



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Michael J. Hogan speaks at a press conference at the Rome Ballroom Aug. 1, after being named the 14th president of the University of Connecticut.

Iowa provost appointed new UConn president

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU & KAREN GRAVA

Michael J. Hogan has been appointed the 14th president of the University of Connecticut.

Hogan, 63, joins UConn from the University of Iowa, where he has been executive vice president and provost since 2004.

He plans to start at UConn on Sept. 14. He is expected to hold a faculty appointment as a full professor in the history department, and has indicated that he will live on campus in the president's house.

Hogan, selected after a comprehensive national search, was the unanimous choice of the 33-member search committee, and was endorsed for the post by the Board of Trustees during a meeting in the Rome Ballroom Aug. 1.

The committee included the chair and other members of the Senate Executive Committee, student representatives, several trustees, the governor, the mayor of Mansfield, and the president of the Alumni Association. It was chaired by John Rowe, M.D., chairman of the Board of Trustees.

"Michael Hogan is a distinguished scholar and one of the nation's outstanding academic leaders," says Rowe. "His experience at the University of Iowa, and prior to that at The Ohio State University, equips him superbly for the challenges and opportunities at the University of Connecticut. His responsibilities at Iowa, including engagement with health care issues as well as the full range of undergraduate and graduate programs at a major public university, will serve him – and us – well in the years ahead."

A specialist in the history of American diplomacy, Hogan holds the F. Wendell Miller Professorship in History and has been the chief academic officer at the University of Iowa. He was responsible for oversight of all academic programs, including the medical school; student academic services; academic strategic planning; and the promotion of student and faculty diversity.

He also was a key advisor to the University of Iowa's president on health sciences issues and chaired the university's health sciences policy-setting committee, comprising the health sciences deans and the directors of the university's clinical care programs, including the hospital.

Emergency communications plan in place for University

BY KAREN A. GRAVA

UConn wants your cell phone number, but it's not for a social call.

The numbers are being collected as part of a program for emergency communications developed during the summer and put into place this fall.

"In light of the potential for a crisis to take place on college campuses, as most recently and tragically occurred at Virginia Tech, the University has been reviewing and enhancing its emergency communications systems," says Barry Feldman, vice president and chief operating officer. "The safety of our students, faculty, and staff, is paramount."

The new emergency communications will include a text messaging notification

system to all UConn faculty, staff, and students who register their cell phone numbers at alert.uconn.edu.

"Text messages promise to be one of the fastest and most direct means of communicating, in the event a critical situation develops requiring an alert notification," Feldman says. "Our goal is to notify people as quickly as possible when there is something they need to know."

The text messages will be used on each of the University's campuses except the Health Center.

Text messages are not the only new component of the alert system. The Storrs, Greater Hartford and law school campuses will have siren systems. Sirens will both

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UConn joins ranks of top 25 public colleges

BY KAREN A. GRAVA

UConn is among the top 25 public universities in the nation, jumping three places in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings issued last week.

For the ninth year in a row, UConn is also the top public university in New England.

UConn is ranked number 24 on the list, tied with Purdue and the University of Iowa. Last year, UConn was ranked 27th.

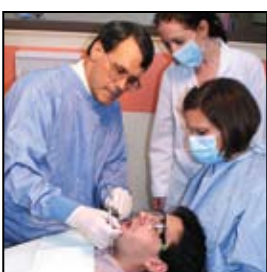
UConn is also included again this year in *The Best 366 Colleges*, a publication of *The Princeton Review*.

"The rankings, gratifying though they are, really tell an incomplete story," says Presi-

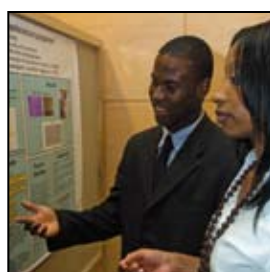
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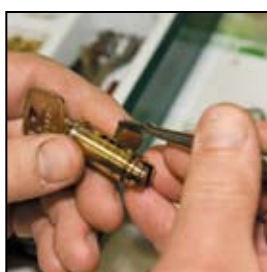
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PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Steven Kern, director of the William Benton Museum of Art, center, and Thomas Bruhn, curator, upper right, look on, as workers from Mariano Brothers of Bethel move a statue by Rodin into place. An exhibit of Rodin's sculptures opens at the Benton Museum Sept. 8.

Water conservation measures announced

BY KAREN A. GRAVA

The University has issued a water conservation alert asking students, faculty, and staff, as well as municipal, commercial, and residential water users, to voluntarily limit water use.

The alert was issued on Aug. 6 in compliance with the University's water supply contingency plan, which asks system users to conserve water when stream flows in the Fenton River are reduced below specific levels.

This is a special trigger adopted by the University, based on environmental considerations.

The reduced stream flow in the Fenton River is due to dry weather conditions and low rainfall. The University has not pumped water from the well field since July 26, and only minimal daily summer withdrawals from the Fenton well field were made before that.

"It's important to note that the University's water supply is not taken from the Fenton or Willimantic Rivers themselves, but from groundwater aquifers that are located underneath the ground, adjacent to the river streams," says Thomas Q. Callahan, associate vice president for facilities operations.

"The conservation alert was activated due to naturally occurring environmental conditions," he adds, "not because of pumping, increased demands or concerns with the water system capacity. Because of recent system improvements, demand management measures, and greater operational flexibility, the University continues to have adequate water to serve UConn's water system customers needs, both on and off-campus."

Under the Water Conservation Alert, customers both on and off campus are asked to voluntarily:

- take shorter showers;
- run dishwashers and washing machines with full loads;
- not let water run continuously when washing dishes, shaving, and brushing teeth;
- avoid washing cars or power

washing buildings;

- reduce lawn watering, or water in the late evening;
- not fill swimming pools;
- raise the thermostat temperature in air-conditioned UConn buildings, and;
- report leaky fixtures in UConn buildings to campus officials.

Additionally, the University is working to minimize its own use. Those measures have been successful in the last few years; as a result, even though the University has grown, its water use has not.

UConn's water system, managed by Connecticut Water, serves the Storrs and Depot campuses, and some municipal, commercial, and residential users near the campus.

"There is now greater operational flexibility due in large part to improvements made by the University, working closely with the state Department of Public Health and Department of Environmental Protection and Connecticut Water's operation and management team" Callahan says.

System and operational improvements have lessened demand on any one source of supply, and help the University better meet the system's average daily demand. Improvements include new pumps and motors; new automated tank level controls at the wells for better operational and water usage efficiency; leak detection surveys in 2005 and 2007 to identify and correct leaks and system inefficiencies; improvements to the transmission main that carries water from the Willimantic well field to better meet system demand; and improved stream flow measurement for a more accurate reading of stream flow conditions.

