



## Dental Implant Center opens at Health Center

BY MAUREEN MCGUIRE

A new Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry has opened at the Health Center, with a team of nationally-recognized experts who provide a full range of dental implant services to improve health and enhance smiles with natural-looking replacement teeth.

Dr. Donald Somerville, an accomplished prosthodontist who trained at some of the best dental programs in the country, has been appointed director.

The new center, which opened in August, is part of the New England Musculoskeletal Institute. Located on the main level of the Health Center, it has eight state-of-the-art treatment rooms, and sophisticated equipment including a cone-beam tomography unit that quickly and precisely captures 3D and 2D images of jaws and teeth.

"We offer patients today's best technologies as well as the highest quality care from providers who are leaders in the field of dental implant therapy," says Somerville, who has lectured extensively to national and international professional organizations about new advances in dental implant techniques.

"In addition, our specialists with the New England Musculoskeletal Institute and the UConn School of Dental Medicine are leading innovative research initiatives to improve care," he says.

Somerville is not new to the Health Center. He is a 1997 graduate of the UConn School of Dental Medicine, where he received many awards including the Connecticut Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award and the American Academy of Oral Medicine Award.

After dental school, Somerville completed a certificate in general practice dentistry at Harvard University School of Dental Medicine and Brigham and Women's Hospital. While at Harvard, he served as director of the residency program in advanced education general dentistry.

He also received a master's of science in prosthodontics from Texas A&M University Health Science Center and Baylor College of Dentistry.

Somerville joins UConn from Toronto,

see *Dental implant center* page 5



PHOTO BY GAIL MERRILL

Production chef Amy Gronus, one of UConn's two beekeepers, collects honey from an extractor. The honey, part of the first crop produced in the University's own hives, will be used in marinades and sauces prepared in the dining halls.

## Expert on race and law says Constitution flawed

BY SHERRY FISHER

The United States Constitution should be celebrated, but its flaws must not be ignored, says internationally known legal theorist Charles J. Ogletree Jr.

Ogletree made his remarks Sept. 17 in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center's Konover Auditorium. His presentation, "From Slavery to Freedom? Reflections on Race Relations in America," was part of the University's celebration of Constitution Day.

Ogletree, a civil rights attorney and professor at the Harvard School of Law, is the author or co-author of several books on topics connected with race. He also serves

as co-chair of the Reparations Coordinating Committee, a group researching a lawsuit based upon a claim of reparations for descendants of African slaves.

"The Constitution is an impressive document, but deeply flawed from the beginning, because it did not address the issue of race," Ogletree said.

In 1787, when the founding fathers of the nation used the words of the preamble of the Constitution, 'We the people ...,' they did not have in mind the majority of Americans," Ogletree said.

The Supreme Court's decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* in 1857 found even free

slaves ineligible for U.S. citizenship, he said, noting that Chief Justice Roger Taney said Scott would never have rights because he was from Africa.

"His chilling line was, 'negroes are so inferior that they have no rights which whites are bound to respect,'" said Ogletree.

Even after the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments were added to the Constitution, Blacks were still marginalized, Ogletree said. Poll taxes, grandfather clauses, and literacy tests that had nothing to do with voting precluded people from exercising

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PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Cheerleading head coach Neal Kearney evaluates a tryout for the next Jonathan mascot.

## Physics department to host three Nobelists

BY CINDY WEISS

Three Nobel Prize winners in physics will lecture here this fall, starting with David M. Lee on Sept. 26, a 1996 Nobel Prize winner who received his master's degree in physics at UConn in 1955.

He is considered an expert on liquid helium and the research on it during the past 100 years.

Lee, the James Gilbert White Distinguished Professor in the Physical Sciences emeritus at Cornell University, will lecture on "One Hundred Years of Superfluidity," at 4 p.m. on Sept. 26 in the Gant Science Complex, Room P036.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the liquefaction of helium by Kammerlingh Onnes in Leiden, Holland, which led to Onnes's discovery of superconductivity in 1911.

"Superfluidity is a strange form of matter predicted by quantum mechanics," says Barrett Wells, associate professor of physics. In this form, liquid can even flow uphill out of a beaker.

Superfluidity was first discovered in helium 4, the most common helium isotope, in 1937. Lee and his co-workers showed that superfluidity also exists in helium 3. This was previously not thought to be possible, because of the uneven number of basic particles in its nucleus. In 1996, Lee shared the physics Nobel Prize for his work on helium 3.

Lee's talk is the Charles Reynolds Lecture, named for a former physics professor at UConn with whom Lee studied.

Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, who shared the Nobel Prize for Physics

in 1997, will deliver two talks here, on Oct. 1 and Oct. 3. Tannoudji, who was born in Algeria when it was part of France, is a professor at the College de France and is associated with the École Normale Supérieure in Paris.

On Oct. 1 at 4 p.m. in the Gant Science Complex, Room P038, he will deliver a technical talk on "Manipulating Helium Atoms, from Optical Pumping to Bose-Einstein Condensation."

This is the Hascoe Lecture, named for the late Norman Hascoe of Greenwich, Conn. The Hascoe lecture is aimed at informing undergraduates about frontier areas of science, but it is also open to the public.

Cohen-Tannoudji will give a second lecture, more suited to a general audience: the Pollack Distinguished Lecture on Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. in the Gant Science Complex, Room P038. He will speak on "Measuring Time with Ultracold Atoms: Achievements and Perspectives."

Ultracold atoms, which are a promising tool for building highly exact atomic clocks, are atoms with a temperature just a few hundred billionths of a degree above absolute zero. Cohen-Tannoudji will discuss the possibilities that ultracold atoms have opened for atomic clocks, says his host for the lecture, Susanne Yelin, associate professor of physics.

The Pollack Distinguished Lecture is an endowed lecture series named for the late Edward Pollack, who was a longtime professor of physics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The third physics Nobelists to

speak here this fall, Albert Fert, will deliver the Katzenstein Distinguished Lecture in Physics on Oct. 24 at 4 p.m. in the Gant Science Complex, Room P036. Fert is professor of physics at the Université Paris-Sud and scientific director at the French national laboratory, the Unité Mixte de Physique CNRS-Thales in Orsay.

