

# UConn

TRADITIONS

Summer  
2000

A group of 14 UConn women's basketball players posing on the steps of a building. They are arranged in four rows, with some standing and some sitting or kneeling. They are wearing dark jackets and light-colored pants. The building has large windows and a brick facade.

**Simply The Best**  
2000 NCAA Women's Basketball Champs

# Homecoming 2000 October 28



## Huskies in Paradise

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UConn Traditions  
Volume 1, Number 2  
Summer 2000

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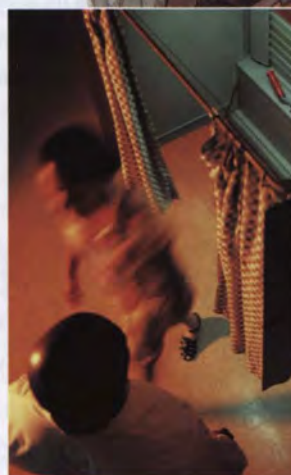
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## A Message from the Editor

### STANDING ON PRINCIPLE

**T**he premiere issue of *UConn Traditions* garnered much praise, for which all of us who work on the publication are grateful, especially the comments readers have shared with us. It is no stretch of the imagination to say that we all breathed a collective sigh of relief, even as we took a little pride in our new publication.

We received several messages about "The Measure of Character," the article on Alfred Rogers and the successful campaign of the UConn chapter of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity to change the segregationist policies of Phi Ep's national organization. Two letters in particular stood out because they reported that the brothers of Phi Ep weren't the only fraternities at UConn to take a similar stand.

N.C. Heilman '44 (ENG) wrote to say that the UConn chapter of Sigma Nu stood up to its national organization during the 1940s. The chapter was founded as Eta Lambda Sigma fraternity, or the "X" house, in Storrs in 1941, and affiliated with the national fraternity Sigma Nu in 1942. As the UConn chapter of Sigma Nu, Heilman wrote, the fraternity pledged an African American. When their charter was revoked as a result, Heilman continued, "We became the X house again and were very proud of our own high standards of morality."

James E. Peck '64 (CLAS), '67 M.A. was president of the UConn chapter of Theta Xi fraternity in 1963 when the chapter decided to pledge Charles H. Smith Jr. '67 (ENG), an African American and Andrew G. Yuen '67 (BUS), an Asian American, against the wishes of its national organization. "Our chapter debated our choices and decided to proceed, even if it meant being expelled from the national fraternity. The national office backed down, Peck wrote, adding, "While I enjoyed the notion all these years that ours was the first fraternity to include minorities at UConn, my hat is off to the brothers of Phi Ep for their decency, convictions and courage."

Our hats are off to N.C. Heilman, James E. Peck, and their fraternity brothers for the measure of *their* character. —**Gary E. Frank**

### ON THE COVER

1. Christine Rigby '01 (CLAS)
2. Sue Bird '02 (CLAS)
3. Paige Sauer '00 (CLAS)
4. Swin Cash '02 (CLAS)
5. Shea Ralph '01 (SAH)
6. Svetlana Abrosimova '01 (BUS)
7. Kelly Schumacher '01 (CLAS)
8. Stacy Hansmeyer '00 (CLAS)
9. Keirsten Walters '02 (CLAS)
10. Marcy Czel '01 (CLAS)
11. Kennitra Johnson '03 (ED)
12. Asjha Jones '02 (SAH)
13. Tamika Williams '02 (CLAS)



Cover Photo: Al Ferreira

## UConn TRADITIONS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2 • SUMMER 2000

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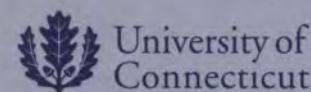
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Want to keep up with news and events at the University? News releases, upcoming events and activities are posted on the World Wide Web at [www.uconn.edu](http://www.uconn.edu).



# President

## Universities promote positive change

As I looked at the list of articles slated for this issue of *UConn Traditions*, I found myself contemplating something we too often take for granted: the enormous capacity major universities have to promote positive change throughout American society.

debate focuses almost entirely on details of implementation—and we can all be proud that our own university has been a leader in translating the promise of Title IX—the federal law prohibiting gender discrimination in education—into reality.

at the heart of American society. Sometimes the debate is enlightening, sometimes it is angry, but often it is the first step toward essential change. It is hard to think of any major conflict of the past two or three generations that was not fought in part on university campuses.

During the 1999-2000 academic year, we saw a resurgence of student activism, and I think this is welcome.

**“We saw a resurgence of student activism, and I think this is welcome.”**

At UConn, students have mobilized to fight against sweatshop labor overseas, are fighting racism, sex discrimination and anti-gay bias on multiple fronts, and are, increasingly, devoting their time and energy in voluntary efforts directed at social, environmental and economic problems. The rise of activism gives administrators special challenges, not least of which is trying to assure that debate is civil and that opposing views can be heard. But it also makes the campus a more lively, stimulating, and intellectually enriching place, and enhances the educational experience dramatically.

UConn alumni can take pride in their alma mater's role as a center of independent thought and a force for positive change. It is part of our tradition, and it is part of our continuing mission as a great public university.

*Philip Austin*



President Philip E. Austin discusses campus issues with a group of students in his office.

Sometimes the changes are so necessary and so obviously overdue that in a matter of a few years they become woven into the fabric of our national life to the extent that it amazes college-age students that there was any controversy about them in the first place. The picture on the cover of this magazine celebrates UConn's women's basketball NCAA championship. I was happy to be among the thousands of fans who cheered our team's victory in Philadelphia, and I was gratified to learn that over a million households tuned in to the game on ESPN. Yet just a few years ago the concept of equal opportunity for women in athletics was a hotly debated topic; now, the

Among the other articles are pieces about UConn faculty, staff and students who are helping restructure agriculture in El Salvador, chronicling the horrors of the 19th century slave trade, and addressing issues of substance abuse. As any major institution of higher education should, the University of Connecticut is putting its resources to work not just to meet compelling needs, but to create a more just and humane world.

But there is another, equally important sense in which universities play a vital social role. Those of us who attended college in the 1960s—or in the 1930s—know well that centers of higher learning also can be centers of intense debate over issues that strike



## Letters

### First issue a winner!

As a graduate of Hofstra University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I am extremely proud to receive the alumni material they send out. With this latest issue of *[UConn] Traditions*, I can say the same thing about UConn. It was a wonderful publication in both content and style. You should be very proud of your accomplishment.

—Andrew J. Rosman, Ph.D., CPA  
Director, M.S. in Accounting and  
Internship Programs  
University of Connecticut

Outstanding production! I've always enjoyed *[UConn] Traditions*, and I like it even more now. Thank you and your staff for the terrific effort.

—Donna J. Burrill '78 (CANR)  
djb@columbia.cc

I really enjoyed *UConn Traditions*, especially Jim H. Smith's article "The Measure of Character." The magazine is a breath of fresh air.

—Al Berkowitz '56  
Bigalb32m@charter-ne.com

As a journalist, and as one married to an editor of several academic publications over the years—I've been waiting and waiting for



UConn to put out a sleeker publication. I knew it would come sooner or later, and I've got to tell you, it's worth the wait.

—Julie Lipkin '80 (CLAS)  
Julon@gis.net

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the beautiful first issue of *UConn Traditions* that I recently received and have read from cover to cover. It brought the excitement and progress of UConn right into my home. I felt very close again to the place where I spent the happiest years of my life.

I'm glad I graduated in 1953. Today's students are head and shoulders above me and my fellow classmates. It's always a delight to follow, and more recently, to see UConn sports teams on TV. In particular, the men's and women's basketball teams have obtained a lot of

media coverage here on the West Coast. It is a thrill to see them. Your publication has opened up all the other facets of the UConn experience and is a real delight.

I'm looking forward to the next publication. It can't arrive soon enough.

—Lawrence C. James '53 (BUS)  
Redding, Calif.

### J.A. Cameron, mentor and friend

I was saddened to notice the recent passing of faculty member J.A. Cameron. As a graduate of UConn, I spent countless hours/days/weeks in the research lab with Dr. Cameron. He was my faculty advisor as I completed an Honors Program thesis in microbiology. Aside from being my advisor, he was my mentor and a close friend. It is because of his zeal for physical fitness that I decided to take up jogging during my junior year. (To this day, I still jog three miles daily!) Although I had not spoken with him for a few years, I often found myself looking at my undergraduate thesis and thinking of him, wondering how he was doing and what he was up to. His presence will certainly be missed by all those whose lives he touched. I will always be grateful to him.

—Elliot Cazes, M.D. '86 (CLAS)  
eecazes@mindspring.com

### The measure of Al Rogers' character

As fellow officers of Northeast Utilities, I worked closely with Al Rogers for six or seven years. I thought I knew him well. A man of dignity, class, education, humor, personality, deep community service roots, highly regarded by his management team and employee group, and extremely well liked and respected by the greater Hartford business community. I knew all this about Al Rogers.

But as you reported the quote from the *Hartford Times* on December 28, 1950, "This decision to take a Negro student into a white national fraternity is possibly the first such occurrence in the more than 100-year-old history of American-Greek letter societies." I didn't know *that* about Al Rogers.

Everyone who follows UConn loves to say "We're Number One." This wonderful article brings new meaning to that slogan. Al, you are Number One.

Congratulations. *UConn Traditions*, on a wonderful story.

—Hugh MacKenzie  
President, Retail Business Group  
Northeast Utilities

#### Letters to the editor

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

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uconn.edu

## 'Never let your skill exceed your virtue'

More than 3,800 degrees were awarded during the University of Connecticut's 117th commencement in ceremonies at Storrs, Hartford and Farmington.

Speaking at the undergraduate ceremonies, U.S. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.) called for increased government support for public education. Dodd, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree, implored the graduates to support public education in any way they can and suggested they "tutor, mentor, coach, teach, join the PTA—do something, anything, to support our children."

About 2,800 bachelor's degrees were awarded during the ceremonies, held May 20 at Gampel Pavilion. Honorary degrees were awarded to Dodd; Lionel H.

Olmer '56 (CLAS), senior partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, an international law firm; Harvey Sadow '53 Ph.D., retired CEO of Boehringer Ingelheim Corp. and Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.; Sheila E. Widnall, a professor of aeronautics and astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and former secretary of the U.S. Air Force; and businessman-philanthropist Robert G. Burton.

At the Graduate School commencement, Rita R.

Colwell, the first woman director of the National Science Foundation told graduates, "You are the next generation of leaders, although it may not feel that way today. You have the new knowledge and the new skills."

The University awarded 752 master's degrees, 118 doctorates and 17 sixth-year certificates in education. An honorary doctor of laws was given to Jules B. LaPidus, president of the Council of Graduate Schools. Colwell received an honorary doctor of science degree.

During ceremonies at the School of Law, Harold Hongju Koh, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor, encouraged the more than 200 members of the School of Law Class of 2000 to use their degrees to make a difference in the world.

"Lawyers do matter. Good lawyers matter more," said Koh, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree. "To make that difference, you need ideas and energy." Quoting an old Korean saying, Koh also told the graduates, "Never let your skill exceed your virtue."

At the Health Center, the schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine awarded degrees to 83 new physicians and 44 new dentists. Forty-three graduates from the master's in public health program also received their degrees.

Commencement speaker Patch Adams, the West Virginia pediatrician who inspired the film "Patch Adams," urged graduates to concern themselves with "caring," not just in the sense of delivering medical care, but providing patients—and indeed everyone—with something more.

"Pour out that sweet human love into each and every human you meet," he said. "Your M.D. and D.M.D. degree is the ticket to hold the hand of the person next to you."



Peter Morenus



William Mercer

(Top) Harold Hongju Koh, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor receives an honorary degree from UConn President Philip E. Austin at the School of Law commencement. (Above left) Senator Chris Dodd called for increased federal support for public education during his address to the Class of 2000. (Above) A group of new graduates gathers after the undergraduate ceremonies at Storrs. (Left) Jocelyn Dunnack '00 (ED) reacts as she is acknowledged as a University Scholar.



Peter Morenus

## ARTSzine debuts on the World Wide Web

The School of Fine Arts has launched ARTSzine, a digital newsletter and online portal to the academic and public programs of the School. Alumni, friends, donors and benefactors of the School of Fine Arts, or the just-plain curious, can keep up-to-date with what's going on by logging on at [www.artszine.uconn.edu](http://www.artszine.uconn.edu).



Brennan Beer Gorman/Architects



## New football stadium approved

Opening game in August 2003

**T**he Connecticut General Assembly has approved funding for a football stadium in East Hartford. Construction of the 40,000-seat facility paves the way for the University of Connecticut to become a member of the Big East Football Conference. The stadium will be built and operated by the state of Connecticut on the former Rentschler Field, which was donated to the state by United Technologies Corp. Construction of the \$90.75 million stadium will begin in May 2001, with completion scheduled in time for an August 30, 2003 season opener against Rutgers University.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AND FACULTY

Peter Morenus



From left, University of Connecticut Alumni Association Executive Director John Feudo; Robert Rodin '77 (BUS), winner of the 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award; and Thomas G. Gutteridge, dean of the School of Business; during the Alumni Association's 2000 Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet.

**R**obert Rodin '77 (BUS), the chairman and chief executive officer of eConnections, received the University of Connecticut Alumni Association's 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award during festivities in May at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford. (A profile of Rodin appears on page 41.)

The Alumni Association's Connecticut Alumni Service Award went to Andrea B. Dennis-LaVigne, a veterinarian and former Alumni Association president. Philip Lodewick '66 (BUS), '67 M.B.A. and Christine Lodewick '67 M.S. were honored with the University Service Award. The president and chief executive officer of the Tradewell Corporation, Philip Lodewick is a former chairman of the University of Connecticut Foundation Board of Directors and a member of the UConn School of Business Board of Overseers. A speech pathologist, Christine Lodewick is a member of the steering committee of the Alumni Association's Women's Leadership Council. The Outstanding Young Alumni Award was given to Paul H. Patel '92, '96 M.B.A., the president and founder of G.P. Tradewinds Inc. Bryan K. Pollard '85 (CLAS) was also honored for his service as 1999-2000 president of the Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association bestowed its Distinguished Faculty Awards in a ceremony in April at the Lewis B. Rome Commons in Storrs. The honorees were William A. McEachern, Department of Economics, Faculty Excellence in Teaching—Undergraduate level; Nina R. Heller, School of Social Work, Faculty Excellence in Teaching—Graduate level; John A. Davis, Department of History, Faculty Excellence in Research; Robert K. Colwell, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Faculty Excellence in Research; and Ruth G. Millikan, Department of Philosophy, Distinguished Professorship.

## New chancellor appointed

**J**ohn D. Petersen has been named chancellor and provost for university affairs at the University of Connecticut. Petersen, who had previously been dean of the College of Science and a professor of chemistry at Wayne State University, assumed his new duties in June.

Petersen, 52, succeeds Mark Emmert, who is now chancellor of Louisiana State University.

"Dr. Petersen brings to UConn a strong record of achievement as a researcher, teacher and academic leader," said President Philip E. Austin in announcing Petersen's appointment. "I look forward to working with him on initiatives that will continue UConn's emergence as one of the best public universities in the nation. It is clear our search has produced a chancellor who offers a superb combination of commitment, experience and belief in the University of Connecticut's great potential."

Petersen said he was attracted to UConn because so many critical components are coming together to further the University's growth. "I am impressed with the increasing quality and quantity of students, the UCONN 2000 program, and the fact that UConn is one of only two public Carnegie Research I institutions in New England," he said.

Petersen served at Wayne State University for six years. Located in downtown Detroit, Mich., Wayne State has an enrollment of 31,000 and, like UConn, is a Carnegie Research I university. The Carnegie Foundation's classification of universities includes only 88 universities in the nation in the top category in terms of research.

A native of California, Petersen received a B.S. from California State University, Los Angeles, in 1970 and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1975. He served on the faculty at Kansas State University and later at Clemson University in South Carolina, where he rose to the rank of professor, served as associate dean for research in the College of Sciences from 1982 to 1987 and led the Department of Chemistry from 1990 to 1993.

**"Dr. Petersen brings to UConn a strong record of achievement as a researcher, teacher and academic leader."**

—President Philip E. Austin



Peter Morenus



## WATERBURY CAMPUS TO MOVE TO DOWNTOWN SITE

The University Board of Trustees has approved the relocation of the Waterbury regional campus to downtown Waterbury.

The move of the Waterbury campus to a new 80,000-square-foot, \$22 million building on East Main Street will take two to three years to complete, says Larry Schilling, University architect.

Renovating the current campus, which includes four houses, two classroom buildings and a library, would require at least \$10 million. The downtown site has room for expansion, as well as space for 90 parking spaces on site.

The new Waterbury campus also will be home to an undergraduate degree program in business and two new programs approved by the trustees that await the likely approval by the state Board of Governors for Higher Education. A master of science in technology management and a dual degree program combining the master of business administration and the master of science in accounting have been designed in response to new market demands in the fields of business and technology. The programs will be offered as part of the Tri-Campus (Waterbury, Hartford and Torrington) initiative, and at the Stamford and Storrs campuses.

The new programs will help the Waterbury campus grow from a current student body of 500 to 900 undergraduates, plus several hundred graduate students.



AP Photo/Chris Gardner

(Above) Dan Wilson '01 (CLAS), anchor runner for the UConn men's distance medley relay team, reacts as he crosses the finish line to win the College Men's Distance Medley Championship of America at the Penn Relays.

(Right) The men's ice hockey team defeated Iona 6-1 to win the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Tournament held at the UConn Ice Arena.



Bob Stowell

## A season of mighty deeds

**D**uring the 1999-2000 academic year, the University of Connecticut's 23 intercollegiate athletic programs set a new single-year victory standard, combining to win a record-setting 70.8 percent of all head-to-head competition.

UConn's intercollegiate programs compiled an overall record of 326-134-1. The 12 women's programs were 179-65 (73.4 percent), and the 11 men's programs were 147-69-1 (68 percent).

The highlight of the year was the crowning of the Connecticut women's basketball team as 2000 NCAA Division I National Champions. (See pages 24-25.) UConn's second national championship in women's basketball came on the heels of the men's basketball team's NCAA crown in 1999.

In 1999-2000, the UConn men's basketball team advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament, finishing with a final record of 25-10. The Huskies also posted three wins in as many days to advance to the Big East Tournament championship game and earned their 13th consecutive national post-season tournament berth.

The UConn men's ice hockey team defeated Iona 6-1 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Tournament held at the UConn Ice Arena. The Huskies won their first Division I league title in only their second year of NCAA hockey competition. UConn won eight of its last nine games, finishing with an overall record of 19-16-1.

The 1999-2000 UConn men's indoor track and field team posted a spotless

15-0 dual meet record and won the New England Indoor Track and Field Championship for the seventh consecutive year. UConn's distance medley relay team of Haven Barnes, Elliott Blount, Kevin Jensen and Dan Wilson earned All-America honors with a record-setting 9:33.85 performance at the NCAA Indoor Nationals.