In addition, says Callahan, the University is installing system-wide metering to better measure usage, completing and implementing recommendations from a broad conservation study, and developing a water reclamation plan.

Emergency communications *continued from page 1*

make a warning sound and deliver a short message instructing people what to do.

The Avery Point campus already has a siren owned by the Town of Groton that will be used in case of an emergency on that campus.

The Stamford, Waterbury, and Health Center campuses have intercom systems that will be used to deliver messages in an emergency.

The Code Blue phones located on every campus will be used to flash blue lights and deliver a short message about the emergency.

Also planned are systems to broadcast messages via classroom cable systems, and the use of voice mail, e-mail and the Web to update the community on a potentially threatening situation.

"We will have redundant systems so there are multiple ways to get the message out," Feldman says. "While we may not be able to reach every person directly, we

hope that through one means or another, people will quickly find out what they need to know."

The systems were put into place this summer after a committee, headed by Michael Kerntke, associate vice president and chief information officer, identified and evaluated the options. Feldman appointed the committee last spring in response to the Virginia Tech tragedy. The committee and an oversight committee included representatives of student affairs, human resources, communications, UITS, telecommunications, facilities operations, purchasing, the School of Law, academic affairs, the police department, orientation services, registrar, enrollment management, the Institute of Teaching and Learning (representing the regional campuses), and the Health Center.

"We have no way to predict if and when a critical situation will

occur," Feldman says, "but we need to be prepared for all types of emergencies, including severe weather problems such as a tornado and other situations."

To register your cell phone number, visit alert.uconn.edu. Your NetID and password will permit you to enter your number.

In addition to cell phone registration, the web site alert.uconn.edu will serve as the primary Web resource for obtaining information during a crisis. There are also frequently asked questions and answers about the program posted there.

Testing of all the equipment will be done periodically, and will be announced via e-mail and on the Web.

Audio clips on this topic from an interview with Barry Feldman are available on the Advance web site: www.advance.uconn.edu.

Athletic apparel liquidation sale Aug. 30-31

A two-day "fan appreciation" liquidation sale of unused promotional clothing and accessories will take place Aug. 30 and 31 at the Greer Field House from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Included in the sale of more

than 4,000 items – most bearing UConn logos – are jackets, short- and long-sleeve polos, sweatshirts and sweatpants, wind shirts and wind pants, T-shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, travel bags, and sneakers. The sale is organized by the

Division of Athletics, in conjunction with the UConn Co-op.

Items will range between 50 and 75 percent below retail pricing. Credit cards and Husky Bucks will be accepted. All sales are final.

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Freshman class includes record total of vals, sals

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

About 3,200 new freshmen, including a record number of valedictorians and salutatorians, and more than 100 new faculty will kick off the new academic year when classes begin Aug. 27.

The new students were welcomed to campus by President Philip E. Austin during the annual Convocation on Aug. 24. Austin used the occasion to introduce his successor, President-designate Michael Hogan, who officially assumes office in mid-September. Most of the 105 new faculty attended orientation Aug. 23.

"The start of another academic year is always a time of great hope and excitement on the UConn campus," Austin said last week. "It has been my great good fortune to serve at a time of tremendous progress, as we moved from a position of regional prominence to true national stature. I know the University will be in great hands under Dr. Hogan's leadership, and I'm convinced that UConn's best years lie ahead."

The latest admissions report confirms that UConn is now recognized nationally: for the 11th consecutive year, applications for the freshman class increased, with 22,353 applicants competing for 3,200 seats at Storrs and about 1,100 at the regional campuses. And for the third consecutive year, more than half the applicants came from outside Connecticut, though the University will continue to enroll no more than 30 percent of its freshman class from out of state.

Besides President-elect Hogan, new deans are being welcomed to several schools: Jeremy Paul, who assumed his new role April 27, begins his first full year as dean of the School of Law. Anne Bavier began her stewardship of the School of Nursing Aug. 17. Christopher Earley (School of Business) and Mun Young Choi (School of Engineering) will arrive in January 2008. David Cournoyer last month was named interim dean at the School of Social Work, while a search committee works to find a replacement for Kay Davidson, and a search will soon be underway for a successor to Kirklyn Kerr, who has announced he will step down as dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the end of the academic year.

The academic credentials of new classes in Storrs and at the regional campuses continue to impress. A record 146 valedictorians and salutatorians are among the freshmen class, eight of whom will attend a regional campus. Last year, 105 "vals and sals," the top ranked students in their high school class, came to UConn. Since 1995, UConn has recruited nearly 1,000 valedictorians and salutatorians.

The Storrs freshman class this year averages about 1192 on the SAT. And the average SAT for the nearly 300 freshmen at the Waterbury campus is about 20 points

higher than last year's entering class.

The 275 freshmen who have registered for the University's Honors Program boast an average SAT of 1409, an 11-point increase compared to last year.

Additionally, the average GPA for the 700 students who are transferring to Storrs this semester is 3.3. The 230 students transferring into regional campuses average 3.1.

"These students are transferring to UConn because they realize the outstanding quality and value of a UConn degree," says Dolan Eganovich, vice provost for enrollment management.

Top students also want to attend the law school – the incoming classes' median LSAT matches the school's previous high, and nine of the new students scored above 168 on the exam, placing them in the top 4 percent of all students who took the test. Last year, three students had similar test scores.

At the UConn School of Medicine, the average GPA for incoming students is 3.65. It also is one of the school's most diverse classes, with 21 percent of the 81 students from populations other than white or Asian. The students earned their undergraduate degrees from 51 different schools, including 19 from UConn, four from Johns Hopkins University, three from Yale, and two each from Princeton and New York University.

The School of Dental Medicine will enroll another 40 first year students – the school's normal complement. The cohort scored well in the Dental Admission Test and averaged a 3.5 GPA in their undergraduate schools, where 80 percent majored in science.

Back at Storrs, cranes and construction workers are busy, as the UConn 21st Century program continues. Adding to the many new buildings erected during the past decade, the next few years will see two new academic buildings on Fairfield Way, which will replace the time-worn Arjona and Monteith buildings; a replacement for Torrey Life Sciences Building; and the renovation and reuse of the old Central Warehouse near the co-generation plant.

On a smaller scale but more immediate, the first phase of a \$1.4 million landscaping plan for the Student Union Mall began last week. The work will include landscape planning, infrastructure improvements (mainly drainage), and topsoil and seeding on the former site of the pharmacy building. A second phase will include the installation of sidewalks and lighting.

Work also will begin soon on exterior renovations to the Wilbur Cross Building, and both interior and exterior work will be done on the 92-year-old Hawley Armory. Both structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

The Connecticut Museum of Natural History is slated for future expansion, thanks to a gift from Julia B. Budney.

