



Pharmacy students encouraged to be professional at all times

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU

Nearly 100 future pharmacists last week donned for the first time the white coats symbolic of the health care professions, and solemnly swore to pursue the highest professional standards in their career.

The students, in their third year of pharmacy school, are embarking on their final semester of class work before beginning a series of clinical placements. They assembled in Rome Ballroom Jan. 29 for a ceremony attended by faculty, staff, family members, and other pharmacy students.

"This event symbolizes the formal entry of our third year students into the profession of pharmacy," said Robert McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy, during the ceremony. "The white coat ceremony is a reminder of what we expect of them as UConn students, and what their patients will expect of them as their pharmacists."

The white coat ceremony is a well established tradition at medical and pharmacy schools around the country. But at UConn's School of Pharmacy, it is not an isolated event. Instead, it is part of an ongoing emphasis on professionalism that permeates the School.

Students spend four years in the School, entering in their junior year after two years of pre-pharmacy course work. After two more years of college in this professional program, they receive a baccalaureate degree in pharmacy studies. They then continue for an additional two years to earn the Pharm.D. degree, the only degree eligible for licensure and to practice as a pharmacist.

Andrea Hubbard, associate dean of pharmacy, says, "We have a program in each year with a symbol to represent and remind students what a health care professional is and how they can live like professionals every day."

In the first year, when they are still new to the School, the P1 students – with the help of third-year, P3 students – collectively com-

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PHOTO BY DANIEL BUTTREY

Third-year pharmacy student Allison Paquin accepts her white coat from Diane Burgess, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, during the School of Pharmacy's white coat ceremony. Philip Hritcko, assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice, looks on.

Education students can now earn dual degrees

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

The Neag School of Education has introduced a new dual degree program, in collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, that gives students an opportunity to earn a teaching degree and, simultaneously, a degree in a specific discipline.

The dual degree program, offered through the school's Integrated Bachelor's/Master's (IB/M) teacher education program, was created through the Teachers for a New Era Project. Teachers for a New Era is a program designed to improve the quality of teaching in the United States. UConn is one of only 11 universities in the nation selected by the Carnegie Corp. of New York for inclusion in the project.

Teachers for a New Era committee members developed the proposal to enable

the dual degree, which was approved by the University Senate in December.

Nationally, educators and legislators have increasingly called for teachers to have degrees in the subjects they teach in middle and high school, rather than being thrown into classrooms to teach subjects in which they may have little or no expertise. UConn's Early College Experience program, which certifies high school instructors interested in teaching UConn courses in their schools, requires the teachers to have a degree in the subject area they wish to teach. And more recently, the federal No Child Left Behind Act, which mandates that local districts employ "highly qualified" teachers, lists having a course-specific degree as one measure of meeting that standard.

"This is another way for us to help the

children of Connecticut," says Scott Brown, a professor of educational psychology and director of the Teachers for a New Era program. "It's a big win for our teachers."

Mark Boyer, a professor of political science and curriculum director for Teachers for a New Era, says, "With this dual degree opportunity we are increasing the content knowledge of these future teachers, which will directly impact what goes on in Connecticut's classrooms. The excellence No Child Left Behind officials want when they refer to 'highly qualified' will be achieved through this program."

Boyer and Brown have been working to develop the program for several years. A stumbling block was that, although IB/M

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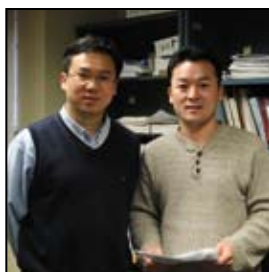
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PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, center, speaks with AAUP President Robert Stephens, left, and UCPEA President Kevin Fahey, after giving the address at the AAUP/UCPEA legislative luncheon in the Student Union Jan. 28.

Pharmacy ceremony *continued from page 1*

pose an oath agreeing to appropriate academic and professional conduct, as part of a course titled “Pharmacy Care.”

Elements of such conduct, Hubbard says, include not talking or answering phones during class, and arriving to class on time. Students are also encouraged to dress appropriately, especially when representing the school off campus, and to show appropriate demeanor when talking with a patient or another health care professional.

“We try to instill professionalism in our students from the very beginning,” says Hubbard, “so when they graduate, they will be ready to go out into the workplace.”

The School places a broad interpretation on professionalism. It includes, for example, being involved in student pharmacy groups, both local and national, and working to promote pharmacy through community and School outreach activities.

In addition, those students who are awarded School of Pharmacy scholarships are required to attend a scholarship convocation, at which they receive their scholarship from the donor and express their appreciation.

“Professionalism to a pharmacy student encompasses many things,” says Jennifer Colby, a P4 student. “As a student in the classroom, professionalism involves honesty, and respect for fellow students as well as for professors. For me, it involved attending class each day, completing any advance work, and essentially being ready to listen

and absorb lecture material.”

At the end of the P2 year, just before they receive their bachelor’s degree, the students are invited to a special breakfast where they are given a School of Pharmacy pin

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Andrea Hubbard
Associate dean, School of Pharmacy

attached to a card with an inspirational saying to encourage them to think and act as a professional.

“We also request that they wear the pin on their graduation robe,” says Hubbard.

Colby says, “The different ceremonies are important milestones in pharmacy education. Each one brings students closer to becoming a pharmacist, and I believe they help to remind us to always remain professional.”

The white coat ceremony comes in the middle of the P3 year, at the start of a transitional semester during which students take two pharmacy laboratories dealing directly with developing skills to interact with patients.

Kristen Bielik, a P3 pharmacy student who just received her white coat, says “Professionalism is important because of the career

we’re entering. We have a lot of responsibility on our shoulders; people’s lives are in our hands. We have to be prepared to act as professionals.”

Adds Anna Kirejczyk, also a P3 student, “Professionalism is about being responsible for our actions, and setting a good example to others. For example, we don’t wear jeans to class. It’s part of the grade.”

During the white coat ceremony, which was sponsored by the drug store chain Rite Aid Pharmacies, each student received his or her white coat from a faculty adviser, together with a bag containing some of the clinical tools they will need during their rotations – a stethoscope, a blood pressure cuff, and a diabetes testing kit.

During their final year, P4 students are placed in a series of nine different clinical settings, or “rotations,” ranging from institutional and community pharmacies to long-term care facilities and the pharmaceutical industry.

“Now, on rotations, professionalism is something that I think about every day, interacting with patients and other healthcare professionals,” says Colby, the P4 student, who will graduate in May.

Wrapping up the white coat event, the dean led the students in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s “Oath of a Pharmacist,” in which they vowed to “devote [their] professional life to the service of all humankind through the profession of pharmacy” and to “maintain the highest principles of moral, ethical, and legal conduct.”