During the outdoor season, the men's track team won the New England Outdoor Championship, held at Storrs. The distance medley relay team also won at the prestigious Penn Relays, upsetting perennial powerhouse Arkansas, which had won the event 13 of the past 17 years.

The 1999-2000 UConn women's indoor track and field team posted a 9-1 dual meet record and won the New England Indoor Track and Field Championship for the ninth time in the past 12 years. All-Americans Bethany Hart (hammer throw) and Tamika Toppin (high jump) used the spring season to qualify for both the NCAA Outdoor Nationals and the United States Olympic Trials. (For a complete rundown on the 1999-2000 Husky sports year, consult [www.uconnhuskies.com](http://www.uconnhuskies.com), the official Web site for University of Connecticut athletics.)

### Perkins named A.D. of the year

**UConn's Director of Athletics Lew Perkins has been named Athletic Director of the Year by *Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal*.**

Perkins was selected from among 25 athletic directors nationally who earlier had been named regional winners by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). The top award recognized Perkins' overall leadership during the past decade, and the successes enjoyed by the Division of Athletics during the 1999-2000 academic year. (See "A season of mighty deeds" above, and "New football stadium approved" on page 6.)

## Aetna Financial Services endows faculty chair

*\$2.7 million contribution also will establish center for financial services*



Peter Morenus

**A**etna Financial Services will contribute more than \$2.7 million to the School of Business. Combined with nearly \$1.3 million in state matching funds, the total value of Aetna's contribution will exceed \$4 million.

Aetna's gift will be used to endow a faculty chair and to establish the Aetna Center for Financial Services within the School of Business.

"Public research universities have a responsibility to contribute significantly to the economic progress of their state, region, and the nation," says President Philip E. Austin. "Aetna Financial Services' generous gift creates a wonderful partnership between a great university and a leader in Connecticut's business community, and I am enormously gratified by the confidence in our academic and research

**"Aetna Financial Services' generous gift creates a wonderful partnership between a great university and a leader in Connecticut's business community."**

—President Philip E. Austin

program signified by this support."

"The success of our business depends on understanding why, when, and how Americans save," says John Y. Kim, president of Aetna Financial Services-U.S. "The dangerously low savings rate is a critical social and public policy issue,

and we believe our partnership with the University of Connecticut can be part of the solution—a meaningful step toward improving Americans' ability and desire to save for their goals."

Part of the gift will be used to endow the Aetna Chair in Financial Services, a new faculty position in the School of Business. The University will soon begin a search for candidates, and expects to fill the position by fall 2001.

**Aetna Financial Services' President John Y. Kim believes partnership with UConn can help improve Americans' saving habits.**

The remainder of the gift will fund the creation of the Aetna Center for Financial Services.

The center will conduct research on long-term savings, investment, and income management, and will seek to influence relevant public policy debate. A financial services database will be created at the center that will be sustained by and made available to academic and corporate participants.

"Aetna Financial Services' investment in the school will provide interdisciplinary expertise on emerging issues in personal financial services," says Thomas G. Gutteridge, dean of the School of Business. "Aetna Financial Services has advanced to the forefront in this arena by partnering with UConn to establish a center of excellence in marketing and financial services."

## Kresge Foundation awards \$750K to School of Business

The Kresge Foundation has awarded a \$750,000 challenge grant to the University of Connecticut School of Business. The grant will help fund construction of the School's new building and provide incentives to expand the School's donor base during the upcoming capital campaign.

To receive the award, the School must raise a total of \$12 million in gifts toward its new building, endowment support of the new learning facility, as well as funds for faculty chairs, professorships, programs and scholarships. The School's fundraising efforts also must demonstrate an increase in overall alumni participation. All goals must be met by July 1, 2001 to be eligible for the grant.

"Business in the 21st century will face an increasingly complex environment of rapid change," says Thomas G. Gutteridge, dean of the School of Business. "The School of Business must continue to seek private investment in order to

provide the best learning environment for its students and support the research efforts of faculty, graduate and Ph.D. students, who seek to create knowledge that transfers to business practices."

A key factor in meeting the challenges and opportunities will be the construction of a state-of-the-art building. "The new School of Business building will serve as a symbol of UConn's progress in moving into the top ranks of America's best public business schools," says UConn President Philip E. Austin.

The 100,000-square-foot facility will be home to all five business departments: accounting, finance, management, marketing, and operation and information management, and include full-time undergraduate, M.B.A. and Ph.D. programs. It also will help to deliver course offerings from the Storrs campus to the University's five regional campuses. The new building will have two entrance atriums, a cafe, a 40-seat board room and a courtyard. The first two levels will house state-of-the-art classrooms, many of which will have teleconferencing and distance learning capabilities. Faculty and administrative offices will be located on the upper floors.

## FY 2000 a boom year for UConn Annual Fund

The University of Connecticut Annual Fund enjoyed its best year ever during fiscal year 2000. As of June 30, 27,467 UConn alumni, parents, and friends—up from 16,879 the previous year—made gifts totaling more than \$1.86 million, a 42 percent increase in support over fiscal year 1999.

"The successful growth both in participation and dollars raised is especially gratifying, since it reflects a vote of confidence from some of our closest friends—our alumni and parents," says Edward Allenby, vice president of institutional advancement.

The UConn Annual Fund, makes a significant difference in the lives of thousands of students at the University. The fund provides important support for a wide range of programs, including



Peter Morenus

Student workers staff the phones during the UConn Annual Fund's phone-a-thon, a year-round outreach program.

the University's Career Center, Learning Skills Lab, First Year Experience, and Study Year Abroad. The Annual Fund also provides merit and need-based assistance to students, purchases special library collections and other

resources, and supports academic programs in each school and college of the University.

A key factor in the Annual Fund's success is the phone-a-thon, a year-round outreach effort that contributed more than \$750,000 during fiscal year 2000. Shawn Fisher '91 (BUS), who works at Aetna Inc. in Hartford, says he appreciates the call each year because it helps him connect with what's going on at UConn. It's a major reason why he renews his gift every year. "UConn graduates take great pride in their alma mater and rightfully so," says

Fisher, who also volunteers in the UConn Foundation's Corporate Matching Gift Program. "As our University continues to grow, contributing is a great way for people to express their pride."

## the Past

# Traditional fight song captures school spirit across generations

*But Fred Waring scored first with 'The Connecticut Husky'*

**Y**ou hear it on ESPN, CBS and Connecticut Public Television.

It's the "Husky Fight Song," also known as "UConn Husky," composed in the late 1940s by Herbert France, a professor of music.

But alumni who graduated before 1953 will remember another "Husky Song," the singing of which was said to be "an enjoyable part of all our athletic contests," according to the 1940 *Nutmeg* yearbook. That song was composed by radio star Fred Waring, who premiered it on his national radio program.

The Husky had been Connecticut's mascot since 1934, a year after Connecticut Agricultural College became Connecticut State College and the nickname Aggies no longer applied to our athletic teams. In the late summer of 1939, Fred Waring, known for his popular singing group, The Pennsylvanians, and for inventing the Waring Blendor, launched a new feature on his NBC radio show.

*The Connecticut Campus* reported on Oct. 24, 1939 that Waring received a letter from a Colby College student stating "that his school needed a new pep song." Waring presented the Colby song on the air, and offered to write more tunes and give them a send-off on his program. "He was immediately stormed with requests, and now new songs are an important part of his show."

One who took Waring up on his offer was Tom Leonard, a junior from Waterbury, Conn., and managing editor of *The Connecticut Campus*. Leonard asked Waring to compose a new song for "the U of C."

Waring premiered "The Connecticut Husky," the fifth in his series of college songs on November 24, 1939. About 30 students, faculty and alumni attended the live 7 p.m. broadcast of "Pleasure Time" in New York City.

For more than a decade, it was one of the leading songs at UConn. The words were published in the student handbook from 1940 until 1953. Then the song slipped into oblivion.

What took its place is the now familiar "UConn Husky," first printed in the handbook with the Waring tune in 1949. That handbook notes that "UConn has many songs, but there are really only three which you'll find sung at all rallies and football games. These are the fight song, 'Connecticut Husky' [the Waring tune], better known perhaps by its first line, 'On the Rolling Hills Beneath the Blue,' the driving 'UConn Husky' and the nostalgic 'Alma Mater.'"

France, who composed "UConn Husky," taught at the University from 1931 to 1960, when he retired. He died in 1971, and at the University's centennial in 1981, the France family gave the rights to the song to the University.

The current arrangement of France's "UConn Husky," as played by the UConn Marching Band, is an adaptation by David Maker, professor of music, of an earlier arrangement by Jerry Bilik. — Mark Roy '74 (CLAS)

Fred Waring, a popular 1930s vocal group leader and radio host, and Herbert France (below), a UConn professor of music, are both credited with writing Husky fight songs.



You can hear excerpts from Fred Waring's "The Connecticut Husky" and Herbert France's "UConn Husky" on the UConnWeb at: [www.advance.uconn.edu/o40599hs.htm](http://www.advance.uconn.edu/o40599hs.htm)

## School of Fine Arts

### New dean named

David G. Woods has been named dean of the School of Fine Arts. Woods comes to UConn from Indiana University, where he has served as dean of the School of Music since 1997. Woods succeeds Robert Gray, who died in June 1999. Gary English, a professor of dramatic arts, has served as interim dean of fine arts.

An expert in early childhood music education, Woods has published more than 40 books on the subject. He also has written many articles, and has presented workshops, lectures, and clinics throughout the United States, Europe, Australia and China. Woods is on the executive board of the National Association of Schools of Music, and is a member of the National Society of Arts and Letters.

"I'm excited about coming to UConn because of the spirit, the energy that's on the campus, whether it's

Peter Morenus



David G. Woods, dean  
of the School of Fine Arts

buildings or new programs or the excitement of the students," Woods says.

Woods was dean of Indiana University's music school since 1997. He served as dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma from 1991 to 1997 and was director of the School of Music at the University of Arizona from 1985 to 1991. From 1974 to 1984, he was chairman of the Division of Music Education at Iowa State University.

Woods received a bachelor of music degree from Washburn University in Topeka, Kan., in 1964. He earned a master of music and a Ph.D. in music education from Northwestern University, and did postgraduate work at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, and the Copenhagen Conservatory of Music.

## College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

### Helping small farmers flourish

Small-scale farmers in El Salvador stand to improve their productivity under a project creating farm management centers in the Central American nation. The centers are based on a model developed by UConn agricultural economists.

"Our ultimate goal is to increase the income of small farmers by helping them to diversify into higher value crops and to find markets for their products at fair prices," says Boris Bravo-Ureta (pictured above), a professor of agricultural and resource economics and principal investigator on the project.

The ROECA (Rural Organizations and Environmental Conservation Activity) project, is being implemented by a partnership between UConn and TechnoServe, an international consulting firm based in Norwalk, Conn.

The U.S. Agency for International Development recently awarded a \$682,000 grant to UConn to proceed with ROECA. The five-year project will involve other UConn programs, including the Office of International Affairs, Institute of Public Service International, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and the Environmental Research Institute.

El Salvador has experienced robust economic growth during the last several years, yet the growth has been concentrated in urban areas and has not reached the countryside,

Bravo-Ureta says. At the same time, small, impoverished farmers lack access to the many services needed for viable agricultural production.

To address that need, Bravo-Ureta developed a model to set up five rural farm management centers to increase the competitiveness of small farmers by easing their entry into a market economy.

UConn's contributions to the ROECA project include designing information systems, training center managers to use these systems, and conducting cost-benefit analysis of various crops to create business plans for individual farms. UConn also is developing written materials for training and for conducting applied research in the economics of agricultural production.

The Environmental Research Institute is examining the impact changes in farming practices might have on water and soil quality. TechnoServe is using its business-building expertise to help the centers generate enough revenues from their services to be self-supporting. The company also is recruiting and training the staff of the centers to ensure that farmers benefit from the new services and adopt sustainable, growth-oriented farming practices.

Bravo-Ureta says it is hoped that 15,000 Salvadoran farmers will be helped by the project within the next years. "Making peasant farmers profitable is the key to economic development in many emerging economies," he says.



William Mercer

## School of Law

### First woman dean appointed

Nell Jessup Newton has been named dean of the School of Law. She is the first woman dean in the history of the law school.

Newton, who had been dean of the University of Denver College of Law, assumed her new duties on August 1. She succeeds Hugh Macgill, who stepped down after 10 years.

"I am delighted that we were able to attract a legal educator of Nell Jessup Newton's caliber to our law school," says UConn President Philip E. Austin. "She brings an exceptional combination of vision, experience and national standing, and I am confident that she will be an excellent dean."

"The law school has had extremely stable and effective leadership, and is blessed with a faculty who excel both in teaching and scholarship," Newton says.

The School of Law, one of the top 20 public law schools in the nation, has an impressive student body and a loyal alumni following, she says. "I look forward to working to strengthen the ties between the law school and its alumni, and to build the law school's endowment to provide the resources the school will need to achieve its potential to become one of the top 10 public law schools in the nation," Newton says.

Newton, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, earned a J.D. with distinction from the University of California Hastings College of the Law, where she was managing editor of the law review. Prior to becoming dean at the University of Denver College of Law, she was on the law faculty at American University from 1992 to 1998 and Catholic University from 1976 to 1992.

She is the author of numerous papers on American Indian law, is the co-author of a textbook, *American Indian Law*, and is editor of a revision of the only treatise in the field, *The Handbook of Federal Indian Law*. Newton says she will continue her work on the handbook revision and hopes to establish a program in American Indian law at UConn.



Nell Jessup Newton, dean of the School of Law

Lanny Nagler

## School of Business

### Student-managed investment fund launched

Two select groups of UConn finance majors have been staked with \$1 million to trade stocks and bonds, and manage the new UConn Student Managed Investment Fund launched by the School of Business.



In launching the fund, UConn joins a select group of business schools who offer students the challenge of investing and managing real dollars. By allowing students to invest real money, educators say, schools gain an advantage in recruiting the most gifted students. Students, in turn, can tout real-life investing experience to prospective employers. The UConn

students executed their first stock buys in February and started building their portfolios, using \$500,000 provided by The University of Connecticut Foundation for the start-up phase. The Foundation is gradually adding another \$500,000 as the students gain experience managing the fund.

"Our goal is to provide students hands-on experience in security research, valuation of risky assets, asset allocation and portfolio management," says Chinmoy Ghosh, an associate professor of finance and the fund's faculty advisor.

Students must do all the required analysis for investing decisions, researching the investment information available in the University's libraries and on the World Wide Web, and using analytical software provided by the School of Business. The students make all final trading decisions, but no trades are allowed until full analysts' reports are reviewed by Ghosh at least 24 hours in advance.

The students meet weekly to share ideas with their fellow members, who vote on all stock sales and purchases. Each member has specific responsibilities for trading and preparing reports to the Foundation.

The students are answerable to the Foundation and a five-member investment advisory board, comprised of professional money managers who are School of Business alumni.

The students must report on their portfolio's performance to the advisory board, which has rules for selecting stock classes and the amount that can be invested in any particular class. The students are responsible for setting the price range for buying and the price triggers at which the fund will sell the stocks to take a profit or stem losses.

The students do not receive academic credit for participating in the Student Managed Investment Fund. Ghosh anticipates, however, that by the time the next group of managers is chosen, many more students will be competing to be chosen for the fund.

## School of Engineering

### *ERI-UTC collaboration develops new tool to clean contaminated soil*

Faculty affiliated with the School of Engineering's Environmental Research Institute, in collaboration with the United Technologies Research Center, have developed a new technique for removing dangerous chemical solvents from contaminated soil at industrial sites.

The technique, which uses a combination of potassium permanganate and sodium persulfate, was awarded a U.S. patent in February. The patent was awarded to George Hoag, professor of civil and environmental engineering and director of ERI; Pradeep Chheda, an assistant professor-in-residence with ERI; and Bernard Woody and Gregory Dobbs of UTC.

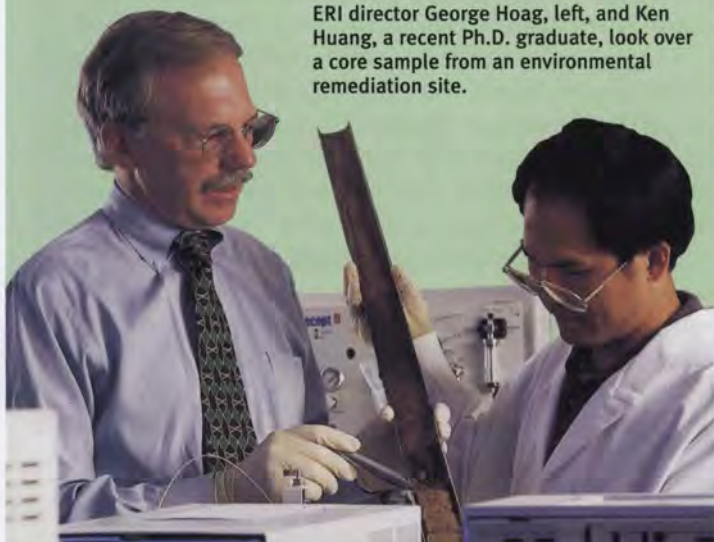
The work was conducted under ERI's Industrial Affiliates program—through which companies partner with ERI scientists to develop and commercialize key technologies—and with additional research contracts funded by UTC.

The collaboration was sparked by UTC's need to clean up a number of sites where soil and groundwater were contaminated with trichloroethylene, or TCE, a solvent commonly used to degrease industrial and military equipment, and in dry cleaning. TCE is suspected to be a carcinogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although UTC has reduced its use of solvents by 80 percent, the previously contaminated sites remain a challenge for cleanup.

The EPA has set a maximum concentration of five parts per billion as the acceptable level of human consumption. By comparison, one drop of human sweat in the average swimming pool is at a concentration of one part per million.

"This achievement is the culmination of a great deal of hard work between the UTC Research Center and the Environmental Research Institute," says Hoag. "Bringing the technology to a commercially viable state, with the promise of adding one more weapon in the war against environmental contaminants, is a wonderful reward."

ERI director George Hoag, left, and Ken Huang, a recent Ph.D. graduate, look over a core sample from an environmental remediation site.



William Mercer

## School of Pharmacy

### *Memorial scholarship fund honors alumnus*

Gerard "Jerry" Weitzman '61 (PHR) was well known for his philanthropy, as well as his success as a businessman. When the owner of Pelton's Drug Store and his wife, Esther "Babs" Weitzman, were killed in a car accident in 1999, those who knew the couple were determined to cherish their memory.

In keeping with that commitment, two of Weitzman's friends, classmates Samuel Kalmanowitz '60 (PHR) and David Roth '60 (PHR) among them, joined forces with Pelton's Drug Store and fellow alumnus Rick Carbray '75 (PHR), to create the Jerry and Babs Weitzman Memorial Scholarship, which will benefit students at the School of Pharmacy.

