Television Networks.

**Robert M. Villanova '86 Ph.D.,** superintendent of schools in Farmington, Conn., was named Connecticut's 2008 Superintendent of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents.

**Joseph Bittner '87 (BUS), '90 M.B.A.,** consultant and manager of education programs at the Federal

Reserve Bank of New York, received the 2007 Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Contributions to Business Education from the National Business Education Association.

**Mark Boxer '87 M.B.A.,** president and CEO of operations, technology and government services at Wellpoint, Inc., won the 2007 Tony Coelho Award for his commitment to employ people with disabilities in competitive positions and his work to influence other business and government leaders.

**Mark Finkelstein '87 (CLAS)** is president of the Boston division of Reed Business Information, the leading U.S. provider of business-to-business information.

**Clare Lamontagne '87 M.S.,** nursing professor at Springfield Technical Community College in Springfield, Mass., is participating in a national study of the use of patient simulation technology in nursing education.

**Kathleen Murphy '87 J.D.,** chief executive officer, ING US Wealth Management, has been named one of the 50 Most Powerful Women in Business by *Fortune* magazine.

**David Schless '87 (SFS),** president and CEO of the American Seniors Housing Association in Washington, D.C., is the author of a chapter in *The Future of Long Term Care in America: Views & Recommendations By Prominent Experts*, published by Genworth Financial. He lives with wife, **Susan Martino-Schless '88 (SFS),** in Rockville, Md., with their two children, Ethan, 10, and MacKenzie, 5.

**Jamie Swift '87 (ED)** is a literary coach at the Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, Conn., where she has worked as an English teacher for more than 20 years.

**Daniel Toscano '87 (BUS)** is head of HSBC Holding PLC's leveraged and acquisition finance business in the Americas, which handles bond and loan issuance for companies and buyouts. He previously held a similar position at Deutsche Bank in New York.



**Laura Caramanica '88 Ph.D.** is the senior vice president/chief nursing officer of Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, N.Y.

**Frederick Kuriger '88 M.B.A.** is executive vice president/chief operating officer of Seton Health System, an integrated health care delivery system in Troy, N.Y.



**Kenneth W. Mouning Sr. '88 (BUS), '96 M.B.A.,** associate director of information technology at UBS Realty Investors

LLC, received the 2007 Man of the Year award from the Connecticut African-American Affairs Commission in recognition of his work with the annual Greater Hartford Black Family Technology Awareness Week. He and his wife, **Rose-Marie (Scott) Mouning '91 (SFS), '01 M.S.W.,** also announce the birth of a new baby, Nairobi Elizabeth Lee Mouning, on Sept. 26, 2007, who joins brothers Kenneth Jr., 12, and Malachi, 11, and sister Kenya, 5.

**Celine (Duffy) Mulderrig '88 (CLAS)** and John Mulderrig announce the birth of a daughter, Keira James Mulderrig, born on October 10, 2007, in New York City.

**Paige Turco '88 (SFA)** plays the part of Lisbeth on the NBC series *Big Shots*. She most recently completed production on Disney's *The Game Plan*.

**Anthony Ciofani '89 M.B.A.** is executive vice president and chief underwriting officer at PMA Insurance Group in Blue Bell, Pa.

**Kristen (Fox) Haaijer '89 (BUS)** and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of a son, William, on December 11, 2007. He joins sisters Hannah, 10; Emily, 9 and Caroline, 5. They reside in Skillman, N.J.

**Maureen Macera '89 Ph.D.,** superintendent of Woonsocket Schools in Woonsocket, R.I., received a Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Northern Rhode Island.



**David O'Hara '89 (CLAS)** is a sales associate with Grand Prix New York Racing, LLC in Mount Kisco, N.Y.



**Jen Pepper '89 M.F.A.**, associate professor of studio art at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, N.Y., had a solo exhibition of her work, Slipstream, at Wells College in Aurora, N.Y., in 2007 and will have a solo exhibition at UMass-Dartmouth in 2008.

**Stephanie Stone '89 (CLAS)** joined the law firm of Pepe & Hazard LLP, in Hartford, Conn., as director of business development. She has more than 13 years of experience in service provider marketing, public relations and business development.

**Deborah Wolf '89 (ED)**, retired from Southeast Elementary School in Howell, Mich., is helping guide principals and teachers with school reform projects in the United Arab Emirates by volunteering through the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

## 1990s

**Amy (Brouwer) Gahan '90 (SAH)** and her husband, James R. Gahan Jr., announce the birth of a daughter, Molly Frances, on April 19, 2007. Molly joins brothers Patrick, 4, and Ian, 3. Amy is a physical therapist for the VNA of Southern Worcester County in Webster, Mass.