He shared last year's physics Nobel Prize for the discovery of giant magnetoresistance (GMR), the effect that has fueled a dramatic increase in the capacity of computer hard drives and has led to the development of a new field of research known as spintronics. This was the first Nobel Prize awarded in the emerging field of nanoscience.

Fert will talk about his discovery of the GMR phenomenon in 1988, and the research and applications leading from it. One of the potential applications of spintronics is to combine storage and processing in computers into a single unit. This would lead to "a paradigm shift in information technology," says Boris Sinkovic, associate professor of physics.

The Katzenstein Distinguished Lecture is an endowed annual lecture named for the late Henry Katzenstein, who in 1954 received the first doctoral degree in physics at UConn. He was a fellow graduate student here with David Lee.

He later co-founded a California semiconductor company, and in 1996 he established an endowment that funds the annual lecture and a student prize in his name. Lee was the first Katzenstein lecturer in 1997, the year after he received the Nobel Prize.

## Invasive plants symposium scheduled for Oct. 1

A symposium on invasive plants will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 1, in the Rome Ballroom, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

The event, *Cherish Our Natural Heritage: Managing Invasives to Promote Native Diversity*, will celebrate native plants, animals, and ecosystems of Connecticut; describe threats posed by invasive species; and provide tools for managing invasive plants.

The keynote address, "A Case for Native Plants," will be given by Professor Doug Tallamy, chair of the University of Delaware Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, and author of *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens*.

Additional morning presentations will highlight new invasive plants, legislative updates, and weed management areas. Afternoon topics include organic control, Connecticut's invaded woodlands, aquatic invasive plants, invasive plant management projects, managing native grassland

habitats, and non-plant invaders.

The event is open to the public. Registration is \$55 including lunch, or \$25 for students with ID. Pre-registration (post-marked by Sept. 24) is recommended. Visit the web site to see if there is room for walk-ins (lunch is not guaranteed).

For more information, go to [www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg](http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg) or call 860-486-6448.

The symposium is presented by the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group, and funded in part by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

The Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group is a consortium of individuals, organizations, and agencies concerned with invasive species issues. Co-chairs are Donna Ellis, senior cooperative extension educator-in-residence in the Department of Plant Science, and Les Mehrhoff, a research associate in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

## Darwin biographer to speak

Janet Browne, author of an award-winning two-volume biography of Charles Darwin, will lead off the Charles Darwin Bicentennial Colloquium Series on Thursday, Sept. 25, with a lecture at 4 p.m. at Konover Auditorium.

Browne will speak on "The Life and Times of Charles Darwin."

She is the Aramont Professor of the History of Science at Harvard University and the author of

*Charles Darwin: Voyaging* (1996) and *Charles Darwin: The Power of Place* (2003).

The Darwin colloquium series marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of the Species*. For a full list of lectures in the series, go to the Year of Science web site, <http://clas.uconn.edu/yearofscience>.

## Correction

In an article about the Year of Science in the Sept. 15 *Advance*, it was incorrectly reported that Marie Curie was the only winner of two Nobel Prizes. Others who have won two Nobel Prizes include scientists John Bardeen, Linus Pauling, and Frederick Sanger.

## Advance

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# Police officers engage, educate University community

BY KAREN A. GRAVA

Christopher Casa may spend more time in a classroom than a professor, but he's not on the faculty. And most of what he is teaching might be called "street smarts."

A sergeant in the internationally accredited UConn police department and the head of UConn's community policing program, Casa concentrates on teaching students, faculty, and staff about safety.

"My job is to break down the mystery of what the police do," he says. Along with his colleague, Officer Thomas Ryba, Casa offers seminars and talks on a variety of topics, from workplace violence to sexual assault, drinking and driving, drugs, vandalism, and bike safety.

"We teach people when to call 911, how to spot suspicious behavior, how to report a crime, and what to expect from the police," he says. "We want to take the mystery out of what we do and keep the lines of communication with the students, faculty, and staff open."

It's important for the UConn community to realize that they can call 911 if necessary, Casa says. People also need to be able to state exactly where they are – say, in the northeast corner of a building.

"The goal of a 911 call is to paint a visual picture of what's happen-

ing," he says. "The bottom line is to stay safe."

Casa and Ryba maintain community police offices in the Fine Arts Building and the Student Union and teach a First-Year Experience course. They also offer a special six-hour program that includes a tour of the police department's building on North Eagleville Road, and they explain exactly what the police department does.

It is not unusual for them to be involved with 700 students in 30 classes during a single semester.

Most of the time, students are shocked to discover that their seminar leader is a police officer.

"Being an actual police officer is not like it is on television," he says.

When he's not teaching, Casa may patrol on foot, bicycle, or car; but most of the time, his job is to educate people rather than respond to calls made to the police department.

"My door is always open to people who have questions," he says. The most common question, he adds, is "How do you become a police officer?"

The sites of the community police offices were chosen so the police would be visible and so people in high traffic areas would have a way to approach the police easily.

Ironically, much of what Casa knows about community policing,

he learned on the streets of New York. As a New York City police officer for nearly three years, the Long Island native found himself working in neighborhoods with diverse cultures. There, he developed relationships with business owners and residents.

Casa, who has a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Potsdam and a

master's degree from Eastern Connecticut State University, decided in high school that he wanted to be a police officer. But on the streets of New York, he figured out he would prefer to work for a smaller department, where he would have more control over a case and could work on something from start to finish.

He already had ties to UConn,

where his brother, Douglas Casa, is an associate professor of kinesiology, and his sister-in-law, Tutita, an assistant professor of educational psychology.

But the real lure was the students. "In New York City, I was one of 40,000 police officers," he says. "Here, I am part of a smaller force and I can concentrate on students, faculty, and staff."



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Sgt. Christopher Casa, a community police officer, with his bike at the Student Union Mall.

