



UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

# Advance

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## Legislators' initial budget would restore funding to UConn

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

The state legislature's Appropriations Committee on April 2 approved a two-year budget proposal that increases state support for UConn's Storrs-based programs and the Health Center by more than \$70 million above the support proposed for the biennium by Gov. M. Jodi Rell last month.

The committee's approved budget would add \$11.2 million for each year of the biennium for the Storrs-based programs, bringing the appropriation in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 nearly even with the current year's appropriation prior to the governor's 3 percent and 2 percent rescissions.

For the Health Center, the committee added \$10.5 million for each year, and also included another \$13.5 million in each of the two years to the comptroller's budget to cover the fringe benefit differential for Dempsey Hospital employees.

The cost of the differential was not included in the governor's budget.

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PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

The UConn women's basketball team gathers in Gampel Pavilion, after winning its sixth NCAA National Championship in St. Louis on April 7. The Huskies beat Louisville 76-54, finishing the season 39-0, and became the first team, male or female, to win every game by 10 or more points.

## Report shows increase in external research support

BY RICHARD VEILLEUX

Researchers in Storrs-based programs last year brought in more than \$100 million in awards, a 9 percent increase compared to 2007.

The increase came despite the fact that faculty submitted 178 fewer funding requests in 2008 than in the preceding fiscal year.

The increase is documented in the 2008 Report of Sponsored Project Activity, available at <http://research.uconn.edu/>

"This development marks a significant upturn in the size of the extramural portfolio at UConn, after experiencing several years of status quo funding levels," says Michael Crouch, executive director of the Office for Sponsored Programs and assistant vice provost for research. "With increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary research

activities at the University, this trend will hopefully be sustained."

The bulk of the funding, \$78.1 million, came from the federal government, including more than \$23 million from the Department of Health and Human Services, which includes the National Institutes of Health. Other major funding agencies included the National Science Foundation (\$16.1 million), the USDA (\$11.9 million), the Department of Education (\$6.8 million), and the Department of Defense (\$6.6 million).

Non-federal funding, including state grants, contracts with industry, and grants from foundations and non-profit agencies, increased 14 percent in 2008 compared to 2007, to \$23.8 million.

"This is quite an achievement, because

see External research grants page 2

## President Hogan to deliver 'state of university' address

University President Michael Hogan will deliver a State of the University address on Monday, April 20 at 4 p.m. in the Student Union Theatre. Faculty, students, staff, and the public are invited to attend.

The event is hosted by the University Senate and the Undergraduate Student Government.

In his address, Hogan will discuss the challenges facing the University and strategies to meet them as a community while moving forward with plans to achieve goals articulated in the University's Academic Plan.

The address will acknowledge the many achievements of UConn faculty, staff, and students and the substantial progress being made toward these goals, despite the difficult economic environment.

"An annual State of the University address will provide an excellent opportunity for

the entire university community to hear directly from the president," says Hedley Freake, chair of the University Senate Executive Committee and professor of nutritional sciences. "This is particularly important in the current environment, where we all need to be informed about the administration's thinking and responses to the many challenges faced by the University."

Meredith Zaritheny, president of the Undergraduate Student Government, says, "This is an excellent opportunity for the students of UConn to hear directly from President Hogan concerning the state of the University. Students are major stakeholders and it is very important they are informed of this administration's goals, concerns, and challenges which shape the future of the University of Connecticut."

A reception will follow the address in Room 104, adjacent to the Theatre.



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Inside





PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Kathleen Segerson, left, professor of economics, the first Philip E. Austin Chair in Economics, and Arnold Dashefsky, professor of sociology, the Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies. Their investiture ceremony was held in Konover Auditorium April 3.

Appropriations Committee *continued from page 1*

Legislative leaders will now negotiate the final appropriation. The legislature is scheduled to end the session June 6.

“While this is good news, and we’re grateful for the General Assembly’s recognition of the value UConn brings and the importance of protecting higher education during these challenging economic times, our optimism must be tempered,” says University President Michael J. Hogan. “There’s still a long way to go in this process, and we recognize that the state is facing

a deficit of more than \$8 billion.”

The additional funding would help mitigate anticipated cuts to department and program budgets, but is still millions of dollars less than the University requested to maintain current services earlier this year.

The governor’s budget proposal bases the budget for the Storrs-based programs on the University’s current budget, after the 5 percent (\$13.2 million) rescissions, which translates to reductions from current services of 9.2 percent in

2009-10, and 13.1 percent in 2010-11. The Appropriations Committee budget would restore \$22.4 million of the governor’s approximately \$59 million in reductions.

“It is very early in the budget process,” says Richard Gray, the University’s chief financial officer. “These amounts represent only the starting point in negotiations with the Executive Branch and will likely vary prior to the adjournment of the legislature in June. [But with] that caveat, the news is positive.”

External research grants *continued from page 1*

federal funding has been flat the last two years,” says Suman Singha, vice president for research and graduate education and dean of the Graduate School. “It speaks very highly of our faculty and, when you consider the stimulus bill, we are well positioned to see continued increases in our federal grants.”

According to Crouch, total grant funding for the first six months of the current fiscal year has increased by 8 percent com-

pared to the first six months of fiscal year 2008.

“We have every reason to be modestly optimistic as we look forward through fiscal year 2010,” Crouch adds.

Crouch and Singha cite the University’s strengths in stem cell research, alternative energy, including fuel cells, health, and the environment as reasons to be optimistic, as well as the changing attitude in Washington.

“The Obama administration

has placed greater emphasis on research, so following the stimulus bill, we expect to see increases in funding for the agencies from whom we get grants,” Singha says.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences led the University’s schools and colleges in proposals, seeking nearly \$210 million in grants, followed by the School of Engineering with proposals worth \$102 million.

Environmental award winners announced

The winners of UConn’s 2008-2009 Environmental Leadership Awards were announced recently. The awards recognize dedication and outstanding contributions to a more environmentally aware and sustainable campus. They will be presented by Provost Peter Nicholls on April 20.

The winners are:

**Undergraduate Student**  
Emily Galanto, 6th semester, environmental science major

**Graduate Student**  
Ross Friedberg, JD and MPH candidate, Law School and UConn Health Center

**Staff**  
Amy Crim, Department of Residential Life

**Faculty**  
James Stuart, professor emeritus, Chemistry

**Team**  
Avery Point Campus Environmental Awareness Team: Syma

Ebbins, Christine Green, Jamieson Densmore

**Student Organization**  
Environmental Law Society, Law School

**External Organization**  
Willimantic River Alliance: Vicky Wetherell, Meg Reich

National security expert to give talk April 22

A Republican who served as chief of staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell but later became a fierce critic of the Bush administration and the Iraq War, will speak in the Dodd Center’s Konover Auditorium on April 22 at 4 p.m.

Lawrence Wilkerson will discuss his time in government, and the challenges faced by the Obama administration and future national security teams.

The event, organized by the International Relations Association, is open to the public. A question-and-answer session will follow the talk.

Wilkerson, a retired U.S. Army colonel, was chief of staff to Powell from 2001 to 2005. His association with Powell dates to the Reagan administration, when he was appointed as an assistant to Powell who was National Security Advisor at the time, and continued during Powell’s tenure as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the George H.W. Bush administration and the early years of the Clinton administration.

During the second Bush administration, Wilkerson was involved

in key aspects of national security policy. In particular, he was the senior official assisting Powell in the preparation of the secretary’s February 2003 presentation to the U.N. Security Council on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

The revelation that much of this information was untrue was the beginning of Wilkerson’s disenchantment with the Bush administration, which was deepened by the ongoing situation in Iraq and the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghraib.

