

# UConn

A close-up portrait of Michael J. Hogan, UConn's 14th president. He is an older man with thinning grey hair, wearing thin-rimmed glasses, a dark suit, a light blue shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the right. The background is dark blue with faint white floral patterns.

| Fall/Winter 2007

**Michael J. Hogan**  
UConn's 14th president





# Searching for UConn Stars

**We're on the lookout for 40 stellar UConn alumni under 40**

Recommend your most accomplished colleagues, former classmates, and fellow alumni for UCONN magazine's "40 Under 40" story. This exclusive feature will highlight 40 exceptional UConn alumni – all under 40 years old – who have...

...Had a positive impact on society,  
...Made a meaningful contribution in their chosen profession, or  
...Proven themselves through outstanding achievements or accomplishments.

For details, visit [www.uconnmagazine.uconn.edu/40](http://www.uconnmagazine.uconn.edu/40)

Submissions deadline: February 1, 2008  
Our "40 Under 40" feature is planned for release in Fall 2008.



University of Connecticut





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Michael J. Hogan at a news conference after being introduced as UConn's 14th president.





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## From the EDITOR

# Reaching out on the air

## WHUS OFFERS STUDENTS UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Although the Undergraduate Student Government, *Daily Campus*, *Nutmeg* and UConn Marching Band are the modern incarnations of the University's oldest student organizations, today UConn's most public and far-reaching student group is WHUS, which is celebrating its 85th year of broadcasting.

In addition to its significance as a part of UConn, the radio station holds a place in Connecticut history as one of the state's earliest broadcasters and as its first educational station. Details of WHUS history are on page 6 in our Then & Now feature.

Like many college radio stations, WHUS provides an eclectic mix of music and public affairs programs that serves as an alternative to what is heard on commercial radio. It also has a clear educational mission to provide training to students and members of the University community who are interested in learning about radio.

The station's educational mission is the secret to the vitality of WHUS as a unique voice in eastern Connecticut and, now, on the Internet. Three times each year a new group of trainees—mostly UConn students but also some members of the local community—take several weeks to learn the technical aspects of broadcasting, communications law and the responsibilities that are inherent to having the privilege of sitting behind an open microphone. They also spend several hours with an experienced member of the WHUS staff learning to operate the equipment in what is now one of the top radio facilities—college or commercial—in the United States.

Once approved for broadcast privileges, new WHUS staff help to reenergize the Connecticut airwaves. Whether it is punk, hip-hop, indie rock, world music, blues or even classic rock 'n' roll, the widest spectrum of music breaks through. So, too, does a new generation's voice on current events and world issues in public affairs programming, as well as coverage of Husky athletics, from football and women's soccer to field hockey and baseball.

Although WHUS has launched careers in broadcasting for many throughout its history, more often it has served as a unique diversion from the rigors of the classroom for future engineers, scientists, business executives, historians, social workers, writers, artists and other professionals, much the same as dozens of other student organizations have done for students and alumni.

A final thought: As UConn magazine continues to evolve with its new look, so too does our editorial content. In addition to providing coverage of new academic programs and other areas of interest to alumni, on occasion we will feature UConn experts writing about their areas of scholarship. This edition features an early analysis of the potential legacy of President George W. Bush by Prof. David A. Yalof, a UConn political scientist and scholar on presidential appointments to The Supreme Court of the United States.

*Ken Best*



University of  
Connecticut





## Walk in Space

Rick Mastracchio '82 (ENG) works on construction of the International Space Station as part of his second trip to space during NASA's STS-118 *Endeavour* mission in August. Mastracchio spent 13 days in space, traveling 5.3 million miles and conducting three spacewalks. The STS-118 crew included teacher-astronaut Barbara Morgan, who led a historic series of conversations between students on Earth and the *Endeavour* crew. Mastracchio's prior space mission was aboard STS-106 *Atlantis* in 2000.

(NASA Photo)

# Opening Shot



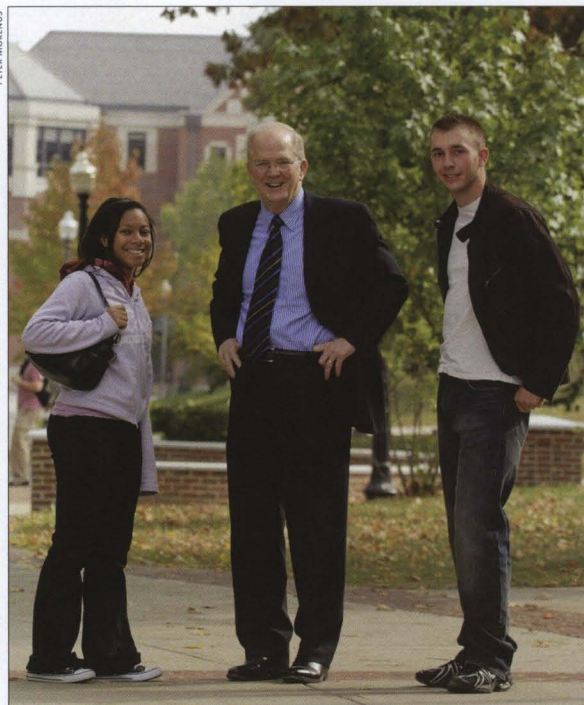
# First impressions

## PRESIDENT HOGAN MEETS THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

I have big shoes to fill in this space. Phil Austin graciously passed the baton of the UConn presidency to me on Sept. 14. Ever since, I've been learning how much he cared for the University and how much he enjoyed his job. I'm learning a lot from him: about UConn, about its faculty and students, and about its alumni. As I write this, I'm fresh from the 2007 UConn Homecoming, when my wife, Virginia, and I met many of the alums who came back to the Storrs campus to celebrate. And they have a lot to celebrate.

I came to UConn because something special is happening here, and I want to be part of it. There's energy and excitement everywhere—you can feel it when you talk with students and faculty and alumni. You can see it in the extraordinary investment that the state of Connecticut has made in the physical campus. You can see it in the research laboratories in Storrs and in Farmington and at regional campuses such as Avery Point, where our faculty are taking on cutting-edge research in biochemistry, cancer, engineering, animal science and marine biology, to name just a few.

I'm impressed by our students. They're bright, they're energetic, they're creative, and they're committed. Just like you were, when you walked our campus and climbed the stairways to class, to the dorm and to the Student Union. If you've been back to campus recently, you know that some things are changing. We have new buildings and classrooms and laboratories, wonderful new facilities that will afford our faculty and students the best possible



UConn's 14th president, Michael J. Hogan, with Kristan Ingraham '11 (CLAS) and Steve Paniati '10 (CLAS) on the Academic Way, Storrs campus.

opportunities. But our students are still the lifeblood of the campus. I'm making a special effort to get out and about, to see for myself what's going on here and to meet the people who are making it happen.

Many people are describing UConn as being on a "steep upward trajectory." Not many public universities in the country are. Most are struggling with declining state support, eroding enrollment bases, no funds to recruit bright new teachers and researchers, crumbling buildings and a kind of pessimism about where they are going. But not here. We have issues to address, of course. But UConn is poised at a unique point where we can continue moving up—into the elite top 20 public

universities in the nation. I'm eager to help shape and lead that progress, and I know that you will want to be part of it, too.

It goes without saying that strong alumni are a crucial part of a great university. Look again at the great public universities in this country—Michigan, Wisconsin, Cal-Berkeley and others. Their alumni helped build those institutions with their support and volunteering spirit, and with the conviction that their alma mater is something to be treasured and highly regarded. I know that UConn alumni feel that way and, now, so do I!

For this reason, your voice is extremely important to me as we work together to move UConn forward. The University of Connecticut is your University! So, at the risk of seeming grossly selfish, I urge you to get involved in what's going on here at UConn. Consider giving some of your time and talents to this University. Watch what we're doing in the media and in the communications you receive. Talk us up. Let us know what you like, and what you don't like. I intend to keep you in the know about what's happening at UConn. I hope you have a chance to visit campus soon. If you don't, visit us online: [www.uconn.edu](http://www.uconn.edu). There's a lot going on!

Michael J. Hogan  
President



# Around UConn

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## Pharmacy-Business collaboration to aid federal drug research

**F**aculty and students in the School of Pharmacy may help determine which treatments your doctor recommends and which prescription drugs your health plan covers with the establishment of the federally funded Evidence-Based Practice Center (EBC) at UConn.

The center is one of 14 nationwide that the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has charged with conducting comprehensive, systematic reviews of research on health topics of vital importance to the U.S. health care system. EBC also will advise federal and state policymakers, professional organizations and insurance companies on the highest quality and most cost-effective health care treatments and delivery options.

Many of the topics the new UConn center will review include common medications, exorbitant treatments and those particularly significant for Medicare and Medicaid populations.

UConn's EBC is the first to be led by pharmacists, says C. Michael White, associate professor of pharmacy practice, who serves as director of the center that forges the first partnership between the School of Pharmacy and School of Business. It also expands the University's research collaboration with Hartford Hospital.

Craig Coleman, assistant professor of pharmacy practice, will be the center's

project manager and John Vernon, assistant finance professor in the School of Business, will be the new center's health policy chief. Vernon recently completed an appointment as senior economic policy advisor at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Physician Jeffrey Kluger of Hartford Hospital will be the center's associate director.

White, Kluger and Coleman have been collaborating for almost a decade resulting in close to 200 peer-reviewed publications including lead articles in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The Lancet*.

"Pharmacists are health care's medication experts and, as such, the profession possesses unique insights into patient care that often are underrepresented among leaders formulating the nation's health care policies," White says. "Having pharmacists, physicians and health care policy experts all working together will benefit everyone."

Duke University, Johns Hopkins University, Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Tufts University-New England Medical Center are among the other institutions that operate Evidence-Based Practice Centers.

The center also will draw on the strengths of other UConn faculty members. White says graduate students, undergraduate honors students and research fellows will have the opportunity to participate in EBC projects.



### M.B.A. program celebrates 50 years

William S. Simon '81 (CLAS), '88 M.B.A., chief operating officer for Wal-Mart Stores U.S., delivered the keynote address during the M.B.A. 50th anniversary celebration at the School of Business, which took place during Homecoming weekend. Simon's remarks were part of the Theodore R. Rosenberg '55 (BUS) and Mary F. McVay Business Leadership Series.



## 85 years of innovative radio at WHUS

WHUS was one of the first radio stations to begin broadcasting in Connecticut when it went on the air in 1922 as WABL. In 1925, the station became WCAC, using the initials of the Connecticut Agricultural College, before adopting "The Husky Network" as its name in the 1940s and becoming WHUS in 1947. After being relocated to the Rosebrooks Barn complex during renovations to the Student Union, WHUS returned to the "U" last August to a 21st century digital studio.

Below: Spinning

vinyl records in 1952. Bottom: Ben

Shaiken '10 (CLAS), the

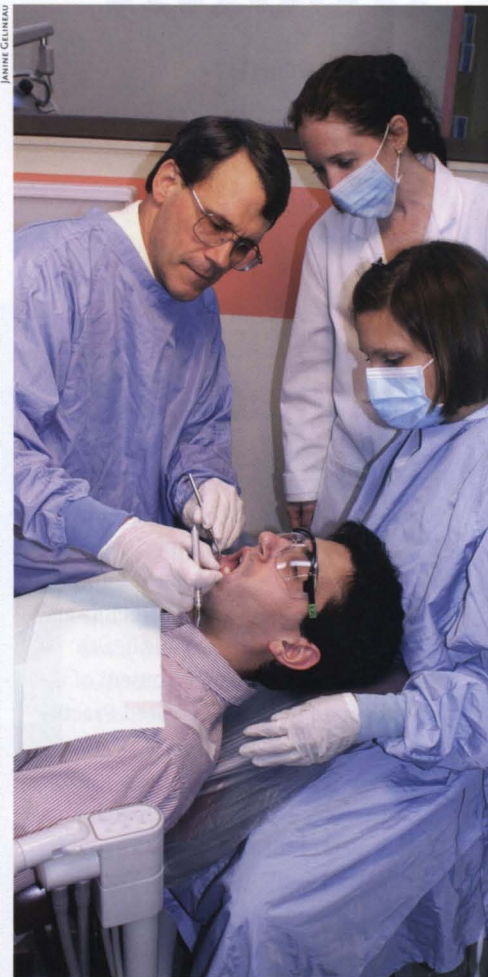
station's fund-raising

director, on the air

during his weekly

rhythm and blues

program.



## Nichols earns national teaching award

Frank Nichols, professor of periodontology, above, received the Kaiser Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award for the second consecutive year from students at the School of Dental Medicine. The award recognizes commitment to teaching through either effectiveness in various teaching settings or leadership in development of innovative teaching programs. Nichols has been a member of the UConn faculty since 1985.

# Then & Now



# Sailing their way to knowledge

Faculty at UConn's Avery Point campus have developed a multidisciplinary class that gives students a hands-on experience with maritime studies, including sailing a ship. *Exploring the Blue* was designed by Helen Rozwadowski, associate professor of history and coordinator of maritime studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Mary K. Bercaw Edwards, associate professor of English, one of the country's foremost Herman Melville scholars.

Twenty-three students spent time last spring on a two-masted sailing vessel as part of the three-week, four-credit intersession course focusing on maritime history, literature and policy. The experiential aspects of the course complemented the academic component, giving students a comprehensive look at the oceans' influence on people and human history.

"You don't take this course for a ride; you're part of the crew as well as a student," says Michael Bokoff '10 (BUS), recalling storm-tossed days and nights in rough North Atlantic weather. "The course really challenged me to do new things."

The course had two parts. The first week was spent on land participating in museum-based exercises and hands-on learning, such as climbing rigging and reading maritime charts, as well as attending lectures on maritime topics. For the remaining two weeks, the class sailed from Baltimore to Nantucket on a 125-foot staysail schooner. After the voyage, there were several writing and research assignments.

"Historians rarely study the ocean; they treat it as a place separate from people," says Rozwadowski. "We treat the ocean not as a surface but as a multi-dimensional place with political, economic, and environmental aspects and also cultural and psychological dimensions—those qualities of ocean literature or the history of the sea that are absolutely critical for understanding the ocean as part of our world."

Helen Rozwadowski, associate professor of history and coordinator of maritime studies at the campus at Avery Point, climbs the rigging of the whaleship *Charles W. Morgan* at Mystic Seaport.

NATHAN AGARIS

## Social Work Students Share Perspectives on Travel Study to Puerto Rico

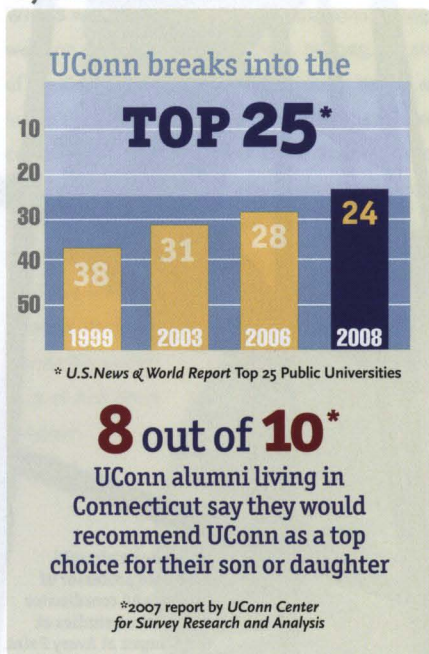
Seven students, three alumni and two faculty members from the Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Program in the School of Social Work traveled to Puerto Rico for a 12-day exchange program with the University of Puerto Rico last summer. The group focused on social work practice in Puerto Rico and the health disparities and human rights violations in Vieques caused by the 60 years of U.S. Navy bombing on the island. Students presented their study findings in the fall during a poster session at the school.

In Puerto Rico, from left: Myrna Pagan, member of Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques; Keilah Jacques '07 M.S.W.; Catherine Medina, assistant professor of Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Project; Andrea Joseph, UConn graduate student; State Rep. Hermina M. Morita, chair of the Energy & Environmental Protection Committee of the Hawaii House of Representatives; Antonia Cordero, associate professor of social work and chair of the Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Project; and Nilda Medina Diaz, member of the committee for the rescue and development of Vieques.





## UConn By the Numbers



## State matches private funds for alternative energy initiative

The University has raised more than \$2 million in funding from three leading state energy companies for a new alternative energy research initiative to be based at UConn.

This private funding will trigger the release of an additional \$2 million pledged by the state for UConn's Eminent Faculty program, a public-private partnership backed by the Connecticut legislature. The donating companies are FuelCell Energy of Danbury, the Northeast Utilities Foundation and UTC Power of South Windsor.

The combined state funding and industry match will allow the School of Engineering to recruit world-class researchers and additional faculty members who have expertise in the area of fuel cells and other forms of sustainable energy.

UConn's School of Engineering has a number of energy-focused units under its wing, including the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center and the Biofuels Consortium, whose scope of research and development activities will complement the broader mission of sustainable energy initiative. Both entities work closely with Connecticut's energy industry.

The School of Engineering will use the funding not only to pioneer new energy technologies but also to create a training ground for the energy workforce and entrepreneurs of the 21st century, fostering innovative spin-off opportunities. Late last year, the General Assembly established a permanent line item of \$2 million annually to support the initiative at UConn, contingent upon securing a match from industry. The initiative is expected to help Connecticut meet Gov. M. Jodi Rell's goal to reduce fossil fuel consumption by 20 percent and replace it with clean or renewable energy sources by 2020.

## A brisk morning walk Above the clouds

Justin Carreno '00 (CLAS) walks 20,320 feet above sea level along the summit of Mount McKinley in Denali National Park, Alaska, the highest point in North America, last May. Carreno, who majored in geography at UConn, is currently on assignment in the Persian Gulf as an oceanographer for the U.S. Department of Defense, Naval Oceanographic Office. He previously has climbed mountains in Mexico, Japan and around the United States.



## Dodd Prize honors two world organizations



The 2007 Thomas J. Dodd Prize in International Justice and Human Rights was presented to two worldwide organizations during ceremonies in October. Pamela Merchant, director of the Center for Justice and Accountability, an international human rights organization dedicated to ending torture and other severe human rights abuses around the world, and Eric Rosenthal, executive director of Mental Disability Rights International, the world's leading international human rights group dedicated to the protection of people with mental disabilities, both addressed the audience after receiving the awards from U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut.

## Green Prep meets workforce need

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is working with Connecticut's plant and flower industry to provide education and training programs for entry-level workers in the field.

The CT Green Prep program began earlier this year with a collaboration among the UConn Home and Garden Education Center, the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association and the Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association.

"In our most recent economic impact study, we asked companies how many job openings they had," says Robert Heffernan, executive director of the Connecticut Green Industries Council, a coalition of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association, Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association, and Connecticut Florists Association. "They responded with a stunning number—another 7,600 persons were needed to work in Connecticut's green industry."

Dawn Pettinelli, UConn extension educator, coordinated development of the new program, which includes a varied curriculum on plant propagation, watering, fertilizing and plant media, insects, plant taxonomy and landscaping, among other topics. The course consists of lectures by UConn instructors and Green Industry Council members held at UConn's West Hartford campus and hands-on sessions at three industry locations in Cheshire and Manchester.

"The Green Prep concept is designed to reach out to entry-level people and interest them in a career working with plants and flowers," says Heffernan.

"With the hands-on portion of the course, the students see an array of potential job sites. This may help them to decide in which spectrum of our industry they would be interested in pursuing," says Teri Smith of Smith Acres.

"This is a great example of how the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is fulfilling the provost's academic plan component of workforce development," says Mary Musgrave, professor and head of the department of plant sciences.

## Law clinic addresses needs of information economy

The new Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Law Clinic at the School of Law is becoming an important resource for the region's growing information-based economy.

"Existing businesses increasingly view their intellectual property as a critical source of competitive advantage," says Hillary Greene, director of the clinic and associate professor of law. "This is especially true for new entrepreneurs for whom patents, for example, may facilitate investments by venture capitalists."

The East Hartford-based clinic, one of five specialty legal clinics supported by UConn, was established by the Connecticut legislature as part of the University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. It provides students, guided by faculty and staff, with the opportunity to counsel innovators on a range of intellectual property issues, including patent, trademark, copyright and trade secrets.

The skills taught at the clinic range from the pragmatic, such as conducting trademark searches and drafting engagement letters, to the less tangible, such as developing confidence and learning to counsel clients who might not be able to fully articulate what legal assistance they are seeking.

"It's crucial to law schools everywhere to communicate to many constituencies that lawyers are key players in growing the economic pie, not simply those who fight over who gets what," says Jeremy Paul, dean of the School of Law. "The clients our clinic will serve are those who will help create the Connecticut jobs of tomorrow."

Amy Kokoski, a part-time law student who recently started a job at the firm of McCarter and English, said her experience at the clinic provided a depth of understanding of intellectual property law as well as its practical application.

"It afforded me an opportunity to gain experience working with attorneys and clients that I may not have otherwise had as a part-time law student," she says. "I feel much more comfortable going into a full-time legal job having had the chance to develop confidence by sitting and working with clients."



## Standing tall for education and a healthy life

**E**meka Okafor '04 (BUS), two-time Academic All-American and National Player of the Year for the 2004 NCAA men's basketball championship team, is surrounded by students at the Clark Elementary School in Hartford, Conn., after announcing his \$250,000 gift to the Husky Sport program in Hartford. The program, which was developed by Jennifer Bruening, assistant professor of kinesiology in the Neag School of Education, uses UConn students as mentors in nutrition and life skills and encourages children to take part in sports and physical activities. Okafor is in his fourth year as a center-forward for the Charlotte Bobcats of the National Basketball Association and serves as spokesperson for the One Million African Lives initiative.

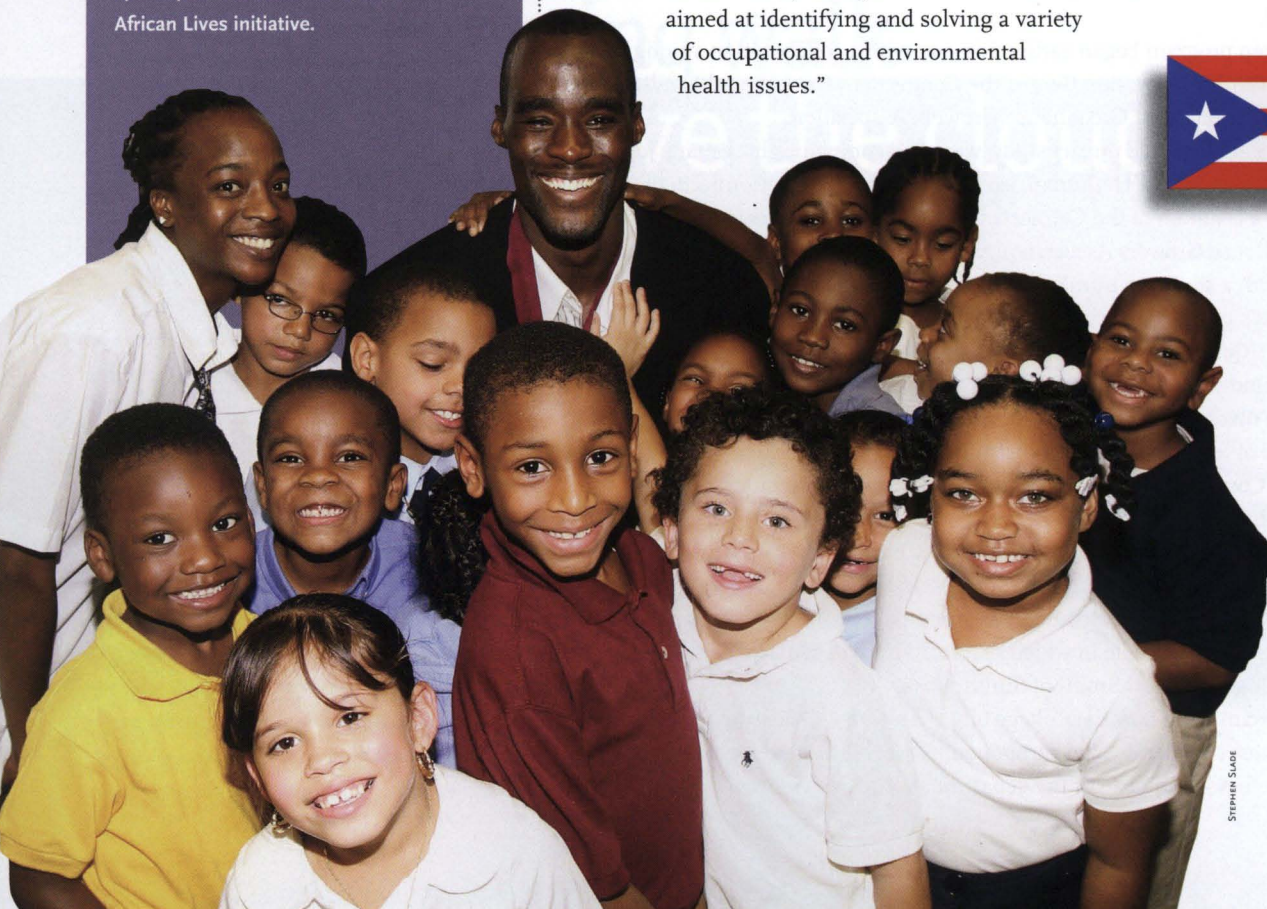
## New Ph.D. focuses on occupational and environmental health sciences

**A** specialty in occupational and environmental health sciences is the newest area of focus in the doctoral program in public health at the UConn Health Center. This is the second specialty in the program, joining social and behavioral health sciences, which began earlier this year.