## Faculty, students assess quality of library services

BY SUZANNE ZACK

Homer Babbidge Library is busier than ever. Last semester during finals, an attendance record was set when almost 12,000 people streamed through its doors during one 24-hour period. And in early September, in response to user requests, the library began opening a half-hour earlier at 7:30 a.m. on weekdays.

While clearly popular, just how satisfied are users with the quality of library service they're receiving? Very satisfied, according to a new survey conducted last spring. Library users gave the library staff high marks for being consistently courteous and willing to help, understanding their needs, and providing individual attention.

Users were also pleased with the library's community space for group learning and group study.

Approximately 3,000 members of the UConn community representing all academic programs across the Storrs and the regional campuses participated in the LibQUAL web-based survey, which is sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries. The survey is designed to gather faculty and student assessment of

library service.

Overall, faculty and students gave the library high satisfaction marks in the survey (7.38 on a 9-point scale). Results showed that faculty are the library's most satisfied user group (7.58), followed by graduate students (7.40).

**"The library uses data generated from this process ... to upgrade service and collections."**

**Brinley Franklin**  
Vice provost for University Libraries

UConn's overall satisfaction score ranked sixth highest among 14 other Association of Research Libraries member libraries that participated in this year's survey. This year's overall score was slightly higher than in 2004, the last time that UConn participated.

Survey results showed that faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates are most interested in having library resources available from home or office.

Faculty and graduate students also expressed interest in having a library web site that allows users to find information independently and in electronic resources and journal collections to support academic and research needs. Undergraduates, on the other hand, wanted modern equipment to access information; comfortable space; and easy-to-use access tools to find information.

Among areas cited as needing improvement were: a library web site allowing self service; adequate print and electronic resources; quiet space for individual activities; modern equipment; easy-to-use access tools to enhance self-service; and additional electronic resources.

"The library uses data generated from this process, along with other library user survey and assessment efforts, to upgrade service and collections," says Brinley Franklin, vice provost for University Libraries. He cites expanded library hours, an expanded selection of electronic reference books, and additions to electronic journal offerings as some of the improvements made in response to survey results.

"In the past four years, we've designated the fourth floor and now Level A as quiet study spaces; redesigned level 1 in Babbidge Library with the vice provost for undergraduate education as a Learning Commons to provide technology and academic support for undergraduates; expanded Bookworms Café; and we now permit food and covered drinks in the building. We've also expanded hours, including round-the-clock access during final exams," Franklin says.

Participation in the survey was voluntary, and respondents were offered an option to enter their e-mail addresses into a drawing for one of three video iPods. The winners were: Matthew Singer, an assistant professor of political science; Sarah Livings, an undergraduate student majoring in pharmacy; and Jason Hoagland, a recent M.B.A. graduate.

The full survey results may be viewed at: [www.lib.uconn.edu/about/administration/surveys/](http://www.lib.uconn.edu/about/administration/surveys/) Information about the LibQual survey can be found at: [www.libqual.org/](http://www.libqual.org/)

## Nominations sought for Commencement speakers

Members of the University community are invited to submit nominations for Commencement speakers and recipients of honorary degrees at the University's Commencement ceremonies in December 2008 and May 2009.

Nominations may be made by any member of the faculty, staff, student body, administration, community, or Board of Trustees, or by an alumnus of the University. An individual may not nominate herself or himself.

All nominations should be made and kept in strict confidence.

To submit a nomination, please download the materials from the Board of Trustees web site for Board Committees: <http://board-oftrustees.uconn.edu/committees/> Scroll down to "Honors & Awards" and click on "Nomination Materials." Please note the list of supporting information – given at this web site – that is requested with the submission of a nomination form.

Nomination materials must be received no later than Oct. 20, at the Office of the President, Guley Hall, Unit 2048, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269.

Questions regarding nominations may be directed to the Office of the President at 860-486-2337.

## Family studies professor named honors faculty member of year



PHOTO BY JANICE BERRIAULT

Steve Wisensale, professor of human development and family studies, with Samantha Sherwood, an honors student who graduated recently.

BY SHERRY FISHER

If there is one thing that Steve Wisensale hopes students will take away from his classes, it's a love of learning.

"Once they leave UConn, the subject matter might fade, but I want them to be excited about learning new things," says Wisensale, a professor of human development and family studies.

Wisensale teaches courses on family policy, family law, comparative family policy, and aging

policy. He also advises students, including those working on their honors theses.

He was recognized for his efforts last spring when honors students selected him as Honors Council Faculty Member of the Year. The award recognizes an honors faculty member for his or her exemplary work in providing an exceptional educational experience for honors students.

Wisensale says he enjoys brainstorming with honors students.

"They come to you with a seed of an idea for doing a thesis, for example, and sometimes all they have is a word or a phrase," he says. "It's fun to just talk to them and get them thinking and steer them in the right direction."

He says when students start exploring an idea, they come back to him for advice.

"It's exciting for me to see how far I can take them, and in what directions," he says. "It's especially rewarding when their thesis is

complete, and you see the poster and final product."

Wisensale says one of the tools he uses with students is visualization.

"I'm big on having them visualize scenarios," he says. "I tell them, 'Sit down and picture your thesis in a three-ring binder. You open the cover and you're going to see a title page. What does the title page say? Then you're going to turn the page and you'll see a table of contents. What do you see there?'"

Visualization helps students put their ideas into a framework, he says.

He says he tries to generate intellectual curiosity by creating puzzles. "I hope these will arouse their interest, and I encourage them and reinforce whatever intellectual curiosity they bring to the class," he says.

Samantha Sherwood, who graduated in May, was in several of Wisensale's classes. He was also the advisor for her honors thesis.

"Professor Wisensale teaches every course like an honors course," she says. "He has high expectations, but also encourages students to think creatively and express their thoughts, opinions, and unique perspectives on the material being taught."

As an advisor of honors theses, Sherwood says Wisensale "consistently sets the bar high for his students. He challenges them to explore their intellectual ability and tackle research projects that may not have a clear path."

