



Homeland security program receives federal funds

The Department of Homeland Security has awarded a \$1,334,200 competitive training grant to the Center for Continuing Studies at UConn.

The Center will develop and deliver a Collaborative Leadership in Homeland Security program for state and local homeland security senior and emerging leaders nationwide during the three-year project period, which began Oct. 1.

Roy Pietro, executive director of academic partnerships and special programs in the Center for Continuing Studies, says the purpose of the training program is to “develop a new breed of homeland security leaders, equipped with requisite critical thinking skills and collaborative leadership abilities. This will allow them to make effective strategic planning and incident management decisions on issues and challenges impacting the security of all Americans.”

The eight-week leadership development program will consist of three phases: a two-week web-based state and local homeland security crisis leadership simulation focusing on a pandemic flu scenario; a one-week mobile leadership lab designed to develop collaborative leadership and critical thinking in homeland security; and a five-week web-based class on collaborative leadership in action.

During the project period, the Center for Continuing Studies will offer the program 15 times, to a total of 660 participants. Each session will be attended by a cohort of 44 emerging and senior leaders who work in homeland security related areas.

Pietro and his staff have played a key role in the Center for Continuing Studies’ substantial commitment to the field of homeland security education. In 2001, they created a leadership development program for the Department of Homeland Security’s Customs and Border Protection Unit that was selected for a multi-year contract award. In 2003, they signed a multi-year agreement with Connecticut’s Department of Public Safety to develop and manage a new Homeland Security Education Center for the state.

In 2004, Pietro and his staff oversaw the planning and evaluation of Connecticut’s

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PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Gingerbread houses representing buildings on the Storrs campus, created by UConn bakery manager Robert Min and his staff. The gingerbread houses are on display from Thanksgiving until after Christmas in the lobby of Gullely Hall. Others are on display in the Wilbur Cross Building.

Linguistics department part of prestigious international research consortium

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU

When Professor Mamoru Saito was looking for institutional partners to form an international consortium on linguistics, UConn was one of five he chose from around the world.

“We listed the top linguistics programs in the world, and contacted five of them,” says Saito, a professor of linguistics at Nanzan University in Japan, who heads the consortium and had collaborated with UConn researchers previously.

The consortium, which is funded by the Japanese government, has six participating institutions: the University of Cambridge; the University of Hyderabad, India; Nanzan University; the University of Siena, Italy; Tsing Hua University, Taiwan; and UConn.

“Each of the consortium participants has an excellent linguistics program and an impressive group of researchers,” says Saito. “We are now doing even better by combining forces.”

“The UConn linguistics program is the most established among the six,” he adds, “and its participation makes the consortium very attractive.”

In establishing the consortium, says UConn linguistics professor Diane Lillo-Martin, the Japanese “wanted to replicate what happens naturally here, having a large number of international students work together on projects and make comparisons across languages. At other universities, there are not so many international students. The consortium creates a ‘meta-department,’ a

large department in the sense that students and faculty work together and get together at certain times in different places.”

The UConn linguistics department has nine faculty members and up to 30 Ph.D. students. It does not award master’s or bachelor’s degrees, but offers a number of general education courses and joint undergraduate majors in linguistics and psychology and linguistics and philosophy.

“The linguistics department is actively promoting international opportunities for doctoral students,” says William Snyder, department head, “and is being recognized on the international scene as a leader in doctoral education in the field of linguistics.”

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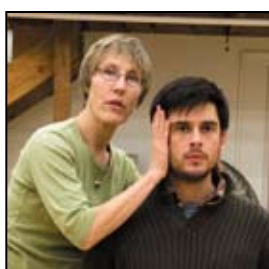
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PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

President Michael J. Hogan speaks with students at the School of Law on Nov. 27. Earlier in the day, he visited the Greater Hartford Campus, and on Nov. 29, he toured the Stamford Campus. At each campus, Hogan met with faculty, staff, and students. He also met with legislators and business leaders.

Two student organizations recognized

Two UConn student organizations, *The Daily Campus* newspaper and the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG), have been recognized.

The Daily Campus won third place Associated College Press Best of Show for a four-year [college] daily broadsheet at the annual College Media Advisers/Associated Collegiate Press annual media conference in Washington, D.C., Oct. 24-28.

Convention Best of Show awards are on-site competitions open only to those publications attending each convention. Best of Show entries consist of one copy of a newspaper from the current school year.

In the four-year daily broadsheet category, first place went to *The Daily Tar Heel*, of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; *The Daily Titan*, of California State University, Fullerton, took second place.

SUBOG received the Excellence in Programming award at the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) regional conference held in Hartford Nov. 1-3. This is the first year SUBOG has entered the competition.

The awards are made in categories based on school size, with UConn in the 'large school' category of more than 7,500 undergraduates.

Before the conference, schools

had to submit an online booklet of their top five programs from the past year. Each program needed to include the advertising method used, budget, audience reaction and overall rating of the event, and any other gimmicks.

Of those who submitted their books, three schools from each school size category were chosen to present their events to a panel of judges and fellow programmers during the conference. The scores were based on a combination of diversity in programming, creativity, use of resources, adherence to the presentation rules, and the quality of the programs overall.

Donations requested for charity drive

A "Stuff the Bus" collection to benefit the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic will take place during the week beginning Dec. 10.

"Covenant Soup Kitchen assists shut-ins, families, the elderly, veterans, and children," says Janet Freniere, an administrator in UConn's transportation services department, which is hosting the charity drive. "Most of these people rely on the soup kitchen to survive from day to day and week to week."

Freniere says the department will collect children's books and toys, personal care items, and some non-perishable foods.

A green, decorated van will be set up on Hillside Road, directly across from the UConn Co-op, each day Dec. 10-14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain, snow, or shine.

Departments may also collect items internally. Those items can be picked up by Mail Services, by leaving them in the immediate vicinity of the outgoing mail box in the department. For large full boxes, call Freniere at 860-486-4804 to arrange for pick up.

Needed items include:

- Children's books, puzzles, board games, dolls, stuffed animals, coloring books and crayons, trucks and cars.

- Personal care items, including shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, disposable razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, soap, hats and gloves, scarves, and warm socks.

- Non-perishable foods will also be accepted, but personal care items are needed most.

If anyone would like to donate items – instead or as well – to troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, Freniere works with two support groups, Soldiers Angels and Silver Star Families of America, sending items to troops overseas or to wounded veterans at Walter Reed Hospital.

Donated items intended for troops and veterans should be labeled as such, as everything will be picked up together. Breakables, liquids, and aerosol cans are not recommended for sending overseas.

Needed items include:
DVDs, CDs, batteries (all sizes);
Disposable cameras;

Prepaid international phone cards; Travel-size board games, handheld electronic games, playing cards; Bandana coolers/cool-ties, mini battery-operated fans;

Hand and foot warmers and socks; Commercially wrapped individual packets of trail mix, beef jerky, nuts, energy bars, sunflower seeds, candy;

Ready to eat tuna or chicken salad kits;

Small tins of cookies; Packets of powdered cold beverages (Kool Aid, Gatorade, etc.);

Commercially sealed lip balm, roll-on deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes;

Moist towelettes; Travel-size containers of foot powder and other toiletries (soap, baby wipes, etc.);

Blank holiday greeting cards, for troops to send; Magazines and paperback books (new and used).

Please call or e-mail Freniere at Janet.Freniere@uconn.edu for more information.