Speakers, exhibit reflect on Japanese American experience of internment

BY SHERRY FISHER

On Feb. 19, the University’s 2008 Day of Remembrance will feature two speakers: Somdatta Mandal and Delphine Hirasuna.

Visiting professor Somdatta Mandal, associate professor of English at Visva Bharati, the university founded by Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore, will discuss internment through literature at 2 p.m. at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

Hirasuna, author of the book *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese-American Internment Camps, 1941-1946*, and guest curator of the current exhibition (with the same title) at the William Benton Museum of Art, will speak at 4 p.m. at the Benton.

It was on Feb. 19, 1942, that President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, leading to the mass removal and detention of 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry in prison camps between 1941 and 1946. In 1988, the U.S. government enacted legislation calling for an apology and partial compensation to survivors of the camps.

During World War II, young detainees were given the option of staying in the camps or attending college. But nationwide, there was strong anti-Japanese sentiment, and many universities refused to enroll them. UConn was the only university in Connecticut that accepted students from the camps.

The Art of Gaman showcases arts and crafts made by those who were interned in camps in California, Wyoming, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, and Arkansas. The exhibit, featuring some 200 objects made primarily from scrap and found materials, shows the wide range of artistic activities at the camps. It includes carved animals, teapots, brooches, walking sticks, painted boxes, and other decorative objects.

“The exhibit demonstrates the triumph of the human spirit through creativity,” says Steven Kern, director of the Benton. In Japanese, the word *gaman* means “enduring the seemingly unbearable with patience and dignity.”

The Art of Gaman was first held at the San Francisco Museum of Craft and Folk Art. The touring exhibition has been organized by the Benton Museum and the Oregon Historical Society, in collaboration with the National Japanese American Historical Society.

The Benton exhibit, which runs through March 30, is made possible with the support of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism and the Nathan Hale Inn and Conference Center, and in partnership with UConn’s Asian American Cultural Center, the Asian American Studies Institute, and the Foundations of Humanitarianism program.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT Advance

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The *Advance* is published weekly during the academic year, except during breaks. It is distributed free to faculty, staff, and students at the University of Connecticut. Published by University Communications, 34 North Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06269-3144. Phone: 860.486.3530. Periodical permit (ISSN 0746-3170, USPS 703-730) at Storrs, CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the *Advance* at the above address.

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State grant to boost Health Center's newborn intensive care program

BY CHRIS DEFRANCESCO

The UConn Health Center will use \$1.5 million from the state's Hospital Hardship Fund to make capital investments in the Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries at John Dempsey Hospital.

Social Services Commissioner Michael Starkowski last month announced grants for John Dempsey and seven other Connecticut hospitals, totaling more than \$20 million.

The General Assembly established a \$30 million Hospital Hardship Fund last year.

"Gov. Rell and the legislature are making sure our hospitals remain financially healthy and resilient through a number of support mechanisms," Starkowski says. "These awards are a further indication of how important our network of nonprofit hospitals is in caring for the residents of Connecticut."

The Health Center had submitted an application for \$3.1 million for the Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries (formerly known as the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or NICU), and \$2.7 million for the dental clinic, mostly seeking support for deficits in both areas from treating Medicaid patients.

The \$1.5 million awarded is to match \$1.2 million in John Dempsey Hospital funds, collectively earmarked for two new neonatal ambulances, incubators, monitors, bassinets, cribs, and other medical equipment for the Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries, as well as general facility upgrades.

"We're pleased the state recognizes the importance of our Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries, which really are a statewide resource for our youngest and most vulnerable," says James Thornton, director of John Dempsey Hospital. "This is a significant grant."

In addition to the state grant and the matching funds, the Health Center Auxiliary has undertaken a campaign to raise a further \$200,000 for a new neonatal ambulance.

"The goal of the newborn transport program is to continue to make a difference in the outcomes for these babies by ensuring that they experience prompt and safe transportation to John Dempsey Hospital or other hospitals that can provide advanced newborn care," says Dr. Wale Folaranmi, medical director of John Dempsey

Hospital's neonatal transport program. "With this additional support, we can continue this very important task in highly specialized, dedicated ambulances."

John Dempsey Hospital started its statewide neonatal transport program in 1975. A Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries transport team responds when a newborn requires more care than is available at the hospital where he or she was born, and brings the baby by neonatal ambulance to a facility that is better-equipped for care of acutely ill infants. During fiscal year 2007, this service was provided 350 times, including 199 trips to John Dempsey Hospital and 70 to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Cassandra Mitchell, associate vice president of reimbursement; Monica Smith, administrative program coordinator; Maureen Guzzi, Newborn Intensive Care Nurseries nursing manager; Peter Agnesi, the Health Center's public safety director; and Joann Lombardo, director of government relations at the Health Center, all played a role in securing the grant.



PHOTO BY AL FERREIRA

A neonatal intensive care transport team unloads an incubator from one of John Dempsey Hospital's neonatal ambulances. With the help of a state grant and the Health Center Auxiliary, the hospital plans to replace both its neonatal ambulances.

Martin Luther King panel explores issues of social injustice

BY SHERRY FISHER

Until the relationship between the powerless and the powerful is changed, the struggle for civil rights for all will remain unfinished, according to Manisha Desai.

Desai, director of the Women's Studies Program, spoke during a panel about Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 30 in the Student Union Theatre.

The event was sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Multicultural and International Affairs. Vice Provost Ronald Tay-

lor, a sociology professor, moderated the panel that included Desai, Davita Glasberg, head of the sociology department, and associate professor of history Jeffrey Ogbar, director of the Institute for African American Studies.

Desai, who grew up in India, drew parallels between Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi.

When I was becoming politicized and radicalized in the 1960s, [Mahatma] Gandhi was no longer someone who was a hero. He was

seen as someone who had sold out."

Now, there is a resurgence of interest in Gandhi, she said. "Part of that has come from seeing him as a visionary, rather than a political leader. I think as a political leader he failed at some of the strategies. In retrospect, they weren't appropriate for India."

Desai said that both Gandhi and King "radicalized" the way people protested. They believed in non-violent protest and consistency between ends and means, and focused on the relationship between

the powerless and the powerful.

For both Gandhi and King, that relationship had to be redefined, she said: "Martin Luther King talked about it in terms of love for thy enemy, and Gandhi talked about a change of heart."

"King believed in the redemptive power of love," Desai added. "It was through loving that one could transform the relationship and continue the work of social justice and continue the revolution. He said to look at the good in the enemy: instead of trying to defeat the individual, try to defeat the system."

Glasberg discussed economic justice, racism, and human rights.

"While the more blatant and violent expressions of racism and denial of economic rights have perhaps gone underground, the more subtle current expressions are no less powerful in reproducing racially based and institutionalized denial of economic justice," she said. "One recent and glaring example of this can be found in the growing problem of predatory lending."