He cultivates students' interests, Sherwood says, whether it's forwarding a newspaper article that

someone might enjoy, or having a debate with a student in his office. "Professor Wisensale always has his students and their futures in mind," she says.

Colleen Deasy, another former student who graduated in May, says Wisensale was concerned about students and easy to approach. "He took the time to get to know us," she says.

Wisensale says it's important to get to a point in life where work and fun become one. "I think that the sooner you can do that, the better off you are," he says. "That's what I tell my students."

The recipient of several teaching awards, Wisensale is the author of more than 75 journal articles, book chapters, and policy briefs, and has published three books, including *Family Leave Policy: the Political Economy of Work and Family in America*.

He has held two Fulbright Fellowships – one in Germany, the other in the Czech Republic – and is a former Research Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America. He was a consultant to the United Nations on the world's aging population and, over the years, he has served on seven state task forces in Connecticut.

Wisensale is a Senior Scholar at the Council on Contemporary Families, a private non-profit, non-partisan research organization based at the University of Illinois-Chicago that produces policy briefs on a variety of family issues. He is also a Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations.

## Business professor teaches marketing concepts in Peru

BY DAVID BAUMAN

Teaching marketing research skills is a challenge under the best of circumstances, but even more so when the students live in a nation that is politically volatile and where counterfeit products dominate the marketplace.

That was the setting for Narasimhan Srinivasan, an associate professor of marketing in UConn's School of Business, who recently spent six weeks in Lima, Peru, teaching executives and MBA students new marketing concepts and consumer survey strategies as a Fulbright Senior Specialist.

He was among some 30 U.S. business faculty awarded the prestigious grants to teach their specialties at institutions across the globe this summer.

Srinivasan, who has extensive experience in short-term academic exchanges including a previous Fulbright scholarship to Canada, says he was specifically recruited by Peru's ESAN University, the oldest and No. 1 ranked business school in South America.

During his stay, he taught a course on survey research, a research seminar on cross cultural strategies, developed marketing

course syllabi, evaluated a new undergraduate marketing program ESAN plans to launch this fall, and conducted some research.

His classes were delivered in English but simultaneously translated into Spanish.

Peru is one of the poorest countries in Latin America. A small elite controls most of the wealth and political power, and the country has long alternated between democracy and military dictatorship. It remains deeply divided politically, Srinivasan says.

In the past 20 years, hyperinflation – as high as 7,500 percent – fueled a Maoist guerrilla insurgency that forced many Peruvians to flee the country. Despite the near destruction of the Shining Path and Tupac Amaru guerrilla groups, violence is still a problem and has been linked to the drug trade.

Srinivasan says Peruvians face a lot of uncertainty about the stability of their political system.

"Many in my classes in Peru have family members living in the United States," he says. "They left during the 90s when the political environment was very volatile and terrorism was rampant."

"After two decades of turmoil,"



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Narasimhan Srinivasan, associate professor of marketing, in the School of Business. Srinivasan taught in Peru this summer on a Fulbright.

he adds, "Lima looks chaotic but has pockets of great prosperity. You see razor wire and hired security guards surrounding many communities. It's unnerving."

Despite this, he says his students were "incredibly hard working."

Many of his classes were held at night, because most of the students

worked by day.

"They are eager to understand new marketing techniques and become more entrepreneurial," he says.

Doing business in Peru poses considerable hurdles, however. Srinivasan estimates that 95 percent of the books, music, videos,

and computer games he saw in Lima were pirated versions of intellectual property.

"The people say they can't afford the copyrighted version of the products," he says.

In addition, the "formal" market of legal goods is very small when compared to the "informal" sector, he says. In Lima's garment district, for example, many types of counterfeited high-end apparel, such as Lacoste shirts, are made by seamstresses working in sweatshop conditions.

Srinivasan says he expects his experience in Peru will benefit his students at UConn.

"As Americans, we are on the learning curve as global citizens and need to be taken out of our cocoon," says Srinivasan, who emigrated to the U.S. from India and has been on the faculty of the School of Business since 1987.

"Because of globalization, we cannot afford to be isolationist," he adds. "We need to understand why business people in countries such as Peru are doing what they are doing. I hope to help my students think again about difficult issues of culture and society, such as the benefits of open business relationships in a global world."

# English professor's memoir captures her life, work in essays

BY COLIN POITRAS

As a Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of English and the University's first Aetna Chair of Writing, Lynn Z. Bloom has been a pioneer in the field of composition studies for more than 20 years.

So it's no surprise that Bloom's first autobiographical work – *The Seven Deadly Virtues and Other Lively Essays – Coming of Age as a Writer, Teacher, Risk Taker*, (University of South Carolina Press, 2008) – celebrates her iconoclastic style.

Bloom's memoir is a compilation of 15 colorful essays – some 18 years in the making – that describe her trials as a chronic nonconformist and female scholar; her Christian parents' vehement opposition to her marrying a man of Jewish descent; and her life as a teacher, wife, mother, and grandmother. Her warm personal tales are laced with humorous, insightful, and often inspirational accounts of the risks and rewards she encountered as an artist living and writing on the edge.

Whether writing about picking blueberries in New England; coping with FBI wiretaps while authoring the first biography of famed pediatrician and peace activist Dr. Benjamin Spock; or her experience as an adjunct professor working with a desk next to a cat litter box, Bloom doesn't miss an opportunity to enlighten, instruct, and entertain.

A master essayist known for her lively and provocative writing style, Bloom believes the traditional structures surrounding academic expression – her seven deadly virtues – stifle personal creativity and subvert the mis-



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Lynn Bloom, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of English and Aetna Chair of Writing, in her office.

sion of education. She pleads with her students and readers to avoid the traps inherent in the “deadly virtues” of duty, rationality, conformity, efficiency, order, economy, and punctuality so often affiliated with academic prose.

“I am not out to supplant virtue with vice, though that is always tempting,” Bloom writes in the book's introduction, “but to propose, in essay after essay, an alternative set of lively virtues to replace the deadly.