Provost announces 2007 Outreach Award-winners

The winners of this year's Awards for Excellence in Outreach and Public Engagement were announced by Provost Peter J. Nicholls during a reception Nov. 27, in the Wilbur Cross North Reading Room. The reception was preceded by a poster display outside the North Reading Room featuring the accomplishments of the finalists.

The winners were:

Faculty Award

Tessa Getchis, College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Department of Extension, Avery Point.

Getchis has developed programs to enhance aquaculture and marine ecology; was appointed to serve on a NOAA Marine Aquaculture committee in 2007; and has presented her work at the National Shellfisheries Association.

Staff Award

Clinton Morse, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Storrs.

Morse, plant growth facilities manager, organizes greenhouse tours that bring in more than 2,700 formal tour participants and close to 4,500 other individuals to visit the collections each year. His efforts helped bring more than 22,000 people to campus when the Titan Arum bloomed. He hosted the 2007 annual meeting of the Association of Educational & Research Greenhouse Curators, has facilitated exchanges of plant material with more than 170 institutions throughout the U.S., and maintains a web site that is a vital resource for botanical researchers, educators, and gardeners.

Program Award

Husky Sport, Neag School of Education, Kinesiology Department, Storrs.

Husky Sport is a program that connects UConn students and student-athletes with youth in Hartford's North End. Created four years ago by Jennifer Bruening, associate professor of sport

management and sociology, the program has sponsored hundreds of after-school days, physical education classes, and more than a dozen field trips. The Hartford students learn to live healthier, more productive lives, while the UConn students and faculty grow professionally.

Graduate Student Award

Theodore Van Alst, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Comparative Literature & Cultural Studies Program, Storrs.

Van Alst, a Ph.D. candidate in modern and classical languages, is also program coordinator for the Native American Cultural Society. He is an advocate for the Native American students on our campus and, as a result of his work, the University has begun to solidify its ties with the local native communities. He has also mastered the Lakota language and designed several courses here at UConn in Native American Studies.

Undergraduate Student Award

Christopher Soares, Student Activities, Community Outreach, Storrs.

Soares is a senior majoring in molecular and cell biology. He has worked to establish a stronger relationship between UConn and the Connecticut Special Olympics by establishing the inaugural Husky Classic Special Olympics Soccer Tournament. He also has served as a leader with the Alternative Breaks program: last spring break, he led a healthcare-focused trip to Philadelphia; this year, he will lead a trip – his fourth – to New Orleans to help with the rebuilding efforts.

Each award-winner receives a \$1,000 allocation to financial aid or a department account. These funds may then be used to further develop and enhance outreach and public engagement efforts across the institution.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT Advance

Elizabeth Omara-Otunnu
Editor

Contributing Writers.....David Bauman, Sherry Fisher, Michael Kirk, Beth Krane, Mark J. Roy, Richard Veilleux

Health Center Writers.....Chris DeFrancesco, Kristina Goodnough, Maureen McGuire, Carolyn Pennington

Designer.....Betsy J. Surprenant

Student Intern.....Kala Kachmar

Calendar Editor.....Christian Shank

Photo Editor.....Peter Morenus

Student Photographers.....Frank Dahlmeyer, Andrea DiNino, Jessica Tommaselli

Manager, Media Communications.....Karen A. Grava, APR

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E-mail: advance@uconn.edu

Huskies invited to bowl game Dec. 29

The UConn football team has accepted a bid to play in the 2007 Meineke Car Care Bowl.

The bowl will be played on Saturday, Dec. 29, at 1 p.m. at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, N.C., home of the NFL's Carolina Panthers. The game will be broadcast live on ESPN. The Huskies' opponent, a team from the Atlantic Coast Conference, will soon be announced.

UConn will be making its second bowl appearance. The Huskies made their bowl debut in the 2004 Motor City Bowl, where they beat

Mid-American Conference champion Toledo, 39-10, at Ford Field in Detroit.

The Huskies went 9-3 in 2007, tying for the winningest regular season in the program's 109-year history. They went 5-2 in Big East play, and currently stand alone in second place in the league. Should Pittsburgh defeat West Virginia on Saturday night, UConn would be declared co-champions along with the Mountaineers.

UConn football earned its first national rankings this year, reaching as high as No. 13 in the BCS

rankings.

Husky fans who wish to attend the bowl are encouraged to purchase their tickets directly from the University. This will ensure that they will be seated in the UConn sections and will help send a strong message that UConn fans travel in large numbers to support their team at bowl games.

For complete information on the UConn football bowl trip, including travel and ticket information, please visit UConnBowl.com.

Author Tomie dePaola receives children's literature award from UConn Libraries

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center awarded the inaugural Northeast Children's Literature Collection Distinguished Service Award to renowned children's book author and illustrator Tomie dePaola during a ceremony on Nov. 10.

The award, which will be given periodically, recognizes an individual's or organization's distinguished and long-standing contribution to the field of children's literature, and their support and contribution to the Northeast

Children's Literature Collection.

dePaola, a native of Meriden, is the author of *Strega Nona* and *26 Fairmount Avenue*, winners of the American Library Association's Caldecott and Newbery Honors respectively, and more than 200 other children's books. His books have been translated into more than a dozen languages and he has more than 6 million books in print.

dePaola has received the Smithsonian Medal from Smithsonian Institution, the Regina Medal from

the Catholic Library Association. UConn awarded him an honorary degree in 1999.

dePaola donated manuscripts, drawings, and papers representing his creative output to the Northeast Children's Literature Collection in 1999. He has provided support for its organization and continues to add material on a regular basis. In addition, he often appears at the Connecticut Children's Book Fair, a fund-raising event that supports the Northeast Children's Literature Collection.

Grant to support training in oceans, human health

BY CINDY WEISS

A new \$500,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), one of only four in the country, will enable UConn and collaborating partners to train graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in a rapidly emerging field, oceans and human health.

The partnership, led by J. Evan Ward, associate professor of marine sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will give doctoral and post-doctoral researchers broad training in oceanography and marine biology.

It will also give them specific training in three areas that represent critical problems in the coastal zone: Harmful algal blooms, marine diseases and pathogens, and emerging pollutants, such as nanoparticles. These can harm fish, shellfish, and marine mammals, and in turn, human populations that depend on them for food, revenue, and employment.

The goal is to train the next generation of scientists to work in the field of oceans and human health.

The grant will allow UConn to leverage future funding for more research in oceans and human health, a growing field.

"We've been recognized as a program to train future scientists, and that will open doors," says Ward.

It also will further collaboration with Mystic Aquarium and the

National Marine Fisheries Service. Participating partners in the grant include four UConn centers and seven departments; Connecticut Sea Grant and the National Undersea Research Center, two NOAA-supported programs at UConn; and the New England Aquarium in Boston.

Co-principal investigators include Hans Dam, professor of marine sciences; Sylvain De Guise, associate professor of pathobiology and director of Connecticut Sea Grant; Salvatore Frasca, associate professor of pathobiology; Tracy Romano of the Mystic Aquarium and Institute for Exploration; and Gary Wikfors of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Milford.

"The network we are establishing involves scientists with expertise in such topics as molecular biology, shellfish physiology and ecology, immunology, fish ecology, environmental science, physical oceanography, and marine-mammal biology," Ward says.

The traineeship program also covers public awareness and outreach, public health, and environmental health. It will allow an exchange of ideas and research among scientists who often do not have the opportunity to collaborate, he says.

The training will be offered to Ph.D.-level graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, starting in spring 2008.

Health Center to house Hartford Medical Society's historical collection

BY CHRIS DEFRANCESCO

The Hartford Medical Society will move its historical medical library and many of its artifacts to the UConn Health Center next spring.

