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Photo by Peter Morenus

A view of the stairwell in the CLAS Building.

Spring graduation speakers announced

by Richard Veilleux

Timothy Shriver, chairman and chief executive officer of Special Olympics, will deliver the commencement address to more than 2,500 students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences during graduation ceremonies May 10.

Shriver, who earned his doctorate in special education from UConn in 1997, also will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the dual ceremonies in the Harry A. Gampel Pavilion, at 12:30 and 4:30 p.m.

On May 9, Robert Sternberg, dean of the Tufts University School of Arts and Sciences and an internationally recognized scholar and professor in the fields of psychology, education, and management, will deliver the commencement address to more than 1,700 graduate students. The ceremony begins at 1 p.m. in Gampel Pavilion. Sternberg will also receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree; and this year's Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors will be recognized.

Overall, including the schools of law, medicine, and dental medicine, nearly 7,000 UConn students will receive degrees during ceremonies on May 9 and 10 in Storrs and May 17 in Hartford. Similar to last year, each school and college will host a ceremony for its graduating seniors, with its own speaker.

The CLAS ceremony, with 2,540 students eligible for graduation, is by far the largest of the schools. Its speaker, Shriver, has led Special Olympics for 11 years. During that period, he has helped the movement grow to include more than 2.5 million athletes and their families in more than 180 countries.

He also created Special Olympics Healthy Athletes, the world's largest public health screening and education program for people with intellectual disabilities.

After earning his doctorate at UConn Shriver created the New Haven public schools' Social Development Project, and co-founded the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning, the leading research organization in the country in the field of social and emotional learning. He currently chairs the collaborative.

Sternberg, the graduate school speaker, was formerly IBM Professor of Psychology and Education in the Department of Psychology at Yale. He is also a past president

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UConn 2000 bond issue highly popular with investors

by Richard Veilleux

Officials representing the University on April 16 closed on a $144.9 million bond sale for UConn 2000 projects in one of the most successful sales yet of UConn 2000 bonds.

The sale was so successful, says John Sullivan, UConn's manager of treasury services, that the sales window was shortened from three days to two, and University officials, working with the State Treasurer's office, were able to negotiate down the interest rate the state will have to pay buyers to 4.01 percent – one of the lowest rates in the history of the program.

Including original issue premiums, the bond sale will support $150 million in UConn 2000 projects.

"Investors are confident in the University's management, the enrollment growth, and the state's commitment to the University and the renewal of our campuses' infrastructure," Sullivan says.

Denise Nappier, the State Treasurer, adds, "The tremendous success of the sale demonstrates investor confidence in both the bonds as an investment and in the University as an institution."

UConn will begin spending the money almost immediately, says Sullivan. The proceeds will be used for a range of projects, including new construction to replace the Arjona/Monteith buildings, residential life projects, a research tower at the UConn Health Center, deferred maintenance, library collections, telecommunications

see UConn 2000 bond sale page 6

Alert systems working well

by Karen A. Grava

The test of the University's Alert Notification System last week was very successful, with 88 percent of Storrs campus faculty, staff, and students saying they received notice of the test within 10 minutes.

The test was the first time all the components of the Alert Notification System were tested at the same time. The system includes 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.

In a survey after the test taken by 2,719 people, 88 percent said they were notified by one or more forms of Alert communication

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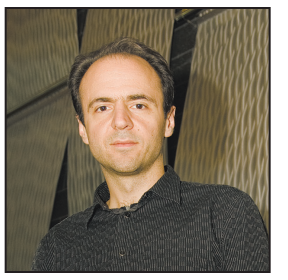

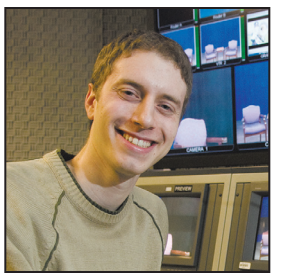

Photo by Peter Morenus

University President Michael Hogan speaks on 'The Future of the UConn Medical School,' during the Metro Hartford Alliance's Rising Star Breakfast at The Bushnell on April 14.

Fire and building inspectors ensure safety of University structures

by Karen A. Grava

All University buildings are constantly checked to make sure they are safe for living and working, according to Robert Hudd, associate vice president for public and environmental safety.

"Our inspection and remediation protocols exemplify current best practice," Hudd notes. "The fire and building inspectors responsible for assuring the safety of our buildings are among Connecticut's most capable professionals in their respective disciplines."

When the University discovered in 2005 that several of the residence halls built with UConn 2000 authority had fire and building code discrepancies, significant investments in code enforcement and organizational changes were made to prevent a recurrence.

Although discrepancies remain, none jeopardizes the life or safety of building occupants, says Hudd.

"If any condition in any University building constitutes a serious life-safety threat, neither the University's building and fire inspectors, nor the state's building and fire inspectors, nor I would allow the building to be occupied," he says.

The University first became aware of code discrepancies four years ago when repairing gas water heaters at Hilltop Apartments. The discrepancies were reported to the trustees, state officials, and the governor. At the governor's direction, all buildings built or renovated with UConn 2000 funds were then inspected for both building and fire code discrepancies.

As part of the plan to accomplish this, the University made a significant investment to develop a strong and independent code inspection group, says Hudd. The group, based at the Depot Campus, includes UConn building code officials and fire inspectors and representatives of the state Department of Public Safety, including state building and fire code officials.

The inspectors work in concert with Department of Public Safety officials and meet at least every two weeks with UConn's Office of Architectural and Engineering Services to monitor progress on resolving outstanding discrepancies.

Any building discovered to have a code discrepancy that jeopardizes life-safety is remediated immediately, Hudd says. Buildings with discrepancies that must be corrected but which are not a life-safety threat are subject to corrective action plans approved by both University and state code officials. Those problems are then referred back to the architect and the construction company to fix at no cost to the University.

In many cases, Architectural and Engineering Services officials are involved in designing state-of-the-art fire alarm systems, often consulting with the Fire Department to enhance the protection those systems offer by incorporating features that complement emergency response procedures. The alarm systems replace fire alarms that were in compliance when the buildings were originally constructed but which, while they may meet code, no longer provide the best available protection.

Most UConn residence halls are equipped with fire sprinkler systems. Mansfield and Northwood Apartments are not, but sprinklers will be installed there this summer.

All residence halls have "addressable" fire alarm systems – alarms that ring in the fire station and indicate the type of problem and where it is.

The Fire Department's response time on campus is approximately two minutes, McGovern says. The combination of sprinklers, fire alarm systems, and the department's rapid response time provide optimum safety to our community, he adds.