“Duty and helpfulness have their place, though I have busted up more than one romance and quit more than one job over issues of servility, sexism, and second-

class citizenship,” Bloom continues in the book's opening lines. “I would augment these with *anger* and *defiance*.”

Her other “alternate” virtues are honesty, risk-taking, independence of mind and spirit, originality, rigor, energy, and having fun.

“One of the things that I would like people to take away from the book is to feel that they can take risks,” Bloom says. “In my mind, I am always taking risks. I don't think you ever grow intellectually if you don't take risks. ... If I had done what my professors had told me to do, I wouldn't have had a very good time. I might have gotten a job, but it wouldn't have been

original and I wouldn't have been happy.”

Taking risks does not mean being irresponsible, however, Bloom says. She is both serious and disciplined about her work. One of her specialties is creative nonfiction – an art that requires great skill in developing the traditional narrative writing styles of plot, dialogue, character development, and tension within the confines of hard and true fact, she says.

“I learned to write from Dr. Seuss, which means writing ought to be fun,” Bloom says. “And I learned from Dr. (William) Strunk Jr. and E.B. White, which means writing ought to be clear.

“I also learned from Dr. Spock,” she adds. “His point was that if you don't write clearly, someone could die. If you don't write clearly, your idea could die; you could cause some horrendous misunderstanding.”

Once challenged for her innovative essay style, Bloom says she is now being called upon to write personal essays for academic journals looking to diversify.

“I find that heartening, because it validates a lot of what I've been trying to do with routine academic submissions for the past 20 years,” she says.

The author of 28 books and more than 150 articles, Bloom is preparing to release four more publications in the coming year. One of them, *The Essay Canon*, is about the evolutionary history of the essay, its rise and fall and recent resurrection as a distinguished literary art form. She has been working on it for 14 years. She is also working on a book about the rhetoric of food writing.

Lynn Bloom is married to Martin Bloom, professor emeritus of social work. They have two sons, Bard and Laird, and three grandchildren.

Bloom's other works include: *Doctor Spock: Biography of a Conservative Radical*, *Composition Studies as a Creative Art*, and *Writers without Borders*. Her essay “(Im) Patient” was named a Notable American Essay of 2005 in *Best American Essays* (Houghton Mifflin, 2006).

Audio clips of Bloom discussing her life and work are available at [advance.uconn.edu](http://advance.uconn.edu).

Bloom will read from her book at the UConn Co-op on Oct. 1 at 4 p.m.

## Dental implant center continued from page 1

where he had an active maxillofacial and prosthodontic practice. He was on the dental staff at Princess Margaret Hospital, and was an associate in dentistry at the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry.

UConn has been at the forefront of dental implant care, education, and research for many years. The new Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry will support many research initiatives, including NIH-funded projects, to improve dental implant and restorative techniques, promote bone growth, and develop new materials for implant prostheses. It brings together research initiatives from both the School of Dental Medicine and the New England Musculoskeletal Institute, the Health Center's signature program in bone biology.

“This new center will facilitate our faculty's ability to provide superb care, as well as the ability to perform cutting-edge research that will also benefit our patients,” says Dr. Jay Lieberman, director of the New England Musculoskeletal

Institute and professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Dental implants are long-term, natural-looking tooth replacements. Unlike dentures or bridges, the implant is surgically implanted in the patient's jaw bone and supports the replacement tooth or bridge. The surgical implant process typically spans between three to six months, depending on the patient's specific needs.

National and local studies, including a survey completed in 2007 by UConn's Center for Survey Research and Analysis, report very high patient satisfaction rates with dental implants. Many patients reported increased comfort and confidence with talking, chewing, or smiling.

More information about the Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry is available at [dentalimplants.uhc.edu](http://dentalimplants.uhc.edu) or [nemsi.uhc.edu](http://nemsi.uhc.edu).

To make an appointment, call 860-679-7600.



PHOTO BY LANNY NAGLER

Dr. Donald Somerville, director of the new Center for Implant and Reconstructive Dentistry at the UConn Health Center.

Students play mini golf at the "Conn Carnival" on Sept. 17. The event was sponsored by the Student Union Board of Governors.

PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER



## GRANTS

The following grants were received through the UConn Health Center's Office of Grants and Contracts in June 2008. 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.

Principal Investigator	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
<b>Federal</b>				
Adler, A.	Immunology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$303,467	06/04-05/09
<i>Mechanisms of Effector CD4 Cell Tolerization</i>				
Bernstein, L.	Neuroscience	National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders	\$310,412	06/07-05/09
<i>Comparisons of Binaural Processing at Low &amp; High Frequencies</i>				
Dodge-Kafka, K.	The Pat & Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center	National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute	\$357,639	06/-06-05/09
<i>mAKAP-Orchestrated Phosphorylation Events: Regulation of PDE4D3</i>				
Fedele, F.	Center for Vascular Biology	U.S. Army	\$32,376	06/08-05/09
<i>Sphingosine 1 Phosphate in Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Premetastatic Site - Breast Cancer</i>				
Goldschneider, I.	Immunology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$337,185	06/04-05/09
<i>A Thymus-Bone Marrow Feedback Loop for Prothymocytes</i>				
Hewett, J.	Neuroscience	National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke	\$161,875	06/07-05/09
<i>Analysis of Cox-2 as a Therapeutic Target in Acquired Epilepsy</i>				
Mains, R.	Neuroscience	National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases	\$302,720	06/08-05/09
<i>Cell Biology of Bioactive Peptide Secretion</i>				
Maulik, N.	Surgery	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute	\$359,270	06/06-05/09
<i>Mechanism of Myocardial Angiogenesis in Transgenic/Knockout Animals</i>				
Petry, N.	Psychiatry	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$415,240	06/05-05/09
<i>Vouchers vs. Prizes: Contingency Management</i>				
Petry, N.	Psychiatry	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$343,387	06/08-04/09
<i>Healthy Activities for Prize Incentives</i>				
Puddington, L.	Immunology	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute	\$343,715	09/04-05/09
<i>Dendritic Cell Function in Early Allergic Sensitization</i>				
Schiller, M.	Molecular, Microbial & Structural Biology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$148,000	06/08-05/09
<i>Identification of Short Functional Motifs as Potential Drug Targets for HIV</i>				
Srivastava, P.	Immunology	National Cancer Institute	\$309,344	03/04-02/09
<i>Receptor for GP96 on Macrophages and Dendritic Cells</i>				
Thrall, R.	Immunology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$317,646	06/04-05/09
<i>Regulatory T Cells Induced Tolerance in Murine Asthma</i>				