**Donna-Maria Lonergan '90 J.D.** is manager of the Nationwide Trial Division office in Rocky Hill, Conn.

**Charles Mobayed '90 Ph.D.** is the psychological consultant for Exploration Summer Programs in Wellesley, Mass., and has a private practice.



**Rob Chudzik '91 (CLAS)** was named manager of Internet services in the Office of University Communications at UConn. He previously was marketing manager

at Duck Creek Technologies in Farmington, Conn.

**Gani Manelli '91 M.A.** is a social studies teacher at Masuk High School in Monroe, Conn., and serves as an adjunct history professor at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield and Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport. He is also a strength and conditioning coach at Chase Collegiate School in Waterbury.

**Wade Seward '91 J.D.** was appointed chief marketing officer of the individual life division at The Hartford Financial Services Group in Hartford, Conn. He is responsible for product launches, advanced marketing, marketing communications, field technology and competitive analysis.

**Peter Tesei '91 (CLAS)** is a vice president in the Wealth Management Group of Bank of New York Mellon Bank. He resides in Greenwich, Conn.



**Dan Waters '91 (CLAS)** is the author of *Generation Dead*, a young adult horror novel that will be published by Hyperion Books in May. He lives in Norwich, Conn., with his wife, Kimberley Fideli Waters, '92 (CLAS), an elementary school teacher in Lisbon, Conn., and their two children.

**Sean Cassidy '92 (BUS)**, '00 M.B.A. was appointed vice president and chief financial officer of CuraGen Corporation in Branford, Conn.



**Carla L. Curran '92 (CLAS)** was named assistant director of government relations at UConn in Storrs. She previously was a senior policy specialist with the National Conference of State Legislatures in Denver.

**Ann Totten Doyle '92 M.S.** is a statistics lecturer at the University of Connecticut and a member of the executive council of the UConn chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

**Christopher Lawrence '92 (CLAS)** is vice president, senior underwriting counsel for Stewart Title Guaranty Company, based in Houston, Texas.

**Peter V. Longo '92 (BUS)** is president and executive director of Connecticut Innovations Inc., in Rocky Hill, Conn.

**Marc Marin '92 (CLAS)** was named assistant principal for Middlesex Middle School in Darien, Conn. He previously was district instructional improvement specialist for the Fairfield Public Schools. He lives in Trumbull with his wife, Christine, and three children.

**Mitch Passero '92 (CLAS)** and his wife, Silvia, announce the birth of a daughter, Samantha Michelle, on Oct. 16, 2007. She joins her sister, Pamela, 2, at their home in Stamford, Conn.

**Donna (Germano) Phillips '92 (CLAS)** and husband, Mark Phillips, announce the birth of a baby boy, Jason Patrick. He was born on Aug. 20, 2007, in Las Vegas, Nev. He joins three sisters, Alexandra Marie, Samantha Rose, and Gabriella Noelle.



**Scott Pivnick '92 (CLAS)** is a partner in the international law firm of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP in McLean, Va., where he litigates patent, trademark and copyright disputes. He and his wife, Stephanie, have two children, Kelsey, 5, and Jenna, 3.

**Peter Rea '92 (CLAS)** is the head coach at ZAP Fitness, an elite training program in Blowing Rock, N.C.

**Lance Richmond '92 (CLAS)** is the manager of technical services for the Office of the President at Columbia University in New York City. He previously was an assistant director in information technology at Columbia's Graduate School of Business.

**Sharon Rosenberg-Scholl '92 (ED)**, nursery school director at Temple Israel in Minneapolis, is the 2007 recipient of the Vivian Mann Jewish Educator of the Year Award, given annually to a Jewish educator in

Minnesota, as well as a 2007 recipient of the Grinspoon-Steinhardt Awards for Excellence In Jewish Education, a national award.

**Martianne (Sullivan) Stanger '92 (SFA)** and her husband, Michael announce the birth of their daughter, Nina Elizabeth, on June 9, 2007. Nina joins her brother, Luke Michael. The family lives in Middleboro, Mass., where Martianne teaches drama, tutors and provides consulting services.

**William Stuart, Jr. '92 (CANR)** operates the Stuart Family Farm in Bridgewater, Conn., with his wife, Deb, and their two children.

**Wayne Tønning '92 (CLAS)** and his wife, Deena (Pacelli) Tønning '92 (CLAS), announce the birth of their son, Thomas Patrick, on March 5, 2007. He joins sisters, Skylar, 4, and Hailey, 2.

**Dwight Whitaker '92 (CLAS)**, assistant professor of physics at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., received a grant from the National Science Foundation in support of his research.

**Joseph Zornado '92 Ph.D.** is the author of *2050 Volume 1: Gods of Little Earth*, published in November 2007 by Speculative Fiction Review.

**Susan Alwardt '93 (CLAS)** is senior vice president of sales performance and integration executive at Bank of America located in Charlotte, N.C. She is responsible for engaging with all product, channel and finance partners.