"One of Jerry's goals was to further the education of people who were interested in going into a career in pharmacy," says Kalmanowitz, owner of Kaye's Pharmacy in Meriden, Conn. "After this tragedy, we could not think of anything more fitting than to establish a scholarship in honor of Jerry and his wife."

More than \$90,000 has been pledged for the scholarship fund, and matching funds from the University will be added to that amount. A check was presented recently during Pelton's 200th anniversary, and the first recipients of the scholarship will be selected this fall.

After graduating from UConn, Weitzman joined his father in managing Pelton's in Middletown, the oldest pharmacy in Connecticut. He took over the business in 1972, and opened branches in East Hartford and Wethersfield. His community efforts were widely recognized, and he served on several boards and committees.

"Sam and I think about him every day," says Roth, who owns Apex Pharmacy and Home Care in Hamden, Conn. "But as close as we were, I didn't even know half of the things he was doing in the community. He was a leader, a very special guy."

Kalmanowitz says he is most excited that the UConn scholarship will allow people to remember the Weitzmans for years to come.

"If we were to have named a laboratory or bought a plaque, we doubted it would further his name for a long time," Kalmanowitz says. "This way, even people who didn't know him will remember him through this scholarship."



Jerry Weitzman '61 (PHR) as he appeared in the 1960 *Nutmeg* yearbook

## School of Medicine

### *Health Center awarded NIMH grant to study treatments for problem gamblers*

A UConn Health Center psychologist has been awarded the first National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH) grant to fund an organized study of treatment options for compulsive gambling.

"This marks a major breakthrough in our efforts to better understand pathological gambling and raise awareness about this addiction," says UConn Health Center psychologist Nancy Petry, Ph.D., principal investigator of the grant.

The five-year, \$1 million NIMH grant will allow Dr. Petry, a nationally recognized scholar in addiction research, to continue studying the efficacy of three options to treat problem gamblers. She started this project in 1998 with start-up funding from the Health Center and with assistance from the Compulsive Gambling Treatment Program in Middletown, Conn. With NIMH funding, Petry expects to enroll 220 participants, who will receive eight weeks of outpatient treatment, and follow-up treatment for one year.

"The NIMH funding will allow us to cast a wider net for participants and sustain this project at least another five years," Petry says.



She notes that an estimated five percent of the American population is addicted to gambling—at the race track, the slot machines and wherever lottery tickets are sold. Studies link these addictions with family problems, obvious financial woes and very high suicide rates, she said.

"Problem gambling has steadily increased following the spread of legalized gambling in the 1960s and the growing popularity of casinos in the last 10 years," Dr. Petry said. "This is a very real problem for men and women alike, including many seniors."

"People need to be able to recognize the signs of problem gambling. These include: difficulty stopping once they've started gambling, spending more money and time on gambling than intended, planning activities around gambling, hearing complaints from loved ones about gambling habits, and more," Petry says.

"They need to know where to turn for help," she adds. "Our study will help determine meaningful options to help people. With this funding, we hope to establish one of the world's premier sites for understanding and treating problem gamblers."

*For more information on the study, or to participate, call 860-679-2177.*

## School of Allied Health

### *Professor Ilich-Ernst earns plaudits*

Jasminka Ilich-Ernst, associate professor of dietetics at the School of Allied Health, is a well-known expert on bone health among the elderly and adolescents. Her research and public involvement in promoting osteoporosis awareness and education has garnered her many awards and accolades. She now has another award to add to the list.

The University of Utah, where Ilich-Ernst received her master's degree in nutrition, has given her its 2000 Outstanding Alumni Award. The award was presented to Ilich-Ernst earlier this year.

Ilich-Ernst has received other awards since arriving at UConn as well. In October of 1999, she received the Ross Award for her contributions to women's health, and also has received a \$180,000 grant from the Donaghue Medical Research Foundation to fund a three-year study on the effects of sodium intake on bones in postmenopausal women. Although calcium intake during adolescence is known to improve bone density, less is known about how to counter

the effects of a calcium-poor diet or excessive loss of calcium later in life, she says.

"Studies have shown that an increase in sodium causes more calcium to be excreted through the urine. My research is looking at whether that also has an adverse effect on bones," Ilich-Ernst says.

A self-described "bonehead," Ilich-Ernst has conducted extensive research on the causes and effects of osteoporosis, and has presented the findings of her research at national and international conferences. A key contact for the National Osteoporosis Foundation, she has participated in congressional hearings in Washington, D.C., and has testified to legislative committees in Ohio and Connecticut.

"Studying bones has been a lifelong area of interest for me," Ilich-Ernst says. "The deeper you dig in, the more questions you find that need to be answered."

Ilich-Ernst, who came to the United States from Bosnia in 1983, joined the UConn faculty in January 1998. A registered dietitian, she earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Sarajevo, and doctorate in medicinal sciences from the University of Zagreb and Ohio State University.

## School of Family Studies

### *Family Studies prof receives \$1 million NIH grant*

Robin Harwood, an associate professor of family studies, has received a \$1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study the impact of migration on the parenting practices and beliefs of immigrant families.

The three-year study will focus on Puerto Rican and Euro-American mothers in the United States, and Turkish and German mothers in Germany.

"Puerto Ricans and Turks are understudied, yet rapidly growing minorities in their respective host countries," says Harwood. "Both groups also are generally considered to endorse belief systems that differ markedly from those of their more individualistic host cultures, heightening the potential for cultural conflict and change following migration."

Harwood expects the research to show that Euro-American and German mothers place greater emphasis on autonomy as a child-rearing goal, while Puerto Rican and Turkish mothers focus more on interdependence.

The study is being conducted at a time when immigration

is the greatest engine for population growth in the United States and, to a lesser extent, in Germany. During the 1980s, 39 percent of the United States' total population growth was due to immigration. Moreover, the demographic profile of U.S. immigrants has changed dramatically in the past 60 years. In 1940, only 13 percent of immigrants were from Asia and Latin America, while 86 percent came from Europe and Canada. By 1990, this pattern had reversed, with 84 percent coming from Asia and Latin America, and less than 13 percent from Europe and Canada.

Turks comprise 28 percent of all foreigners living in Germany, making them Germany's single largest group of immigrants. Initially welcomed as guest workers within a booming economy, they were expected to return when the economy slowed. However, the Turkish population increased from 1.3 million in 1985 to 2.05 million in 1997, indicating that the Turks no longer are just guest workers in Germany, but have come to stay.

"Examining current patterns of cultural change and placing those patterns within a larger global context can aid us in our attempt to understand what it means to live in an increasingly multicultural society," says Harwood.

## Neag School of Education

### *Inspiring tomorrow's teachers*

With a nationwide teacher shortage looming, the Neag School of Education is looking for new ways to inspire bright students to become the educators of tomorrow.

In an effort to attract students to a career in education, Cheryl Spaulding, an associate professor of curriculum and instruction, and several teacher education students are reaching out to middle school students through an after-school program, the Future Teachers Club, in East Hartford Middle School and Glastonbury's Gideon Welles School. It is funded through a \$30,000 grant from the state of Connecticut.

"We believe a lot of career decisions are made before students reach high school," Spaulding says. "By targeting middle school students, we get them thinking about what they need to achieve in high school so they'll be prepared for the requirements of teacher education in college."

The club includes about three dozen students who have shown interest in teaching. The club meets every other week with student teachers from UConn to learn the ABC's of run-

ning a classroom. They learn about using proper body language, how to take control of a classroom and how to earn the respect of their students. Club activities include: presentations by outside speakers, discussion groups, practice teaching exercises, shadowing teachers and field trips.

A field trip in April brought the club to Storrs, where the students met with several Neag School faculty members and Richard Schwab, dean of the School, to talk about the club, and about what it takes to become a teacher and a student at UConn.

Schwab, a former middle school teacher, peppered the students with questions. What are the qualities of a good teacher, he asked. What has the club taught them about being a

teacher? The students answered his questions and commented on their personal experiences with teachers—the good, the bad and the ugly.

**Richard Schwab, dean of the Neag School of Education, discusses teaching as a career with a group of middle school students.**

Schwab seized the opportunity to hammer home the importance of good teachers: "Teaching is the best career," he said. "There are no greater influences in your life than your parents and your teachers."



Peter Morenus

## School of Nursing

### Alumna appointed dean of nursing school

Laura Dzurec '74 (NUR), a clinical specialist in adult psychiatric and mental health nursing and a childbirth educator, has been appointed dean of the School of Nursing.

Dzurec, who assumes her duties on August 23, joins UConn from Oregon Health Sciences University, where she had been associate dean. She also has served as interim director and associate professor of nursing at the University of Maine, and has been a faculty member at Kent State University and Ohio State University.

Dzurec is enthusiastic about returning to Storrs. "I'm so impressed by all the growth the University has seen," she says.



Laura Dzurec '74 (NUR), dean of the School of Nursing

"I hope to continue to expand the research mission of the school," Dzurec says, "and to build on the strong history that we have, the tradition of providing excellent nursing education at every level."

Dzurec was selected after a national search was conducted by a 10-member committee that included faculty, students and an external representative,

the dean of Yale University's College of Nursing.

"We were interested in assuring a balance in the School of Nursing between teaching, research and clinical applications of nursing," says Kirklyn Kerr, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and chair of the search committee.

Dzurec says one of the challenges facing the School of Nursing in the near future is to attract more students to meet an impending national shortage of nurses and nursing faculty.

"We need to do a good job marketing the field of nursing in general and specifically marketing the nursing program at UConn," she says.

Dzurec also holds a master's degree from Ohio State University and a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University.

She has published extensively in various nursing journals. In 1999, she received a five-year, \$785,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to establish a computer-based registered nurse/bachelor of science degree program for rural Oregon.

Dzurec is taking over from Professor Kay Bruttomesso, who has served as interim dean since 1999.

## College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### Historian seeks to identify thousands of slaves

Although the long, sordid history of slavery has been researched, chronicled and vilified for decades, the story of who the slaves were and where they came from has received far less attention.

A University of Connecticut history professor is working to bridge that gap. G. Ugo Nwokeji (pronounced Oo-go N-wo-keji), who became interested in researching the trans-Atlantic slave trade while studying at the University of Toronto, is helping compile a database of more than 80,000 Africans who were rescued from a life of slavery when the ships carrying them to America were diverted by the British Navy to foreign ports. The Africans on board were taken to British Admiralty Courts and Mixed Commission Courts in the years after the British parliament banned slavery.

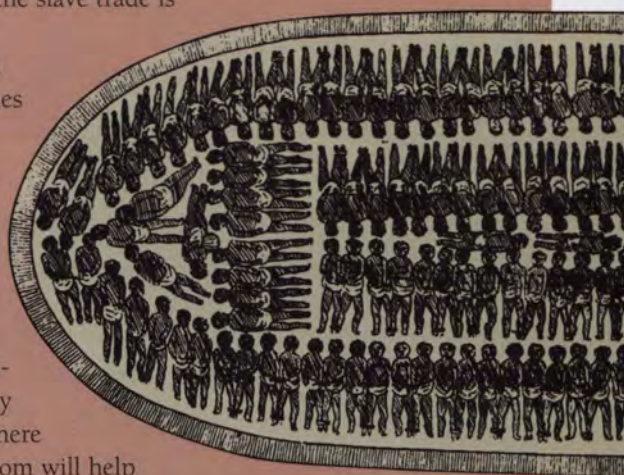
"It's very odd," says Nwokeji. "We know quite a bit about the Atlantic slave trade—the names of the boats, the captains, their crews—but we know so little about the captives themselves. The information we have on the individuals forced into the slave trade is very hazy."

Although 80,000 names is only a fraction of the estimated 12-15 million Africans sold as slaves, learning who they were and where they were from will help

researchers as they continue to sort out what happened in the 1700s and 1800s, Nwokeji says.

"This work is important first because it helps us understand the Atlantic slave trade itself, and because it helps us to better understand the African Diaspora," he says. The work also provides a window to the hinterland of pre-colonial Africa, about which historians know little due to the paucity of written information.

Nwokeji, a native of Nigeria, began teaching at UConn in September 1999. He earned his doctorate at the University of Toronto, and now holds a joint appointment with the Department of History and the Institute for African American Studies. He also is a research associate at the DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University, where the database is being built.



Amistad Foundation African American Collection

## School of Social Work

### SSW prof earns emerging scholar award

Louise Simmons, assistant professor of social work, has been named one of two Emerging Scholars for 2000 by the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration.

Simmons, who also is director of the University's Urban Semester program, says she was "thrilled" to be honored. "I feel very fortunate to be able to work, study, write about, and teach the things that I feel very passionate about in terms of social justice and equality," Simmons says.

Since moving to Connecticut in the 1970s, Simmons has been deeply involved in both studying and developing community-organizing strategies. Her book, *Organizing in Hard Times* (Temple University Press, 1994), offered an insider's view of grassroots urban coalitions formed among neighborhood groups and labor unions in Hartford, Conn., during the early 1990s. Simmons' own activism led her to be elected to one term on the Hartford City Council.

Simmons has been director of the Urban Semester program since 1980. Urban Semester provides UConn students an opportunity to perform internships within a variety of social agencies, including shelters, school programs, the criminal justice system and political



Peter Morenus

Louise Simmons, associate professor of social work

organizations. More than 600 students have worked in the program since it was founded in 1968.

"Urban Semester is a great way to help students gain real-life experience and also to bring urban issues into the classroom to study," says Simmons. "Cities are great microcosms of all the social issues that we face, from economic shifts to race relations to gender issues to cultural issues."

Simmons is deserving of the Emerging Scholar award, says Kay W. Davidson, dean of the School of Social Work, because of her "contributions to the Master's of Social Work program and her knowledge and scholarship in community organization and urban politics."

"Louise Simmons makes excellent contributions to both the School of Social Work and the community at large," Davidson says.

## School of Dental Medicine

### Expanding support for Special Olympics

Students from the UConn School of Dental Medicine have expanded their involvement in the Special Olympics to include the winter games.

UConn dental students have been involved in screening Special Olympians since the 1994 summer games. In February, the students performed screenings for individuals competing in the winter games.

"UConn dental students have long been involved in outreach programs," says Gary Schulman of West Hartford, Conn., a third-year UConn dental student and a coordinator of the winter screening. "We enjoy going out into the community, talking with people and promoting good oral hygiene," he said. "It's valuable to us both professionally and personally, and it's helpful to the community. We were very excited about our first visit to the Winter Special Olympics."

The screening program was initiated by the dental students to educate Special Olympians and their families about the importance of oral hygiene, to increase the

dental profession's awareness of particular oral health issues that people with special needs face, and to develop a protocol for meeting the dental needs of the athletes in years to come.

Students also screened more than 300 athletes at the 2000 Special Olympic Summer Games held in June.

"This is a great program," says Michael T. Goupil, D.D.S., assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and the program's faculty advisor. "The students thoroughly enjoy working with the participants. It is helpful to the Olympians and to the students to feel a sense of accomplishment and personal satisfaction afterwards."

Screening involves oral examination and recommendations about care. Results of the visits are kept on file. Athletes are usually given instructions on proper oral hygiene, and complimentary UConn T-shirts, toothpaste and toothbrushes cement the newfound friendships.

"This is a student project from start to finish," Goupil says. "They're responsible for all the coordination, and meeting costs and acquiring supplies. It's a very worthwhile cause, and they do all the work."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

### UCANRAA to Hold Auction

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Alumni Association will hold its third annual auction on September 24 as the finale to Cornucopia Fest '00. The event will be held on the mall in front of the W.B. Young Building, starting at 3:15 p.m.

Items to be auctioned include specimen trees, UConn's own specialty shrubs and perennials, organic herbs, goods and services, tickets to events, certificates for gourmet baked goods and private dinners, and antiques. Deb Donohoe '73 (RHSA), '73 (CANR), '80 M.S. and Herman Weingart '56 (CANR) will co-chair the auction. For more information or to donate items for auction, contact Nancy Weiss at 860-486-1956.

Proceeds from the auction will be used for scholarships, alumni activities and outreach.

## School of Business

The latest inductees to the School of Business Alumni Hall of Fame were honored in ceremonies in the Lewis B. Rome Commons Ballroom in May.

The 2000 inductees are:

**Penelope Dobkin '76 (BUS), '79 M.B.A.**  
Worldwide Investment Manager,  
Fidelity Investments

**Herbert Dunn '61 (BUS)**  
Senior Vice President & Division Director,  
Salomon Smith Barney, Inc.

**Paul Fagan '49 (BUS)**  
Retired Chief Economist, American Society  
of Composers, Authors & Publishers

**Mark Freitas '81 (BUS)**  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Frank Crystal & Company, Inc.

**E. Bulkeley Griswold '66 M.B.A.**  
Managing General Partner,  
L&L Capital Partners, LLC

**Christopher P.A. Komisarjevsky '79**  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Burson-Marsteller Worldwide

**Ronald J. Meoni**  
Chairman, The James H. Napier Foundation

The 2000 Hall of Fame Student Fellows are:

**Svetlana O. Abrosimova '01 (BUS)**

**John E. Adams '00 M.B.A.**

**Dorothy L. Carlone '00 M.B.A.**

**Robert F. Flynn '00 M.B.A.**

**Elisabeth K. Kristiansen '00 M.B.A.**

**Michael A. Magarian '00 M.B.A.**

**John W. Marchetti '00 M.B.A.**

**Jake Voskuhl '00 (BUS)**

## School of Nursing

### Save these dates:

**September 14 – R.N./M.S./A.G.S./Ph.D.**  
Information Sessions  
Location: West Hartford Campus  
Time: 5 p.m.–8 p.m.\*

**September 18 – School of Nursing Fall Picnic**  
Location: Student Union Mall or  
(rain site) Storrs Hall  
Time: 4 p.m.

**October 3 – Distinguished Lecturer Series**  
"25 Years of Nursing Knowledge"  
Featuring Sue K. Donaldson, Ph.D., R.N.,  
F.A.A.N., dean and professor, School of  
Nursing, Johns Hopkins University  
(CEUs will be available.)  
Location: South Campus Ballroom  
Time: 4 p.m.

**October 4 – R.N./M.S./A.G.S./Ph.D.**  
Information Sessions  
Location: Avery Point Campus  
Time: 5 p.m.–8 p.m.\*

### October 28 – Homecoming

**School of Nursing Alumni & Friends Society**  
General Business Meeting  
Location: School of Nursing Tent on Student  
Union Mall  
Time: 9:30 a.m.

**4th Annual Distinguished Alumni**  
Awards Banquet  
Location: Manchester Country Club  
Time: 6:30 p.m.

**November 8 – R.N./M.S./A.G.S./Ph.D.**  
Information Sessions  
Location: School of Nursing  
Time: 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

\* Please call the Academic Advisory Center at  
860-486-4730 to confirm attendance and  
obtain room number.

For more information about School of Nursing  
events, please visit the school's Web site at  
[www.nursing.uconn.edu](http://www.nursing.uconn.edu), or contact Kathe  
Gable at 860-486-0613 or [k.gable@uconn.edu](mailto:k.gable@uconn.edu).