The two parties have finalized an agreement under which the Health Center will provide about 2,500 square feet of space adjacent to the Lyman Maynard Stowe Library. The Society is relocating from Scarborough Street in Hartford's West End, its location since 1956.

"The Lyman Maynard Stowe Library welcomes the addition of this historic collection of medical books, journals, and artifacts to our campus," says library director Evelyn Morgen. "Because we are a relatively young medical school, the Hartford Medical Society will add depth and gravitas to the resources available to our faculty, to our students, and to scholars who visit our campus."

The Society will retain ownership of its collection. When they're cataloged, the assets will retain their Society identification. The materials include manuscripts dating to the 17th century, account books of 19th-century physicians, journals from their first volumes, and records of the experiments of 19th-century Hartford dentist Horace Wells, who is credited



PHOTO BY JANINE GELINEAU

with the discovery of surgical anesthesia. "For some time, the Hartford Medical Society has felt the need for a greater exposure of its invaluable library and museum collection to both the academic commu-

nity and the general public," says Dr. Bradford Blanchard, president of the Society. "Fortunately, the historical thrust of our collections is very compatible with UConn's commitment to the history of medicine and to the humanities in

medicine. Therefore, housing our collections at the UConn Health Center, with its academic environment and sophisticated information technology, is a natural fit."

Dr. Bruce Koeppen, dean of academic affairs and education at

the Health Center, says, "These one-of-a-kind articles, books and journals are really Connecticut treasures. It's great that we'll be able to preserve this valuable collection."

The Health Center also will provide space for the Society's continuing education programs for physicians. The Society is bearing the cost of renovation, relocation, and maintenance of its collection, and will reimburse UConn for the salary and benefits paid to the librarian to be added as part of the agreement.

"This is an important collaboration with the Hartford Medical Society on the history of medicine, and bringing the Society's collection here will make it more available to the public," says Renee Drabier, assistant vice president of health informatics, adding it was the physician members of the Hartford Medical Society who voted to move the collection to the UConn Health Center.

The Hartford Medical Society, established in 1846, provides educational programs for professionals in the fields of medicine, dentistry, history, and the arts by offering lectures, sponsoring study sessions, and preserving historic treasures of the healing professions.

Anthropologist's book analyzes impact of globalization on sugar cane workers

BY KAREN SINGER

They live in primitive barracks and earn a pittance, toiling for hours in the blistering heat as sugar cane cutters in the Dominican Republic. Yet despite their circumstances, says Samuel Martínez, these Haitian migrant workers are as eager as residents in more affluent societies to acquire consumer goods and pursue gratification beyond their basic needs.

Such desires, he contends, "are being promoted by global media, and also play into a deep-seated human fascination – perhaps even a need – to transcend the limits of the mundane, to dream beyond reality."

Martínez, an associate professor of anthropology, studies Haitian migrants living in the Dominican Republic.

He began the research for his doctoral dissertation, looking at migrant workers living in a company compound called Monte Coca. At the low end of the social ladder, they are targeted for abuse, and fare far worse than the Haitian nationals who live there year-round, amid the permanent Dominican residents. During the past two decades, he has expanded its scope to include other groups making up the compound's social hierarchy.

He recently published a book on the subject, *Decency and Excess: Global Aspirations and Material Deprivation on a Caribbean Sugar Plantation* (Paradigm Publishers, 2007).

"Payday weekend bingeing,

home decorations ... and desires for consumer durables such as television sets and refrigerators are not expenditures that we in the more prosperous countries of the world readily associate with people living in dire poverty," says Martínez, "and yet you see all these things and more in Monte Coca and other company compounds and impoverished neighborhoods in the Dominican Republic and elsewhere in the so-called Third World."

Their aspirations are reflected, to some extent, in photographs Martínez took of the people he studied. In exchange for being allowed to take candid photos of their daily lives, he also took "beauty shots" staged by the interviewees, which he gave to them.

The two types of photo often show a very different picture. In one instance, Martínez recalls, so many possessions were crammed into the room, including a TV set and glass-fronted display cabinet with china figurines, that they almost seemed to be crowding the owner to the edge of the picture.

During repeated visits to Monte Coca, Martínez has observed that people's expectations of what constitutes a good life have grown, while at the same time there's been a constriction of what their declining incomes can buy them, as well as an increased level of economic inequality among the mass of working people.

Although free market reform and divestment from sugar production have provided more eco-

nomie opportunities, other work doesn't pay much better.

"With increases in already shocking levels of poverty has come a coarsening of the social fabric," says Martínez, "with people turning their backs on the proletarian ethic of living as equals and in solidarity vis-à-vis capital, to engage in some pretty terrible ways of exploiting each other, the stronger taking advantage of the more vulnerable, as well as reaching for commodified dreams of a better life, as advertised through electronic communications media."

Martínez says his research adds to growing anthropological literature on cultural globalization by looking beyond the motivations social researchers usually ascribe to expenditures beyond utility, and noting evidence that these consumer aspirations respond also to people's needs to transcend the limits of the mundane.

"What I'm bringing to this debate is an appeal to consider not only custom and thought, but also relations between people and the texture of everyday life as domains on which globalization may have an impact," he says. "Even though local culture may retain much of its distinctiveness, as reflected in annual rituals like Rara (a voodoo-inspired, carnival-like Lenten festival featuring band processions, lavish costumes, competitive dancing, and participants in a trance and other heightened states of emotion), economic decline – paired with proliferating consumer



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMMEYER

Samuel Martínez, associate professor of anthropology, recently published a study of Haitian migrant workers in the Dominican Republic.

aspirations – divides communities into haves and have-nots, with worsening levels of exploitation and violence."

Martínez last visited the area in spring 2007 for Rara, a Haitian tradition, and was surprised to notice the Dominican flag prominently carried in the parades.

"I can't help but see that as a reflection of a larger trend that has taken shape," he says, "for people of Haitian ancestry to proclaim that they belong to the Dominican nation, even though the festival is Haitian."

That emerging "Haitian-Dominican" identity has been the main focus of Martínez's research since 2002. He has been studying Haitian-Dominican rights organizations, which work at the local level to help people identify and solve their problems.

In his next book, to be titled "The Onion of Oppression," Martínez will take his lead from these organizations' "broad spectrum human rights agenda," to examine the Haitian-Dominicans' interlocking economic, social, cultural, and political/civil rights challenges.

Comparative research *continued from page 1*

The consortium's research focus is on language acquisition and syntactic theory, both areas of specialization at UConn.

Saito says comparative research is very important in the field of linguistics.

"As the goal of linguistics is to uncover the nature of the innate language faculty, unique to humans, comparative research plays an important role," he says. "For this reason, important projects of-

ten take the form of international joint research. The main purpose of the consortium is to provide an opportunity for graduate students to get training in this kind of research."

Since its founding in 2006, the consortium has held four joint graduate seminars and seven workshops with graduate students. Each institution has hosted at least one event. Sometimes all the members meet; at other times,

meetings are held for subgroups working on particular projects. Participants also communicate with each other on an ongoing basis through e-mail. The working language is English.

Last spring, four UConn doctoral students attended a workshop in Japan on the topic of language acquisition. They were selected partly on the relevance of their research, and partly on the basis of a written proposal outlining how

they would contribute and how they expected to benefit.

Natasha Rakhlin, a former Ph.D. student who has since graduated, gave a presentation on how children acquire an understanding of English sentences with quantifiers.