When Powell left the State Department, Wilkerson followed and began to speak publicly about his experiences during the first Bush term.

Since leaving government service, Wilkerson has taught national security decision-making at the George Washington University and the College of William and Mary. He is interviewed at length in the award-winning Iraq war documentary *No End in Sight*, and provides a full-length commentary to *Why We Fight*, an analysis of the military-industrial complex.

Babbidge Library book sale scheduled for April 29

Homer Babbidge Library will conduct a book sale on the plaza adjacent to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center on Wednesday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Several thousand books donated by members of the campus community and friends of the library will be available for sale. The books are either duplicates of those already owned by the library, or are works on subjects that the library does not collect.

Books offered encompass fiction, poetry, prose, spirituality,

biography, philosophy, social sciences, and history. VHS videotapes and LPs will also be sold.

Those with UConn IDs will be admitted between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.; all others will be allowed to enter after 11 a.m.

Hardcover books will be \$1; paperbacks will be 50 cents. Special items will have different pricing.

Proceeds will benefit the Abbie Jean Quick Leisure Reading Collection.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Advance

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PHOTO BY ALAN GRANT

Dr. Molly Brewer of the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center is leading a new breast cancer prevention study.

## Breast cancer prevention study launched for women with increased risk

BY MAUREEN MCGUIRE

Many women worry about their risk of breast cancer and wonder what they can do to lower their risk. For women with known risk factors for breast cancer, the anxiety is even more intense.

Now, women at increased risk may be eligible to participate in a new breast cancer prevention study offered at the Health Center's Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The ExCel research study is an international study aimed at discovering whether a certain treatment can help prevent breast cancer. The medication is from a class of drugs, aromatase inhibitors, that suppresses estrogen production. Aromatase inhibitors are already approved to treat advanced breast cancer in postmenopausal women.

"This study is looking at a medication that is already approved to treat breast cancer and may have fewer side effects than our existing prevention drugs," says Dr. Molly Brewer, director of women's cancer prevention programs and the Divi-

sion of Gynecologic Oncology.

The ExCel study will last five years and is expected to follow more than 4,500 postmenopausal women from the United States, Canada, and Spain. To be eligible, women must be 35 years of age or older and have an increased risk of developing breast cancer. Participants will receive either the study drug or a placebo.

According to the American Cancer Society and the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center, risk factors for breast cancer include:

- Gender – simply being female increases the risk of breast cancer;
- Age – the incidence of breast cancer increases with age;
- Genetic risk factors – such as the inherited BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations;
- Family history of breast cancer – especially among first-degree relatives (mother, sister, or daughter);
- Personal history of breast cancer;
- Race – white women are slightly more likely than others to

develop breast cancer;

- Abnormal breast biopsy reports;
- Early age at start of menstrual cycle and late menopause;
- Previous chest radiation;

Exposure to DES (Diethylstilbestrol, a synthetic estrogen that was prescribed between 1938 to 1971 to help prevent miscarriages).

The study is one of several approaches Brewer and other experts at the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center offer to help women prevent cancer. Other initiatives include genetic counseling, an innovative colon cancer prevention program, and personalized women's cancer prevention services.

"We strongly encourage all women to learn more about their unique risk factors for cancer," says Brewer. "If you are at increased risk for breast cancer, the ExCel trial could be an opportunity to participate in a study evaluating a new class of drugs for breast cancer prevention."

To learn more, call 860-679-2100 to set up an appointment with Brewer to discuss the study.

## State's elderly population increasing, study says

BY DAVID BAUMAN

A recent report from UConn demographers shows that Connecticut's rapidly aging population is growing increasingly dependent on a dwindling workforce.

The state's "dependency ratio" – the ratio of non-working people (ages 0-19 and 65 and older) per 100 workers (ages 20-64) – will increase from 68.5 in 2000 to 70.3 in 2010, according to a report by the Connecticut State Data Center. The Center is part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

State projections from the U.S. Census Bureau forecast that by 2010, Connecticut will have the ninth highest percentage of people aged 65 and older in the country.

"These demographic shifts present challenges for both the state and Connecticut employers," the report says, "because there will be an increasingly smaller population entering the workforce at the same time that an increasingly larger aging population is exiting the workforce and drawing on retirement benefits."

The report, "Projected Population in 2010 for Congressional Districts in Connecticut," provides demographic projections for the state's five Congressional districts in 2010. The Data Center notes that the changing demographics of four of the state's Congressional Districts – 1, 3, 4, and 5 – are mostly consistent with national trends. Hispanic Americans are the largest minority group statewide, and are projected to be the largest and youngest group entering the workforce. Asian Americans, however, are the fastest growing minority group in the state.

The ethnic composition of District 2 – most of Eastern Connecticut – differs from statewide trends, with South Asian Indian and mainland Chinese projected to outnumber Hispanics, the report says. In another divergence from statewide trends, in District 3, African Americans are the largest minority group, whereas in Districts 1, 4, and 5, Hispanics are the

largest minority group.

"This report provides public policy makers in Connecticut with important demographic data for the state," said Orlando Rodriguez, a demographer and manager of the Connecticut State Data Center based at UConn. "We are releasing the report now to highlight that only one year remains before the next decennial census."

The rise in the state's dependency ratio is due primarily to an increasing population of white retirees, age 65 or over, which is occurring at the same time the population of children ages 0-19 is decreasing, the report says.

Independently, data from the State Department of Education show a second consecutive year of decline in the number of children in grades 1-12. Enrollment in grades 1-12 has declined by 8,792 since October 2006. These data are consistent with the projections of the Connecticut State Data Center.

People in the state's elderly dependent population will be, in many cases, retiring and living on fixed or reduced incomes, the report notes. Although Connecticut in 2000 had the 2nd highest median income in the nation, by 2009 it had dropped to 4th, behind Maryland, New Jersey, and Alaska.

In addition, the increase in the size of the retiree population may be greater than previously forecast, due to the collapse of the residential real estate market. Many retirees rely on their homes for the bulk of their retirement savings. If they can't sell their homes, then they probably will not leave the state.

"Connecticut public policy makers can anticipate a decrease in the income tax base, with a simultaneous increase in demand and utilization of health services," the report concludes. And while the population changes may not be unique to Connecticut, the report warns, "The state will be among the first to experience the changes, due to the size of its elderly population and the decreasing number of children."

## Alert system test April 14

On Tuesday, April 14 at 12:20 p.m., the University will conduct a test of all components of the Alert Notification System. This test will include sirens and code blue phones on the Storrs and Depot Campuses, text messages, e-mail, the alert banner system on University web pages, and voice mail and/or recorded messages on the emergency telephone line 860-486-3768.

After the test, faculty, staff, and students based at the Storrs campus will receive an e-mail with a link to a survey about the test. Feedback from this survey will be critical in evaluating the effectiveness of the Alert Notification System test.

Many components of the University's Alert Notification System have been recently upgraded, as the University continues its work

to ensure that the system is as effective as possible for communicating during an actual emergency.

Future tests of some or all of the components of the system will be conducted as necessary, with a full test occurring at least once each semester. Sirens, blue phones, and other message systems at the regional campuses will be tested on a future date.

Text messages are sent to all students, faculty, and staff at all campuses who have registered their cell phones. Those who have not yet done so may register their cell phone at any time at [www.alert.uconn.edu](http://www.alert.uconn.edu). In order to be part of the April 14 test, cell phones must be registered no later than April 13 at midnight.

If an actual emergency occurs, information will be available at [www.alert.uconn.edu](http://www.alert.uconn.edu)

## PTR forum offered on April 17

Faculty and administrators are encouraged to attend a forum on promotion, tenure, and reappointment (PTR) on Friday, April 17, from 3 to 5 p.m., in the Student Union, Room 304B, on the Storrs Campus.