Xue-Jun, L. Neuroscience National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke \$120,000 12/07-02/09  
*Generation of Cortical Motoneurons from Embryonic Stem Cells*

Yue, L. The Pat & Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute \$350,827 06/05-05/09  
*CA2+ Signaling Mechanisms in Cardiac Fibrosis*

### Private

Albertsen, P. Surgery Cancer Therapy & Research Center Research Foundation \$1,340 09/01-05/13  
*Selenium & Vitamin E Chemoprevention Trial DHHS 80003*

Cloutier, M. Pediatrics Norwalk Hospital \$32,000 08/07-06/09  
*Norwalk Hospital Asthma*

Finck, C. Pediatrics Conn. Children's Medical Center \$57,023 07/07-06/08  
*Finck Research Support*

\*Hand, A. Craniofacial Sciences Univ. of Rochester \$24,131 04/06-03/09  
*Mechanisms-Anion Transport in Salivary Glands*

Hawke, J. Psychiatry Child Health & Development Institute of Conn. \$85,498 02/08-09/08  
*Conn. Family & Community Partnership Wraparound Project*

Hesselbrock, V. Psychiatry Conn. Association for Community Action \$30,000 11/06-12/09  
*Connecticut Association for Community Action Social Services Accessibility Initiative*

\*Hla, T. Center for Vascular Biology Vanderbilt Univ. \$178,218 05/08-04/09  
*Mechanisms for Chemoprevention of Cancer*

Kurtzman, S. Surgery Univ. of Pittsburgh \$500 06/95-05/09  
*NSABP Breast Cancer Prevention Trial DHHS P5400-5425*

Lieberman, J. Orthopedics Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation \$93,417 07/07-07/08  
*Regional Gene Therapy*

McCullough, L. Neurology American Heart Association \$2,000 06/08-10/08  
*The Neuroprotective Effects of Q-VD-OPh in PARP Knockout Mice*

Pachter, J. Center for Vascular Biology American Heart Association \$21,000 07/08-06/09  
*Brain Regional Angiogenic Potential in the Aging Cerebral Microvasculature*

### State

Garibaldi, R. Medicine Conn. Department of Public Health \$17,368 11/07-06/09  
*Healthcare Associated Infections*

Palley, J. Obstetrics & Gynecology Conn. Department of Public Health \$60,000 07/08-06/09  
*New Britain Fetal and Infant Mortality Review*

\*Denotes federal funds that are awarded to other institutions and "passed through" to the UConn Health Center.

## CALENDAR Monday, September 22, to Monday, September 29

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, Sept. 29 through Monday, Oct. 6. Those items must be in the database by 4 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 22. If you need special accommodations to participate in events, call 860-486-2943 (Storrs), or 860-679-3563 (Farmington), or 860-570-5130 (Law School).

### Academics

#### Through Monday, 9/22 –

Examinations for course credit by examination.

**Tuesday, 9/23** – Dean's signature required to add courses.

### Libraries

**Homer Babbidge Library.** Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 a.m.

**Dodd Center.** Monday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m.; closed Sunday.

**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.** 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.** Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed weekends.

**Greater Hartford Campus Library.** Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Sunday.

**Stamford Campus Library.** Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Sunday.

### Torrington Campus Library.

Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; closed Friday-Sunday.

### Waterbury Campus Library.

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed weekends.

### University ITS

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

### Meetings

**Tuesday, 9/23 – Board of Trustees.** 1 p.m., Avery Point Campus.

### Lectures & Seminars

**Monday, 9/22 – Gene & Georgia Mittelman Contemporary Jewish Life Lecture.** "To Joy! Ecclesiastes, Thoreau, and Annie Dillard," by T.A. Perry. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium.

**Tuesday, 9/23 – Puerto Rican & Latin American Cultural Center Lecture.** "Hispanic Activism: Why other Immigrant Groups Must Not Forget," by Stephen Balkran. 4:30 p.m., Puerto Rican & Latin American Cultural Center, Student Union.

**Tuesday, 9/23 – African American Cultural Center Lecture.** "Swagger Like Us: Young People, Hip-Hop, & Political Engagement," by Jeffrey Ogbar. 6 p.m., Rome Commons Community Room. Free admission.

**Wednesday, 9/24 – Rainbow Center Lecture.** "Gay Male Victims of Domestic Violence," by Curt Rogers, Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project. Noon-1:30 p.m., Room 403, Student Union.

**Wednesday, 9/24 – Litchfield County Writers Project Discussion.** "Avow," with Bill Davis, author, and Davyne Verstandig. 6:30 p.m., Hogan Lecture Hall, M. Adela Eads Building, Torrington Campus.

**Thursday, 9/25 – Comparative Pathology Seminar.** "Ethical Issues in Neonatology," presented by Dr. Mark Mercurio, Yale University School of Medicine. 11 a.m.-noon, Room A001, Atwater Laboratory.

**Thursday, 9/25 – Charles Darwin Bicentennial Colloquium.**

"Commemorating Darwin: 1809 to 2009," by Janet Browne, Harvard University. 4 p.m., Konover

Auditorium.

**Friday, 9/26 – Environmental Engineering Seminar.** "Conditioning Stochastic Rainfall Replicates on Remote Sensing Data," by Rafal Wojcik, MIT. Noon, Room 212, Castleman Building.

### Exhibits

**Through Wednesday, 9/17 – Health Center.** *Four Seasons of the Valley*, photography by Carol Lowbeer. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine Lobbies. Also, through Wednesday, 9/24, *Recent Paintings*, by Donald Moss, and *Real Tales*, paintings by Janice Hechter. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Celeste LeWitt Gallery.