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# Research

## Cracking the genetic code for addiction

*The schools of Social Work and Medicine collaboration seeks to stop the cycle of alcoholism in families*

The teamwork of Victor and Michie Hesselbrock extends well beyond marriage. The Hesselbrocks are fervently engaged in a quest to determine the causes of alcoholism and to break the chain of family addiction.

The Hesselbrocks are principal investigators in the Collaborative Study of Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA), a long-term study of 12,500 individuals from 1,800 families with a history of alcoholism. Researchers evaluated all biological family members—brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents, nieces, nephews, and spouses at sites in Connecticut and five other states.

The COGA study, part of a growing trend of cross-disciplinary research at UConn, discovered genetics plays a key role in the likelihood of developing alcohol dependence. In fact, an individual with a family history of alcoholism is three to five times more likely to develop an alcohol problem. Yet identifying the gene or genes that lead to alcohol dependence proved to be more difficult than anticipated.

“We did genomic scans and eliminated certain chromosomes as potentially contributing to alcohol dependence,” says Victor Hesselbrock, director of the UConn Alcohol Research Center and professor of psychiatry at the UConn School of Medicine. “We haven’t identified specific genes yet, but we’ve identified certain regions on several chromosomes that are giving a strong signal of having genes that contribute to alcohol dependence.”

Alcoholism, says Victor Hesselbrock, is a complex disorder contributed to by several genes—maybe six or eight different ones—and the amount of contribution is not the same across all families and individuals.

The COGA study discovered that children with conduct problems, which appear to be genetically influenced, also are at higher risk for developing alcohol problems. These individuals are usually early onset alcoholics, a group that tends to have a poor response to treatment and requires multiple treatments before recovery.

“Children with conduct problems or antisocial personality disorder use alcohol and drugs at an early age, starting as young as 10 and 11 years old,” says Michie Hesselbrock, director of research and professor at the UConn School of Social Work. “They don’t do well in school and their career



Peter Morenus

path will be delayed or derailed. By the time they become adults and get treatment, they have to start their education or job training all over again because they don't have anything they can go back to."

"When you see conduct problems with alcohol problems, conduct problems always come first," adds Victor Hesselbrock. "These are young boys and girls, four, five and six years old, who are terrorizing their parents—they go to school and terrorize the school. They're not always aggressive, but they're the ones who are always doing something. They're aggravating schoolmates,

## Someone with a family history of alcoholism is **three to five times more likely** to have an alcohol problem.

stealing pencils, coming in late from recess, walking away from school. Conduct problems run in families and appear to be influenced by genetic factors."

The COGA study discovered gender differences in alcohol dependence, particularly in the timing of measured milestones, which included first drink, regular drinking, intoxication, and problems associated with chronic alcohol use.

Men in their 50s experienced these milestones much younger than women in that age group. There was less difference in ages for men and women in their 30s and 40s, and an even shorter distance among individuals in their 20s. Victor Hesselbrock predicts that researchers who follow up the COGA sampling of current 10-, 11-, and 12-year olds in ten years will discover very few differences in the age of onset of problems or in the expression of alcohol-related problems between men and women.

Using similar measures, the Hesselbrocks also compared new data from the COGA study with the findings of their 1980 study of the clinical population of alcoholics in Hartford.

"What we're seeing over time with alcohol use is a steady progression into younger and younger ages," says Victor Hesselbrock. "In the early studies, the age of the first drink was 17 or 18. Now we regularly see boys and girls having their first drink at 12 or 13 years old."

Data from the 1980s found the onset of alcohol dependency began at age 25 for men and at age 28 or 29 for women. In a later study, the age dropped to 22 or 23 for men and 26 or 27 for women. For the younger individuals in the COGA study, the age of alcohol dependence was 20 or 21 for men and 25 for women.

"They're beginning to drink a little earlier and instead of having their first problems post-college, they're having them post-high school, early college, or early in their working experience," he adds.

Michie Hesselbrock will be applying her knowledge toward prevention as the principal investigator for the Latino Family Strengthening Project and the African American Family Strengthening Project. These prevention programs, led by the state Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, consist of separate seven-week programs for children and parents. Similar programs across the United States have been successful, but Hesselbrock's is the first to target ethnic minorities.

"The focus is on the children," says Michie Hesselbrock, who wrote the grants for both programs. "We're trying to get to children at an early age before they start to use alcohol and drugs." — Mary Lou Sullivan

**UConn professors Michie and Victor Hesselbrock have discovered that genetics has a crucial impact on alcoholism.**



# Students

## A genuine double threat

*Jonathan Chin takes on economics and music*

**I**t's fair to say that, for most college students, declaring one major takes more than enough thought and energy.

Jonathan Chin '00 (CLAS, SFA), a 21-year-old from Wallingford, Conn., took the process and doubled it, graduating in May with the seemingly unlikely double major of economics and music.

The extra load didn't damage Chin's academic achievements. Through his four years at UConn, he consistently made the Dean's List, was a New England Scholar and participated in the Honors Program.

Chin is fairly unabashed about his accomplishments. He came to UConn from Wallingford's Sheehan High School on a Day of Pride Scholarship, which recognizes minority high school students with outstanding abilities.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do when I came to UConn," Chin says. His path to double disciplines started with music education, but the idea of pursuing a business curriculum lurked in his mind as well.

**"I used to annoy my parents, because I liked to play what I heard on TV."**

Chin began studying piano when he was six. In elementary school, he played duets with his friend, Marcel Belaval, a violinist who also attends UConn. Chin also has perfect pitch, which allows him to absorb the music he hears with ease.

Chin's academic journey has had its twists and turns. When Chin arrived at UConn as a freshman, he enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences but switched to the School of Fine Arts to pursue a music education degree in his second semester.

In his third semester Chin changed from music education to a bachelor of music program because, he says, he found he didn't have enough patience for teaching.

"Teaching was a little frustrating," he says. "There are a lot of rewarding things about it, but trying to teach music education was stressful."



Peter Morenus

**Jonathan Chin '00 (CLAS, SFA) performs as a member of the group Chair 13 at an off-campus night spot.**

Chin explored other options and found he could work toward a bachelor of music degree, as well as a bachelor of arts degree in economics. "I was able to juggle two strenuous majors," he says. "It was never easy. That combination is unheard of."

Chin was helped by the fact that he earned 30 college credits in high school, which allowed him to pass over some introductory core courses.

Chin credits two economics professors in particular—Arthur Wright, who also was his academic advisor, and Peter Tarch—as his chief influences. And, he adds, "I decided to major in economics because I saw a lot of practical applications in opening doors to a business career."

In the midst of his stacked studies, Chin also found time to form a band, Chair 13, which has become a popular campus attraction.

Although he's still undecided about his life after graduation, Chin said he would like to study jazz and keep the band together, if possible. Chair 13 plays a blend of pop and rock styles, but Chin also expresses an affinity for the music of jazz pianist Chick Corea. An M.B.A. is not out of the question in Chin's post-undergraduate life.

If Chin decides to tackle music as a career, he will bring with him knowledge of the economics of the business that few musicians, to their frequent chagrin, possess. That double threat is sure to make a difference, whatever path Chin chooses. — Steve Starger '64 (CLAS)

## A commitment to service

*For Angela Palma, compassion is its own reward*

When Angela Palma '00 (SFS) arrived at UConn for her sophomore year, she had every intention of becoming a teacher. Her lifelong aspiration was altered however, when she was introduced to the community service spirit for which the University is well known.

Palma graduated from UConn in May with a bachelor's degree in family studies, after changing her major from pre-education studies. She hopes to become a social worker with the State Department of Children and Families.

"I always thought I'd be a teacher," the Bronx, N.Y., native says. "But then I came to UConn, and here was this completely wonderful university that had all these community service experiences I had never had before."

Palma's commitment to social services was secured when she walked through the doors of UConn's Center for Community Outreach. The Center promotes student learning and personal development by providing opportunities for community involvement. More than 870 students contribute 14,000 hours of community service at 45 agencies in Connecticut.

Every other month, Palma would participate in community service days, where she would volunteer at various agencies. Her volunteer efforts eventually brought her to the Mansfield Youth Services Bureau, where she was a student program coordinator and a mentor in the Mansfield Youth Services' Big Friends Program. Through Big Friends, she has been a companion, cheerleader and advocate to a young girl for more than two years.

"She had had three Big Sisters before me, so I knew from the get-go that she was special," Palma says. "But I love a challenge. I just kept telling her she was stuck with me." Eventually, the two formed a bond and have become mutually important to each other.

Palma also has helped young people through an internship as a victims advocate in Manchester Superior Court. The experience has been a profound one for her, she says, as she encountered many children and teenagers who had been victims of abuse. Palma says the experience helped her realize the importance of social services. "It's the kids who are being hurt who need the most help."

One victim of abuse in particular had a lasting impact on her, says Palma. The teenage boy was sullen and withdrawn, and it took several minutes for Palma to get him to talk with her. "He was determined not to open up, but he eventually starting talking, and by the end of the conversation, he had this wonderful smile," says Palma. "He seemed a little stronger and to have a little more hope when he left. I met a lot of children who had been abused, but this boy, and the way he opened up to me, affected me more than most."

Palma says the encouragement she received from the Center for Community Outreach was instrumental in helping her make the transition from education to social work, and to pursue a master's in social work. But Diane Wright, coordinator for the Center for Community Outreach, insists it is Angela's personality that makes her a natural for the social services field.

"She is a tremendously enthusiastic and passionate person," says Wright. "I am certain that she will be an outstanding social worker." — *Andrea Comer*



Angela Palma '00 (SFS) outside Manchester (Conn.) Superior Court, where she volunteered as a victims advocate.

# Scenes from a **championsh**



The road to Philly began with a summer trip to France and Italy.

Shea belts out "UConn Husky" sur la Seine.



Shea  
hoop  
Eagle



Win or lose,  
class work  
is still the  
priority.  
Swin, Sue,  
Christine,  
Tamika and  
Stacy catch  
up with  
Professor  
Sam Pickering.



Coach Geno pointing  
the way to Philly.

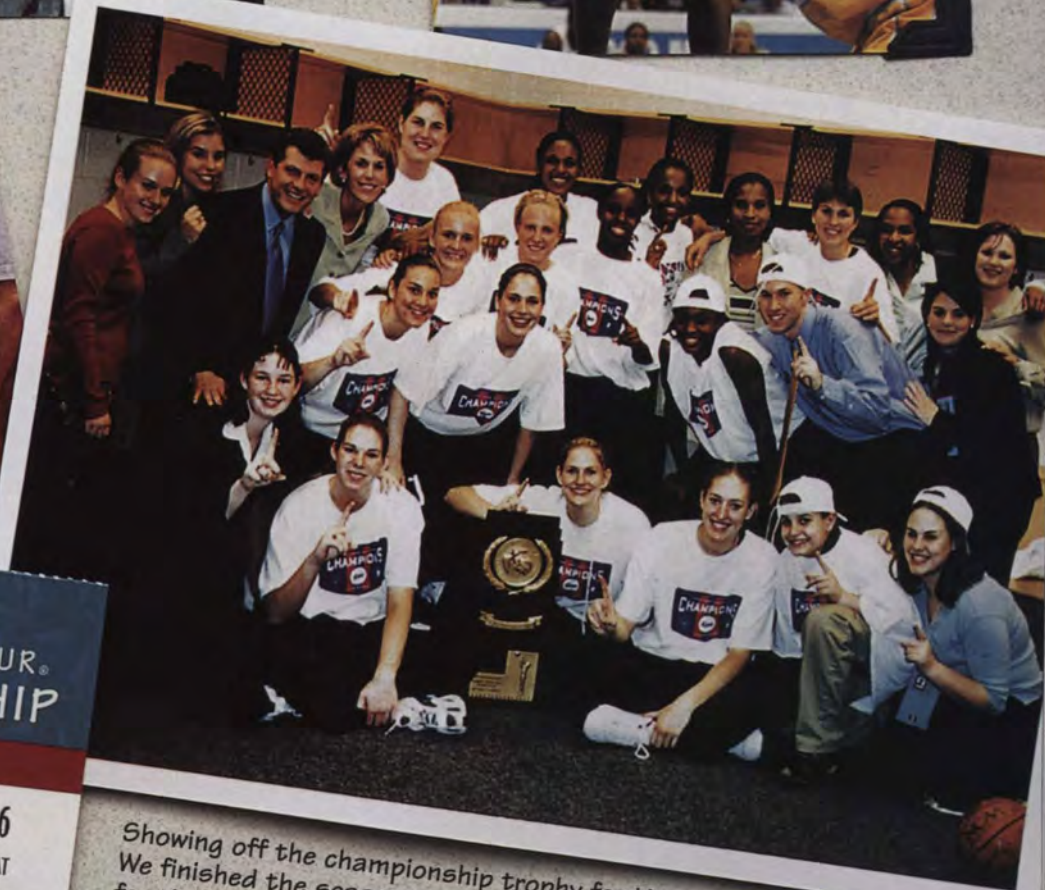
# p season

We just loved  
our police escort  
in Philly.

o the  
the B.C.  
ary.



Money in the  
bank! Swin  
puts up two  
points against  
the Lady  
Vols in the  
NCAA final.



## 2000 NCAA WOMEN'S FINAL FOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday, April 2, 2000

103  
SECTION

7  
ROW

16  
SEAT

No Refunds - No Exchanges

2000 NCAA

Showing off the championship trophy for Husky fans everywhere! We finished the season with a 36-1 record and were ranked No. 1 for the entire regular season by the Associated Press and the USA TODAY/ESPN polls. Our NCAA championship made UConn only the third university to win NCAA titles in both women's and men's basketball.

# Should you trust POLLS?

*Do polls promote democracy or manipulate it?*

From politicians to market researchers, from journalists to the president, Americans are inundated daily by polls.

*By Claudia Chamberlain  
and Gary E. Frank*

Public opinion polls tell us who's ahead in a political horse race, who's still at the gate and who got scratched. They tell us about lifestyle and workplace trends, how Americans cope with stress, how we're doing in cyberspace, what we'll do in retirement if we get there, our concerns over health care, Social Security and finances.

But should we trust polls?

"In many ways policy-makers overemphasize polls," says Ken Dautrich, director of the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at UConn and a professor of political science. "Policy-makers take polls too seriously and often use the polling as the main input into their policy-making and decisions."

For Dautrich, who also is a political analyst for MSNBC, that's a clear misuse of public opinion.

"The job of leaders is to study policy positions and issues, and study their impact on society. The public shouldn't be expected to know the details of complex issues, such as health care, Social Security and U.S. military intervention into foreign matters," he says.

Dautrich concedes, however, that often important information on the candidates gets crowded out because of the "media's predilection to focus on who is ahead in the polls."

The polling mission, according to Dautrich, is to conduct quality public opinion research. "We try to promote the role that public opinion plays. Our job is to make public opinion known."



**Remember President Dewey?**

"We have a strong belief in the value of public opinion," says Lydia Saad '97 M.S., managing editor of The Gallup Poll, the oldest, continuous running poll in the United States. "We're committed to collecting it accurately and to putting it in the public domain. In the public domain, people and politicians can see it and decide for themselves on how to use it."

Saad says there's no strong evidence that polls ever affected the outcome of an election. "Americans seem to be capable of treating polling information as just a component of their decision-making process," she says. "It's not controlling their voting behavior or distorting the process."

That was certainly the situation with the 1948 presidential race, when President Harry Truman, the Democratic nominee, crushed the Republican standard bearer Thomas Dewey. Radio comedian Fred Allen said Truman was "the first president to lose in a Gallup and win in a walk."

He was referring, of course, to George Gallup, the world's most famous pollster who, along with other public opinion specialists of the time such as Elmo Roper, had predicted a Dewey landslide. The polls turned out to be dead wrong, not so much because they were imperfect, but because they were out of date. The pollsters took their final surveys in mid-October and didn't consider any last-minute volatility, explains Saad.

"Pollsters have never made that mistake since," says Howard Reiter, a professor of American politics at UConn. "The evidence is that people changed their minds late in the campaign and helped put Truman over the top. Today, pollsters are doing their surveys up to the last minute."

Reiter feels pollsters are more likely to make mistakes in primaries than in general elections because far fewer people vote in primaries.

"About 20 percent of voters turn out for primaries, and that means 80 percent of the people being interviewed are not going out to vote," says Reiter, who sees voters' views fluctuating more in polls taken during primaries. By November, voters will have seen and heard a great deal more about the candidates, Reiter says.

Reiter believes that during the presidential primary season this year, news organizations tipped their hands on the outcome. "There's a tremendous temptation to report results

early and be the first one to predict the winner," says Reiter. Like Saad, however, Reiter sees no hard evidence that early reporting of returns or exit polls affect the outcome of an election.

David Dougherty '96 M.S., vice president of the Global Strategy Group, a political consulting and polling firm, says a political campaign is about communicating with voters and convincing them of a point of view. Polls are essential to the



conduct and strategy of a campaign, Dougherty says.

"Public opinion research is a tool to hone a message, to target resources and to plan your campaign," says Dougherty, whose firm's clients include the National Democratic Committee, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and a host of Democratic congressional candidates.

Undoubtedly, Dougherty's philosophy as a political pollster and a campaign strategist can apply to Republicans, as well as Democrats.

"The objective [of polls] is actionable results to move forward with the program and avoid wasting resources on arguments that don't resonate [with voters]," says Dougherty.

**It's how the question is asked**

There are many Americans, including members of the same media who rely greatly on them, who see polls as too prone to manipulation and misinterpretation. "Polls often are

pernicious. They give the illusion of containing information," says Jeffrey A. Dvorkin, ombudsman for National Public Radio. "But in fact, they frequently confuse issues and deform both reporting and politics by suggesting that issues are different than what people think they are."

John Leo, a columnist for *U.S. News & World Report* and a vocal skeptic of polls, has opined that "some polls are more honest and more valuable than others." Leo pointed to a 1993 poll by Roper Starch

Worldwide that indicated 22 percent of Americans said the Holocaust might not have happened. Gallup got a similar result using the Roper language.

The problem, Leo suggested, was the question's "tortured language." ("Does it seem possible or does it seem impossible to you that the Nazi extermination of the Jews never happened?") When Gallup asked the question in plain language, such as "Do you believe the Holocaust took place," noted Leo, less than half a percent said the Holocaust never happened, and only 2 percent had doubts.

The phraseology, methodology and interpretation of polling data are the proverbial "devil in the details" according to Stephen Miller, a professor of economics at UConn.

"Polls help to sell newspapers, but one needs to be very careful about interpreting them," says Miller. "You need to know who the participants are, and what sort of sampling is being done. If it's a political poll, is it just anybody or is it of people very likely to vote?"

Miller cites the example of two national polls that ask people about their expectations of inflation. There is a on-going Livingston poll that surveys those who follow economic trends closely, such as economists and financial analysts. At the same time, the University of Michigan conducts a poll of consumers that asks similar questions about inflation. On average, the poll of consumers is more accurate, says Miller.