The event is co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Faculty Standards Committee of the University Senate.

The forum will include a session outlining PTR procedures led by Provost Peter Nicholls and Vice Provost Veronica Makowsky.

Topics to be addressed during this session include: What are the milestones in the PTR

process? How does UConn reappoint, promote, and grant tenure to faculty members? and, What is the nature of the PTR review by the department, school or college, or center, and the provost?

Breakout sessions will follow, outlining the PTR process specific to each school, college, or center. These will be led by the dean or the dean's designee.

There will also be an alternate session on mid-point and final PTR reviews, led by Makowsky.

The forum is intended as an information session to reduce anxiety about PTR and promote understanding of the details of

the process and the resources available.

It will be particularly valuable for non-tenured assistant or associate faculty, but is open to any faculty member, administrator, or PTR committee member who wants to learn about the tenure and promotion process.

Refreshments will be served. Reservations are not necessary.

More information is available on the Senate's website: <http://senate.uconn.edu/FSCminutes/PTRforum/PTRforum.htm>



# Health Center transitioning to electronic medical records

BY CHRIS DeFRANCESCO

Starting next month, patient care providers at the Health Center’s John Dempsey Hospital will have electronic access to patients’ medical records.

The Health Center is preparing to introduce eHIMS, which stands for “electronic Health Information Management System.”

“This will give our health care providers password-protected online access to all-inclusive hospital-based medical records for discharged patients and hospital-based ancillary testing from anywhere,” says Elena Albini, director of health information management. “Our goal is to have records scanned into the eHIMS system within 24 hours of discharge, and they will be instantly accessible once scanned.”

A patient’s eHIMS record will include his or her entire chart as it currently exists in paper format, including all handwritten documents, dictated reports, and electronically fed reports. It will be considered that patient’s legal medical record after discharge.

“The patient’s chart will always be accessible,” says Dr. Richard Simon, chief of the medical staff. “No more trips to Medical Records, and no more waiting for medical records to be pulled.”

Going paperless also allows simultaneous access to patient information, editing of dictated reports, completion of incomplete records, and signature approvals, which will be done electronically and remotely.

“In the dark hours of the night, being able to immediately access

data from prior hospital stays is priceless,” says Dr. Daniel McNally, who chairs the Health Center’s Health Information Management Committee. “With this we will be able to access our hospital records and hospital-based services data whenever it’s needed, and not have to count on someone finding a chart. That’s a big safety issue.”

Handwritten documents in the patient’s record, such as progress notes, flow sheets, nursing notes, assessments, advance directives, and care plans, will be scanned.

Other documents that will be part of a patient’s eHIMS record include discharge summaries, operative reports, lab reports, radiology reports, and anatomic pathology reports.

“We have tremendously more information about a patient in one

place than doctors in the community do,” McNally says. “We have a unique integrated system here, where we can access all the care someone gets at UConn. While the rest of the world is talking about demonstrations of portable records, we and our patients are lucky to work in a system where we can access this information so easily.”

Preparation for the changeover to the eHIMS system will involve training for about 750 people, most of them physicians who will take a 15-minute online tutorial.

Other health care providers,

such as nurses, nurse managers, medical assistants, health unit clerks, practice managers, therapists, and certain ancillary staff will attend an hour-long classroom session.

“Docs will like this,” McNally says. “They can sign their charts, complete them, edit them, all electronically. Everything will be up to date. Everything will be available.”

Adds Simon, “It will make their life easier. There’s not much of a learning curve. The system is very intuitive.”

Beyond the Health Center, the concept of going paperless with medical records fits into a broader plan to improve the American health care system.

“Ultimately the gain in the global sense will be interchangeability among hospitals,” says Simon, “and the ability to encode and to create portable patient records.”

More information about eHIMS is available at <http://ehims.uchc.edu>



# Pharmacy students help physicians manage patients’ medications



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMMEYER

Pharm.D. students Sagar Makanji, left, and Christina Biondo discuss medication management.

BY COLIN POITRAS

With recent studies showing one in three older adults taking at least five prescription drugs and half regularly using dietary supplements or over-the-counter drugs, the need for proper medication management has become a critical health issue in Connecticut and elsewhere.

Students and faculty in the School of Pharmacy are doing their part by stepping up to help physicians manage their patients’ medications to avoid potentially dangerous drug interactions and make sure patients are complying with their medication directives to improve their health.

At four locations around the state, pharmacy faculty and students are working alongside primary care physicians in helping manage underserved, uninsured

patients suffering from persistent health problems. The patients often have multiple chronic illnesses that are being treated with several medications and require regular medication management, says Marie Smith, head of the pharmacy practice department in the School of Pharmacy.

The students participate during their final year of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program. By then, they have already completed five years of academic coursework in pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacotherapeutics, patient communication, and health care systems.

**Toward a model program**

The doctors and patients appreciate the help.

“The primary care model is broken,” Smith says. “Doctors are overwhelmed and have limited

time to manage complex medication regimens, learn about actual prescribed and non-prescribed medication use at home, detect drug interactions, and determine patient factors affecting medication compliance.

“UConn is helping build a model program that incorporates a pharmacist’s expertise in medication management into a practical primary care system,” she adds.

Individuals with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cardiovascular disease, asthma, chronic pain due to arthritis or osteoporosis, and those participating in smoking cessation programs are just some of the patients ideally suited for this kind of medication therapy management, Smith says.

Nearly 71 percent of physician office visits involve some form of medication management, accord-

ing to the 2006 National Ambulatory Medical Survey. A study published in the December 2008 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* shows that an estimated 175,000 adults age 65 and older will visit the emergency room this year for treatment due to adverse drug reactions. A separate study by researchers at the University of Illinois at Chicago showed that for every dollar spent by hospitals or health systems on clinical pharmacy services, \$4.81 was saved through lower drug costs, fewer adverse drug events, and fewer medication errors.

**Meeting with patients**

While clinical pharmacy services have been around since the late 1970’s, expanded pharmacy practice through primary care and medication management is becoming increasingly common.

UConn is working with the Connecticut Pharmacists Association and other groups to expand the clinical pharmacist model to improve health care in other venues across the state. Advocates of the program say it could greatly improve health care delivery in hospitals, doctors’ offices, community pharmacies, nursing homes, and other facilities.

Unlike traditional pharmacy services, in which a pharmacist dispenses medications, clinical pharmacists get more involved in patient care.

In UConn’s model programs, Pharm.D. students – closely supervised by on-site faculty instructors – meet face-to-face with patients to make sure they have the right medication and are taking the

prescribed dose. They also make sure that the patients aren’t taking any prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs that may interact with other medications, and provide advice to doctors, nurses, and patients about possible lower-cost alternatives.

The pharmacy students, with their particular expertise, review the medication lists, medical problems, and laboratory data in the patient’s medical charts before their scheduled appointments. A list of medication-related problems and areas for improvement is then presented to the patient’s physician. Patients can also be referred by their primary care providers to pharmacist-led programs such as smoking cessation, cardiovascular risk management, a comprehensive medication review, and medication compliance programs, all initiated and maintained by UConn School of Pharmacy faculty and students. Documentation of all patient care is incorporated into the patient’s permanent medical record so it can be shared with other healthcare professionals involved in the patient’s care.

The four Connecticut sites where UConn student and faculty do their work are: the Burgdorf Clinic at the Mt. Sinai Campus of St. Francis Hospital and Health Center in Hartford; the Brownstone Clinic at Hartford Hospital in Hartford; the Community Health Center in Meriden; and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in West Haven. Plans are underway to expand the program to the Community Health Center in New Britain in the near future.