"The Office of the State Building Inspector and her predecessor have repeatedly assured the Construction Management Oversight Committee of the Board of Trustees that they are fully satisfied with the progress of UConn's inspection and remediation actions," Hudd says.

The Construction Management Oversight Committee reviews and approves University policies and procedures under which the UConn 2000 program operates, including the selection of design professionals and contractors, contract compliance, building and fire code compliance, deferred maintenance, project and program budgets and schedules, and change orders.

Commencement plans *continued from page 1*

of the American Psychological Association.

On May 17 at 10:30 a.m., nearly 300 students who will be eligible to receive Juris Doctor or Master of Laws degrees will be addressed by Sheila Bair, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. since 2006. Bair was previously Dean's Professor of Financial Regulatory Policy at the Isenberg School of Management at UMass-Amherst. She has also held senior positions at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the New York Stock Exchange, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

At 2 p.m. on May 17, more than 100 students will be awarded medical or dental degrees during ceremonies at the Connecticut Convention Center. They will be addressed by Keith Batchelder, founder and chief executive officer of Genomic Healthcare Strategies, a company specializing in the changes in healthcare resulting from advances in molecular medicine.

Batchelder graduated from the UConn School of Dental Medicine in 1979. He holds a master's degree in biomaterials from New York University.

In Storrs, the schools of fine arts and pharmacy, and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, will celebrate their students' achievements on May 9. The schools of business, education, engineering, and nursing and the Center for Continuing Studies will hold ceremonies in Storrs on May 10.

At 9 a.m. May 9, Victor Yanchick, dean of Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Pharmacy, will address UConn's doctor of pharmacy students in the Lewis B. Rome Ballroom. At 4 p.m., the School of Pharmacy will celebrate students who have earned bachelor of science degrees from the school, also in the Rome Ballroom. They will be addressed by Jennifer Osowiecki, a healthcare and litigation attorney and a partner in the Hartford law firm of Cox & Osowiecki;

Gary English, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor, artistic director of the Connecticut Repertory Theatre, and head of the Department of Dramatic Arts will deliver the commencement address to graduates of the School of Fine Arts. The ceremony will be held in Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on May 9, beginning at 5 p.m.

William Finch, mayor of Bridgeport, who holds a master's degree in agricultural economics from UConn, will deliver the commencement address to students from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The ceremony will be held in Gampel Pavilion on May 9, starting at 6 p.m.

On May 10 at 9 a.m., John Kim, president and chief executive officer of New York Life Investments, who earned his MBA from UConn, will be keynote speaker during the graduation ceremony for the School of Business. The event, honoring more than 600 graduates, will be held in Gampel Pavilion.

Also at 9 a.m. May 10, in the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, Richard Schwab, the outgoing dean of the Neag School of Education, will address students graduating with degrees in education.

The School of Engineering will hold a ceremony on May 10 at 12:30 p.m. in Jorgensen Auditorium for more than 300 graduates. Sharon Nunes, vice president of Big Green Innovations at IBM, will address the graduates.

At 2:30 p.m. May 10, the Center for Continuing Studies will honor more than 300 students who have earned bachelor of general studies degrees. The event, to be held in the Lewis B. Rome Ballroom, will feature an address by Chandler Howard, president and chief executive officer of Liberty Bank, who earned a BGS from UConn in 1992.

And, at 4 p.m. on May 10, Eleanor Krohn Herrmann, curator of the School of Nursing's Josephine A. Dolan Collection of artifacts and emeritus professor of nursing, will deliver the keynote address during the school's ceremony in Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
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Medical students learn from SimMan, a patient simulator

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

When you first walk through the door, you may think you've entered a typical hospital procedure room – complete with cardiac monitor, fully-stocked crash cart, and a large flat screen monitor where digital images of a patient's internal organs can be easily viewed. Not until you look closely at the patient on the examining table do you realize that all is not as it seems.

The patient, dressed in khakis and a blue denim shirt, is a high fidelity patient simulator known as SimMan that allows UConn medical students to prod, poke, and pull with barely a peep.

But that doesn't mean SimMan can't communicate with the students. He comes with prerecorded sounds and utterings, he can cough, moan, and wheeze. SimMan can also talk – his voice is courtesy of Dr. Thomas Nowicki, emergency room physician and director of medical simulation at UConn.

Nowicki operates from behind a one-way window in a control room next door. He can make SimMan sound cheerful, anxious, cranky, or downright mad – depending on the malady the mannequin is suffering and the particular medical scenario.

A computer makes SimMan tick – or not tick, as when Nowicki programs him to go into cardiac arrest. Students can use a real defibrillator to shock his artificial heart back into rhythm. If he's choking, they can cut through his plastic skin (he comes with extra) to perform a tracheotomy and get him breathing again.

Compressed forced air makes his chest expand and contract. If he has a collapsed lung, you'll hear air escape when a needle is inserted into his chest. He can clench his jaw, his tongue can swell, and his mouth can froth. Students can listen to his bowel sounds, or check his pulse in his wrist or feet.

His vital signs are broadcast on the clinical monitors in the room, keeping track of his blood pressure and pulse rate. Another monitor can display X-rays and EKG results.

There are cameras in the room that can zoom in and follow the action of the medical student. From behind his window, Nowicki can hear what is going on, and he can talk into the room in order to guide the student, or act as if he is the patient and respond to the student's questions.

"SimMan allows students to take the knowledge they already have and put it to use," says Nowicki.

"The real learning happens during the debriefing session," he adds. That's when Nowicki and the other students who are watching in the adjacent room, discuss in detail what happened during the SimMan scenario. Nowicki can also videotape the session and play it back so the student can see first hand what he or she said or did wrong.

Another obvious benefit is patient safety.

"Human patients can fake only so many different illnesses," says Benjamin Silverberg, a fourth-year medical student who will be doing his residency in family medicine. "For example, a collapsed lung –not too many people are going to allow you to intubate them just for practice. SimMan allows us to really hone our skills before we have to treat a living, breathing person."

And sometimes, it's a good thing when a bad thing happens to SimMan.

"During an exam, if I do something wrong with a human patient, a supervising doctor is going to jump in and take over," says Austin Schirmer, a second-year medical student. "If I'm treating SimMan and something goes wrong, I have to keep going, deal with the consequences, and learn from my mistakes."

Nowicki says it forces students to make big decisions and start to think in a realistic fashion. "It's a different way of learning," he says. "The students' weaknesses and the gaps in their knowledge are exposed. We then try to fill in those gaps. We can unmask what they might have missed in class."

The simulation class is offered in the students' fourth year, during their emergency medicine rotation.

UConn also has a SIM baby. The baby's lips can turn blue and he can have seizures. The mannequins cost between $40,000 and $150,000 and are manufactured by the Norwegian company Laerdal.