"There's an easy answer to that," Miller says. "If the consumers think something is going to happen and they act on it, it's sort of a self-fulfilling prophecy. Likewise, some polls may not provide much accurate information because those surveyed aren't, if you will, placing bets on the outcome."

## **A healthy skepticism**

Conducted properly, polls can be a boon to the electoral process, offering citizens a way to speak their minds, says Richard Rockwell, who recently became executive director of The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at UConn.

"I view public opinion polling as an integral part of democracy," says Rockwell, the former executive director

of data archives at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

Rockwell agrees that events can draw public attention to an issue, and that the renewed or new attention can cause temporary changes in public opinion.

"That is why it is so important to understand long-term trends and to look at multiple polls," says Rockwell.

"The Roper Center enables us to do that because it is the

## **Public opinion polls offer a way to check on the honesty of elections.**

largest collection of public opinion data in the world, going back decades."

Rockwell views the horse race in presidential polls as representing a tiny fraction of public opinion data that is collected, but at the same time, an effective tool in predicting the results of elections, particularly in developing democracies.

"Public opinion polls offer a way to check on the honesty of elections," says Rockwell. "If a national election commission chooses to rig an election and the public opinion polls go in another direction, there may be a public outcry. To some degree that's what happened in the Philippines with the people's uprising that overthrew the Ferdinand Marcos government."

Rockwell believes there is considerable public interest in polls, and that the public has a healthy skepticism of polls. He had high praise for polls conducted by news organizations.

"All of the major news organizations sponsor polls and much of what the nation sees on network news is high-quality polling," he said.

When it comes to political polls, Saad believes citizens need to make a clear distinction between the polls themselves and poor reporting.

"There's nothing to prevent a good journalist from reporting on a third-party candidate, regardless of what the polls show as his or her viability," says Saad. "But why should the public not be made aware of the true viability of the candidate when political insiders know the answer. The public should have the same information as the media and the political consultants."

Ultimately, however, there is but one poll that matters most.

"The only real poll is on Election Day," says Miller, "when the vote is taken."

# Voters to media: Clean up your act!

*Americans want substance in election coverage*

By Ken Dautrich

Polls have become a permanent fixture in political campaigns in the United States. Not only are they central to the candidates' campaign strategy, but public polls, usually conducted by media organizations, play a pivotal role in news coverage of the campaign. In 1996, pre-election polls on the presidential race were conducted in 48 states, and five organizations conducted regular national tracking polls of the electorate from the summer to election day.

questions about their role in presidential elections. After all, the news media represent the primary source of information for voters—information that the electorate uses to make voting decisions. The Center for Survey Research and Analysis (CSRA) at UConn conducted a large study in 1996, and is continuing this study in this election year, to determine what voters think about the news coverage of polls in the election.

In a word, "overkill" describes what voters think about the role that polls have come to play in presidential elections. In the CSRA studies, voters were asked how interested they were in a variety of types of campaign news

review how candidates stand on issues and those that describe how election outcomes might affect voters—are clearly the kinds of stories in which voters express the highest levels of interest.

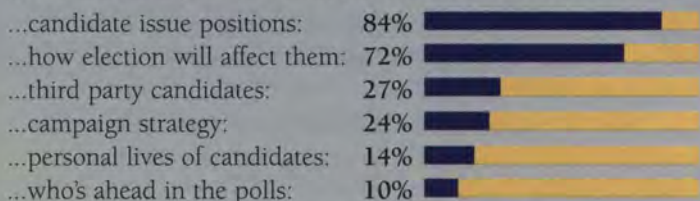
Lowest on the list of stories that achieve high voter interest are those that focus on the horse race polls. In October 1999 only 1-in-10 voters claimed to be very interested in news about which candidates are running ahead and behind in the polls. Interest in horse race stories dropped 12 points since the 1996 campaign, indicating that over the past four years voters have become even more critical of pre-election poll overkill.

Similarly, only a slim number of voters express high interest in candidate personality stories. This lack of interest in candidates' personal lives is quite consistent with voter opinion about news coverage of politics more broadly. Throughout 1998, poll after poll showed how disinterested and dissatisfied people were with the news focus on the Clinton-Lewinsky affair.

The CSRA study also finds that, by very wide margins, voters sense a severe oversupply of news when it comes to stories about polls. Nearly 6-in-10 voters say there is too much coverage of the horse race and only 2 percent felt there was too little horse race coverage. Similarly, many voters feel there is an overabundance of coverage of the candidates' personal lives.

## VOTER INTEREST IN POLL STORIES COMPARED TO OTHER CAMPAIGN STORIES (October 1999)

percent who say they are very interested in stories about...



SOURCE: Center for Survey Research and Analysis (CSRA)

News organizations' obsession with pre-election polls is clearly reflected in news reporting. Researchers who have analyzed the content of coverage on TV and in newspapers have found that in the past three presidential elections about half to 60 percent of all stories have focused on the horse race—and most of these reports use poll results as the basis for the story.

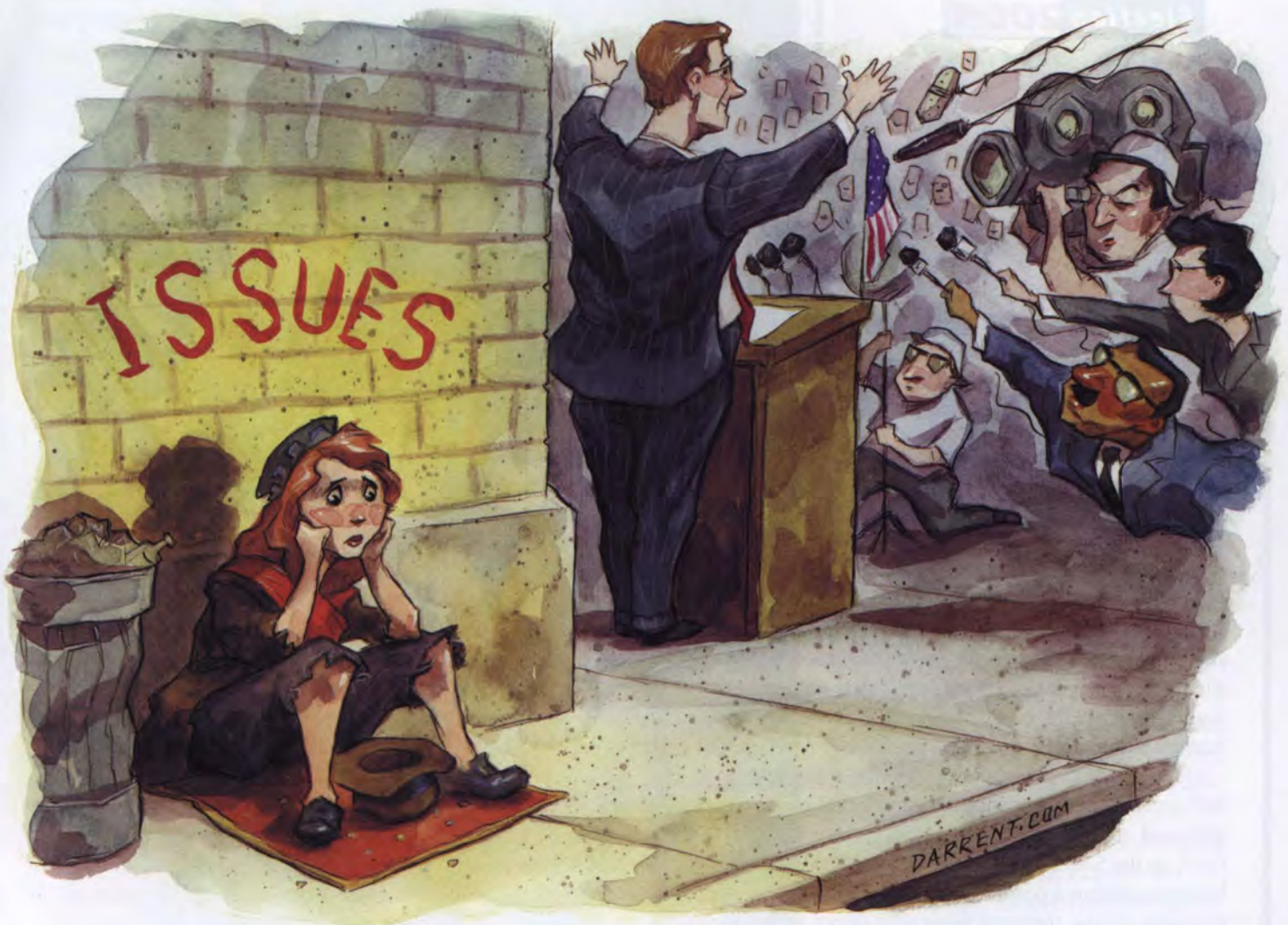
The expansive conduct and news coverage of polls raises important

stories, and the graph above shows how voters respond to this question.

### Voters not interested in poll stories

The data depict a striking finding: the American electorate is hungry for news information that allows it to evaluate the substance of presidential candidacies on the basis of issue positions and on the likely consequences of electing a particular candidate to office. Two types of stories—those that

This essay is drawn from findings presented in *How the News Media Fail the American Voter* (Columbia University Press 1999).



#### What about issues?

On the other hand, voters told CSRA that there is far too little news coverage of issues in the campaign. Voters throughout the 1996 presidential campaign were about five times more likely to say that news media devoted “too little” rather than “too much” coverage to stories about candidates’ issue positions. Likewise, voters felt there was a reported under-supply of news on how the election outcome might affect them. Many voters also felt that there was too little coverage afforded third-party candidates.

It isn’t surprising that journalists and news organizations focus much of their efforts on the polls. The sport of a good campaign horse race can be exciting. But from a news and information perspective, the needs of voters—as expressed by voters themselves—

#### **The news media’s obsession with polls detracts from the quality of information that voters may use to cast meaningful votes.**

are quite clear. To make informed vote choices, voters need to know where candidates stand on issues and how the election of a particular candidate will influence public policy. The excitement, intrigue and entertainment value provided by stories on the polls cannot replace the relevance of issue-oriented news that voters need to make informed decisions.

CSRA surveys show that voters appreciate the role polls play in presidential election campaigns. However, they also feel that we are suffering from too many public opinion polls. The large focus on the horse race, inspired by the plethora of polls, crowds out other information voters need to make informed vote decisions.

Journalists should take heed of the voters’ advice. While polls are an important part of elections in America, the news media’s obsession with them detracts from the quality of information that voters may use to cast meaningful votes.

*Ken Dautrich is professor of political science and director of the Center for Survey Research and Analysis.*

# Demopublicans and Republicrats

## UConn prof argues two-party system shortchanges African American voters

It is now commonly recognized that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 opened the way for millions of African Americans to participate in American electoral politics. This was particularly significant in the South, where African Americans were excluded almost entirely from participating in electoral politics since Reconstruction. Indeed, civil rights advocates viewed the Voting Rights Act as a pivotal victory after a long, arduous struggle for social justice. But 35 years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act, more critical questions now are being raised about African Americans' electoral strategy and its effectiveness.

When the Voting Rights Act was signed into law, there were scarcely 500 African American elected officials nationwide and only 50 in the South. Today, there are over 9,000 (most in the South), and a multitude of African Americans holding appointed positions in government. These advances notwithstanding, there are those who question the two-party system's capacity to respond to the legitimate aspirations of African Americans.

One query centers on African Americans' devotion to partisanship. The partisanship strategy calls for African Americans to look to the Democratic and Republican parties for policy direction and leverage. This strategy raises the question of whether African Americans can achieve their policy objectives through either party. From the end of the Civil War until the 1930s, African Americans tended to side with the Republican Party. During Reconstruction, African Americans provided political and electoral support for the Republican Party because it enacted a broad range of policies (although limited) that helped them after slavery was abolished. Republican fidelity to African American interests waned by the dawn of the 20th century. Accordingly, African Americans began the process of shifting their political and electoral support to the Democratic Party for the same pragmatic reasons they had sided with the Republican Party. This support was perceptible by the mid-1930s, and entrenched by the 1960s.

This lack of support for the GOP is at least somewhat surprising given the patterns of African American public

**By Daryl B. Harris,  
associate professor  
of political science  
and African  
American Studies**

opinion. A 1996 survey by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies indicated that on many issues, African American voters might seem receptive to Republican appeals.

Pluralities of African Americans favor no benefit increases for single mothers on welfare who have additional children and support school vouchers. More than 70 percent of African Americans support positions on school prayer, a \$500-per-child federal tax credit and "three strikes and you're out" laws that could not be described as anything but mainstream Republican.

But the Joint Center survey indicated that while more than 60 percent of African Americans think of themselves as either conservative or moderate, only 8.7 percent identify themselves as Republicans. This may be because there are some public policy issues on which African Americans flatly disagree with the GOP. Blacks have strongly opposed Republican proposals to reduce Medicare spending growth (84.9 percent opposed); although, in this regard blacks differ little from the general population. Further, concerning the federal budget, African Americans (86.9 percent) prefer smaller tax cuts and more social spending rather than larger cuts and less spending. Finally, a large majority of African Americans continue to support affirmative action (59.9 percent vs. 34.6 percent).

### **The dangers of a divided electorate**

The partisanship strategy has problems for African Americans heading into the 2000 national election, the most glaring of which is the resemblance in both style and substance of the two dominant political parties. The partisanship strategy is in fact a dependent leverage strategy, calling for African Americans to invest their political muscle and fortunes in one party or the other in hopes of accruing substantive policy payoffs once the respective party gains power. Since the late 1980s, however, the Democrats (the party that African Americans currently side with) have ventured on a centrist-to-conservative political philosophy, narrowing the

**Thirty-five years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act, critical questions are being raised about African Americans' electoral strategy and its effectiveness.**



Peter Morenus

a youth panel discussion, the "new Democrats" sent a message: They no longer would be pressed to heed the issue concerns of African Americans. This prompted Jackson to view the two dominant parties as flip sides of the same coin, which he termed the "Demopublicans" and the "Republicrats."

Another problem with the dependent leverage strategy is that it calls for African Americans to split their electoral support and resources between the two dominant parties. This version of dependent leverage politics is critical of the one-party emphasis (Democratic or Republican) and suggests that African Americans give equally to both parties so as not to be ignored by one and taken for granted by the other. But the American electoral system respects numbers (money and votes, for instance), and a divided African American electorate is likely made weaker when it casts its fortunes in multiple directions. Moreover, at this juncture, the Republican Party is not likely to draw significant numbers of African Americans to its tent because of its perceived general hostility and indifference to African Americans. The third-party option has been pursued, but has rarely offered

ideological differences between the two parties.

One of the crowning achievements of this rightward drift is the Democratic Leadership Council. The so-called "new Democrats" have both the look and appeal of their Republican antagonists, and have worked diligently to distance themselves from 1960s-style Democratic Party liberalism. When then-presidential candidate Bill Clinton chastised Jesse Jackson at a 1992 Rainbow Coalition conference for permitting the rapper-activist Sister Souljah to participate in

African Americans sufficient political leverage.

Unfortunately what African Americans bring to the 2000 election sweepstakes is more dependency leverage politics. Yet again, most African American voters will cast ballots for the Democratic presidential nominee, as well as Democratic candidates for lesser offices. And one more time we are likely to see mostly symbolic victories in the form of appointments to high office, but limited substantive policy on the issues that concern African Americans most.

## First UConn Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors Honored

### STANLEY BIGGS ▼

"You can't do much without having someone behind you," says Stanley Biggs, who acknowledged the support and encouragement of three people in the making of his career. "You stand on a lot of shoulders."

Biggs said his wife, Pat, has always been there to nurture his career. "She's been behind me in whatever I wanted to do." At 30, I returned to college to earn a Ph.D., and that meant taking a vow of poverty for a while."

A native of Pueblo, Colo., Biggs admits he wasn't a good student during his undergraduate days at the University of Southern Colorado.

"One professor, Marion Boss, had confidence in me and encouraged me to do a lot of things I wouldn't have done," says Biggs. While attending graduate school at Columbia University, he was inspired by a second professor, Mary Ellen Oliverio, who piqued his interest in research.

Recognized internationally as one of the pioneers in the field of behavioral audit processes, Biggs holds the title of KPMG Professor of Accounting, an honor granted to 45 accounting professors across the nation.



Peter Morenus

### LYNN BLOOM ►

Two men greatly influenced the career of Lynn Bloom, who came to the University in 1988 as the first holder of the Aetna Endowed Chair in Writing: husband Martin, a UConn professor of social work, and the late Dr. Benjamin Spock.

"I'm from an era when only 5 percent of the Ph.Ds. were awarded to women," says Bloom. "Fortunately, the era has passed," she said, adding that her husband served as mentor and babysitter for their sons, freeing her for dissertation work.

"Dr. Spock gave me my second big break," Bloom recalled. "We were using his books in raising our sons," said Bloom, who was teaching part time at Case Western Reserve University when Spock was on the medical school faculty. "I called up America's hero and said 'I'd like to write your biography.'" The biography was written against the advice of her department chair.

However, the situation reversed itself and Spock gave birth to Bloom's career.

"He [Spock] took the jargon out of my vocabulary," says Bloom. "I learned from him how to write clearly and in the human voice."



**T**he wonder of life's influences and circumstances has brought six University of Connecticut professors together for the highest of honors at the pinnacle of their careers.

The six are the first to be recognized as University of Connecticut Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors.

The six honorees credit events and people, from the Russian satellite Sputnik to Dr. Spock, in launching their respective careers. But for all six, there was a special teacher who put them on track and then kept them there.

Honored for their achievements and exceptional distinction in scholarship, teaching and service are: Stanley Biggs, professor of accounting; Lynn Bloom, professor of

## HOWARD LASNIK ▼

"As far back as I can remember, I always wanted a career in teaching," says Howard Lasnik, an internationally respected leader in the field of linguistics. "When I was young, my next door neighbor, at the time, remembers I taught her how to read. I was six and she was five."

Lasnik, says his sister remembers his fledgling childhood teaching, too. "She told me that when she was three and I was eight I taught her to write her name so she could get a library card."

As soon as he learned there was a profession that combined teaching and research, the Washington, D.C., native says he knew that's what he wanted to do. Lasnik's studies in English literature took him to the English department at Harvard University where he held a Woodrow Wilson Graduate Fellowship and a Harvard Graduate Prize Fellowship. He earned a Ph.D. in linguistics from MIT.

An editorial board member of five leading linguistics journals, Lasnik is a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, where he currently is on sabbatical.

**English; Howard Lasnik, professor of linguistics; Joseph Renzulli, professor of educational psychology; Bruce Stave, professor of history; and Michael Turvey, professor of psychology.**



## JOSEPH RENZULLI ▼

The launch of Sputnik in 1957 and America's fear it was no longer the world's leader in science turned out to be the right stuff for Joseph Renzulli, a self-described scrappy kid from Oakhurst, N.J.