Glasberg said owning a home "is the key element of wealth acquisition and accumulation for most people. Denial of an opportunity to accumulate wealth means an inability to finance the education of one's children, or to invest in business, or purchase a home that in later years becomes a multiplier of further wealth and advantage."

She added, "Historical discrimination has snowballed into contemporary economic injustice.

Research has shown that not all returning soldiers after World War II had equal opportunities under the Federal Housing Act. People of color were repeatedly denied those loans."

That trend continues, she maintained. "Even today, the General Accounting Office in Washington has noted that African American families are far more likely to be turned down for a mortgage than white families, regardless of their income," Glasberg said.

Black Americans and the poor are often victims of predatory lending she said: "It carries terms that are far more punitive than those that are applied to prime lending. It attacks and erodes the equity position of the borrower, rather than help them build equity."

Ogbar said that many people have a "very narrow, myopic understanding" of Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement.

"Most Americans unfortunately, get a very sanitized version of what civil rights was about," he said. "It's not just about using different water fountains or sitting in different parts of the bus. These were the most innocuous forms of all the challenges the people faced at the time. These were the least of their concerns. They were concerned about terrorism, people being blown up, not being able to get jobs, and hospitals turning them away because they weren't white."

He said King's message "becomes much more salient when you consider the violent forces they were up against."



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Manisha Desai, left, director of women's studies, answers a question during a Martin Luther King Jr. panel discussion at the Student Union Theatre Jan. 30. At right is Davita Glasberg, head of the sociology department.

Environmental economist's research area becoming a hot topic

BY CINDY WEISS

Economics professor Kathleen Segerson has worked as an environmental economist for 25 years. Now, public interest in her area of research is heating up, thanks to global warming.

Cap and trade policies, fuel efficiency standards for automobiles, and how to value ecosystems are just some of the hot topics that environmental economists analyze.

Unlike 25 years ago, when a spike in the cost of gas could still shock the public, the current interest in environmental economics is stimulated more by concern for the future, she has found.

"Most of the impetus of energy policy today, I think, stems from climate change," she says. "People are concerned about what we are

doing to the planet."

Her own introduction to environmental policy began as a math major at Dartmouth. She took a course from Dennis Meadows, an engineering professor who co-authored a controversial 1972 study, *Limits to Growth*, about the consequences of a growing population and finite resources.

Meadows helped her get a job in Washington, D.C., with Rep. John Dingell, D-Michigan, who then chaired a subcommittee on energy and power (Dingell now chairs the Committee on Energy and Commerce). Segerson participated in drafting the National Energy Act, and that inspired her to go to graduate school at Cornell University in environmental economics.

"I wanted to do something

socially relevant," she recalls.

At Cornell she took her first economics course ever.

It was an interest that would last. This January, Segerson was elected one of six national fellows of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. She was cited for the Segerson mechanism, a policy she developed for rewarding or penalizing farmers as a group for their agricultural pollution runoff.

She also is vice chair of an Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board committee that is about to deliver a report on how to value the protection of ecological services and systems.

Over the years, she has seen the public's interest in environmental economics go bullish, bearish,

and bullish again.

In 1973, the Arab oil embargo was a big shock for Americans, as gasoline supplies shortened, lines at gas stations lengthened, and prices soared.

Then people got used to higher prices, and they adjusted without making fundamental changes, she notes: "We stayed reliant on fossil fuels, just at a higher price."

As interest in energy savings grows again, a question remains as to whether people will change their behavior fundamentally, she says.

One of her special interests is incentives for voluntary control of pollution.

"They will work if there is a sufficiently strong incentive to participate," she says.

She also has focused on the interface between law and the economy, such as balancing society's interests and needs with the costs of implementing Superfund legislation. Her earliest research was on controlling agricultural pollution, which has diffuse sources and often is difficult to monitor.

Trade-offs and balancing economic and environmental benefits are at the heart of her work.

Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, for instance, are designed to increase the production of fuel-efficient cars. To get greater fuel efficiency, however, customers have to choose smaller, lighter cars.

But in other consumer products, such as washing machines and refrigerators, the more energy efficient model may be more desirable, she says, because it often does a better job as well as having a lower long-term energy cost.

Cap and trade policies, in which a cap is set on emissions but big emitters may offset their excesses by buying credits from those who use less energy, were first proposed by economic theorists in the

1970s, Segerson notes.

"This whole interest in cap and trade has brought more attention to the role that economists can play in designing policy for environmental protection," she says.

As a science advisory board member for the EPA, she is vice chair of a committee that is writing a major report to be delivered this spring on how to value the impact of EPA rules on ecosystems. It will reflect the contributions of economists, decision scientists, ecologists, philosophers, psychologists, engineers, and a lawyer. Decision science is an interdisciplinary field that includes economists, IT specialists, statisticians, and others, to facilitate decision-making.

At UConn, Segerson is an affiliate of the Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering (CESE). She has a joint appointment in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

She chairs the popular Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series on the environment, and has been a recipient of the UConn Alumni Association award for faculty excellence in graduate teaching. Three times she was designated "Most Appreciated Faculty" by graduate students in the economics department, where she formerly was head. She also received the AAUP service award in 2007.

Next year she will take over as president of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.

The field has grown alongside the environmental movement, Segerson notes, and has the potential for enormous future growth, as countries such as China face the issue of balancing economic needs and desires with environmental concerns.



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Kathleen Segerson, right, a professor of economics, meets with a graduate student at her office in Monteith Building.

Health Center to assess new model for primary care practice

BY KRISTINA GOODNOUGH

The Health Center's Ethel Donahue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy (TRIPP Center) has received a grant from the Commonwealth Fund to evaluate one of the first major demonstrations of the medical home, a new primary care practice model designed to improve care for adult patients.

The term medical home refers to a type of primary care physician practice that promotes a team approach to patient care led by a personal, primary care physician. The team provides direct services to patients and coordinates services from other physicians and health care providers using advanced health information technology. Patients have access to enhanced appointment systems and to telephone and e-mail communication.

Besides better care and outcomes for patients, the model is designed to provide greater

efficiency for providers, compared to traditional physician practices. It has been recommended by both the American College of Physicians and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

A demonstration of the new model has been launched by Group Health Inc. (GHI), a New York State health insurer, and Health Plan (HP) of New York, a large health maintenance organization. Under the demonstration or pilot project, GHI and HP-affiliated practices interested in adopting the medical home model will be randomly assigned to either a supported group or a comparison group, each with 25 adult primary care physician practices. The supported group is expected to include a total of approximately 100 physicians and 20,000 patients.

The supported group will be paid with a revised payment system; will be offered care coordination services; and will receive

technical support to redesign their offices and management systems.

Staff of the TRIPP Center advised on the design of the project and received funding to independently evaluate it from the Com-

"The medical home has the potential to transform health care practice to improve the delivery and quality of patient care and health outcomes."