"There was strong interest from people at Tsing Hua University who are doing a similar experiment with children acquiring Mandarin Chinese," says Snyder. "They wanted to adapt experiments Natasha had done in the U.S. for use in Taiwan."

Another student, Jean Crawford, is studying African languages and linguistics. As a result of her trip to Japan, she is also becoming interested in Japanese linguistics, and hopes to run child language experiments with students in Japan.

"Thanks to the consortium, I now have a network of colleagues all over the world," Crawford says, "and I now have the resources to look at problems from a range of perspectives."

A third UConn Ph.D. student, Sandra Wood, is conducting research on homesigned systems (gestures and signs deaf people develop on their own) and acquisition of signed languages. Wood, who gave a presentation in Ameri-

can Sign Language while in Japan, says she was fortunate to find two interpreters, one Japanese and one American, who knew ASL as well as Japanese and English. She also made contact with a student at Nanzan University who does research on Japanese Sign Language.

Wood says she appreciates the opportunities the consortium provides for networking on a smaller scale than at conferences.

"We also had classes with other students, which gave us a means of meeting them and engaging in dialogue about our work and the lecture topic," she says. She particularly enjoyed a class given by Professor Luigi Rizzi of the University of Siena, a leading expert on syntax and psycholinguistics.

Lillo-Martin says participating in international research collaborations will help UConn graduate students in their careers. Not only will they be better qualified to apply for academic jobs but they can ask for letters of recommendation from faculty in the consortium.

Adds Saito, "I am sure that they will continue to collaborate even after they complete their Ph.D.s, and contribute to the development of the international research community."



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMMEYER

William Snyder, head of the linguistics department, and Diane Lillo-Martin, professor of linguistics, with a poster advertising a workshop organized in Japan last spring by an international consortium for comparative research.

New essay collection seen as tribute to professor of diplomatic history

BY SCOTT BRINCKERHOFF

Students can often identify a teacher or two who shepherded them through their academic careers and shaped their thinking for decades to come. For UConn political science professor J. Garry Clifford, a book of essays seemed like an excellent way to thank just such a mentor, one who taught him a great deal about the art of researching and writing diplomatic history.

Presidents, Diplomats, and Other Mortals (University of Missouri Press), published this summer and co-edited by Clifford, is a tribute to Robert Ferrell, a well-known historian of American foreign relations. Ferrell taught diplomatic history for many years at Indiana University and was a visiting professor at UConn in the mid-1960s.

The book, called a *Festschrift* – German for “celebration” and “writing” – contains more than a dozen essays by Ferrell’s students and colleagues that explore American diplomacy in diverse times, places, and situations. The essays fit well, Clifford says, with UConn’s approach toward writing diplomatic history.

Retired professors Louis Gerson, Thomas Paterson, Imanuel Wexler, and Edmund Wehrle, as well as current professor Frank Costigliola and now President Michael Hogan are very much a part of this tradition, he says. The University also hosts a foreign policy seminar four times a year that has brought many scholars of U.S. foreign relations to Storrs since 1984.

“Our history and political science departments have emphasized traditional diplomatic

history as part of their curricula, without necessarily excluding a post-modern approach in which a period in diplomatic history might be looked at through a much narrower prism,” Clifford says. For example, a post-modernist approach might study U.S. relations with Middle Eastern governments by analyzing how popular movies and novels treat the subject. Or foreign relations might be written about primarily from the perspective of race or gender.

A textbook co-authored by Clifford, Paterson, and two Ph.D. graduates from UConn is regarded as one of the leaders in the field. The book, *American Foreign Relations: A History* (Houghton Mifflin) is now going into its seventh edition.

The essays in Clifford’s latest book tend to emulate Ferrell’s way of telling a story, often using anecdotes and humor. But Clifford says they also do not stray too far from the “orthodox,” or traditional, way of writing archive-based diplomatic history by focusing on the actions of government institutions and officials during a particular time.

The essays include one on Lincoln, raising questions about his attitude toward slavery and slaves; another, by Clifford and co-editor Theodore Wilson, on the import of a close vote to extend the military draft on the eve of entry by the United States into World War II; and a third that looks at a shipboard meeting between President Franklin Roosevelt and Saudi King Ibn Saud in 1945.

The Clifford-Wilson essay reflects Clifford’s long-term interest in the period leading to the second

World War. The essay refutes what has become common wisdom about the impact of a close vote on draft extension taken in the House of Representatives in August 1941. The authors contend that the approval of that measure – by a single vote – has been misconstrued by many academics.

Clifford and Wilson maintain that if the vote had gone the other way, “against” the draft, it would not have meant that the United States could not have entered the war. They cite a number of reasons, including that an ample number of congressmen would have readily supported an extension of service for draftees, for a shorter period than the bill specified.

In the Ferrell tradition, the authors “dig and dig” and find that the bill nearly failed not because isolationists were ascendant, but because national officials, including President Roosevelt, simply were preoccupied with other matters and were not lobbying effectively for it.

Ferrell, now in his mid-80s and still writing about history, always encouraged his students “to really go beyond what others have done, to research well and let the chips fall where they may,” Clifford says. “He urged us to write in a style that’s readable by everyone, not just academics. He used to say, ‘History is meant to be read and understood by all.’”

For the most part, the essays do not break new ground, says Clifford, but offer new and provocative ways of looking at familiar chapters in history. Often, the essays draw parallels between past and present events, such as between President Harry S. Truman’s ex-

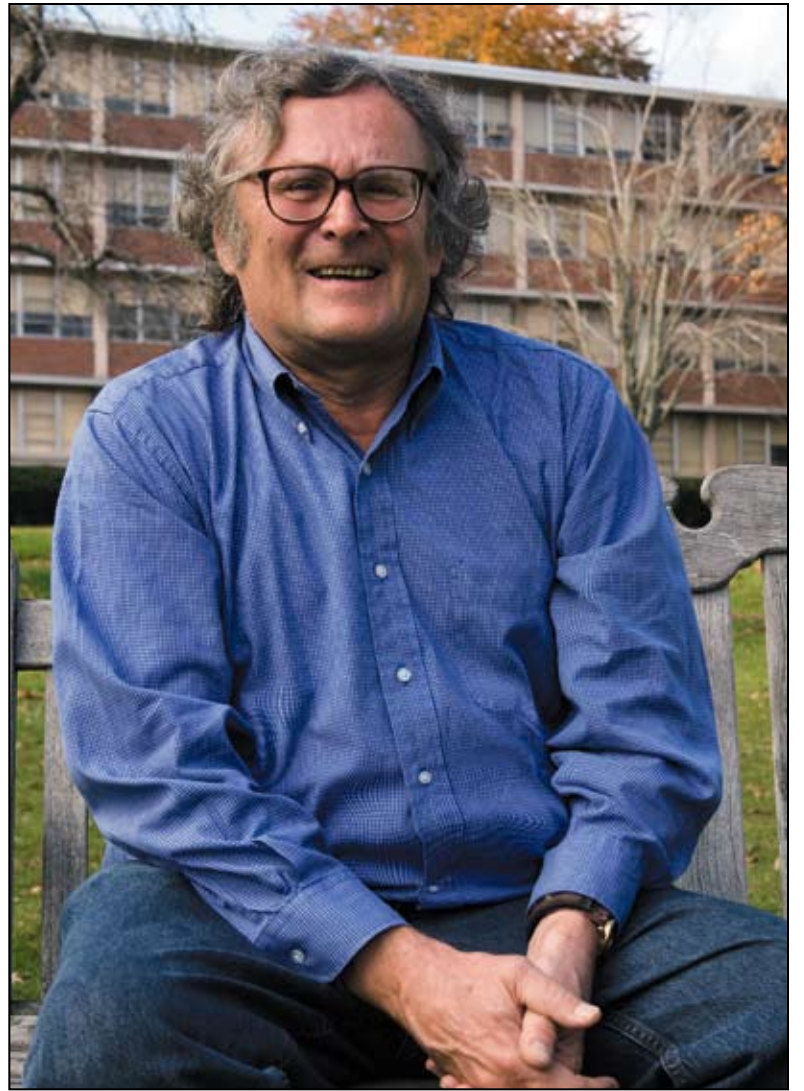


PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

J. Garry Clifford, a professor of political science, is co-editor of a collection of essays, *Presidents, Diplomats, and other Mortals*, that honors a former mentor.

perience with “regime change” in Korea in the 1950s and President George W. Bush’s efforts in Iraq.