This interdisciplinary, cross-campus doctoral program is designed to train future public health leaders to enhance general health. UConn has research programs in occupational and environmental health sciences and internationally recognized faculty in a variety of related disciplines to support the new focus of study.

"This new concentration within the Center for Public Health and Health Policy represents an important and exciting step forward in public health training," says Nicholas Warren, an associate professor and co-creator of UConn's Ergonomic Technology Center. "The joint focus on occupational and environmental exposures, their health effects and their control recognizes that health hazards do not start or stop at the factory or office door. Rather, public health research and policy must address the additive and interactive effects of exposures from multiple sources."

"We are excited about bringing together the diverse talents of faculty at both the Farmington and Storrs campuses to help address the public health needs of the state and beyond," says Lawrence Silbart, professor and head of the department of allied health sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "Not only will the new program provide excellent educational and research opportunities for our students, it undoubtedly will spawn new research initiatives aimed at identifying and solving a variety of occupational and environmental health issues."



STEPHEN SUAREZ



# Lights, camera, action!



A videographer films the UConn Marching Band for a scene in a new nationally televised public service announcement. Last year UConn held its first-ever video competition for students, who submitted ideas highlighting the University's varied academic, cultural and recreational activities. Prize winners in the competition had the opportunity to work with video professionals who created the commercial based on the student's ideas. The final story line combined concepts submitted by Benjamin Gruenbaum '08 (CLAS), the first-place winner, and Brian Skelcher '07 (CLAS), the second-place winner.

PETER MORENUS



## Addressing mental health issues in the Latino community

**S**tudents and faculty in the School of Nursing are working with mental health agencies to set up a network of community-based providers and citizens in Willimantic, Conn., to examine mental health issues for Latinos, who comprise nearly a third of the local population.

Working with an \$83,000 planning grant from the Federal Office of Rural Health, Deborah Shelton, associate dean for nursing research and a psychiatric nurse, is expanding outreach programs for underserved Latino health needs and providing a training ground for UConn students. The grant is part of a larger project started three years ago by Shelton to determine how the School could further partner with the Willimantic community. Initial research indicates

that a top priority is adding bilingual and culturally skilled health and mental health professionals.

The project, *Compañeros Por Salud: Partners in Health*, has spawned a variety of collaborations among UConn nursing, social work, pharmacy and medical students, who have participated in student-run health clinics at a local soup kitchen and at local farms that employ migrant workers. During this past spring semester, about 200 nursing students were placed in the community to offer health education and screenings.

Michael Patota, division director of clinical services for United Services, says the mental health problems Latinos face are not very

different from those of other ethnic groups. There are differences, however, in the way Latinos deal with such problems.

"There's a reluctance to seek out mental health treatment," Patota says. "We're frequently one of the last places they will come, after turning to a relative, friend or minister for advice."

Patota speaks of a constant struggle to find staff who not only can speak the language, but also have an understanding of the culture and traditions. Puerto Ricans and Mexicans are the predominant Latino groups in Willimantic; other residents come from Central America, the Caribbean and the Dominican Republic. Patota hopes these UConn interns will choose careers serving this community.



## Student takes top prize from Roosevelt Institution

**S**amantha Sherwood, a junior majoring in human development and family studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, won first prize from the Roosevelt Institution for a public policy proposal on expanding the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA).

Sherwood's proposal, developed jointly with a student from Union College who had a similar presentation, was published in the journal *25 Ideas*, a special series of new policy ideas distributed to more than 2,000 members of Congress and local government officials by the Roosevelt Institution, which is described as "The Nation's First Student Think Tank."

The FMLA proposal was presented at the America's Social Contract conference at Yale University earlier this year, sponsored in part by the Roosevelt Institution.

Family leave policy involves time taken off by employees to take care of foster or adoption issues, a new child, a sick child, a spouse or an elderly parent. Sherwood's proposal would expand the FMLA by lowering the minimum required size of an eligible business and adding two weeks to a man's eligible time off. To finance the plan, Sherwood suggested that a federal payroll tax be implemented.

Sherwood became interested in family leave while taking a course on public policy and the family with UConn professor of human development and family studies Steve Wisensale, who assisted her in developing the proposal.

Sherwood took the top prize over 11 other students from universities that included Yale, Brown, Columbia, Princeton, and Dartmouth in the competition.

## Eighth graders experience college life

**M**ore than 100 eighth-grade students from Stamford experienced college life during a four-week program at UConn's Stamford campus this past July. The University Pals (UPals) program initiative provides first-generation, college-bound students an introduction to the significance of pursuing higher education.

Although other institutions have given middle and high school students opportunities to attend college classes in various forms, UPals has a number of components that go beyond the traditional approaches, says Michael Ego, associate vice provost for the Stamford campus, who developed the program.

"This is not strictly an academic format," Ego says. "It is a blend of college courses, co-curricular activities, and the kids, getting a chance to visit and interact with local community and business leaders directly related to possible career paths."

Perhaps the most important part of the UPals experience is the required participation by each student's parents, who attend a one-day orientation before classes begin. Because the parents did not attend college themselves, these sessions provide them with information about how to prepare their children for high school and college.

The students' day runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The students go through a simulated daily routine of going to college, which includes attending classes in the morning, having lunch with classmates, being part of study groups, going to the library and participating in other scheduled activities.

Courses are taught by UConn faculty and also by community members. Current UConn students act as mentors and group leaders for the middle-schoolers. Each Friday afternoon, the program takes the middle-schoolers to visit a range of businesses in the community such as Stamford Hospital, the *Stamford Advocate*, the Marriott Courtyard hotel, Purdue Pharma and the City of Stamford.

The program has been met with enthusiastic support from the Stamford community. It is funded primarily through corporate and foundation grants, with in-kind resources from the UConn Stamford campus.



From left, Kumari Willoughby, Christina Sanon and Aaron Young work on a project in the biology lab.





Left: John K. Martin, UConn Foundation president; Robert Crispin '75 M.B.A., CEO of ING Investment Management; Kathleen Murphy '87 J.D., CEO of ING U.S. Wealth Management; Provost Peter Nicholls; Mohamed Hussein, interim dean of the School of Business; and Ronald Taylor, vice provost for multicultural affairs.

## ING names UConn as priority for recruitment

ING has named UConn to be an official priority-recruitment university as part of its global effort to partner with higher education institutions around the world. The new partnership, the first of its kind in ING's Americas region, will include the creation of a variety of enhancement activities and programs such as internships, mentorships, research projects and lecture opportunities to benefit UConn students and faculty as well as ING employees.

"The aim of ING's university recruitment approach is to attract talented, diverse and smart future leaders by partnering with selected universities in a focused manner," says Kathleen Murphy '87 J.D., CEO of ING U.S. Wealth Management. "The University of Connecticut embodies the characteristics we're looking for in a leading school: a high-quality institution, a global perspective and educational programs that fit well with the needs of a world-class financial institution."

This newest commitment to the University strengthens a relationship between ING and the UConn School of Business that includes the ING Center for Financial Services and the ING Chair in Financial Services. The ING Center specializes in

research and development of real-world solutions to marketing challenges, such as identifying profitable customers and optimizing customer acquisition and retention. Corporate clients have included IBM, Bristol-Myers and L.L. Bean.

"This effort builds on an already strong partnership between ING and UConn," says Robert Crispin '75 M.B.A., chairman and CEO of ING Investment Management Americas. "This effort is mutually beneficial. ING gains by focusing our efforts to recruit talented future leaders, and UConn students get access to enhanced learning opportunities and an edge at becoming part of a global business leader."

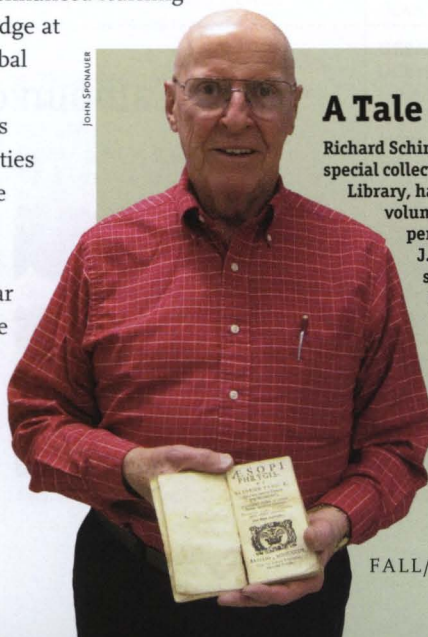
"Expanding UConn's relationship with ING ties in strategically with the University's academic plan, which prioritizes globalization, curricular diversity and workforce development. The opportunities for experiential learning and mentorship will have tremendous

benefit for students," says Peter Nicholls, UConn provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

ING's recruitment efforts will target a variety of disciplines, primarily business, investments, accounting and actuarial science. ING is developing programs that will support workforce development in these fields, including internships, scholarships and networking events.

ING is continuing its support of UConn with a gift of \$450,000 over three years. Initially, ING's gift will support strategic initiatives at the School of Business, focusing on career services, financial aid and the ING Center for Financial Services.

"ING's latest commitment will help us enhance the breadth and depth of experiential learning opportunities available to UConn business students," says Mohamed Hussein, interim dean of the UConn School of Business. "These multidimensional learning experiences are critical in preparing students for today's dynamic workforce and allow students to pursue cutting-edge research in the field of financial services—an industry that is vital to the state of Connecticut."



JOHN SPONAUER

## A Tale of Giving Books

Richard Schimmelpfeng, the former head of special collections at the Homer Babbidge Library, has donated more than 350 volumes of *Aesop's Fables* from his personal collection to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. It is his second significant gift, following his donation of more than 400 volumes on calligraphy and writing. He also volunteers 16 hours per week to catalog rare and special materials, a task he began in 1992 when he retired after 27 years as a member of the library staff.



## Austin legacy honored

**P**hilip E. Austin's legacy of leading the University of Connecticut through its greatest period of transformation will live on through the establishment of a \$1.5-million faculty chair in his honor.

The Philip E. Austin Endowed Chair will fund a highly visible faculty position and is supported by some of the University's most prominent donors and leaders, who each have worked closely with Austin during his tenure as UConn president.

"Part of Phil's legacy is, obviously, the physical transformation of UConn with the dramatic assistance of the state," says John W. Rowe, chairman of the board of trustees and an incorporating donor of the Austin chair. "But beyond the bricks and mortar, he has led the University to a much greater level of academic strength and enhanced pride. You simply can't put a price tag on that. This institution today is a reflection of his vision and determination."

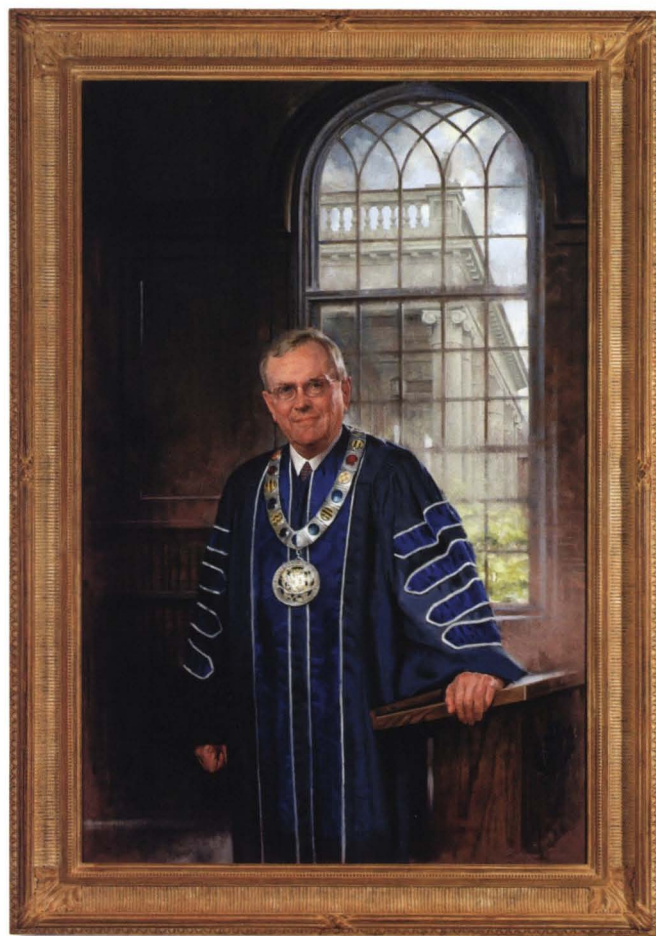
Ray Neag '56 (BUS) says Austin's personal style of leadership has made a difference in attracting increasing private support to UConn.

"It's not often you can find a person with as many qualifications as he had as a leader and a smart businessman, as well as someone who was adept at meeting the challenges that we faced," Neag says.

"Most of all, his personality allowed him to relate to students and recognize all sides of the issues at hand. He's moved us to a first-class position across the country."

The Austin Chair will offer an opportunity to recruit a nationally recognized scholar and highlight the role of private giving in recruitment and retention of preeminent faculty.

"We're at a crossroads today where we can grow the University even more, and we need private support to do that," says Denis McCarthy '64 (BUS), '65 M.A., who served as chairman of the board at the UConn Foundation during much of Austin's tenure.



## Calhoun challenges riders to fight cancer

**H**all of Fame men's basketball coach Jim Calhoun addresses more than 300 bicyclists in Simsbury, Conn., before the inaugural Big Y Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride last June. Riders pedaled 10, 25 or 50 miles to earn pledges of support and raised more than \$150,000 for The Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center and for Coaches vs. Cancer, a program of the American Cancer Society.





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Nov. 28, 8 pm

**PAUL TAYLOR DANCE**

*Inventive and happily unpredictable dance makers*

Dec. 1, 8 pm

**BOSTON POPS HOLIDAY CONCERT**

*Including their popular Christmas Carol sing-along*

Dec. 7–8, 8 pm

**THE 5 BROWNS**

*One family, 5 Steinways, and 50 fingers*

Jan. 31, 7:30 pm

**UConn PIANO TRIO**

*Performing Beethoven, Panetti and Brahms*

Feb. 1, 8 pm

**DON VAPPIE'S CREOLE**

**JAZZ SERENADERS**

*Traditional New Orleans Jazz*

Feb. 3, 1 & 3 pm

**THE WIZARD OF OZ**

*American classic for young and old*

Feb. 5, 8 pm

**TOP SECRET: THE BATTLE FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS**

*L.A. Theatre Works starring Stacy Keach*

Feb. 15, 8 pm

**DEBORAH VOIGT, soprano**

*Dramatic vocal artist*

Feb. 19, 8 pm

**TRINITY IRISH DANCE**

*World champion gold medalists*

Feb. 21, 8 pm

**ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC**

*Richard Eggar, harpsichord*

Feb. 29–Mar. 1, 8 pm

**MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL**

*Terence Blanchard, James Moody, Benny Green and more*

March 6, 8 pm

**CZECH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**

*Zdenek Macal conducts All-Dvorák Program*

March 9, 1 & 3 pm

**JUNIE B. JONES**

*Musical by Theatreworks USA*

Deborah Voigt



March 27, 8 pm

**GISELLE**

*St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre*

April 5, 8 pm

**LATIN FEST 2008**

*Dance Cabaret*

April 8, 7:30 pm

**PAUL GALBRAITH**

*Classical Guitar*

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*



Giselle

April 2, 1 & 3 pm

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

*Recommended for ages 5 and up*

May 2–3, 8 pm

**AUDRA MCDONALD, soprano**

*Cabaret*

**CONNECTICUT**

**REPERTORY THEATRE**

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Nov. 29–Dec. 7

**PENTECOST**

*By David Edgar*

*Directed by Gary M. English*

Feb. 28–March 8

**LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST**

*By William Shakespeare*

March 27–April 6

**MEET THE SAMSAS**

*Puppet Arts Production*

**THE WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART**

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Through Dec. 16

**RODIN: A MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION**

*Sculpture from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation*

Through May 11

**ROME ITALY AND EUROPE**

*Classical tradition and the Roman landscape*

Jan. 22–March 30

**THE ART OF GAMAN: ARTS & CRAFTS FROM THE JAPANESE INTERNMENT CAMPS**

Supported by the Connecticut

Commission on Culture & Tourism

**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**

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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

*Celebrating 100 Years of United States Government Documents*

Gallery on the Plaza, Through Dec. 21

*Design for the Real World: Student Work in Communication Design at the University of Connecticut*

Gallery on the Plaza, Jan. 22–Mar. 7

*Photography of Marcia Reed Marsted*

Stevens Gallery, Jan. 22–Mar. 7

*Pamela Bramble and Frank Bramble:*

*Remnants, Glyphs and Palimpsests*

Gallery on the Plaza and Stevens

Gallery, Mar. 17–May 16

**THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER**

860-486-2516

Gallery open M, 8:30 am–7 pm,

T–F, 8:30 am–4:30 pm, Sat, noon–4 pm

*Rail, Rural and River:*

*The Art of John Fleming Gould*

Jan. 22–Mar. 7

*The Ethnic American Press: Cultural Maintenance and Assimilation Roles*

Mar. 17–May 16

**CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERIES**

860-486-1511

Open M–F 8:30 am–4:30 pm

*Ornithology*

Feb. 11–April 4, 2008

B.F.A. Scholarship Show

April 23–May 9

**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:** Nov. 2–Dec. 16–Works by Gar Waterman & Joanne Schmaltz, Alston Stoney Conley and Kim Sobel. Mar. 7–Apr. 20–Works by Pamela Pike Gordiner, Lise Lemeland, Annelie Skoog and Gretchen Higgins. Apr. 25–June 8–Works by Jim Sardonis, Lois Goglia, Denn Santoro and Carol Dunn.

**GREATER HARTFORD**

**UConn School of Law:** Feb. 8, Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal Symposium: Effect of the Internet on Election Campaigning Feb. 29, Gallivan Symposium: Sustainable Development, Green Building and the Law.

**TORRINGTON**

**All Events: Francis Hogan Lecture Hall**

All events 6:30–9 pm  
Litchfield County Writer's Project: Mar. 26–Tommy Simpson and Karen LaFleur; Apr. 2–Helen Houghton; April 9–Elizabeth Thomas; April 16–Susan Kinsolving; April 23–Robin Magowan and Juliet Mattila; April 24–Honor Moore



# Aiming high to score low in golf

PEZZINO HELPS GOLFERS IMPROVE THEIR GAME

While he was in college, Dave Pezzino thought he might become a golf professional. Or maybe he would enter the world of business.

But as a collegiate golfer at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla., he became a student head coach under the guidance of a faculty advisor during his senior year; upon graduation, he was asked to stay on as coach. He then led his team to consecutive NAIA National Championship appearances, won the Florida Sun Conference title, had six players earn all-conference honors and was named 1998 Coach of the Year in the conference.

"My heart is in teaching, coaching and being able to work with young people," says Pezzino, who was named coach of the UConn men's golf team after the retirement of Ron Dubois earlier this year. "You have to coach each student-athlete differently. That's where my job comes in, knowing what my players want and what makes them successful."

Pezzino brings to UConn more than decade of coaching and teaching experience with some of the top instructors in golf. In addition to coaching at St. Thomas, he served seven years as head women's golf coach at Florida International University and



Head golf coach Dave Pezzino talks with L. J. Tosches '09 (CLAS) about his golf swing during a practice session on the driving range.

last year as an assistant men's coach at the University of Illinois. While at FIU, he also worked at the Jim McLean Golf School at Doral Golf Resort, considered one of the premier golf teaching facilities in the world.

"I like to consider myself a person who puts a good culture and environment together for the guys to score. It's not my way, it's their way," Pezzino says. "Working with Jim McLean I learned that there is no one way to swing a golf club. Ultimately the question is: where is the golf ball going?"

Since arriving in Storrs, Pezzino has worked closely with the golf team during its fall season, even as he organizes an early start to the spring season and plans to strengthen the golf program.

"Every college player can bomb it, but if you can chip and putt, you'll be a great college player," he says. "I'm teaching them to be shot makers. If you can score well on par 5s, throw a bunch of eraser scores—meaning 2s, 3s and 4s—then you can be extremely competitive. I think that's where our team is going to get better."

In addition to improving players' skills, Pezzino is working with UConn's strength and conditioning staff to assess his team's "golf fitness" by using standards of the Titleist Performance Institute, an array of physical testing used by the world's top golfers.

As for the challenge of coaching a warm weather sport in New England, Pezzino is quick with his response.

"I won't settle for that as a recruiting disadvantage," he says, leaning forward. "We have a first-class athletic department and an amazing academic and athletic experience here. We're going to play a strong schedule, and I'm going to recruit as hard as I can to bring in the best student-athletes I can."



## Pan American Huskies

Four Husky student-athletes competed in the 15th Pan American Games held in July, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. From left: Soccer defender Brittany Taylor '09 (CLAS) won a silver medal as part of the Under 20 U.S. Women's National Team; freestyle swimmer Jonathan Wong '10 (CLAS) represented Jamaica; forward Charde Houston '10 (CLAS) and guard Mel Thomas '08 (BUS) helped to win the first gold medal in 20 years for Team USA in women's basketball.



## Taurasi's Triple

**D**iana Taurasi '05 (CLAS) of the Phoenix Mercury drives past Swin Cash '02 (CLAS) of the Detroit Shock during the 2007 WNBA Finals. In leading Phoenix to the WNBA Championship, Taurasi joins Cash and Sue Bird '02 (CLAS) as the third member of UConn's 2002 NCAA Champions to win a NCAA championship, an Olympic gold medal and a WNBA title. Kara Wolters '97 (CLAS) was the first Husky to reach such elite status.



AP Photo/Jewell S. Milwood

## Football gains national ranking

**R**anked No. 13 in the Bowl Championship Series Standings, No. 16 in the AP Poll and No. 16 in the *USA Today* Coaches' Poll in early November, the UConn football team became the second-fastest team on record to earn a national ranking. Since joining the then-Division I-A (now Football Bowl Subdivision) in 2002, UConn needed five years and 10 weeks to crack the AP Poll. Only Marshall, which joined I-A in 1997, has done it faster. This season marks the third time in the past five years that the Huskies have been bowl eligible. Tailback Andre Dixon '09 (CLAS), right, is one of UConn's leading players.



STEPHEN SADE

## Zak Penwell

**Zak Penwell '08 (ED)** is a 27-year-old exercise science major who served more than six years in the U.S. Air Force in Kuwait, Korea, Afghanistan and Iraq. The son of missionaries living in the Philippines, he is married and the father of two young children. He was a walk-on defensive tackle for the Huskies football team who was awarded a scholarship earlier this year by head coach Randy Edsall.