**Alison (Fine) Berks '93 (CLAS)** and her husband, Lance, welcomed their daughter, Mia Francine, on April 30, 2007, in Sydney, Australia. Mia joins big brother Benjamin, 2.

**Alex Jones '93 (ENG)** owns and operates his car detailing business, Automobilia, in Orange, Conn., where he lives with his wife, Monika, and their two children.

**Robert McDonald '93 (BUS)** received the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching award at Texas Tech University, in Lubbock, Texas.



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES



**Kevin Molloy '93 (CANR), '98 M.S.** is senior vice president of distribution finance for AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company in New York, N.Y.

**Dana Mortensen '93 (CLAS)** is an interior designer at BJAC in Charlotte, N.C., one of the largest woman-owned design firms in the Southeast.

**Bethany (Samuelson) Olson '93 (CLAS)** and **Michael Olson '92 (RHSA)** announce the birth of their son, John Paul, on May 10, 2006. He joins sister Lauren, 3. The family lives in New Braintree, Mass.

**Stephen Swett '93 M.B.A.** is senior vice president of research at KBW, Inc., based in New York, N.Y. He was previously employed at Wachovia Securities as an Equity REIT analyst.

**Jennifer (Colangelo) Fricke '94 (CLAS)** and **Richard Fricke '94 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their son, Oliver Louis, on July 5, 2007. Oliver joins sister Charlotte, 6, and brother RJ, 4. The family lives in Farmington, Conn.

**Michael Goba '94 (BUS)** is serving in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps during his second tour of duty in Taji, Iraq. He is a member of the 1st Cavalry Division of Fort Hood, Texas.

**Prabhat Pokhrel '94 (PHR)** is a clinical faculty member in the department of family medicine at the Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc, Mich.

**Ella Sastram '94 (CLAS)** is the speech and language pathologist at Quaker Farms School in Oxford, Conn.

**Robert Spadafora '94 (CLAS)** is the vice president of legal affairs for the Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation in Waltham, Mass.

**Eric Baumann '95 (CLAS)** and his wife, Jaclyn, announce the birth of their second child, Anya Colette, on Nov. 19, 2007. Anya joins brother Colton, 2. Eric is a fifth grade curriculum support teacher for math

and science in Dublin City, Ohio. The family lives in Marysville, Ohio.

**Eric Ferreri '95 (CLAS)** and **Stefanie Pratola Ferreri '97 (PHR)** welcome twins Ryan John and Annabelle Grace, born Sept. 13, 2007. Eric is a newspaper reporter with the *Raleigh News & Observer*, Raleigh, N.C., and Stefanie is a pharmacy professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. They live in Durham.

**Eric Kopp '95 (ED)** is partner and clinic manager of ProEx Physical Therapy in Farmington, Conn., a therapist-owned company.

**Frederick Kuo '95 (CLAS)** married Cristina Dieguez on Oct. 13, 2007. He is associate director of student activities at Fairfield University, in Fairfield, Conn. The couple lives in Hamden, Conn.

**Jennyfer (Reed) Matteson '95 (CANR)** and her husband, James, announce the birth of their first child, a son, Justus Reed Matteson, on July 9, 2006. She is currently a lead product development scientist at Kellogg Company. The family lives in East LeRoy, Mich.

**William Petricone '95 M.D.** married Katherine A. Schneider in December 2007. He is a physician at Waterbury Hospital in Waterbury, Conn., where he practices internal medicine, and is also an assistant clinical professor of medicine at Yale University.

**Jeanette Rivera '95 (CANR), '00 M.D.** joined the medical staff of Danbury (Conn.) Hospital as director of urogynecology and pelvic reconstruction in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

**Neil White '95 (CLAS)** married Michelle Hord in September 2007.



**Craig Burdick '96 (CLAS), '01 (ENG)** was named marketing specialist in the Office of University Communications at UConn.

He previously was an instructional media developer in UConn's Institute for Teaching & Learning.

**Suzanne (Dube) Burrridge '96 (PHR)** and her husband, Gary, welcomed

twins Matthew and Samantha on Nov. 16, 2007. Suzanne is a hospital pharmacist at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo, N.Y. The family lives in Grand Island.

**Susan Collins '96 M.S.** is a diabetes educator with Innovex in Parsippany, N.J., after retiring from Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, Conn., where she worked for more than 34 years.

**Donna Ellis '96 M.S.** is an extension educator at the University of Connecticut, conducting applied research and educational outreach programs in integrated pest management.

**Michael Grimaldi '96 (ED)** married Meghan McHugh in December 2007. He is the manager of apparel sourcing for Reebok International. The couple lives in Canton, Conn.

**Michael Larkin '96 (CLAS)** is principal of Crystal Lake Elementary School in Ellington, Conn. He was previously the interim principal at Stafford Elementary School in Bristol, Conn.