# New dean of social work puts focus on cultural competency

BY COLIN POITRAS

When Salome Raheim learned that a UConn diversity training program scheduled for the School of Social Work conflicted with the Jewish holiday of Passover, she wasted little time getting the training changed to a more appropriate date.

Raheim's actions sent a clear message to her faculty and staff that, as the School's new dean, she takes her commitment to diversity seriously.

Those who know Raheim from her days at the University of Iowa, where she was director of Iowa's School of Social Work, say they were not surprised by that account. During Raheim's 11 years in Iowa, she earned a national reputation for her expertise in building diversity and cultural competency.

It's a mission Raheim hopes to continue at UConn – training future social workers, as well as her own faculty and staff, to be welcoming, respectful, and inclusive when it comes to working with people whose race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, or ability status is different from their own.

While the School of Social Work already has a good record in terms of diversity – approximately one third of its students, faculty, and staff are members of underrepresented racial or ethnic groups – there is always room to do more, Raheim says.

"As the diversity of this school, this state, and this nation increase, we all encounter people from different cultures, and we need to build our understanding and develop new skills," Raheim said during a recent interview in her office at the Greater Hartford campus.



PHOTO BY PETER MORENUS

Salome Raheim, left, dean of the School of Social Work, meets with representatives from the University of the West Indies, including Peta-Anne Baker, in her office at the Greater Hartford Campus.

"And that's even more important for a school of social work that is training students to work in the context of that diversity."

## Academic plan

Raheim's commitment to cultural competency and diversity is also reflected in the school's new academic plan, one of several major initiatives she has tackled since joining the University last August.

Raheim also spruced up the school's interior design, splashing fresh coats of paint in parts of the building that needed it and replacing worn furniture to freshen up the look and feel of the place. A monthly "Dean's Report," through which she keeps faculty and staff updated on the significant accomplishments of their students and peers, is also new.

It's all part of community building, says Raheim.

"I help pull people together, help them to develop a shared vision, and help them mobilize the organization toward accomplishing that vision," she says. "I'm known for bringing out the best in people and helping to create in an organization a sense of community and mutual respect and appreciation."

Raheim says she is proud of the school's "talented and committed" faculty and staff, who worked diligently to craft an academic plan that she believes will raise the School's prominence through a renewed commitment to education, research, diversity, and public engagement.

"I believe there is an air of hopefulness and anticipation about the

things we are going to accomplish together," she says.

In the coming months, Raheim hopes to appoint a new associate dean of research, strengthen external funding efforts, and expand collaborations with state agencies and community organizations.

Faculty and staff have embraced Raheim's leadership.

"Dean Raheim has been extremely well received by the faculty, staff, and students at the School of Social Work," says Catherine Havens, associate dean for academic affairs. "In spite of the fiscal challenges we are all facing, we are excited by her energy and ideas for the School's future. Her leadership style is to focus on the positive and look for opportunities for us to change and grow. ... This

was an important characteristic as she led us through the academic planning process."

Alex Gitterman, holder of the Zachs Chair in Social Work, says the School's new academic plan illustrates Raheim's distinctive leadership style. "Dean Raheim respected existing structures and processes and engaged all constituencies," he says. "The outcome is a dynamic academic plan in which everyone has a sense of ownership. Dean Raheim is a centered and positive person for whom being fair and principled is an essential quality of her leadership."

## National presence

Nancy Humphreys, a professor of policy practice, has known and worked with Raheim nationally for years. She praises the new dean for her "quiet, but forceful and thoughtful leadership style."

Raheim was recently nominated to become the next president of the Council on Social Work Education, a nonprofit national association representing more than 3,000 individual members, as well as graduate and undergraduate programs of professional social work education. The council is the sole accrediting agency for social work education in the U.S.

Raheim has served on the council's board of directors and was chosen as the council's 2007 Carl A. Scott Memorial Lecturer for her contributions to social and economic justice. A native of Baltimore, Md., Raheim began her career as a psychiatric social worker in Prince George's County, Md. Her research interests include cultural competence, social justice, human rights, social and economic development, and organization and community practice.

# Family studies professor specializes in assessment, measurement

BY SHERRY FISHER

Ronald Sabatelli describes his interests as eclectic.

"I've conducted research on many different aspects of human development and the family," says Sabatelli, professor and head of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "It's a fascinating field."

Much of his work over the last 28 years has been in assessment and measurement, an area where he has been a mentor to dozens of doctoral students. He has developed measures to assess the quality of marital relationships that are used by therapists and in basic research around the world, as well as measures to assess the construct of family functioning. Sabatelli has also researched intimate relationships, divorce trends, parent-child dynamics, and adolescent individuation.

As senior research associate at UConn's Center for Applied Research in Human Development, his recent work has focused on the evaluation of youth programs in the state's urban communities.

The Center, a joint venture between the Department of Human Development and Family Studies

and the Cooperative Extension System, seeks to provide assistance to state and community-based agencies in the development,

delivery, and evaluation of human service programs.

"We want to help them improve their programs and ensure that

they promote youth development," Sabatelli says. He develops survey questionnaires for youngsters that help providers understand whether their programs are effective.

Sabatelli uses his strong background in social science and measurement in his work. "I'm very committed to applied scholarship," he says. "I think the development of program assessment devices – the research tools themselves – is an important contribution to making a difference in adolescents' lives."

His work has also been significant in meeting funders' demands for accountability.

Sabatelli was recently honored for his professional accomplishments by being named a Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations. Fellows are nominated by their peers and selected for their outstanding contributions to the field of family studies.

Sabatelli's widely used book, *Family Interaction: A Multigenerational Developmental Perspective*, co-authored with UConn family studies professor Stephen Anderson, is now in its fourth edition.

He has served on the editorial boards of *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, *Family Science Review*,

the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, and the *Journal of Family Issues*. And the National Council on Family Relations has recently appointed him editor of the journal *Family Relations: Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Family Studies*.

Sabatelli earned his undergraduate degree in psychology and graduate degrees in human development and family studies from UConn.

"I was interested in studying people and believed that they would have to be studied in the context of their families," he says. "You're embedded in a family culture. It has its own customs – which often don't promote the welfare of the individuals. Our job is to understand those customs and figure out how they promote or fail to promote the health and well being of everyone within the system."

He adds, "Being an educator is a great way of making a difference. It's about influencing students who are going to be therapists and those who may go on to do research. Also, teaching in the human social sciences is a great way of helping people understand themselves."



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Ronald Sabatelli, head of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies.



# GRANTS

The following grants were received through the UConn Health Center’s Office of Grants and Contracts in January 2009. The list represents new awards as well as continuations. The list is supplied to the *Advance* by the Office of Grants and Contracts.