PHOTO BY LANNY NAGLER

Dr. Thomas Nowicki, foreground, director of medical simulation at the UConn Health Center, observes medical students Benjamin Silverberg, left, and Austin Schirmer using an external defibrillator to revive their 'patient,' a simulator, who is suffering a heart attack.

CRT summer series returns with a musical

The Connecticut Repertory Theatre (CRT) will restart its summer series with a presentation of the hit musical show *Crowns* June 11-21, in the Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre.

The Nutmeg Summer Series was a highly popular summer theater series that featured musicals and plays presented in the Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre during the summer as far back as the late 1940's. The series was suspended after the 2002 season for financial reasons, but a new financial format that includes major support from the University and private donors has enabled the series to return with one show this season. CRT intends to return to a full season Summer Nutmeg Series of three or more shows in 2010.

Crowns, by Regina Taylor, adapted from the book by Michael Cunningham and Craig Marberry, is an exploration of history and identity. The story of one young woman's return to the South, it dramatizes her education into the ritualized world of hats as an expression of cultural identity.

After a family tragedy, a Brooklyn teen is sent to her grandmother's house in South Carolina. Her journey of cultural and self-discovery is timed to a church day, from morning to the evening processional, featuring a wedding, a funeral, and a baptism.

The hats, or 'crowns,' are worn by six women whose stories are woven into their headwear.

The show features music ranging from freedom song to hip hop.

The production is being co-produced by CRT in collaboration with Indiana Repertory Theatre and Syracuse Stage. It will feature a full professional cast and professional musicians who will perform the show in Indianapolis and Syracuse before arriving in Storrs June 11.

Tickets to *Crowns* are now on sale and can be purchased by calling 860-486-4226 or online at www.crt.uconn.edu. For specific show dates and times, please call or visit the box office because performance schedules vary and are subject to change.

CRT is the professional producing arm of the Department of Dramatic Arts at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. CRT productions are directed, designed by, and cast with visiting professional artists, including Equity actors, faculty members, and the department's most advanced student artists.

Kinesiologist named editor of widely used exercise reference guide

BY ROBERT A. FRAHM

Known for her expertise on exercise and fitness, Linda Pescatello has been named editor of a prescriptive exercise guidebook widely used in medicine, athletics, and fitness programs.

Pescatello, a professor of kinesiology, becomes the first woman to be named senior editor of the *Guidelines for Exercise Testing and Prescription,* a reference guide published by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM).

Pescatello has focused her career on examining the connection between exercise and health – an interest that evolved after her days playing softball, basketball, and tennis as an undergraduate at UConn in the 1970s.

The guidebook is considered the bible of exercise protocol for professionals in clinical exercise testing and rehabilitation, exercise science, and other health-related fields.

Pescatello has been a contributor and associate editor of the guidebook's eighth edition. She now will head the production of the ninth edition, scheduled for publication in 2013.

"It's an honor," she says. "In terms of having an impact, it's really nice to be able to do that in your field."

The guidebook is used by physicians, nurses, physical therapists, exercise specialists, athletic trainers, health fitness professionals, and others. Pescatello notes that the guidelines are often used in clinical settings where people are stress tested, or exercise is used as a healthy lifestyle intervention – for example, cardiac rehabilitation.

It is also the primary reference for ACSM certification of health and exercise professionals working in preventive and rehabilitative programs.

PHOTO BY JEFF FOLEY

Linda Pescatello

One of the goals of the eighth edition, Pescatello says, was to condense the handbook. Instead of the large, inclusive resource book it had become in earlier editions, editors pared it down, making it a quick, easy-to-read guide containing references to other more detailed scientific resource documents and manuals published by the ACSM. The editorial board sought to create "something you could stick in your lab coat," she says, "short and sweet and to the point."

Her appointment as editor is the latest recognition of Pescatello's status in the field of exercise and health. She is an authority on a range of issues, including ongoing research funded by the American Heart Association on the effect of exercise in lowering high blood pressure.

She has authored or contributed to hundreds of articles in professional journals, and has worked on the editorial boards of publications such as *ACSM's Health & Fitness Journal, The American Journal of Medicine & Sports,* and *The Open Sports Medicine Journal.*

Study to look at effects of smoking on high blood pressure

BY MAUREEN MCGUIRE

Health Center researchers are looking for smokers who want to kick the habit and have also been diagnosed with high blood pressure.

The researchers are seeking study participants diagnosed with either pre-hypertension or stage one hypertension.

Co-investigators Drs. William White, Nancy Petry, and Sheila Alessi and a team of researchers will measure the impact of smoking and smoking cessation on blood pressure, using a 24-hour blood pressure monitoring device, and at the same time, compare two approaches to helping smokers quit. The four-year study is supported by a National Institutes of Health grant to the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center. White, a professor of medicine, is an internationally recognized expert in the treatment of hypertension and editor-in-chief of a peer-reviewed journal, Blood Pressure Monitoring. He has long championed the role of 24-hour monitoring to capture the most accurate picture of blood pressure fluctuations throughout the day.

"While smoking is a known and potent risk factor for heart disease and stroke, there is still more to learn about how smoking affects blood pressure, especially over a complete, 24-hour profile," White says. "We do know that right after someone smokes a cigarette, the nicotine can raise both the blood pressure and the pulse rate, but the duration and burden that this creates is not as well known.

"When patients stop smoking and start a medicine like varenicline," he adds, "we need to understand how this affects their blood pressure, not only in the doctor's office but over the course of a day in the life of a patient suffering from hypertension."

To help participants quit smoking, the study will randomly divide participants into two groups. Both groups will be treated with varenicline, also known as Chantix, an FDA-approved smoking cessation medication. Several studies have shown that varenicline can more than double the chances of successfully quitting, compared to other types of treatment.

The difference between the groups will be the type of counseling participants receive in conjunction with the medication. One group will participate in traditional, individual counseling, and the other will receive "contingency management" counseling.

Contingency management is an incentive-based intervention in which participants receive prizes, such as vouchers or small gifts, for compliance – in this case, for not smoking. It has been used to treat a variety of addictive disorders. In recent years, its success rates have gained national attention, as well as increased credibility in the medical community.

"In essence, contingency management is the same technique that parents use with children every day by rewarding good behavior. It is behavior modification and behavior shaping," says Dr. Nancy Petry, a professor of medicine.

Petry is a prominent researcher in the field of addiction treatments, including drug and gambling addictions, and a leader in contingency management research.

"Several studies have indicated that combining medical approaches with counseling can vastly improve a smoker's chance to quit for good," Petry says. "This study will help to answer questions about the role of contingency management counseling in motivating smokers to stay away from cigarettes over the short term as well as in the long run."

