



CASE recommends new hospital, partnership

BY KRISTINA GOODNOUGH

The Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE) issued its report to the state legislature March 18 on the Health Center's clinical facility needs.

To support excellence in academic medicine, CASE suggested that a new hospital be constructed on the Health Center's campus. It could be built and operated by the University alone, or in partnership with one or more regional hospitals. CASE recommended the latter as its preferred option.

The report was prepared at the direction of the General Assembly, in response to UConn's proposal to replace the aging John Dempsey Hospital with a new, 352-bed hospital.

The CASE report concluded that John Dempsey Hospital is outdated and too small, and the cost to revitalize the current facility as a hospital cannot be justified. The report also acknowledged that the existing hospital cannot accommodate private inpatient rooms, which is the current standard of care, without reducing the total bed count and increasing inefficiencies.

Reacting to the release of the study, University President Michael J. Hogan said, "The report supports our ongoing efforts to engage the area hospitals in conversations to define common ground and shared interests. We are greatly advantaged by having Drs. Rowe and Burrow, with their vast knowledge and experience in medical education, research, and clinical care, participate directly in these discussions.

"We envision our next steps as an effort to formalize the discussions that have happened to date," he added. "Area hospitals will have the opportunity to come forward and suggest ways in which a new, state-of-the-art hospital can be constructed and financed on our Farmington campus.

"The report makes me feel like I have an army behind me," he added.

According to the report, formalizing and strengthening relationships with clinical care partners, coupled with construction of new clinical facilities on the Health Center campus, "provides the Health Center with the opportunity to strengthen undergraduate and graduate medical education, grow re-

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A sculpture, *The Family*, by Wolfgang Behl, part of the permanent collection of art at the Health Center in Farmington.

PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Hogan to sign environmental pledge March 25

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

University President Michael J. Hogan on Tuesday, March 25, will officially sign the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (PCC), a document that commits the Storrs campus to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Joining Hogan will be Gina McCarthy, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

The signing ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. in the North Reading Room of the Wilbur Cross Building. It is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

"Public universities have a unique opportunity to take leadership in efforts to reduce our society's ecological footprint," Hogan says. "UConn already has a proven track record in environmental sustainability, owing to the energies and expertise of our dedi-

cated faculty, staff, and students. Signing the PCC and agreeing to do our part in curbing carbon emissions formalizes our ongoing commitment to playing a leadership role in environmental stewardship."

UConn discharged approximately 110,000 tons of greenhouse gases in 2006, about 20,000 tons less than in previous years, before the new co-generation plant opened. The plant, which collects waste heat created by a series of turbines and turns it into steam that is then used for central heating and cooling, is 80 percent efficient.

"By signing the PCC, UConn unites with dozens of our peers and pledges to develop specific action plans, including academic and operational goals, toward a more environmentally sustainable campus," says Richard Miller, director of environmental policy. "This commitment reinforces UConn's

position as an environmental leader in researching, demonstrating, and employing technological and behavioral solutions to climate change – the most urgent global environmental challenge of our time."

The pledge commits signatories to:

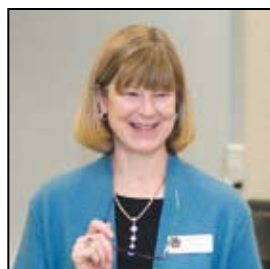
- Initiate development of a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality as soon as possible;
- Within two months of signing the document, creating institutional structures to guide the development and implementation of the plan;
- Within one year, complete a comprehensive inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions (including emissions from electricity, heating, and commuting), and updating the inventory every other year

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Speaker to discuss archives, democracy

Professor Allen Weinstein, the ninth Archivist of the United States, will deliver the RBS Greenwich Capital Lecture, "Reflections on Archives and Democracy," on April 2. The talk will take place in the Konover Auditorium at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, beginning at 4 p.m.

Weinstein, a former history professor who has held positions at Boston University, Georgetown University, and Smith College, is the author of many essays and books, including *The Story of America* (2002); *The Haunted*

Wood: Soviet Espionage in America – The Stalin Era (1999); *Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case* (1978 and 1997); and *Freedom and Crisis: An American History* (third edition, 1981).

From 1985 to 2003, he served as president of The Center for Democracy, a non-profit foundation based in Washington, D.C., that he created in 1985 to promote and strengthen the democratic process.

His international awards include the United Nations Peace Medal (1986); the Council of

Europe's Silver Medal (twice, in 1990 and 1996); and awards from the presidents of Nicaragua and Romania for assistance in their countries' democratization processes. His other awards and fellowships have included two Senior Fulbright Lectureships, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, the Commonwealth Fund Lectureship at the University of London, and a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Fellowship.

Hospice care focus of seminar March 26

Hospice care will be the topic of a seminar by D. Brookes Cowan on Wednesday, March 26, from 3-5 p.m. in the School of Business building, Room 106.

Her talk, "Hospice Care: Changing the Way We Live and Die," will be followed by a showing of the documentary, *Pioneers of Hospice: Changing the Face of Dying*.

The event is sponsored by the

Department of Human and Family Studies' Foote Lecture Fund.

Cowan, a senior lecturer at the University of Vermont, is a medical sociologist specializing in end-of-life care and gerontology. A grief therapist and hospice volunteer since 1978, Cowan is a long-time advocate for high quality end-of-life care.

As founding chair of the Madison-Dean Initiative, a non-profit

organization created to educate the public and the medical profession about care at the end of life, she was instrumental in the making of the documentary, *Pioneers of Hospice*.

In 2004, Cowan was invited to coordinate the care of Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, author of *On Death and Dying*, during the last week of her life.

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search opportunities, and continue to provide high-level clinical care."

The report details the Health Center's significant contribution to the region's economy and underscores its untapped economic potential for the region and state: "Growing the UConn Health Center is, simply stated, a smart investment."

Hogan was pleased that the report recognized the unique contributions of an academic health center, and the opportunity for the UConn Health Center to become a leading academic and research center. "The report makes clear that a flourishing UConn Health Center, working in partnership with the area hospitals, can elevate the quality of health care for the region," he said, "enabling it to become a recognized center for health care excellence."

He said that any partnership

with one or more hospitals would have to support UConn's commitment to quality and innovative education and research and protect its relationship with its employees.

Peter Deckers, dean of the school of medicine and executive vice president for health affairs, described the report as positive. "It recognizes the very important role the Health Center plays, not only in the health care fabric, but also in the economic fabric of this region and our state," he said, "and the study's recommendations are designed to increase that role."

The study also states that the Health Center cannot continue as it is. "Continuation of the status quo – no change in existing relationships and no new or renovated facilities – jeopardizes the General Assembly goal of the Health Center achieving excellence in academic medicine and is not in

the best interests of the state."

An "aggressive timetable" is recommended in the report, giving UConn and area hospitals two months to develop a vision for establishing partnership agreements.

An additional six months is suggested to formalize the plan and set it in motion. The committee also recommended that the legislature appoint an independent monitor to report on progress.

"We do not envision this is going to be an easy process," says study committee chairman Dr. Myron Genel, vice president of the Academy and professor emeritus of Yale University School of Medicine. "To get this done correctly in an eight-month time frame is going to be a challenge, but we think the possibilities are significant for everyone involved."