The essay most faithful to the Ferrell style is by Ross Gregory, professor emeritus of history at Western Michigan University. It recounts in colorful detail the remarkable meeting between President Roosevelt and King Ibn Saud, who unexpectedly brought a retinue of 200 with him to a U.S. Navy ship, along with a herd of 86 sheep for fresh meat.

World War II was nearly over, Roosevelt’s health was failing, and the United States knew little of Arab affairs. But Roosevelt

believed that personal diplomacy with Saud might advance the idea of creating a homeland in Palestine for displaced European Jews. Roosevelt found, as so many of his successors have, that Arab-Israeli issues do not lend themselves to easy solutions.

For Clifford, *Presidents, Diplomats, and Other Mortals* is a departure from his ongoing research, much of which has focused on the politics of U.S. intervention in World War II, American defense policy in the decades leading up to the war, and especially the great debate between isolationists and interventionists.

Survey aims to gather student reaction to school choice programs

BY BETH KRANE

When the landmark Hartford school desegregation case *Sheff v. O’Neill* returned to court last month, it gave educators, parents, and politicians in the city and surrounding suburbs a chance to air their views on the progress and pitfalls associated with school choice programs.

A three-year, \$300,000 research project currently under way at the Neag School of Education’s Center for Education Policy Analysis aims to give voice to another group at the heart of the school desegregation debate yet seldom heard: the students themselves.

The Center for Education Policy Analysis, formed three years ago, focuses on studying the impact of a wide range of school choice programs designed to promote voluntary school desegregation.

As part of its project for the Connecticut State Department of Education’s Bureau of Choice Programs, the Center is conducting a survey sampling thousands of el-



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Casey Cobb, associate professor of educational leadership, speaks with John Brittain during a conference on public school choice. Brittain, a former UConn law professor, was lead counsel in the Hartford school desegregation case.

ementary, middle, and high school students enrolled in the state’s 54 inter-district magnet schools, 16 charter schools, and the Open

Choice program. The decades-old Open Choice program has the goal of making 1,600 seats available each year in suburban classrooms

for Hartford students.

The survey, piloted in a handful of high schools this fall and set to be administered widely in elementary, middle, and high schools in the spring, examines students’ attitudes on a variety of reported benefits of integrated school settings, including improved racial attitudes, relationships with peers and teachers of all backgrounds, a sense of belonging, and engagement with studies.

“Connecticut has invested heavily in choice programs and we are trying to gather evidence that may speak to the returns on those investments,” says Casey Cobb, the Center’s director and an associate professor of educational leadership. “Students are the ones directly experiencing these policies, so it makes sense to ask them.”

A second component of the Center’s project for the Department of Education is an analysis that will compare the standardized test scores of students selected by lottery for the Open Choice program and a sample of inter-district

magnet schools with the scores of students who applied for Open Choice and magnet lotteries but were not selected.

The achievement analysis will encompass student math and reading scores from the Connecticut Mastery Test, administered in grades 3 through 8, and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test, administered in grade 10, from the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school years.

In a separate initiative, the UConn Center has forged a relationship with the Magnet Schools of America, a national association concerned by the dearth of substantive research being conducted on magnet schools nationwide.

On Nov. 28 and 29, the Center for Education Policy Analysis hosted a conference, “Public School Choice in a Post-Desegregation World,” that brought together the nation’s top school choice researchers. Cobb hopes it will be a first step in creating a national consortium of researchers focused on school choice issues.

Seth Koproski, a first year student majoring in acting and English, studies on the second floor of Homer Babbidge Library.

PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI



GRANTS

The following grants were received through the Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP) in September 2007. The list represents only new proposals awarded, and excludes continuations. Additional grants received through OSP in September were published in the Nov. 26 issue.

Prin. Investigator	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
Pettinelli, D.	Plant Science	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/ University of Kentucky	\$4,919	8/07-11/07
<i>Extension Consumer Horticulture Regional FAQ</i>				
Ramprasad, R.	Institute of Materials Science	National Science Foundation	\$199,968	1/08-12/10
<i>Binary and Ternary Semiconductor Quantum Rods: A Computational Route to Next-Generation All-Inorganic Photovoltaic Materials</i>				
Shin, D.	Computer Science & Engineering	Dept. of Defense/ UConn Health Center	\$333,000	8/07-7/10
<i>Computational Analysis of Musculoskeletal MicroConn. Images</i>				
Smirnova, A.	Conn. Global Fuel Cell Ctr.	United Technologies/ UTC Power/ UTC Fuel Cells	\$7,428	9/07-10/07
<i>Testing of the Catalysts for PEMFC Application Using Rotating Disc Electrode</i>				
Sotzing, G.	Institute of Materials Science	Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.	\$99,999	7/07-6/08
<i>Conjugated Polymers for Electrochromic Display</i>				
Srivastava, R.	Chemical, Materials, & Biomolecular Engineering	UConn Health Center	\$4,496	6/07-9/07
<i>Development of a Preliminary Mucositis Model</i>				
Suib, S.	Chemistry	Dept. of Energy/Yardney Technical Products Inc.	\$40,000	8/07-3/08
<i>Synthesis and Characterization of New Materials for Advanced Battery Systems</i>				
Super, C.	Human Development/ Family Studies	HHS/Administration for Children and Families/Children's Trust Fund	\$84,994	8/07-12/09
<i>Evaluation of NFN Paraprofessional Training</i>				
Tian, X.	Center for Regenerative Biology	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/ U.S.-Egypt Joint Science & Technology Board	\$30,000	9/07-8/10
<i>Improving Oocyte Maturation and Embryo Culture by Comparing Global Expression Profiles of in Vivo and in Vitro Embryo in Cattle and Buffalo</i>				
Tufts, J.	Communication Sciences	PHS/CDC/National Inst. for Occupational Safety & Health/ UConn Health Center	\$7,600	7/07-6/08
<i>Active Hearing Protectors and Audibility of Critical Communications</i>				
Wagner, D.	Ecology & Evolutionary Biology	Conn. Dept. of Transportation	\$5,766	8/07-8/08
<i>Survey for Threatened or Endangered Species – Route 14 and 14A Sterling</i>				
Warner, G.	Natural Resources Mgmt. & Engineering	Conn. Dept. of Environmental Protection	\$30,547	8/07-2/08
<i>Modeling the Effects of Reservoir Release Practices on Downstream Flows, Phase 2: Impact of Release Rules on Yield and Streamflow Metrics</i>				
Weaver, S.	Human Development/ Family Studies Instruction	Conn. Dept. of Education & Research	\$50,000	7/07-6/08
<i>UConn College Career Pathways Program</i>				
Worthley, T.	Dept. of Extension	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	\$25,000	9/07-10/08
<i>Enhancing Technology Transfer Activities Through Collaboration</i>				

The following grants were received through the UConn Health Center's Office of Grants and Contracts in September 2007. The list represents new awards as well as continuations. Additional grants received in September will be published in a future issue.