*Judith Fifield, director,
Ethel Donahue Center for Translating
Research into Practice and Policy*

monwealth Fund, a foundation that seeks to promote a high-performing health care system. The center will base its evaluation on submission of claims and perfor-

mance measures of quality for procedures such as mammograms, diabetes testing, and cervical cancer screenings; outcomes for diabetes and hypertension patients; efficiency measures; and patient experience measures.

TRIPP Center staff will document the experiences and challenges faced by the medical practices as they are transformed into medical homes, and the impact of that transformation on the quality of care. The center will compile and publish the results at the end of the two-year study period.

"Our task is to provide unbiased findings to inform the health care community about the true value of medical home transformations," says Judith Fifield, director of the TRIPP Center.

"This evaluation is the first to rigorously assess implementation of the medical home model in adult primary care practices," she adds. "The medical home has the

potential to transform health care practice to improve the delivery and quality of patient care and health outcomes.

"Our findings will help policymakers, clinicians, and payers understand the true value of this model," she adds, "and will serve as a baseline for future research and implementation."

The medical home model was originally designed as a way to improve care for children. In recent years, it has been endorsed by primary care specialty societies as an appropriate model for adult primary care practices as well.

"Primary care physicians are being challenged to adopt these new models," says Fifield. "At the same time, policymakers and payers must understand how best to facilitate the transition, and whether the model results in real benefit to payers and practitioners."

Chemical engineering professors developing artificial antibodies

BY NAN COOPER

Two faculty members in the Department of Chemical, Materials & Biomolecular Engineering, Yong Wang and Lei Zhu, are working to develop artificial antibodies capable of locating and destroying tumors.

The three-year project, which began in July, is funded with a \$450,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Antibodies, proteins produced in the white blood cells of humans and other vertebrates, move freely through blood and fluids, where they identify and attack “foreign objects” such as viruses, bacteria, and other so-called antigens. This ability to fight off potentially dangerous invaders lies at the heart of vaccines, which function by increasing the production of antibodies.

Wang says natural antibodies sometimes don't function as well as we may want them to, for various reasons. For example, many antibodies are simply too large to penetrate the target – such as a tumor – that they are programmed to attack. Other antibodies are ineffective due to poor immunogenicity – the ability to excite a strong response against perceived foreign objects – or the fragility of their cell structures.

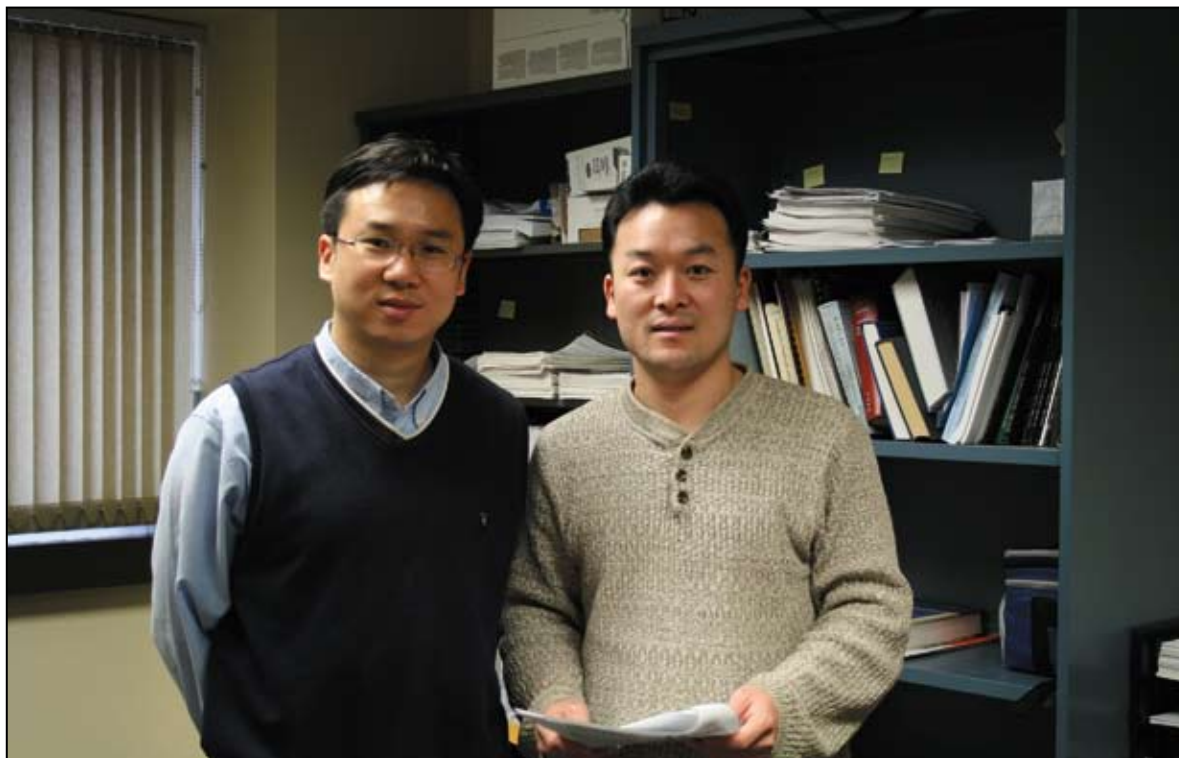


PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LAROSA

Lei Zhu, left, associate professor, and Yong Wang, assistant professor of chemical, materials, and biomolecular engineering, have a grant from the National Science Foundation to develop artificial antibodies.

Wang and Zhu seek to improve upon the effectiveness of antibodies, first by gaining a better understanding of the characteristics and functions of natural antibodies, then by developing artificial versions that offer greater stability and functional properties.

The researchers are pursuing two parallel pathways, with biomol-

ecules the focus of one path and artificial polymers at the heart of the second. They say natural biomolecules and synthetic polymers may be paired to obtain a more lethal tumor-fighting weapon.

Living things are made up entirely of various types of biomolecules. The type of biomolecule Wang and Zhu are using in their

work is RNA – ribonucleic acid – a nucleic acid that plays various roles in living systems, such as transporting information between DNA and the various protein structures within a cell. These RNA biomolecules are capable of recognizing an antigen with great accuracy, and it is this characteristic that Wang will seek to better

understand and exploit.

The second part of their work involves the use of synthetic polymers, which may be used to transport tumor-fighting medicine to the site of the undesirable object, according to Wang. Acting in a complementary fashion, he says, “the biomolecules will control the motion of the polymers to the target disease within the organism.”

The two researchers aim to demonstrate that humans can produce superior-functioning antibodies. Zhu's group will focus on polymer synthesis, while Wang's group will focus on other aspects, such as looking for biomolecules that can target tumor antigens, conjugate them with synthetic polymers, and test their functionalities.