P.I.	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
<b>Federal Grants</b>				
Ford, J.	Psychiatry	U.S. Dept. of Justice	\$446,970	09/08-08/09
<i>Breaking the Cycle III: Women Overcoming &amp; Managing Adversity Now (Women) Study</i>				
Gryk, M.	Molecular, Microbial & Structural Biology	National Institute of General Medical Sciences	\$311,391	12/08-11/09
<i>CONNJUR: A Software Integration Platform for Biomolecular NMR Spectroscopy</i>				
Gunzl, A.	Genetics & Developmental Biology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$370,000	01/09-12/09
<i>Multifunctional Class I Transcription in T. Brucei</i>				
Hesselbrock, V.	Psychiatry	National Institute of Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism	\$1,619,994	12/08-11/09
<i>Etiology and Treatment of Alcohol Dependence</i>				
Hewett, S.	Neuroscience	National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke	\$377,330	01/09-12/09
<i>Excitotoxicity and Inflammation</i>				
Laurencin, C.	Orthopedics	U.S. Army	\$258,480	12/08-11/09
<i>Development of a Novel Injectable Controlled Analgesic System for Pain</i>				
LeFrancois, L.	Immunology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$333,000	12/07-11/09
<i>CD8 T-Cell Activation and a Migration In Vivo</i>				
Setlow, P.	Molecular, Microbial & Structural Biology	U.S. Army	\$144,520	07/07-10/09
<i>Mechanisms of Killing &amp; Resistance to Wet Heat of Spores of Bacillus</i>				
Weller, S.	Molecular, Microbial & Structural Biology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$253,759	01/06-12/09
<i>Role of Viral and Cellular Recombination Proteins in HSV DNA Replication</i>				
Yu, J.	Center for Cell Analysis & Modeling	National Institute of General Medical Sciences	\$278,464	01/09-12/09
<i>Bacterial Cytoskeletal Structures and Dynamics at Single Molecule Level</i>				

## Private Grants

Albertsen, P.	Surgery	Univ. of Texas	\$3,090	09/01-05/13
<i>Selenium &amp; Vitamin E Chemoprevention Trial DHHS 80003</i>				
Bona, R.	Medicine	Institutionally Funded	\$14,190	12/08-06/10
<i>Pilot Study on Transient Bacteremia and Bloodstream Infections</i>				
Chhabra, A.	Medicine	Breast Cancer Alliance	\$62,500	01/09-12/09
<i>Isolating a High Avidity Breast Cancer</i>				
Cloutier, M.	Medicine	CT Children’s Medical Center	\$85,205	07/08-06/09
<i>Dept. of Public Health Child Asthma Initiative</i>				
Cloutier, M.	Pediatrics	CT Children’s Medical Center	\$35,776	10/08-09/09
<i>CT Children’s Medical Center C3R</i>				
*Dieckhaus, K.	Medicine	Univ. of Mass.	\$13,003	07/08-06/09
<i>New England AIDS Education and Training</i>				
*Hla, T.	Center for Vascular Biology	Vanderbilt Univ.	\$13,607	05/08-04/09
<i>Mechanisms for Chemoprevention of Cancer</i>				
*Kenny, A.	Center on Aging	Yale Univ.	\$188,752	09/06-08/09
<i>Impact of a Protein Supplement on Bone Mass in Older Women</i>				
*Mayer, B.	Genetics & Developmental Biology	Yale Univ.	\$12,009	01/08-03/09
<i>Study of Wnt Signaling in Bone Biology</i>				
*Olmstead, T.	Pat & Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center	Univ. of Georgia	\$19,914	07/08-06/09
<i>Use of Evidence-Based Practices in Alcoholism Treatment</i>				
*Pappagallo, M.	Pediatrics	Univ. of Pittsburgh	\$2,850	01/05-11/08
<i>Long Term Outcomes on Nitric Oxide for Ventilated Premature Babies</i>				
Pilbeam, C.	Medicine	American Society for Bone & Mineral Research	\$50,000	01/09-12/09
<i>Regulation of the Prostaglandin G/H Synthases in Bone</i>				

## State Grants

*Bayer, M.	Traumatology/Emergency Medicine	CT Dept. of Public Health	\$90,000	09/07-08/09
<i>Agreement Between CT Dept. of Public Health &amp; the UConn Health Center Poison Control Center</i>				
Everson, R.	Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center	CT Dept. of Public Health	\$324,375	07/08-02/10
<i>Functional Molecular Classification of BRCA Gene Variants</i>				
Pesanti, E.	MHCS-Administration	CT Dept. of Public Health	\$70,000	01/09-12/09
<i>CMHC – TB Surveillance, Prevention and Control</i>				

The following grants were received through the UConn Health Center’s Office of Grants and Contracts in February 2009. The list represents new awards as well as continuations.

P.I.	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
<b>Federal Grants</b>				
Arnold, A.	Molecular Medicine	National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases	\$283,050	2/08-1/10
<i>Molecular Pathogenesis of Hyperparathyroidism</i>				
Eipper, E.	Neuroscience	National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases	\$515,121	1/06-12/9
<i>Biochemistry &amp; Physiology of Peptide Amidation</i>				
Heinen, C.	Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center	National Cancer Institute	\$221,112	4/08-1/10
<i>Mismatch Repair Functions Affected During Tumorigenesis</i>				



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Chris Claussen, a horticulturist, waters flowers for the spring plant sale at the Floriculture Greenhouse.

Hewett, S.	Neuroscience	National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke	\$8,748	1/9-12/09
<i>Excitotoxicity and Inflammation</i>				
LeFrancois, L.	Immunology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$420,541	2/08-1/10
<i>Role of CD11c in CD8 T Cell Response to Infection</i>				
Li, Y.	Genetics & Developmental Biology	National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	\$283,916	2/07-1/10
<i>The Role of Alternative Splicing of FGF8 in Mouse Development</i>				
Loew, L.	Center for Cell Analysis	National Center for Research Resources	\$294,000	8/08-4/09
<i>National Resource for Cell Analysis and Modeling</i>				
Maulik, N.	Surgery	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute	\$361,583	1/08-12/09
<i>Angiogenesis in Diseased Models</i>				
Oncken, C.	Medicine	National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$885,201	2/09-1/10
<i>Exercise in Smoking Cessation in Postmenopausal Women</i>				
Peterson, D.	Oral Health & Diagnostic Sciences	National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research	\$30,000	2/09-1/10
<i>Oral Complications of Emerging Cancer Therapies</i>				
Radolf, J.	Medicine	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$431,976	1/08-12/09
<i>Treponema Pallidum Outer Membrane Proteins and Transition Metal Acquisition</i>				
Weller, S.	Molecular, Microbial & Structural Biology	National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases	\$284,369	2/06-1/10
<i>HSV 1 Processing/Packaging Genes</i>				

<b>Private Grants</b>				
*Brenner, B.	Surgery	National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project	\$29,000	2/08-1/09
<i>NASBP Treatment Trials</i>				
Clark, S.	Genetics & Developmental Biology	Scleroderma Foundation	\$75,000	1/08-12/09
<i>Impact of the Ablation of TGF-Beta Signaling and SPARC Protein on the Fibrotic Phenotype in the TSK2</i>				
Crocker, S.	Neuroscience	National Multiple Sclerosis Society	\$275,000	10/07-10/10
<i>Investigating the Role of TIMP-1 in CNS Demyelination and Repair</i>				
*Lorenzo, J.	Medicine	Univ. of Pennsylvania	\$74,000	9/08-7/09
<i>The RANKL Axis in the Osteoimmune System</i>				
McKay, C.	Traumatology/Emergency Medicine	Denver Health & Hospital Authority	\$27,794	7/06-12/08
<i>Surveillance of the RADARS System by Poison Control Centers</i>				
Mukherji, B.	Medicine	Univ. of California at Los Angeles	\$41,583	7/06-12/08
<i>Optimization of T-Cell Transduction with a Melanoma Epitope-Specific TCR</i>				
Oncken, C.	Medicine	The Donaghue Foundation	\$128,684	1/05-12/09
<i>Maternal Genetics, Cigarette Smoking and Infant Birth Weight</i>				
Puddington, L.	Immunology	Crohns & Colitis Foundation of America	\$128,700	1/08-12/09
<i>Antigen Acquired from Breast Milk Induces Mucosal Regulatory T-Cells</i>				
*Robison, J.	Center on Aging	Univ. of Massachusetts	\$10,000	9/08-9/09
<i>CMS Systems Transformation</i>				
*Tennen, H.	Community Medicine & Health	Arizona State Univ.	\$20,029	12/08-07/09
<i>Fibromyalgia Treatment Study</i>				
*Tennen, H.	Community Medicine & Health	Yale Univ.	\$76,443	9/08-8/09
<i>Alcohol Use in College Students: Cognition and Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging</i>				
Trestman, R.	Medicine	Duke Univ.	\$89,511	2/08-12/09
<i>Costs of Criminal Justice Involvement Among Persons with Severe Mental Illness in CT</i>				

## State Grants

*Schenkman, J.	Cell Biology	UConn-Storrs	\$57,795	1/09-12/9
<i>P450 Role in Toxic Pollutant Activation</i>				
<i>*Denotes federal funds awarded to other institutions and passed through to the UConn Health Center.</i>				



# CALENDAR

Monday, April 13, to Monday, April 20

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, April 20 through Monday, April 27. Those items must be in the database by 4 p.m. on Monday, April 13. 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).