Department	Prin. Investigator	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
Community Medicine & Health	Lazzarini, Z.	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$461,254	9/03-8/08
<i>Rapid Assessment of Drug Law & Policy in the FSU & CEE</i>				

Federal Grants

Molecular Medicine	Hansen, M.	National Institute of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases	\$305,716	9/03-8/07
<i>Role of EDR3 in Normal Development and Tumorigenesis</i>				
Molecular, Microbial, & Structural Biology	Setlow, P.	National Institute of General Medical Sciences	\$391,760	9/04-8/08
<i>Degradation Reaction in Spore Germination</i>				
Center for Vascular Biology	Han, K.	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute	\$309,344	9/04-8/08
<i>Proteomic Analysis of Apoptotic Signaling Networks</i>				
Community Medicine & Health	Babor, T.	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$268,040	9/04-8/08
<i>Brief Interventions for Nicotine and Cannabis Use</i>				
Surgery	Das, D.	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute	\$319,041	8/05-7/08
<i>Phospholipid Signaling in Myocardial Ischemic Injury</i>				
Oral Health & Diagnostic Sciences	Lalla, R.	National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research	\$132,324	9/05-8/08
<i>Cox-2 Inhibition in Radiation Induced Oral Mucositis</i>				
Genetics & Developmental Biology	Mayer, B.	National Cancer Institute	\$451,080	9/05/-8/08
<i>A High-Multiplexed Hosphotyrosine Profiling Assay</i>				
Center for Vascular Biology	Furneau, H.	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$143,708	9/06-8/08
<i>Cannabinoid Receptor (CNR1) Micrnas and Addictive Disease</i>				
Cell Biology	Peluso, J.	National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	\$314,500	9/07-8/08
<i>Pair BP & PGMC 1 Act as a Membrane Receptor Complex to Mediate P4's Ovarian</i>				
Medicine	Protiva, P.	National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases	\$225,793	9/07-8/08
<i>Research Network for Drug Induced Liver Diseases</i>				
Oral Rehabilitation, Biomaterials, & Skeletal Development	Rowe, D.	U.S. Army	\$1,010,463	8/07-7/08
<i>Improving Soldier Recovery from Catastrophic Bone Injuries</i>				
Center for Vascular Biology	Fong, G.	National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	\$185,000	9/07-8/08
<i>A Novel Technology to Generate Conditionally Inactivated Alleles in Mice</i>				
Oral Rehabilitation, Biomaterials & Skeletal Development	Rowe, D.	National Institute of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases	\$318,200	9/07-8/08
<i>Adult Stem Cells: Osteoblast Differentiation and Engraftment</i>				
Molecular Medicine	Tirnauer, J.	U.S. Army	\$111,000	9/07-9/08
<i>Mitotic Spindle Positioning in Breast Cancer</i>				
Immunology	LeFrancois, L.	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$222,000	9/07-8/08
<i>CD8 T Cell Response to Influenza Virus Infection</i>				
Immunology	Clark, R.	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$357,040	9/07-8/08
<i>The Role of Pargamma in the Generation and Function of Tregs</i>				

Homeland security *continued from page 1*

participation in the largest counter-terrorism exercise in the world, known as TOPOFF (T3). And the following year, the Center for Continuing Studies collaborated with the Naval Postgraduate School to coordinate mobile education training sessions on crisis planning and information/intelligence sharing for senior federal, state, and local government leaders.

Those efforts led to UConn's selection as the lead academic partner for the Naval Postgraduate School's graduate program in

homeland security. Under an articulation agreement with the Naval Postgraduate School, the Center for Continuing Studies successfully launched a cohort-based graduate program in homeland security leadership in 2005, with students from federal agencies such as the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Transportation Security Administration, as well as local and state law enforcement agencies from across the continental U.S. and Alaska.

CALENDAR

Monday, December 3, to Monday, December 10

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 in the database 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 Monday, Dec. 10, through Monday, Jan 22. Those items must be in the database by 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec 3. 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).

Academics

Friday, 12/7 – Last day of fall semester classes.

Monday, 12/10 – Final examinations begin.

Libraries

Homer Babbidge Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 a.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dodd Center. Reading Room hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed weekends.
 Research Center hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed weekends.
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.
Law Library. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-9 p.m.
Avery Point Campus Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed weekends.
Greater Hartford Campus Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Stamford Campus Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, closed.
Torrington Campus Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Friday-Sunday, closed.
Waterbury Campus Library. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sunday, closed.

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.

Meetings

Monday, 12/10 – Joint Audit & Compliance Committee Meeting. Public Meeting of the Joint Audit & Compliance Committee. 12:30 a.m., Room EG013, Academic Research Building, Health Center.

Monday, 12/10 – University Senate. All members of the University community are welcome to observe any University Senate meeting. 4-6 p.m., Room 7, Bishop Center.

Ph.D. Defenses

Monday, 12/3 – Chemistry. Part I. A 2-Nitroimidazole Indocyanine Green Dye Derivative Tumor Imaging Agent. Part II. A Dichlorination-Reductive-Dechlorination Route to N-Acetyl-2-Oxazolone. Part III. Intramolecular Diels-Alder Approach to the Synthesis of Pancreatistatin, by Faith Gaenzler (adv.: Smith). Noon, Room A304, Chemistry Building.

Monday, 12/3 – Statistics. Mining Tools for High-Dimensional Time Series Data Using Spectral Methods, by Jaydip Mukhopadhyay (adv.: Ravishanker). 1 p.m., Room 340, CLAS Building.

Tuesday, 12/4 – English. *Black Witness: Avenging Angels, Heroes & Apostates*, by Joseph Sanders (adv.: Bradfield). 8:30 a.m., Room 321, CUE Building.

Thursday, 12/6 – Nutritional Sciences. "Potential of Eggs in Enhancing the Cardioprotective Effects of Carbohydrate Restricted Diets," by Gisella Mutungi (adv.: Fernandez). 10 a.m., Room 207, Young Building.

Thursday, 12/6 – Chemistry. *Resonant Laser Ablation Solid Sampling of Metals for Trace Metal Analysis, by Plasma Optical and Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometries*, by Danielle Cleveland (adv.: Michel). 1:30 p.m., Room A304, Chemistry Building.

Thursday, 12/6 – Business Administration: Finance. *Issues in Insurance: Capital Structure, Distribution and Market Power*, by James Hilliard (adv.: O'Brien). 2 p.m., Room 463, School of Business.

Friday, 12/7 – Oceanography. *Sedimentary Pigments as Biomarkers of Spatial and Seasonal Variations in the Arctic Pelagic-Benthic Coupling*, by Nathalie Morata (adv.: Renaud). 10 a.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences

Eating Disorders." Noon, Room 403, Student Union.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Pharmaceutical Sciences Lecture. "Chemical Biology of Cell Motility," by Gabriel Fenteany. 4 p.m., Samuel & Rose Kalmanowitz Classroom, Pharmacy/Biology Building.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Statistics Colloquium. "Minimax Risks for Distributed Estimation and Information Inequalities," by Mokshay Madiman, Yale University. 4 p.m., Room 344, CLAS Building.