Wang and Zhu hope their work will help scientists design future nanobiomaterials with superior functionality, and expand the use of synthetic antibodies in the biomedical arena for drug delivery, bioimaging, and tissue engineering. These could be used, for example, in the delivery of cancer-fighting drugs, or as nanoprobe capable of moving through tissue and blood to sense underlying health problems even before symptoms emerge.

Philosopher links happiness and morality in upcoming book

BY SCOTT BRINCKERHOFF

One day recently, Paul Bloomfield wondered aloud whether Robinson Crusoe, fiction's most famous castaway, might have to make moral decisions.

For some philosophers, Bloomfield said, morality has only to do with relations among people, so they would argue that since Crusoe is alone, anything goes.

But Bloomfield, an associate professor of philosophy, subscribes to a different school of thought:

“I believe morality speaks to what sort of person you're going to be, what sort of life you're going to live. I think a Robinson Crusoe does have moral decisions to make – does he behave wisely, or recklessly and foolishly? Does he decide to commit suicide? Viewed from afar, would his actions seem cowardly or courageous?”

This year, Bloomfield is a Fellow at the UConn Humanities Institute, writing a book, *A Theory of the Good Life*, in which he argues, “It's good to be good and bad to be bad.” While this tenet might sound self-evident, everyday life teems with evidence that not everyone has gotten the message.

Although Bloomfield has written extensively on morality and ethics, the new book will be his first aimed at a lay, rather than an academic, audience. “I don't think a theory of morality and the good life should be so sophisticated, so technical, and so complicated that regular folks can't understand it,” he says. “Moral issues touch all of us.”

A Theory of the Good Life will

take the position that happiness and the good life flow from living as morally as possible.

Bloomfield adds, “The harm of being immoral is that it keeps one from seeing the value of human life, and if one is human, then one is kept from seeing the value of one's own life.”

The self-harm occurs, he says, whether or not one's immorality is exposed to others.

He also argues that virtue is a sign of maturity, while immoral behavior is most often the product of immaturity. For example, a spouse who betrays a mate shows that he or she doesn't understand love, Bloomfield says.

“From childhood, we learn lessons through rewards and punishments,” he says, “but as we mature, we learn other reasons for doing or not doing something, whether

it's tossing litter on the sidewalk, treating animals with kindness, or stealing money from a petty cash drawer.

“I think a lot of the immoral behavior in the world happens because people think they can get away with it,” he adds. “I think that there is no getting away with it – you always damage your self-respect and integrity, and that's often on top of the obvious harms done to other people.”

Bloomfield's central position is at variance with philosophers who maintain that self-interest, often in the form of material, sensual, or other gain, may trump virtue, especially when the “immoral” act arguably does not hurt anyone. He summarizes those contrary views as, “Morality is for suckers.”

In *Moral Reality*, his first book, Bloomfield posited that there are facts about morality, that morality isn't based simply on shifting social mores. Looked at in the context of justice, his point is easy to understand: “If everybody decided that racism is socially acceptable, that wouldn't make it morally acceptable. If everyone in the world can be wrong about a moral issue, then morality can't be decided by consensus.

“Moral decisions are the hardest we make, and arguably our most important decisions,” Bloomfield says. “Often, people's values do not align in the same way and difficult decisions must be made between unsatisfying alternatives, often without anything close to full information.” In an extreme situ-

ation such as occurred in *Sophie's Choice*, an individual may face what philosophers call a “tragic dilemma,” in which any decision is life-ruining.

Bloomfield's research into morality never drifts into religious waters, even though religion may well be a pillar supporting moral behavior for many people.

“Nothing I say requires God or requires us to do without God,” he says. “It's completely neutral with regard to religion. Living morally should appeal to atheists as well as theists. Maybe there is a heaven and maybe there isn't. But the motivation to be good should not hang on an answer to this question. I think there are sufficient reasons to live morally right here on earth.”

Moral living at its best is apt to include devotion beyond oneself, Bloomfield suggests. “By being devoted to anything worthy, such as family, science, or music, one learns to be better at loving what is good, while also becoming more worthy of love from those who are good. Ultimately, however, the people who live well, live morally, will live as good a life as is possible for them.”

Bloomfield, who arrived at UConn in 2000 after teaching at McGill University and the University of Arizona, earned his undergraduate degree at Tufts and his Ph.D. at Syracuse University. His areas of specialization are metaphysics and moral philosophy, and in particular, the intersection of these, a field called metaethics.



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Paul Bloomfield, associate professor of philosophy and Fellow of the Humanities Institute, is currently writing a book, “A Theory of the Good Life.”



Guest artist Jim Pugh performs during the Trombone Day Festival in von der Mehden Recital Hall Jan. 26.

PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

GRANTS

The following grants were received through the UConn Health Center's Office of Grants and Contracts in October 2007. The list represents new awards as well as continuations. The list of grants is supplied to the Advance by the Office of Grants and Contracts.

Department	Prin. Investigator	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
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Federal Grants

Community Medicine & Health	Lazzarini, Z.	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$140,146	9/03-8/08
<i>Rapid Assessment of Drug Law & Policy in the FSU & CEE</i>				

Oral Health & Diagnostic Sciences	Litt, M.	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism	\$24,713	3/05-2/08
<i>Individualized Assessment and Treatment for Alcoholism</i>				

Immunology	Cone, R.	National Eye Institute	\$296,000	9/07-8/08
<i>Ocular Regulation of Autoimmunity</i>				

Orthopedics	Lieberman, J.	National Cancer Institute	\$312,236	8/07-6/08
<i>Rankl and Bmps in Prostate Cancer Induced Bone Lesions</i>				

Psychiatry	Covault, J.	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism	\$296,486	9/07-8/08
<i>Novel Methods to Study Substance Use in College Students</i>				

Psychiatry	Conti, L.	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism	\$212,750	9/07-8/08
<i>Effect of CRF1 Receptor Genotype and Stress on Anxiety and Alcohol</i>				

Community Medicine & Health	Schensul, S.	National Institute of Mental Health	\$702,630	9/07-8/08
<i>The Prevention of HIV/STI Among Married Women in Urban India</i>				

Private Grants

Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center	Kurtzman, S.	University of Pittsburgh	\$5,475	2/97-1/08
<i>NSABP Breast and Bowel Cancer Treatment DHHS BC0107-185</i>				

Medicine	Palmisano, J.	UConn Foundation	\$36,534	1/00-6/10
<i>James E.C. Walker M.D./Primary Care</i>				

Oral Health & Diagnostic Sciences	Wagner, J.	American Heart Association	\$65,000	7/05-6/09
<i>Lifetime History of Major Depressive Disorder & Endothelial Function</i>				

Education students *continued from page 1*

students already meet the general education requirements and earn extra credits in their specialty, they fall short of UConn requirements for earning two degrees in two schools. These requirements mandate that students must earn at least 30 credits more than the highest minimum requirement of either of the degrees.