\$1 million gift to support expansion of Natural History Museum

BY JOHN SPONAUER

A \$1 million gift from Julia B. Budney to support the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History at the University will allow the museum to expand its facility in the future and its educational programs today.

The current and deferred gift support from Mrs. Julia B. Budney will be used to promote educational activities, as well as the design and construction of the next phase of the museum's renovations.

It also includes support for the Henry S. Budney Natural History Collection, more than 115 high-quality vertebrate mounts and assorted ethnographic items collected by Mrs. Budney's late husband and contributed by his estate.

"The diversity of the natural world is the research focus of many of our faculty in liberal arts and sciences," says Ross MacKinnon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the museum's home at UConn. "Julia Budney's gift will help the museum's visitors – both children and adults – understand why we are interested in biodiversity, conservation, and our natural history."

The museum has an active educational loan program serving nature-oriented organizations statewide. The Budney collection

will enable the museum to expand this program, and Mrs. Budney's gift specifically allows the museum to move forward more quickly on the expansion needed to permanently house and maintain the collection.

Mrs. Budney says her gift is for the benefit of the whole state as well as for the museum.

"I want future generations of children to see first-hand how interesting natural history can be," she says. "The museum brings education to life and helps visitors understand the beauty of nature and see the ways we're all connected to it."

"With the new exhibition space and renovations, the museum can now do so much more than ever," she adds. "It's really a wonderful resource for the state, and I'm happy to be able to support the experience it provides."

The museum reaches more than 50,000 people annually through visits to the facility and exhibit loans to dozens of related organizations. It also houses the Connecticut Office of State Archaeology and the Connecticut Archaeology Center, and coordinates many efforts, such as the Stone Wall Initiative. The museum re-opened in April, following the first phase of extensive renovation to add classrooms and exhibition

space.

The recent improvements, which tripled the museum's square footage, were funded by nearly \$500,000 in donations from hundreds of committed members and matching funds from the state through the 21st Century UConn program.

Museum director Leanne Kennedy Harty says the Budney gift will dramatically improve the museum's operations and offerings going forward.

"This is such an exciting time for us," she says. "Mrs. Budney's gift allows us to celebrate this moment in time by launching the next phase of the museum's history."

The next phase includes a \$4.5 million reconstruction plan to create a much-needed collections storage facility, an archaeology lab, and a library to house the Office of State Archaeology's 8,000-volume holdings.

"Our focus is on making connections between cultural and natural history through time, and helping people look closer at those fascinating relationships," Harty says. "Mrs. Budney's gift presents an opportunity to advance our mission and expand the programs and services we can provide, both on campus and across the state. This is what we're all about."

Devin Gaines scholarship fund started

A fund has been started to create an endowed scholarship to honor the memory of Devin Thomas Gaines '07, who died July 10. Gaines, who graduated with five degrees, was known for his compassion, volunteerism, philanthropic nature, and academic success.

Those who wish to make dona-

tions to establish the scholarship should make a check payable to the UConn Foundation with "Gaines Memorial Fund" in the memo field. Checks may be sent to Michael McCarthy, Program Director of Leadership Gifts, Annual Giving, University of Connecticut Foundation Inc., 2390 Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269-3206.

Any contribution can bring the Devin Gaines Memorial Fund a step closer to reaching permanent endowment status, which will help perpetuate the scholarship for years to come. Additional information may be found at the website set up by his friends, www.devingaines.com.

Hogan attracted to UConn by its 'steep upward trajectory'



PHOTO BY PETER MORENIUS

Newly appointed President Michael J. Hogan answers questions during a press conference at Rome Ballroom.

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU

During a press conference Aug. 1, newly appointed President Michael J. Hogan spoke of his commitment to the academic mission of UConn as a public university, and his aspirations for the University to continue the progress it has already made.

Hogan said he brings to the job “a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of energy, and a capacity to work with other people.”

He plans to spend a few months getting to know his surroundings before making any changes.

“There’s nothing ‘broken’ at the University of Connecticut,”

he said.

However, he said, he expects the challenges of the job to include maintaining access to higher education in the face of rising costs, increasing support for academic research, promoting diversity, and finding new sources of financial support.

New president *continued from page 1*

“Michael Hogan is the ideal candidate to lead our state’s flagship public university,” says Gov. M. Jodi Rell. “He is committed to excellence, and he shares my vision for the young people who go to UConn to prepare for their futures.”

Before joining the University of Iowa, Hogan held positions as executive dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, dean of the College of Humanities, and chair of the Department of History at Ohio State.

Rowe calls Hogan an academic decathlete: “You only win the gold medal in the decathlon if you score a lot of points in every event. Because of his broad career, personality, inclination, and distinguished academic abilities, Michael Hogan is in fact a decathlete.”

Rowe says about 500 candidates expressed interest or were nominated for the post, and the pool included government officials as well as candidates from academe. The initial stages of the search were conducted by Isaacson, Miller, a firm specializing in academic searches. The finalists included three minorities and several women. When the steering committee interviewed the 10 front runners in July, Hogan emerged as the clear top choice.

Rowe says the committee was looking for a scholar to provide

academic leadership for the faculty, someone with experience at a large public university, who cared about student life, had dealt with legislators, had an appetite for fund raising, and had experience with health care. He says Hogan is strong in all these areas.

The tasks that will face the new University president include oversight of the 21st Century UConn infrastructure program and an upcoming capital campaign.

A solid career

Hogan, one of five siblings of Irish heritage, grew up in Waterloo, a mid-sized industrial city in northern Iowa. His parents placed great emphasis on education.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in English, with minors in history and classics, at the University of Northern Iowa, and his master’s and Ph.D. in history at the University of Iowa.

He spent much of his career at Ohio State, where he was on the faculty from 1986 to 2004. He was chair of the history department from 1993 to 1999, dean of the College of Humanities from 1999 to 2003, and executive dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences from 2003 to 2004.

Previously, he was a faculty member at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, for nine years, and a visiting professor at the University

of Texas at Austin and SUNY at Stony Brook.

Hogan and his wife Virginia have four grown children.

Hogan’s resume is available at: <http://www.uconn.edu/newpresident/curriculum.php>

Outstanding scholar

A well recognized scholar, Hogan is the author or editor of nine books and a host of scholarly articles and essays. He has been a fellow at the Harry S. Truman Library Institute and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and has served as Louis Martin Sears Distinguished Professor of History at Purdue University.

His books include the prize-winning study *The Marshall Plan: America, Britain, and the Reconstruction of Western Europe, 1947-1952* (1987). Among the other books he has authored or edited are *The End of the Cold War: Its Meaning and Implications* (1992) and *Hiroshima in History and Memory* (1996), and *A Cross of Iron: Harry S. Truman and the Origins of the National Security State, 1945-1954* (1998).