Thursday, 12/6 – Comparative Pathology Seminar. "Human Papillomavirus DNA Detection and the Diagnosis and Management of Cervical Cancer," by David Hillyard, University of Utah. 11 a.m., Room A001, Atwater Annex.

Thursday, 12/6 – CHIP Brown Bag Lecture. "The Role of the Home Environment in Weight Control: Opportunities for Intervention," by Amy Gorin, Brown University. 12:30

Friday, 12/7 – Environmental Engineering Seminar. "Ecohydrological Impacts of Climate Change Based on the Latest IPCC Climate Projections," by Clement Alo. Noon, Room 212, Castleman Building.

Monday, 12/10 – Health & Wellness Lecture. "Women and Addictive Behaviors," by Edie Thompson. Noon, Henry Low Learning Center, Health Center.

Exhibits

Through Wednesday, 12/5 – Celeste LeWitt Gallery. *Movement and Light Series*, by Kelly James Carrington; and *Revelations and Realities*, by John Lazarski. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Health Center.

Thursday, 12/6-3/12 – Celeste LeWitt Gallery. *Morocco at a Glance*, paintings by Emese El Bissatine Pasztor, and *Wild America*, photographs by Gary Melnysyn. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Health Center.

Through Sunday, 12/16 – William Benton Museum of Art. *Rodin: A Magnificent Obsession*, sculpture from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation. \$5 admission charge for this exhibit; museum members,

Artists. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine lobbies, Health Center.

Ongoing. State Museum of Natural History & Connecticut Archaeology Center. *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

Wednesday, 12/5 – Women's Basketball vs. Virginia. 7 p.m., Hartford Civic Center.

Thursday, 12/6 – Men's Basketball vs. Northeastern. 7:30 p.m., Gampel Pavilion.

Performing Arts

Monday, 12/3 – Yule Be Swingin'. Jazz 10tet, Lab Band and Jazz Combos Earl MacDonald, John Mastroianni, Kenny Davis & Bill Reynolds, directors. An evening of holiday classics. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. General admission \$7, students and children free with ID.

Tuesday, 12/4 – Symphonic Band. David Mills, conductor. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. General admission \$7, students and children free with ID.

Thursday, 12/6 – University Symphony. Jeffrey Renshaw, conductor. Mozart's *Symphony No. 38* and Russell Peck's *The Glory and The Grandeur*, concert for percussion and orchestra with guest artists, The Percussion Group Cincinnati. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. General admission \$7, students and children free with ID.

Through Friday, 12/7 – Pentecost. Connecticut Repertory Theatre production of David Edgar's epic play. Harriet Jorgensen Theatre. 12/5 7:30 p.m.; 12/6 7:30 p.m.; 12/7 8 p.m. For tickets, call 860-486-4226.

Friday, 12/7 – Concert Choir, Women's Chorus, and Festival Chorus. Constance DeFotis, director. *Carmina Burana*, featuring The Percussion Group Cincinnati; Neal Larrabee and Minyoung Lee, pianists; Constance Rock, soprano; James Ruff, tenor; and Anton Belov, bass. General admission \$7, students and children free with ID.

Friday, 12/7 & Saturday, 12/8 – The 5 Browns. One family, five Steinways, 50 fingers – five siblings perform classical piano. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets \$35-\$45. Dinner, dessert, & cash bar \$3-10. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Sunday, 12/9 – Renaissance Revival Christmas Concert. Carols and motets for the season. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 99 Jackson St., Willimantic.

Potpourri

Tuesday, 12/4 – Book Reading.

Female Chauvinist Pigs: Women and the Rise of Raunch Culture, with author Ariel Levy. 7 p.m., Student Union Theatre.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Code of Conduct/Ethics Training. 9 a.m., Konover Auditorium.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Yiddish Tish Discussion Luncheon. An opportunity for faculty and students to practice Yiddish listening and/or speaking skills in an informal manner. Complimentary coffee, tea, and cookies provided. Noon, Room 162, Dodd Center.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Child Sex Trafficking Awareness Concert. Benefit concert. 8 p.m., Ballroom, Student Union.

Thursday, 12/6 – RecitalsPlus. Pianist Hye-Jun Ceon will present a program of works by Couperin, Beethoven, and Tchaikovsky. 12:15 p.m., Benton Museum of Art.

Friday, 12/7 – Kwanzaa Dinner. Annual African American and Pan-African holiday celebration celebrating family, community, and culture. 5:30-8 p.m., Student Union Ballroom.

Saturday, 12/8 – Butler-McCook House Tour. 10 a.m.-noon. Adults and children 8 and above. Hartford location, map mailed to participants. Advance registration required: \$10 per member, \$15 per nonmember. For more information call 860-486-4460.



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

A cartoon by UConn alumnus Michael Maslin. Cartoons by Maslin and his wife Liza Donnelly are on display in the Dodd Center Gallery in an exhibit, *His and Hers: New Yorker Cartoons*, through Dec. 21. See Exhibits.

Building, Avery Point Campus.
Friday, 12/7 – Materials Science & Engineering. *Mechanical and Electrochemical Characterization of Intermediate Temperature Micro-tubular Solid Oxide Fuel Cells*, by Jakub Pusz (adv.: Sammes). 10 a.m., Conference Room, Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center.

Monday, 12/10 – Mathematics. *An Eigenvalue Problem for Some Nonlinear Transformations of Multi-Dimensional Arrays*, by Sawinder Pal Kaur (adv.: Koltracht). 11 a.m., Room M215, Gant Science Complex.

Lectures & Seminars

Monday, 12/3 – Atomic, Molecular, & Optical Physics Seminar. "Stability of Bose and Fermi Gases with Isotropic and Anisotropic Interactions," by Doerte Blume, Washington State University. 4 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex.

Tuesday, 12/4 – Neuroscience Seminar. 4 p.m., Room 13, Academic Research Building, Health Center.

Tuesday, 12/4 – Health & Wellness Lecture. "Changes in Your Skin and When Mohs Surgery Can Help," by Drs. Hanspaul Makkar and Brett Sloan. 6 p.m., Henry Low Learning Center, Health Center.

Wednesday, 12/5 – Out to Lunch Lecture. "Gay Men, Body Image, and

p.m., Room 204, Ryan Building.
Thursday, 12/6 – Humanitarianism Lecture. "Chaos, Refugees, and Gaza Today," by Christopher Gunness, spokesperson for the UN Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. 4 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

Thursday, 12/6 – Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Seminar. "Parasites as Indicators of Ecosystem Health," by David Marcogliese. 4 p.m., Room 130, Biology/Physics Building.

Thursday, 12/6 – Health & Wellness Lecture. "Keeping Your Bone Structure Healthy and Happy," by Jane Kerstetter. 6 p.m., Henry Low Learning Center, Health Center.

Thursday, 12/6 – Rainbow Center/True Colors Seminar. "Group Development: Forming, Norming, Storming, & Performing." 7 p.m., Room 403, Student Union.

Friday, 12/7 – Polymer Science Seminar. "Morphology Rearrangement of Block Copolymer under Various External Conditions: A Computer Simulation Approach," by Won-Ho Jo, Seoul National University. 11 a.m., Room IMS20, Gant Science Complex.

Friday, 12/7 – Animal Science Seminar. "There's a Heifer in Your Tank," by Frank Robinson, University of Alberta. Noon, Room 209, George White Building.

UConn students, and children under 18 free. Also, through 12/16, *Rodin's Contemporaries*. Also, through 5/11, *Rome & Italy*. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m. General admission to the museum is free. Tuesday, 12/4, gallery talk by Ray DiCapua on Auguste Rodin, 12:15 p.m.