For students in the teacher education program, who spend at least six semesters as student teachers or working in a school district in clinical practice, meeting that requirement would almost guarantee they would have to return for a sixth year. Not only would an additional year be costly, it really wasn't necessary, says Brown.

"As it is, our students develop strong content knowledge in their specialties, and many of them already are earning close to

the required number of credits," says Brown. "In math education, for example, they're within two courses of meeting the requirement for a math degree. So we wanted to give them an opportunity to take more courses, but not make them take another 30 credits."

Dual degrees also are within reach for students in music education, agricultural education, and a range of programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Ultimately the Senate agreed to add a paragraph to the existing regulation that waives the 30 additional credits for students who complete the requirements of both a teacher preparation degree in the Neag school and a bachelor's degree in another school or college.

Alison Laturneau is a fifth year IB/M student who will earn a master's degree in

Clinical Research Center	Kenny, A.	Donaghue Foundation	\$110,000	10/05-9/08
<i>Bionutrition-Complementary/Alternative Medicine</i>				

Center for Vascular Biology	Fong, G.-H.	American Heart Association	\$66,000	7/06-6/09
<i>Role of HIF-Specific Prolyl Hydroxylasephd2 in Heart Development</i>				

Ethel Donaghue TRIPP Center	Fifield, J.	Donaghue Foundation	\$25,000	11/07-12/08
<i>A Virtual Learning Forum for Moving Evidence-Based Research into Practice</i>				

Medicine	Dieckhaus, K.	City of Hartford	\$30,000	11/07-6/08
<i>Ryan White I-Supplement</i>				

Molecular Medicine	Rosenberg, D.	Univ. of Utah	\$100,157	9/03-8/08
<i>Approaches to Colon Cancer and Precursor</i>				

Pediatrics	Salazar, J.	Univ. of Massachusetts	\$17,344	12/06-11/07
<i>Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trial Unit</i>				

Center for Cell Analysis	Loew, L.	Univ. of Virginia	\$225,000	8/07-7/08
<i>Cell Migration Consortium</i>				

Medicine	Bona, R.	Univ. of Pittsburgh	\$1,700	1/04-9/07
<i>Impact of HIV on Hepatitis C Infection in Hemophilia</i>				

State Grants

Psychiatry	Hawke, J.	Dept. of Children & Families	\$18,888	4/06-6/08
<i>Quality Assurance Plan for the Emily J Settlement Agreement</i>				

Center on Aging	Robison, J.	Connecticut Commission on Aging	\$100,000	12/06-6/08
<i>Long Term Care Needs Assessment</i>				

Center on Aging	Gruman, C.	Mental Retardation	\$6,000	5/05-12/07
<i>MOU with Dept. of Mental Retardation DHHS 5 P01 CA77839</i>				

Traumatology/Emergency	Bayer, M.	Dept. of Public Health Medicine	\$100,000	9/07-8/08
<i>Agreement Between CT DPH & UCHC Poison Control Center</i>				

Pediatrics	Wakefield, D.	UConn-Storrs	\$7,476	10/07-9/08
<i>UConn Food Stamp Nutrition Education</i>				

Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center	Brewer, M.	UConn-Storrs	\$122,978	7/07-2/09
<i>Hybrid Intraoperative Probe for Ovarian Cancer Detection</i>				

secondary English education in May. Upon hearing of the amendment's passage, she immediately enrolled in a winter intersession course, and she's taking two additional English courses this semester to complete a bachelor's degree in English. As a master's degree student, that's no small feat: besides the additional classes, Laturneau's days include a 20-hour internship at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy in East Hartford on Mondays and Wednesdays, classes and a graduate assistantship for Teachers for a New Era on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and additional classes on Fridays.

"I came to UConn because of the Neag School of Education, as well as the opportunities and resources for other majors available to students through ACES," she says. "At 18, I was unwilling to commit myself

to a school that only had a great education program. I was concerned I would change my mind."

Laturneau says the dual degree program is valuable because it opens the door for students to return to school to complete a master's degree in their core subject.

Brown says students who haven't yet reached their junior year will benefit most from the new rules. Within three years, he expects half of the students enrolled in the IB/M program will take advantage of the opportunity.

Brown is now scheduling training sessions for faculty and academic advisors to learn what's needed to earn the dual degree. He also is arranging a colloquium so that ACES advisors will be prepared to talk to pre-education majors about the program.

CALENDAR

Monday, February 4, to Monday, February 11

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, Feb. 11, through Tuesday, Feb. 19. Those items must be in the database by 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 4. 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, 2/4 – Last day to add/drop courses without additional signatures.
Tuesday, 2/5 – Late add/drop begins in the Office of the Registrar.
Monday, 2/11 – Last day to convert Incomplete or Absence grades.

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, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m.; Sunday, closed. Research Center hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed weekends.
Pharmacy Library. Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-9 p.m.
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-10 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-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, closed.
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

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

Ph.D. Defenses

Wednesday, 2/6 – *Quantum Dot Assisted Long-Term Intracellular Trafficking and Development of Safe and Efficient Non-Viral Vector*, by Charudharshini Srinivasan (adv.: Burgess). 10 a.m., Room 335, Pharmacy/Biology Building

Lectures & Seminars

Monday, 1/28 – **Health & Wellness Lecture.** “Nutrition, Empowerment,

and Motivation: A Special Series for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.” \$118 for members, \$130 for non-members for six week series. 6:45-8 p.m., Henry Low Learning Center, Health Center, Farmington.

Tuesday, 2/5 – **Geoscience/EEB Seminar.** “Rainforests and Savannas: Understanding Ecological Processes in Riverine Floodplains,” Robert Naiman, University of Washington. 3:30 p.m., Room 131, Biology/Physics Building.

Tuesday, 2/5 – **Marine Sciences Lecture.** “The Stewart McKinney Refuge: Conserving Wildlife on the Connecticut Coast.” 7:30 p.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences Building.

Wednesday, 2/6 – **Molecular Medicine Lecture.** “Human Cancers Exhibit a Mutator Phenotype: Origin and

Lecture. “Pre-Diabetes: Treatment and Prevention.” 6 p.m., Henry Low Learning Center, Main Building, Health Center, Farmington.

Friday, 2/8 – **Environmental Engineering Seminar.** “Modeling Stochastic Inverse Problems Using a Sparse Grid Collocation Approach,” by Nicholas Zabaras, Cornell University. Noon, Room 212, Castleman Building.

Friday, 2/8 – **Statistics Colloquium.** “Statistical Methods for Network-Based Analysis of Genomic Data,” by Hongzhe Li, University of Pennsylvania. 4 p.m., Room 344, CLAS Building.