Tom Paterson, a UConn emeritus professor of history who collaborated with Hogan on two editions of *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations*, describes him as “well organized,

Hogan said he was attracted to the University “by its steep upward trajectory, its outstanding academic reputation, and the demonstrated commitment to UConn by the governor and the General Assembly.

“At a time when states all over the country are pulling the plug on public higher education, this state is investing in UConn,” he said. “There are not many institutions around the country that enjoy the sound financial position this university is in now.”

“This is really one of the very best jobs in higher education administration out there,” he added.

Hogan paid tribute to outgoing president Philip Austin who, he said, “has left a big footprint on this campus.”

Speaking before this year’s list was released, he said he was impressed at the University’s recent rise in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of public universities – at that time, UConn was ranked 27th in the nation – and suggested that he hopes the University will continue its climb. The latest ranking puts UConn at 24, tied with the University of Iowa and Purdue.

“Higher education is a very, very competitive market,” he said. “It’s not easy to go from 30 to 27, but once you break into the top 20, more and more good things will happen to you.”

He said the University needs to increase the amount of research

grants it receives. Despite the great public support the University receives, he said, “the research side of a public research university’s mission is very competitive and very expensive ... Trying to reconcile the pursuit of excellence with your access mission is a key challenge.

“Diversity is always a challenge,” he added, “but it’s one of the keys to academic excellence.”

Hogan said the University “should be pinching every penny so we can stand up and say we are using the state’s money wisely.”

He said he would also pursue other ways to bolster the University’s finances through fund-raising and the commercialization of intellectual property.

On making the transition from provost to president, he said, “I’m an academic guy, a faculty guy, and proud to say that. But I understand I have a different job now as president, and a lot of external constituents to spend time with.”

Asked which school he would root for if Iowa and UConn ever played each other, Hogan said, “I don’t bite the hand that feeds me.” Flourishing a blue and gray striped tie with Husky dogs, he proclaimed, “I’m a Husky all the way.”

Audio clips from the press conference are available on the Advance web site: www.advance.uconn.edu.

incisive, and clear-headed.”

He says Hogan’s book on the Marshall Plan, which showed the give and take between Europe and the U.S. in shaping the implementation of the plan, established him as an outstanding scholar.

“It was a massively researched book, very attuned to detail and to the complexity of events,” he says.

As editor of *Diplomatic History*, an international journal of record for specialists in diplomacy, international relations, and national security studies, Hogan turned the journal into a major voice for discussing new approaches in the field, says Paterson.

“He’s very open to different approaches, though he has his own,” he adds. “He’s very interactive with other scholars.”

In recognition of Hogan’s 15 years of service as editor, the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations established an endowed scholarship in his name.

Hogan’s scholarly achievements have also been recognized by the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, which awarded him the Bernath Lecture Prize in 1984. And Ohio State presented him with its Distinguished Scholar Award in 1990, the highest award for scholarly distinction conferred on faculty members.

As an administrator, Hogan has remained an active scholar.

In 2003, he was president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and in 2004, he published the second edition of *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations*. He is currently working on a history of the field of diplomatic history.

Leadership style

Hogan’s first venture into academic administration was as chair of the Ohio State history department for six years. Under his leadership, the department earned not only a departmental teaching award but a selective investment award from the university, recognizing excellence in both teaching and research. He also increased its national profile as a top-20 graduate program.

When he was confirmed as dean of humanities at Ohio State in March 2000, an article in the university’s newspaper stated that he had the “deep respect and support of faculty throughout the college.”

In 2003, he became executive dean of a new federation of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, comprising five colleges, 41 departments, and some 1,000 faculty.

He moved to the University of Iowa in 2004 to become provost.

Colleagues describe Hogan as a man of integrity and commitment, who is easy to work with.

First impressions: comments from the presidential search committee

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU

Members of the search committee who were present when President Hogan's appointment was formalized said they were delighted at the outcome of the process, attesting to his scholarly and administrative credentials and personal attributes.

John DeWolf, professor of civil and environmental engineering and chair of the Senate Executive Committee, described Hogan as "first and foremost a scholar and teacher, who has risen through the ranks."

DeWolf said Hogan "understands bringing together people from different areas."

Gary English, professor of dramatic arts and one of three faculty members on the search committee, said, "it is wonderfully rewarding to have found someone to lead the University who has real experience and background at a high level of academic excellence."

English noted that during discussions with members of the Senate, Hogan expressed a strong commitment to academic culture and shared governance.

Dr. Peter Albertsen, a professor of surgery at the Health Center said, "President Hogan came across as very experienced, very talented. We are confident he can lead the University of Connecticut."

"His familiarity with health care will be of tremendous help to us,"

Albertsen added. "Although the two health care systems are dramatically different [the University of Iowa is a tertiary care center for the entire state of Iowa], his experience in health care will help us craft solutions to some of the issues facing the Health Center."

Jeff Hathaway, director of athletics, expressed confidence in the committee's choice. "We were looking for the best candidate across a range of activities and experiences. Michael Hogan has the knowledge to be successful in every aspect of being president."

He added that the new president's background as a faculty member is key: "He has tremendous respect for faculty, which will help with the operation of the University."

Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, alumni member of the Board of Trustees, said "Dr. Hogan has the credentials and ability to lead our branch campuses, the law school, and the Health Center, along with the Storrs campus."

She also noted that he has a commitment to decreasing the student-faculty ratio.

Joe Comprone, associate vice provost for the Avery Point Campus, said he felt the new president already has a good grasp of the University, of what has been accomplished so far, and where it is striving to be.

Said Lee Melvin, director of

admissions and a member of the steering committee, "Michael Hogan has an enormous amount of knowledge regarding how large public institutions work, and how to enhance their responsibilities to the communities they serve."

Melvin said Hogan spoke with the search committee about leading the University "to the next level," including positioning UConn for membership in the AAU. (The Association of American Universities is an elite group of universities distinguished by the breadth and quality of their research and graduate programs. Membership is by invitation.)

He said he anticipates the new president will "set the bar high, and hold people accountable." At the same time, he said, he has a way of putting people at ease: "I think we'll enjoy working with him."

"Michael Hogan brings Midwestern charm," said Fran Archambault, emeritus professor and president of the Alumni Association. "I'm told that President Hogan, like President Austin, has respect for and understanding of what the Alumni Association can mean to a university. I'm looking for the Alumni Association to play an even bigger role in the life of the University."

Kala Kachmar also contributed to this article.

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dent Philip E. Austin. "First, the rankings are based on data more than a year old, and during the past 12 months UConn has continued to advance in every important respect. More fundamentally, however, the rankings only hint at the spirit of enthusiasm and the general sense of quality present on all our campuses. Our faculty, our alumni, our students and their parents know that this is a university that values and achieves excellence in instruction, in research, and in service to the state and national community."