**Thursday, 9/18 through Thursday, 11/20 – Health Center.** Works by Linda Tenukas. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine Lobbies.

**Through Sunday, 10/5 – Student Union Art Gallery.** *Identity, Visions, Transformations; Imprints*, by Victor Pacheco & Marena Zacarias. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Opening reception and artist talk 9/25, 5 p.m.

**Through Friday, 10/10 – Babbidge Library.** *Migration Route, a Journey Through Art*, collage photographs by George Jacobi, Gallery on the Plaza;

*4 in Prints* by Claudia Fieo, Margot Rocklen, Kim Tester, and Carmela Venti, Stevens Gallery; *A Reason to Remember, Roth, Germany, 1933-1942*. West Alcove. For hours, see Libraries section.

**Through Friday, 10/10 – Dodd Center.** *Celebrating the Sculptural Book: The Challenge of Structure*. For hours, see Libraries section.

**Through Friday, 10/10 – Contemporary Art Galleries.**

*Alumni Biennial (One)*. Hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Fine Arts Building.

**Through Sunday, 11/2 – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery.** *Latin Views 2008*, 38 Latin artists from 15 different countries. Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free to members and students, all others \$3 donation. Branford House Mansion, Avery Point Campus.

**Through Sunday, 11/30 – The Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry.** *Puppets through the Lens*. Depot Campus, Friday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Free admission, donations welcome.

**Through Friday, 12/19 – Benton Museum.** *Sera: The Way of the Tibetan Monk*; also, *The Photographs of Sheila Rock*. Also, through Sunday, 10/12, 43rd annual art department faculty exhibition. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday &

Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m. On 9/23, Ray DiCapua will give a gallery talk on the art faculty exhibition, 12:15-12:45 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.

### Performing Arts

**Friday, 9/26 – Faculty Recital.** Harp recital by Megan Sesma. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free admission.

### Films

**Monday, 9/29 – Puppet Film.** Handmade Puppet Dreams, Volume II, by Heather Henson. 7:30 p.m., Student Union. Free admission. Athletics

**Thursday, 9/25 – Women's Soccer** vs. USF. 7 p.m., Morrone Stadium.

**Friday, 9/26 – Women's Ice Hockey** vs. Dawson Blues. 7 p.m., Freitas Ice Forum.

**Friday, 9/26 – Women's Volleyball** vs. Louisville. 7 p.m., Gampel Pavilion.

**Saturday, 9/27 – Women's Ice Hockey** vs. Sacred Heart. 4 p.m., Freitas Ice Forum.

**Sunday, 9/28 – Women's Volleyball** vs. Cincinnati. 2 p.m., Gampel Pavilion.

### Potpourri

**Tuesday, 9/23 – Career Fair 2008.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Gampel Pavilion.

**Tuesday, 9/23 – Literary Reading.** Zakes Mda, South African playwright and novelist, will read from his work. 6 p.m., UConn Co-op.

**Thursday, 9/25 – Literary Reading.** Reading by Jonas Zdanys, Lithuanian poet and translator, followed by a book-signing. 6:30 p.m., UConn Co-op.

**Friday, 9/26 through Sunday, 9/28 – Biodiversity Weekend for Adults.** Ages 16 and up. Pre-registration required: \$200 for members, \$300 for non-members. Call 860-486-4460 for more information.

**Mondays – Al-Anon.** Twelve-step meeting. Noon-12:50 p.m. For more information, call 860-486-9431.



PHOTO FROM THE HEALTH CENTER AUXILIARY WEB SITE

"Morning Light," a painting by Linda Tenukas, is on display at the Health Center through Nov. 20. See Exhibits.

# Researchers studying effect of incentives on treatment for smoking

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

A research team at the Health Center is examining whether adding incentives to a treatment program will help people give up smoking.

Sheila Alessi, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and her collaborators are studying whether an incentive-based behavioral intervention known as contingency management can improve outcomes among patients using varenicline, an approved medication for smoking cessation. Contingency management is a type of treatment in which patients receive incentives or prizes for "good" behavior – in this case, not smoking.

"If a behavioral therapy such as contingency management can improve early response to varenicline," says Alessi, "more patients may achieve abstinence, which should be associated with long-term abstinence and health benefits."

Tobacco use is the single most avoidable cause of death in the

U.S. According to data from the state Department of Public Health, smoking kills more than 5,000 in Connecticut every year, yet more than 25 percent of the state's population smoke. Nearly 70 percent of smokers want to quit, but each year fewer than 3 percent of them are successful.



PHOTO BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

Sheila Alessi, assistant professor of psychiatry.

Participants in the study will be divided into two groups. One group will receive brief smoking cessation counseling with varenicline. The second group will receive the same brief counseling and varenicline, plus the chance to win prizes if their breath and urine samples test negative for cigarette smoking. The number of draws from a prize bowl increases as long as the participant continues to test negative over the 24-week study.

The prize bowl contains about 500 cards, half of which are winning cards, according to Alessi. The prizes range from small toiletries, snacks, or coffee shop gift certificates, to tool kits, compact disc players, and prepaid telephone cards. One card in the prize bowl offers a \$100 prize such as a DVD player, a television, or a stereo. The cards are replaced after each drawing so the probabilities remain constant.

Contingency management treatment has been around since the late 1980s, and over the years opinion about the technique has

shifted. Alessi's co-investigator in the study, behavioral psychologist Nancy Petry, has been studying the technique for more than a decade.

"At first, therapists were horrified at the thought of rewarding substance abusers for abstaining," says Petry.

But as therapists use the technique and see it work in practice, support has grown dramatically, she says. A recent nationally-based survey of more than 900 treatment programs found that nearly a quarter have begun implementing contingency management.

Another component of the smoking cessation study is measuring blood pressure before, during, and after the study. The participants will wear a small portable device that takes regular blood pressure and heart rate readings over 24-hour periods.

"We expect that CM-treated patients will achieve greater decreases in blood pressure, and that reductions in blood pressure will correlate with smoking abstinence," says Alessi.