Monday, 2/11 – **History Lecture.** “Luther and the Household,” by Lyndal Roper, University of Oxford. 4:30 p.m.



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

“Newburgh-Beacon Ferries over the Hudson River,” a work by John Fleming Gould, part of the *Rail, Rural, and River* exhibit on display in the Dodd Center Gallery. See Exhibits.

Consequences,” by Dr. Lawrence Loeb, University of Washington. Noon, Room EGo13, Academic Research Building.

Wednesday, 2/6 – **Entertainment Law Panel.** 12:30 p.m., Davis Courtroom, School of Law.

Wednesday, 2/6 – **Health & Wellness Lecture.** “Myths and Truths About Heart Disease in Women.” 5:45 p.m., 2nd Floor Conference Room, UConn Health Partners, 99 Ash St., East Hartford.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Law Conference.** “e-Democracy: Democratic Values in a Digital Age.” 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Starr Hall, School of Law, Hartford.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Comparative Pathology Seminar.** “The Development and Validation of Multiplexed Fluorometric Immunoassays (MFIA),” by William Shek, Charles River Laboratories.

Thursday, 2/7 – **The Edwin Way Teale Lecture.** “Brewing Biodiversity: The Ecology of Coffee Farms in Chiapas, Mexico,” by Ivette Perfecto. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Stamford Campus Faculty Colloquium.** “Things We Talk About and the Structure of Autobiographical Memory,” by Jerome Sehulster. 4 p.m., GE Global Learning Center, Stamford Campus.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Health & Wellness**

Monday, 2/11 – **Health & Wellness Lecture.** “Nutrition, Empowerment, and Motivation: A Special Series for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.” \$118 for members, \$130 for non-members for six week series. 6:45-8 p.m., Henry Low Learning Center, Health Center, Farmington.

Exhibits

Through Friday, 2/8 – **Student Union Art Gallery.** *After Life, Art Department Alumni Show.* Hours: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Free admission.

Monday, 2/11 through Thursday, 4/3 – **Contemporary Art Galleries.** *Ornithology: Looking at Birds.* Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free admission.

Monday, 2/11 – **Student Union Art Gallery.** *Queer No Scenti.* Hours: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Free admission.

Through Wednesday, 2/13 – **Health Center.** *Meet Mixus – Mixed Media Artists.* Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine Lobbies, Health Center.

Through Friday, 3/7 – **Homer Babbidge Library.** *Design for the Real World: Student Work in Communication Design at the University of Connecticut.* Gallery on the Plaza; *Photographs at a Different Wave Length*, by Marcia

Reid Marsted, Stevens Gallery. For hours, see Libraries section. Opening reception Sunday, 2/3, 2-4 p.m.

Through Friday, 3/7 – **Dodd Center.** *Rail, Rural and River: The Art of John Fleming Gould.* Gallery; *His & Hers,* New Yorker cartoons by Michael Maslin & Liza Donnelly, West Corridor. For hours, see Libraries section. Opening reception Sunday, 2/3, 2-4 p.m.

Through Wednesday, 3/12 – **Celeste LeWitt Gallery.** *Morocco at a Glance,* paintings by Emese El Bissatiné Pásztor, and *Wild America,* photographs by Gary Melnyshyn. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Health Center.

Through Sunday, 3/30 – **William Benton Museum of Art.** *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps 1942-1946.* Also, Pamina Traylor's *Tagged,* photo images transferred onto solid-sculpted glass “tongues.”

Performing Arts

Tuesday, 2/5 – **Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers, LA Theater.** Based on the clash between the Nixon White House and the Washington Post's decision to publish the top secret study documenting U.S. involvement in Vietnam. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets \$30-\$33, \$15 for UConn students. For tickets and information, call 860-486-4226.

Thursday, 2/7 – **CSA Suzuki Faculty Recital.** Featuring Kendra Wieck, Hannah Klinetob, Micah Woods, Megan van Gomple, and Carlynn Savot. 7:30 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free admission.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Comedian Pablo Francisco.** 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. \$10 non-students, \$5 students.

Friday, 2/8 – **Cello Concert.** Marc Johnson of the Vermeer String Quartet will perform. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. \$10 non-students, free for students participants in the 2/9 Cello Festival and UConn students with valid ID.

Saturday, 2/9 – **Winter Weekend Concert.** Less Than Jake and Catch 22. \$20 non-students, \$10 for UConn students. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

Sunday, 2/10 – **Music on a Sunday Afternoon.** String chamber music performed by violoncellist Pansy Chang and cellist Kangho Lee. 5 p.m., William Benton Museum of Art. Doors open at 4:45 p.m. Tickets available at the door. General admission \$10, Benton Museum members and UConn students \$5.

Sports

Friday, 2/8 – **Men's Ice Hockey vs. Sacred Heart.** 7:05 p.m., Freitas Ice Forum.

Saturday, 2/9 – **Women's Ice Hockey vs. Providence.** 1 p.m., Freitas Ice Forum.

Saturday, 2/9 – **Men's Basketball vs. Georgia Tech.** 4 p.m., Gampel Pavilion.

Potpourri

Tuesday, 2/5 – **Sharon Bryan Poetry Reading.** 7 p.m., UConn Co-op.

Wednesday, 2/6 – **An Evening with the Rev. Irene Monroe.** Monroe is a renowned speaker, preacher, and writer who integrates African-American, gender, queer, and religious studies. 7 p.m., Student Union Theatre, Student Union.

Friday, 2/8 – **Ph.D. and the Job Search.** Career Services workshop offers tips on writing a CV. Noon-12:50 p.m., Room 134, CUE Building.

Saturday, 2/9 – **Cello Festival.** \$15, includes admission to 2/8 cello concert and all festival events. 10 a.m., Music Building & von der Mehden Recital Hall.

Sunday, 2/10 – **Spirituality Study Group.** Tap into your inner self. \$10 per class. 10 a.m., Room N4002, Medical Arts & Research Building, Health Center, Farmington.

Sunday, 2/10 – **Shadow Puppets Around the World.** Discover the different shadow puppet theater traditions of Southern Asia, Europe, and the United States. Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members.) Noon, Ballard Museum of Puppetry, Depot Campus.

Sunday, 2/10 – **Shalako Puppets and Nineteenth-Century Ritual.** 3 p.m., Room 130, Biology/Physics Building.

Film

Monday, 2/4 – **India Film.** *Yoga Unveiled* (2004), directed by Geeti and Mukesh Desai. 6:30 p.m., Room 106, Art Building.

Thursday, 2/7 – **Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes.** An examination of representations of manhood in hip-hop culture. 5:30 p.m., Room 407, Student Union.