Through Sunday, 12/16 – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery. Works by Gar Waterman, Joanne Schmaltz, Alston Stoney Conley, and Kim Sobel. Exhibit hours: Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Branford House, Avery Point Campus.

Through Friday, 12/21 – Homer Babbidge Library. *Federal Depository Libraries: Safeguarding Access to Government Information*, Gallery on the Plaza; *Altered Focus*, paintings by Melissa Smith, Stevens Gallery; *The Connecticut Industry Mural*, by Michael Borders, Plaza West Alcove. For hours, see Libraries section.

Through Friday, 12/21 – Dodd Center. *His & Hers: New Yorker Cartoons*, by Michael Maslin & Liza Donnelly, Gallery; *The Connecticut Children's Book Fair: Celebrating Children and the Books They Read*, West Corridor. For hours, see Libraries section.

Through Wednesday, 2/13 – Health Center. *Meet Mixus – Mixed Media*

Movement 're-education' helps drama students improve performance

BY SHERRY FISHER

Hillary Parker, a UConn graduate student working on a master's degree in performance, faced a challenge. For a recent Connecticut Repertory Theatre performance, she had to play a character who recites complex lists of information while keeping her body perfectly still. "It was daunting," she says.

But it was not too daunting for Elizabeth Huebner, who trains Parker and other students in the master of fine arts program. Huebner, an adjunct faculty member, teaches the Alexander Technique, a way to use the mind and body to improve movement and performance. "I'm not an actor or a director," she says. "I'm a movement expert."

Huebner showed the student how to breathe life into an otherwise motionless character. "She helped me be a still presence on stage, that could fill a room for a good 10 minutes," Parker said. "People were amazed."

Huebner says the Alexander Technique, developed by Australian actor F. Matthias Alexander more than a century ago, "is basically movement re-education."

It helps athletes and musicians as well as actors and people in their everyday lives, use their bodies in ways that promote comfort and ease, instead of moving in ways that create discomfort, she says. "This gives the average person more energy and vitality, and less injury to the neck and lower back."

Classes in the Alexander Technique are required for graduate

students in performance. They start taking the course their first semester at the University, and continue until they graduate.

Huebner is a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, who has taught workshops and performed dance in Europe as well as the U.S. She maintains a private practice, and offers workshops throughout Connecticut.

She says the Alexander Technique is an important tool for acting students.

"Drama students need to have a very agile, powerful, and accurate use of their bodies," she says. "Their body is their instrument of expression. They need to be able to find a physical neutral and build a character out from there. If they have lots of unconscious habits, they'll be very limited in the kinds of characters for which they're cast."

During class on this day, Huebner is working with an acting student who finds it hard to sing in public. She works with his breathing, and the other students offer their thoughts.

An actor wants to be able to play the body of any character, says acting student Chris Hirsh. "To do that," he says, "you have to get rid of your habits. If you habitually bend forward at the top of your shoulders and protrude your head and neck forward, you have to understand how to correct that. The Alexander Technique helps accomplish that."

Hirsh says the technique also "opens you emotionally. When your body is aligned properly, you become a more open channel to the emotions that may or may not

flow out of you. You have fuller freedom of emotional expression."

Huebner says when meeting a new student, or any client, the first step is to find out "what their movement lives are like. Do they spend their days sitting, standing, twisting to file, or in constant motion?"

"I teach them basic physical landmarks and give them specific information about how the body works in movement. Important landmarks are the major joints, the full length of the spine, and the role of the high and heavy head," she says. "When the head is well balanced on top of the spine, all movement will be lighter and better coordinated. I then address the hip joints, the strongest weight-bearing joint."

During the first year, students spend a lot of time on what is called constructive rest, which includes breathing exercises and skills to increase awareness of the body and how it moves. Later, they are trained in using the Alexander Technique in their performance.

It's a matter of breaking old habits.

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

Acting student Heddy Lahmann loves the class. "She tells us to ask, 'What does your body need? Take a survey of what's going on in your body.' And then she'll give hands-on help, touching your neck and



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Elizabeth Huebner teaches the Alexander Technique to Luke Daniels, a drama student in the master of fine arts program.

your shoulders to release excess tension."

The body carries a lot of tension, Lahmann says, and Huebner knows how to release it into useful energy. "Once we do, there's a heightened awareness," Lahmann

says. "I can use myself more efficiently to tell a story in a theater where I'm communicating with 500 people."

Huebner also offers the Alexander Technique through the Community School of the Arts.

Volunteer gives back to hospital with hand-made hats for preemies

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

Ever since her son Brandon was born prematurely in August 1985, Sue Murphy of Wallingford has been a regular supporter of the Newborn Intensive Care Nursery at the Health Center. Even though Brandon died, Murphy always appreciated the professional care and warm support he received while he was in the NICN.

Murphy, who teaches art at Holy Trinity School in Wallingford, wanted to do more than give monetary support. She wanted to use her talents as an artist and teacher to do something special for the babies in the NICN.

"One of the fondest memories of my son was when my husband and I went to the hospital to see him and he was wearing a beautiful knit hat that his nurse had made him," says Murphy. "He just looked so adorable and more like a full-term baby. This is the feeling that I wish for all those who receive these beanies."

Maureen Guzzi, nurse manager in the NICN, says the Newborn Intensive Care experience has a profound impact on both parents and staff. Many of the relationships that are formed with the families



PHOTO BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

Janet Klos of Ledyard, seated, holding her daughter Kathryn, with Sue Murphy. Kathryn is wearing a beanie made by Murphy's art students.

are life long."

Murphy's project "shows the long-term impact and positive connections we make with people in our community," she adds.

Murphy enlisted her art class

to help with her idea. She thought knitting the hats would be too time-consuming, so the students make the beanies out of socks. (The babies' heads are so small, four hats can be made out of one

pair of socks.) Then the students decorate each one with sparkly ribbons, delicate lace, or fabric footballs – depending whether it's for a girl or boy.

Along with the beanies comes a card from the young maker of the beanie and a printed insert from Murphy explaining why she started the project. So far, Murphy and her students have made more than 40 hats. The response from parents has been extremely positive.

"What a wonderful idea! They are so cute, and when she was first born this was the only cap that fit her," says Janet Klos of Ledyard. Her daughter Kathryn was born at 29 weeks and weighed just over two pounds.

"It was a nice surprise receiving such a precious and personal gift," Klos adds. "I also enjoyed reading the handwritten card from the student – that was extra special. I think Katie looks so adorable in her beanie, but I'm afraid she has almost outgrown it."

Jeanne Lattanzio, family support specialist in the NICN and the nurse who distributes the beanies to new parents, says the babies quickly grow out of the beanies. "That's a good thing," she

says, "Because it means the baby is healthy and thriving. But once they've outgrown them, many parents put the beanies in their baby's scrapbook or treasure box."

Ellen Leone, associate vice president of operations and director of nursing, says the American Hospital Association encourages strong connections between hospitals and the communities they serve. "This is a good example of that," she says. The impact that our newborn intensive care staff has on babies and their families makes a lifelong impression."

While the beanies are a fun fashion statement, they also serve an important purpose.

"The babies really need their heads covered, especially when they spend time out of their isolette," says Lattanzio. "They lose a lot of body heat through the head."

Murphy says research has shown that wearing clothes has been proven to increase premature children's weight and improve parent/infant attachment.

"The beanies are not only cute but necessary," says Murphy. She also finds them an appropriate remembrance for her son and the nurses who took care of him.