**Patrick Lockhart '96 (CLAS)** and **Karen (Stokes) Lockhart '98 (BUS)** announce the birth of a baby boy, Brandon Owen Lockhart, born on Nov. 17, 2007, in Fairfax, Va.

**Jean Perreault '96 (BGS)** published *Footprints Across Connecticut From Simsbury 1930 Census*, a genealogy book about local Farmington Valley residents, released by Infinity Publishing.

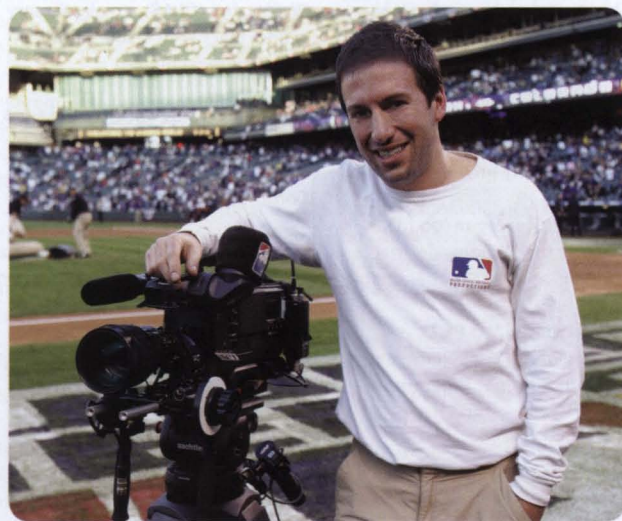
**Robert N. Schmidt '96 (CANR)** married Deborah Jean Rayburn in October 2007.

**Richard Tilley '96 (ENG), '04 J.D.** married Julie Black on Oct. 20, 2007. He is an attorney in the intellectual property and information technology practice group at McCarter & English, LLP. The couple lives in Hartford, Conn.

**Stacey (Zweifel) Tinker '96 (SFA)** and **Scott Tinker '97 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their son, Jackson Mack, on Aug. 9, 2007. Jack joins brother Zane, 6, and sister Cora, 3. The family lives in Wethersfield, Conn.

**Joseph Alfano '97 (BUS)** and his wife, **Kasia (Kaluzny) Alfano '88 (BUS)**, both work for Aetna Inc. They are the parents of a son, Dominic Randal, 9, and a daughter, Isabella Alexandra, 6. The family resides in Farmington, Conn.

**Kevin Balfe '97 (BUS)** is the coordinating producer for the Glenn



### Inside Major League Baseball

**Brian Schulz '97 (CLAS)** gets an up-close look at Major League Baseball as an Emmy Award-winning producer for MLB Productions, capturing historic moments such as Barry Bonds's 762nd home run and the 2007 World Series, won by the Boston Red Sox. A resident of New York City, he also directs television commercials and music videos.



Beck program on CNN *Headline News*. He recently co-authored and edited *An Inconvenient Book*, which reached No. 1 on *The New York Times* Bestseller List. He and his wife, Rebecca, live in Manhattan.

**Nelson Braslow '97 M.P.H.** is executive vice president of medical affairs and chief medical officer for MVP Health Care, based in Schenectady, N.Y.

**Sherri Cifaldi '97 (SFA)** married **Jason Morrill '97 (ENG)** in Central Park, New York City, on Oct. 6, 2007. She is the director of exhibit design for Stepping Stones Museum for Children in Norwalk, Conn. Jason is the IT manager for the Child and Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut. They live in Woodbridge, Conn.

**Jennifer Kelly '97 (BUS)** is a senior managing consultant at MasterCard Worldwide in New York City.

**Matthew Kelly '97 (BUS), '99 M.B.A.** and his wife, Amanda, welcome their second child, Madeline Elizabeth Kenny, born Dec. 5, 2007.

**Matthew Labanca '97 (SFA), '98 (ED)** is a performer in the Mel Brooks Broadway musical *Young Frankenstein*.

**Jennifer Schilt '97 (BUS)** and Christopher Perfetti announce the birth of a son, Luke William, born Oct. 27, 2007, in Mineola, N.Y.

**Dana (Marrow) Sullivan '97 (NUR)** and her husband, Peter, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Carter Caroline, on Sept. 3, 2007. Dana is a senior sales consultant for Bayer Healthcare. The family lives in Marblehead, Massachusetts.

**Gabriel Tuvek '97 (BUS)** is executive vice president and managing director of Daniel Island Mortgage in South Carolina. He previously ran a stock option trading company on the floor of the American Stock Exchange.

**Jessica (Stone) Beauchemin '98 (CLAS)** married Olivier Beauchemin on Oct. 19, 2007. She is senior manager of health and research communications for Special Olympics International in Washington,

D.C., and is president of the National Capital Chapter of the University of Connecticut Alumni Association. The couple lives in Maryland.