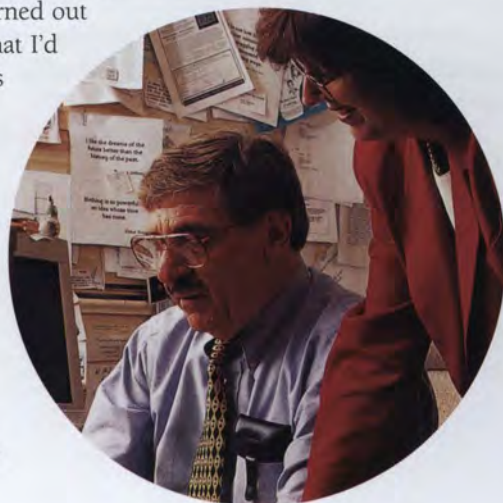
Renzulli, who today is one of the country's renowned figures in education of the gifted and talented, was teaching at a school in his hometown during the late 1950s and asked to establish a program for gifted students.

"There was no curriculum, no didactic model," says Renzulli, the Neag Professor of Gifted Education and Talent Development at UConn, where he also serves as the director of The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented.

"It turned out to be what I'd

always hoped teaching would be," he said of his first program for gifted students. "I had the academic freedom to use the classroom as a laboratory. From that experience I realized that the major goal of learning should be that it is fun."

Renzulli's experience earned him a role as senior research associate for the White House Task Force on Education for the Gifted and Talented, and his Enrichment Triad Model has been cited as the most widely used approach for special programs for the gifted and talented.



William Mercer



## BRUCE STAVE ◀

Bruce Stave, who has been director of the University's Center for Oral History since its founding in 1981, literally owes his success to the ups and downs on Wall Street.

"I was a junior in college and an elevator operator on Wall Street," recalled Stave. "I kept landing the elevator in the middle of the floors and left after one week."

Stave, however, landed on his feet and a ground floor summer job as a pollster for Samuel Lubell, a journalist and author of several books on American politics.

"As a consequence of working for him, I interviewed people about Fords and Chevrolets, and traveled around the country," recalled Stave, who has authored 10 books. Later, as a university student, Stave conducted political polling in the 1958 congressional election and 1960 presidential election. Both whetted his appetite for interviewing and history.

A Fulbright Professor of American History at Beijing University, China, in 1984-85, Stave currently is conducting oral histories of members of the African National Congress. He also has compiled oral histories of Holocaust survivors, mill workers, European immigrants who migrated to America and residents of China.

## MICHAEL TURVEY ▶

Michael Turvey has remained in contact with his elementary and high school teachers in London where he grew up in the midst of bombed-out buildings during World War II.

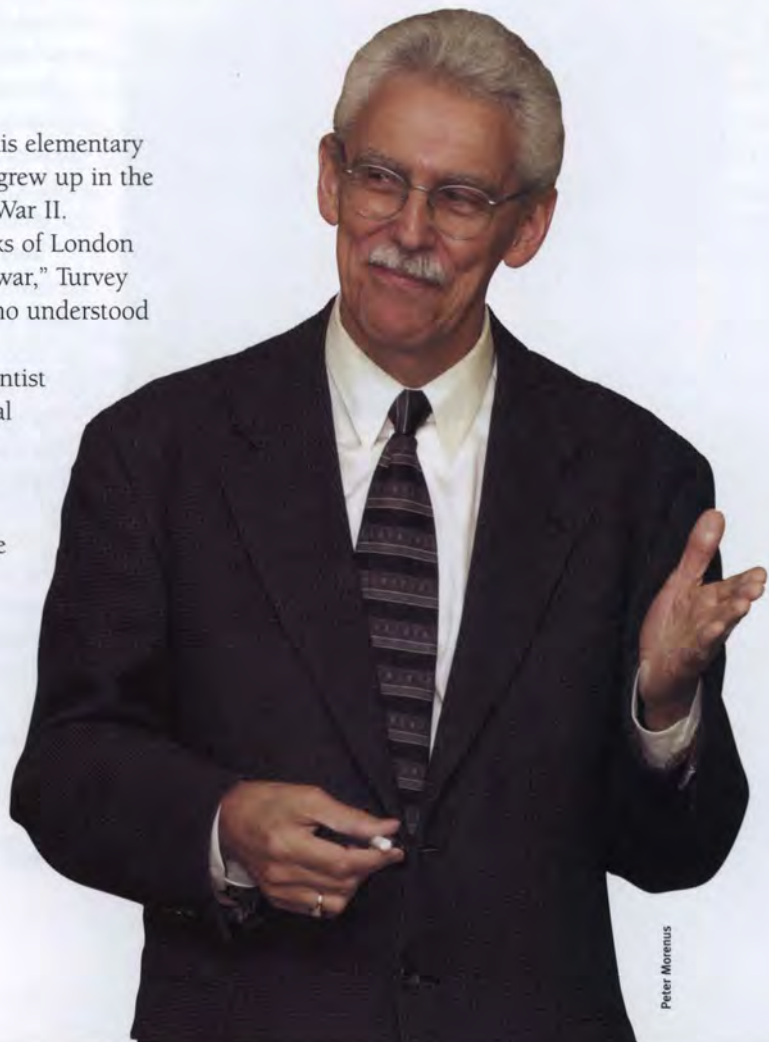
"We were living in an apartment in the docks of London that were pretty much demolished during the war," Turvey recalls. "I was educated by nuns and priests who understood the significance of education."

Turvey, who was named a Distinguished Scientist Lecturer in 1998 by the American Psychological Association, says that his father, a professional gambler, encouraged him by always bringing home books.

Turvey was studying kinesiology at Ohio State University when a professor, Delos Wickens, convinced him to shift over to psychology.

"He got me a teaching assistantship even when I didn't know psychology. 'You'll pick it up in a few weeks he said,'" recalls Turvey, who went on to win more than a dozen honors, awards and fellowships in the field.

— Claudia Chamberlain





## Recently published works by UConn alumni and faculty

### Jack Kerouac: Documenting his own descent

As *On the Road* climbed best-seller lists and attracted legions of readers, author Jack Kerouac plunged into a world marked by depression and heavy drinking.

In *Jack Kerouac, Selected Letters 1957-1969* (Viking Press), UConn English Professor Ann Charters gives readers a new understanding of the beat writer and his life through his personal correspondence.

"I wanted to tell the story of his life through the letters," Charters says about the second volume of Kerouac's letters she has edited.

Charters, initially excited about studying more of Kerouac's letters, found herself fighting the temptation to walk away from the volume as the author's downward spiral became more apparent.

"No one had ever seen it documented this way," Charters says.

While Kerouac's personal troubles were a poorly kept secret, they were in sharp contrast to the life he portrayed to the public.

"It wasn't a surprise," Charters says. "It's just that he continued to write so glowingly about his life in books like *Big Sur*."

Despite Kerouac's marked decline, his friends, who included fellow beat writers Allan Ginsberg and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, remained supportive, Charters notes. Even today, the author is an inspiration to many young people who consider reading *On the Road* a rite of passage and admire his escape from conventional life.

"He's part of the American dream that we can do anything," Charters says.

In Kerouac's life, there is also a cautionary tale, she adds.

"Now we know what happens when you throw yourself off the cliff," Charters says. "You get hurt."

Charters, who calls herself "unbeat," learned an important lesson from Kerouac.

"I learned from him that great writing is mysterious. It can't be learned, it's there," she says.



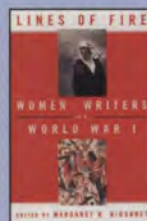
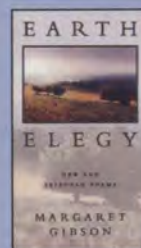
## ALSO OF INTEREST

### *Earth Elegy: New and Selected Poems*

Margaret Gibson

(Louisiana State University Press)

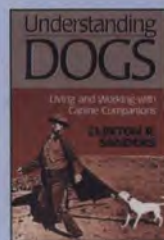
In this collection of strong, lyric poems, Margaret Gibson, professor of English, explores the relationships between humans and the earth, as well as with each other. Deeply rooted in the spiritual, *Earth Elegy* "partakes of [Rainer Maria] Rilke's apprehension of poetry as 'the natural prayer of the human soul,'" says reviewer Carolyn Forché.



### *Lines of Fire: Women Writers of World War I*

Edited by Margaret R. Higonnet  
(Plume)

*Lines of Fire: Women Writers of World War I*, offers insights into war as seen through the eyes of a diverse group of women. Margaret Higonnet, a professor of English who edited *Lines of Fire*, spent a dozen years collecting works for the book, which includes poetry, journalistic accounts, short stories, medical accounts and political treatises. Authors range from well-known writers such as Virginia Woolf, to historical figures like Jeanette Rankin, the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and the notorious spy Mata Hari. Others include an anonymous Irish woman who speculates about whether her husband is alive and a Hungarian countess who writes about her experience inspecting Russian POW camps for the Red Cross.



### *Understanding Dogs: Living and Working with Canine Companions*

Clinton R. Sanders

(Temple University Press)

Clint Sanders knows dogs, works with dogs, loves dogs. Since he was 12 years old, he has always owned dogs, although he may prefer to say "lived with," rather than "owned." For more than a decade, Sanders, a professor of sociology, also has researched dogs, though not in the usual sense. Instead, he has looked at how people relate to and interact with dogs from a sociological point of view, the result of which is *Understanding Dogs: Living and Working with Canine Companions*. "We live in a mixed-species society," says Sanders. "Dogs are not small, funny, slightly retarded people, they're dogs. They think differently than we do, and it's important for me—for us—to understand them."

# News&Notes

## 1940s

Raymond Bartman '41 (ENG) and Jeanne Bartman '43 (SFS) are enjoying retirement at their condo at the Ocean Hills Country Club in Oceanside, Calif.

Virgil F. Voketa '47 (BUS) was presented with the Bronze Star by the U.S. Army in a ceremony at Fort Hamilton, N.Y. in November 1999 for "meritorious service in ground combat" during World War II in the Pacific Theatre of Operations. Virgil retired in 1989 after 20 years as executive vice president of a nationally known management consulting firm.

Edmund Joseph Chrostowski '49 (CLAS) is a semiretired newspaper editor, still writing "From the Crow's Nest," a weekly column on Connecticut state politics and economics in the *New Canaan Advertiser*.

## 1950s

Richard W. Underwood '51 (CLAS) has retired from NASA after nearly 30 years. Richard, who was a supervisory aerospace technologist at the Johnson Space Center, taught space photography to NASA astronauts. He now is a guest enrichment program lecturer for Crystal Cruises.

Nancy Kovel Dederer '53 (SFS) has retired from Viad Corp (formerly Dial Corp Greyhound Corporation), of Phoenix, where Nancy was corporate executive director of communications.

Peninnah Manchester Schram '56 (SFA) has been accepted into *Who's Who in America*. Peninnah is a nationally recognized storyteller, and a senior professor of speech and drama at Stern College of Yeshiva University in New York City.



U.S. Army General (ret.) Robert W. RisCassi '58 (CLAS) has been elected to the board of directors for ATK, an aerospace and defense company.

Paul Joseph Magnarella '59 (BUS) has been appointed director of the University of Florida's program in anthropology and law, and has authored the book, *Justice in Africa: Rwanda's Genocide, Its Courts, and the UN Criminal Tribunal* (Ashgate Press).

Lewis Putnam Turco '59 (CLAS) recently published two companion books from The University Press of New England: *The Book of Literary Terms: The Genres of Fiction, Drama, Nonfiction, Literary Criticism and Scholarship* and *The Book of Forms: A Handbook of Poetics*, 3rd edition. Lewis is professor emeritus of English at SUNY-Oswego.

## 1960s

Edward Barry '60 (CLAS) retired in March 2000 after 18 years as president of Oxford University Press U.S.A.

David E. Flinchbaugh '60 M.S., '64 Ph.D., a quantum physicist and interdisciplinary technologist, has received the prestigious Millennium Award from the Orlando, Fla., section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

Bernard Fried '61 Ph.D. is co-editor of the book *Echinostomes as Experimental Models for Biological Research*.

Jane T. Boggini '62 (NUR) is working with Doctors Without Borders, a global army of 2,000 physicians and other medical personnel treating victims in the world's most desperate and

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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

## ABBREVIATION KEY

### School and/or College abbreviations for baccalaureate graduates

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

### Graduate/professional degree abbreviations

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

dangerous places. The organization, also known as Medecins Sans Frontieres, received the 1999 Nobel Peace Prize.

Thomas F. Shea '62 (BUS), '71 J.D. has retired after 35 years with CIGNA Corporation's legal division. Tom's most recent position was chief counsel for CIGNA's Retirement and Investment Services Division. He lives in Simsbury, Conn.

Ted Haddad '63 (CLAS), a senior vice president of federal operations at CCD Online Systems, Inc., was honored with a plaque from the Federal Chief Information Officers Council for the company's "exceptional assistance in meeting the Y2K challenge."

Harry A. Marmion '63 M.A., '65 Ph.D. has been selected for the 1999 Samuel Hardy Award by the International Tennis Hall of Fame. The award is given annually to a United States Tennis Association volunteer in recognition of long and outstanding service to the sport of tennis.

Judy Ann Kaplan '64 (CLAS) was elected a distinguished practitioner by the National Academy of Practice in Social Work for her significant contributions to health care practice.

Jack C. Norbeck '64 (CANR) is president of Norbeck Research, a company specializing in educational library exhibits on the subjects of steam engines and draft animals.

John Fitteron '67 (BUS) was honored by the Norwalk High School Alumni Association as a distinguished graduate of Norwalk High School. John is the senior vice president, treasurer, and chief financial officer of Getty Petroleum.

Andrea Loftus Jones '68 (SFS) has written a book of historical trivia about the University of Notre Dame and the South Bend, Ind., area titled, *Legends and Losers*. Andrea lives in South Bend with her husband, Duke.

Billie R. DeWalt '69 (CLAS), '77 Ph.D. has been named a Distinguished Service Professor of Public and International Affairs and Latin American Studies by the University of

Pittsburgh. Billie is an internationally recognized scholar on issues related to social justice, environmental conservation and economic development in South America.

**Leslie J. Harrison '69 (CLAS)** has been named president and chief executive officer of Carelift International, an international humanitarian aid and health care development organization in Bala Cynwyd, Pa.



## 1970s

**Beth Krueger '71 (SFS)** recently earned certification as a senior professional in human resources from the Human Resources Certification Institute.



Beth is director of human resource development

at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich.

**Peter Shaw '71 M.B.A.** has been named to the advisory board of Venture Catalyst Inc. in San Diego, Calif. Most recently, Peter was executive vice president of corporate development for NetObjects.

**Naomi Singer '71 (CLAS)** has co-authored two books: *A+ Activities for First Grade* and *A+ Activities for Second Grade*. Naomi has been a language arts and reading specialist in the Newton, Mass., public schools for the past 24 years.

**Charlotte M. Gradie '73 (CLAS), '75 M.A., '90 Ph.D.** has published a book, *The Tepehuan Revolt of 1616: Militarism, Evangelism, and Colonialism on 17th Century Nueva Vizcaya* (University of Utah Press). Charlotte is associate professor of Latin American history at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

**Peter A. Johnson '74 (ENG)** has been promoted to deputy

director of the City of Phoenix (Ariz.) Street Transportation Department.

**Beau Thurnauer '74 (CLAS)** is chief of police in Coventry, Conn. Beau, who earned an M.P.A. from the University of Hartford in 1992, retired as a captain from the Manchester (Conn.) Police Department in 1998.

**Larry La Voie '75 (CLAS), '80 M.A., '81 Ph.D.** was named the U.S. Health Care Financing Administration's (HCFA) employee of the month for March. Larry was honored for developing an easier method of accessing flu, pneumonia and mammography data used to improve care for Medicare beneficiaries.

**Donald Grailich '76 (ENG)** has been promoted to senior advisory consultant for Advanced Technologies and Services, L.L.C. in Wallingford, Conn.

**Timothy N. Tinari '76 (BUS)** has received the designation Lifetime Certified Purchasing

Manager from the National Association of Purchasing Management; and the designation of Certified Mail and Distribution Systems Manager from the National Certification Board of the Mail Systems Management Association. Tim lives in Branford, Conn., with his wife, Lisa, and sons, Daniel and Peter.

**John Wenke '76 M.A., '80 Ph.D.** has won the largest individual award given in fiction writing this year by the Maryland State Arts Council. John's short stories have appeared in *Writers Forum*, *Chariton Review*, *Cimarron Review*, *North Atlantic Review* and *Chesapeake East*. John is a professor of English at Salisbury (Md.) State University.



**Barrington L. McFarlane '77 (BUS)** is vice president for finance and administration of The Wilderness Society in Washington, D.C.

## PROFILE

### Knowledge is power

**Susan Molloy Hubbard '68 (NUR)** uses the world's newest communications medium—the Internet—to help treat people suffering from one of the world's oldest killers—cancer.

"I gave direct nursing care to patients for many years, but recognized that limited the number of patients that I could help," says Hubbard, who is director of the International Cancer Information Center at the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. "When I got involved with the dissemination of information about cancer, I realized that I could help thousands of patients."

Actually, Hubbard helps to reach hundreds of thousands of patients through the information the ICIC provides through its Web site ([cancernet.nci.nih.gov/](http://cancernet.nci.nih.gov/)) and publications. She considers her work at the ICIC to be a logical extension of the reasons she became a nurse.

"Growing up, I was profoundly influenced by people that I saw helping others," says Hubbard, whose parents and sister also are UConn alumni. "There are lots of things you can do with your life. For me, one of the most important things is to make the world a better place and to help people."

During more than 30 years as a registered nurse, including the



last 28 in the NIH, Hubbard has garnered many accolades. In 1998, she received the U.S. Public Health Service's Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award given to USPHS officials for management of health programs that have a major impact on the nation's health. Hubbard, who also holds the rank of captain in the USPHS, was recognized for "exceptional success" in delivering "timely, reliable cancer information to the medical community and the public." She also recently won a Good Housekeeping Award for Women in Government.

"I'm a very strong believer that patients should be active participants in decisions about their treatment," says Hubbard. "They can't do that unless they have the right information."

As a UConn student, Hubbard was profoundly influenced by the late Carolyn Ladd Widmer, who was then dean of the School of Nursing. Hubbard, who received the first Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award from the School of Nursing in 1997, has little doubt that Widmer would have been proud of her role at the ICIC.

"At that time, nursing was still struggling to escape from the image of being a handmaiden to doctors. Dean Widmer clearly believed nursing was, in fact, a profession and that it had an independent function," Hubbard says. "She had a very progressive vision about what nurses could be." — Gary E. Frank

## Save the Date!

### ■ Alumni Day

The 2nd annual UConn Alumni Day at Lake Compounce Amusement Park in Bristol, Conn., will be held August 11. For more details, call the Alumni Association at 1-888-UC-ALUM-1.

### ■ Greek Alumni Homecoming Reception and Homecoming Step Show

The 2nd annual Greek Alumni Homecoming Reception will be held October 28 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Shippee Hall. Watch for registration information in your Homecoming mailing from the Alumni Association.