**How has being in the military made you different in pursuing your studies and focusing your life?**

It's taught me about handling different kinds of adversity. I've fallen on my face several times. I've learned from that. Now when I face an obstacle, I face it a bit differently.

**Military terminology often is used in talking about football. Having been in real military situations does that make sense?**

I think most of the time football can be a metaphor for war. There are lessons to be learned, and if you can use that to get the point across, then it can be taken at face value.

**Your teammates have a lot of respect for you because of your background. What have you learned from them?**

A lot of times I take things too seriously. It's a lot of fun being in the locker room with these guys. You see that they can be serious, but they know how to go out and have fun. I definitely try and take that away from them. And they can dance better than I can.

**What was the hardest part about coming back to play after so long?**

Getting my head kicked in every day at the beginning. When I first got here I was being thrown around all over the place. Now I'm more competitive.

**Can you translate yet what you're learning in the classroom to what you're doing as an athlete?**

I'm not writing my own workouts because we have amazing strength coaches—Gerry Martin and Drew Wilson. But I can work on my own pre- and post-workout nutrition. A lot of it is getting ideas, building what I believe works so that someday I know what I want to do with it.

**How do you balance your obligations to the team and in the classroom with your family responsibilities?**

All three are great choices I enjoy. It makes for a time crunch, but we set one day a week for family, our day off on Monday. There are a lot of late nights with the books, too.

**What are your long-term goals after you earn your degree?**

I want to get my master's in kinesiology. Hopefully I'll be able to put myself in a position to get internships and job experience, possibly with the U.S. Olympic Committee Training Center next summer or working in the international arena. My wife is a midwife by trade. We hope to go overseas to a developing nation to set up a health clinic and to support that center through my work as a strength coach.

PETER MOENUS





## Deep sea exploration for Earth's survival

**AVERY POINT MARINE SCIENTIST LEADS UNPRECEDENTED EFFORT TO CHART DEEPWATER SEA LIFE**

**I**t was the eighth day of a three-week voyage over the most notorious body of water on the planet, the Sargasso Sea, also known as the Bermuda Triangle, which is bordered by major currents in the Atlantic Ocean. In the heart of the legendary sea, Ann Bucklin, director of marine sciences at UConn's Avery Point campus, had assembled 23 researchers from more than a dozen countries on a hunt to capture,

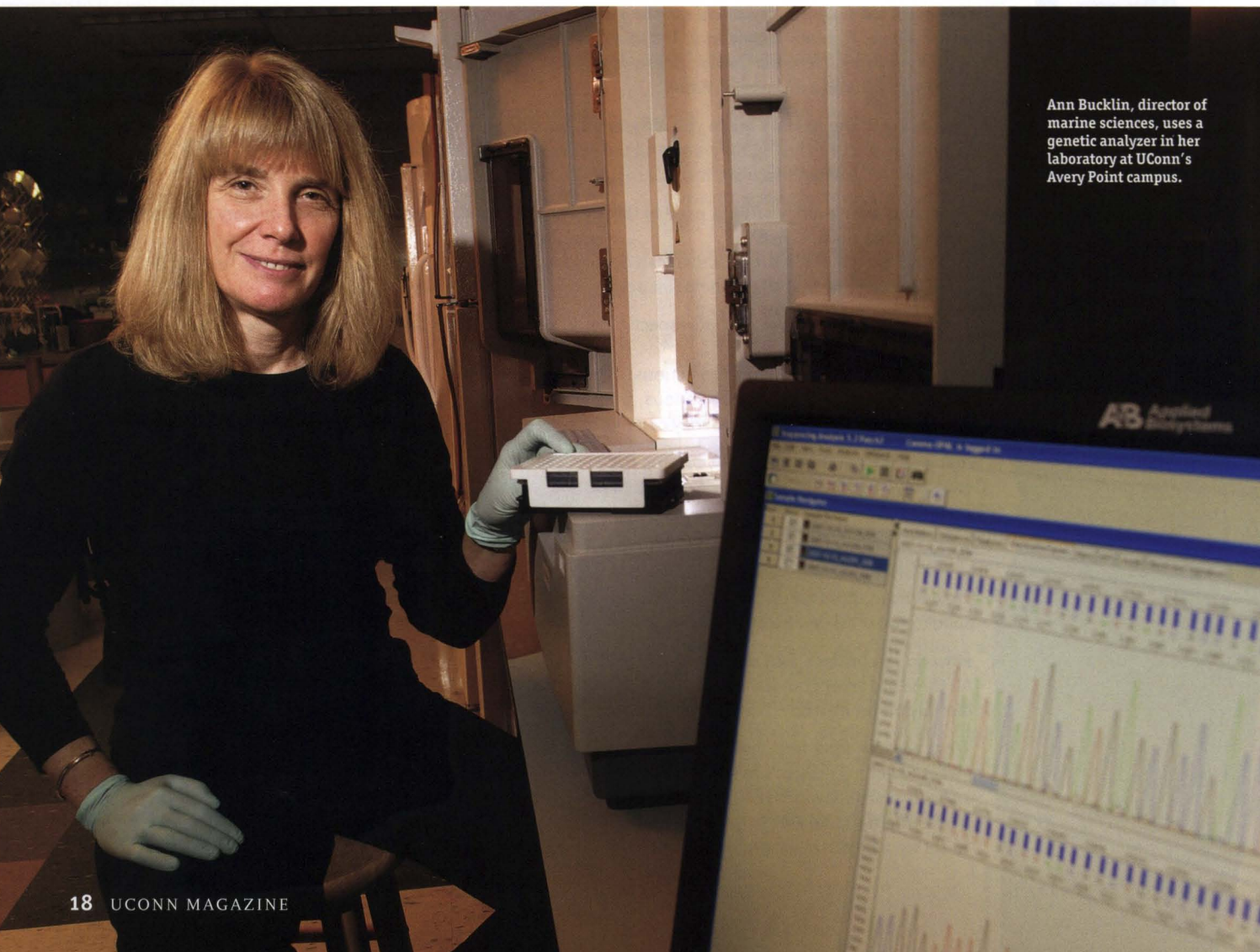
identify and bar code the genetic makeup of creatures often too small to be seen individually with the naked eye — zooplankton.

"They play a pivotal role in the ocean's ecosystem," says Bucklin about the species, "and are a huge engine of productivity in ocean life."

Mention the word "zooplankton" and most people's eyes glaze over. However, for

Bucklin, these vibrantly colored, minute sea animals that drift with ocean currents represent the last of Earth's great unexplored frontiers. Both at sea and from her laboratory, Bucklin is at the forefront of an unprecedented global effort to explore the deepest underwater regions, find zooplankton, bar code their DNA and make the information available on the Internet.

Retrieval of microscopic organisms



Ann Bucklin, director of marine sciences, uses a genetic analyzer in her laboratory at UConn's Avery Point campus.



from a mile below the ocean surface is more than just scientific curiosity. With two-thirds of Earth covered by water, an increasing number of marine biologists believe that the planet's survival may ultimately depend on how well we understand and manage sea life. Zooplankton play a major role in that understanding.

"They are translators of microbial productivity within the ocean's ecosystem," says Bucklin, who is also a Fulbright scholar and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. "Their dispersal and abundance not only reflect the effects of climate change, but also as the primary food of commercial fish, they also play a pivotal role in the ocean's food chain that we harvest."

The Sargasso expedition took place on board the *R.H. Brown*, a flagship of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It was part of the Census of Marine Zooplankton, an ocean realm field project of the Census of Marine Life, whose mission is to produce a complete assessment of the oceanic world's animal kingdom by 2010. The expedition research team included UConn doctoral students Paola Batta Lona, Brian Ortman, Ebru Unal and post-doctoral student Rob Jennings.

Traditionally, oceanographers preserve samples collected from sea and take them back to laboratories on land. For the Sargasso voyage, however, Bucklin designed a new, analytical, assembly-line approach. For the first time, DNA sequencing of zooplankton was attempted on a rocking, rolling ship. Work took place in shifts around the clock, at times during swells of up to 10 feet. Nevertheless, UConn laboratory equipment enabled the crew of scientists to analyze DNA samples immediately with no preservation required, thereby reducing chance of error.

The zooplankton were gathered from different depths, the deepest being the Abyssal Region, approximately 15,000 feet below the surface. "These are mostly unexplored places that possess a huge diversity of species," says Bucklin, "probably hundreds we've never seen before."



**Often too small to be seen with the naked eye—zooplankton play a pivotal role in the ocean's ecosystem.**

To capture minute creatures measuring 1 to 3 millimeters in length, the researchers used extremely fine nitrex nylon attached to more than 3,300 feet of cable. "Imagine the largest butterfly net you ever saw," says Bucklin.

It was actually a series of nine nets, which, upon reaching certain depths, were electronically opened and then reeled in by mechanical crane. Attached to the back of each net was a "cod end," or canister, into which the zooplankton were collected. These canisters were rushed to the ship's lab where the "catch" was then scrutinized by taxonomists conversant with the species. Some of what they saw was completely unfamiliar to them.

"We expected to find new species," says Bucklin, "because we were sampling in the deepest parts of the ocean where tiny animals are rarely captured."

The organisms were then cataloged and prepared for bar coding. To that end, Bucklin arranged for one of two genetic analyzers from her laboratory to be brought aboard. The machine, about the size of a freezer, analyzes DNA and then assigns it a bar code. That information is then transferred to a computer file where it will eventually become part of a global database identifying all known plants and animals on Earth.

"Bar coding is about speeding up the acquisition of knowledge," says Bucklin. "DNA is a universal language that provides a key to understanding the diversity of life."

The Sargasso expedition returned with more than 100 bar codes done and thousands of zooplankton samples representing some 500 species, several dozen of which are believed previously undiscovered. However, with 7,000 known genres, or types, of these animals in the world, and estimates that twice that number actually exists, much work lies ahead.

Back in her third-floor office overlooking Long Island Sound, Bucklin is planning her next expedition, this time in the South-eastern Atlantic off the coast of Africa.

"This research will provide a baseline against which future generations can measure changes to the zooplankton and their provinces caused by pollution, over-fishing, climate change and other shifting environmental conditions," says Bucklin. "But it's ultimately about gaining a better understanding of how today's oceans function as a system and how that system interfaces with the rest of our planet."

—Ron Meshberg



## BREAST CANCER DEVICE MOVES TO CLINICAL TRIALS

The imaging device developed by a UConn researcher that will provide more accurate breast cancer diagnoses and treatment assessment has advanced to wider clinical trials through a four-year, \$1.36 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The invention by Quing Zhu, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in the School of Engineering, combines near infrared and ultrasound imaging to overcome the limitations that plague individual technologies. The NIH award will allow her to refine the technique and validate initial, promising results in distinguishing benign and early-stage malignant breast tumors from a larger patient pool. Approximately 300 breast cancer patients will be recruited from the UConn Health Center and Hartford Hospital to participate in the study.

Last year, Zhu was honored with a Connecticut Women of Innovation award in recognition of her outstanding contributions toward science. In addition, she was selected a Donaghue Investigator by the Donaghue Foundation, West Hartford, Conn., and in spring 2007, she was elected to membership in the Connecticut Academy for Science and Engineering.



## Mapping the emergence of cicadas

A team of biologists from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences descended on northern Illinois this past spring to map the mass emergence of millions of 17-year cicadas. They used a global positioning system (GPS) in combination with computerized data entry to accurately track the spectacle of a brood of periodical cicadas emerging. It was the first time the technology has been used for such a purpose.

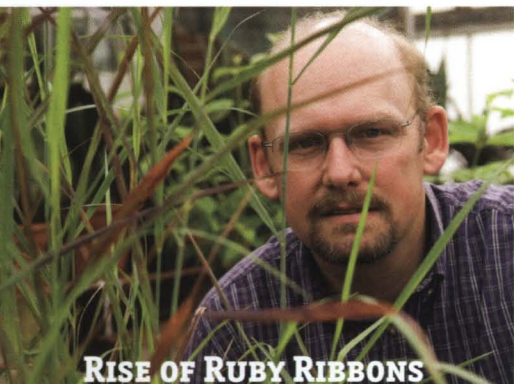
The UConn researchers were led by Christine Simon, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and a leading expert on periodical cicadas, and John Cooley, assistant professor in residence. They were mapping the emergence of Brood XIII cicadas, which hatched in 1990.

Periodical cicada broods usually take about two weeks to emerge, depending on temperatures. The periodicals, which differ from the less numerous, shorter-lived annual cicadas, live underground as nymphs for 13 or 17 years, where they feed on the roots of plants. When the insects emerge, they finish maturing, mate, lay eggs in the twigs of trees, and die, leaving a litter of shells behind. The eggs hatch, the nymphs fall to the ground, and the cycle begins again. On one of the first days of the Brood XIII's emergence, more than 100,000 cicadas surrounded a single tree in a forest preserve in suburban Chicago, Cooley says.

During their brief time above ground, cicadas dominate the landscape. They coat the trees, and their shells coat the ground. Their synchronized, dawn-to-dusk buzz—a common sound effect in horror movies—is so loud that biologists counting them often wear ear protection.

The maps developed by the UConn researchers will help biologists understand more about the range of this species, where it will reemerge in 2024, and how its distribution is affected by other broods that emerge in different years.

In 2008, Brood XIV is due to come out over much of the eastern U.S., from Maryland to Cape Cod (skipping Connecticut), from Long Island to Ohio, and as far south as Tennessee.



## RISE OF RUBY RIBBONS

A new ornamental grass developed by Mark Brand, professor of plant science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is being produced by Ball Horticultural Co., the world's largest breeder-producer of ornamental plants. The grass is known as Ruby Ribbons, a new switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*) with blue-green base foliage that turns a deep wine-red color months earlier than other red switch grasses. Brand spent more than a decade developing the new grass, which is being marketed through UConn's Center for Science and Technology Commercialization.



# Pharmacy study bolsters herbal effect on common cold

Researchers in the School of Pharmacy say the most popular herbal supplement in the United States, echinacea, cuts the chances of catching the common cold by 58 percent and reduces the duration of the common cold by 1.4 days. The UConn study was published in the July 2007 issue of the prominent British medical journal, *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*.

The study, known as a meta-analysis, combined the results of 14 clinical trials involving more than 1,300 patients followed for echinacea's effect on preventing the common cold and more than 1,600 patients followed for the herbal supplement's effect on limiting the duration of the common cold.

The UConn findings stand in contrast to a study published recently in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, which discounted echinacea's cold-fighting effects. Instead, the UConn research bolsters a previous study that found the herb to be an effective treatment for the common cold and also provides new evidence of its added cold-prevention benefits.

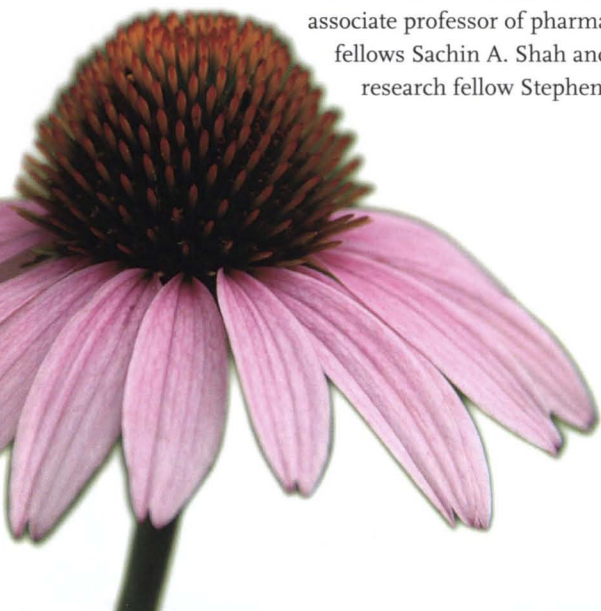
Because the UConn study focused on randomized, placebo-controlled, peer-reviewed studies, the researchers were able to observe the effects of echinacea that smaller, individual studies—including the *New England Journal of Medicine* study—were not able to determine alone.

UConn researchers determined that echinacea reduced the incidence of contracting the common cold whether it was taken alone or in combination with other herbal supplements. They also found echinacea reduced the chance of catching the common cold whether study subjects were exposed to viruses naturally or inoculated with a particular virus as part of the study.

"The take-home message from our study is that echinacea does indeed have powerful cold-prevention and cold-treatment benefits," says Craig Coleman, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and lead author of the study. "The significance of that finding becomes clear when you consider Americans suffer from 1 billion colds annually and spend about \$1.5 billion annually for doctor's visits and another \$2 billion annually on non-prescription cough and cold treatments."

Coleman says future studies are needed to control for variables such as echinacea species and product preparation as well as to determine the proper dose before echinacea can become the first-line of prevention and treatment for the common cold.

UConn researchers included C. Michael White, associate professor of pharmacy practice; research fellows Sachin A. Shah and Mike Rinaldi; and former research fellow Stephen Sanders.



## UConn bioacoustics expert explores hearing loss in dogs

A UConn hearing expert has adapted human audiology technology to dogs and opened what appears to be the first site in the United States that offers hearing loss testing for canines.

Peter Scheifele, animal bioacoustics researcher in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, says animal audiology is an emerging field of study and the only other similar lab is in the United Kingdom. Hearing loss in dogs is now recognized in more than 60 breeds, he notes.



Scheifele tests the dogs' hearing using computers that record the electrical activity of the brain, known as the Auditory Brainstem Response. Equipment is modified to fit floppy ears and increased hearing range in order to measure a change in the dog's brain waves when a noise is produced. Because the test measures brain waves, it does not rely on the dog's having a conscious reaction to the noise.

One key part of this research, Scheifele says, is to establish a baseline for what "normal" canine waveforms look like.

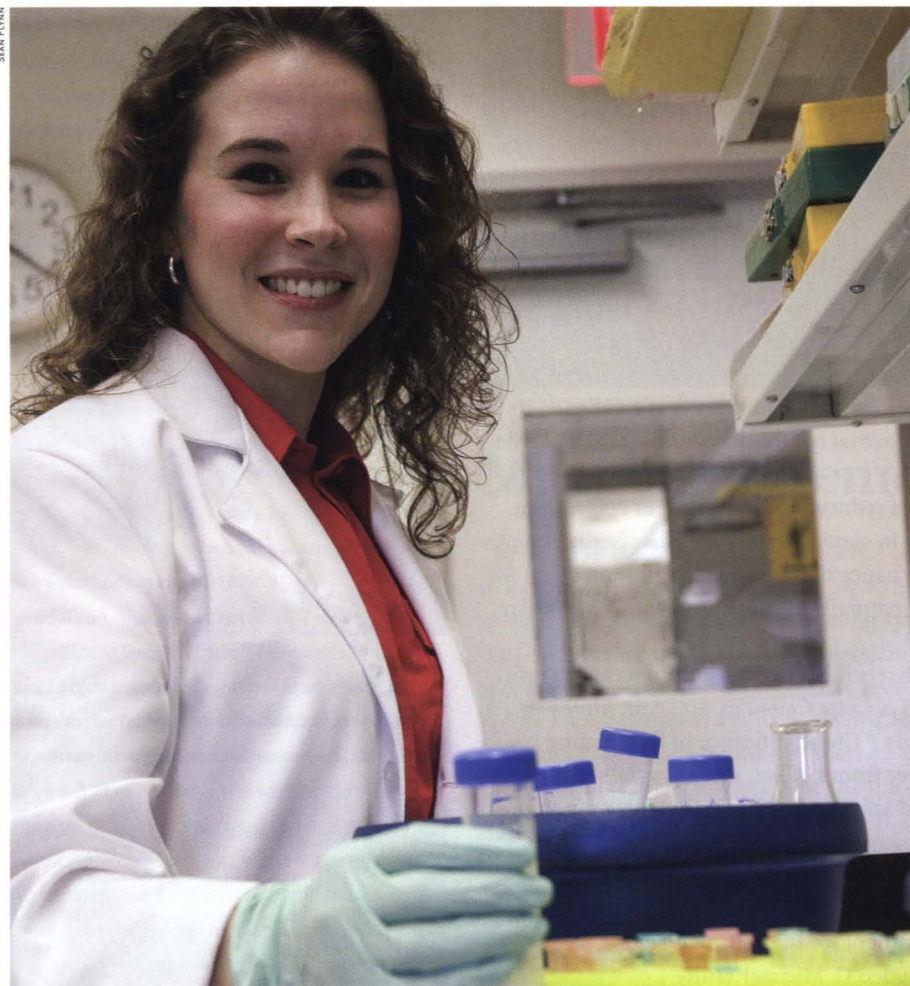
"We must build a database using every dog we test, and we're testing normal dogs, deaf dogs and dogs going deaf," he says. "As we get more data from hundreds of dogs, we can begin to establish some hearing norms for canines."

Scheifele anticipates the bioacoustics lab will eventually serve a broad market. Ultimately, he hopes that having opened the UConn bioacoustic lab will lead to the opening of animal audiology clinics nationwide.



## Change agent in action

DEVORAH DONNELL SEEKS CHALLENGES WHILE LEARNING ABOUT PEOPLE



From an early age, Devorah Donnell '09 (CLAS) has enjoyed initiating change, learning about people and helping others in any way she can. A student in the honors program majoring in biological sciences with a minor in physiology and neurobiology, she has taken on academic and community service challenges.

Donnell, who is both a Nutmeg Scholar and a John and Valerie Rowe Medical Scholar, was admitted to the UConn School of Medicine through the com-

bined B.S./M.D program. Last winter, she worked with Joseph Crivello, professor of physiology and neurobiology, to organize a Pre-Medical Society for UConn undergraduate students. She is now president of the organization, which has more than 500 members.

"The purpose of the society is to reach out to the community, allow pre-med students to get medical experience and to help them with course selection," says Donnell. "It gives students a chance to understand what they're getting into."

Community work is also one of Donnell's passions, and for the past three years she has been volunteering at the School of Medicine's Migrant Farmer Health Clinic, which provides free health care for migrant farm workers from Jamaica, Mexico, Guatemala and Puerto Rico. Doctors, medical students and undergraduates work together to diagnose and treat patients.

"My curiosity is nonstop," Donnell says. "I learn everything I can when I'm there."

While working at the clinic she has learned how to take a patient history, measure vital signs, conduct physical exams and recognize several diseases, disorders and infections. She uses her ability to speak Spanish fluently to work more effectively with patients.

Donnell also volunteered in UConn's Service Learning in the Dominican Republic program in May, providing HIV/AIDS education and teaching English, before participating last summer in UConn's Summer Research Fellowship Program, where she assisted in conducting stem-cell research in a lab at the UConn Health Center.

"I cultured cells most of the day, and I learned a lot about lab technique," Donnell says. "I love that medicine has both a science and a human component."

Even with her busy schedule, she manages to seek other personal connections. She founded En Pointe, a ballet club at UConn with 50 members, and is a member of the UConn Honors Council.

"A lot of what I'm doing at UConn is learning about myself and my passions," Donnell says. "I have this drive to help people and understand the world around me. Hopefully, that will make me a well-rounded physician who can relate to my patients." — Kala Kachmar '10 (CLAS)



“I joined the Amistad America program because of my two darlings—coastal studies and African-American studies  
— Erica Whyte '10 (CLAS)

## Sailing through the past

The UConn Study Abroad program provides memorable experiences for students, but for Logan Senack '08 (CLAS) and Erica Whyte '10 (CLAS) their summer study program was unique. They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on the *Amistad*, the replica of the 19th-century sailing ship from Cuba that was commandeered by 53 Africans who were kidnapped for slavery in 1839 and freed by a Connecticut court.

After six weeks on board, sometimes sailing through squalls, Whyte and Senack learned to walk on a bobbing ship, swab the deck, climb the rigging, and, occasionally, crawl into the headrig, a hammock-like spot in the bow, to read books. They became sailors.

The reproduction ship—about 129 feet long and about 23 feet wide—is slightly larger than the original, based on historic records, in order to accommodate new technology, including a global satellite positioning device, electronics, and two diesel engines. But for most of the journey, the ship was powered by wind, as it would have been in the 19th century.