**Thomas B. Bogue '98 (CLAS)** is assistant professor of physics at Northwestern College in Saint Paul, Minn.

**Andrea (Tonnessen) Cordani '98 (ED), '99 M.A.** and her husband, **Michael Cordani '96 (CANR)**, announce the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Elisabeth, on Oct. 19, 2007. The family lives in Burlington, Conn.

**Melissa Cummings '98 M.B.A.** is head of workforce planning at Aetna, Inc. in Hartford, Conn.



**Aileen Dever '98 Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Spanish at Quinnipiac University, in Hamden, Conn., received a 2007

Excellence in Teaching and Service to Students Award from Quinnipiac.



**Charles Nagy '98 (ED)**, former major league baseball pitcher who is now the pitching coach for the Salt Lake Bees, the AAA

affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, was inducted into the Fairfield County Sports Commission Hall of Fame in October.

**John Nguyen '98 (ED), '99 M.A.**, a social studies teacher at Hillhouse High School in New Haven, Conn., received a \$25,000 National Educator prize honoring outstanding teachers from the Milken Family Foundation in California. He previously received the AmeriCorps Education Award.

**Julie Snowden '98 (CLAS)** married Matthew Browne in August 2007. She is a business analyst at The Oliver Group, a technology company in Pawcatuck, Conn.

**Kristene Baldwin '99 (ED), '00 M.A.** and her husband, Seth, announce the birth of their second child, Lorna Paige, on Aug. 5, 2007. She joins Kayla Ann, born April 28, 2006. The family lives in Lehi, Utah.

**Adawna Bell '99 (CLAS)** is a parenting counselor at Children's Home Society in Florida, where she lives with her husband and two children.

**Elizabeth Burleson '99 J.D.** joined the faculty of the University of South Dakota School of Law as an assistant professor. She teaches international environmental law, property law, international law, water law and environmental law.

**Jamie Cheshire '99 (CLAS)** is the legislative director for U.S. Rep. Howard McKeon of California. She previously served as legislative director for former U.S. Rep. Nancy Johnson of Connecticut.

**Eugene Gartlan '99 M.B.A.** is senior project manager at Toll Brothers, a leading builder of luxury homes based in Horsham, Pa. He previously worked as project manager in the company.

**Shay Harrison '99 Ph.D.** is director of operational development for Blasch Precision Ceramics in Albany, N.Y. He is responsible for overseeing manufacturing and improving overall quality.

**Carrie MacMillan '99 (CLAS)** married **Hugh Bailey '99 (CLAS)** on July 13, 2007. Their wedding party included several UConn alumni: **Amy MacMillan '92 (CLAS)**, **Melissa (Koerner) Reeve '99 (CLAS)**, **Christine Brownlee '99 (CLAS)**, **Stefanie Dion Jones '00 (CLAS)**, **Owen Bailey '90 (SFA)** and **Mark Theriault '01 (PHR)**. They both work for newspapers in Connecticut and visited Iceland on their honeymoon.

**Alex Maderazo '99 M.B.A., '01 M.D.** is an assistant attending radiologist at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. He conducts research in several divisions of radiology.

**Joseph Mele '99 M.B.A.** is senior vice president of operations with Gerber Scientific in South Windsor, Conn.

**Jennifer Zenowich '99 (CLAS)** married **Ryan Sandberg '00 (CLAS)** in July 2007. She is a speech language pathologist for the West Haven (Conn.) schools, and he is an optical engineer for Goodrich Corporation.

## 2000s

**Nicole Bakes '00 (CLAS)** married John Deluca. She teaches science at Bunnell High School in Stratford, Conn.

**Brian Drake '00 (BUS)** and his wife, Kendra, announce the birth of a daughter, Madison Rae, on Oct. 4, 2007. They live in Middleboro, Mass.

**Kyle Eckert '00 (ENG)**, an engineer with AARON Environmental in Plantsville, Conn., and her husband, Hans, announce the birth of daughter Emelia Louise on Aug. 5, 2007, who joins sister Lauren Lee, 3.

**Tsuyoshi Fukuda '00 J.D.** is an attorney at Gallagher & Cavanaugh, LLP, in Lowell, Mass.

**Amy Grandison '00 (CLAS)** married Timothy Swaller. The couple lives in Milford, Conn.



**Katherine Henry '00 (CLAS)** is an associate at Bailey Law Group in Washington, D.C., recognized by the *Washingtonian* as one of the "Great Places to Work" in the Washington, D.C., area.

**Qaiyima Haleem Holloway '00 (ED)** married **Gary Allen McMillan '99 (CLAS)** in September 2007. She is a treasury manager at HOP Energy, White Plains, N.Y., and he is a senior trainer at Verizon Wireless, Wallingford, Conn. The couple lives in Bridgeport, Conn.