The report is available at www.ctcase.org



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Sandra Crane, a sophomore majoring in marketing, reads the student newspaper, the *Daily Campus*, on the third floor of the Student Union.

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thereafter;

- Within two years, develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral. The plan must include a target date for achieving climate neutrality as soon as possible; interim targets for goals and actions that will lead to climate neutrality; actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum and other educational experiences for all students; actions to expand research or other efforts necessary to achieve climate neutrality; and mechanisms for tracking progress on goals and actions.

While that plan is being developed, the University must also initiate at least two tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gases, several of which have already been implemented at UConn. These include establishing a policy that new campus construction be built to at least the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standard or equivalent, and encouraging the use of and providing access to public transportation for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors.



PHOTO BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

University President Michael J. Hogan, left foreground, and Dr. Myron Genel, vice president of CASE and professor emeritus of Yale University School of Medicine, discuss the Academy's recommendations with reporters after the study was presented to the state legislature March 18.

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Gift to Torrington campus boosts writers, artists project

BY JOHN SPONAUER

A \$250,000 gift to the University's Torrington Campus will enhance the Litchfield County Writers and Artists Project (LCWAP), a program that has brought dozens of highly acclaimed authors and artisans to campus.

The gift, the largest to date to the Torrington campus, will allow for a room in the M. Adela Eads Classroom Building to be renovated into a dual-purpose teaching and gallery area. It will also sustain the writer and artists project through an endowed fund that supports fellowships and sponsors events.

The first display in the teaching and gallery area will feature the works of Robley E. Whitson, a distinguished writer and artist from Litchfield County who helped coordinate the gift from a couple who prefer to remain anonymous. "This has come as a wonderful honor and an unexpected delight,"

Whitson says. "What is most impressive about the writers and artists program is that it allows for the development of the connection between academics and the community at large. It moves beyond academia and has become something unique, wonderful, and valuable, where the University truly meets the public."

Whitson says the program provides an atmosphere that is conducive to a deeper understanding of the arts, and the gift will support that through the room renovations.

"For a visitor, the dual-purpose room area will be much more experiential than a typical gallery," he says. "Instead of simply looking up at the pictures, patrons can actually study what the art means. There aren't many settings where you find the academics, the community, and the arts so integrated."

The Litchfield County Writers

and Artists Project, the primary outreach effort of UConn's Torrington campus, has attracted such authors as Frank McCourt and Arthur Miller. The presentations, which are open to the public, have drawn audiences from across Connecticut.

Director Davyne Verstandig says that the involvement of the Litchfield County community has played a large role in the program's success.

"I don't think there's any other community quite like this one," she says. "There are dozens of award-winning authors in this area, and it's fascinating to see that talent come together and engage in dialogue with this community. The fact that our project is free and open to the public matters a great deal. At each lecture, one can find a wide range of backgrounds, perspectives, and viewpoints."

Geraldine Van Doren, an English professor at the campus and a member of the project's advisory board, says LCWAP has helped put UConn-Torrington on the map. It has also encouraged faculty from various disciplines to come together.

She says the gift will further increase the project's visibility.

"This campus has such an interdisciplinary atmosphere," says Van Doren. "Torrington is so intimate, which I think gives us a certain freedom to work together. It is different from any campus at any university I've seen."

"The writers and artists project provides a catalyst on campus," she adds. "And there's a wonderful value to the community through the writers and filmmakers who have come. The more we invest in it, the more it will give back to the entire University and the state."

Hartford shuttle launched

A "reservation only" shuttle to Union Station in Hartford is now being offered by UConn's Transportation Services for faculty, staff, and students.

Amtrak trains (www.amtrak.com) and Peter Pan buses (www.peterpanbus.com) run in and out of Union Station.

Services are offered for faculty and staff traveling on official UConn business. Students may use it at any time. The service is also available for those coming to Storrs for freshman and transfer orientation, doctoral candidates coming for interview, visiting professors, and guest speakers.

The service to Union Station, like the Bradley Airport shuttle, will operate throughout the year. Reservations should be made at least one week in advance.

The cost is \$50 one-way and \$100 round-trip; group rates are available for three or more passengers traveling and paying together. Payment may be made by cash, check, Husky Bucks, or department accounts, and must be made before traveling. All drivers are state employees who, by the codes of conduct, cannot accept tips.

Pick-ups and drop-offs are at locations on the Storrs campus, including the Nathan Hale Inn, or at apartment complexes currently serviced with UConn buses. There are no pick-ups or drop-offs at individual homes.

To schedule the service or to ask questions, contact Erin or Janet at: Erin.Lirot@uconn.edu, 860-486-6902; Janet.Freniere@uconn.edu, 860-486-4804.



PHOTO BY JANICE PALMER

Zollie Stevenson Jr. of the U.S. Department of Education, speaks during a March 19 conference on assessment as part of the No Child Left Behind Act. The event was hosted by the Neag School of Education. Seated at right is Shuana Tucker, an assistant professor in the Neag School.

Event to showcase Harlem Renaissance

BY CINDY WEISS

Political scientists, historians, artists, and philosophers will revisit the ideas of the post-World War I Harlem Renaissance in a conference at UConn from March 27 to March 29. The event, "The Harlem Renaissance Revisited: Politics, Arts, and Letters," is organized by the Institute for African American Studies.

Poet, playwright, and cultural critic Amiri Baraka, formerly known as LeRoi Jones, will open the conference on March 27 with a talk at 12:30 p.m. at South Campus Ballroom.

Filmmaker Spike Lee, who is producing a documentary on the Harlem Renaissance, will deliver the keynote speech on March 29 at 7 p.m. at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

The Harlem Renaissance, which was centered in Harlem after World War I but also spread to other cities, was a period of intense artistic expression by African American writers, artists, and musicians.

Lucy Hurston, niece of author Zora Neale Hurston, will speak on "Zora: Literature and Legacy" in a plenary session at 1 p.m. on March 28 devoted to iconic figures of the Harlem Renaissance.

The session also includes talks by Jeffrey Stewart of George Mason University, biographer of writer and editor Alain Locke; and Ira Dworkin of Gettysburg College on poet Langston Hughes.

Jeffrey Ogbar, associate professor of history and director of the Institute for African American Studies, calls it "a very ambitious, very exciting, very promising conference" that will stimulate discussion among a broad cross-section

of artists and scholars.

"It will force us to re-conceptualize the Harlem Renaissance itself," he says.

Subjects such as masculinity, class, "passing" for white, and the political activism of the 1920s New Negro movement were often taken up by Harlem Renaissance authors and artists.

In 1921, *Shuffle Along*, a play



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JORGENSEN CENTER

Filmmaker Spike Lee will speak at Jorgensen on March 29.

with an all-black cast, was the most popular show on Broadway, Ogbar notes. Yet African Americans were not allowed in the audience of the Cotton Club in Harlem, which featured black performers.

"The restrictions of white supremacy were pervasive," he says, in the North as well as the South.

In revisiting the Harlem Renaissance, scholars will discuss whether it should continue to be seen as a unique outpouring of creativity, or whether it represents a continuity of expression that was seen by outsiders as a unique phenomenon, Ogbar says.