## Libraries

**Homer Babbidge Library.** Monday–Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–2 a.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.–2 a.m. **Dodd Center.** Reading Room hours: Monday–Friday, noon–4 p.m.; closed weekends. 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. **Music & Dramatic Arts Library.** Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m.–10 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday, noon–5 p.m.; Sunday, noon–10 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, 10 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, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.; closed weekends.

## University ITS

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

## Ph.D. Defenses

**Thursday, 4/16 – Nursing.** *The Lived Experience of Accelerated Nursing Students*, by Anne Marie Buonocore (adv.: Daisy). Noon, Room 303, Storrs Hall. **Thursday, 4/16 – Music History & Theory.** *Culture of a Community: Good Music and the Critics, Conductors, and Patrons of Gilded Age New York*, by Tabitha Heavner (adv.: Stanley). 4:30 p.m., Room 107, Music Building. **Friday, 4/17 – Educational Psychology.** *School Climate and Racial Awareness: An Exploratory Analysis*, by Tamisha Bouknight (adv.: Karan). 2 p.m., Room 246, Gentry Building. **Friday, 4/17 – Philosophy.** *Unmasking Consciousness: A Case Study Demonstrating the Impact of Empirical Data on Theories of Consciousness*, by Steven Todd (adv.: Clark). 4 p.m., Room 227, Manchester Hall.

## Meetings

**Tuesday, 4/14 – Parking Advisory Committee.** 2 p.m., Room 321, School of Business.

## Lectures & Seminars

**Tuesday, 4/14 – Economics Lecture.** “Housing Prices and the Real Economy,” by Karl Case, Wellesley

College. 11 a.m., Dodd Center. **Tuesday, 4/14 – Physics Lecture.** “Cooper Pairing in a Correlated–BCS ‘Sea’,” by Maneul de Llano, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. 4 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Rainbow Center Lecture.** “Lesbian/Bisexual Women in the Eyes of Scientific Psychology,” by Mary Crawford. Noon, Room 403, Student Union. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Latin American & Caribbean Studies Lecture.** “Guerrilla Politics in El Salvador and Guatemala,” by Rebecca Aubrey. Noon, Room 204, Ryan Refectory. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Statistics Colloquium.** “One-Way ANOVA, Fixed Effects or Random?” by Dongchu Sun, University of Missouri at Columbia. 4 p.m., Room 344, CLAS Building. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Charles Darwin Bicentennial Colloquium.** “Darwinian Medicine,” by Paul Ewald, University of Louisville. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Litchfield County Writers Project Discussion.** Discussion of *Angela’s Ashes*, with Frank McCourt, author and Davyne Verstandig. 6:30 p.m., Hogan Lecture Hall, Torrington Campus. **Thursday, 4/16 – Comparative Pathology Seminar.** “Therapeutic Approaches to Combat the E. coli Mediated Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome,” by Saul Tripori, Tufts University. 11 a.m., Room A001, Atwater Laboratory. **Thursday, 4/16 – Stamford Faculty Colloquium.** “Terminal Illness: The Failing Economics of Health Care in the United States,” by Walter Dolde. Noon, GE Global Classroom, Stamford Campus. **Thursday, 4/16 – Center for Health Intervention & Prevention Lecture.** “Growing Up Sexually in a Mediated World,” by Jane Brown, University of North Carolina. 12:30 p.m., Room 204, Ryan Refectory. **Thursday, 4/16 – Particles, Astrophysics, & Nuclei Physics Seminar.** “Strange Beauty and Other Beasts: At and Above the Y{5S} with Belle,” by Kay Kinoshita, University of Cincinnati. 12:30 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex. **Thursday, 4/16 – Geography GeoSeminar.** “Three-Dimensional Forest Reconstruction and Retrieval of Forest Structural Parameters Using a Ground-Based Scanning Lidar,” by Allan Strahler, Boston University. 2 p.m., Room 106, School of Business. **Thursday, 4/16 – Condensed Matter Physics Seminar.** “All Optical Correlator,” by Niloy Dutta. 2 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex. **Thursday, 4/16 – Humanitarianism Lecture.** “Redress and Human Rights,” by Elazar Barkan, Columbia University. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium. **Thursday, 4/16 – Benton Museum Lecture.** “The Visual Economy of the Photograph in Post-Revolution Rural Mexico,” by Robin Greeley. 4 p.m., Benton Museum of Art. **Thursday, 4/16 – Culture, Health, & Human Development Colloquium.** “Challenges to the Assessment of Abilities and Competencies in the Era of Globalization,” by Elena Grigorenko, Yale University. 4 p.m., Room 18, Family Studies Building. **Friday, 4/17 – Connecticut Insurance Law Journal Symposium.** “Remaking Financial Services Regulation.” 8:15 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Starr Hall, School of Law, Hartford. Register at [www.law.uconn.edu/news/events/remaking.html](http://www.law.uconn.edu/news/events/remaking.html) **Friday, 4/17 – Environmental Engineering Seminar.** “Phyto-remediation of Persistent Organic Pollutants: Mechanistic Studies and Field Application,” by Jason White, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Noon, Room 212, Castleman Building. **Friday, 4/17 – Marine Sciences Seminar.** “Phytoplankton Physiology,” by Veronica Lance, Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory.

3 p.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences Building, Avery Point Campus. **Friday, 4/17 – Physics Colloquium.** “Hints of New Physics in Heavy Meson Decays from the Belle Experiment,” by Alan Schwartz. 4 p.m., Room P38, Gant Science Complex. **Friday, 4/17 – Linguistics Colloquium.** “Embeddings, Relatively Speaking,” by Maria Polinsky, Harvard University. 4 p.m., Room 311, Arjona Building. **Friday, 4/17 – Litchfield County Writers Project Discussion.** Readings from *Tennessee Williams*, by Susan Kinsolving, poet, and Jack Gilpin, actor. 6:30 p.m., Hogan Lecture Hall, Torrington Campus. **Monday, 4/20 – State of the University Address.** President Michael Hogan. 4 p.m., Student Union Theatre. Reception to follow.