**Catherine (Bucci) Klar '00 (CLAS), '05 M.A.** and her husband, **Jonathan Klar '01 (BUS), '03 M.B.A.**, announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Catherine, born on Oct. 12, 2007. The family lives in Brookfield, Conn.

**Thomas Maguire '00 M.B.A.** is vice president for Yellow Pages products at Knowledge Networks/SRI of Menlo Park, Calif.

**Keya Maitra '00 Ph.D.** is an associate professor of philosophy at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.



**Taylor Norton '00 (CLAS), '04 J.D.** has rejoined the Hartford office of Halloran & Sage LLP. Her practice is focused on civil litigation and insurance defense litigation.

**Sally A. Sakelaris '00 (CLAS), '02 M.S.** is vice president of Patent Resources Group, Inc., in Charlottesville, Va., a firm that provides courses and publications on patent practice.

**Bill Zagorski '00 (CLAS)** is director of development at Operation Fuel in Bloomfield, Conn., a nonprofit organization that offers emergency energy assistance to people who are not eligible for government assistance. He is pursuing a graduate certificate in nonprofit management at UConn's West Hartford campus.

**Christopher Bevin '01 D.M.D.** joined Southwestern Vermont Health Care as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon.

**Michelle Cruz '01 J.D.** is the chief ombudsman for crime victims in Connecticut and the liaison with the state's criminal justice system.

**Teresa Labarbera '01 (CLAS)** is a morning general-assignment reporter for WFSB Eyewitness News, in Hartford, Conn.

**Meredith Lee '01 (CLAS)** is a print production manager at Canterbury Graphics Strategic Marketing in Wilton, Conn.

**Richard Manzo '01 M.D.** joined the practice of The Hand Center of Waterbury in Waterbury, Conn. He completed his orthopaedic surgery training at the UConn Health Center, where he received the Cavazos Award in 2006 for most outstanding resident/teacher.

**Lauren Marcoccio '01 (CLAS)** was a contestant on the tenth season of CBS's *The Amazing Race*. She teamed up with her father to try to win the 28-day race around the world.

**Timothy McGarrigal '01 (SFA)** appears in the 60-city national tour of the stage production of Disney's *High School Musical*.

**Brenda Velez '01 (CLAS)** is a publicist at *Newsweek* magazine.

She previously worked for three years as a journalist for a national business magazine.

**Courtney Brown '02 (BUS)** was promoted to senior project manager at InsightExpress, LLC, located in Stamford, Conn.

**Lindsay Clarkson '02 (CLAS)** graduated from the University of Rochester Medical School, Rochester, N.Y., in May 2007 and is doing a residency in emergency medicine at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence.

**Janelle Francisco '02 (ED)** is associate athletic trainer at Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y.

**Alyssa Gerlando '02 (CLAS)** received a master of science in athletic administration from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., on Dec. 15, 2007.

**Robert McDonald '02 Ph.D.,** assistant professor of management in the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University, received the university's Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Award.

**Lauren Medvetz '02 (CLAS)** is a meeting planner for Advanced Health Media in Philadelphia, Pa. She earned a bachelor's degree in hospitality management from Rutgers University.

**David Natonski '02 (CLAS)** is the press secretary for U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays of Connecticut.

**Ludmyla Rekeda '02 M.S.** announces the birth of a daughter, Anna Danica, with **Alexander Rekeda '01 M.B.A.** The family lives in Hoboken, N.J.

**Michelle Royce '02 (CLAS)** married Ryan James Williams on September 15, 2007. The couple lives in Coventry, R.I.



**Hillary Royer '02 (CLAS)** married Eric Sirois on June 30, 2007. The couple lives in Plainfield, Conn.

**Joshua Shuart '02 Ph.D.** is an assistant professor of sports management at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.



## Lani Fortier's helping hand

**L**ani Fortier '04 (ED) had served as a volunteer for many years, but her interest in humanitarian work was sparked when she traveled to Brazil in the summer of 2004 as a member of the UConn women's soccer team.

"We were staying in a nice hotel, and I looked up the hill and saw all these people living in shacks," recalls Fortier, who was a senior on the team that won the 2004 Big East championship and advanced to the NCAA finals. "That was the first time I noticed the disparity in how people around the world live."

After completing her degree in exercise science, Fortier spent a year working with Mercy Ships, a global charity that uses ocean vessels to offer free surgery and medical care to people living in port areas of third-world countries. While visiting Liberia, Fortier learned of an orphanage for 153 children that was about to be shut

down because it was in disrepair. She recruited friends to raise enough money to rebuild the orphanage.

Through her work with Mercy Ship, Fortier met fellow volunteer Scott Harrison, who was serving as the organization's photographer. They talked about their passion for health issues in developing nations, particularly the lack of clean drinking water or reliable sanitation.