During the conference, original editions of books by Harlem Re-

naissance authors will be displayed at the Dodd Center, and photos from the era will be exhibited at the William Benton Museum of Art.

The 1925 film *Body and Soul*, starring Paul Robeson and directed by pioneering African American filmmaker Oscar Micheaux, will be shown on Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the Student Union Theatre, followed by a talk by Allyson Nadia Field of Harvard University on African American Cinema and the Harlem Renaissance.

The conference is drawing scholars from around the nation, and graduate students and undergraduates primarily from the New England states.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is a co-sponsor of the three-day event, along with the Neag School of Education, the School of Fine Arts, the Humanities Institute, the African American Cultural Center, the Vice Provost for Multicultural and International Affairs, and the Student Union Board of Governors.

Other co-sponsors are the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and the William Benton Museum.

For the complete conference program and more conference information, go to: www.iaas.uconn.edu/cfp.html

To hear a podcast by Ogbar about the conference and the Harlem Renaissance, go to: www.clas.uconn.edu/podcasts/uploads/harlem_ren.mp3

For information about Spike Lee's keynote talk, go to Jorgensen.uconn.edu/event_detail.php?eventID=92

Engineering dean seeks to attract top faculty, students to School



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Mun Choi, dean of engineering, meets with John Bennett, associate dean, left, and Marty Wood, assistant dean.

BY MICHAEL KIRK

Even as a child, Mun Choi liked tinkering with electronics and mechanical gadgets. That early passion has led to a career as an engineer.

"I always enjoyed taking things apart and putting them back together," says Choi, the new dean of UConn's School of Engineering. "I really did have a passion for understanding how things work, and that led to my interest in engineering science. For me, it was a natural calling."

Choi, who began as dean in January, is now working to put together a School of Engineering that is one of the most prominent in the nation. He plans to build on

its existing strengths and enhance the School's signature programs.

Choi was born in Seoul, South Korea, and moved to the U.S. with his parents and three sisters. His father established a company that manufactured martial arts and industrial uniforms, first in Akron, Ohio, and then in Chicago – a company his father still owns and operates.

Choi is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received his Ph.D. in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Princeton University in 1992. He served as a National Research Council post-doctoral fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and as

a faculty member in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago, before joining Drexel University in 2000.

Choi's primary research interests are in the areas of energy conversion, experimental diagnostics, and pollutant mitigation. His programs have been funded by various federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and NASA.

But it was his desire to effect change within departments and schools that led him to seek out leadership positions.

"I felt I could contribute to the institutional impact by serving as a dean," he says. "What attracted

me to UConn was the clear, strong support for the future of the School from the state and within the institution, as well as from industry. Key components of this are the faculty, who are clearly one of the strongest assets of the School."

UConn Provost Peter J. Nicholls said when Choi was hired, "I believe that in Mun we have found an outstanding leader for the school. His significant interest and experience in increasing opportunities for engineering education and innovative programming for students at all levels will be invaluable to us as we realize the new academic plan."

One of Choi's most immediate goals as dean is to hire faculty through the \$4 million public-private partnership established by the legislature, known as the 'eminent faculty' program, which is designed to attract top researchers in sustainable energy to UConn.

"For the eminent faculty program, we're currently evaluating several candidates, who are among the most renowned researchers in the world," says Choi, adding that he expects to have the positions filled by the end of the current semester.

"This will really enable us to become one of the top sustainable energy research and training programs in the nation," he says.

Choi cites sustainable energy research as being one of the School's critical areas of focus, along with biomedical engineering, nanotechnology, informatics, environmental engineering, and advanced manufacturing. UConn was also recently selected as the research lead institution for the Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence on Transportation Security, a consortium of seven institutions from across the United States. This activity, which

will involve all the departments in the School, will develop close collaboration with leading industries in surface, air, and water transportation security.

"It really is about tackling some of the grand challenges of engineering," he says. "We are not a large school, so we are strategically developing our focus. These challenges very often straddle disciplines; sustainable energy, for example, involves not only engineering, but also chemistry, physics, agriculture, and economics, to name a few. There is also a need to work with industry in areas such as developing new products through translational research."

Choi says that one of his major missions is to enhance communication and a sense of community throughout the School, a process he has begun by meeting with faculty members, staff, students, and alumni.

"I really felt it was important for me to engage all the stakeholders, hear what was on their minds, discuss their aspirations, and create a dialogue," he says. "There is a great deal of interdisciplinary work, and understanding the research and educational activities of colleagues can be instrumental in integrating mutual interests and benefits."

Choi says his priorities also include promoting undergraduate graduation rates, establishing research opportunities in emerging areas, identifying industry internships, and ensuring that UConn Ph.D.s are placed at prestigious academic institutions and research labs.

"My goal," he says, "is both to use our existing strengths and to build our areas of focus to make the School of Engineering an institution of choice for top faculty and students in the nation."

Sport nutrition expert receives award for contributions to field

BY KAREN SINGER

Nancy Rodriguez has built her career on the principle of real-life relevance.

The approach is evident in her teaching style, which challenges students to test the theories they learn in class; and in her research, which she applies to her work with UConn's athletic teams.

Her accomplishments were recognized recently by the New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine (NEACSM), which gave her its 2007 Honor Award.

Rodriguez, an associate professor of nutritional sciences, has joint appointments in kinesiology and allied health sciences. She is also director of the Nutrition for Exercise and Sport Nutrition programs at UConn, coordinating sport nutrition services, developing education materials, and counseling student athletes.

Over the past two decades, Rodriguez's research has focused on the relationship between exercise and protein metabolism. She has received funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and groups such as the American Egg Board and National Cattlemen's

Beef Association.

Her most recent study looks at what happens when athletes eat fewer calories than they need around the time of an exercise bout or competition and, as a result, the body resorts to using protein as an energy source.

"We are interested in how these brief periods of negative energy balance affect muscle protein use," Rodriguez says.

The study – involving 22 fit male and female students who run at least 30 miles a week and aren't vegetarians – also examines whether a good source of protein, such as beef, is beneficial. One group ate a beef-based protein diet, the other a diet that provided protein from other sources.

"We believe that since beef is an excellent source of the essential amino acid leucine – a nutrient that helps increase protein synthesis in muscle – it may offset any negative effect that consuming insufficient calories might have on protein use by the muscle," she says.

"The bottom line," Rodriguez says, "is you have to make sure you get enough calories to get the best use of dietary protein."

Her most recent published

study, looking at how protein is metabolized when athletes consume small amounts of skim milk while running, shows that "when you have protein during a run, you break down less of the

body's protein," she says, "theoretically improving protein use during recovery."

Rodriguez says 10 years ago, "most researchers in the field of endurance exercise did not see

much use for this approach."

That has changed. Several months ago, for example, Cadbury Schweppes relaunched a sports nutrition drink with whey protein, touting its benefits to endurance athletic performance and recovery.

Rodriguez soon will be investigating chocolate milk's potential as a "recovery drink."

She also has a grant proposal pending with the American Institute of Cancer Research for a study probing how to limit protein breakdown and stimulate protein synthesis when people are in negative energy balance.