The two UConn students were among seven college students—four from the United Kingdom and three from the United States—augmenting the professional crew who sailed the *Amistad* on from New Haven to England, on the first leg of its 2007-08 Atlantic Freedom Tour. In the fall, a new group of students continued on to Sierra Leone and the Caribbean, replicating the triangular sea-route of the slave trade.

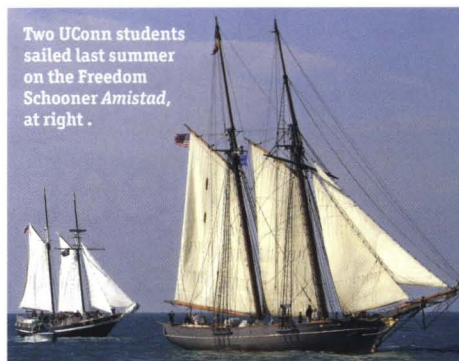
Fundamental to their voyage was learning the detailed history of the transatlantic slave trade, the original *La Amistad*, and the slaves who eventually won their freedom in a Connecticut court. Before setting sail, the seven students aboard visited locations linked to the *Amistad* uprising and the slave trade.

“Taking the time during class to have discussions about what we’re learning and how it relates to today’s world was great,” says Senack, an environmental science major. “There are so many different viewpoints among the crew and the students that most of the conversations could have continued for hours.”

He says one of his best memories of the ocean voyage is seeing “a pod of 50 dolphins playing in the bow wave, almost close enough to touch.”

Whyte was so moved by the *Amistad* story that she wants to relay to others what she has learned. She developed her experiences into seven songs, including the “Amistad Sea Chantey,” which is being sung this fall by the crew of students on the second leg of the journey.

“I joined the Amistad America program because of my two darlings—coastal studies and African-American studies. After listening to and talking with a dozen bright and charismatic curators from different museums, I feel it is my turn to tell the story,” Whyte says. “They were the mentors I needed to equip me with information to keep this remarkable story alive.” — Lucinda Weiss



Two UConn students sailed last summer on the Freedom Schooner *Amistad*, at right.

AP Photo/Rosier Rosacruz



PETER MOKENUS

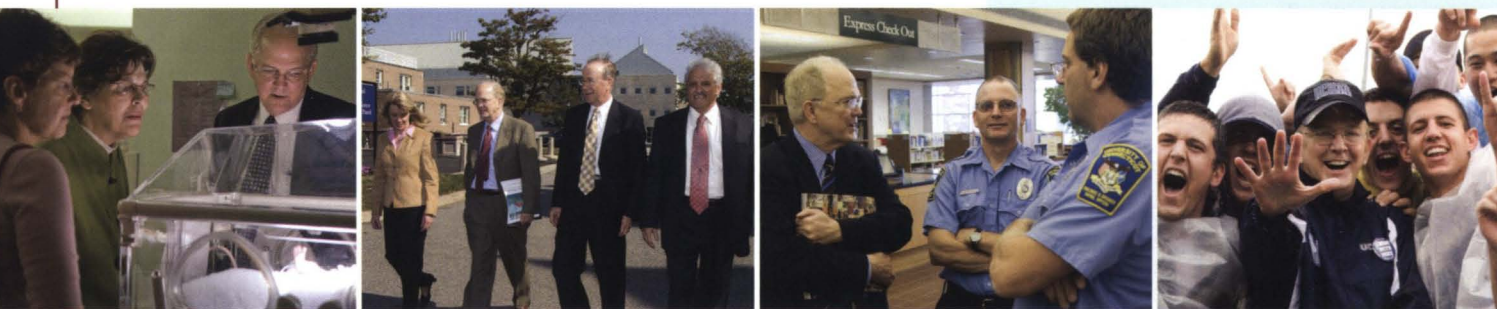


# Q&A

## Meet Mike Hogan

### *What attracted you to UConn?*

I have known about UConn for years, in part through emeritus professor Tom Paterson, a very close colleague who taught in the University's history department. Of course, UConn's academic reputation has just been soaring over the last decade, so I have learned about UConn in that sense and in many academic circles. The state of Connecticut and its taxpayers have been very good to the University of Connecticut; they are proud of their investment and the dividends that investment has paid. This notion has been reinforced when I spoke with Governor Rell, state legislators, donors and alumni as well. They're very proud of UConn's rise in prominence—rightfully so.



**M**ichael J. Hogan became the 14th president of the University of Connecticut just as the new academic year began in September. An American diplomacy scholar, he previously served as executive vice president and provost at the University of Iowa and as executive dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University. He discussed his new role with *UConn* magazine.

### *You've been a change agent as a department head, dean and provost. How will you approach having overarching responsibility as UConn president?*

As president, you are the principal architect of the University's future. You have a chance to set the agenda; you are the primary advocate for the institution and the public face to our many constituencies. I will be a visible president who is active on our campuses with students and with faculty. My desire to become a university president is consistent with my academic aspirations: I identify with the core mission of teaching, research and service. My motivation for becoming an academic administrator, including president, was the opportunity to foster environments in which teachers, scholars and students can excel in their work.



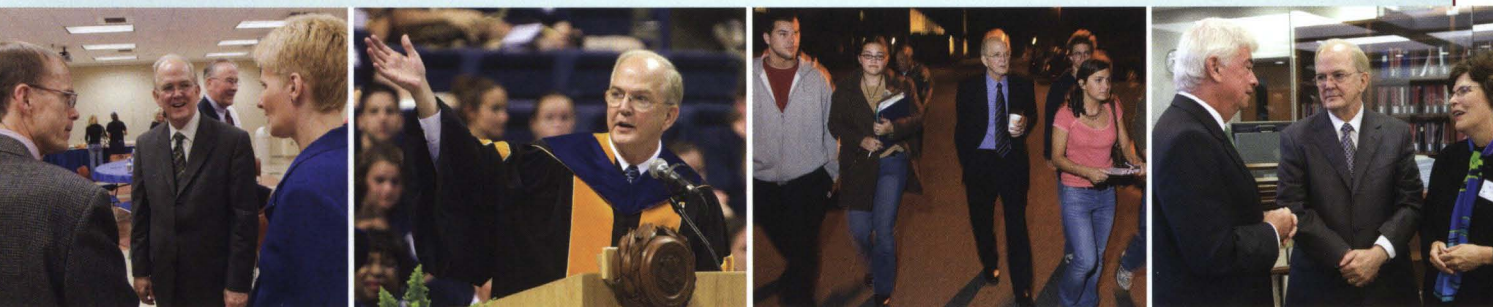
***You've stated previously that rankings are important. How so?***

Rankings are a benchmark of our performance as a university. There are different rankings, but for many people, including students, parents and alums, *U.S. News & World Report* is the gold standard; it's the ranking that most people look to first. None of these rankings measures everything that's important, certainly not everything that would be important to me or to the University of Connecticut. But what is measured is important and is indicative of what we would be tracking even if there weren't a *U.S. News & World Report* ranking. It's important to know our student retention rate, our graduation rate, peer recognition of our faculty and

have many more highly rated graduate programs, and we have to beef up our research portfolio. We need to have more research dollars, especially sponsored federal research invested in the University. It's important for our alumni to understand and be supportive of where we want to go and what it's going to take to achieve these goals. What's important is that our alums maintain their identity and engagement with UConn. To the extent that we proceed on our current upward trajectory, not only will the students of today and the alums of tomorrow be walking out of here with a degree that's much more valuable, so too will all UConn alumni.

***You've discussed the importance of private support for public universities in your previous writings. What role will private support play in UConn's future?***

Public universities in New England were among the last to do what private universities have done since their inception—that is raise private funds to support the university. That's the margin of support that separates a good university from a great university. It's important for our friends, our donors and alums to understand that we won't be as good as they want us to be and that we won't be able to continue our climb to the ranks of truly great public universities nationwide unless we get substantial increases in private support. Let's look at scholarships. All



the level of support we have from alumni. We have one of the highest alumni giving rates in the country at 24 percent; that's an incredible statistic. These things tell us not only how we're doing compared to peer institutions but also how well we're performing against our own goals.

***How can we improve our ranking and reputation, and what role will alumni play?***

We have improved our ranking among public universities over the years, from 38 to 24; however, moving up into the top 20 will be a greater challenge. There's plenty of work ahead of us, and alumni assistance will be critical. If we look at our rank among public universities, our peer group is no longer just New England schools. We're now competing on a national stage. To compete, we need to

***How do you make these changes to elevate UConn's academic profile without alienating alumni?***

Part of the evolution of a university is the continued cultivation of new traditions and aspirations of greater achievements building on the past. As a historian, I'm fascinated with understanding change over time. This isn't the same university it was when many of our current alumni were here 20, 30 and 40 years ago. Every generation of students and faculty, and every university president, stands on the shoulders of those who came before. We can be better today because a decade or two ago the students who were here were better than those who came before they did, just as those students were in the years before that.

qualified students should be able to attend, regardless of their family's financial capacity. We have to be able to help them in other ways. Partly we help them by going to alumni and friends to raise funds for need-based and merit-based scholarships. Private support, which includes our growing endowment, will not replace tuition or state support as a primary revenue stream, but it will add the margin of excellence needed for us to achieve our goals.

***How does UConn's partnership with the private sector help the state's economic growth?***


UConn is a land grant institution. As such, we're in partnership with the state and the private sector. Those partnerships are critical because they help to generate  
*Continued on page 50*





Mark Spain '04 M.F.A. is a production supervisor in the costume shop of the Metropolitan Opera responsible for preparing as many as 500 costumes for a stage production.





# More than just a night at the

# Opera

During a master class held in a rehearsal room at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City earlier this year, veteran opera performer Anthony Laciura bounded around the room, singing and acting to illustrate various points to a group of undergraduate and graduate music students from the UConn School of Fine Arts.



Laciura encouraged Jennifer Darius '01 (SFA), a soprano, to imagine extreme emotions while singing "Vissi D'Arte," an aria from *Tosca*. Her resulting performance grew more expressive, eliciting a broad smile and praise from the enthusiastic Met star. Another graduate student, tenor Thaddaeus Bourne, also benefited from Laciura's tutelage when he delivered a strong, animated rendition of an aria from Mozart's *Magic Flute*.

On the same spring day in April, 146 UConn students watched a full dress rehearsal of Puccini's *Il Trittico* and then enjoyed an evening performance of Handel's *Giulio Cesare*. Between performances, some students discussed lighting design, costumes and other elements of opera production with stage director Sharon Thomas and company director Stephen A. Brown.

Learning from performers, directors, stage designers, costumers and other opera insiders at one of the world's greatest music venues is a unique opportunity that UConn undergraduate and graduate students experience thanks to a partnership that began five years ago. The program was initiated through the efforts of Raymond Sackler, an international philanthropist and long-time UConn benefactor who, with his wife Beverly, established the Sackler Artist-in-Residence Program and an annual music composition prize in the School of Fine Arts, working with David G. Woods, dean of fine arts, and Joseph Volpe, who was then general manager at the Metropolitan Opera.

By Karen Singer '73 (CLAS)



"Our affiliation with the world-renowned Metropolitan Opera sets us apart from other universities, conservatories and schools," says Woods. "It provides our students with experiences and opportunities that enhance their artistic understandings and their knowledge of art."

"The Met had never done this before with any university," says dramatic arts professor Tim Saternow. "Each intern has had a different experience based on their skills, and it's also wonderful for the Met, to develop that individual experience."

## "Our affiliation with the world renowned Metropolitan Opera sets us apart from other universities, conservatories and schools."

Gary English, head of the department of dramatic arts, adds that the internships "give our students a professional gateway into a professional life ... and shape their life in a much more immediate and aggressive way."

The nine students who have been interns since the collaboration began agree the experience has helped jump-start their careers.

Mark Spain '04 M.F.A. arrived at the Met in early 2003 when he was a third-year graduate student in costume design and a technical intern. It was a heady experience for the Idaho native, who delighted in drawing pictures of people in superhero costumes. Before enrolling at UConn, Spain earned a degree in theater at the University of Idaho and worked in the costume department at the Seattle Opera.

As an intern in the Metropolitan Opera's costume shop, Spain organized trims, fabrics and buttons; measured and priced swatches at fabric stores for the opera's costume designers; and repaired jewelry for the crafts department. Offered a job at the Met after his internship, Spain chose to complete his degree, which he did in August 2004. The Met quickly hired him as a stock supervisor and earlier this year, he was promoted to production supervisor. Today, in the Metropolitan Opera's fifth floor costume shop, he is responsible for checking inventories for each performance and ensuring that "every single piece" of each garment and accessory is ready for prime time.

Spain coordinates costume repair and replacement work, which sometimes involves scrutinizing photographs of past productions. With a repertoire of 28 operas, the Metropolitan Opera has seven new productions slated for 2007-08. Spain is responsible for preparing between 100 and 500 costumes for each production. It is a colossal task.

Spain believed for some time his career path would lead to New York City. He says the UConn-Metropolitan Opera internship program helped him to arrive sooner and provided an inside track to the contacts and friendships he has developed at the Opera.

"I don't think I would be where I am right now had it not been for that internship," adds Daniel Jeanette '05 (SFA), an administrative assistant in the office of Metropolitan Opera general manager Peter Gelb.

Jeanette works with Gelb's executive assistant, Rachel Walkinton, coordinating the general manager's calendar, answering correspondence and coordinating travel plans.

During his internship, Jeanette secured copyright permissions for musical examples for an opera curriculum for elementary school children in grades K-4. He also helped coordinate activities for the semi-final and final concerts of National Council, a kind of *American Idol* for the opera world, which he describes as the largest search in the country for rising opera talent.

Like Jeanette, other former UConn-Metropolitan Opera interns agree that their experience helped advance their careers in the arts.

On his first day as a technical intern at the Met, Jerad Schomer '07 M.F.A. watched a lighting rehearsal for *Orfeo ed Euridice*, by Christoph Willibald Gluck. To his surprise, the show's lighting designer, UConn alumnus James Ingalls '72 (SFA), invited Schomer to view the performance sitting with him at the lighting board. It was a highlight of Schomer's final

PETER MORENUS



Daniel Jeanette '05 (SFA), an assistant to Metropolitan Opera general manager Peter Gelb, in the lobby at Lincoln Center in New York City.



The cast of Verdi's *Nabucco* during a recent full dress rehearsal on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center.

PHOTO: MARTY SOHL/METROPOLITAN OPERA



semester as a scenic design major in the UConn master of fine arts program.

Schomer spent much of the time updating Met production history databases but was thrilled to get an assignment to draw trees for a production of *Macbeth*. Those drawings, he says, played a role in his hiring soon after graduation at I. Weiss, a theatrical supplier of theatrical draperies and backdrops.

"I haven't seen all the benefits I'm sure that the internship is going to bring me in my career," says Schomer. "But it's already paying off."

For Lindsay Muir '00 (SFA), the Met internship provided a different kind of artistic experience, even for someone who grew up surrounded by musicians. As the daughter of the founder of the Litchfield (Conn.) Performing Arts organization, she was involved with the world of music for many years and studied vocal performance at UConn. Her experience working on projects for several departments at the Met during her administrative internship provided a broader view of arts administration.

Sifting through old programs and photographs, she assembled an online database of every opera in the house and every performer who had ever performed there. For the development office, Muir lined up in-kind donations from corporate sponsors for gift bags for an end-of-season cocktail party, working with the likes of Godiva Chocolates and Saks Fifth Avenue, among others. She

later worked as development coordinator for The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, State University of New York, before returning to Litchfield Performing Arts, where she is director of marketing and promotions for the organization's jazz festival and summer camp. She recently released a compact disc of her own music, *You're Nearer: Love Songs of the '30s and '40s*.

Similarly, Cully Long '04 (SFA) says his experience as a technical intern at the Met provided him with a rare opportunity to interact with "big-name, internationally known designers" he otherwise would not have had the opportunity to meet at such an early point in his career, including the chance to observe director Julie Taymor and George Tsypin (the show's designer) prepare for their production of *The Magic Flute*. Today Long is a freelance designer whose clients include several opera companies. He recently published a book of his illustrations, *A Line: Sketch Portraits from the New York City Subway*.

As this year's group of interns prepares to head to New York City, the UConn partnership with the Metropolitan Opera continues to grow. Beginning this December, UConn will become the only university in New England to provide Metropolitan Opera simulcasts, scheduled for Saturdays at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

For information about the simulcasts, visit [www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com](http://www.jorgensen.ct-arts.com)



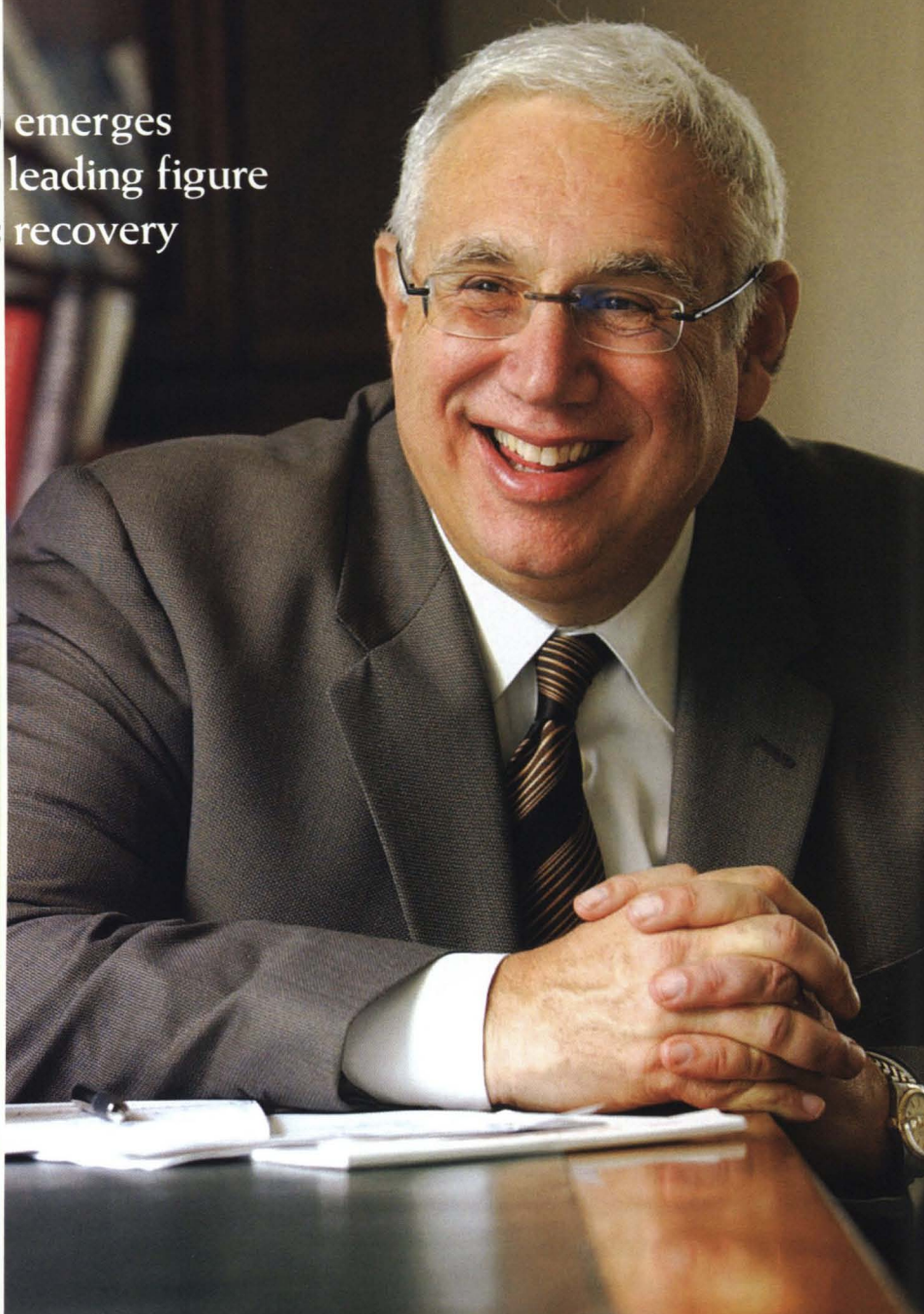
## Tulane President Scott Cowen '68 (BUS) emerges from Katrina as a leading figure in the New Orleans recovery

BY KENNETH BEST

As the helicopter rose up from a levee along the swollen Mississippi River on Aug. 31, 2005, Scott S. Cowen '68 (BUS) saw for the first time the true devastation Hurricane Katrina had wrought on New Orleans. For four days the president of Tulane University rode out the storm with several other high-level administrators on the first floor of the university's recreation center. After the rains and wind subsided and he first surveyed the damage to Tulane's main campus a few miles north of the French Quarter, Cowen saw roofs needing repairs, broken windows and tree branches strewn on the ground.

"It wasn't that bad," he recalls about his first thought at the time. "It was just a matter of cleaning up and patching."

Then Lake Pontchartrain pushed its levees to the breaking point and New Orleans began to drown, along with much of Tulane's two campuses. Two-thirds of the 84 buildings on the main uptown campus and the 17 buildings on its downtown campus would suffer more than \$600 million in damage. With the entire city already evacuated, including Tulane's 2,514 faculty, 4,000 staff and its



# Bringing Back



13,214 students, Cowen and his remaining staff began their own escape, which took 72 hours.

The first time they tried to get a helicopter, the airspace over New Orleans was under military control. The second effort failed because landmarks were underwater and the pilot could not locate them. Finally, a Tulane graduate guided a helicopter pilot close to the uptown campus. To reach the helicopter, Cowen and the staff scurried to find transportation via Tulane's resources. They found a campus motorboat and siphoned gasoline from nearby cars to start it. Reaching dry land, they hotwired a golf cart so they could reach a dump truck for the trip to higher ground near the Mississippi. They carried "welcome" banners intended for freshman convocation to make an "X" so the helicopter could identify a landing area. When the helicopter landed, it was on the other side of a locked fence, so they drove the truck through the fence. They flew to meet a plane sent by a Tulane trustee that took them to Patterson, La., for the night. The next day, they traveled to Houston, where for seven weeks Cowen and 60 administrators lived in a hotel and would direct the effort to preserve one of the nation's oldest top-rated private education and research institutions.

"I wasn't sure you could close a university for a semester and come back," Cowen recalls, sitting in his office on a warm Louisiana afternoon two years later. In the days before Katrina hit, he was preparing to welcome Tulane's largest and most academically successful class of freshman students, just a few months after announc-



Tulane president Scott Cowen '68 (BUS) speaks with staff in front of the Reilly Student Recreation Center on the flooded Tulane campus after Hurricane Katrina.

ing a \$700 million fund-raising campaign, the largest in Louisiana history. Tulane had closed only once before in its 173-year history. That was for three years during the Civil War.

"I knew we couldn't close for a year and come back," he says. "It was pretty clear after the storm that this was an event of catastrophic proportions and the university would never be the same as before."

When Tulane reopened five months after Katrina, a plan was in place to reduce the size of the university by focusing resources on its top academic and research programs and helping to rebuild New Orleans. More than 1,000 part-time and full-time staff and approximately 190 full-time faculty positions were eliminated, academic programs were combined or eliminated and there was a temporary

reduction in athletic teams competing in the NCAA. Now, two years later, Tulane has 10,600 students, 1,600 faculty and 3,000 staff.

Today in New Orleans, daily news reports still describe the lingering scars of Katrina and the tortoise-like movement of the Louisiana Recovery Authority and Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to the storm. While some sections of the city, including the French Quarter, are thriving, recovery in the most storm-damaged areas, such as the Ninth Ward, remains a daily struggle.

Yet there are uplifting reports of efforts to rebuild the local economy and the city's infrastructure. There are also stories of individual successes to rebuild against sometimes staggering odds. Standing out among those stories is the emergence of

# 'The Big Easy'



Cowen as one of the leading figures in the New Orleans recovery, not only for his decisive leadership in restoring Tulane but also for the vital role he has played in the region.