## Exhibits

**Thursday, 4/16 through Wednesday, 7/29 – Health Center.** *A Contemporary Exploration*, paintings by Shirley Mae Neu, and

*Medical Illustrations, 1543-2008*, prints, drawings, computer graphics, and animation by various artists; *Fleshed Out*, paintings, prints, and photographs by Will Foote, Harry Morley, Albert Sterner, and Kathe Kollwitz; *Apperceptions*, works by Master of Fine Arts candidates Michael Donovan, Bruce Myren, Jacob Saunders, Elizabeth Talbot, and Erin Wiersma; *Luigi Lucioni’s American Countryside*, etchings. Wednesday, 4/15 – Gallery talk on the Master of Fine Arts Exhibition. 12:15 p.m. Museum hours: Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1–4:30 p.m. Open by appointment for classes and tours Monday–Wednesday. **Through Friday, 5/15 – Babbidge Library.** *Portraits in Glass*, by Debbie Tarsitano, Gallery on the Plaza; *Connecticut Wilderness*, sculptures and mixed media installations by Randall Nelson, Stevens Gallery and West Alcove. For hours see Libraries. **Through Friday, 5/15 – Dodd Center.** *Indigenous Voices*, Aztec, Mayan, and Incan codices; Also through Monday, 4/20, *Transitional Spaces in Post-Soviet Estonia*, photos by Sarah Rhodin, West Corridor. For hours see Libraries.

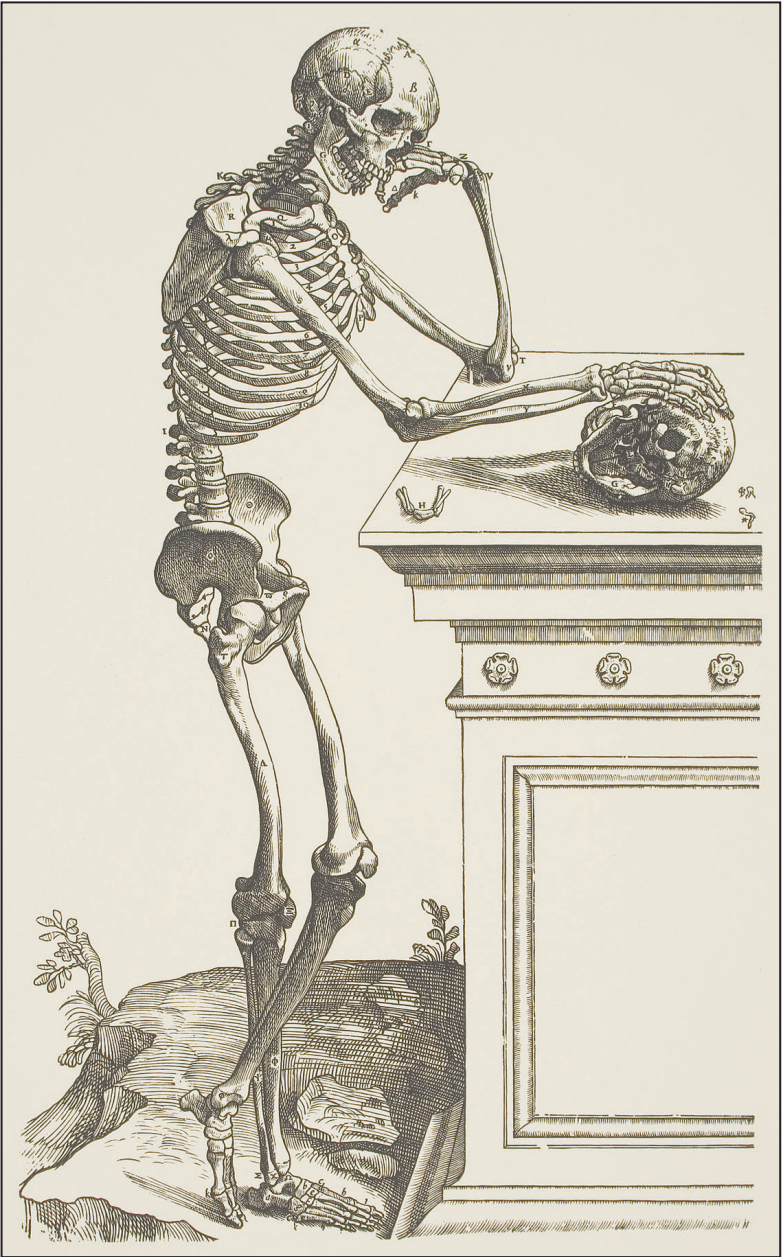


IMAGE SUPPLIED BY THE WILLIAM BENTON MUSEUM OF ART

‘Skeleton Contemplating a Skull’ from *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* by Andreas Vesalius, part of the exhibit *Anatomically Correct: Medical Illustrations, 1543-2008*, now on display at the Benton Museum.

**Ongoing – State Museum of Natural History & Connecticut Archaeology Center.** *Human’s Nature: Looking Closer at the Relationships between People and the Environment*. Hours: Wednesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

## Performing Arts

**Monday, 4/13 – Student Recital.** Sarah Masterson, piano. 7 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Tuesday, 4/14 – Student Recital.** Tom Lee and Ben Luddy, trumpet. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Thursday, 4/16 – Recitals Plus.** Performance by advanced music majors from the School of Fine Arts. 12:15 p.m., Benton Museum of Art. **Thursday, 4/16 – Concert Band.** Marvin McNeill, director. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Admission

\$7, students and children free. **Thursday, 4/16 – Classical Event.** *National Philharmonic of Russia* with Vladimir Spivakov, conductor and Mikhail Simonyan, violin. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for Performing Arts. Concert Talk at 7:15 p.m. Tickets: \$33, \$37, \$40. Call 860-486-4226 for more information. **Friday, 4/17 and Saturday, 4/18 – Dramatic PAWS.** *Oleana*. 7 p.m., Konover Auditorium. Admission \$5. **Friday, 4/17 – Student Recital.** Angela Garcia, soprano. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Saturday, 4/18 – Student Recital.** Erika Beckwith, mezzo soprano. 3 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Saturday, 4/18 – Student Recital.** Stephen Marotto, cello. 5 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Saturday, 4/18 – Collegium Musicum.** Music in the Era of the Sun King; works by Couperin, Marais, Lully, and Rameau, Eric Rice director. 8 p.m., Storrs Congregational Church. **Sunday, 4/19 – Student Recital.** Jillian Katz, flute. Noon, von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Sunday, 4/19 – Student Recital.** Daniel Lee, violin. 4 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Sunday, 4/19 – Student Recital.** Louis Hanzlik, trumpet. 7 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. **Monday, 4/20 – Chamber Music Brass and Woodwind Ensembles.** Louis Hanzlik, director. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall.

## Film

**Wednesday, 4/15 – Indian Film.** *Acchu’s Mother*. 6:30 p.m., Room 107, Art & Art History Building. **Saturday, 4/18 and Sunday, 4/19 – Benton Art Film.** *The Odyssey of Life – The Photographer’s Secrets*. 2 p.m., Benton Museum of Art. **Monday, 4/20 – Film and Discussion.** *Prayers for Bobby*. 7 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas Center.

## Athletics

**Tuesday, 4/14 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Hartford. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Brown. 3:15 p.m., J.O. Christian Field. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Softball vs.** Dartmouth. 4 p.m., Softball Field. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Women’s Lacrosse vs.** Holy Cross. 6 p.m., Sherman Family Sports Complex. **Friday, 4/17 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Georgetown. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field. **Saturday, 4/18 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Georgetown. 1 p.m., J.O. Christian Field. **Sunday, 4/19 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Georgetown. Noon, J.O. Christian Field. **Monday, 4/20 – Men’s Baseball vs.** Quinnipiac. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.