"This might help find ways to improve the results of cancer therapy," Rodriguez says. "Ultimately, if we can find what controls protein synthesis and breakdown in healthy people, perhaps we can find a way to help more people through appropriate nutrition interventions."

"Athletes are a pretty small percentage of the people in this country," she adds. "We have a ways to go before we can help other people with greater health and nutrition needs. Ultimately it would be great if my work made some useful contribution in those areas."



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Nancy Rodriguez, associate professor of nutritional sciences, working in her lab in the Jones Building.

Strategies to address diversity help faculty teach every student

BY ELIZABETH OMARA-OTUNNU

There's more to diversity than meets the eye, but some teaching strategies can help faculty create an educational environment that fosters learning for every student, says Catherine Ross, associate director of the Institute for Teaching and Learning.

Her remarks were part of a presentation on "Teaching Every Student" made during a teaching institute earlier this year. She has given similar presentations to other groups of faculty, library staff, and an undergraduate FYE class.

For many people, the term diversity brings to mind gender, race, ethnicity, age, or sexual orientation, Ross said. But other factors may come into play in a classroom, including religious or political beliefs, socioeconomic status, family background, preparation for higher education, disability, and learning style.

Information about students that can be perceived with the senses is not always either accurate or complete, she said. "There's quite a bit that's invisible to a professor teaching a class that may affect the way students learn."

For example, if a student is caring for an elderly parent or for young children, or has to work to pay for college, that can have a major impact on his or her class performance. "Sometimes students seem terribly unmotivated," she said, "but they may be struggling with something other than motivation."



PHOTO BY DANIEL BUTTREY

Catherine Ross, associate director of the Institute for Teaching and Learning, speaks about diversity and strategies to "teach every student."

Ross said faculty have a responsibility to create a learning environment where everyone feels valued: "It's up to us to set the tone." A personal statement from the instructor that articulates the goal of an inclusive educational environment and the expectation of respect for different points of view can be helpful.

It also helps to learn and use students' names, she added.

Don't make assumptions about what students already know from high school, she said. Ask them if they have questions. This can

be done by having them hand in questions on index cards, which helps those who are shy or those – particularly some international students – whose culture discourages students from questioning a teacher.

Create opportunities for all students to participate, said Ross. Don't just call on the first student to raise his or her hand, but wait until, say, seven or eight hands are up. Another strategy to encourage more equal participation is to have students talk to a partner first, because this gives them more con-

fidence to share their ideas with a larger group.

She said diversity in the classroom enriches the educational environment for all students. "If we are surrounded by people just like us, we learn less," she said.

Ross, who has a Ph.D. in Russian and foreign language teaching, and a master's degree in teaching English as a second language, has lived in countries including Japan, Russia, Ukraine, and Spain. She described those experiences as her "portal to diversity."

Ross said educators need to be aware of their own culture, and how that might impact their teaching.

"When we talk about diversity and bias, we shouldn't be afraid," she said. "Everyone can make a mistake, but that shouldn't stop you from talking about it."

Racist or sexist attitudes are not necessarily conscious, and stem in part from the human tendency to categorize things in terms of 'like' and 'not-like,' she added. What's important is to be open to learning.

Ross said a body of research demonstrates the negative impact of stereotypes. When black students know they're being compared with white students, they do worse, she said. And one study of math performance showed that Asian women performed better when they identified themselves as Asian than when they self-identified as women.

She said the role of an educator is not only to monitor his or her

own behavior in the classroom, but also sometimes to step in with student-to-student interactions. If one student says something discriminatory against another and the instructor doesn't address it, that makes the target of the comment feel marginal, she said.

It is also helpful to model inclusive language, she said, using 'she' as well as 'he,' for instance, and 'congressperson' rather than 'congressman.' When giving examples, use names that are not gender-specific, such as Pat and Chris, and add some international names as well.

"It does have an impact," she said. "Language carries meaning."

Avoid comments that assume all students are heterosexual, she added, or questions – such as where students are going for spring break – that assume a certain socioeconomic status: Some students can't afford to go anywhere.

A good place to start, she said, is for the instructor to reflect on questions such as those offered on the Derek Bok Center for Teaching website at Harvard University: Do I call on all students equally? Am I afraid students of color might not be fully competitive with others? If an issue involving race comes up, do I assume a student of color will know the most about it? Am I impatient with students who are non-native English speakers?

"By making explicit our own assumptions," Ross added, "we can enrich both our teaching and our relationships with our students."

Diabetes may be kept at bay with diet, healthier cooking, experts say

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

Diabetes – its symptoms and prevalence – is a tough subject. But experts from the Health Center's Diabetes Education Program made it more palatable with advice on portion control, tips for healthier baking ingredients, and a cooking demonstration, during a recent Discovery Series program "Keeping Diabetes at Bay."

The program, recognized by the American Diabetes Association, is designed to help patients understand the disease and learn how to manage it.

The more than 200 people in the audience watched as executive chef Richard Duclos sliced, diced, and sautéed a nutritious and tasty meal designed for those with diabetes.

Duclos chose a Thai recipe – Thai chicken and vegetables over chayote – because typical Thai cuisine relies heavily on fresh vegetables and doesn't contain a lot of dairy products, important considerations for people with diabetes.

Members of the audience were also able to sample the dish during intermission. "Spicy, but delicious" was a typical response.

Information about the prevalence of diabetes was presented by

Dr. Carl Malchoff, director of the Diabetes Education Program. He said diabetes is one of the leading causes of death and disability in the United States, and is associated with long-term complications that affect almost every part of the body. The disease often leads to blindness, heart and blood vessel disease, stroke, kidney failure, amputations, and nerve damage.

"Nearly 21 million Americans have diabetes – that's 7 percent of our population," said Malchoff. "And what is really disturbing, that number includes more than six million Americans who have the disease but are undiagnosed."

The most common form of diabetes is type 2, affecting about 90 to 95 percent of people with diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is most often associated with older age, obesity, physical inactivity, and a family history of diabetes. Malchoff said that about 80 percent of people with type 2 diabetes are overweight, and the disease is increasingly being diagnosed in children and adolescents.

Jean Kostak, a certified diabetes educator, offered important advice on how to manage diabetes on a day-to-day basis. She said one of



PHOTO BY CHRIS DEFRANCESCO

Executive chef Richard Duclos prepares a Thai chicken recipe during a diabetes education program at the Health Center.

the most important factors is diet.

"For those with diabetes, keeping blood sugar levels under control is extremely important," she said. "You can still include

your favorite foods in a healthy meal plan, it just may require some small changes."

Kostak suggested a number of simple – but healthier – substitutes

for use in baking or cooking: low-fat plain yogurt instead of sour cream; flavored vinegar versus salad dressing; romaine in place of iceberg lettuce; salsa rather than butter or sour cream on baked potatoes; and to add some crunch to a recipe, water chestnuts instead of chopped nuts.

Portion control is another key factor in keeping your weight in check. Registered dietitian Deborah Downes told the audience that "portion distortion" has led to our ever-expanding waistlines.