She also notes that the benefits of the research should extend to patients' families, friends, and co-workers, who are vulnerable to the health risks associated with second-hand smoke.

The economic cost of smoking to the nation is high: nearly \$3,400 per smoker per year. In Connecticut alone, this amounts to more than \$1.7 billion annually, according to data from the state Department of Public Health. Every pack of cigarettes sold in the U.S. costs an estimated \$7.18 in medical care and lost productivity.

Alessi's research is being funded through a grant from the Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation. The grant is part of the Foundation's Clinical and Community Health Issues Program, which has a particular interest in funding more effective methods of preventing, diagnosing, and treating illnesses and conditions that have a major impact on health in Connecticut.

To participate in the study, please call 860-299-5607.

# UCompass program reaches out to students who get into trouble



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Donta Johnson, assistant director of community standards, talks with Kate Daniel, a graduate student in higher education and student affairs. Both work with the UCompass program.

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

Michael had made a mistake. He'd been caught with marijuana on campus. When he trudged toward the Office of Community Standards, he expected the worst. What he didn't know was that there was a program that could help him.

Michael (not his real name) went from being another discipline statistic to being another success story for UCompass, a program started in fall 2006 by the Office of Community Standards.

UCompass reaches out to students who have made a mistake, such as underage drinking,

vandalism, or creating a nuisance; talks to them one-on-one; and gets them involved in campus activities so they're less likely to do it again.

"They gave me a slap in the head in the right direction," says Michael, who is now involved in dance organizations on campus and is going to the gym more often. "I love the program and its foundations. They helped me reflect on what I did, the path I was heading, and the kids I was hanging out with. I was going in the wrong direction."

Michael is one of more than 660 students who have been helped by UCompass since the fall of 2006,

when it started as a small pilot program. Most of the students have participated in UCompass since last fall, when the office decided the program was a winner.

"A lot of people think we work with bad people," says Lee Williams, dean of students. "They're not. They're students who made a bad choice, and we like to help them get back on course."

Williams says the name of the program reflects this, because the "moral compass" of most of the students involved has gone askew. It's not that they have no sense of rights and wrong, she says: "This program tries to get their moral

compass pointing in the right direction."

The program, say Williams and Cathy Cocks, director of community standards, focuses on freshmen and sophomores who come to their attention, usually for minor offenses.

Often, they say, these students were academically solid and were involved in a range of activities while in high school but, for whatever reason, drifted once they arrived in Storrs.

"A lot of them were leaders in high school," says Cinnamon Adams, a community standards specialist. "Then they come here and don't get involved. They're taking a break. They feel UConn is too big and it rattles them. Maybe they were athletes in high school but can't make the team in a Division I program.

"So they make a choice that brings them to our office. With this program, we're giving them some focus, bringing them back," she says.

Cocks says research clearly indicates that the more involved students are, the more pride they take in their university and the less likely they are to make a misstep.

So Cocks, Adams, and Donta Johnson, assistant director of community standards, joined by a graduate assistant and four practicum students in the higher education student affairs graduate program, work with the students who appear before them.

They try to ascertain what the students enjoy doing, what niche they fit into, and then, working closely with the Department of Student Activities, find something each student may be interested in.

Many of the students are amazed when they discover how many organizations and activities there are on campus.

Adams says the program has three components: an academic focus, which could be anything from meeting with their advisor to attending a lecture; a long-term commitment to a club or organization and, if they're already involved, seeking a leadership role; and a journal the students must keep, writing about each experience they have, with a final entry discussing the program – what they liked, what didn't they like, and whether they will continue in the organization they joined.

The program also has a component that works with students who were suspended.

"We want them to come back to UConn," says Williams. "If we didn't, we would have expelled them."

Now, when a student is going to be suspended, he or she is assigned to a community standards staff member. The staff person keeps in touch with the students during the suspension, with a phone call or e-mail to see how they are and a reminder about their return date and what they have to do to get back.

That aspect of the program also seems to be working. Since the program started, the return rate of suspended students has increased from 49 percent to 61 percent.

"A lot of what we're doing will help with student retention, and it will also help improve the quality of student life," says Cocks. Neither she nor Williams is aware of a similar program at another university.

"People make mistakes," says Cocks. "They're headed to a fork in the road, and we want to be at that fork with them. If we can get them involved in the community after that first mistake, hopefully we can ensure they don't make a second or third mistake."

## Constitution Day *continued from page 1*

their right to vote.

He said that years later, when his pastor tried to vote while living in the South, he was asked to guess how many marbles were in a jar.

"That's part of the challenge," Ogletree said. "We have a Constitution that talked about embracing everyone, but it did not."

He added, "Racial gerrymandering and Jim Crow Laws were designed to say, 'you're no longer slaves, you have fundamental rights, but you're still second-class citizens in terms of the law, policies, and practices.'"

Ogletree said that in 1954, after *Brown v. Board of Education*, there were violent racial attacks that undermined the ideal of equal education for all in America.

"But what we forget, and what we really aren't taught, is what happened after the court said 'equal education for all,'" he said, noting that there has been a lack of progress toward this ideal.

"It is particularly troubling when you talk to young African American people in urban high schools today," he said. "When they're asked about the Civil Rights Movement, they'll say there was slavery, there was Jim Crow segregation, there was Dr. King and he had a dream. It tells you how much of the rich, tortured history is lost."

A year after the *Brown* decision, for example, a youngster, Emmett Till, was lynched for whistling at a white woman, Ogletree said. That same year Rosa Parks was trying to ride the bus and was told to give up her seat. In 1964, in Philadelphia, Miss., three civil rights activists were murdered.

Ogletree said Americans should live what the Pledge of Allegiance states: "One nation under God with liberty and justice for all."

"That's our challenge. That's our task," he said. "Let's all make the American dream real for all children."



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Charles J. Ogletree Jr., legal theorist and professor at the Harvard School of Law, speaks about race and the U.S. Constitution at Konover Auditorium, as part of Constitution Day.