Study participants will be treated actively, free of charge, for at least three to six months, and will be followed for one year. Participants must be over 18 and can already be taking medicine to reduce their blood pressure. Stage one hypertension is defined as blood pressure in which the systolic reading is between 130 and 160 and the diastolic reading is between 80 and 100, for example 140/90.

For more information or to participate in the study, call 860-372-8418.

PHOTO BY AL FERREIRA

Dr. William White, right, confers with a patient. White is a co-investigator on an NIH-funded study that will look at the relationship between smoking, quitting, and high blood pressure.

Engineer's research targets wireless networks and security

BY NAN COOPER

Aggelos Kiayias, assistant professor of computer science & engineering in the School of Engineering, has received three new grants from the National Science Foundation for research aimed at improving the security of data transmitted and stored electronically. The grants, which total more than $400,000, build upon Kiayias' ongoing cyber-security research.

One project focuses on wireless networks. These networks, commonly found in Internet cafes, hotels and meeting facilities, offices, universities, and homes, permit the use of laptop computers, BlackBerry units, and the like without the need for plug-ins. The system relies on interface cards housed within the computing devices that permit data transmission via radio waves. While these systems feature some degree of security, they are far from immune to the dangers of data breaching.

Together with Bülent Yener of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Kiayias is seeking to develop better encryption methods to combat the widespread problem of data breaching, which carries significant risks of identity theft and costs businesses and individuals billions of dollars each year. Their work will focus on the relationship between the channel characteristics and the cryptographic protocols that use them, and will consider the economic tradeoffs between the costs of adding greater cryptographic security to a network and the costs of communications. They expect to develop methods that rely less on computational encryption and require less energy, thus extending the life of the battery or alternative power source.

UConn's Center for Science and Technology Commercialization has applied for a patent on this technology and is taking the lead in its commercialization.

A related project, on which Kiayias is collaborating with Tal Malkin of Columbia University, will focus on better understanding how algorithmically-based encryption methods can be improved so that they are easier to implement, offer better rates of data transfer, and are more effective in combating common cyber attacks.

Kiayias says many cryptographic methods are analyzed in isolation, without taking into account real-world attack scenarios, and that this leads many security-conscious companies to install external tamper-resistance methods that are typically costly or unreliable.

To build effective security measures, Kiayias and Malkin will extend existing models of cryptographic attacks to include various forms of private data tampering and access, thereby allowing them to construct encryption methods that permit easy data sharing while offering affordable security.

Kiayias is also co-principal investigator, with RPI's Yener, on a third NSF-funded project involving secure and auditable privacy contracts. The grant was awarded under NSF's Small Grants for Exploratory Research program.

"Millions of users pass their personal information daily over the Internet to their health-care providers, banks, insurance companies, and other service providers," Kiayias says. "Once this information is transferred, in many cases it is outsourced to other parties, some of whom may even reside in foreign countries, for storage and processing. The data may then be sold or resold for data mining."

Data producers – customers and patients – have no control over access to and use of such private and sensitive data. To enhance the security and transparency of these operations, Kiayias and Yener will introduce a mechanism known as secure and auditable privacy contracting, a method that can be used to define a tradeoff between privacy and data mining.

Kiayias says this type of tradeoff can be negotiated and customized between data sources and data miners, by allowing the company to set permissions and define the specific functions that can be performed with personal records.

"It aims to bridge the need for privacy with the need for data collection, transfer, marketing, and processing, thus enabling sensitive private data to be treated as a commodity," he says.

Kiayias heads the School of Engineering's Crypto-DRM laboratory, which is dedicated to studying the cryptographic aspects of copyright technologies and digital rights management systems. He joined UConn as a visiting assistant professor in 2002 after receiving his Ph.D. from the Graduate Center, City University of New York, and took up a tenure track position here in 2003. In addition to the three new NSF grants, he also currently holds an NSF CAREER award.

PHOTO BY JESSICA TOMMASELLI

Aggelos Kiayias, assistant professor of computer science and engineering.

Impact of apologies on world politics focus of historian's book

BY SCOTT BRINCKERHOFF

Offering and receiving apologies are part of everyday life, but when apologies occur – or don't – on the international scene, they may trigger a whole new round of friction.

UConn's Alexis Dudden, an associate professor of history, is studying the forces at work when citizens, politicians, or pressure groups demand that a government apologize for acts that often go back decades.

Her new book, *Troubled Apologies Among Japan, Korea, and the United States*, looks at the phenomenon of "apology politics" from a northeast Asian perspective.

She uses the case of several tiny islands claimed by both Korea and Japan to illustrate how symbolic issues can stir up historical resentments, add to regional instability, and minimize the potential benefits of diplomacy or apologies.

The uninhabited islands, about 100 kilometers from the mainland, are variously known as Dokdo, Takeshima, or the Liancourt Rocks. Other than hosting a weather station and serving as a rookery, the islands have no special value.

Yet, Dudden says, they are the subject of "quite violent rhetoric between Tokyo and Seoul" because they aggravate pre-World War II memories of Japanese imperialism. The United States has also been dragged into the conflict because of its alliances with both nations.

"War over these islands is unlikely, but an accidental conflagration isn't," says Dudden, who speaks, reads, and writes Japanese and Korean.

Five years ago, intense demonstrations over the islands took place in both Korea and Japan. The Korean government, livid, said the Japanese position amounted to "an effective withdrawal of the apologies that Japanese leaders and politicians have made for Japan's past aggressions and imperialist record."

Examples abound of the power that apologies exert on international politics. Often, Dudden says, apologies fall short or appear disingenuous, whether it's the Vatican addressing its role in World War II; South Africa and apartheid; the United States and slavery; or the Irish Republican Army and its violence against civilians.

Germany's apologies for World War II and the Holocaust are often cited as models of successful, unequivocal apologies, Dudden says, but not everyone agrees with what might be called unintended consequences.

"To this day, free speech in Germany does not extend to a discussion of the Nazi past and the government's approach to dealing with it," she says.

Dudden has extensively studied two other World War II apology-related events: Japan's use of sex slaves, or "comfort women," for its troops, and the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

As many as 200,000 women of Korean and other national origins may have been forced by Japan into sex slavery, but successive governments have never apologized in a way that satisfied the few remaining survivors or their families and advocates.

Even though a private fund was established that would give $20,000 to each qualified applicant, few took advantage of the offer. Dudden says the case says a great deal about what constitutes an adequate apology:

"The apology only works if the victim accepts it," she says. "More than anything else, victims want their stories told, and while compensation probably should be a component of an apology, sincerity, atonement, and acknowledgement of suffering are much more important."

Sometimes, Dudden adds, "apologies" are cast in such a way as to rewrite history and portray the offending party in a more favorable light.