"Look at your plate and think back 20 years ago," she said. "The portions now being served at restaurants are so much larger – for instance, a meatball may be the size of your fist!"

Downes had some simple tips for eating out: order a couple of appetizers instead of an entrée (they're often more interesting too, she said); share a meal with a friend; or ask for a take-out container at the start of your meal instead of at the end, so you can immediately split the serving in half and won't be tempted to eat more than you should.



A stairwell in Gentry Building.

PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

GRANTS

The following grants were received through the Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP) in January 2008. The list represents only new proposals awarded, and excludes continuations. The list is supplied to the Advance each month by OSP.

Prin. Investigator	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
Alphabetical, by Principal Investigator				
Aindow, M.	Inst. of Materials Science	United Technologies-Pratt & Whitney	\$7,000	9/07-5/08
<i>Grain Growth Kinetics in IN718</i>				
Barclay, J.	Natural Resources Management & Engineering	Conn. Dept. of Environmental Protection	\$29,275	8/07-5/09
<i>Moose (Alces alces) Ecology and Public Perceptions about Moose in Connecticut</i>				
Bruening, J.	Kinesiology	City of Hartford, Conn.	\$12,863	7/07-6/08
<i>Husky Sport</i>				
Bucklin, A.	Marine Sciences	Sloan (Alfred P.) Foundation	\$112,000	1/08-12/09
<i>DNA Barcoding of Marine Biodiversity (MarBOL)</i>				
Byrne, T.	Center for Integrative Geoscience	Nat'l Science Foundation	\$5,000	1/08-12/08
<i>Arc-Continent Collisions and the Evolution of Continental Crust – A Mini-Workshop</i>				
Carstensen, F.	Conn. Center for Economic Analysis	415 Washington Ave Partners LLC	\$9,500	11/07-5/08
<i>Economic Impact of the 415 Washington Avenue Partners Redevelopment of the Pratt & Whitney Site in North Haven</i>				
Carstensen, F.	Conn. Center for Economic Analysis	Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut	\$48,895	8/07-2/08
<i>Evaluating the Pattern of Expenditure in the Health Care System</i>				
Casa, D.	Kinesiology	Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Conn.	\$14,621	8/07-6/08
<i>Athletic Training Services for Area High Schools: A Partnership with Hartford Public Schools (Sports and Medical Sciences Academy)</i>				
Choi, M.	Engineering, Office of Dean	Nat'l Aeronautics & Space Admin.	\$150,000	12/07-12/09
<i>FLEX Droplet Flame Extinguishment in Microgravity</i>				
Chrysochoou, M.	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Schnabel Engineering North LLC	\$4,500	1/08-4/08
<i>Soil-Cement Blending Study, Greenport, N.Y.</i>				
Cormier, V.	Physics	Nat'l Science Foundation	\$299,999	1/08-12/10
<i>Solidification Texture of the Uppermost Inner Core</i>				
Cornman, D.	Center for Health, Intervention & Prevention	Dept. of Defense/Navy	\$200,000	12/07-11/08
<i>Prevention for Positives in a Military Setting in Mozambique</i>				
Cornman, D.	Center for Health, Intervention & Prevention	Dept. of Defense/Navy	\$200,000	12/07-11/08
<i>Increasing ARV Adherence in a Military Setting in Uganda</i>				
DeGuise, S.	Pathobiology & Veterinary Science	Morris Animal Foundation	\$44,961	9/07-8/08
<i>Immunomodulatory Effects of Domoic Acid in California Sea Lions and Southern Sea Otters</i>				
Donkor, E.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Agiltron Inc.	\$34,039	8/07-5/08
<i>12-Bit 10GSPS Optical Analog-to-Digital Converter</i>				
Elliott, G.	Plant Science	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/Freunds Farm Inc.	\$76,425	2/08-8/09
<i>Horticultural Evaluation of COWpots</i>				
Frisman, L.	Social Work, Office of Dean	Johnson (Robert Wood) Foundation/Brandeis Univ.	\$3,000	6/07-6/08
<i>Determinants of Treatment Participation and Time to Recidivism for Young African-American and Latino Male Offenders</i>				
Huang, C.	Computer Science & Engineering	Nat'l Science Foundation	\$285,000	1/08-2/11
<i>REU Site: BioGrid Initiatives for Interdisciplinary Research and Education</i>				