"Without safe water, nothing else matters," Fortier says. "There are over a billion people around the world who don't have safe drinking water and adequate sanitation."

When Fortier and Harrison returned to New York in 2006, they launched a non-profit organization, simply named Charity, to address humanitarian issues, beginning with clean water and sanitation. For the first eight months of Charity's operation, Fortier earned no salary and lived with a friend. Now known as Charity: Water, the organization has installed more than 250 wells in African countries, working to ensure the wells will be sustainable.

"I want to help develop programs in communities, not give handouts," says Fortier, who is pursuing a master's degree in sustainable international development at Brandeis University.

In recognition of her work in Africa, Fortier was presented with the 2007 Humanitarian Award from the UConn Alumni Association. — *Alix Boyle*



**Bethany (Brown) Villa '02 (ED)** married Rick Villa on Sept. 22, 2007, in Edgartown, Mass. They live in Newport, R.I.

**Roxanne Williams '02 M.D.** is a family practitioner at the Apopka Family Health Center in Apopka, Fla.

**Elizabeth Acey '03 (CLAS)** is a substance abuse counselor at the Hartford dispensary in New Britain, Conn. She received her master's degree in mental health counseling from Central Connecticut State University in 2007.

**Katherine Bakes '03 (CLAS)** teaches Spanish at Saxe Middle School in New Canaan, Conn.

**Marc Bovino '03 (CLAS)** played the role of Renfield in *Dracula* at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Ky.

**Molli R. Jones '03 Ph.D.** is an assistant professor in the mathematics department of Immaculata University, Immaculata, Pa.

**Kathryn Litwin '03 M.D.** is on the medical and dental staff of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Conn.

**Frank Macchi '03 (CLAS)** is a social studies teacher at Bloomfield High School in Bloomfield, Conn. He received his master's degree in secondary education from Eastern Connecticut State University in 2007.

**Benjamin Pinkhasik '03 (ENG), '06 M.B.A.** started a film and entertainment industry social networking site, [www.MyMovieNetwork.com](http://www.MyMovieNetwork.com), with several business partners over the past year.

**Helen Sabolek '03 M.A., '06 Ph.D.,** married **Joseph Consiglio '03 M.S., '04 Ph.D.,** on June 24, 2007 on Cape Cod, Mass. She is a research scientist with Harvard University/Massachusetts General Hospital, and he is a product manager with Harvard Apparatus in Holliston, Mass. The couple resides in Belmont, Mass.



of marketing and promotions for

**Lindsey (Muir) Turner '03 (SFA)** married **Nathan Turner '03 (CLAS)** on Sept. 8, 2007, in Burlington, Vt. She is director

the Litchfield Performing Arts Jazz Festival and summer camp and recently released a compact disc of her own music, *You're Nearer: Love Songs of the '30s and '40s*. He is a data analyst working for Columbia University.

**Naomi Wasser '03 (BUS)** married Jack Mozer in September 2007. The couple resides in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

**Jennifer Bryant '04 (CLAS)** married **Jesse Claude '03 (CLAS)** in April 2006, and have a daughter, Madilynn, born on April 25, 2007. They are both teachers in the Windham, Conn., school system.

**Valerie Treco '04 (BUS)** married **Jason Graf '04 (BUS)** on Sept. 1, 2007. She is an M.B.A. student at UConn, and he is a director of client relations at MetLife in New York City. The couple lives in Fairfield, Conn.

**Geri Izbicki '04 (CLAS)** married Brian D. Jennings in May 2007. The couple lives in Ann Arbor, Maine.

**Shirey Moore '04 (CLAS)** recently spent 10 months in the Marshall Islands, teaching English to children, as a volunteer with WorldTeach.



first child, daughter Amy Jean, on Nov. 6, 2007.

**Susan (Crossett) Rudnickas '04 (CLAS)** and her husband, **Donald Rudnickas, Jr. '05 (CLAS),** announce the birth of their



at UConn. She previously was a program assistant in the First Year Program in UConn's Center for Undergraduate Education.

**Alexa Smith '04 (SFA)** was named program coordinator for Internet services in the Office of University Communications

**Melissa Toscano '04 (CLAS)** is an assistant for communications and publications with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation in Washington, D.C.

**Lindsay (Shafer) Bessette '05 (CANR),** a veterinary technician with Beckett and Associates of

Glastonbury, Conn., married Andrew Bessette in October 2006.

**Todd Clemens '05 (CLAS)** joined Barnum Financial Group in Shelton, Conn., as a financial services representative.

**Myeisha Gillette '05 (CANR)** is a staff physical therapist with Aquacare in Salisbury, M.D., focusing on amputations/prosthesis training, joint arthroplasties, wound care and nerve injuries.