Some of the notable measures of quality include:

- Increasing demand for admissions, with a 114 percent rise in freshman applications to Storrs since 1995.

- Increasing quality, with average SAT scores for Storrs freshmen up 79 points, to 1192, since the scores were re-centered in 1996.

- Enrollment of 146 valedictorians and salutatorians this fall, a 50 percent increase over last year and up from a total of only 40 in 1995.

- Increasing admission of students of color. This year's freshman class includes 20 percent minority students, for a total increase since 1995 of 124 percent.

- Retention rates that are substantially higher than most other public colleges, and an average graduation rate of 4.3 years – ranked fifth in the nation.

The University is in the midst of a 20-year infrastructure improvement program – UConn 2000 and its continuation, 21st Century UConn – that

"The rankings only hint at the spirit of enthusiasm and the general sense of quality present on all our campuses. Our faculty, our alumni, our students and their parents know that this is a university that values and achieves excellence."

President Philip E. Austin

represents an unprecedented \$2.3 billion investment in the University's campuses. Austin says the University has worked hard to improve its quality and take full advantage of the new facilities.

Carolyn Jones, a former faculty member at the UConn law school who is now dean of the law school at the University of Iowa, says Hogan is "very candid, straightforward, a wonderful scholar, and an excellent listener. All those qualities make him a wonderful administrator. He's very accessible and down-to-earth."

Adds Thomas Rocklin, senior associate provost for undergraduate education, "He has a good sense of humor. He's a very fun guy to be around."

University of Iowa officials say Hogan's tenure as provost has had a major impact. Rocklin says it's hard to remember he was there for only three years.

At Iowa, Hogan directed a strategic planning effort that, officials say, will leave a lasting imprint on the university.

Lisa Troyer, interim associate provost for academic administration, says Hogan assembled a representative planning committee. "He's really skilled at marshaling people who can represent the

entire community," she says.

She says Hogan emphasized goals and ways of measuring progress on those goals. "He really had a sense of the bigger picture, and how to tie in and integrate different goals and missions."

One of the five major sections of the Iowa strategic plan is diversity.

Rocklin says Hogan is "extraordinarily serious about diversity. You see it in faculty hires, you see it in student admissions. He has not accepted excuses."

Jones, the Iowa law dean, agrees. "It's not just lip service," she says. "He's put resources behind this."

Troyer suggests this commitment is rooted both in Hogan's own experience as a first-generation college student, and in his scholarship. "He recognizes the intellectual richness diversity contributes," she says.

One of Hogan's major accomplishments at Iowa was to effect positive change during an economic downturn.

Troyer says that "by looking at things strategically and putting resources where they could make impact," Hogan has been able to make changes during "some of the worst budget times ever."

Donna Katen-Bahensky, CEO of the University of Iowa hospitals and clinics, says the university's health sciences policy council was

"a very effective group" under Hogan's leadership.

He was a great listener, she says, "and could synthesize things beautifully."

She says his departure from Iowa will leave a gap that's hard to fill.

"He always asked 'What will be impact on other colleges,' and 'is there anything we can do together?' We'll miss that."

Hogan was also involved in fund raising at Iowa.

Lynette Marshall, president of the University of Iowa Foundation, says Hogan attended many Foundation and Alumni Association board meetings and events around the country.

"He's very effective with friends of the university," she says. "He's incredibly warm, friendly, and funny. His personality and his passion for higher education really come out, whoever you are – whether you're someone he works with, an alum, or a fund-raiser, or someone making a transformative gift."

Looking ahead

"Connecticut can look forward to a real visionary," says Troyer. "After he's learned more about the university and the state and their needs, you'll see really positive progress, real fast."



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Michael J. Hogan speaks with reporters after a press conference Aug. 1.

Periodontist honored for excellence in teaching

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

The teaching style of Dr. Frank Nichols, professor of periodontology at the UConn School of Dental Medicine, has long been popular with his students. Nichols believes that's because he doesn't just emphasize the new trends in dentistry, he also talks about some of the older techniques and approaches that still work well.

Nichols' approach is so popular with students that for two years in a row, he has been honored with the Kaiser Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award.

"I'm very honored to be recognized by the students," says Nichols.

Nichols, who joined the dental school faculty in 1985 after receiving his dental degree from Ohio State University and a Ph.D. in biophysics from the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y., has seen many changes during the past 20 years.

"As dentistry has changed, so has what the students are interested in learning," he explains. "For instance, dental implants are now a critical part of the curriculum, but when I first started here, we had just begun talking about implants because they were mainly being done in Europe."

Nichols splits his time three ways – teach-

ing, research, and patient care. The teaching component, which includes both clinical instruction and lecturing and organizing courses, takes at least half his time. The rest of his time is focused on research and treating patients as a member of the University Dentists practice.

Which does he prefer? "That's a tough one. I like it all," he says. "Because I wear all three hats, I have a deeper appreciation and understanding of the importance of each and how they are relevant to each other."

As a clinician, for example, he treats patients with periodontal disease, and as a researcher he's studying the intricacies of what causes the disease. His interest focuses on how immune cells react when exposed to bacteria in the mouth – bacteria that lead to gum disease. As a professor, he can offer his students a more complete understanding of this very common problem, which impacts 80 percent of Americans.

Since nearly half of UConn's dental graduates stay in Connecticut, it's not unusual for Nichols to hear from his former students – whether it's to consult on a case, refer a patient, or invite him to a reunion.

"It's very gratifying to see how the students progress over the years," he says, "not



PHOTO BY JANINE GELINEAU

Dr. Frank Nichols in the clinic teaching dental students.

just in their skill level, but in their maturity and judgment. They can go from not knowing which end of a dental instrument

to hold, to being an impressive practitioner and someone I'm very comfortable referring family members to see."

Summer funding helps graduate students develop mentoring skills

BY CINDY WEISS

Graduate students in the sciences and those with an interest in environmental research received a shot of financial support this summer to develop their skills mentoring undergraduates and collaborating with researchers in other fields.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), through its donor-supported Fund for Innovative Education in Science, provided more than \$40,000 in summer support for a pilot program that paired graduate student mentors with minority undergraduates doing scientific research with CLAS faculty.

An additional \$33,000 was provided by the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education and the Graduate School, so that 30 graduate students could learn to be research mentors.

The funds also were used to supplement National Science Foundation summer research stipends to six of the undergraduates that the students mentored.

The undergraduates came from the Northeast Alliance Summer Research Program for Underrepresented Minorities at UConn, a program started last year by Ruth Washington and Lee Aggison, associate professors-in-residence in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, to encourage minority students to choose careers in science.

The Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering, in another effort, provided \$125,000 in awards this summer for graduate students who proposed multidisciplinary environmental research projects requiring them to work with faculty from at least two departments and, in some cases, from different schools and colleges.