Jain, F.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Navy/Office of Naval Research	\$215,903	10/07-10/08
<i>Imaging Laser Radar and Optical Processor for Underwater Target Recognition and Tracking System</i>				
Javidi, B.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Gerber Scientific Inc./Gerber Technology	\$10,000	1/08-3/08
<i>Image Segmentation for Leather Hide Defects</i>				
Jordan, E.	Inst. of Materials Science	Nat'l Science Foundation/Southwest Sciences	\$50,000	12/07-12/08
<i>Optical NDI of Thermal Barrier Coatings</i>				
Kehle, T.	Educational Psychology	Vernon Public Schools, Vernon, Conn.	\$11,114	8/07-5/08
<i>School Psychology Internship – Teresa Lebel</i>				
Kraus, C.	Center for Survey Research & Analysis	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/Conn. Department of Agriculture	\$11,700	1/08-2/08
<i>CT-Grown Advertising Campaign Market Research</i>				
Luh, P.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Alstom Power Corp.	\$35,002	2/08-5/08
<i>Power Plant Boiler Modeling and Optimization, Phase VI</i>				
Luh, P.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Southern California Edison	\$63,518	1/08-12/08
<i>Simultaneous Optimal Auction and Unit Commitment for Deregulated Electricity Markets, Phase IV</i>				
Malley, C.	Extension	U.S. Dept. of Education/Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services/Conn. Dept. of Education	\$57,000	10/07-9/09
<i>Birth through Five News Newsletter</i>				
Mehrhoff, L.	Ecology & Evolutionary Biology	Dept. of Interior/U.S. Geological Survey/Polistes Foundation	\$46,550	12/07-4/08
<i>Using the IPANE Program to Advance Invasive Species Early Detection Efforts</i>				
Michel, L.	Computer Science & Engineering	ISO New England Inc.	\$62,447	12/07-12/08
<i>Short-Term Load Forecasting: Wavelet-Based Similar-Day Neural Networks</i>				
Molter, T.	Conn. Inst. of Fuel Cell Research & Innovation	Dept. of Defense/Army/Ensign-Bickford Industries Inc.	\$90,533	10/07-4/08
<i>Solid Hydrogen Fuel Element Development – Thermal/Fluid Analysis of Fuel Element Housing & Ammonia Borane Pyrolysis Chemistry Characterization</i>				
O'Neill, M.	Molecular & Cell Biology	Nat'l Institutes of Health/Nat'l Inst. of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	\$1,670,340	2/08-1/13
<i>Locus-Specific Imprinting on the Mammalian X Chromosome</i>				
Pasaogullari, U.	Conn. Inst. of Fuel Cell Research & Innovation	Nat'l Science Foundation	\$400,000	2/08-1/13
<i>CAREER: Role of Interfaces on Transport Phenomena in Polymer Electrolyte Fuel Cells</i>				
Proenza, C.	Physiology & Neurobiology	Nat'l Institutes of Health/Nat'l Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	\$1,861,775	1/08-12/12
<i>Function and Regulation of HCN Channels in Sinoatrial Myocytes</i>				
Ramprasad, R.	Inst. of Materials Science	Dept. of Defense/Navy/Office of Naval Research	\$480,000	1/08-1/11
<i>Computational Support of the ONR Capacitor Program</i>				
Renfro, M.	Mechanical Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Air Force/Spectral Energies LLC	\$49,464	1/08-8/08
<i>PLIF and Diode Laser Measurements in Ultra-Compact Combustor</i>				
Rodriguez, N.	Nutritional Sciences	Nat'l Dairy Council/Dairy Management Inc.	\$153,522	11/07-11/08
<i>Milk's Impact on Protein Turnover-Specific Intracellular Signaling Proteins (ISP's) in Human Skeletal Muscle During Recovery From Endurance Exercise</i>				
Rozum, J.	Extension	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/Univ. of Rhode Island	\$87,000	9/07-8/10
<i>Advancing Watershed N Management at the Local Level: Incorporating Stream Reach Ecosystem N Sinks into an Environmental Spatial Decision Support System</i>				
Settlage, J.	Curriculum & Instruction	U.S. Dept. of Education/Dept. of Education/Advanced Fuel Research	\$157,009	6/07-4/09
<i>Technology Enhanced Science Education in Middle School (UConn is a subcontractor for the evaluation of the project)</i>				
Singer, M.	Center for Health, Intervention & Prevention	Nat'l Institutes of Health/Nat'l Inst. of Mental Health/Yale Univ.	\$7,924	9/07-2/08
<i>Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS</i>				
Singer, M.	Center for Health, Intervention & Prevention	Nat'l Institutes of Health/Nat'l Inst. on Drug Abuse/Iowa State Univ.	\$4,943	12/07-6/08
<i>Assessing Oral HIV Testing Among Brazilian Drug Users</i>				
Smirnova, A.	Conn. Inst. of Fuel Cell Research & Innovation	United Technologies/UTC Power/UTC Fuel Cells	\$40,596	1/08-4/08
<i>Synthesis of the Catalysts for PEMFC Application Using Super-Critical Deposition Technique</i>				
Smith, M.	Pharmacy Practice	Conn. Dept. of Social Services	\$79,080	7/07-6/08
<i>Consulting Agreement: Medicaid Transformation Project on Health Information Exchange and E-Prescribing Implementation</i>				
Sugai, G.	Educational Psychology	U.S. Dept. of Education/Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services/Univ. of So. Florida	\$154,956	10/07-9/08
<i>Center on Implementation of Evidence-Based Practice</i>				
Wang, B.	Computer Science & Engineering	Nat'l Science Foundation	\$449,996	2/08-1/13
<i>CAREER: Automating Wireless Network Management: Lessons from Managing Wireless LANs and Sensor Networks</i>				
Ward, E.	Marine Sciences	Dept. of Commerce/Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration	\$460,248	12/07-12/10
<i>Interdisciplinary Research & Training Initiative on Coastal Ecosystems & Human Health</i>				
Yakimowski-Srebnick, M.	Education, Office of Dean	U.S. Dept. of Education/Dept. of Education/Area Coop've Educational Svs	\$59,716	10/07-9/10
<i>ACES-Charter School Evaluation</i>				

CALENDAR

Monday, March 24, to Monday, March 31

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, March 31, through Monday, April 7. Those items must be in the database by 4 p.m. on Monday, March 24.

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).

cademic

Monday, 3/24 – Registration for Fall 2008 semester via Student Administration System begins.

Saturday, 3/29 – Emergency closing class make-up day.

Monday, 3/31 – Last day to drop a course.

Monday, 3/31 – Last day to convert courses on Pass/Fail option to letter grade option.

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.

Meetings

Monday, 3/31 – University Senate. 3 p.m., Room 7, Bishop Center.

Ph.D. Defenses

Tuesday, 3/25 – Pharmaceuticals. *In Situ Precipitation and Vacuum Drying of Interferon Alpha-2a: Development of a Process for Obtaining Dry, Stable Protein Formulation*, by Vineet Kumar (adv.: Kumar) 8 a.m., Room 355, Pharmacy/Biology Building.

Thursday, 3/27 – Materials Science and Engineering. *Integrated Study of Casting and Heat Treatment Parameters on Microstructures of Multiphase Multicomponent Aluminum Alloys*, by Yong Ma (adv.: Brody) 12:15 p.m., Room IMS20, Gant Science Complex.

Thursday, 3/27 – Cell Biology. *Quantitative Mass Spectrometric Approaches to Study the Role of Protein Phosphorylation in Cell Signaling*, by Viveka Mayya (adv.: Han) 2:30 p.m., Room EGO13, Academic Research Building, Health Center.

Friday, 3/28 – Linguistics. *Exploring Many: Japanese and English*, by Takuro Tanaka (adv.: Sharvit) 4 p.m., Room 317, Arjona Building.

Lectures & Seminars

Monday, 3/24 – Physics Seminar. “Generalized Parton Distributions

Law Lecture. A Law School course in which a different faculty member each week presents a recent case of interest. Lectures are open to the community. 5 p.m., Room 110, Chase Hall, School of Law.

Wednesday, 3/26 – David Ivry Memorial Lecture. “Second Temple Literature and Rabbinic Judaism,” by Lawrence Schiffman, Ethel and Irvin Edelman, New York University. 5:30 p.m., Class of '47 Room, Babbidge Library.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Social Work Lecture. “Trends in the Social Work Profession,” by Peter Vaughan, Fordham University. 5:30 p.m., Zachs Community Room, School of Social Work.

Thursday, 3/27 – Comparative Pathology Seminar. “Frequent Recombination and Prokaryote Species Evolution,” by Robertson Papke. 11 a.m., Room A001, Atwater Building.

Frank Bramble, Gallery on the Plaza and Stevens Gallery. For hours, see Libraries section.

Through Friday, 5/16 – Dodd Center. *The Ethnic American Press*, Gallery; also, *His & Hers, New Yorker Cartoons*, by Michael Maslin & Liza Donnelly, West Corridor. For hours, see Libraries section.

Through Sunday, 3/30 – Stamford Campus Gallery. *UConn Stamford Art Show*, works by students, faculty, and staff. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon. Free admission.

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.” Also, through Sunday, 5/11, *Rome, Italy and Europe* and *Marcus Garvey: The Centennial Exhibition*. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m. Free admission.

Through Thursday, 4/3 –

3:30-6:30 p.m., Room 163, CLAS Building.

Monday, 3/31 – India Film Series. “Mr. and Mrs. Iyer.” 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 106, Fine Arts Building.

Performing Arts

Thursday, 3/27 – St. Petersburg Ballet. *Giselle*. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets: \$25-\$30. For tickets and information call 860-486-4226.

Thursday, 3/27 through Sunday, 4/6 – Connecticut Repertory Theatre. *Meet the Samsas*. Monday-Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. For tickets and information call 860-486-4226.

Sunday, 3/30 – UConn Opera Theater. A trio of one-act comic operas by Seymour Barab, Samuel Barber, and John Duke. 3 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Tickets \$7, free with student ID.