## Potpourri

**Tuesday, 4/14 – Irish Literature Evening.** Gerson Irish Literature event, with Claire Kilroy, author. 7 p.m., Alumni House. **Wednesday, 4/15 – Radio Interview.** “Raising Poultry at Home,” Wayne Norman interviews Michael Darre. 7:15 a.m., WILI Radio Morning Show, 1400 AM, 98.3 FM. **Thursday, 4/16 – Author Talk.** David Leeming, literary scholar, remembers writer James Baldwin. 4 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Waterbury Campus. **Saturday, 4/17 – Figure Drawing Workshop.** Bring or purchase your own materials. 2:30 p.m. E-mail [tracy.lawlor@uconn.edu](mailto:tracy.lawlor@uconn.edu) to reserve a spot. **Saturday, 4/17 – Museum of Natural History Activity.** Soapstone carving with Cheri Collins. 10 a.m., Adults and children age 8 and over; children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission fee: \$25 members, \$20 non-members. Call 860-486-4460 for more information. **Sunday, 4/18 – Author Talk.** “Made From Scratch: Discovering the Pleasures of a Handmade Life,” by Jenna Woginrich, author. 2 p.m., UConn Co-op.



# Professor puts landscape architecture skills to work for UConn campus

BY KAREN A. GRAVA

A faculty member is both teaching his specialty and practicing it at the University.

Mark Westa, a landscape architect and associate professor of plant science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, spends half of his time on teaching and research and the other half working for the University's administrative operations unit.

"I practiced for 10 years professionally before I joined academe and I miss it," Westa says. "But I also enjoy teaching and working with students."

The arrangement is advantageous to the University as well, since Westa is familiar with the campus, says Thomas Q. Callahan, associate vice president for administration and operations services.

"Mark is the ideal individual to undertake several important projects that will help the University protect students, faculty, and staff, save money, and improve efficiency," Callahan says. "Under this model, we are using faculty with expertise to provide assistance, rather than seeking outside consultants. It's a model we would like to use in other areas as well."

Jim Bradley, associate vice president, says Westa has made an important contribution. "Mark has been especially helpful, because he combines the best of academic knowledge with practical know-how."

Westa is working on an access study of the Storrs campus, as well as a landscape master plan and site design manual. In short, he is helping the University decide how the campus will look and how it will function.

"Landscape architects are trained much like architects," he says. "Architects look at how people interact with space inside. Landscape architects look at how people interact with the world outside. We are interested in making places that are safe and function well, but also that add interest, beauty, and meaning to everyday life."

One of his projects, for which the firm of Chance Management Advisors Inc. of Philadelphia was hired, is reviewing access management of the Storrs campus.

The study includes how and when U.S. Postal Service, FedEx, UPS, Coke, 53-foot delivery trucks, and other trucks enter

campus, cross sidewalks, and pull up to loading docks. Sometimes there are so many trucks at the loading docks that they are three deep, waiting for their turn.

"We're concerned about the trucks interacting with pedestrians," Westa says, "so we want to look at changing the routing of the trucks and perhaps the timing of the deliveries to increase efficiency and safety."

The project involves observing the deliveries and studying where roadways could be altered to protect students and other pedestrians.

The landscape master plan will eventually include that information and other details that will help catalogue how the campus will look and function, he says. It may call for realignment of roads, limiting the number of crosswalks, or installing or moving sidewalks to make traversing campus safer. "Safety is our first concern," he says.

Another concern is attractive plantings that don't require a lot of time to maintain. The plan will suggest landscaping that will be easy to care for, and will specify trees, plants, bushes, and other



PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMAYER

Landscape architect Mark Westa, associate professor of plant science, at the intersection near the UConn Co-op. Westa is conducting a study of the campus that includes the interaction between traffic and pedestrians.

plantings that need minimum maintenance but provide maximum beauty.

The study will also look at issues such as mowing and plowing, and recommend steps that can save time and money. Snow plowing is a major undertaking that is sometimes made more difficult because of a slope, the placement of a curb, or the width of a

sidewalk, says Westa. Over time, adjustments will be made, "and, as we buy new equipment, we will phase in the equipment that is the most efficient."

Making all the changes in the plans will take many years, Westa notes. But the long-term results will provide a safer campus that is more efficient to run, as well as being more interesting and attractive.

# Mathematics and love coupled in professor's book of poetry

BY SHERRY FISHER

Mathematics and poetry are two of Sarah Glaz's passions. They are melded together in her new book, *Strange Attractors, Poems of Love and Mathematics*.

The book, published by A K Peters Ltd., is an anthology of about 150 poems that are strongly connected to mathematics in form, content, or imagery, says Glaz, a professor of mathematics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The collection includes poetry from all around the world, some in translation, and spans about 3,000 years. In addition to works by noted poets and scientists, the book also contains several by Glaz.

Love is the common theme of the poems in *Strange Attractors*. The first chapter focuses on romantic love between two people, while the poems in the second chapter are about love of family, nature, and life, and spiritual love. The last chapter centers on love for mathematics and mathematicians.

The book is co-edited by mathematician JoAnne Growney.

Glaz, whose mother read poetry to her as a child, says she started enjoying poetry before she even knew how to count.

"I've been fascinated with it all my life," she says. "I've been collecting poems with mathematical connections for as long as I can remember."

Glaz and Growney came to write the book after several years of e-mail correspondence. Their relationship began when Glaz found a chapbook – a pocket-sized

booklet – of poetry with a mathematical theme that Growney had published.

"I contacted her and we corresponded via e-mail for several years before deciding to write the book together," Glaz says. "We met

for the first time this January at a mathematics conference, where we celebrated the book's publication."

Glaz says finding poetry for the book was easy: "Both of us had large collections of poems with links to mathematics. Choosing the

poems was the bigger problem."

Many poets use mathematical language to express love, Glaz says. "I think that any strong emotion makes you feel you don't have enough words to express it. Searching for new ways of expression leads some poets to the language of mathematics."

In a poem from "Five Poems about Zero," Eryk Salvaggio writes about losing love:

Zero is a number  
of yearning.  
In your absence,  
I have nothing.  
But it's mine.

"Sacrifice and Bliss," a poem by Kaz Maslanka, is in the form of a mathematical equation. "The equation-poem involves the mathematical notion of a limit," Glaz explains. "It can be 'translated' into words by saying that the relation between ego and love in a relationship is inversely proportional. As egos approach zero, love grows to infinity."

Glaz says the book also contains a few "humorous, geeky" poems.

Katharine O'Brien writes in her poem "Valentine":

You disintegrate my differential,  
you dislocate my focus.  
My pulse goes up like an  
exponential  
whenever you cross my locus.

Glaz, who wrote a poem called "Calculus," says her poem is about the passionate, early history of calculus. "It's something I tell my students when I teach them calculus – the story of Newton versus Leibniz," she says.

Mathematics is much like art, Glaz says: "I love to teach and I love doing research in mathematics. I think that proving a theorem and writing a poem come from the same place. You need to create, to discover, to look for a truth, to look for a pattern, and then enjoy it when it appears, and, of course, share it with students."

Glaz is author and editor of several books and many articles in an area of mathematics called commutative algebra.

"Mathematics publications are for the initiated," she says. "They are read by the few hundred people around the world who work in the same research area."

*Strange Attractors*, on the other hand, is an interdisciplinary work touching on mathematics, poetry, and history. In addition to the collection of poems, it includes bibliographical information for further exploration of the links between mathematics and poetry, and biographical information on the contributors and on the mathematicians appearing in the poems.

"It was exhilarating to work on such a project," Glaz says. "I hope the book brings poetry to mathematicians and some love of mathematics to poets. I hope people from many disciplines enjoy it."

For more information about the book, and a sample of poems, Glaz invites you to visit her web page: [www.math.uconn.edu/~glaz](http://www.math.uconn.edu/~glaz)

*April is National Poetry Month and Mathematics Awareness Month.*



PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Sarah Glaz, professor of mathematics, with her new book.