While no one defends the use of comfort women, many historians do maintain that American use of the hydrogen bomb on Japan ended the war and saved American lives that would have been lost in an invasion of the country.

Dudden is among historians who dispute that argument, on the grounds that the possibility of an invasion has been used to mask the horror of dropping two hydrogen bombs.

She says the question of whether an apology is warranted for the U.S. atomic bombings and other cataclysms of history often becomes conveniently sidestepped by focusing on what amounts to mythology – in this case, an invasion that might never have occurred.

PHOTO BY FRANK DAHLMEYER

Alexis Dudden, associate professor of history, outside Wood Hall.

The issue of whether to apologize, and how, is not necessarily confined to the parties directly involved. Having assumed responsibilities for the region after World War II, the United States found itself under pressure to apologize or take public positions on several issues, including the internment of Japanese-American citizens on U.S. soil; the comfort women, and the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

On the internment issue, President Reagan signed a Congressional resolution of apology, much to the dismay of then-Vice President George H.W. Bush, who was shot down by a Japanese fighter plane during the war. The U.S. government, with Dudden's prodding and counsel, also formally asked the Japanese government to issue a suitable apology to the comfort women and their heirs, despite the anger the move caused on both sides of the political spectrum in Japan, a valued ally.

Much of that anger, Dudden says, stems from the U.S. refusal to apologize for Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When House Speaker Nancy Pelosi joined other lawmakers in laying wreaths at Hiroshima in 2008, Dudden notes, she did not say a word.

Art historian explores social dimensions of Asian American art

BY SHERRY FISHER

A new book by Margo Machida explores the work of contemporary Asian American visual artists.

An associate professor of art history and Asian American Studies, Machida has written *Unsettled Visions: Contemporary Asian American Artists and the Social Imaginary*, published by Duke University Press.

"*Unsettled Visions* grew out of my involvement with contemporary Asian American art and artists' groups over several decades," says Machida, a curator, writer, and activist scholar.

"I examine how these Asian American artists conceptualize the world and position themselves as cultural and historical subjects through the language of visual art," she says. "I think of art as being a social product, coming out of lived experience and peoples' times and their relationship to those times. That's foundational to the kind of research I do."

Pioneering role

Machida's interest in Asian American art blossomed in the 1970's, when she was living in New York's Chinatown.

"There was a flood of Asian migration, and the Asian American cultural movement was growing," she says. "I started to write about Asian American art and began to curate shows. One thing led to another. It's a long and complex history."

PHOTO BY BRUCE MYREN

Margo Machida, an associate professor of art and art history and Asian American studies, in her office.

She says that her work as a curator and her writing, teaching, and historical research on Asian American visual culture are all inter-connected: "They feed one another, and this book is the result of all my interests over the years."

In addition to the publication of her new book this year, Machida has been honored for her significant academic achievements: She was one of five recipients in the nation awarded a prestigious Women's Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Award, given in conjunction with the College Art Association's annual conference in February.

She was recognized for her pioneering role in defining the field of Asian American Art and visual culture.

Shifting identities

Machida's research for the *Unsettled Visions* book included extensive interviews with 10 artists.

"We co-interpreted their art and I analyzed and compared the raw material from the interviews," she says. "I began to notice common themes, certain ideas that catalyzed their work. Then I compared different artists' works. What unfolds is a rich picture of life experiences that are often quite different in terms of being an Asian American in this culture."

Some of the artists are immigrants or refugees; others are fourth, fifth, and sixth-generation Asian Americans.

"What's interesting is that these artists' sense of Asian American identity is not fixed in any particular way," she says. "Their conceptions of identity shifted continually over time and in relation to changing conditions, and that became a major premise of the book. There isn't any particular idea about identity that necessarily defines Asian American consciousness."

Social themes

Machida says the book is divided into three thematic chapters: representations of the other; social memory and trauma; and migration, diaspora, and sense of place.

The book focuses on artworks produced during the watershed period of the 1990s.

"By that time, new migration from Asia and global Asian diasporas, precipitated by the change in federal immigration laws in 1965, had transformed the demographic and cultural contours of Asian America," she says. "The Asian immigrant population eclipsed those who were American-born. There was a growing influence of Asian nations and things Asian. And the growing presence of foreign-born Asian artists was beginning to have a marked impact on the American art world."

She says the book, which is extensively illustrated with color plates, is one of the first books of its length that deals with social themes in contemporary Asian American art and visual culture.

"I think it will expose people to images they haven't seen," she says. "On another level, because it does reveal the experiences and standpoints of different individuals of Asian background, it gives the reader some personal insight into the many and often very different life trajectories that have brought these artists to the present moment."

Sunset after a rainy day, near the Center for Undergraduate Education.

Photo by Jessica Tommaselli

GRANTS

The following grants were received through the Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP) in February 2009. The list represents only new proposals awarded, and excludes continuations. The list is supplied to the *Advance* each month by OSP.