Monday, 3/31 – Jazz Combos. Earl MacDonald, Kenny Davis, and Bill Reynolds, directors. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Tickets \$7, free with student ID.

Sports

Monday, 3/24 – Baseball vs. Massachusetts. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Softball vs. Sacred Heart. 2:30 p.m., UConn Softball Field.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Baseball vs. Yale. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Men's Tennis vs. Fairfield. 3 p.m., UConn Tennis Courts.

Friday, 3/28 – Baseball vs. Villanova. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.

Saturday, 3/29 – Baseball vs. Villanova. Noon, J.O. Christian Field.

Saturday, 3/29 – Women's Lacrosse vs. Notre Dame. Noon, Sherman Family Sports Complex.

Sunday, 3/30 – Women's Tennis vs. Marquette. 11 a.m., UConn Tennis Courts.

Sunday, 3/30 – Baseball vs. Villanova. Noon, J.O. Christian Field.

Sunday, 3/30 – Women's Lacrosse vs. UC Davis. 1 p.m., Sherman Family Sports Complex.



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JORGENSEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre will perform the romantic ballet *Giselle* at Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts Thursday, March 27. See Performing Arts.

of Nucleons and Nuclei,” by Vadim Guzey, Jefferson Lab. 2 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex.

Monday, 3/24 – Atomic Molecular, & Optical Physics Seminar. “Atomic Homodyne Detection,” by Daniel Elliott, Purdue University. 4 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex.

Tuesday, 3/25 – Social Work Lecture. “Child Labor and Social Work.” Noon, Zachs Community Room, School of Social Work.

Tuesday, 3/25 – Comparative Human Rights Lecture. “Kenya's Rural Women: Education, Climate Change, and Sustainability,” by Agnes Mwang'ombe. 12:30 p.m., Room 304B, Student Union.

Tuesday, 3/25 – Puerto Rican & Latino Studies Lecture. “Race and Citizenship,” by Laura Gomez, University of New Mexico. 1 p.m., Davis Courtroom, Starr Hall, School of Law.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Out-to-Lunch Lecture. “Color Me Queer: The History of Trans and LGB People of Color Political Organizing in the U.S.,” by Imani Henry, International Action Center. Noon, Room 403, Student Union.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Humanities Lecture. “The Pilgrimage of Tears in Piers Plowman,” by Katherine O'Sullivan. 4 p.m., Room 301, CLAS Building.

Wednesday, 3/26 – ‘Recent Cases’

Thursday, 3/27 – Law School Faculty Lecture. “Comparative Federalism,” by Dirk Hanschel. Noon, Faculty Lounge, Hosmer Hall, Law School.

Thursday, 3/27 – Stamford Faculty Colloquium Series. “Winners and Losers in the Origination and Securitization of Subprime Mortgages,” by Walter Dolde. 5 p.m., GE Global Learning Classroom, Stamford Campus.

Friday, 3/28 – Environmental Engineering Seminar Series. “The Bio-Geo-Socio-Chemistry of Urban Watersheds,” by Peter Groffman, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. Noon-1 p.m., Room 212, Castleman Building.

Friday, 3/28 – Statistics Colloquium. “The Exact Distributions of the Stopping Times and Their Functionals in Two-Stage and Sequential Fixed-Width Confidence Intervals of The Exponential Parameter,” by Shelemyahu Zacks, Binghamton University. 4 p.m., Room 344, CLAS Building.

Friday, 3/28 – Physics Colloquium. “To Learn: Multiple Meanings and Goals for Physics Education,” by Adam Johnston, Weber State University. 4 p.m., Room P38, Gant Science Complex.

Exhibits

Through Friday, 5/16 – Babbidge Library. *Remnants, Glyphs and Palimpsests*, paintings by Pamela and

Contemporary Art Galleries.

Ornithology: Looking at Birds. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free admission.

Through Sunday, 4/20 – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery. *The Question: “If there is a God, what one question would you ask?”* installation by Pamela Gordinier; photographs by Gretchen Higgins; paintings by Lise Lemeland; and paintings by Annelie Skoog. Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Admission \$3; free for members and students.

Through Wednesday, 4/30 – Health Center. *Quilting Pleasures*, cloth and paper quilting by Phyllis Small. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine Lobbies.

Through Wednesday, 6/11 – Celeste Le Witt Gallery. *In the Moment*, paintings by Rita Bond; *Pubs/Structures/Large and Small*, paintings by Arthur Bredefeld. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

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 welcome.

Film

Friday, 3/28 – International Film Series. “The Battle of Algiers.”

Potpourri

Monday, 3/24 – Sharing Literature of Asian Americans Book Club. Author Brian Leung reads from his new work of fiction, *Lost Men*. 4:30 p.m., UConn Co-op.

Tuesday, 3/25 – Creative Writing Program. Readings from author Patricia Hampl. 7:30 p.m., Konover Auditorium.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Search Orientation Workshop. Best practices, compliance obligations, and trends related to recruiting and the search process. 9 a.m.-noon, Room 134, CUE Building.

Wednesday, 3/26 – Litchfield County Writers and Artists Project. Tommy Simpson, sculptor and furniture maker, and Karen LaFleur, digital artist, discuss their work. 6:30 p.m., Hogan Lecture Hall, Torrington Campus.

Thursday, 3/27 – Your Financial Future Starts Now: A Financial Discussion with Young Lawyers. Local financial advisors will offer information about planning with investments, savings plans, and insurance. 5:30 p.m., Blumberg Hall, School of Law.

Sunday, 3/30 – Oral History Workshop. “Enduring Connections: Workshop on Conducting and Preserving Family Oral Histories,” by Fe Delos-Santos. 2-4 p.m., Benton Museum of Art. Free admission.

Monday, 3/31 – Latin American Theatre Day. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center, Student Union.

New course helps science grad students prepare for job search

BY CINDY WEISS

Muge Acik is starting to hunt for a job, and she's nervous.

Dressed in a neat black pantsuit, the polymer science graduate student sits across from her interviewer and begins to answer his questions.

Thirty minutes later, her interviewer turns to a group of fellow students who've been watching.

"What do people who saw the interview think about what we did?" he asks.

"What about body language?" asks one student.

"I watched her wrists – she was nervous," comments another.

"You can't make eye contact all the time – where else should you look?" asks a third.

The mock interview, which Acik requested, is part of a new course, Chemistry 300, to help graduate students prepare to find a job in industry or academia.

The course, possibly the first semester-length course at UConn to teach graduate students in the sciences how to write a resume, dress for success, and succeed in their first year on the job, is taught by Daniel Eustace, a retired Ph.D. chemist and manager who has worked at Exxon-Mobil and Polaroid. He also has nine years of experience running short courses and workshops for the American Chemical Society (ACS) on job skills for chemists.

About a dozen graduate students in chemistry, chemical engineering, and polymer science are taking the class, including Acik.

"I want to help you get to the professional level – this is what motivates me," he told the students during the first class.

He also encourages the students to invite their friends to drop in on classes, and has podcast parts of it to expose a wider audience of graduate students to career planning (see www.clas.uconn.edu/podcasts/uploads/chem_300.mp3).