The characteristics of Cowen's leadership during Katrina have been evident since his days as a student in Metuchen High School in New Jersey, where he was active in student government, played football and was voted "Did Most for MHS While in School." He arrived at UConn as a business and accounting major intending to play football; however, weight loss from a viral infection ended his playing days.

"I had a very positive experience at UConn," he says. "During the 1960s, UConn was a pretty activist place. After I couldn't play football I got interested in student politics and I got a great education."

After his recovery, Cowen turned his attention to student activities, eventually serving in the Student-Faculty Senate, as pledge master of his fraternity and as academics chairman for the Class of '68.

Initially headed for graduate school, he

## Tulane had closed only once before in its 173-year history. That was for three years during the Civil War.

was drafted into the military just before the lottery was established during the ramp-up for the Vietnam War. Cowen decided to enlist in Infantry Officer Candidate School. He was posted in Turkey with the Army Security Agency for the last of his three years and after completing his service, he earned both a master's and a doctorate in business management at George Washington University. He began to establish his credentials as a business and accounting professor at Bucknell University and then spent 23 years at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, where he served as dean of the Weatherhead School of

Management for 14 years. He was named the 14th president of Tulane in 1998.

At breakfast while awaiting his flight to Houston two years ago, Cowen began writing his first message about the task of rebuilding Tulane on a napkin which he then forwarded to the staff gathered in Texas for posting to the university community, a practice that would continue until

the campus reopened in January 2006.

"It is difficult to describe what this situation feels like for those of us involved," he wrote in one of his earliest e-mail messages. "It is surreal and unfathomable; yet, there is light at the end of the tunnel. Our focus is on the light and not the darkness."

Cowen says three decisions made within the first 48 hours of his arrival in Houston were critical: keeping all faculty and staff on payroll for as long as possible at what would cost \$165 million, knowing that most, if not all, were uncertain about their evacuated homes and families and the future of their university; contracting

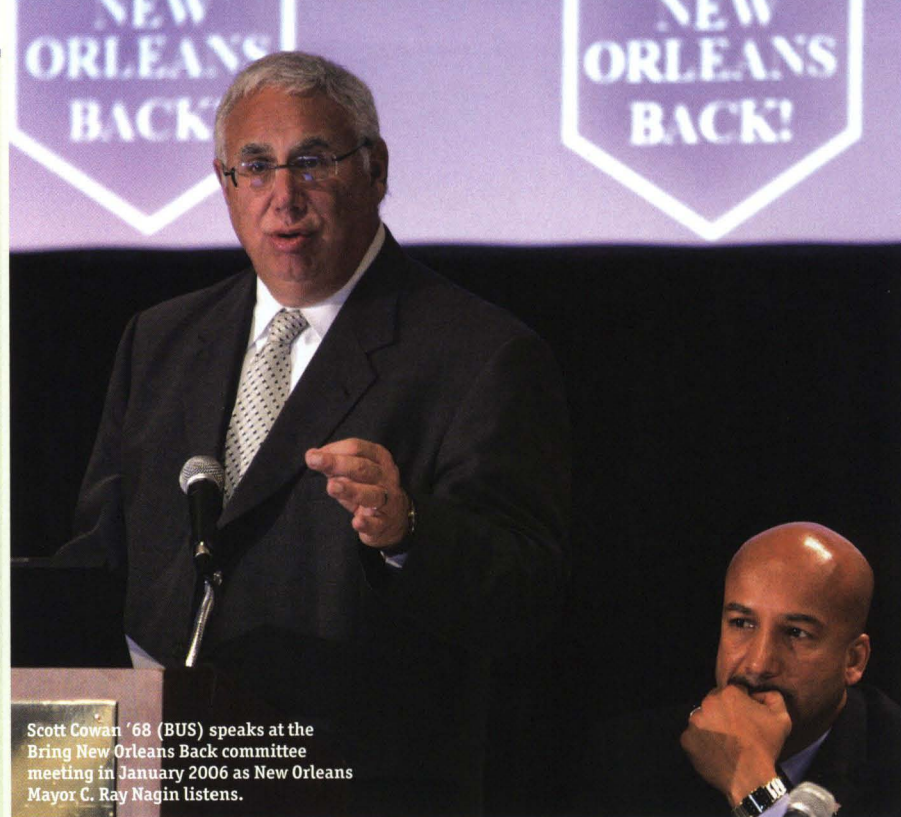
with a national firm to begin repairing the campus; and talking with the leaders of national higher education organizations to make arrangements for students to have an academic home for the fall semester. That move resulted in 6,000 students attending 600 colleges and universities around the United States, including UConn (see story on the next page).

"Thereafter, we'd meet every single day to discuss what we needed to get done that day," Cowen says. "What you try to do is break down overwhelming tasks into smaller steps so you could actually make progress every day. It's a classic triage exercise."

For the nearly 60 Tulane administrators in the Houston hotel, each day was a challenge as they quickly recognized that their tasks involved much more than working to reopen for classes.

"We were not only rebuilding as an institution but also a community to support that institution," recalls Earl Retif, long-time registrar who is now vice president for enrollment management. "He had us looking at grocery stores, elementary schools and more. You never knew what your task was going to be that day."

"To retain and re-recruit faculty and staff, President Cowen understood that



Scott Cowen '68 (BUS) speaks at the Bring New Orleans Back committee meeting in January 2006 as New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin listens.

AP Photo / Juan Bortone



he, and Tulane, would have to think about not only the quality of Tulane's 'product' but also the quality of life in the city of New Orleans," says Thomas S. Langston, chair of the department of political science at Tulane, who is also a vice chair of the University Senate and a member of the President's Faculty Advisory Council. "The university's role in founding a new charter school for the community that would open its doors at the same time that Tulane re-opened is a great story. It was exceptional that the president reacted to (Katrina) effectively and quickly, improvising a solution that has become a model for the rest of the community."

Another model Cowen developed to help New Orleans is a public service requirement for undergraduate students to complete their degrees. Students take classroom courses for a semester and then are placed for a semester in a variety of locations around the city to complete their service. For example, students in sociology courses assist the city attorney's office to rehabilitate blighted neighborhoods. Cowen credits the university faculty for

developing a "substantive" public service program that is "a rigorous academic experience."

"Scott has been a tremendous leader in the community," says New Orleans city councilman-at-large Arnold Fielkow, who worked with Cowen to develop a program that recruits New Orleans civic leaders to meet with national business leaders and the media to provide information about the city's status and seek assistance for the post-Katrina recovery. "He is actively involved with the New Orleans rebuilding effort. He is tremendously respected in all corners of the community. It is a very unique challenge that Scott and Tulane have put out to their students. It will pay dividends for our community in the decades to come."

The thoughts of Tulane students who spent the fall 2005 semester at UConn support that view.

"President Cowen was honest with us in the details of the recovery, even though they were sometimes grim," says Taylor Felice of Woodbridge, Conn., who graduated with a marketing degree last May. "More

importantly, he made everyone, including our parents, confident that Tulane, like the city of New Orleans, would survive. His constant participation in the city's recovery not only helped thousands, but it encouraged others to become involved."

"The hurricane forced everyone to make tough decisions," says Randy Sorge, an environmental biology major from Bridgeport, Conn., who will graduate in 2008. "President Cowen had to make a lot of sacrifices within the university to get it re-opened...Tulane would not have recovered the way it did without him at the helm. He was always strong and positive. He is a man who earned my respect."

"Because Scott has exhibited such strong leadership, there was a push for him to run for mayor," says Yvette Jones, Tulane's chief operating officer and senior vice president for external affairs. "To me that was the ultimate crossing of the relationship between the university and the city. He has consistently said he has no interest in public office. His feeling is that by rebuilding Tulane, we're helping to rebuild the city." *Continued on page 50*

## UConn helping hand kept New Orleans students on track

When UConn responded to a request by the American Council on Education and the Association of American Universities for members to help displaced college students from New Orleans universities, 21 undergraduates from Tulane were among the 41 students from colleges in The Big Easy that arrived in Connecticut in September 2005.

With the fall semester already underway, UConn quickly organized an assistance team that included academic counselors and staff from admissions, student life, residence life and the Registrar's Office to help the students from New Orleans. The goal was to match up students with classes comparable to those in New Orleans universities and settle everyone into housing.

"We had 6,000 students at 600 schools," says Earl Retif, vice president for enrollment management, who as Tulane's long-time registrar understood the logistics of creating new student files over a few days instead of what normally takes several weeks. "We got great cooperation from schools such as UConn. It was amazing the stories we heard from our students. It was an unbelievable tribute to the

institutions that helped us. Everybody agreed to get the students as normal a life as possible, as quickly as possible. We're incredibly grateful for what they did."

Taylor Felice, a marketing major who spent the 2005 fall semester in Storrs and graduated from Tulane last spring, says, "The staff was incredible in working with me to catch up on the work that I missed while waiting to decide what to do."



UConn admissions officer Bob Hopson, left, assists Sarah Welinsky, a Tulane University student from Woodbury, Conn., and her father, Gary Welinsky, at a registration session for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina in September 2005.

"There is no doubt that deciding to go to UConn kept me up to speed when I came back to Tulane," adds Randy Sorge, now a senior environmental biology major at Tulane. "I am completely on track for graduation in May. Many of my friends have had to sacrifice their summers taking classes to make up for Katrina."

At the time, Tulane President Scott Cowen '68 (BUS) expressed his appreciation for the role UConn played in assisting Tulane students. "Knowing that a number of our students were taken in by my alma mater was truly touching," he said. "I knew they were in good hands."





Daren Triggerson



# CONSERVATIVE SUPREME COURT WILL BE BUSH LEGACY

By  
David  
Alistair  
Yalof

As George W. Bush  
approaches the final year  
of his presidency,

pundits are considering what legacy the 43rd president of the United States will leave to the nation. To a large degree, the Bush legacy is tied to the Middle East: If Iraq becomes a flourishing democracy 30 years from now, he will be credited with putting into motion the process. If not, the botched response to Hurricane Katrina, an inability to move forward any kind of second-term domestic agenda and failure in Iraq will support negative views of the Bush presidency.

However, one area where scholars are in a better position right now to assess the Bush legacy is his impact on the federal judiciary and, indirectly, on the state of constitutional law. Stated simply, George W. Bush may have done more to transform the constitutional landscape in a conservative direction than any president in the past century, including Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon. To be sure, this result would not have been possible

UConn's nationally known scholar on presidential politics and Supreme Court nominations analyzes the shift of the Roberts Court to the political right.

without a Republican-controlled Senate in place during half of his presidency. Bush won nearly every battle he waged to get extremely conservative judges and justices confirmed.

Considerable inroads were made in the lower courts, which Bush stocked with ideological

conservatives from the outset. Perennially undermanned circuits like the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit are now brimming with ideologues eager to vote the conservative line on any number of issues. The same can be said for at least five other federal circuits. Yet, for over a quarter-century, the U.S. Supreme Court has been the elusive target of social conservatives. Republicans have controlled the White House for 27 of the past 39 years and, consequently, Republican presidents have had the opportunity to appoint 13 of the past 15 High Court vacancies. Yet, thanks to high-profile conservative disappointments such as Associate Justices Harry Blackmun, John Paul Stevens and

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David Alistair Yalof is associate professor of political science in UConn's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, specializing in constitutional law, judicial politics and executive branch politics. He is the author of *Pursuit of Justices: Presidential Politics and the Selection of Supreme Court Nominees* (University of Chicago Press).



Sandra Day O'Connor, the Court has remained narrowly split throughout this period, with victories decided according to justices who swing back and forth between the liberal and conservative factions.

However, Bush's appointment of Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justice Samuel Alito to replace William H. Rehnquist and O'Connor, respectively, has shifted the calculus dramatically. Simply replacing the aging Rehnquist with a 50-year-old ideological compatriot in the Court's center seat helps to establish stable conservative leadership on the Court for decades to come. Yet, substituting Alito for O'Connor was the true masterstroke. By replacing the Court's "swing vote" with a consistent conservative vote, Bush has effectively relegated moderates and liberals to the dissenting camp for the foreseeable future. Even if a Democrat wins the 2008 election, the newly elected president will most likely be looking to replace liberals John Paul Stevens, 87, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 74, before anyone else. Meanwhile, none of the Court's more conservative-leaning troika of Antonin Scalia, 71, Anthony M. Kennedy, 71, and Clarence Thomas, 59, are expected to turn in their robes yet. The Democrats may have to win three or four consecutive presidential elections in a row to reverse the appointments of Roberts and Alito.

**"During the Court's fall 2006 term—the first to feature Roberts and Alito in their seats from the outset—conservatives won every major constitutional battle, handing down narrowly decided rulings on abortion, free speech and church and state issues."**

During the Court's fall 2006 term—the first to feature Roberts and Alito in their seats from the outset—conservatives won every major constitutional battle, handing down narrowly decided rulings on abortion, free speech and church and state issues. It was perhaps the most one-sided Supreme Court term since the late-1960s, when liberals enjoyed the upper hand. All that remains now is to watch what the Court does in the future with issues of executive branch power, whose fault lines do not so readily fall along the more traditional conservative-liberal divide. Many expect that Roberts and Alito will defer to presidential power in the war on terrorism, handing Bush some important victories at the close of his presidency.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this seismic shift in favor of conservatives on the Court is the manner in which its two new members have chosen to exercise their power. Each of the two most conservative holdouts from the Rehnquist Court—Scalia and

**"The Supreme Court's most lasting victories have come not so much through evoking grand gestures, but rather by a process of incremental change and reform."**

Thomas—made it a frequent practice not just to criticize or narrow more liberal precedents from the

Warren and Burger Courts but to call for their outright elimination as well. Looking at the 2006-07 Supreme Court term, one or both of those two justices called for the Court to outright overrule the abortion precedent of *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, the campaign speech precedent of *Buckley v. Valeo* and the student speech precedent of *Tinker v. Des Moines*. By advancing those arguments in the past, Scalia and Thomas may have helped to push O'Connor, Souter, and, to a lesser extent, Kennedy, into the opposing camp at critical junctures. O'Connor, in particular, earned a reputation for bristling at attempts to discard Supreme Court precedents even when she felt they were flawed. By routinely asking for the whole loaf of bread, the two most conservative justices often ended up with no loaf at all.

By all measures, Roberts and Alito are of a much different mind than Scalia and Thomas on this issue. The two new justices routinely sided with conservatives during last year's term, but they stopped short of more radical calls to revolutionize doctrines. Conservative court watchers who fear this development forebodes more moderation from the Court are missing the point. The Supreme Court's most lasting victories have come not so much through evoking grand gestures, but rather by a process of incremental change and reform. *Brown v. Board of*

*Education* and *Roe v. Wade* fit into the grand gesture category: It took decades for the former decision to take hold in the South and the latter decision has already been gutted by subsequent courts. Unlike Scalia and Thomas, who advocate the immediate death of previous Court decisions, the recent nominees seem more likely to pursue a course of "death by a thousand cuts."

The liberals and moderates remaining on the Court are not naive in this regard: They know exactly what Roberts and Alito may be able to accomplish with subtle incrementalism, and they have no means of stopping it. On this one front, social conservatives who helped George W. Bush win two close election contests have apparently won the battle. For a president whose final legacy could well be tarnished by failures in the war in Iraq and elsewhere, that represents no small measure of success.

For information about Professor Yalof, visit the Department of Political Science Web site: [www.polisci.uconn.edu](http://www.polisci.uconn.edu).



# Tracking Parkinson's tremors

SALAMONE WORKS TO UNCOVER CAUSE OF DEGENERATIVE NERVE DISEASE



John Salamone, professor of psychology, in his office.

Psychology professor John Salamone's interest in Parkinson's disease began during his days as a graduate student when he studied the effects of pharmaceuticals on the brain, with particular emphasis on dopamine, an amino acid that transmits nerve impulses in the brain to affect behavior, mood, attention, learning and motor activity.

Many years later, when his father was diagnosed with a severe case of the disease before succumbing to its complications, he became motivated further to investigate Parkinson's.

"I think everybody in neuroscience is aware of some relationship between what they study and a disease or possible treatment," says Salamone, who was named a 2007 UConn Board

of Trustees Distinguished Professor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "The theme that links much of my work together is this idea of chemical neurotransmission, with a focus on dopamine, and the interaction between dopamine and other neurotransmitters. With Parkinson's disease, dopamine-producing nerve cells within the brain degenerate and dopamine is depleted."

During his early research, Salamone made some discoveries related to Parkinsonian tremor. When he arrived at UConn in 1988, he says he had in mind several lines of work, most of them related to dopamine, some involving aspects of motivation and others in motor control and Parkinson's disease. Motivation is related to the effort or persistence required

to complete any given task. The study of motor control is focused upon aspects of movement, both voluntary, such as walking, and involuntary, such as tremors.

Salamone developed a rodent model of Parkinsonian tremors. In humans, tremors are usually expressed in hand shaking, but in rats they typically appear as jaw movements. In the study, rats were given several antipsychotic medications known to interfere with dopamine. Because some chemicals reduce the activity of other chemicals, some of these substances—known as antagonists—have been suggested to have anti-Parkinsonian effects. Salamone decided to examine the ability of the antagonists to reverse jaw tremors. Two such antagonists—KW6002 and MSX-3—were found to suppress jaw tremors as well as improve a person's movement. KW6002 is currently being tested in human clinical trials.

Known worldwide for his dopamine research, Salamone was invited to speak at the Dopamine 50 Years meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden, a conference honoring the 50th anniversary of dopamine's discovery as a neurotransmitter.

Although no one knows the exact cause of Parkinson's disease, many scientists believe that it may be triggered by an accumulative effect from exposure to environmental toxins, viruses and brain trauma, combined with aging. All of these factors reduce the brain's ability to produce dopamine.

Salamone says that even as he understands the daily risks everyone has to such exposure, he tries to keep it all in perspective.

"I try to eat a well-balanced diet and avoid a lot of artificial things in my food," he says. "You can only do so much."

— Kim Colavito Markesich '93 (CANR)



# Once a mentor, always a mentor

DEBRA KENDALL GUIDES STUDENTS TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Debra Kendall, professor of molecular and cell biology, discusses a research project with a graduate student in her laboratory.

**I**t was at Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine—a world-renowned genetics research center—where established scientists taught Debra Kendall about research while she was studying biochemistry as an undergraduate student. It sparked a passion for mentoring students that she has made a priority during a stellar career in research, teaching and outreach.

“There are challenges at every stage of the learning process in science, such as learning new experiment strategies, deciding what is a good question to address in research and determining appropriate places to publish,” says Kendall, professor of molecular and cell biology and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “The best assessment of the training in my laborato-

ry is what my students go on to do and the accolades they receive. My former students continue to call me with questions about science and about career paths. Mentoring is a long-term process. Once a mentor, always a mentor.”

She instinctively seeks out new and creative ways to recruit women and individuals from different backgrounds to encourage them toward career paths in science and math. As a teacher, Kendall is dedicated to expanding new opportunities for her students. Recently, she developed a writing-based course in human disease and the development of therapeutic agents. The course explores how different factors, such as socioeconomic, genetics and behavioral patterns, impact disease and its treatment around the world and illustrate the importance of integrating a variety of

scientific disciplines.

“The class gives real-life examples of how multidisciplinary research and understanding can bring about answers to problems. Students also learn the importance of being able to communicate knowledge within the scientific community—and with the public,” she says.

“I want to stress the importance of the integration of scholarship and education in the lab, and both in and outside the classroom,” Kendall says.

She recently finished a term on the editorial board of *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* and serves as a grant-reviewer for both the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Kendall was recognized as a UConn

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**“I want to stress the importance of the integration of scholarship and education.”**

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Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor, the top award for professors that recognizes scholarship, teaching and service to UConn.

Even as she mentors students and teaches in the classroom, Kendall continues to conduct research. She recently received a five-year grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse to research a subclass of membrane proteins, called receptors, that are vital for a wide array of cellular processes, including the transmission of information across a cell surface. She is studying the structure and function of receptors in order to determine how drugs interact with them, information that could lead to the development of more successful treatments for a variety of diseases. — Kala Kachmar '10 (CLAS)



## Adjusting to a novel life in America

**L**ike Masha, the central character in her debut novel, *The Last Chicken in America: A Novel in Stories* (W.W. Norton Company, Inc.), Ellen Litman came to the United States from Moscow and faced the challenges of assimilation into a new culture.

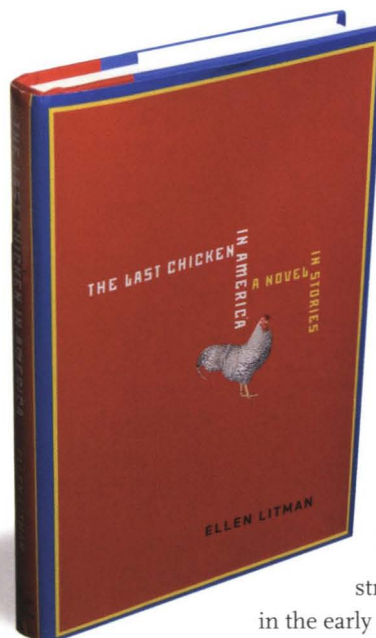
Like her character, Litman also initially pursued studies in computer science and mathematics before following her dream.

"I think the first years of adjusting, assimilating and coming to terms with this new life were very close to what I actually experienced," says Litman, assistant professor of English and associate director of UConn's Creative Writing Program. "The events themselves were different—Masha is not a writer, although she ends up studying literature—but the major theme is true. My teachers and parents explained there was not a place to study writing in Russia and no future in it."

Arriving with her family in Pittsburgh, where her aunt lived, Litman finally was able to begin writing after first working as a computer programmer and earning a master's degree in English from Syracuse University. She eventually began to write about Squirrel Hill, the Russian immigrant community within Pittsburgh.

"I always knew I was writing the stories as part of a collection," she says. "I didn't know how closely linked they would be or that it would become a novel of stories. I did know they would have a theme (Russian immigrants), they would be set in the same neighborhood and, to some degree, there would be recurring characters."

*The Last Chicken in America* follows the life of a young woman who struggles to synthesize multiple generations and cultures within a community of families trying to do the same. The book

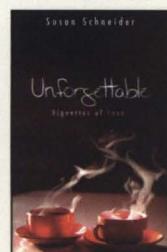


has been well-received, with *Publisher's Weekly* describing it as "less like a novel than a coherent set of mostly first-person character studies by a very promising writer."

Litman's talent has also been recognized within the writing community. She was the recipient of a 2006 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award, which is presented to "women writers who demonstrate excellence and promise in the early stages of their careers."

Even as she continues to travel around the United States to promote her book this fall, Litman is busy teaching a graduate fiction workshop and organizing events for the Creative Writing Program. In the spring, she will teach a course on producing literary magazines—in this case UConn's *Long River Review*—as well as continuing work on her next novel, set in Russia during the mid-1980s, the years of the breakup of the Soviet Union known as perestroika. Litman says after that novel is completed she will change topics.

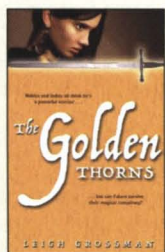
"I think my next project will not have anything to do with Russia. I do want to look at other things," she says. "It will be an interesting challenge." — *Kenneth Best*



**Unforgettable Vignettes of Love**  
Susan Schneider '70 (CLAS)  
(Cold Tree Press)

Schneider's short and breezy compilation of true stories is a real-world version of the popular television comedy

"How I Met Your Mother." Crisscrossing the United States, the author tells a series of stories about how people find their mates, including former teenage lovers who reunite years later, the drummer who meets the college student and how opposites attract.



**The Green Lion  
The Golden Thorns**  
Leigh Grossman  
(Wildside Press)

Grossman, a UConn adjunct professor of English, has revisited the two books he wrote more than a decade

ago, rewriting them with the benefit of his years of editing, teaching and game design experience. Both fast-paced fantasy tales provide medieval adventure with a different cast of characters. *The Golden Thorns* features wizards, monsters, pirates, knights and rogue professors. *The Green Lion* focuses on a magical conspiracy involving an innkeeper's son and a mysterious noblewoman.