The awards provided critical summer support for graduate students, many of whom are paid teaching assistants during the regular school year but lack support in the summer.

"This provided an important bridging resource," says Michael Willig, director of the Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering.

More important, he says, the awards stimulated students to go beyond their disciplinary boundaries and collaborate with researchers in other fields. The future of much environmental research is at the interface between disciplines, he notes.

The Center's program, which will be repeated next summer, benefited 24 graduate students, including 13 in CLAS, as well as students in the School of Engineering and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Undergraduate students participating in summer research at UConn have become a common sight, some coming from other institutions under NSF sponsorship to take

part in Research Experience for Undergraduates programs, others supported by UConn's Summer Undergraduate Research Fund.

The new wrinkle this year was the training provided graduate students, who work most closely with the undergraduates in the lab.

"We tried to work toward teaching them to teach," says Debra Kendall, associate dean of liberal arts and sciences and Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology.

Some of this would have happened anyway, she notes, but the Fund for Innovative Science enabled CLAS to provide more

structure, with faculty-run workshops for the graduate students and an opportunity for them to learn from each other and to think about how to encourage their undergraduates to continue to graduate school.

"The coaching, the discussions – when a student asks about where they should go to graduate school – help tremendously in getting students excited about a career in science," she says.

The mentoring meshed with the Fund for Innovative Education in Science's goal of supporting projects that take advantage of the synergy between research and teaching. The fund was endowed by private donors in part to capitalize on the University's strength as a research institution and to train graduate students to become effective teachers.

An additional \$60,000 from the fund is expected to be used next spring for another graduate student mentor training program in CLAS.

Marsenia Harrison, a first-year Ph.D. student in molecular and cell biology and one of the graduate student mentors, says she found that being a mentor "is not a simple task," but it was one in which she took great pride. She mentored Makenson Delroy, a biomedical engineering major at UConn who plans to go on to graduate school for a Ph.D.

Harrison earned her bachelor's degree at Spelman College. After earning her Ph.D., she hopes to return to Atlanta to do research for the Centers for Disease Control.

At a closing ceremony for the Northeast Alliance students and mentors this summer, she told the undergraduates that their parents, teachers, and graduate student mentors had helped construct bridges for them.

"None of us would trade this summer's experiences," she said. "Now you can build your own bridges."

To hear Harrison talk about her experiences as a mentor and Northeast Alliance student Alvin Thomas comment on his summer of research in clinical psychology, go to www.clas.uconn.edu and click on CLAS Focus.



PHOTO BY JAMES KIMURA-GREEN, SFA '08

Makenson Delroy, a biomedical engineering major, discusses a research poster with his mentor, Marsenia Harrison, a Ph.D. candidate in molecular and cell biology.

Study of tourism is topic of emeritus professor's new book

BY KAREN SINGER

Though humans probably have always been tourists, it was not until the 20th century that social scientists began to investigate tourism.

Those who pioneered the field are the subject of *The Study of Tourism: Anthropology and Sociological Beginnings* (Elsevier 2007), edited by UConn's Dennison Nash, an emeritus professor of anthropology.

"In every science there comes a time when it looks at itself as an institution. The investigators, their methods, and theories become of interest," says Nash, who spent five years working on the book. "I was involved, and probably was the best qualified to do it."

Nash recently gave a presentation on the topic at a meeting of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism in Fethiye, Turkey.

According to Nash, 20th-century European scholars paid some attention to tourism, especially beginning in the 1930s, but the mid-1970s surge of interest in the subject coincided with the reality that more and more people were traveling.

He says the trend represents a late stage of industrialization, when people have more free time on their hands to engage in leisure pursuits. The diminution of the

Protestant work ethic was a corollary, he adds.

The book chronicles the careers of a dozen American, British, and French sociologists and anthropologists, who contributed personal histories detailing their involvement in tourism research. They include Jeremy Boissevain, a social anthropologist who has spent decades studying tourism in Malta; Michel Picard, a specialist in Balinese culture; Margaret Byrne Swain, a feminist and anthropologist whose work has focused on gender and tourism; Jafar Jafai, founder and editor-in-chief of *Annals of Tourism Research: A Social Sciences Journal*; Marie-Françoise Lanfant, who developed an intensive program of international tourism research at the National Center for Scientific Research in France; and Nash himself, who has been writing about tourism for over three decades. His last book was *Anthropology of Tourism* (Pergamon 1996).

"I wanted to do an inside story about these people, who are scientists and whose business is the pursuit of knowledge," he says. Researching tourism "was something that they dreamed about on their own. Nobody helped them, and at the beginning ... they didn't have any assistance, but they went ahead anyway, against the grain of those who didn't think it was

worthy of serious attention.

"But it is serious to people who are in the industry, and it's serious to some of these small countries who are putting all their bets on tourism development."

Nash says he too did not get support for his tourism research.

"People would chuckle, and say, 'You consider that work?'" he says. "So it was not unexpected that I found these scholars were stubborn and persistent and strongly independent-minded."

Nash, who has studied expatriates and taught a course on "Americans Abroad" at UConn, says his interest in tourism spiked when he gave a paper on tourism as a kind of imperialism at a 1974 meeting of the American Anthropological Association. The paper, he says, generated great enthusiasm.

The momentum continued with Jafari's founding of *Annals of Tourism Research* (now one of more than 50 periodicals on the subject in English); the establishment of tourism study-oriented associations; and the creation of academic research centers on tourism, which have multiplied to more than 550 in 86 countries.

"Scholars in European countries generally got involved earlier than Americans, and now there are some whole departments involved," Nash says.

Over the years, researchers ex-

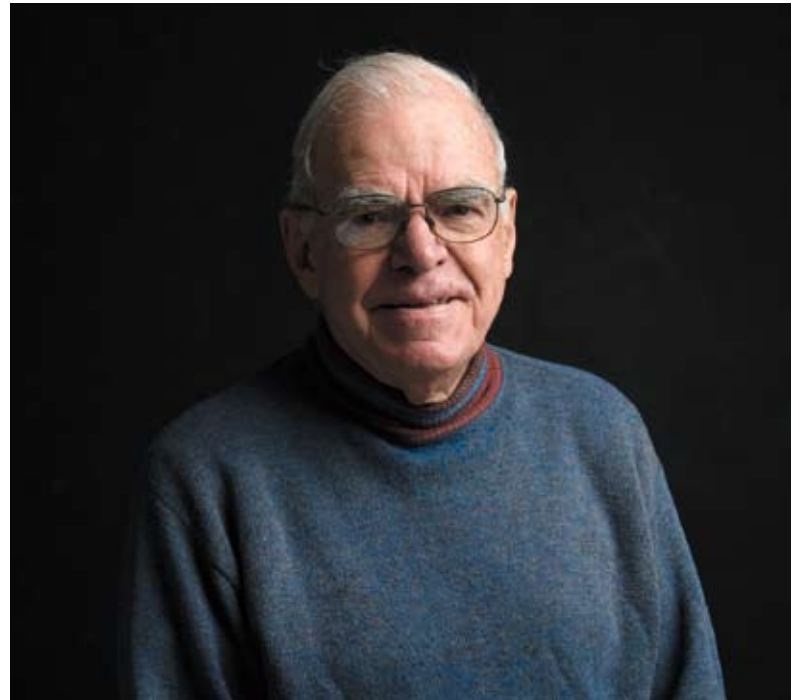


PHOTO BY DANIEL BUTTREY

Dennison Nash, emeritus professor of anthropology.

panded their interest in the subject to all its aspects, he says, including the impact of tourism on local cultures, and tourists themselves.