Eustace's aim is to get students who have spent years studying highly technical subjects to think

about their options after graduate school and plan ahead.

"What are your values? What is important to you?" he asks them, adding that their planning should include a back-up strategy.

Chigozie Muoto, a master's degree student in materials science and engineering, is taking the class to prepare for a career in industry. He will graduate in December, and wants to learn to market his skills.

"I wanted to know how to go about searching for the job that would match my personality," he says. "I know that the job market is more competitive now than ever before – I want to give myself a competitive edge."

Jan-Michael Carillo, a Ph.D. student in polymer science, is taking the course to learn about finding a job in industry, doing computer simulations on polymer systems.

Almost all the students taking the course are foreign-born, and their concerns about interviewing are often cultural, such as, when is it appropriate to shake hands: at the beginning of the interview, the end, or both?

Foreign students who come to UConn on a student visa can apply to the Immigration and Naturalization Service to remain in the U.S. for an industrial or postdoctoral position after receiving their degree. Eventually, they may obtain a green card that allows them to be permanently employed here.

In this culture, Eustace warns them, approaching too close to an

interviewer would be considered uncomfortable.

"This is exactly how you want to appear – professional, and not distracting," he says, pointing to Acik's interview attire – "no dangly earrings, no scent."

He says the goal is for the students to know 80 percent of the questions they are likely to face in an interview, and to be prepared: "You should know these questions are going to come."

But the course is not limited to interviewing skills. The students are learning about career choices, patents and intellectual property issues, ethical behavior, problem-solving, how to conduct a job search, and how to behave during their first year on the job and get promoted.

Communications techniques that Eustace teaches include e-mailing, telephone skills, writing for publications, listening, and making small talk with colleagues.

"Forty to 60 percent of your job as a manager is listening," he says.

Part of Eustace's plan is to connect students with professionals on the job. In one class, he set up a conference call with a colleague in St. Louis.

Eustace also urges the students to participate actively and to network with each other. The class has a weblog where they can post writing assignments, share ideas, and find job search leads.



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Daniel Eustace, a retired chemist, teaches a new class designed to help graduate students in the sciences prepare for jobs in industry or academia.

Music professor reflects on his experience composing new works

A new CD of original music by Professor Kenneth Fuchs, featuring the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by JoAnn Falletta, has been released on the American Classics label. The longest piece, *Canticle to the Sun*, a horn concerto, is being premiered by the Hartford Symphony Orchestra at the Bushnell on April 29 and 30.

Staff writer Sherry Fisher recently sat down with Fuchs to talk about his work. This is an edited transcript of a longer interview.

Your life dream was to be a composer. Tell me about that.

I started pursuing an interest in composing at the Juilliard School in New York City, where I earned my master's and Ph.D. degrees. It was a wonderful environment. I was surrounded by musicians like Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein, who taught classes there. They were my role models, and through them I learned about the incredible discipline it takes to be a professional musician. Pursuing a career in classical music is so competitive, and I learned that if you want to succeed, you have to make a sustained commitment over your entire life.

Your first recording featuring the London Symphony Orchestra came out in 2005, and garnered two Grammy Award nomina-

tions. Now, your second CD is receiving rave reviews.

I couldn't have done it without the support of the University of Connecticut, the Foundation, and the gifts of institutional benefactors and individual donors who made the second disc possible. We had great success with the first disc, and I wanted to follow up on that. I had enough music between the two orchestral pieces – *United Artists*, the lead piece, and *Canticle to the Sun*, the concerto for French horn and orchestra – plus the three chamber pieces, and it was just the right material to put a second disc together.

What was it like recording with the London Symphony Orchestra, which is known for its recordings of film scores such as *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones*, and *Superman*?

Absolutely amazing. The orchestra is known for its ability to read and record at sight. There are very few orchestras in the world that can do it. The LSO can come into a recording studio – where time is precious and expensive – and record the music that is put in front of them without rehearsal. It's unbelievable. I go into my studio every day and write this music, over many months, toiling day after day with a vision. I've filled out applications for funding, dealt

with all of that, and then, after almost two years of groundwork, I walk into this recording studio.

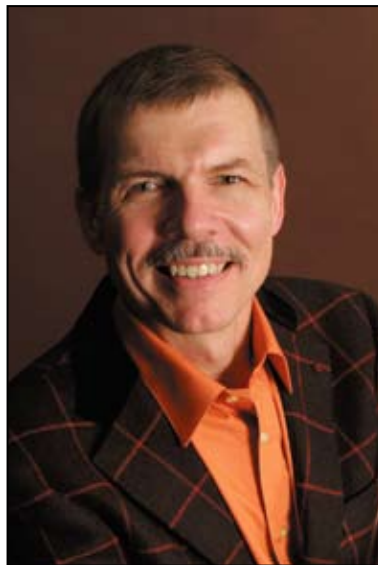


PHOTO BY PETER SCHAAP

Kenneth Fuchs, professor of music and composer.

Then, in the space of a few hours, they record my music – almost flawlessly – without ever having rehearsed it. The whole disc was recorded in two days.

Is that what inspired you to write *United Artists*, the first piece on the disc?

Yes. I was so blown away by the experience of working with the LSO on my first disc that I wanted to write a work that acknowledged my affection for the orchestra and

its artistry. So I wrote what we call an orchestral opener, a very bright, energetic orchestral piece, as a tribute to the LSO.

I understand that *Canticle to the Sun* was written specifically for Timothy Jones, the LSO's principal French horn.

I love the French horn, and when I heard Tim play my music for the first time, I was amazed. It was exactly the way I had heard it. I asked him if he would consider letting me write a concerto for him. *Canticle to the Sun* is based on the hymn tune *All Creatures of our God and King* that I grew up with. It fits the French horn – that very round, golden, mellifluous sound. I wanted to take elements of that tune and create a spiritual, musical place, almost like a musical church for Tim to be the celebrant.

I know you're also inspired by particular works of art.

While living in New York, I started going to museums and galleries, and I fell in love with abstract expressionist painting. *Autumn Rhythm* was inspired by Jackson Pollock's large painting by the same name, which I first saw at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the '80s. I wanted to write a piece of music that expressed some of the same energy and pulse. I

wrote *Fire, Ice and Summer Bronze* after seeing Helen Frankenthaler's work. It was so colorful, visceral, and exciting. I thought, "Wow, I want my music to sound like that."

Do you compose at the piano or keyboard?

No. I don't initially sit down at the keyboard and start playing. I hear the music in my head. I know what the instruments sound like, and I can hear the orchestra playing. At that point, I'll get the music paper and start to sketch some ideas. I use the keyboard as a reference to check specific harmonies and chord voicing.

What do you tell students who want to become composers?

I tell them, "If you want to be a composer, you must study musical repertoire of all stylistic periods. You must develop your ear and ability at the keyboard. And you have to learn how to promote yourself and your music. You need a web site, you need photographs, and you need to learn how to contact conductors and performers, what to say in a letter, and how to follow up. You need to know how to prepare your music for a recording session. In short, you have to become a musical entrepreneur."

To listen to a sample of Fuchs's music, go to this story at the web site advance.uconn.edu.