**Kelly (Burke) Lamb '05 (SFS)** and Craig Lamb were married Sept. 15, 2007, in Mystic, Conn. She is completing her master's degree in educational administration at the University at Albany while working as a counselor for transfer students. The couple lives in Albany, N.Y.

**Domenick Scarfo '05 (CLAS)** is a case manager and team leader for MetLife, in Hartford, Conn., where he has worked since graduation.

**Emily Scholl '05 D.M.D.** joined the B Street Health Center in Lewiston, Maine, as a part of its community clinical services area.



**Kevin Hanlon '06 (6th year)** is the assistant principal of Irving A. Robbins Middle School in Farmington, Conn.

**Vida Sumrell '05 M.P.H.** was married on Jan. 7, 2008. She is a claims processor for Social Security Disability.

**Kathryn Jurczik '06 (CANR)** married Michael Hollis in June 2007. She is assistant superintendent at the New London Country Club. The couple lives in Norwich, Conn.



for Trumbull, Conn., for his accomplishments as a member of the UConn football team by the Fairfield County Sports Commission.

**Matt Nuzie '06 (CLAS),** a residential and commercial real estate agent with RE/MAX, was named 2007 Sports Person of the Year

**Michael Riolino '06 (BUS)** is a CPA at Schwartz & Hofflich and a

photographer for the East Haven (Conn.) Historical Society.

**Janet Robinson '06 Ph.D.** is the superintendent of schools in Newtown, Conn.

**Erin Wenzler '06 (CLAS)** is a marketing coordinator for CB Richard Ellis, a worldwide real estate services firm, in its Saddle Brook, N.J., office with responsibilities for flyers, brochures, presentations, Web content and other marketing materials. She previously was an account coordinator at Bernard Hodes Group, handling national advertising accounts.

**Sara (Burrige) Yezefski '06 (BCS)** and her husband, Brent, announce the birth of their son, Jackson Henry, born on May 7, 2007.

**Albert Barrueco '07 J.D.** is an associate specializing in employment litigation at the law offices of Day Pitney, LLP, in Hartford, Conn.

**Jill Davidson '07 (ED)** is teaching at the Abraham Pierson School in Clinton, Conn.

**Robert Flanagan '07 (CCS)** is the zoning and wetlands enforcement officer for Redding, Conn. He is on the board of directors of the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission.

**Cullen Jumper '07 M.D.** is a resident at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He lives with his wife, Allison, in Lebanon.

**Mark Kiniry '07 (CLAS)** is vice president, national sales director, investments, for ALPS Fund Services, Inc., a leading provider of outsourced and advisory solutions to the investment management industry.

**Amy Zinser '07 J.D.** married Robert Trudel in August 2007. She is a law clerk for Judge Alvin W. Thompson of the Federal District Court in Hartford.

**Alumni News & Notes compiled by Emily Rosenkrans '09 (CLAS) and Tina Modzelewski**





Ansel Adams's photo of people leaving the Buddhist church during the second winter at Manzanar Relocation Center.

### Manzanar Relocation Center, 1943

Five years ago, George M. Fukui '45 (CLAS), '48 M.S. wrote in *UConn* magazine about his experiences as one of the more than 120,000 Japanese Americans sent to internment camps during World War II and the fact that UConn was one of the few universities to offer the opportunity for Japanese Americans to leave the camps to continue their education. Fukui went on to have a distinguished career as a research scientist.

In 2007, UConn continued to strengthen its connection to this moment in history when The William Benton Museum of Art, part of the School of Fine Arts, helped to organize the exhibition *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps 1942–1946*,

based on the book by Delphine Hirasuna, with the Oregon Historical Society in collaboration with the National Japanese American Historical Society. The touring exhibit arrived in Storrs for a 2008 semester viewing and a series of special education programs, which concluded in March. The exhibition features nearly 200 objects made primarily from scrap and found materials by those detained in the camps and gives a sense of the full range of artistic activities that existed within the internment camps. The exhibition also demonstrates the resiliency of the creative spirit—how human beings are able to create objects of beauty and meaning with humble materials and under the most difficult circumstances.

Included in the exhibition are photographs of life in the internment camps taken by Ansel Adams, America's best-known photographer, who in 1943 documented life in the Manzanar Relocation Center in California. Adams donated his work to the Library of Congress, saying, "The purpose of my work was to show how these people, suffering under a great injustice, and loss of property, businesses and professions, had overcome the sense of defeat and despair [sic] by building for themselves a vital community in an arid (but magnificent) environment...All in all, I think this Manzanar Collection is an important historical document, and I trust it can be put to good use."



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# Stepping Out

**T**he UConn All-Stars, a student stepping and hip-hop dance team, goes through percussive and synchronized dance movements during a performance at the Student Union Theatre. Step moves are based in gymnastics, tap dance and marching or African and Caribbean dance styles.