**Forever Home**  
Sandra J. Philipson  
'95 (6th Year)  
(Cleveland Clinic Press)

The author's "Max and Annie" series of children's books have usually focused on the real-life experiences

of her dogs. The latest installment of Philipson's dog tales fictionalizes the early life of the newest canine in the household, the three-legged English springer spaniel, Trini, whose early beginnings are largely unknown. Richly illustrated by Jenny Campbell, the book includes information on rescue organizations to help abandoned dogs.



# 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).

## Reunions:

### SAVE THE DATE

June 6 – 7, 2008  
*Reunion Weekend—Classes of 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, and the UConn Alumni Marching Band*  
Mark the dates on your calendar! Reunion Weekend will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 6 – 7, 2008. Schedule includes tours of campus, keynote speakers, New England Clambake and much more. Check your mail in April for registration information or check our Web site, [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com), for program updates.

### Reunion Weekend 2008 Volunteers

June 6 – 7, 2008  
Join our planning committee! Volunteers are needed for the 2008 Reunion Weekend Planning Committee. If you are from the Class of 1958, 1953, 1948, 1943, the UConn Marching Band, or if you have a specific group (i.e. fraternity, sorority, student organization, intramural team, etc.) that you would like to get together for Reunion Weekend, please contact us.

Even if you are not from the above mentioned classes, we would welcome you to join us as well. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lachut '90 at 860-486-2240 or toll-free at 888-UC-ALUM-1 or by e-mail at [reunions@uconn.edu](mailto:reunions@uconn.edu).



## Forever friends

Six members of the Class of 1937 who were members of Sigma Upsilon Nu have kept a round robin letter going for 70 years, writes Elizabeth (Palmer) Platts '37 (CANR). The long-time friends are identified in a 1937 *Nutmeg* yearbook photo of the sorority. Circled photos from left: Esther (Mead) Weed '37 (CANR), Priscilla (Champlin) Campbell '37 (CLAS), Frances (Schenk) Carlson '37 (CLAS), Margaret (Dean) Nichols '37 (CLAS), Florence Louise (Mead) Lent '37 (CANR) and Elizabeth (Palmer) Platts. Esther is married to Richard Weed '39 (CANR).

## 1930s

Edward Sammis '37 (ENG) and Ruth (Nielsen) Sammis '38 (CANR) are celebrating 67 years of marriage.

## 1940s

Francis Brennan '43 (CLAS), a retired major in the United States Marine Reserve who served in the South Pacific and Korea, is working as an eminent domain expert. He has been married for 63 years and has five great-grandchildren.

Ina (Rude) Mish '48 (CLAS) retired from nursing education and moved to Cape Cod, where she is active in the hospital auxiliary. She teaches and lectures on embroidery and samplers and has won awards for her embroidery and doll making.

Richard Spellman '48 (ENG) retired from N.Y. Telephone in 1980 and enjoys traveling. He is a U.S. Air

Force veteran from World War II and the Korean War.

## 1950s

Carlos Fetterolf '50 (CANR) co-authored *Scope of Cooperative Fisheries Management Globally* and addressed the International Association for Great Lakes Research and the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Fishery Commission. He has received awards for his work from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the North American Lake Management Association and the Michigan Charter Boat Association.

Lawrence Muccino '50 (PHR) retired in 1981 after 31 years working for Abbot Labs. He and his wife recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Edwin Rabinowitz '50 (BUS), '77 6th Year retired in 1989 after 24 years as a professor, associate

dean and dean at Thames Valley State Technical College in Norwich, Conn. He was the first of three generations to graduate from UConn.

C. W. Lassen '52 (BUS) is a retired financial planner and enjoys fishing at his summer home on Long Beach Island, N.J.

Marcel Angers '53 (ED) retired from the Portland, Maine, school system and is director of In-School Suspension at the high school in Biddeford, Maine.

Anton Jungherr '54 (BUS) is the founding business manager of Making Waves Academy, a public charter middle school in Richmond, Calif., which opened last September.

Joseph Maggipinto '55 (BUS) retired in 1992. He enjoys traveling with his wife, Anne, and is the father of four daughters and the grandfather of five.



**Lois Greene Stone '55 (ED)** has a personal essay in the newest *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series and poetry published in two books.

**Ken Cucuel '57 (CLAS)** recently competed in the World Squash Championship held in Cape Town, South Africa, and finished in the top 20 in his division.

**John C. Yavis, Jr. '57 (CLAS)**, a lawyer with Murtha Cullina, LLP, in Hartford, Conn., received the 2007 Professionalism Award for the Second Circuit from American Inns of Court, an association that fosters excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility and legal skills.

**Gordon Frank '58 (CLAS)** retired from IBM after 30 years as a computer consultant. He has eight children and 17 grandchildren. For the past 10 years, he has visited all of the more than 400 National Park sites in the lower 48 states on his motorcycle.

**William D. Pardus '58 (CLAS) '60 M.A.**, professor emeritus of music at Keene State College, received the Outstanding Service Award for

2007 by the Keene State College Alumni Association. He taught at the college for 32 years and retired in 1998 and has more than 44 composing titles to his credit.

**William H. Brewster, Jr., '59 (ENG)** was named vice president for global marketing and product management for Gerber Technology in Tolland, Conn. Previously he was vice president for marketing with Konica Minolta Business Machines, U.S.A., during his 21-year career in software, Internet, office equipment, business services marketing and product management.

**Ulysses Brualdi '59 (ENG)**, now retired president and chief executive officer of ADT Inc., is chairman of the National Crime Prevention Council (McGruff), a national organization focused on reducing crime and violence. He is also the vice-chair of the Sarasota Opera. He and his wife, **Carol (Pandolfo) '60 (ED)**, have been married 47 years and have seven grandchildren.

**Leroy Rowe '59 (CANR)** has retired from the Weeks Agency, an insurance business in Storrs, and moved with his wife to Vermont.

## 1960s

**Bruce Cagenello '60 (CLAS)** retired after almost 20 years of service with the Connecticut Real Estate Commission, including nine years as chairman.

**Ann Corbett '60 (CLAS)** is teaching at a community college in Arizona.

**Susan (Duhan) Felix '61 M.A.** had a one-person show of her ceramic artwork at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Museum in New York City. She and her husband, **Morton Felix '63 Ph.D.**, both read their poetry at the Cornelia Street Café in New York City. They helped start the *Wormwood Review* while attending UConn.

**Joseph Rution '63 (CLAS)** retired from California Golf Service, a shop he ran with his wife, Janet, since 1975 in Santa Barbara, Calif.

He now is involved with planning activities for Santa Barbara City.

**David Switzer '63 M.A., '71 Ph.D.** retired after a 39-year teaching career at Plymouth State University. He serves as the consulting nautical archaeologist for the state of New Hampshire and continues to teach as an emeritus professor.

**Donald D'Ambrosio '64 (CLAS)** is president of International Perfect Smile, Inc., a new company in the dental tourism industry. He splits his time between homes in Kona, Hawaii, and Long Beach, Calif. He previously was with CIGNA, Corp.

**Gerri Lipman King '64 Ph.D.** is a social psychologist, organizational consultant and president of Human Dynamics Associates, Inc., in Concord, N.H. She has been focusing on facilitating mergers and acquisitions, speaking about building public/private partnerships as part of disaster preparedness and delivering seminars and training on a variety of topics throughout the U.S., Asia, and Canada.

# Lipitor inventor found inspiration as graduate student

**R**oger Newton '74 M.S. knew he wanted a career in science when he began his college studies as an undergraduate. He initially thought he would become a medical doctor but says that while working in the clinical laboratory and blood bank at a hospital, he witnessed the protracted death of a great aunt to whom he was very close. This experience gave him a dose of reality that doctors must face in life's final chapter, which caused him to change his mind.

As a graduate student at UConn working on a master's degree in nutritional biochemistry, he was looking for another career track. "I wanted to pursue science," he recalls, "and I had promised my parents that I would look for work that could allow me to make the world a better place."

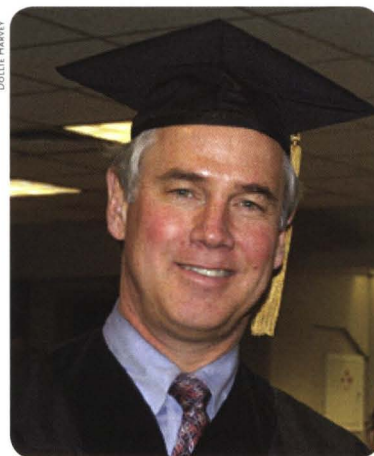
Late one night, studying in a UConn laboratory, the light bulb suddenly went on. While reading a book about atherosclerosis, the buildup of fat deposits in blood vessels that causes coronary disease, Newton realized he had found the figurative mountain he wanted to climb.

"My career began at UConn," he now says. By understanding the basic science of fat metabolism, his imagination was captivated by the possibility of discovering a therapeutic agent that could beneficially affect the disease process that leads to arteriosclerosis and heart disease. Ever since that night, it has been his mantra for more than 30 years.

In 1981, after earning his Ph.D. in nutrition at the University of California, Davis, and completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Diego, he joined the venerable pharmaceutical company Parke-Davis. Over the next 17 years, he would devote himself almost wholly to the daunting task of developing a drug to help people

whose elevated LDL cholesterol put them at high risk of heart disease.

It was, he says, "extremely complex" work. But it paid off. In early 1997, Newton and his colleagues at Parke-Davis unveiled a powerful statin drug that reduces blood cholesterol levels to a greater level than any other statin at that time. The largest selling pharmaceutical in the world, it is better known by its trade name, Lipitor. In 1998, he and three



of his colleagues co-founded Esperion Therapeutics, Inc., a biotech company dedicated to the discovery and development of HDL therapies to promote the removal of cholesterol from diseased vessels. After promising results in an early clinical trial, Esperion was acquired by Pfizer in 2004.

Newton says his passion for finding pharmaceutical solutions for mankind's struggle with heart disease has not waned since that night in the lab at UConn. Among the many scientists who helped him along his career path, he credits the late Robert Jensen and the late Hamilton Eaton, both professors of nutritional sciences during Newton's time in Storrs, as encouraging mentors. — Jim H. Smith



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

**William Licata '66 (ENG)** is an engineering fellow with Raytheon Missile System Company in Tucson, Ariz., where he serves as the guidance, navigation and control lead engineer on the KEI boost phase interceptor test program.

**Robert Wettemann '66 (CANR)**, Regents Professor of Animal Science at Oklahoma State University, was named a 2007 Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science.



**Donna (Dee Dee Shanbron) Granski '67 (ED), '72 M.A.** is in her 25th year teaching English in grades 6-8 at St. Michael's

Episcopal School in Bon Air, Va. She and her husband, **Joe Granski '70 (ED)**, who were married 40 years ago at Mirror Lake, have two children and four grandchildren.

**Thomas Roberts '67 M.A.** is co-editor of the recent publication *Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogenic Substances as Treatments*.

**Tae-Hee Yoon '67 Ph.D.** is senior vice president for Project International, a Washington-based advisory firm. He recently joined the advisory board of NeXplore, a Nevada corporation that creates Web tools.

**Betty Gerich '68 (SFA)** had a one-person exhibition of sculpture "Head to Toe," at the Artworks Gallery in Hartford, Conn.

**Mark Gothberg '68 (ENG)** is chief operating officer of Strategic Health Care Communications and the editor of *eHealthcare Strategy and Trends*, both in White Plains, N.Y.

**Joseph Zaccagnino '68 (BUS), '70 M.P.H.** was appointed to the board of directors at Premise Corporation, a provider of clinically focused software. He recently retired as president and CEO of Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale New Haven Health.

**Leonard Polletta '69 (CLAS)** was appointed chairman of the New York Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board. He previously spent 22 years as an assistant general counsel for District Council 37, AFSCME.

**Bob Stepno '69 (CLAS)** is teaching journalism at Radford University in Radford, Va. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 2003 and taught for three years at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

### 1970s

**Alexander Carpp '70 (CLAS)** has been named the first president and chief executive of Choose Worcester Inc., a nonprofit organization created to market Worcester, Mass., to employers.

**Jackie French Koller '70 (CLAS)** will publish her 33rd children's book, *Peter Spit a Seed at Sue*, with Viking Press in 2008. She also owns an art gallery, The Little Black Dog Gallery, in Westfield, Mass., where her watercolors are featured. She is married to **George Koller '70 (ED)** and has three children and three grandchildren.

**Theodore D. Zucconi '70 M.S.** has been named president of Pro-Pharmaceuticals, Inc. of Newton, Mass., a development stage pharmaceutical company focusing on advanced treatment

of cancer, liver, microbial, cardiovascular and inflammatory diseases. He previously was president of Implementation Edge, a management consulting firm.

**Maria Lundberg '71 (ED)** has joined the faculty of Francis Marion University in Florence, N.C., as an assistant professor of mass communication.

**Nancy (White) Simonds '71 (ED), '80 M.A.** started her own copy writing business, Nancy Simonds Communication LLC, after a career as an educator. She creates promotional materials and teaches small business owners how to create effective marketing materials.

**Rev. Patricia N. Dickson '72 (CLAS)** is the new minister for the Sierra Vista Community United Church of Christ in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

**Wendy Edson '72 (CLAS)**, associate professor of paralegal studies at Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y., was promoted to chairperson of legal studies. She has been on the faculty for almost 30 years.

## Helping governments to work better



**W**hen government services fail, there is usually a lot of talk from pundits and politicians about how to remedy the situation but few realistic solutions offered. That task falls to the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA), an independent, non-partisan organization chartered by Congress to help government solve its problems and improve operations.

"Problem solving has to be undertaken in an interactive way," says **Jennifer L. Dorn '77 M.P.A.**, who was named president and chief executive officer of NAPA earlier this year. "We believe someone can maintain independence and objectivity, even having

regular conversations with the agency experiencing the complex issue."

Dorn has worked as a manager of nonprofit and government organizations for nearly 30 years, holding senior positions at the World Bank, Federal Transit Administration and the American National Red Cross.

She says the academy relies upon the 600 Fellows elected to the membership in the organization, each an expert in various disciplines and with distinguished accomplishments in government. Panels then are formed to address issues specific to the background and expertise of the

Fellows. Recent studies reviewed progress in strengthening counter-terrorism and security programs at the FBI and another examined work processes and organizational structure at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

"Everyone recognizes that public expectations for performance of government are increasing beyond any institution's ability to fulfill them," Dorn says. "In today's complex environment, solutions to problems require many different perspectives. The whole leadership model has changed. One can't address problems without a collaborative approach, partnerships and reaching across disciplines. It's just not as easy to solve a problem within your own organizational silo anymore."

Dorn says during her time in graduate school at UConn, initially she was not sure that learning the skills of a generalist would be as helpful in her career as focusing on one area of expertise.

"One of the best aspects of being a generalist is that I've worked with experts in science, medicine, technology and corporate CEOs. You can learn a lot from all different disciplines," she says. "As the years have progressed, I have understood the value of being a generalist. Working in large organizations, I've developed the kinds of skills sets that allow you to look at the big picture, ask people to develop questions and then help to develop solutions that focus on producing significant change and positive results."

Dorn says having a background that includes experiences working with international and national organizations has strengthened her ability to address the nation's domestic issues. She also keeps in mind the wisdom of her UConn mentor, the late political science professor Harold Seidman: "Where one stands, depends on where one sits." — *Kenneth Best*



**Thomas Scibek '72 (CLAS)** accepted a position at the government printing office in Washington, D.C., as national account manager. He looks forward to the challenges and growth opportunities with the U.S. government.

**Franklin Chang-Diaz '73 (ENG)** has returned to his native Costa Rica to build the country's first rocket laboratory. He has launched a private venture to build a plasma-powered rocket engine to send a spaceship to Mars faster and cheaper than by conventional fuels.

**Catherine (Otto) Montgomery '73 (CLAS)** is executive director of the American Institute for Stuttering, a specialized non-profit treatment center for people who stutter and their families.

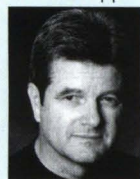
**Craig Treiber '73 (BUS)** is chief operating officer of Hemi Energy Group, Inc., in Graham, Texas.

**Frank Shor '74 (CLAS)** was elected to the board of trustees of the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District in Carrollton, Texas. He and his wife, **Susan (Campbell) '76 (NUR)**, have three children: Adam, 23, Elliot, 21, and Matthew, 15. Frank earned his law degree from Southern Methodist University in 1977 and has practiced in Dallas and throughout the U.S.

**Tom Condon '75 J.D.** was named deputy editorial page editor of *The Hartford Courant*. He was a news columnist for nearly 18 years.

**Jim Main '75 (ED), '79 M.A.** has been appointed vice president for administration and finance at California State University, Monterey Bay, in Seaside.

**Dan Carlin '76 (CLAS), '77 Ph.D.** has been appointed chair of the



film scoring department at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He previously co-founded and was CEO of Segue Music, the largest and most successful music post-production business in Hollywood history. He won an Emmy for music editing for the 1992 film, *Under Siege*. Other films he has worked on include, *The*

*Black Stallion*, *Last of the Quest for Camelot*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Sister Act* and *Pat Garrett & Billy the Kid*.

**Mark Chmielecki '76 M.B.A.** was promoted to director of compensation and benefits at Kaman Industrial Technologies in Windsor, Conn. He lives with his wife in Vernon, Conn.

**Albert Harper '76 Ph.D., '90 J.D.** is the forensic anthropologist for the state of Connecticut and the executive director of the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science at the University of New Haven in West Haven, Conn.

**Robin Ritter '76 (BUS)** married Payton Turpin at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C.

**Lendley Black '77 M.F.A.** was appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Ga. He has been a professor of theater and performance studies at KSU and is active in several community and global initiatives.

**Sherry Ballou Hanson '77 (CLAS)** is a freelance writer and has published her first book, *A Cab to Stonehenge*, with Just Write Books. She also does poetry readings and teaches adult education. She is working on *Fodor's Maine Coast Travel Guide*.

**Pat (Raccio) Hughes '77 (CLAS), '80 M.A.** has published her fourth book, *Seeing the Elephant*, a story of the Civil War, with Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

**Patricia Gill Murphy '77 Ph.D.** retired as director of teacher training at the Language Institute of St. Croix, which she co-founded in the U.S. Virgin Islands. She has published three historical novels, writing as Patricia Gill, and her forthcoming novel, *Paradise '36*, deals in part with academic life at the University of Connecticut.

**Miguel Pardo de Zela '77 M.B.A.** retired in July as commercial counselor in Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam after a career in foreign commercial service in Panama, Australia, India, Portugal, Brazil and Nigeria. He recently published the book *Global Trade and Investment Management-Core*



## Alumni help SeeMore to sing-along

SeeMore's Playhouse is an Emmy Award-winning, first-of-its-kind preschool television series broadcast on PBS that features the talents of School of Fine Arts alumni. The show uses a unique blend of lovable characters, animation, live action and infectious sing-along music to teach children the basics of safety, health and wellness. Taking a break during production in New York City, from left: 1st row: Will Pike '04, Lindsey "Z" Briggs (currently working on M.F.A.), Carole Simms D'Agostino '97, Sarah Frechette '01; 2nd row: Michael Carolan '04, Julia Darden '07, Frankie Cordero '04; 3rd row: Megan DeCristoforo '03, Eric Wright (2001-02), Abby Roderick '03; 4th row: David Stephens '00 M.A.

*Competencies for Prospering in the WTO Global Economy* and produced training videos now being shown throughout Vietnam.

**Edward A. Bouquillon '78 (ED)**

is the superintendent and director of Regional High School in Lexington, Mass.

**Kirk Ferentz '78 (ED)** is head coach for the University of Iowa football team. He has been coaching for more than 30 years.

**Frederick Harrison '78 M.B.A.**

retired from Waters Corporation in 2004 as director of manufacturing. He returned to college in Rhode Island to earn a degree in mathematics and secondary education and will be teaching in the Warwick, R.I., school district.

**Mary Alice (Eike) Henley '78 (ED)**

was promoted to assistant director for program development at the State Education Resource Center (SERC) in Middletown, Conn. She lives with her husband, **Jim Henley '78 (PHR)**, in Cromwell, Conn.



**Kerry J. Kuhlman '78 (CLAS), '82 J.D.** has been elected president and executive director of the Northeast Utilities (NU)

Foundation. She began her career with NU in 1981 as a law clerk.

**Jeffrey McCubbin '78 (ED)** was recently named a Distinguished



Professor of Kinesiology at Oregon State University. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Kinesiology

and Physical Education, has co-authored two books and published dozens of research papers while serving on the OSU faculty since 1988.

**Maureen Banks '79 (NUR)** has been named president of Shaughnessy-Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital in Salem, Mass. In addition to her new role, she will continue to serve as president of the Skilled Nursing Division of Partners Continuing Care.



## 1980s

**Laura Govoni '80 (NUR)**, retired UConn professor of nursing, lives in Ormond Beach, Fla.

**William J. Leahy '80 (BUS)** is chief financial officer for the U.S. Energy Department after serving in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserve for 24 years.

**Thomas Burns '81 (CLAS)** is the assistant treasurer and branch manager for Hudson City Savings Bank in Brookfield, Conn.

**Susan Carrano-DiNicola '81 (CLAS), '83 M.A.** helped design curriculum for the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Conn., with 20 other teachers for *Fortune's Story*, which tells the story of a slave who lived in Waterbury in the 1700s. She is a certified history, Italian and special education teacher. She also created lesson plans for a unit at this museum, "The World is Our Neighborhood." She lives in Woodbury with her husband, Fernando, and their two sons, Marc, 15, and Steven, 13.

**Gary Cesca '81 (BUS), '99 M.S.W.** is a licensed clinical social worker at Coventry High School in Coventry, Conn. He lives in central Connecticut with his wife, Sarah, and son, Benjamin, 2.

**Scott Decker '81 (ENG)** married Jennifer Galloway in August 2007. **Richard Aries '80 (CLAS)** served as best man. Scott is an engineer for IBM. They live in South Burlington, Vt.

**John Harrington '81 (BUS)** was named executive vice president and director of investments for Rampart Investment Management.

**Robert Wonneberger '81 (CLAS)** is a partner in the law firm of Pepe & Hazard LLP in Hartford with a specialty in commercial law and finance. He received his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He lives in Milford, Conn., with his wife and children.



**Jonathan D'Elia '82 M.B.A.** has joined Marsh, the world's leading risk and insurance services firm, as a senior vice president and is head of its middle market business practice in Hartford, Conn. He and his family live in Fairfield County.



**Eric Weller '82 (SFA)** has been named by Stevens Roofing Systems, as the district sales manager for the Pacific Northwest region. He lives in Seattle, Wash.

**Lauren (Kula) Miller '83 (CLAS), '06 M.P.A.** is director of Cultural Satellite Offices at the Greater Hartford Arts Council.

**Catherine Nettles Cutter '84 (CANR), '87 M.S.**, associate professor and food safety specialist at Penn State University, was selected to serve on the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Robin Dutta '84 (ENG)** has been living in India for the past 20 years and is married with two sons.

**Ronald Goodspeed '84 M.P.H.**, president of Southcoast Hospitals Group in New Bedford, Mass., received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American College of Healthcare Executives.

**Robert Lenhardt '84 (CLAS)** is general counsel of ORIX Finance/Houlihan, Lokey, Howard & Zukin in Dallas. He also serves as chief legal officer of the World Boxing Council.

**Marcia L. Marien '84 (BUS)**, managing partner of Marien & Company, LLC in Norwich, was appointed to the advisory council of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants.



**Gabriel Miller '84 (BUS), '88 J.D.** has joined the law offices of James Sokolove as general counsel.

## 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

**David Pazdar '84 (CLAS)** and his wife, Tracy, owners of Pazdar Winery, won silver, gold and a double gold medal in this year's Big E wine competition in Springfield, Mass. UConn students and alumni designed all of the labels on the wines.