P.I.	Department	Sponsor	Amount	Award Period
Amico, K.	Psychology	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Nat'l. Inst. of Mental Health/Univ. of Mississippi Medical Center	$25,781	9/08-6/11
Multidimensional HIV Treatment Adherence Intervention				
Anderson, A.	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Duke Univ.	$31,000	4/08-3/13
Computational Active-Site Redesign and Binding Prediction via Molecular Ensembles				
Anwar, A.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Nat'l. Science Foundation/Engineering	$250,000	3/09-2/14
Collaborative Research: I/UCRC for Fuel Cell Research				
Bartholomew, C.	Extension	US Dept. of Agric./ Farm Service Agency	$5,000	2/09-3/09
Women's Agricultural Business Planning Summit				
Bavier, A.	Nursing, Dean's Office	Health Resources & Serv. Admin./Maternal & Child Health/UConn Health Center	$130,640	9/08-8/09
The Connecticut Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities				
Birge, R.	Chemistry	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Nat'l. Inst. of General Medical Sciences	$222,680	3/09-2/13
Photobiology of Rhodopsin and the Cone Pigments				
Bucklin, A.	Marine Sciences	SPT Offshore LLC	$46,400	2/09-3/09
Charter of Research Vessel Connecticut by SPT Offshore for Buoy Maintenance				
Chi, Z.	Statistics	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Nat'l. Inst. on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders/Univ. of Chicago	$38,131	7/08-6/09
Characterization of Non-Linear Auditory Receptive Fields				
Christenson, R.	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Nat'l. Academy of Science/Transportation Research Board	$135,000	2/09-1/11
Reducing Fatigue in Wind-Excited Traffic Signal Support Structures Using Smart Damping Technologies				
Elliott, G.	Plant Science	Sungro Horticultural Processing Inc.	$3,100	2/09-5/09
Evaluation of Organic Fertilizers for Use as a "Starter Charge" in a Soilless Potting Mix for Greenhouse Crop Production				
Ellis, D.	Plant Science	US Dept. of Agric./ Animal & Plant Health Inspection Svc.	$2,365	1/09-12/09
Noxious Weeds Work Plan for Calendar Year 2009				
Gao, R.	Mechanical Engineering	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Nat'l. Cancer Inst./UMass.-Amherst	$328,205	8/08-7/11
Development of an Integrated Measurement System to Assess Physical Activity				
Gao, R.	Mechanical Engineering	Canrig Drilling Technologies/UMass.-Amherst	$267,109	9/08-8/10
Health Diagnosis and Prognosis of Drilling Equipment				
Gokhale, S.	Computer Science & Engineering	Nat'l. Academy of Science/Nat'l. Aeronautics & Space Administration/Univ. of Htfd.	$7,500	1/09-12/09
Web Server Performance Analysis				
Hanson, J.	Technology Incubation Program	Connecticut Office for Workforce Competitiveness	$40,810	1/09-6/09
Technical Assistance for SBIR/OWC Roadblock Removal/First Revenue Program				
Hightower, L.	Molecular & Cell Biology	OxyHeal Health Group	$41,261	1/09-12/09
OxyHeal/UConn Project on Stress Conditioning Cultured Cells Using Hyperbaric Oxygen – 02 Year				
Javidi, B.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Navy/ Office of Naval Research/Lockheed Martin Corp.	$169,000	1/09-12/11
Automated 3D Target Reconstruction and Classification Using Distributed Passive Sensors for Persistent Surveillance				
Jordan, E.	Mechanical Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Navy/ Office of Naval Research	$140,000	1/09-7/09
Microwave Plasma Spray of Nano-Composite Optical Materials				
Morris, T.	Plant Science	Environmental Protection Agency/CT Dept. of Environmental Protection	$70,000	1/09-12/09
AFO/CAFO Project Series				
Pescatello, L.	Kinesiology	Nat'l. Insts. of Health/ Nat'l. Inst. on Drug Abuse/ UConn Health Center	$40,655	6/08-4/09
Healthy Activities for Prize Incentives				
Renfro, J.	Physiology & Neurobiology	Nat'l. Science Foundation/ Biology	$443,783	1/09-12/11
Choroid Plexus Control of Cerebrospinal Fluid Inorganic Phosphate				
Staples, M.	Curriculum & Instruction	Nat'l. Science Foundation	$53,264	1/09-12/09
Collaborative Research: Justification and Argumentation: Growing Understanding of Algebraic Reasoning				
Suib, S.	Chemistry	Prochimie Internat'l. Inc.	$47,000	1/09-5/09
Synthesis of Triethoxysilane via Microwave Methods				
Tehranipoor, M.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Nat'l. Science Foundation/Computer & Information Science & Engineering	$399,995	6/09-5/14
CAREER: Novel Techniques for Detecting and Localizing Hardware Trojans in Integrated Circuits				
Willett, P.	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Dept. of Defense/Navy/ Office of Naval Research	$476,245	4/09-3/12
MIMO RADAR: Tracking, Compressed Sensing, and OFDM				
Willig, M.	Ctr. for Environmental Sciences & Engineering	CT Dept. of Environmental Protection	$709,695	1/09-1/12
Dynamics of Nitrogen Loading and Speciation in the Urban Combined Sewer Catchments: An Assessment of the Effects of Flow Conditions				
Zofka, A.	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Nat'l. Academy of Science/Transportation Research Board	$399,712	2/09-2/11
Evaluating Applications of Field Spectroscopy Devices to Fingerprint Commonly Used Construction Materials				

UConn 2000 bond sale *continued from page 1*

upgrades, and renovations at most of the regional campuses.

The bonds were purchased primarily by retail, or individual, investors, says Sullivan.

"We've had tremendous retail demand – I mean tremendous," Sullivan said. "This is rather a large bond issue for us, but we weren't in the market last year so I think there's a lot of pent-up demand for UConn bonds."

In the end, about 75 percent of the bonds were sold to individual investors, many of them from Connecticut, one of the highest proportions since the UConn 2000 program began in 1996. Sullivan says retail investors are preferred because they tend to buy and hold the bonds, rather than trading them, as is likely when financial institutions purchase them. This tends to make the secondary supply of bonds scarce, which helps drive demand for new bond issues when they come to market and assists the University in obtaining favorable financing terms in the future.

Alert systems test *continued from page 1*

within 10 minutes. Most received the text message first.

The text messages were received by 99 percent of the registered telephones within three minutes of the message being sent, according to Rave, the University's text message provider.

"We are very pleased with the outcome of the test," says Barry Feldman, vice president and chief operating officer. "It demonstrates that all of the components are working in the way we anticipated and that we are able to get notice of an emergency out to the community quickly."

The redundant systems are designed so that most people will be notified by one or more components of the system, he said.

The components will be tested each semester in the future. Tests of the Alert Notification Systems at the regional campuses are also being scheduled.

CALENDAR Monday, April 20, to Monday, April 27

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

Monday, 4/20 – Communication Sciences. *Investigation of Central Auditory Nervous System Plasticity Following Amplification*, by Jennifer Paulovicks (adv.: Musiek). 3 p.m., Class of '47 Room, Babbidge Library.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Kinesiology. *Effects of Varying the Fatty Acid Composition of a Carbohydrate-Restricted Diet on Plasma Fatty Acid Composition, Blood Lipids, Insulin Sensitivity, Inflammation, and Oxidative Stress,* by Cassandra Forsyth-Pribanic (adv.: Volek). 11 a.m., Room 142, Gentry Building.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Mathematics. *Averaging Quadratic L-functions over Function Fields,* by Russell Prime (adv.: Conrad). 2 p.m., Room M118, Gant Science Complex.
Friday, 4/24 – Materials Science & Engineering. *Development of Nano-Engineered Powders of LiNH2 = LiH for Solid State Hydrogen Storage,* by Will Osborn (adv.: Shaw). 9:30 a.m., Room IMS159, Gant Science Complex.
Monday, 4/27 – Educational Psychology. *The Relationship of Career Decision Self-Efficacy and Perceived Barriers to Academic Preparedness or Community College Students of African Descent,* by Joshua Twomey (adv.: Colbert). 10 a.m., Room 246, Gentry Building.
Monday, 4/27 – Mathematics. *Computability Theory, Reverse Mathematics, and Ordered Fields,* by Oscar Levin (adv.: Solomon). 1 p.m., Room M118, Gant Science Complex.
Monday, 4/27 – Soil Science. *Production of Two Lipopeptide Antibiotics by Bacillus Subtilis in the Rhizosphere*, by Karen Kinsella (adv.: Schulthess). 2 p.m., Room 207-208, Young Building.
Monday, 4/27 – Philosophy. *Moral Personhood in Confucius and Aristotle,* by Alexus McLeod (adv.: Kupperman). 4:15 p.m., Room 227, Manchester Hall.