"For a while, scholars were excited about different kinds of tourism," Nash says. "Now some of them are looking at themselves and the institutions that have been developed to deal with the subject."

He says he is troubled by an increasingly "business-oriented" approach, with far more investigators conducting applied research than basic research in the field.

"This creates practical problems, where you sell yourself, or work for people who want results favorable to tourism," he says.

Nash believes travelers typically "go on tours to get away from things and to enjoy themselves;" but those who read his book should come away with a different perspective.

"Not only will they begin to see what kinds of social activities they're really involved in, but also the natures and activities of those who take tourism seriously as a scientific subject."

CALENDAR Monday, August 27 to Tuesday, September 4

Items for the weekly *Advance* Calendar are downloaded from the University's online Events Calendar. Please enter your Calendar items at: <http://events.uconn.edu/> Items must be entered by 4 p.m. on Monday for inclusion in the issue published the following Monday.

Note: The next Calendar will include events taking place from Tuesday, Sept. 4 through Monday, Sept. 10. Those items must be entered in the database by Monday, Aug. 27. If you need special accommodations to participate in events, call 860-486-2943 (Storrs), or 860-679-3563 (Farmington), or 860-570-5130 (Law School).

Academic

Monday, 8/27 – Classes begin.

Libraries

Homer Babbidge Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday noon-5 p.m.; Labor Day 9/3, 5-10 p.m.
Dodd Center. Reading Room hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed weekends. Closed Labor Day 9/3. Research Center hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed weekends. Closed Labor Day 9/3.
Health Center Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Closed Labor Day 9/3.
Law Library. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-9 p.m. Closed Labor Day 9/3.

University ITS

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Help Desk Hours: Call 860-486-4357, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ph.D. Defenses

Monday, 8/27 – Geography. *Credence*

Attributes and Land Use: Eco-Labeled Coffee, by Christian Heidkamp (adv.: Hanink). 9:30 a.m., Room 420, CLAS Building.

Monday, 8/27 – Educational Psychology. *Institutional and Individual Factors Associated with Faculty Scholarly Productivity*, by Maria Caridad Garcia Cepero (adv.: Renzulli). 10 a.m., Room 12, Tasker Building.

Monday, 8/27 – Statistics. *Bayesian Methods of High-Throughput Gene Expression Data in Bioinformatics*, by Fang Yu (adv.: Kuo). 11 a.m., Room 340, CLAS Building.

Monday, 8/27 – Developmental Psychology. *Exploring the Effects of Maternal Input on the Language of Children with Autism*, by Lauren Swenson (adv.: Naigles). 1:30 p.m., Room 160, Bousfield Building.

Tuesday, 8/28 – Statistics. *A Factor and Vector-AR Model for Analyzing High Dimension Volatility for High Frequency Financial Data*, by Pengfei Li (adv.: Wang). 10 a.m., Room 340, CLAS Building.

Thursday, 8/30 – Civil & Environmental Engineering. *Development of a Baseline for Structural Health Monitoring and Seismic Evaluation for a Post-Tensioned Curved Concrete Box-Girder Bridge*, by Chengyin Liu (adv.: DeWolf). 10:30 a.m., Room 316, Castleman Building.

Thursday, 8/30 – Chemistry. *Optical Spectroscopic Studies of Simple Polyenes and Complex Xanthophylls*, by Grace Galinato (adv.: Frank). 2 p.m., Room A304, Chemistry Building.

Thursday, 8/30 – Clinical Psychology. *Somatic Symptoms in Adult Anxiety Disorders and Response to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*, by Danielle Kobay (adv.: Allen). 5 p.m., Room 160, Bousfield Building.

Lectures & Seminars

Thursday, 8/30 – Particles, Astrophysics, & Nuclei Physics Seminar. "Cerenkov Gluons," by Igor Dremin, Lebedev Institute, Moscow.

Room P121, Gant Science Complex.
Tuesday, 9/4 – Neuroscience Seminar. 4 p.m., Room 13, Academic Research Building, Health Center, Farmington.

Performing Arts

Saturday, 9/1 – UConn Marching



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Members of the UConn Marching Band practice outside the South Campus residence halls. The band will perform at a preview show Sept. 1.

Band Preview Show. 7 p.m., Sherman Family Complex.

Exhibits

Tuesday, 8/28 through Tuesday, 9/4 – Benton Museum. 42nd Annual Art

Department Faculty Exhibition, William Benton Museum. Opening reception, Thursday, 8/30, 5-7 p.m.

Saturday, 9/1 through Saturday, 11/17 – Jorgensen Gallery. *Moku Hanga*, woodcuts by Lynita Shimizu. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Through Sunday, 9/2 – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery. Works by Forrest Bailey, Marion Belanger, and Janet Van Horne. \$3 for non-members. Second Floor, Branford House, Avery Point Campus. Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

Through Wednesday, 9/5 – Celeste LeWitt Gallery. *Still Life Paintings*, by Janet Shafner, and *Recent Oils and Watercolors*, by Marija Pavlovich McCarthy. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Health Center.

Through Friday, 10/12 – Babbidge Library. *Believers*, paintings by Carol Foley, Gallery on the Plaza. *Glimpses of Nature*, prints by Barbara Hocker, Stevens Gallery.

Through Friday, 10/12 – Dodd Center. *The Cow Jumped Over the Moon*, new illustrations by Salley Mavor, Gallery.
Through Saturday, 11/17 – Ballard Institute of Puppetry. *Shadows & Substance*, 20th anniversary exhibit of puppet preservation at UConn. Hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, noon-5 p.m., Weaver Road, Depot Campus. Free admission, donations accepted. Docent-led tours available during museum hours.

Ongoing. State Museum of Natural History & Connecticut Archaeology Center. New permanent exhibit, *Human's Nature: Looking Closer at the Relationships between People and the Environment*. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday & Monday, closed. Free admission, donations accepted.