**Philip E. Stoetznner '84 (SFA)** has founded Your Holistic Life, a holistically focused supplement manufacturing and online marketing company after a successful real estate career with Coldwell Banker in South Florida.



**Jeannine Bradley '85 (NUR)**, a nurse at Yale-New Haven Hospital for 21 years, received the Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing. She and her husband, Dennis, have four children and live in West Haven, Conn.

**John Neal '85 M.M.** is director of music at Oak Hill High School in Wales, Maine. He is a pianist who has earned several awards. He performed with Oak Hill High School at Carnegie Hall in 2003. He is working on an original electronic ballet, *Vasalisa*, to be released later this year.

**Charles Obied '85 (PHR)** is the owner of Sheehan Pharmacy in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a family

business he has operated since his father retired in 1989.



**Cynthia Portner '85 (ED)** is spa manager at Equinox Fitness Clubs in Long Island, N.Y. She is a licensed massage therapist and a former UConn women's volleyball team member. She now lives in Seaford, N.Y., with her family.

**Les Twible '85 M.B.A.** has worked for 37 years in rural advancement, public transportation, housing, community development and economic development in North Carolina and Connecticut. He lives in Cary, N.C., with his wife, Sue, and has two grown children, Jennifer and Mitchell.

**Lynne (Schocher) Zeoli '85 (CANR)** is a registered dietitian specializing in neuro-rehabilitation providing consulting services to health care facilities in Massachusetts. She lives in Plympton, Mass., with her husband.



**Lori Bean '86 (CLAS)**, an associate professor of chemistry and biology at Monroe County Community College in Monroe, Mich., was appointed to the board of directors at the MCC Foundation.



**Monica Brajczewski '86 M.A.** has been teaching special education in the Hartford public school system for 22 years. She and her husband, Alfred Mercier, have a daughter, Rose Chantele, 5.

**Susan Cragin '86 (CLAS)** has published *Nuclear Nebraska*, the story of a small farming community that fought off the government's efforts to place a nuclear waste dump in a wetlands. She is working on a memoir of Stanley Evans, a pioneer in substance abuse medicine.

**Jay Gillotti '86 (BUS)** has released *Cohesive*, an 11-song CD of pop and folk songs. He works for Cartus, an employee relations and workforce development firm in Seattle, Wash., where he lives with wife, Debbi.

**Lee Ann (Lewis) Jasinski '86 (CLAS)**, director of marketing and events for 56 Degree Wine in Bernardville, N.J., received the Wine Spirits and Education Trust Advanced Certificate in wine and spirits from the

International Wine Center in New York. She and her husband, Joe, live in Pittstown, N.J.



**Alan M. Katten '86 (CLAS), '91 M.B.A.** was named administrative director for surgery at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center

in Hartford, Conn. He is president of the Greater Hartford Chapter of the UConn Alumni Association and serves on the finance committee of the Alumni Association. He lives in Berlin, Conn., with his wife, Deborah Katten '01 M.P.H.

**Barry Musco '86 (CLAS)** was promoted to director of implementation at Fidelity Investments, where he has been project manager for eight years.

**Kimberly St. John-Stevenson '86 (CLAS)** is communications officer at Saint Luke's Foundation in Cleveland. She lives in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, with her husband, Anthony, and their two daughters.

**Gary P. Austin '87 (ED), '94 M.A., '98 Ph.D.**, associate professor of physical therapy at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., received the first Outstanding Physical Therapy Professional Award from the Neag School of Education Alumni Society.

**Joseph Bittner '87 (BUS), '90 M.B.A.**, a consultant and manager of education programs at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, received the 2007 National Business Education Association Distinguished Service Award.

**Cheryl Crespi '87 M.B.A., '04 J.D.** is an associate professor in the School of Business at Central Connecticut State University. She lives in Meriden, Conn. with her husband, **Tony Crespi '95 M.A.**, a full professor at the University of Hartford.

**Christopher Giomblanco '87 (BUS)** was named chief financial officer of Alienware, a subsidiary of Dell Corporation. He and his wife,

Cathy, reside in Weston, Fla. with their three children.

**Allen Jones '87 (ED)**, owner and chief executive officer of Dominion Physical Therapy & Associates Inc., in Newport News, Va., was appointed to serve a five-year term on the Virginia Port Authority's board of commissioners.



**Paul McCarthy '88 (CLAS)** was appointed senior associate director of athletics at the University of Connecticut after serving as University counsel in at the Office of the Attorney General. He lives with his wife, **Tina (Mirante) '89 (NUR)**, and their two sons and a daughter in Storrs.

**Andrew I. Schaffer '88 (CLAS)** and his wife, Hilary, announce the birth of their second child, Chloe Jena, born on March 17, 2006. He opened his own law practice in Hamden, Conn., focusing on family and matrimonial law.

## Taking comic art seriously

Like many, **Gene Kannenberg Jr. '02 Ph.D.** became an avid fan of comic books as a youngster when his youthful imagination came under the spell of superheroes such as *Spider-Man* and the *Fantastic Four*.

But for Kannenberg, the fascination with the graphic story turned into something quite different: he was still reading comic books as he earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in British and American literature at Marquette University. He was still reading comic books in 1991 when he arrived at UConn to begin doctoral studies in English.

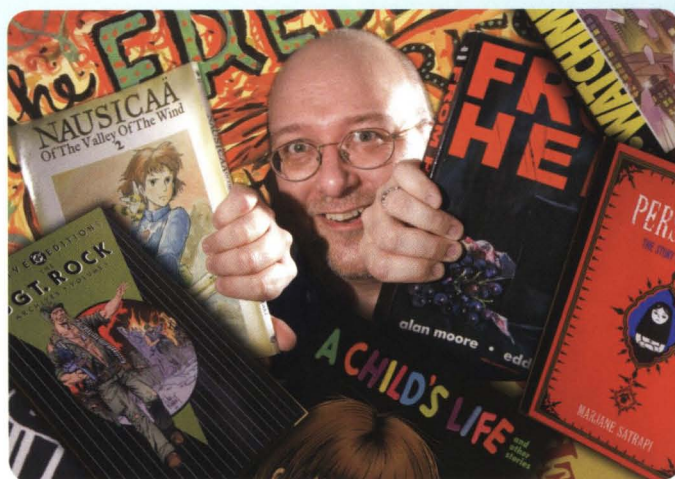
By then Kannenberg's literary tastes and his view of comics' place in popular culture had significantly evolved, especially after he discovered *RAW* magazine, a comics anthology edited by French artist-designer Françoise Mouly and Art Spiegelman, the legendary comics artist and writer whose graphic memoir, *Maus*, won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize. *RAW* introduced him to an entirely different way of looking at comics.

At UConn, he met a few other graduate students who helped to further develop his scholarly view of the genre, especially **Charles Hatfield '00 Ph.D.**, and he took classes that provided focus for his initial doctoral research on medieval studies.

"I became interested not just in the words, but in the materiality of the page," he recalls. "The old documents helped me to understand how the look of the page conveys meaning."

Kannenberg found a mentor in Thomas Roberts, emeritus professor of English, who taught a class on graphic novels and helped him to shape the ideas that would inform his doctoral dissertation.

"I looked at text and image, at how page design—text and image together—tell the story, how the eye gets led around the page," he says.



That synergy still fascinates him. After three years at the University of Houston-Downtown, he has settled in upstate New York with his wife, **Kathryn Laity '95 M.A., '03 Ph.D.**, a medievalist who teaches at the College of Saint Rose. They share a house with his immense collection of comic books and related literature.

Author of dozens of papers about comics, former chair of the International Comic Arts Festival, a lecturer in frequent demand and host of a scholarly Web site, ComicsResearch.org., he is currently writing a guide to "essential graphic novels."

Kannenberg is, by general consensus, one of the world's leading comics scholars, but he describes himself as "a guy who knows a lot about comics in general, and comics from around the world." — *Jim H. Smith*



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES



**Kaia L. Vayenas '88 (CLAS)** has been promoted to vice president of eCommerce at TD Banknorth, Inc., in Falmouth, Mass.

**Christina (Nielsen) Hall '89 (BUS)** and **Michael Hall '89 (CLAS)** welcomed their first child, daughter Caroline Helene, on Nov. 30, 2006.

**Kelley Hangos-Carrano '89 (SFA)** has returned to Connecticut with her husband and son after 10 years in North Carolina. She is continuing her graphic design business, Kellgraphics.

**Joseph Petrokaitis '89 (ENG)** and wife, **Gina (Paternastro) Petrokaitis '89 (BUS)**, announce the birth of a son, Joseph John Jr., on March 8, 2007. He joins sisters Julia and Gianna.

### 1990s

**Linda C. Cimme '90 (ED)** married Serges Yves LaRiviere on May 26, 2007. She is a physical therapist and the owner of Holistic Physical Therapy Specialist, LLC in Amherst, Mass. They live in Shutesbury.

**Kelly (Kirby) Shaw '90 (PHR)** and her husband, Joseph, announce the arrival of their daughter, Paige Sophia, born on May 2, 2007 in Boston.

**Anne Halloran Tortora '90 (SFA)**, a second-year doctoral student at The Hartt School of the University of Hartford, received a Gender and Ethnic Equity Scholarship from the College Band Directors National Association. She attended the Wind Conducting Symposium held at Florida International University in Miami and was selected to conduct in the final concert after attending the wind band conductors course in Sherborne, England, held by the British Association of Symphonic Bands.

**Jon Weisblatt '90 (SAH)** and his wife, Kathy, just completed their doctor of physical therapy degrees at Daemen College in Amherst, N.Y. Both work at Cape Cod Hospital.

**Asim Zaheer '90 (BUS)** joined SEPATON Inc. as vice president of marketing. He has more than 15 years experience in senior marketing positions in the storage industry, most recently working for Hitachi Data Systems.

**Joseph Coppola '91 (CLAS)**, a lieutenant of the Norwalk (Conn.) Fire Department, received the Fire Safety Commendation Award from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for saving the life of an electrician who had gone into cardiac arrest after being electrocuted.

**Geri (Blau) Fisher '91 (SFS)** and her husband, Keith, announce the birth of their daughter, Savannah Jaidyn, on March 19, 2007. Savannah joins a sister, Arianna Karolina, 2. Geri is a third-grade teacher in Rye Brook, N.Y. She received a master's in teaching from Sacred Heart University and a master's in literacy from Mercy College. The family lives in Carmel, N.Y.

**Kim (Fine) Jackson '91 (CLAS)** was promoted to curriculum specialist with the West Hartford, Conn., public schools.

**Matthew Paulsen '91 (CLAS)** is director of marketing for MDMC, one of South America's most prestigious destination management companies. He lives in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**Laura (Chapman) Rubbo '91 M.A.** and **Antonio Rubbo, Jr. '92 (ENG)** announce the birth of a daughter, Ava Victoria, on Feb. 2, 2007, who joins sister Sophia. The family lives in Pasadena, Calif.

**Ambrose Sharnick '91 M.D.** joined the Danbury (Conn.) Hospital department of anesthesiology. He had previously worked as an attending physician at Jordan Hospital in Plymouth, Mass. He lives in Newtown, Conn.

**Alison (Fine) Berks '92 (CLAS)** and her husband, Lance, announce the birth of a daughter, Mia Francine, on April 30, 2007. Mia joins brother Benjamin, 2. The family lives in Sydney, Australia.

**Mary (Sweeney) Crow '92 (BUS)** and her husband, Al, announce the birth of their daughter, Megan, on April 10, 2007. Megan joins a sister, Dana. Al and Mary operate a UPS store franchise in Buffalo Grove, Ill. They live in McHenry, Ill.

**Kate (Conway) Crowe '92 (CLAS)** and husband, Mark, announce the birth of a son, Thomas Michael, born on May 15, 2007, and named after his grandfathers Thomas Crowe and **Mike Conway '66 (CLAS)**. Tommy joins siblings Ashley, Paige and Mark Jr.

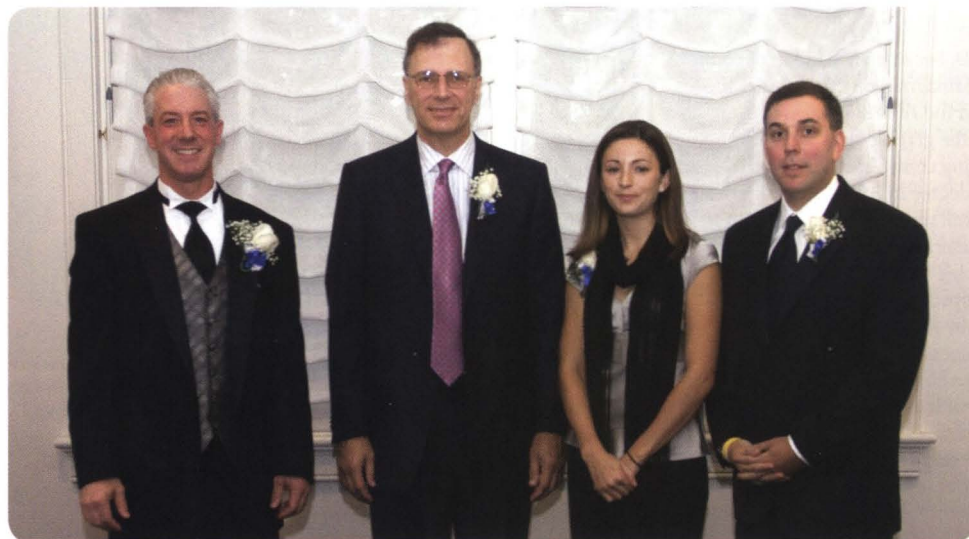
**Michael Depascale '92 (CLAS)** was promoted to technical manager at Yale University.



**Lisa M. Labenski '92 (BUS), '04 M.B.A.** was promoted to assistant controller for commercial engine business and operations at Pratt & Whitney.

**Ana (Mendes) Mabry '92 (CLAS)** and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a daughter, Sarah Caitlin, born on July 1, 2006, in Germantown, Tenn. Sarah joins a brother, Matthew.

**Shawn Szturma '92 (ENG)** and his wife announce the birth of a daughter, Annika Davon, born on May 4. She joins a sister, Katja.



JAMES KIMURA-GREEN

### 2007 Alumni Association awards presented

Four alumni were recognized for their professional achievements and service to UConn at the annual Alumni Association Gala on Oct. 20. From left: Kevin Bouley '80 (BUS), owner and president of Nerac, Inc., received the University Service Award; Allen Bennett '69 (CLAS), partner in Ropes & Gray, received the Distinguished Alumni Award; Lani Fortier '04 (ED), co-founder of CharityGlobal, received the Humanitarian Award; and Josh Dunn '92 (CLAS), vice president, wealth management at Smith Barney, received the Connecticut Alumni Service Award.



**Meredith Trotta '92 (CLAS)** and **Dan Parzych '93 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their son, George Trotta Parzych, on Sept. 13, 2006. George joins his sisters, Grace, 6, and Lily, 4. Meredith is the recruitment manager for Time Inc. in New York City. Dan is the vice president of analytics for Alliant Data in Brewster, N.Y. The family lives in Ridgefield, Conn.



**Laurie (Klopper) Warshawsky '92 (CLAS)** is a judicial attorney in the 8th District Court of Appeals in Cleveland,

Ohio. She is also a jewelry designer at Elle-a-Belle Designs. She started making jewelry while in law school 11 years ago and now has clients all over the world.

**Mark Austin '93 (ENG)**, an engineer for Bristol, Conn., was named a Fellow of the National Society of Professional Engineers. He is a member of the society's mentoring task force.

**Laura (Ducret) Botoff '93 M.S.** and her husband, Dan, announce the birth of a son, Dylan Irving, on April 22, 2007.

**Jean R. Homere '93 (ENG)** was appointed an administrative patent judge for the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences of the U.S. Patent Trademark Office.

**Marc Isikoff '93 (BUS)** and his wife, Kelly, announce the birth of their first child, Katrina, on April 29, 2006.

**Warren Strong '93 (CLAS)** is the new senior executive director of Capitol Ridge, a senior living community in Providence, R.I.

**Stephen Swett '93 M.B.A.** was named senior vice president of research by KBW for its new expansion into the equity real estate investment trust sector. KBW is the largest full-service investment bank specializing in the financial services sector.

**Marie Wacaser '93 (CLAS)** received a master's in library and information science from Syracuse University in December 2006.

**James Waldron '93 (CLAS)** was named regional vice president of business development for Infinity Property & Casualty Company. He lives in Wallingford, Conn., with his wife, **Kristina (Congo) Waldron '93 (ED)**, '94 M.A. and their two children, Drew and Grace.

**Ari Cohen '94 (BUS)** and his wife, Aliza, announce the birth of a daughter, Sage Hannah, on May 17, 2007. Sage joins brother Holden, 5, and sister Finley, 2. Ari was recently promoted to partner at the New York city office of Ernst & Young LLP.

**Timothy Crader '94 (BGS)** was promoted to vice president of global sales for EYP Mission Critical Facilities, a global 350-person engineering firm based in New York City. He received a doctoral degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix's School of Advanced Studies in June.

**Cynthia (Panek) Nick '94 (ED)**, '95 M.A. and **Joel Nick '89 (CLAS)**, '92 M.A. announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Hadley, on April 10, 2007. She joins big sister Alexandra, age 2. Cindy teaches mathematics at Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, Conn. Joel is the chairman of social studies at Lyman Hall and recently served as the Teacher-in-Residence for Social Studies for Connecticut. The family lives in Middlefield, Conn.

**Maureen Noonan '94 (SFA)** is a customer support specialist with Therap Services, based in Waterbury, Conn., and Bangladesh, a provider of online services for the developmental disability community.

**David E. Birkhahn '95 M.B.A.** was promoted to vice president in the tax credit group at TD Banknorth in Portland, Maine.

**Kandace Einbeck '95 Ph.D.** just returned to the U.S. after two years living in China, teaching German and English at Jiaotong University in Xi'an.

**Elizabeth (Wendling) Falcigno '95 (CLAS)** and Stephen Falcigno were married in April of 2007. Both are teachers and live in Cromwell, Conn.

**Christine Sedensky Fioritto '95 (CANR)** and husband, Chris, welcomed their third son, Christopher, on Feb. 15, 2007. Christopher joins big brothers James, 4, and Sean, 1.

**Beth Hatterman '95 M.A.** married Brian Gillin on Aug. 4, 2007. She is head of the English department at Stamford High School in Stamford, Conn., where the couple lives.

**Sally Ann (Williams) Lee '95 (CLAS)** and **Dylan T. Lee '96 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Colin Patrick, on Jan. 30, 2007. Colin joins his sister, Lauren Alexandra. Sally is a development associate at Middlesex Hospital, and Dylan is the engineering manager at PCC Structurals. The family lives in Old Saybrook, Conn.

**Kimberly (Norton) Smith '95 (CLAS)** and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of their second child, Gracelyn Kathleen, on March 10, 2007. Gracelyn joins sister Presley Helene, 2. Kimberly has been a juvenile probation officer in Connecticut for 12 years and received her M.B.A. from the University of New Haven in 2006. The family lives in Pawcatuck, Conn.

**Laura Williams '95 (SFA, ED)**, '98 M.M. is director of choral programs for children and youths for The Community Music School in Springfield, Mass.

**John Cross '96 (CLAS)**, '97 M.A. and wife, **Angela (Scalzo) '95 (CLAS)** welcomed daughter, Alexa Benette, in November of 2006. Alexa joins sisters Alison, 6, and Olivia, 4.

**Michael B. Davidson '96 (CLAS)** completed an endocrinology, diabetes, and metabolism fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. He will be joining the medical staff of Wentworth-Douglass Hospital in Dover, N.H.



**Sujit Ghosh '96 (CLAS) Ph.D.** was promoted to the rank of full professor with tenure in the department of statistics at North Carolina State University. He is also the founding member of the Bayesian Statistics Working Group.

## In Memoriam

### ALUMNI

Sydney Lewis '26

Armin A. Wehrle '37

Joyce Fraser Christianson '44

Dorothy (Bonadies) Calabrese '46

Peter John Gorecki '48

Richard Lee Gustafson '48

Sylvia (Spalter) Sable '48

J. Paul Levine '49

Daniel Spallone '49, '60

John R. Giller '50, '56

Alfred Birch '52

Marilyn Keefe Conlon Powers '53

Joseph O. Cogguillo, Jr. '54

Gov. Thomas J. Meskill '56

Gordon Bywaters '58

Leon J. Alechny '59

Brian V. Dewey '63

Harry Ooms '78

**Amy Kopchak '96 (BUS)** joined Flowery Beauty Products, Inc. as director of marketing. She previously was an associate product manager at Playtex Products, Inc. and the director of marketing at W.E. Bassett Company.

**Alicia (Ballenger) Marie '96 (CLAS)**, owns a fitness and nutrition consulting company called Project: BODY Fitness that conducts the "HotBody" fitness workshops. She was named *Ms. Muscle & Fitness Magazine* 2006, the first in the magazine's 60-year history. A former UConn cheerleader, she is also the fitness coach on MTV's *MADE* program.

**Sarah (Little) McDevitt '96 (SAH)** and her husband, **Paul McDevitt '97 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of a son, Connor, on Jan. 7, 2007. The family recently relocated to Connecticut from North Carolina.

**Donna Roy '96 (CLAS)** received an M.D. from Drexel University in May 2007. She will be doing her residency in internal medicine at Tufts-New England Medical Center.



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

**Daniel Albanese '97 (SAH)** and **Kim (Filip) '96 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a son, Tyler Jordan, born on Feb. 25, 2007, in Hartford, Conn.

**Adam Cormier '97 (CLAS)** is a managing supervisor with Fleishman-Hillard in Boston and the media market manager in Connecticut for the AT&T account. He lives in Uncasville, Conn., with wife, Pamela, and two children, Kaya, 3, and Jed, 2.

**Diane (McVeigh) Curci '97 (BUS)** and her husband, **Joseph Curci '96 (CLAS)**, announce the birth of their daughter, Alessandra Grace, born on April 30, 2007. They currently reside in Wolcott, Conn.

**Michael Donaleski '97 D.M.D.** was promoted to the rank of commander in the United States Public Health Service. He is the deputy chief dental officer at the Yakama Indian Health Center in Toppenish, Wash.

**Barbara Ginty '97 (SSW)** married Richard Smith. She is a social worker at Holyoke Medical Center in Holyoke, Mass.

**Jessica (La Brecque) Lengenfelder '97 (CLAS)** has purchased a second Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Glastonbury, Conn.

**John Pallof '97 (SAH)** married Lisa Belanger of Worcester, Mass., in September.

**Dana Pierce '97 (6th year)** was named principal of Booth Hill School in Trumbull, Conn., where he lives with his wife, Mary.

**Kimberly (Haggerty) Roy '97 (ED), '98 M.A.** and her husband, Philip, announce the birth of a son, Tyler William, on June 11, 2007. Kim is the graphics manager at M&M Marketing in Milford. The family resides in Orange, Conn.

**William Russell III '97 (ED), '98 M.A., '03 6th year** received the Outstanding Greek Alumnus award in April 2007. He is the chapter advisor to Pi Kappa Alpha, UConn's Iota Chi Chapter.

**Timothy Shriver '97 Ph.D.**, chairman of Special Olympics International, has been awarded the 2007 Lions Humanitarian Award, the highest accolade bestowed by the Lions Club International organization. Previous recipients include former President Jimmy Carter and Mother Teresa.



**Jennifer Wardwell '97 (CLAS)** is advancement officer for Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., after previously serving as the assistant athletics director for marketing and development.

**Abigail Carreno '98 (CANR)** graduated with a master's degree in biomedical sciences from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in May 2007, where she is currently employed.

**Nicole (Perras) Fuller '98 B.S.** and her husband, **Greg Fuller '97 (ED)**, announce the birth of their first child, Jackson, born June 15, 2007.



**Marisa Elana James '98 (CLAS)** was accepted to the H.L. Miller Cantorial School at the Jewish Theological

Seminary in New York and will begin her studies next year in Jerusalem.