The Center for Greek Life will hold its first Homecoming Step Show on October 28 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on either event, contact the Center for Greek Life at 860-486-5173 or by e-mail at [judith.preston@uconn.edu](mailto:judith.preston@uconn.edu).

**Robert Walker '77 (CLAS)** is the founder and principal of Surveys & Forecasts, LLC, a marketing research and consulting firm based in Fairfield, Conn. His wife, **Lili Diorio Walker '78 (ED), '94 M.B.A.** is a middle school computer teacher for the Fairfield, Conn. public schools. The Walkers live in Fairfield with their two children.

### Jeffrey L. Brickman '78



(CLAS) has been named president of Meridian Hospital Corp. in New Jersey, and executive vice president and chief operating officer for Meridian Health System.

**Peter Paul LoCascio '78 (CANR)** is working on a Ph.D. in educational leadership at Andrews University. Peter earned an M.F.A. in painting from the School of the Art Institute in Chicago.

He also completed his M.A. in counseling at DePaul University in 1994.

### Paul David Osypuk '78 M.A.

is a recipient of a 1999 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Paul is a teacher at Mansfield (Conn.) Middle School.

### Thomas Connolly '79

(CLAS) recently was promoted to managing director for global compensation and benefits for Warburg Dillon Read, a division of UBS AG, in Zurich, Switzerland. Tom joined UBS in 1998 and relocated with his wife, **Janet Connolly '80 (SFS)** and their two children.

**Ray Petty '79 (ED)** is an associate professor of education at the American University of Puerto Rico.

**Sally King Witt '79 (SFA), '81 M.A.** is a clinical hypnotherapist, neuro-linguistic programming master practitioner, and trainer at the Holistic Success Center in Morrisville, Pa.

## 1980s

**Jay Hruska '81 (BUS)** is a senior director of the Brokerage Services Groups of the Stamford, Conn. office of Cushman & Wakefield. Jay specializes in corporate leasing and investment sales in Fairfield County and Westchester County, N. Y.

**Kevin McPherson '81 M.B.A.** is vice president for sales at Inc.com, in Boston, Mass.

**Robert M. Wonneberger '81 (CLAS)** has joined the law firm of Shipman & Goodwin LLP as a partner in the business department. Robert works out of the firm's Stamford, Conn. office.

**James A. Barrett '82 (SFS)** was promoted to principal and vice president of Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc., an architecture firm in Newton Center, Mass. Jim lives in Newton, Mass., with his wife, Sharon, and their two children, Gregory and Ellen.

**Sal Tassone '82 (CLAS)** is a producer of commercials, feature films and music videos for Zenmaster Films.

**Scott D.H. Jeffrey '83 (CLAS)** has been named director of alliance management at Texaco at the company's corporate center in White Plains, N.Y.

**Roderike Pohl '83 (CLAS), '98 Ph.D.** recently was promoted to director of preclinical research at Pharmaceutical Discovery Corporation, where she served as director of biopharmaceutics since 1998.

**Stuart Wright '83 Ph.D.** has been named the 1999-2000 University Scholar at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.



The University Scholar is Lamar's top award recognizing research and creative activity. A professor of sociology, Stuart

is nationally recognized for his research of religious movements and has been active in recent years in studying environmental movements.

**Paul Kauffman '84 (BUS)** is a director in the real estate firm of Cushman & Wakefield.

**Brian P. McKeon '84 (BUS)** has been appointed senior vice president and chief financial officer for The Timberland Company in Stratham, N.H. Most recently, Brian was vice president and chief financial officer for Pepsi-Cola North America, a division of PepsiCo.

**David J. Cox '85 (BUS)** has been appointed chief financial officer at SAFT America, Inc. an Alcatel subsidiary. David served as vice president of administration with the company's Lithium Battery Division. David lives in Morganton, N.C.



**Gary S. Lafond '85 (BUS)** has been promoted to principal at Wolf & Co., Certified Public Accountants and Business

Consultants.

**Stephen C. Patten '85 (CLAS)** has joined The Proto Group, L.L.C., a commercial real estate firm based in North Haven, Conn. Stephen is a resident of Rocky Hill, Conn.

**Bonnie Potocki '85 (CANR)** is the president of Eco-Solutions, an environmental consulting company. Bonnie resides in Watertown, Mass., and serves on the Watertown Conservation Commission.

## Reunion News

■ **Class of 1975 – 25th Reunion**  
Come on Home! The Class of 1975 will be celebrating its 25th Year Reunion on October 28, 2000, during Homecoming.

For more details, contact Kim Lachut at the UConn Alumni Association at 888-822-5861 by e-mail at [klachut@alumni.uconn.edu](mailto:klachut@alumni.uconn.edu) or log on at [www.uconnalumni.com](http://www.uconnalumni.com).

■ **Attention Class of 1951!**  
Volunteers are needed for the Class of 1951's 50th-Year Reunion committee. If you are interested in the Reunion Committee, please contact Kim Lachut at 888-822-5861.

■ **Beta Sigma Gamma Reunion**  
September 5-7, 2000 — For more information, contact Art Schwartz at 310-302-1077.

■ **Sigma Chi Alpha Reunion**  
September 23, 2000 — For more information, contact Dave Brangaccio at 203-374-6308.

**Raymond Lawrence Baribeault '86 (BUS)** recently was named director of the law firm of Suisman, Shapiro, Wool, Brennan, Gray & Greenberg, P.C. Raymond also has been named a director of Madonna Place, a nonprofit agency supporting mothers and children, and the Norwich Heritage Museum in Norwich, Conn.

**Mark H. Caswell '86 (SFA)** is video productions manager at Sikorsky Aircraft. Mark resides in Prospect, Conn., with his wife and three children.

**Carole C. Gallucci '86 (CLAS), '94 Ph.D.** is co-editor with Ellen Nerenberg of the forthcoming anthology, *Writing Beyond Fascism: Cultural Resistance in the Life and Works of Alba de Céspedes*, to be published by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. Carole is an assistant professor of Italian at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

**Margaret A. Gallucci '86 (CLAS)** has been awarded a fellowship from Harvard University to spend the academic year 2000-2001 at the Villa I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence, Italy.

**Alisa Herrington '86 (SFA)** has performed on bassoon with ensembles including the Boston Philharmonic, New England Philharmonic, Brooklyn Chamber Orchestra, Regina (Sask.) Opera Company, Bronx Philharmonic, AIMS Institute, Rome Festival Orchestra and the Grand Teton Orchestra. Alisa has taught at the Siena Academy for Music and Arts, New England Conservatory Extension Division, and Wilkes University.

**Karen Jackie-Hinchcliffe '86 (CLAS) and Raymond Hinchcliffe '87 (BUS)** announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Jackie, on

March 13, 2000. The family resides in East Berlin, Conn.

**William D. Wilcox '86 (CLAS)** has been named chief compliance officer for Travelers Life and Annuity in Hartford, Conn. William has been with Travelers since 1996, serving as general counsel for Towers Square Securities, Inc., and as counsel to the agency sales, life and long-term care divisions and the Travelers Portfolio Group.

**Andrew S. Goldstrom '87 (BUS), '91 Ph.D.** has been promoted to partner and managing director for the Southeast region for United Systems Integrators Corporation, a real estate corporate advisory firm in Stamford, Conn.



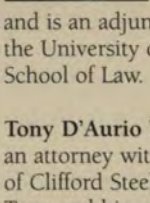
**Anne D. Grossi '87 M.S.W.** is director of child and adolescent services at CM Behavioral Health, a community mental health organization based in Salem, N.H.



**Giovanna Tiberii Weller '87 (CLAS), '91 J.D.** has been named a partner at the law firm Carmody & Torrance LLP in Waterbury, Conn. Giovanna is a member of the Connecticut and American Bar associations, and is an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law.



**Tony D'Aurio '88 (CLAS)** is an attorney with the law offices of Clifford Steele in Atlanta, Ga. Tony and his wife, Debbie, also co-founded Advancement Opportunities in 1998, a computer technology placement agency.



## PROFILE

### From pot washer to CEO

While at UConn, **Robert Rodin '77 (BUS)** worked as a pot washer in a South Campus cafeteria. In the hierarchy of cafeteria jobs, it was at the protozoan level. The first night he walked into the kitchen, the chef took one look at him and said, disdainfully, "There are two sides to every pot, kid."

Rolling up his sleeves, Rodin thought, "This guy will remember me for the rest of his life. He'll never have a better pot washer."

Rodin, winner of the UConn Alumni Association's 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award, tackled that job with the same unflagging work ethic he has invested in every job he's ever had, an attitude he regards as a gift from his parents. Long after Rodin had graduated, he and the chef remained in touch.

Twenty-three years later, Rodin recalls the rocky start of his business career. "When I graduated it was really hard to get a job," he recalls. "I was living in the insurance capital of the world, but I was constantly rejected because I didn't have experience."

After an abortive attempt at building a business specializing in turning around failing restaurants, the early '80s found Rodin working as a line tester for Sprint. Then he joined the sales department of Marshall Industries, an electronic parts distribution company. "I was determined to make it," he says. "To succeed, I would go anywhere they sent me and tackle any job."

The former pot washer's zeal started getting noticed. By 1992, Rodin was named Marshall's president, and became chief executive officer a year later. He set about redesigning Marshall's entire organization, ending management-by-objectives, plans and incentives, abolishing commissions for salespeople, while changing every operating system.

In 1994, Marshall launched the "virtual distribution" model that earned it the top ranking on the *Information Week* 500 list of leading information technology companies and a spot on the *CIO Magazine* top 10 list of "best and brightest e-commerce companies." *Advertising Age* named Marshall its top business-to-business Web site for two years in a row. Incidentally, Marshall grew from a \$500 million company to a \$2 billion global giant in just six years. Rodin detailed the company's rise in his book, *Free, Perfect and Now* (Simon & Schuster 1999).

Last fall, Rodin sold Marshall to Avnet, creating the largest electronic components distributor in the Americas. Rodin, who was named one of the "Top 100" leaders for the next century by *PC World*, now is chairman and chief executive officer of eConnections, an Internet company that manages complex supply chains for the electronics industry. In the rapidly changing world of e-commerce, companies must change in order to survive, Rodin says, quickly adding, "The values that matter the most—integrity, respect and honesty—never change." —Jim H. Smith



Peter Morenus



## Are you connected?

There are many ways to establish bonds during your college days, from a fraternity or sorority, to an intramural team, a cultural center or, perhaps, the marching band. The UConn Alumni Association's Affinity Group Program is designed to meet the increased interest among alumni to identify with a specific group that had a positive impact on their college experiences.

*If you are interested in learning more about how you can form an affinity group or plan an affinity reunion, contact Kristina Giuliano at 888-822-5861, or by e-mail at [kgiuliano@alumni.uconn.edu](mailto:kgiuliano@alumni.uconn.edu).*

**Celine Ann Duffy '88 (CLAS)** was promoted to vice president of Internet marketing at EDGAR Online, Inc., an online financial information services company in South Norwalk, Conn.

**Mark Snyder '88 (SFA)** is an active freelance artist. He has toured throughout the United States and Asia performing with various orchestras as both a member of the oboe section and as a soloist in such venues



as the Philippine Cultural Center, Taipei Center for the Arts, Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Mark also is on the faculty of the Children's Orchestra Society in Manhasset, N.Y. and the Portledge School in Locust Valley, N.Y.

**Peter T. Szmonik '88 (CLAS)** is a principal in the management consulting services division of Price-Waterhouse Coopers LLP in Hartford, Conn.

**Mohamed El-Bermawy '89 M.S., Ph.D.** is an assistant professor of chemistry at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Mo.

**Matthew Hendison '89 (CLAS)** has opened a My Gym franchise, offering aerobics for children in Shrewsbury, N.J.

**John Leonard '89 (ENG)** has been appointed vice president of engineering and product development for the Dual-Lite and Prescolite Life Safety Products Brands of Lighting



Corporation of America, a U.S. Industries company, located in Cheshire, Conn.

**Tracey Ann McCaffery '89 (CLAS)** and Craig T. Brown were married November 13, 1999. The couple resides in Arlington, Va.

**Pamela McLaughlin Koontz '89 (PHR)** and her husband, Joseph, announce the birth of their third child, Claudia Helen, on January 18, 2000. Claudia joins her siblings, Joseph Jr. and

Mary Katherine. The family resides in Littleton, Mass. Pamela works part-time as staff pharmacist at Lowell General Hospital.

**Kristen Melendez '89 (CLAS)** and Keith Dalton were married on March 17, 2000 in Allendale, Fla. The couple resides in Ormond Beach, Fla.

## 1990s

**Lisa Terranova Allen '90 (BUS)** and her husband, Clayton, announce the birth of triplets; daughters Abigail Mary and Anne Marie Theresa, and a son, Michael Lucian, on December 12, 1999. The triplets join their older brother, Myles. The family resides in Ansonia, Conn.

**Lisa Kegelman Macaulay '90 (ED)** and Andrew Macaulay were married in October 1999, and have moved to Arkansas for Lisa's job as customer account

## PROFILE

### Moving up . . . and out

In 1987, **Richard Mastracchio '82 (ENG)** was all set to accept a job in Denver, Colo., and move his family west when a single phone call altered his career trajectory—considerably.

"We sold our house, and were ready to move," says Mastracchio. "I got a call from NASA offering me a job in the Astronaut Office as an engineer. So we traded our Denver tickets for tickets to Houston."

The tickets to Houston ultimately led the Waterbury, Conn. native to a seat on the space shuttle Atlantis for a mission (designated STS-106) to the International Space Station scheduled for launch in September.

After graduating from UConn with a B.S. in electrical engineering and computer science, Mastracchio worked in the space system design group at Hamilton Standard in Farmington, Conn. Meanwhile, he earned an M.S. in electrical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In 1987, Mastracchio decided he wanted a change of pace and scenery, and began filling out job applications, including an astronaut application.

"Becoming an astronaut hadn't really crossed my mind before," Mastracchio says. "When I got out of college I tried to join the military as a pilot, but I don't have 20-20 vision, which you need to be a pilot. I guess I found the next best thing."

After five years in the Astronaut Office, and earning an M.S. in physical science from the University of Houston, Mastracchio



went to work in Mission Control, where he supported 17 shuttle missions as flight controller. Meanwhile, he continued to apply to become an astronaut, finally being selected in 1996.

Mastracchio qualified for flight status in 1998 and was assigned to STS-106 earlier this year. Preparation for the flight has been especially intense because the crew's training time has been radically condensed.

"A space shuttle mission is normally assigned a year in advance. We were assigned about six months in advance, so training flow is very, very tight," he says.

Although his time with his wife, Candi, and their three children is at a premium as the launch date nears, Mastracchio says he is extremely excited about his first trip to outer space.

"Out of every 100 people who get interviewed to be astronauts, perhaps 20 are selected," Mastracchio says. "Almost every one of those 100 folks would make a great astronaut. It's a great honor to be one." —Gary E. Frank

manager for Pillsbury's frozen business at Wal-Mart.

**Amy Fahy Slavik '90 (SFS) and John Slavik '90 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their second son, Joseph Timothy, on June 29, 1999. He joins his older brother, Nicholas. The family resides in Medfield, Mass.

**Cheryl Kasznay Dunbar '91 (CLAS)** and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of their second child, John Russell, on September 23, 1999. John joins his older brother, Jared Andrew. The family resides in Harwinton, Conn.

**Robin Filipczak '91 (CLAS)** and Jeff Smith were married September 18, 1999 in Boulder, Colo. **Lisa Filipczak '93 (CLAS)** served as maid of honor. Other UConn graduates attending were **Nanci Circus Lempert '91 (CLAS)**, **Ami Schneiderman Edgren '91 (CLAS)**, **Chris Edgren '91 (CLAS)** and **Cheri Marks Cavanna '90 (CLAS)**, '94 M.S.W. Robin and Jeff are living in England and have plans to move to the Netherlands.



**Kenneth Goldschneider '91 M.D.** is director of pain management at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

**Todd Grossman '91 (CLAS)** has been named vice president of strategic channels for PR Newswire. Todd, who has been with the global information distributor for six years, is responsible for managing sales in special markets such as the technology, health care, entertainment, finance and automobile industries.



## Huddle up!

Score an extra point at the UConn Alumni Association Pre-Game Huddles before home football games this fall. All members of the Alumni Association are invited to be part of our "special teams." Stop by the Alumni House two hours before game time and tackle some free food and beverages.

9/9 Colgate  
9/23 Northeastern  
10/28 S. Florida (Homecoming)  
11/4 Middle Tennessee State  
11/11 Rhode Island

*For information on becoming a member of the Alumni Association, please call 1-888-UC-ALUM-1.*

## Hosts needed

The UConn Student Alumni Association needs hosts for "Dinner with 12 Strangers," a program where alumni and friends of the University open their homes to students, faculty and alumni for small dinner parties. The program offers current and former Huskies a chance to share homemade cooking, laughter and good conversation. From casual to formal, gourmet to buffet, in palaces or apartments, all hosts are welcomed.

*If you live in Connecticut and would like to host a dinner in October, or if you want more information, contact Kristi Napolitano at 888-822-5861 or e-mail knapolitano@alumni.uconn.edu.*

**Neal M. Leibowitz '91 (CLAS)** and **Brenda Degon Leibowitz '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their first child, Hannah Grace, on February 20, 2000. The family resides in South Windsor, Conn.

**Dale Martin '91 (ENG)** and **Susan Arakelian '95 M.B.A.** were married November 20, 1999 in East Lyme, Conn. The wedding party included **Dean Martin '90 (CLAS)**, **Amy Brouwer '90 (SAH)**, **Susan Jackson '89 (BUS)**, **David Gatto '90 (ENG)**, '92 M.S., **David Wharmby '89 (BUS)**,

**Glenn Duzy '91 (ENG)**, '94 M.S., and **Steve Geig '89 (BUS)**. Dale is a senior engineer at Hubbell Premise-Wiring in Stonington, Conn. and Susan is an employee resources assistant at Pfizer in Groton, Conn.

**Christine M. Talerico '91 (SFA)** has earned a master's degree in counseling from Central Connecticut State University. Christine is a school counselor at Jonathan Law High School in Milford, Conn.

**Marci Abelson '92 (ED)** and **Lewis Chappel '93 (ENG)** were married July 11, 1998. Alumni in the wedding party included **Douglas Chappel '88 (ENG)**, **Kevin Fuhr '93 (ENG)**, **Jennifer Rollberg '93 (CLAS)** and **Alyson Rambow '93 (CLAS)**. Marci is a seventh grade teacher in Torrington, Conn. and Lewis is an engineer for Doctor's Research Group in Wolcott, Conn. The couple resides in New Hartford, Conn.

**Jonathan Arata '92 M.S.** has completed his doctorate at Brown University. Jonathan is a registered professional engineer in New Jersey.

**Angela DiDomenico '92 (CLAS)** has earned a master's of science in industrial engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Angela is working as a graduate research assistant at the university.

**Carrie Donnelly '92 (SFA)** earned a master's degree in education from Harvard University in June 1999. Carrie taught fourth grade in North Haven, Conn. for three years and now teaches in Long Beach, Calif.