Meeting

Tuesday, 4/21 – Board of Trustees. 1 p.m., Rome Ballroom, South Campus.

Lectures & Seminars

Monday, 4/20 – State of the University Address. President Michael Hogan. 4 p.m., Student Union Theatre. Reception to follow.
Tuesday, 4/21 – Institute for African American Studies Discussion. "The Age of Obama: A 'Post-Racial' America?" with panelists Olu Oguibe, Maya Beasley, and Marysol Asencio, moderated by Jeffrey Ogbar. 3:30 p.m., Room 331, Student Union.
Tuesday, 4/21 – Judaic Studies Lecture. "Reflections on Early Holocaust Cinema: The Case of the Vanishing Jew," by Stuart Liebman, Queens College. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Rainbow Center Lecture. "Marc-Andre Raffalovich in Oscar Wilde's Irish London," by Frederick Roden. Noon, Room 403, Student Union.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Judaic Studies Lecture. "Crossing to the Aryan Side: Jews Passing as Christians during the Holocaust," by Jessica Hartke. Noon, Room 162, Dodd Center. RSVP to 860-486-2271.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Ocean Technology Seminar. "Bio-Inspired Undersea Sensors," by Edward Carapezza, Defense Advanced Research Projects. 3 p.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences Building, Avery Point Campus.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Sociology Lecture. "Culture and Mobilization: Impact of Same-Sex Weddings on Gay Activism Resurgence," by Verta Taylor, University of California, Santa Barbara. 3 p.m., Sociology Lounge, Manchester Hall.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Latin American Studies Lecture. "Horatio Alger in Brazil: Social Mobility in the Post Emancipation Countryside," by Mary Ann Mahony, Central Connecticut State University. 4 p.m., Class of '47 Room, Babbidge Library.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Political Science Lecture. "The National Security State and the New President," with Col. Lawrence Wilkerson, former Chief of Staff to Colin Powell. 4 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center.
Thursday, 4/23 – Race & Politics Conference. "New Perspectives on Race, Politics, & Cultural Agency." 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Bishop Center. For information, call 860-486-3630 or e-mail Rosebud.Lovelace@uconn.edu.
Thursday, 4/23 – Comparative Pathology Seminar. "Pre-Clinical and Clinical Development of HIV-1 and Respiratory Virus Vaccines," by Julia Hurwitz, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. 11 a.m., Room A001, Atwater Laboratory.
Thursday, 4/23 – Stamford Faculty Colloquium. "Women and Peace: Israeli Female Writers and the Geopolitical Conflict," by Nehama Aschkenasy. Noon, GE Global Classroom, Stamford Campus.
Thursday, 4/23 – Condensed Matter Physics Seminar. "Oxide Interfaces: Perspectives and New Physics," by Sashi Satpathy, University of Missouri, Columbia. 2 p.m., Room P121, Gant Science Complex.
Thursday, 4/23 – Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Lecture. "Spatial and Temporal Controls of Carbon Cycling in Arid and Semiarid Ecosystems," by Osvaldo Sala, Brown University. 4 p.m., Room 130, Biology/Physics Building.
Thursday, 4/23 – History Lecture. "Sapphistries: Writing a Global History of Love Between Women," by Leila Rupp, University of California, Santa Barbara. 4:30 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center.
Friday, 4/24 – Agricultural & Resource Economics Seminar. "Functional Foods as Differentiated Products," by Alessandro Bonanno, Pennsylvania State University. 10:30 a.m., Room 209, Young Building.
Friday, 4/24 – Polymer Program Seminar. "Imaging ROS Signaling Pathways In-Vivo at the Single Molecule Level: Optical Amplification and Multi-Modality from Carbon Nanotube n-IR Fluorescent Sensors," by Michael Strano, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 11 a.m., Room IMS20, Gant Science Complex.
Friday, 4/24 – Assessment Colloquium. "Spotlight on Assessment: Exploring Assessment in New Ways Using Husky CT," by Janet Jordan. Open to UConn faculty. 11:30 a.m., register at http://www.education.uconn.edu/assessment/colloquia.cfm. Participants will be notified of the location in a confirmation e-mail.
Friday, 4/24 – Geography GeoSeminar. "Magic 2.0: Discovering Research Resources in New and Exciting Ways," by Michael Howser. Noon, Room 434, CLAS Building.
Friday, 4/24 – Environmental Engineering Seminar. "Green, Urban, and Healthy – Tools and Techniques for Integrating Sustainability and Community Design," by Tom Low. 1 p.m., Room 131, Gentry Building.
Friday, 4/24 – Marine Sciences Seminar. "Toxic Diatom Physiology," by M. Soledad Fuentes, National Marine Fisheries Service Milford Laboratory. 3 p.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences Building, Avery Point Campus.
Friday, 4/24 – Physics Colloquium. "Totem, A Forward Physics Experiment at the Cern Large Hadron Collider," by Karsten Eggert, Pennsylvania State University. 4 p.m., Room P38, Gant Science Complex.
Monday, 4/27 – Norman Hascoe Distinguished Lecture in Physics. "Quantum Computing – How Far Have We Come, and Where Will We End?" by Klaus Molmer, Aarhus Universitaet. 4 p.m., Room P38, Gant Science Complex.

Exhibits

Monday, 4/20 through Friday 5/1 – Student Union Art Gallery. UConn drawing class show. Monday-Friday, 11a.m.-7p.m.
Friday, 4/24 through Sunday, 6/7 – Alexey von Schlippe Gallery. Works on paper by Alida Ferrari; mixed media/found object pieces by Peter Leibert; oils on canvas by Richard Nazzaro; and mixed media/installations/drawings by Connie Pfeiffer. Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Members and students free, others $3 donation. Avery Point Campus.
Sunday, 4/26 through Monday, 11/30 – The Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry. *Toy Theaters of the World and Titeres y Másacaras*, puppet and mask traditions from the Americas and Europe, drawing on collections from around the world and from the Ballard Institute's puppet resources. 6 Bourn Place, Depot Campus. Open Friday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Suggested donation $3 adults, $2 children. Opening reception, Sunday, 4/26, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
Through Sunday, 5/10 – Benton Museum. *Anatomically Correct: 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; and *Luigi Lucioni's American Countryside,* etchings. 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 section.
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 section.
Through Wednesday, 7/29 – Health Center. *A Contemporary Exploration,* paintings by Shirley Mae Neu; and *Kindergarten Masterpieces,* by students from Norfeldt Elementary School. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Celeste LeWitt Gallery. Also, through Wednesday, 5/6, *Small Towns, Car Shows, and Gardens on My Days Off,* by April Aldighieri. Daily, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Main and Mezzanine Lobbies.
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. Free admission, donations welcome.