**Corrie Balash Kerr '98 (CLAS)** and her husband, Bret, announce the birth of a daughter, Lily, on Aug. 1, 2007. Corrie is associate director of media relations at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn.



**Dana (Slifkin) McCreesh '98 M.B.A.** and her husband, Michael, received the 2007 Edward B. Kochan Award from the

Bridgeport Dental Association, which recognizes the efforts of people who work tirelessly to improve the world around them. They were honored for their work with TeamBrent, which funds children's cancer research.

**Renee (Iwaszkiewicz) Neiger '98 (CLAS)** and her husband, Ted, announce the birth of their son, Kristopher Marek, on March 7, 2007. He joins sister Izabella Lilia, 2. The family lives in Trumbull, Conn.

**Shannon (George) Phillips '98 (NUR)** and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their second daughter, Caroline Esther, on December 26, 2006. Caroline joins older sister, Julia.

**Marya McAndrew Baldwin '99 (CLAS)** and her husband, John, announce the birth of their son, John Everett on January 15, 2007. The family lives in Providence, R.I.

**Michael Banks '99 M.D.** is a co-founder of the Doctor's Channel, a Web site that allows doctors to learn from each other, featuring streaming video clips with insights and opinions from experts in 35 different specialties.



**Renee (Caggiano) Berman '99 (CLAS)** opened the Law Office of Renee C. Berman, LLC, in Hamden, Conn., specializing in

family and matrimonial law.

**Johanna (Spadory) Lucas '99 (CLAS)** and her husband, **Ted Lucas '00 (BUS)**, announce the birth of a son, Connor Hugh Theodore, on July 16, 2007. Johanna is a technical writer for an engineering company in Wallingford, Conn., and Ted is an accountant for a firm based in New Haven. The family lives in Meriden, Conn.

**Augustin Margary '99 (CANR)** is engaged to marry **Irene Checchin '00 (CANR)** in July 2008. He works as a property agent for the Connecticut Department of Transportation, and she is a seventh grade science teacher at Dodd Middle School in Cheshire, Conn. They live in West Haven.

**Lance Pylko '99 (ENG)** and his wife, Mairead, announce the birth of their son, Dylan, on June 11, 2007. The family lives in Middletown, Conn.

## 2000s

**John Christian '00 (CANR)** and **Stacey Atwood '02, '05 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Haley Mabel, on March 31, 2007.

**Timothy Johnson '00 (BUS)** has opened his own real estate investment brokerage company, Realty Asset Advisors, specializing in retail and multifamily investments, in Tampa, Fla. He was formerly a director at Marcus & Millichap.

**Stefanie Dion-Jones '00 (CLAS)** was named special projects editor in the office of University Communications in Storrs. She previously was a communications manager in executive and employee communications at The Hartford. She is pursuing a master of library science degree at Southern Connecticut State University.

**Daniel McCann '00 (BGS)** was recently promoted to director of labor and government relations for Halsted Communications.

**Joshua Sheehan '00 (CLAS)** received his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine. He is an internal medicine resident at Boston Medical Center and hopes to specialize in endocrinology.

**Erika Thompson '00 (SFA)** married **Troy Killam '99 (CLAS)** in July 2007. The couple lives in Stamford, Conn., where she manages Elements Yoga & Wellness Center.

**Antonette (Annie Casole) Tiberio '00 (BUS)** and her husband, **Rico Tiberio '05 (CLAS)** announce the birth of a daughter, Victoria Marie, on March 24, 2007. They live in Stamford, Conn.

**Jonathan Way '00 (CANR)** has been studying social habits of the Eastern coyote population of Boston and Cape Cod, Mass., for nine years. He has published several papers on the subject and co-authored *Suburban Howls* by Dog Ear Publishing.

**Gary Gianette '01 (CANR), '05 M.S.** completed Ride for Your Life, a 50-day, 50-state bicycling effort to



raise funds for cancer. The effort was part of his company, Healthy Altitudes, which promotes health and supports cancer patients.

**Catherine Holahan '01 J.D.** and **Christopher Murphy '01 J.D.** were married in Lakeville, Conn. She is a lawyer with Connecticut Legal Services in New Britain, Conn., specializing in child advocacy law representing low-income children. He represents Connecticut's Fifth District in Congress.



**Michael Jordan '01 (BUS), '02 M.S.,** a tax manager for Blum Shapiro in West Hartford, Conn., was appointed as a

member of the advisory council for The Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Patrick Glaser '02 (CLAS), '04 M.P.A., M.A.** is engaged to marry **Gillian Angliss '03 (CANR)**. He is the director of the Council for Marketing and Opinion Research, and she is scheduled to graduate from Cornell Veterinary School in 2007.

**Elizabeth (Radovich) Mayne '02 (ED)** married Christopher Mayne in April 2005. They have a son, Benjamin Walker, born in 2006, and a daughter, Charlotte Anne, born in 2007. Elizabeth is head lifeguard for the parks and recreation department in Cheshire, Conn. The family lives in East Haven, Conn.

**Emily Trombley '02 (SFS)** married **David Baffaro '99 (BUS)** in August 2007. They reside in West Hartford, Conn.

**Bonnie Durgin '03 (CLAS)** teaches second grade at Marjorie H. Dunbar School in South Bronx, N.Y., and is part of Teach for America, a four-year program designed to bring teachers to low-income districts.

**Megan Lilliedahl '03 (CLAS)** is a first-grade teacher with East Elementary School in New Canaan, Conn.

**Peter J. Murphy '03 J.D.** and his wife, Becki, announce the birth of their son, Brendan Emmett, on August 9, 2007. Brendan joins his sisters, Brynn, 4, and Megan, 2.

**Kerry Orshal '03 (CLAS)** has joined the English department at The Williams School in New London, Conn.

**Nicole Schmitt '03 (CLAS)** received a master's degree in public health from the Boston University School of Public Health.

**Jennifer Babulsky '04 (CLAS)** married David Ritter Pencek on June 16, 2007. She is associate publications editor at the Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State University.

**Sarah McCabe '04 (PHR), '06 Ph.D.** is engaged to be married to **Timothy Thompson '02 (ENG)** in September 2008.

**Kelly Reopelle '04 (CLAS)** and **John Paul Demko '03 (CLAS)** are engaged to be married in December 2008. She is a media assets coordinator at ESPN and he is president of sales for Specialty Transport Solutions International.

**Mark Williams '04 (SFA) M.F.A.** was chosen by the internationally known artist Sol LeWitt to participate in the Connecticut Contemporary exhibition earlier this year at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford.



**Maria Conlon '05 (CLAS)** has joined Barnum Financial as a financial services representative. Last year she assisted in

coaching the Southern Connecticut State University women's basketball team to win the Division II national championship.

**Karen Hatem '05 (NUR)** is a nurse and supervisor at a nursing home in Putnam, Conn.

**Jennifer O'Leary '05 (SFA),** a program director at the Winchester (Mass.) Youth Center, received her master's with a focus in

leadership through the arts from Lesley University, Cambridge, Mass.

**Brian Mackey '05 (CLAS)** was named national recruitment manager for GEI Consultants, Inc., a mid-sized engineering consulting firm based out of Woburn, Mass.

**Melissa Miller '05 (SFS)** earned a master's degree in clinical psychology from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

**Joshua Proulx '05 (CLAS)** was promoted to complex coordinator for the office of residential life at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I. He received his master's in political science and international relations in September 2006 from Suffolk University.

**Nicole Snyder '05 Ph.D.** is an assistant professor of chemistry at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y.

**Tanya Rzekniewicz '05 (SSW)** is engaged to marry Erik Abram in the summer of 2008. She works at United Community and Family Services in Norwich, Conn.

**Morgan Valley '05 (CLAS)** was named assistant coach for the women's basketball team at the University of New Hampshire.

**Bambi Billman '06 M.A.** is engaged to be married to **Matthew Mroz '99 (CLAS)**. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in French at UConn, where she teaches undergraduate language courses. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in English at UConn, where he is an assistant director of the freshman English program.

**Bart Lorancaitis '06 (BUS)** was sworn in as a police officer in Newton, Conn.

**Paul Marcley '06 (BGS)** is the senior computer specialist for a pharmaceutical advertising agency in New York City. In addition to a full-time career, he continues to grow the client base of his IT consulting company, PGM Computer Networks. He lives in the Forest Hills section of Queens, N.Y.

**Mikki Meadows-Oliver '06 Ph.D.,** a nurse practitioner in Yale-New



Haven Hospital's Lead Program, received the distinguished Mary E. Mahoney Award for Excellence from the

Southern Connecticut Black Nurses Association. She serves as an assistant professor at Yale School of Nursing and works with the Adopt-a-Doc program. She mentors in the New Haven public school system and volunteers at the soup kitchen and child care centers. She lives in Hamden, Conn., with her husband, Philip, and her children, Philip J. and Melina Oliver.

**Matthew Will '06 (CLAS)** biked across the United State to raise awareness for autism. He started in Phoenix and headed west to Laguna Beach, Calif., before turning east and ending in Stone Harbor, N.J.

**Rebecca Lussier '07 (ENG)** is engaged to marry **Daniel Rossi '03 (BUS)** in the summer of 2009. She is pursuing certification at the Newington Certificate Program in Prosthetics in Newington, Conn. He is a financial analyst at Sikorsky Aircraft Co. in Stratford, Conn., and is pursuing a M.B.A. at the Stern School of Business at New York University.

**Michael Ruwet '07 (BUS)** is pursuing his M.B.A. at UConn and works for Deloitte & Touche. He is the son of **Robin Ruwet '76 (BUS)** and **David Ruwet '75 (BUS)**.

*Alumni News & Notes compiled by Debra Cray and Tina Modzelewski*



**NEW LEADER** *Continued from page 25*

revenue for us and growth for the state. We have an interest in helping the state grow economically, and we'll share in the 25 benefit of that growth. UConn attracts high-achieving students and educates, motivates and prepares them to enter the professional positions that stimulate Connecticut's economy. We also support the state economy by commercializing intellectual property we cultivate or in

**SCOTT COWEN** *Continued from page 33*

The effort to rebuild Tulane's undergraduate enrollment to pre-Katrina levels is also paying dividends. Students were helped by continuing their studies at universities such as UConn and the free, seven-week summer session in 2006 that Tulane offered to students enrolled during the entire 2005-06 year. By the fall 2010 semester, Retif says, enrollment is expected to be back on track to previous levels.

"Clearly a lot of factors are involved in restoring our enrollment, but Scott is an extraordinary salesman," Retif says, recalling a mother who earlier this year sent Cowen an e-mail expressing indecision on whether her daughter should go to New Orleans. Cowen called her that night. The student enrolled in the fall.

Cowen says the Katrina situation taught him and his staff some enduring lessons about the university's capabilities, its relationship to the people of New Orleans and the commitment of the Tulane community. Asked what he learned about himself from the crisis, he says, "I give a lot of credit to our team. I happen to be their voice. We kept calm, focused, hopeful and wouldn't quit. That gives you a lot of confidence.

"After you've been through that, there's not too much people can throw at you that will get you rattled," he adds. "I think you always ask yourself if you were really tested with a crisis if you could meet the challenge or not. Historians will say whether I did or didn't. I did the best I could."

collaboration with groups in the commercial sector who can take what we have developed and start new businesses.

*Diversity on campus has been a priority in your previous positions. How will your leadership at UConn reflect that?*

It is going to expand, I promise you that. If we do not more fully immerse our students in diversity, we're not educating them to live in the 21st century. We've done a very good job at UConn, particularly promoting diversity among students. We haven't been as fortunate in diversifying the faculty ranks. That will be part of the new academic strategic plan. I'll be looking at ways to increase diversity in faculty, and we're going to have benchmarks toward progress. We're going to assess our progress annually and move resources to support our goals.

*You are a globalization advocate. Is there a need to rethink higher education, particularly undergraduate preparation, in the context of a global age?*

Our students, whether they stay in Connecticut or not, will be working in a global economy. As such, we must prepare them. Their lives, their professional careers, will be impacted by developments all over the world—whether it's war, oil shortages, migration flows, the rapid movement of money and currency or the development of multinational corporations—that's just part of globalization. That's why educational institutions have to be interested in globalization, in internationalizing curriculum and in the issue of diversity.

But this question gives me an opportunity to raise a related and important, even controversial, issue which is that the era of abundance in higher education is behind us. In the new world, the future belongs to public universities that do two things—find sources of revenue to supplement what they're receiving from the state and, second, are guided by three very important words—focus, focus, focus. The future belongs to universities that establish

academic priorities and invest strategically in those areas. We need to have a strategic plan and an academic focus that identifies our key priorities, and we have to mobilize resources to support the success of those programs. This does not mean that you are shortchanging other efforts. But it does mean you are making difficult strategic choices that have to be made in an era of scarce resources.

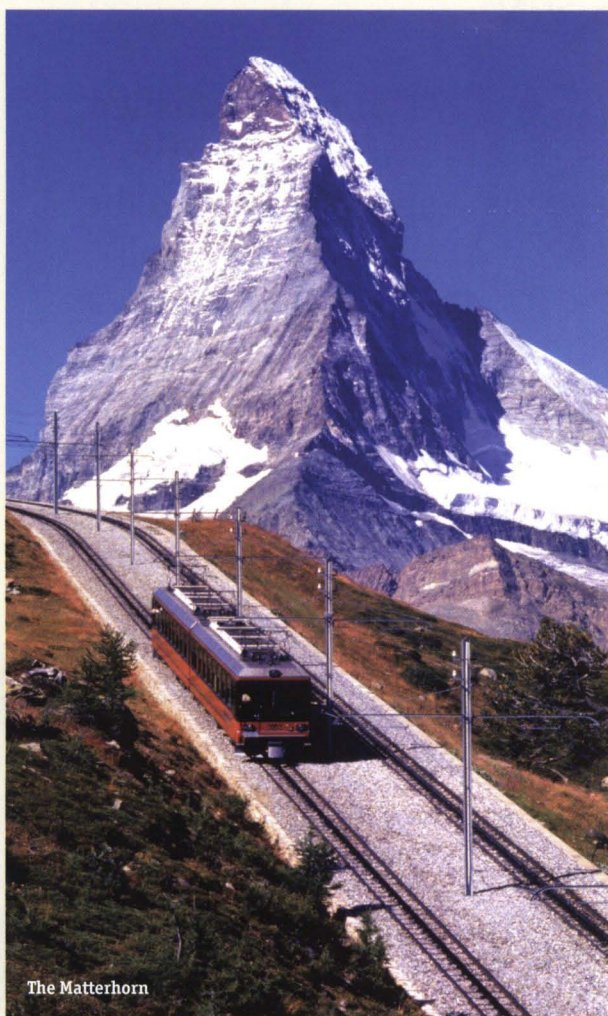
*With health care as a major part of the economy and as a national concern, what special issues will be faced by the UConn Health Center?*

The UConn Health Center is a significant advantage to the University. The Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine and the basic science programs at the Health Center are the source of about half of the sponsored research dollars that come into the University. The clinical activities also are crucial to innovation on the educational side, as well as to the future of translational research. In short, the health and well-being of the medical school, dental school and John Dempsey Hospital are very important to me and to the future of the University and the state of Connecticut.

*Any final thoughts for our readers?*

The further we go up in the rankings, the more value we bring to the state of Connecticut and to the students who come through our doors. This is not about me as president. This is about the big-shouldered mission of the University to serve the state and the citizens of Connecticut by promoting its social, cultural and economic well-being and graduating generation after generation of educated citizens who will make contributions throughout our state, all over the country and the world. That's something to be proud of. In the short time I have been at UConn, I've listened carefully to many of our students, faculty and staff, alumni, donors and state leaders. It is clear to me that Connecticut residents appreciate what we're doing at UConn, and I am confident that our friends and alumni will help us move forward.





The Matterhorn

## FEATURED JOURNEY

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Explore cultural and scenic treasures from the Swiss Alps to the North Sea. Begin in Switzerland, with two nights in the beautiful lakeside town of Lucerne and two nights in the pristine alpine resort of Zermatt, beneath the Matterhorn. Experience the Alps on Europe's most spectacular rail journeys—the Mt. Pilatus Railway, the Glacier Express and the Gornergrat Bahn. Visit Montreaux and Gruyère before boarding the deluxe *M.S. Amadeus Princess* for a five-night voyage down the Rhine River through France, Germany and Holland to Amsterdam.

## LEGENDS OF THE NILE

February 13-23, 2008

The essence of Egypt is yours to discover on a spectacular 11-day trip into the very heart of the ancient land of the pharaohs. Journey through a land unlike any other in a style and comfort Cleopatra could have only dreamed about.

## PERU

March 13-20, 2008

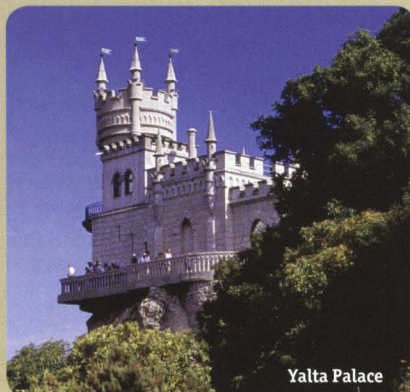
From the magical, once lost city of Machu Picchu to cosmopolitan and historic Lima, Peru's many moods display as much diversity as the ancient and modern cultures that have shaped this extraordinary country.

## PARIS TO PRAGUE

April 24-May 6, 2008

Two nights in Paris and two nights in Prague frame a scenic seven-night river cruise on the Moselle, the Rhine and the Main, gliding past vineyard-clad

hillsides and villages in the most famous wine-producing regions of the world.



Yalta Palace

## TREASURES OF JAPAN

May 19-29, 2008

Japan is a land of contrasts, from the incessant hum of fast-paced, high-tech city life to the serenity of sculpted gardens or the practice of tranquil traditions. Experience the scenic natural beauty of Mount Fuji, elegant shrines and temples, and then steam your stress away over a tiny pot of tea.



Japan

## WATCH FOR DETAILS ON:

### VENICE TO ROME

September 2008

Croatia, Montenegro, Corfu-Greece, Sicily, Capri, Ponza.

## AROUND THE WORLD BY PRIVATE JET

February 2009

For information on all UConn Alumni Association travel opportunities, call toll-free 1-888-UC-ALUM-1 (1-800-822-5861) or visit our Web site at [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com)

## UKRAINE

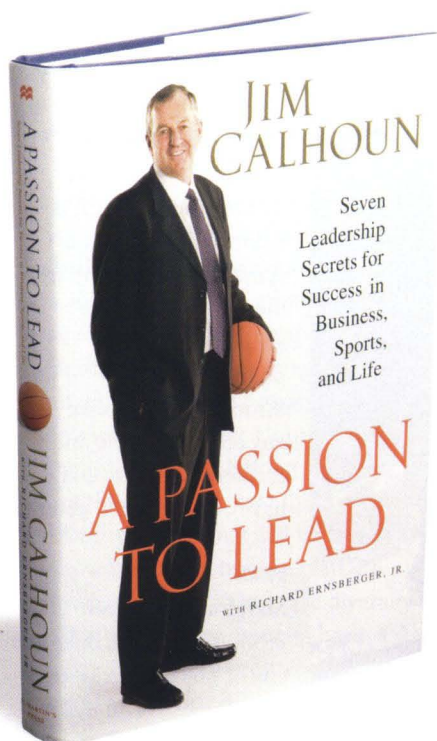
June 24 - July 7, 2008

Explore the glittering domes of Kiev before sailing the fabled Dnieper. Visit Caves Monastery and Zaporizhia, the cultural home of the Cossacks. Enjoy Yalta and Livadia Palace and admire elegant Odessa, the Pearl of the Black Sea, and more. Disembark in Tulcea, Romania and transfer to Bucharest, where stunning architecture and romantic squares await.



### A Passion To Lead

As head coach of the UConn men's basketball team since 1986, Jim Calhoun has led the Huskies to 14 NCAA tournaments and two national championships. He is among the top five active Division I coaches with at least 750 career wins. In 2005 he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and in 2006 named a member of the Foundation Class of the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame. He received the Honorary Alumni Award from the UConn Alumni Association in 2005. His new book is *A Passion To Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports and Life*, published by St. Martin's Press.



"I'm never satisfied. You never hear anybody around the UConn basketball program use the word 'content.'"

—Jim Calhoun

#### By Jim Calhoun

Good leaders aren't just passionate. They're also good at spreading their zeal down through the organization—from the board room to the senior executives, then to senior, middle and junior managers, and eventually to the rank and file. Look at Microsoft: Bill Gates was always obsessed with the success of his company. He's got an almost manic desire to win. Steve Ballmer, Microsoft's CEO, who has worked with Gates almost from the beginning, is the same way. Can you imagine anyone taking over from Gates as the company's day-to-day leader who isn't fanatical about kicking the competition?

And just about everybody at Microsoft is the same way: They're all true believers. They've bought wholeheartedly into Gates' vision for Microsoft and products the company develops. Google employees are the same way. So are Apple Computer employees—they share Steve Jobs' passion for technology and innovation. Result: the iPod and Pixar movies, two of the biggest commercial success stories of the last decade.

Jack Welch, whom I've met a couple of times, was a passionate and demanding guy when he led General Electric. The people who worked for him said that they never felt like they pleased him. So they always tried to do more. Welch was very good at getting the people who ran his operating units motivated to reach specific financial targets—revenues, return on investment, a cost cut—and once it was achieved, he'd downplay the accomplishment and set the bars a little higher, sometimes a lot higher. Failure was not an option. My coaching philosophy is very much the same, though I don't think about it consciously.

I'm never satisfied. You never hear anybody around the UConn basketball program use the word "content." Do we feel good when we win a big game or tournament? Sure. We celebrate every win, but we also recognize, always, that there is more to do. And I make sure everybody knows it. There is always room for improvement. I've never known a player or team that couldn't get better—and that holds true for some of the All-Americans

we've had and some of the national championship teams. The same applies to me: I can always be a better coach.

So if you want to be a leader, and a success, find your passion.

After the passion comes everything else. You set the strategic goals, build a management team, identify and implement effective tactics, and search for competitive advantages. In other words, after the passion comes the hard work and the details. All the titles and victories that we've achieved have been wonderful. But they're not why I've been a college coach since 1972. I coach because I love the game of basketball; because I love teaching and leading young men; and because I love competing and testing my coaching skills—and above all, my passion for winning—against others.

*Reprinted from A Passion To Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports, and Life, by Jim Calhoun with Richard Ernsberger, Jr. ©2007 Reprinted by permission of St. Martin's Press, New York.*

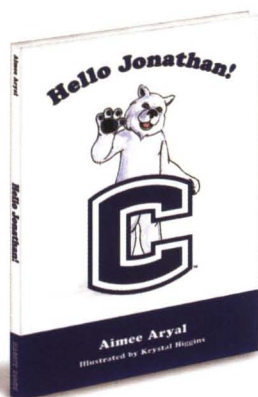
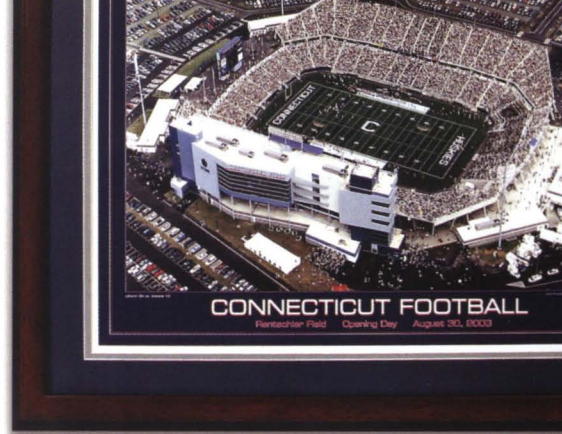


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# Homecoming Husky

**T**he show stopper highlighting the 2007 Homecoming Parade was the introduction of the 35-foot long Jonathan balloon. Sponsored by the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG), the balloon was proudly guided by 12 SUBOG members (student volunteers), as it moved along the parade route through the center of campus down Hillside Road and past Gampel Pavilion.

PETER MORENUS