Sunday, 2/10 – **Films on a Sunday.** *Rabbit in the Moon*, about the Japanese American experience of internment during World War II. 2 p.m., William Benton Museum of Art.

Sociologist's new book shows Catholics changing with times

BY SHERRY FISHER

Young adult Catholics rely more on their own consciences and are less committed to practicing their faith than previous generations, according to a new book by William D'Antonio, a UConn professor emeritus of sociology.

D'Antonio wrote *American Catholics Today: New Realities of Their Faith and Their Church* with James Davidson, Dean Hoge, and Mary Gautier. The book is based on four national Gallup Poll surveys conducted over 20 years that explore the views of the Catholic laity.

Participants were asked questions about their involvement with and commitment to the Roman Catholic Church, Catholic identity, and acceptance of church teachings.

The same questions were asked on each survey, conducted in 1987, 1993, 1999, and 2005.

Four generations were identified for the study: Pre-Vatican II Catholics, born in 1940 or earlier; Vatican II Catholics, born between 1941 and 1960; post-Vatican II

Catholics, born between 1961 and 1978; and Millennials, born between 1979 and 1987. There were 875 people involved in the survey.

D'Antonio says the research revealed clear generational differences: "The older you are, the more traditional you are and the more you tend to look to the bishops and the Pope on all kinds of issues."

Not surprisingly, he says, those who grew up in the pre-Vatican II church attend Mass more frequently. That held true over the four surveys.

He says Catholics born between 1941 and 1960 also had a fairly steady rate of Mass attendance, at about 40 percent, but only about 15 percent of Millennials attend church regularly.

D'Antonio, who taught sociology at UConn from 1971 to 1982, says there continues to be a high level of acceptance of the faith's core elements across generations: the resurrection of Jesus; the Sacraments; Mary as Mother of God; and helping the poor.

"Those are the only four items

"While the Millennials [Catholics born between 1979 and 1987] have a low rate of Mass attendance, they have the highest commitment to serving the poor and needy."

*William D'Antonio
Emeritus professor of sociology*

where 70 percent of all Catholics, regardless of generation, agree that it's very important to them as part of being Catholic," he says.

D'Antonio adds, "While the Millennials have a low rate of Mass attendance, they have the highest commitment to serving the poor and needy, both in attitude and in how they live out this strong belief."

Support has declined on adhering to the teachings of the church on issues such as abortion, opposition to the death penalty, and a

celibate male clergy.

D'Antonio says the second most important research finding is the "increasing importance the laity give to their own conscience.

"By 2005, there isn't an age group or gender where there is a majority saying that they look to church leaders as the automatic source of authority," he says.

That holds true even for even the oldest Catholics: "They're going by their own consciences as individuals, or saying that there should be some kind of dialogue between church leaders and the laity."

The study found that the Millennials are the least likely to look to the church on issues such as abortion, same-sex marriage, and sex outside marriage.

According to the book, in 2005 the younger adults said there are fewer requirements to being a good Catholic:

"The most extreme difference between the younger and older generations was on the question of obeying church teachings on abortion. The youngest generation

saw this as much less essential – 89 percent said it was okay to disobey the teachings, compared with 44 percent in the oldest generation."

Similar but smaller differences were found regarding birth control.

The research also found that Catholics are "quite tolerant about the truth claims of other religions – tending to believe that all religions have at least some truth. Their commitment no longer includes claims of being the one, true church."

D'Antonio has also co-authored a new book, *Voices of the Faithful*, that explores the history and religious beliefs of a social movement in the church that evolved in response to the clergy sex abuse scandal and cover-up in Boston in 2002.

"These Catholics are angry at the scandal, but they're loyal," D'Antonio says. "They're the ones who care most about the church. That's why they raise their voices."

Jorgensen raising funds for new Steinway concert grand



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The *88 Keys to Success* campaign for a new Steinway grand piano began with members of the volunteer group the Jorgensen CoStars visiting the Steinway factory in Long Island City. Shown here are, from left, Jorgensen director Rodney Rock, with Jorgensen Costars Janet Jones, Deborah Bellingham, Trudy Nicholls, and Patricia Hempel.

BY CAROL DAVIDGE

Last fall, American pianist André Watts and Norway's Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra gave an outstanding performance of Edvard Grieg's *Piano Concerto in A minor* at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. There was also another star on the stage that evening – a Hamburg Steinway Model D Grand Piano that Watts brought with him.

"The Hamburg Steinway Grand Piano is a remarkable instrument,

with the capacity to respond to every nuanced touch of a consummate artist like André Watts," says Rodney Rock, director of Jorgensen. "This performance, which will be remembered as one of the great nights of music at Jorgensen, left us with a taste of what is possible if we had our own exceptional Steinway concert grand."

With that in mind, in December Jorgensen launched a fund-raising campaign for the purchase of a new Steinway Grand, *88 Keys to*

Success – Campaign for the Grand. Donors have an opportunity to purchase one of the new piano's keys, in their own or a loved one's name, with a \$1,000 donation. To date, 37 keys have been purchased.

In preparation for the fund raiser, 10 members of the volunteer group the Jorgensen CoStars traveled to the Steinway factory in Long Island City, N.Y. With safety glasses in place, the group trudged up and down five flights of factory stairs to witness the building of a

grand piano.

During the year-long process, pieces both massive and delicate come together through craft and technology until the instrument is complete.

It's a process that includes bending the 24-foot rim, which consists of 17 layers of eastern rock maple, and fitting the Steinway diaphragmatic soundboard – the heart and soul of the piano, made of the finest acoustic quality spruce – to its own specific grand piano rim.

Trudy Nicholls, CoStars co-chair, says it's important for UConn to provide students, faculty, staff, and the community access to the greatest musicians in the world.

"We will be able to attract even

continue to give back with every piano performance."

CoStars co-chair Patricia Hempel adds, "This is the perfect chance for alumni of the University and supporters of the arts to thank parents, teachers, and loved ones who were instrumental in making their lives so much richer by encouraging their enjoyment and participation in the arts."

David Woods, dean of the School of Fine Arts, says Jorgensen's programming is key to its ability to fulfill its educational and outreach mission to the University and the citizens of the state.

"Jorgensen is the only major venue in Connecticut today that offers a broad-based, multi-disciplinary presenting series, including major national and international orchestras, chamber artists and ensembles, and classical instrumental and vocal soloists," he says. "A new Steinway will provide the best artistic performances possible. This is imperative, as more people across the state look to Jorgensen as their source for cultural entertainment."

Pianist Menahem Pressler, who has performed around the world for more than five decades, will assist with the selection of the new piano.

Those who wish to contribute to the *88 Keys to Success* campaign may contact Rock at 860-486-1983.



more legendary artists, once we can offer them one of the finest Steinway grand pianos in the northeast. The *88 Keys to Success* campaign is an opportunity for individuals, families and groups to create a living legacy that will