Sports

Friday, 8/31 – Men's Soccer vs. Canisius. 7 p.m., Morrone Stadium.
Sunday, 9/2 – Men's Soccer vs. Stony Brook. 7 p.m., Morrone Stadium.

Neags host reception to unveil new cancer treatment system

BY STEVE VESHOSKY

An enthusiastic group of Health Center supporters, volunteers, and staff members gathered recently at the historic Warner Theatre in Torrington to celebrate the newest addition to the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The reception, hosted by the Neags, was designed to promote the ground-breaking accomplishments of the Cancer Center and to highlight the Cancer Center's new Helical TomoTherapy Hi-Art System – the latest, most technologically advanced development in radiation oncology.

One of only approximately 150 such systems in use worldwide, UConn's TomoTherapy system is the first of its kind in Connecticut. It is scheduled to be fully operational this fall. This state-of-the-art equipment was acquired by the Health Center through a \$2.5 million gift from the Neags, who have also played a significant role in the ongoing restoration of the Warner, a 1930s-era movie palace that is now home to a variety of arts and entertainment offerings.

The technology employed by the TomoTherapy system differs

from other systems in its ability to deliver radiation with pinpoint accuracy. That precision allows for far more effective treatment of tumors, and also reduces the amount of healthy tissue exposed to radiation. It will be especially useful in treating patients with cancers of the head and neck, prostate, brain, and other tumors adjacent to organs that could be damaged by radiation.

Dr. Robert Dowsett, chief of radiation oncology at the Health Center, likened the TomoTherapy system to Star Wars in its level of technological sophistication.

In preparation for the treatment, detailed 3-D imagery is taken of the patient, with doctors and technicians using special software to identify the specific areas to be targeted with radiation and sparing surrounding normal tissue. Unlike previous technologies that use wide bands of radiation, TomoTherapy uses narrow rotating "pencil" beams of radiation to treat tumors from all directions with specifically determined levels of radiation intensity.

Those attending the event – including physicians from the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center,

members of the Cancer Center Advisory Board, and a host of UConn donors – heard remarks by University President Philip E. Austin, Dr. Peter J. Deckers, executive vice president of the Health Center and dean of the School of Medicine, and Dr. Carolyn Runowicz, director of the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Austin reflected on the huge impact the Neags' philanthropy has had on the University, helping to shape its course for the 21st century.

Deckers pointed out that, in addition to the TomoTherapy system, the Neags' generosity has transformed many areas of the University, including the School of Education, the Cancer Center, and the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center.

During her comments, Runowicz called attention to some of latest advances at the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center. She said TomoTherapy is a "shining example" of the vision and commitment necessary to be at the forefront of cancer care. She emphasized the importance of private philanthropy to the work currently under way at the Health Center,



PHOTO BY JOHN ATASHIAN

From left, Dr. Peter Deckers, executive vice president for health affairs, Dr. Carolyn Runowicz, director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Carole and Raymond Neag, during a reception in Torrington.

and thanked the Neags, along with other major benefactors such as Bess and Michael Economos of Lea's Foundation and others whose

support is helping ensure that the citizens of Connecticut have access to world-class cancer care at UConn.

Locksmiths hold key to evolving University landscape



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Locksmith Bob Druge, left, installs pins into a lock cylinder, as supervisor Paul Brazeau looks on.

BY KALA KACHMAR

Being responsible for more than 102,000 keys can't be easy.

But Paul Brazeau, UConn's locksmith department supervisor, has it all locked up.

The locksmith department, part of the Division of Public Safety, is responsible for the locks and keys of more than 120 buildings at the Storrs and Depot campuses.

Locksmithing began as the art of shaping and molding small metal pieces to make keys and locks for cabinets, businesses, homes, and cars. Modern locksmiths are responsible for more complex locks, key control systems, and the overall security of a unit.

When the locksmith department at UConn was created in the 1940s, there was just one locksmith. Today, the changing landscape of UConn keeps four full-time locksmiths – each of whom has 20 years or more of locksmith experience – busy.

Eighty-seven major building projects have been completed since the start of UConn 2000, and that has added more to the long "to-do" list of those engaged in this craft.

UConn locksmiths attend all construction-related meetings on campus and set standards to ensure that appropriate locks will be used in new and renovated

buildings.

"It's important to determine what kind of locks will be used before the job starts," Brazeau says. "We talk to the department to find out their needs, and we suggest the locks with the highest level of security that will fit the budget."

August is the busiest time for the locksmiths, as they prepare residence hall locks and keys for students coming to campus in the fall. If a dorm room key was not returned at the end of the school year, the lock must be replaced.

The locksmith department has plans to re-key all of the nearly 7,000 dorm rooms on campus, to make the doorknobs handi-

cap accessible. This summer, the department replaced the 268 locks at Ellsworth Hall in the Hilltop dormitories as a first step.

The University locksmiths' tasks include programming and repairing electronic lock systems, which have been in use since 1998. Electronic locks, usually found on the doors of high-tech classrooms and the exterior doors of residence halls, are opened with cardkeys.

The locksmiths recently updated the cardkey system to accept the new Husky OneCards that were distributed at the beginning of the summer. The encryption code on the electronic system had to be changed to match those on the Husky OneCards.

The electronic system has an added security benefit.

"We can do an audit trail to track who has unlocked the door if we need to," Brazeau says.

The locksmiths often work closely with the police and fire departments to keep the campus safe by responding to calls when a key is lost or stolen, or when there is a break-in.

"Locksmiths are in regular contact with the police and fire departments, and are considered part of the essential services on campus," says Lauren Barrett, public safety operations manager. "The departments have a history of working well together. It provides an excellent emergency response system."

At least one locksmith is on call 24 hours a day.

"Lost keys, stolen purses, and break-ins can happen at any time," adds Brazeau. "The security of a building is always a priority for us,

no matter what time it is. Safety comes first."

Barrett says the department is committed to making sure the right keys are in the right hands. The staff monitors key control records, and ensures that the information on who has access to what places is up-to-date.

"The population of this campus is changing all the time, so we have to be in contact with every department," she says.

The department has to stay on top of locksmith know-how, including new equipment and methods as they become available.

"We attend state-of-the-art training and locksmith conventions to keep up with technological changes," says Brazeau. "They often introduce new, time-saving equipment to us."

Last year, for example, the locksmiths began working with a key cutter machine that recognizes and cuts a key by its serial number, instead of using an actual key to make a copy.

Another device stamps a key automatically with its serial number. Previously, locksmiths had to manually pound the numbers into keys.

Records of serial code numbers for keys, which used to be handwritten, are now computerized.

"We streamline the equipment," says Barrett, "so the job is cost effective, less labor intensive, and more efficient."

Kala Kachmar, a junior majoring in journalism, is a student in the Honors Program.