**Tara Gregoloff '92 (BUS)** and **Max Sokol** were married November 6, 1999 in Chicago, Ill. UConn alumni in attendance included **Pam Triano '92 (SAH)**, **Cindy Wemmer Doto '93 (ENG)**, **Ben Doto '93 (ENG)**, **Amy Schramm '92 (SAH)**, **Debbie Daly Hajjar '90 (SFS)**, **Toni Blonski Wood '91 (CLAS)**, **Kim Lutterman '92 (BUS)**, '98 MBA, **Clare**

**Sherman Zimmitti '92 (BUS)** and **Vin Tormo '81 (PHR)**. The couple resides in Chicago, Ill.

**Heidi Reichenberger '92 (SAH)** has started a Boston-based nutrition consulting business, Apple-A-Day Nutrition. Heidi earned a master's degree from Tufts University in 1999. Heidi resides in Brighton, Mass.

**Cynthia Beacher Robinson '92 (CLAS)** and **Charles Smallwood** were married November 23, 1999.

**Jason Russell '92 (CLAS)** and **Janifer Bidwell Russell '92 (CLAS)** announce the birth of their first child, Sara Ashleigh, on January 8, 2000. Jason is a meteorologist for WGGB-TV, Channel 40 in Springfield, Mass. and the contact person for the UConn Alumni Association's club in Western Massachusetts. Janifer is a freelance marketing and Internet consultant. They live in Westfield, Mass.

## IN MEMORIAM

### ALUMNI

**Alfonse E. Budzilek '36**

**William E. Donegan '51**

**Paul R. Jarvi '50**

**Nicholas P. Kaputa '89, '93 M.S.**

**Grace J. McCulloch '40**

**Peter Newcomer '73 Ph.D.**

### FACULTY

**David A. Ivry**

**Milo Ketcham**

**Alvin M. Liberman**

**John M. Scarchuk '38, '54 M.S.**

**Maxwell Shepard**

**Andrew H. Souerwine**

### STAFF

**Milton Joseph Wroblewski Sr.**



### Save the Date!

The dedication of the Lodewick Visitors Center on the main campus in Storrs will be held on October 28 at 10 a.m. The center is located at the corner of North Eagleville and North Hillside roads.

Steve Buckheit '93 (CLAS) and Eileen Carey '93 (CLAS), '96 M.P.A. were married October 9, 1999. The wedding party included best man **Craig R. Wonson '92 (CLAS)**, Josh Krulowitz '92 (BUS), Andrew Prince '85 (BUS), maid of honor **Marci Alpert '93 (BUS)**, and bridesmaid **Rose Pantano Yap '93 (BUS)**.

Joseph L. DeLutrie '93 (CLAS) and Kristine Wiley DeLutrie '94 (CLAS) announce the birth of their second child, Ryan Joseph, on August 11, 1999. Ryan joins his older sister, Julia,

at the family home in West Hartford, Conn.

**Albertina Ponce '93 (CLAS)** has been elected to a one-year term as president of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs Washington, D.C. Chapter. Albertina received an M.B.A. in marketing and an M.S. in international business from the Smith Business School at the University of Maryland in 1998. Albertina is employed in the technology marketing group at Fannie Mae.

**William J. Bardani '94 (BUS)** and **Carolyn L. Michelson '92 (ENG)**, '97 M.B.A. were married on November 27, 1999 at the Congregational Church in Easton, Conn. Alumni in the wedding party included **Charles Michelson '91 (ENG)**, **Lisa Stevens '94 (ENG)**, **Laura Spaner '95 (NUR)**, **Robert Bardani '94 (CLAS)**, **Neil Johnson '94 (CLAS)**, **Linda Fongemy '95 (CLAS)** and **Doreen Jacius '95 (BUS)**.

**Daniel Paul Fata '94 (CLAS)** has earned a master's degree in international relations from Boston University. Daniel lives in Washington, D.C., and is

currently chief of staff to the Washington director of the Council on Foreign Relations. Daniel also is the coordinator of the Council's Atlantic Partnership Program. He also is the adjunct research fellow at the Potomac Institute as well as an advisor to the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Brian LaPlante '94 (BUS)** has been named a partner in the law firm Carrara, LaPlante, Dayian & Sowa, L.L.P., in Providence, R.I. Brian is a trial lawyer practicing in the state and federal courts of Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

**Jon Morgan '94 (BUS)** and **Kathy Vagts Morgan '95 (BUS)** announce the birth of their son, Tyler Jon, on February 13. Jon is employed by Renaissance Health Care Consulting in Cheshire, Conn., and Kathy works at Ernst & Young, L.L.C. in Hartford, Conn. The family resides in Glastonbury, Conn.

**Ann Montgomery Smith '94 M.A.** is executive director of the Partnership of Connecticut Libraries, Inc., and the author of a book on

library management titled *¿Por que lo hacemos asi? (Why do we do it this way?)*, published by the Biblioteca Nacional del Peru. The book is based on lecture notes that Ann developed while teaching library administration at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica in Lima, Peru.

**Eric Ferreri '95 (CLAS)** and **Stefanie Pratola '97 (PHR)** were married September 5, 1999 in Rocky Hill, Conn. UConn alumni in the wedding party included best man **Chris Alexopoulos '94 (CLAS)**, groomsman **Joseph Jannetto '94 (CLAS)**, and bridesmaids **Jackie Bastoni '95 (PHR)**, and **Ann O'Brien '97**. Eric is a reporter with *The Herald-Sun* in Durham, N.C., and Stefanie is a Doctor of Pharmacy candidate at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C. The couple lives in Raleigh, N.C.

**Barnaby W. Horton '95 J.D.** and his wife Cathy announce the birth of their son, Carter Wells, on March 16. Barnaby is in his first term in the Connecticut House of

## JORGENSEN AUDITORIUM 2000-2001

### A sampling of events from the Subscription Series

**An Evening with Betty Buckley**  
**Nov. 10 & 11, 2000** One of Broadway's brightest stars brings you an evening of Broadway hits, American standards and contemporary hits.



**Ying Quartet & Jon Nakamatsu, piano**  
**March 13, 2001** The Jorgensen brings these two extraordinary talents together for a performance you won't soon forget.



**Pilobolus**  
**February 3, 2001**  
For nearly 30 years, their innovative blend of acrobatics and imagination has delighted audiences around the world.

For more information about events at the Jorgensen Auditorium call 860-486-4226. For more on cultural happenings at UConn, consult the campus master calendar at [www.ca.uconn.edu/mastercalendar](http://www.ca.uconn.edu/mastercalendar).



## Welcome to UCONN Alumni Association's Who Wants to Be a Member?

Which of the following is a benefit of membership?

**A:** 10% discount  
at the  
UConn Co-op

**B:** Pre-game huddles  
before home  
football games

**C:** The chance to show  
your support  
for your alma mater

**D: All of the above**

Is that your final answer?

Use a lifeline – Call your UConn Alumni Association – Join today

# 1-888-UC-ALUM-1

**That's my final answer!**

## Show your True Blue Pride – Join the UConn Alumni Association Today

Representatives and continues to practice law.

Todd Klein '94 (BUS) and Jessica Lutin were married September 26, 1998 at the Sheraton-Bradley in Windsor Locks, Conn. UConn alumni in attendance included the best man Chris Hayes '94 (SAH), ushers Tom Mushinski '95 (CLAS), Mike Sollicito '95 (CLAS). Also attending were Jack Klein '78 (BUS), Kathryn Morgan '95 (BUS), Jon Morgan '94 (BUS), Jodi Lussier '87 (CLAS), Glenn Lussier '85 (ENG), Eric Morrison '94 (CLAS), Alexander Brack '94 (CLAS), Michele Mezritz '95 (BUS), Lisa Williams '95 (BUS), Steve Tramosch '93 (BUS), Denise Tramosch '93 (CLAS) and Rachel Nystrom '97 (SAH).

Stephanie A. Smith '95 (BUS) and Michael W. Bonanno '97 (PHR) were married October 16, 1999 in Branford, Conn. Sherree Smith '99 (SAH) was maid of honor.

### Looking for recent graduates

Have you graduated from UConn within the past 10 years? Stay in touch with your alma mater! The UConn Alumni Association's Young Alumni Committee wants your help in developing events and programs geared to recent graduates.

For more information, contact Kristina Giuliano at 888-822-5861, or by e-mail at [kgiuliano@alumni.uconn.edu](mailto:kgiuliano@alumni.uconn.edu).

The wedding party also included Gina Vece '95 (BUS), Danielle James '94 (PHR), Pam Michaud '96 (NUR), Mark Cox '97 (PHR) and Michael Iwanicki '97 (BUS). The couple resides in Wallingford, Conn.

Kim L. Filip '96 (SFS) and Daniel M. Albanese '97 (SAH) were married September 25, 1999. The maid of honor was Tara Wodopian '96 (ED), and the bridal party included Tara Holness '96 (BUS) and Ruslan

Gregor '97 (ENG). Alumni in attendance included Michael Mancici '96 (CLAS), Michael Myrdal '95 (CLAS), Michael Guerrieri '96 (BUS), Jennifer Hotchkiss '96 (CLAS), Diana Krocheski '96 (SFS), Sarah Shapack '96 (CLAS), Nathan Collette '97 (SAH), Richard Purdy '97 (SAH), Megan Treat '96 (SFS), Michael Hatzikostantis '90 (CLAS), Elizabeth Hebert '96 (SFS), Jonathan Maroney '97 (BUS), Jared Orsini '99 (CANR), Morgan Marshall '98 (GS), Terra Salvatore '98 (CLAS), Nora Noll '92 (CLAS), Tim Napolitano '96 (ED), Carla Ribeiro '96 (CLAS), Sarah Tuggle '99 (CLAS), John Wodopian '67 (CLAS), and Donald Hodkoski '73 (BUS).



Hugh J. O'Donnell '96 M.S. has been named an Otis Fellow in recognition of his outstanding technical leadership and expertise. Otis is a unit

of United Technologies Corporation. Hugh has been issued nine patents and has eight more pending.

David Watts '96 (CLAS) is currently an organizational development specialist with Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H.



William R. Salazar/USA Basketball

Kara Wolters '97 (CLAS) has been named to the U.S. women's Olympic basketball team that will compete at the 2000

Olympic Summer Games in Sydney, Australia.

Curt Leng '98 (CLAS) has been appointed director of governmental operations for the town of Hamden, Conn. Prior to his appointment, Curt served on the town council from 1997-99.

# Traveler

## Legends of the Nile – January 2001

Cruise the epic waters of the Nile River and see the reflections of Egypt's fabled and colorful culture in the gentle currents that ebb northward to the Nile Delta along the reed-lined river banks. En route, a tapestry of temples await with their mesmerizing history, exotic beauty, prodigious architecture and mysterious hieroglyphics.

The storied history of Egypt comes alive through the ancient pyramids and the transfixed gaze of the Sphinx. After visiting the famous West Bank, set sail on the Sonesta Nile Goddess, a luxury river cruiser.



## Australia, New Zealand and Fiji – February 2001

Tucked away in the Southern Hemisphere, hidden from bustling crowds, are the unspoiled lands of Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. Here, visitors are welcomed with a friendly "G'day," sophisticated cities glisten beside aquamarine water, and natural wonders form unforgettable landscapes.

Delve into the local culture and enjoy special treats such as dinner in the homes of New Zealander and Australian families and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sydney Opera House. Experience wonders such as the undersea world of the

Great Barrier Reef, spectacular Sydney Harbour, New Zealand's breathtaking South Island and so much more.

## Italian Expressions – Opera, Art and Cuisine – May 13-24, 2001

Jorgensen Auditorium invites you to join Dr. Julius Elias, an opera aficionado with a wonderful sense of humor, on a journey to some of the most magnificent cities in the world—Florence, Venice and Milan, where you will enjoy opera at some of the most celebrated venues in the world, delight in the local cuisine and wend your way through magnificent villas.

Spend five nights in Florence during the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, when operas and classical concerts are given by many of the best performers in the world. Visit Siena, a pretty medieval town located in



Michelangelo's "David" is among the many Renaissance masterpieces on display in Florence.

the green Chianti countryside; or Lucca, laid out on 16th- and 17th-century ramparts, shaded by ancient trees, full of palaces and churches.

Spend three nights in Mira, just outside of Venice, at the Villa Margherita, which will allow time to tour Venice, yet relax in the countryside.

Our grand finale will take place in Milan, home of the Teatro alla Scala.

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

## Belgium – Bruges, Ghent, Antwerp and Brussels – March 16-24, 2001

Time allows the opportunity to amble along cobbled streets and glide by boat along tranquil canals. Be guided by the smell of strong coffee to find tables dressed with crisp, white linen, laden with croissants served on bone china. Discover cities that time has forgotten. Your home—the medieval city of Bruges, graced by quiet canals and rich in architectural and artistic treasures.

Your journeys will take you to Ghent, Antwerp and Brussels. You will view some of the greatest works of art ever created, including "The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb," also known as the Ghent Altarpiece, by the brothers Van Eyck, and "Raising of the Cross" and the "Descent from the Cross," by Peter Paul Rubens. Enjoy an exclusive visit of the Diamond High Council and observe architectural styles ranging from Gothic cathedrals and churches to the gracious classical facades of the Palais des Nations, while enjoying the world's finest chocolate and delicious Belgian beer.



# Remarkable Care Right Here



The UConn Health Center offers a wide range of inpatient and outpatient services, from primary and preventive care to highly specialized programs. The UConn SurgiCenter offers same-day surgery in a convenient location. To assist you around the clock, the Emergency Department is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

For more information or to make an appointment with one of our physicians, please call *UConnLink*™ at 800-535-6232 or 679-7692 (local). Our TTY number is 860-679-2242.



UConn  
Health  
Center

## The Reunion

By Rhona Dash Fiore '72 (CLAS)

On a balmy Friday evening last October, we came together for the third year in a row. We, the lucky women who, in the fall of 1968, became the first female freshmen to be housed in North Campus Quadrangle (the infamous Jungle). We, who had kept ties to each other—albeit thin ties—during the 25 years since our graduation.

The first of what now is an annual reunion took shape three years ago in response to the UConn Alumni Association's invitation to the Class of 1972 for Homecoming Weekend. I was already on a spiritual journey of sorts, no doubt brought about by an abrupt career change one year earlier and my rapid approach to the half-century mark, which happened to coincide with the new millennium. I needed to reconnect with my past, to revisit what I had once been in such a rush to flee. I needed to come home.

Organizing a reunion was not a big undertaking for the former social chairman of New Haven Hall. After all, I was the one who had organized the New Haven Hall hayride back in 1968, the one who had served on AWS (remember the Associated Women Students' Council?), and the one who had chaired the committee to implement a key system for all women's dormitories, thus eliminating the need for parietal hours.

After a few phone calls to gather addresses, I compiled a list and mailed out invitations to meet for Homecoming Weekend 1997. We came together on a rainy Saturday morning at the Student Union, to relive our youth and reminisce. What fun! The rain forced the barbecue indoors into the Student Union ballroom, where we used to attend the "Coffee House" or SDS rallies. We concluded our afternoon with a shopping spree in the Co-op for some UConn sweatshirts and other memorabilia. The day concluded with a lovely dinner at the Altnaveigh. It was hard to believe that we are now the same age that our parents were when they came to Parents' Weekend and treated us to dinner at this same charming eatery.

Our reunion revelers retired to adjoining rooms at a local motel. With a cooler full of beer and wine, bags of chips and cookies, a CD player providing background music of songs that played on the jukebox in the Jungle cafeteria, and the

constant chatter interrupted only by laughter, we were once again the third-floor girls of New Haven Hall. The only thing missing was the grinder man. At breakfast the next morning, we realized that the past 24 hours had been an epiphany, and we vowed to make our reunion an annual one.

And so we did. In 1998, we spent our October weekend at Mystic Seaport. Word of mouth being what it is, even more of us came to this reunion. We came from as far away

as Spokane, Nashville, Chicago and Jamestown, N.Y., as well as from Connecticut and New Jersey. As we reminisced, something exciting began to happen. Our conversations moved out of the past and into the present. We talked about husbands, ex-husbands, children, stepchildren, new homes, new jobs, new age, gardening, gray hair, and a multitude of aches and pains.

This past fall, we assembled again, this time in adjoining rooms at a Greenwich hotel. Drinking beer and wine, munching GooGoo Clusters (from Nashville), and listening to oldies

until 2 a.m., it was hard to believe that we only see each other for 48 hours once a year. On Saturday, we attempted to absolve ourselves from the junk we consumed the night before with a nature walk. We compared notes on high cholesterol, high blood pressure, bad knees, tofu, vitamins and estrogen. In yet another concession to age (we are nearly 50), we went to bed much earlier than the night before. At Sunday breakfast we reflected happily on the wonderful weekend and how special our annual sojourn has become for each of us. No longer are we connected only by memories of yesterday. We are close friends connected by our love for each other today and always.

So, thank you Barb, Bonnie, Sue, Marie, Tricia, Michelle, Mary, Ginny, Kathy, Cuff, Arlene, Penny, Nancy, and Barb B. for renewing wonderful college memories and creating new ones together. See you in October!



From left, Barb Pico '72 (SFS), Rhona Dash Fiore '72 (CLAS), Mary Stramsk '72 (SFS), Ginny Tennison '72 (SFS), Sue Adiletta '72 (SAH), Bonnie Boyer '72 (SFS) and Marie Anderson '72 (SAH).

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

# Be there from the start

## Husky Football 2000 Fever



In September, we're beginning the new century by playing at the Division I-A level for the first time. **The new schedule will feature eight Division I-A opponents.** Our opening game will be "under the lights" on September 9 against Colgate.

Our new stadium at Rentschler Field won't be ready until 2003. But it's important for you to be a UConn football supporter from the start. If you become a season ticket holder now, you get priority over the general public for seating at the new stadium in East Hartford.

So catch Husky football fever. **Order your season tickets today.** Adults: \$50. Seniors: \$25. Under 18: \$25. All seats are reserved. Call toll free 1-877-AT-UConn. Tickets are on sale now.



### 2000 UCONN FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept 2	@ Eastern Michigan	7:00 PM
Sept 9	COLGATE (Home Opener)	7:00 PM
Sept 16	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sept 23	NORTHEASTERN (Family Weekend)	1:30 PM
Sept 30	@ Louisville	2:00 PM
Oct 7	@ Boston College	12:00 PM
Oct 14	OPEN	
Oct 21	@ Akron	7:00 PM
Oct 28	SOUTH FLORIDA (Homecoming)	1:30 PM
Nov 4	MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	12:30 PM
Nov 11	RHODE ISLAND	12:30 PM
Nov 18	@ Ball State	1:00 PM

For up-to-date information on UConn Athletics, visit our Web site at  
**[www.UConnHuskies.com](http://www.UConnHuskies.com)**



Peter Morenus

The Class of 2000 proceeds through the campus core toward Gampel Pavilion for the undergraduate commencement ceremonies in May. (See story on page 5.)



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