Photo supplied by UConn Health Center

Artwork from the 'Kindergarten Masterpieces' exhibit by Norfeldt Elementary School, on display in the Celeste LeWitt Gallery at the Health Center through July 29.

Performing Arts

Monday, 4/20 – Brass and Woodwind Ensembles. Louis Hanzlik, director. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free admission.
Tuesday, 4/21 – Jazz Ensemble. Earl MacDonald, director. 8 p.m. von der Mehden Recital Hall. Admission $7, students and children free.
Thursday, 4/23 through Saturday, 5/2 – Musical. Connecticut Repertory Theatre presents *Hair* directed by Gabe Barre. Harriet Jorgensen Theatre. Tickets $11-$29. For performance times and tickets, call 860-486-4226.
Thursday, 4/23 – Contemporary Ballet. Complexions, multicultural dance company. 8 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets $25, $27, $30. For tickets and information, call 860-486-4226.
Thursday, 4/23 – Wind Ensembles. Jeffrey Renshaw, conductor. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Admission $7, students, children free.
Friday, 4/24 – Student Recital. Katherine LaPorta, soprano. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Saturday, 4/25 – Student Recital. Mark Verrette, cello. 8 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Saturday, 4/25 – Student Recital. Anthony Blackmon, bassoon and John Mathieu, trumpet. 5 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Saturday, 4/25 – Student Recital. Leah Brown, mezzo soprano. 7 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Sunday, 4/26 – Family Theater. *Cinderella*, a musical. 1 & 3 p.m., Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets $11, $13. For tickets and information, call 860-486-4226.
Sunday, 4/26 – Student Recital. Janet Pohli, soprano. 4 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Sunday, 4/26 – Student Recital. Kurt Galuan, piano. 7 p.m., von der Mehden Recital Hall. Free.
Monday, 4/27 – Jazz Lab Band. John Mastroianni, director. 8 p.m. von der Mehden Recital Hall. Admission $7, students and children free.

Film

Monday, 4/20 – Film and Discussion. *Prayers for Bobby*. 7 p.m., St Thomas Aquinas Center.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Indian Film. *Swades*. 6:30 p.m., Room 107, Art & Art History Building.
Saturday, 4/25 and Sunday, 4/26 – Benton Art Film. *Fantastic Voyage.* 2 p.m., Benton Museum of Art.

Athletics

Monday, 4/20 – Men's Baseball vs. Quinnipiac. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.
Tuesday, 4/21 – Men's Baseball vs. Fairfield. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.
Wednesday, 4/22 – Softball vs. Quinnipiac. 4 p.m., Softball Field.
Thursday, 4/23 – Softball vs. Massachusetts. 4 p.m., Softball Field.
Friday, 4/24 – Men's Baseball vs. St. Johns. 3 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.
Saturday, 4/25 – Men's Baseball vs. St. Johns. 1 p.m., J.O. Christian Field.
Sunday, 4/26 – Men's Baseball vs. St. Johns. Noon, J.O. Christian Field.
Sunday, 4/26 – Softball vs. Villanova. Noon & 2 p.m., Softball Field.

Potpourri

Wednesday, 4/22 – Earth Day. Activities on an environmental theme. President Hogan will drive a fuel cell-powered go-cart. Also, outdoor barbecue, with locally grown food, sponsored by Local Routes. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fairfield Way.
Saturday, 4/25 – Horse Auction/ Tack & Equipment Tag Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Horsebarn Hill Arena. For more information go to www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/equine/horsesale.htm
Saturday, 4/25 – Museum of Natural History Event. "Preserving Our Harvest," by Cheryl Rautio and Cameron Boum, antiques expert. 10 a.m. Adults and children ages 8 and above, children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission fee: $10 Museum of Natural History members, $15 non-members. Call 860-486-4460 for more information.

Class of '09 Graduating Students

Alexandra Cooper

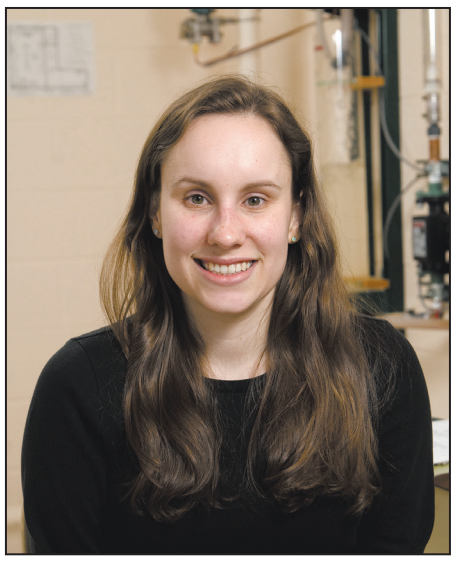

Photo by Frank Dahlmeyer

Alexandra Cooper, Engineering and CLAS

by Sherry Fisher

When Alexandra Cooper came to UConn, she knew exactly what she wanted to do: enter the Eurotech program and earn a dual degree in engineering and German.

Cooper will graduate next month from the program with a bachelor of science in chemical engineering from the School of Engineering and a bachelor of arts in German studies from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She also has minors in mathematics and chemistry.

Cooper is an honors student, a member of the academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa and the engineering honor society Tau Beta Pi, and a 2008 New England Scholar. Her GPA is 3.8.

A violinist, Cooper performed with the UConn Symphony Orchestra for several years. She also plays the piano and flute – just for fun.

She welcomed the fact that she could pursue her many interests at UConn.

"I've really liked the different opportunities available here," she says. "I was able to study engineering, German, and music – all in one location. That's not something you can find everywhere. … At UConn, there are so many avenues you can explore."

Cooper says she enjoyed the faculty: "They are supportive, helpful, and accessible."

She also likes the diversity on campus.

"Being a state university, UConn attracts a wide range of people from different backgrounds and walks of life," says Cooper. "Had I gone to school someplace else, I might not have experienced that."

She says she met a variety of people through her academic and musical pursuits.

"People who are music majors are very different from engineering majors, and they, in turn, are different from German majors," she says. "I've really enjoyed meeting a mix of people, and I've made good friends."

Cooper was accepted to six graduate degree programs, all with full support. She has decided to attend Cornell University, where she'll earn a doctoral degree in chemical engineering.

In the future, she hopes to combine working with computers with her chemical engineering background.

Jean-Paul Atallah

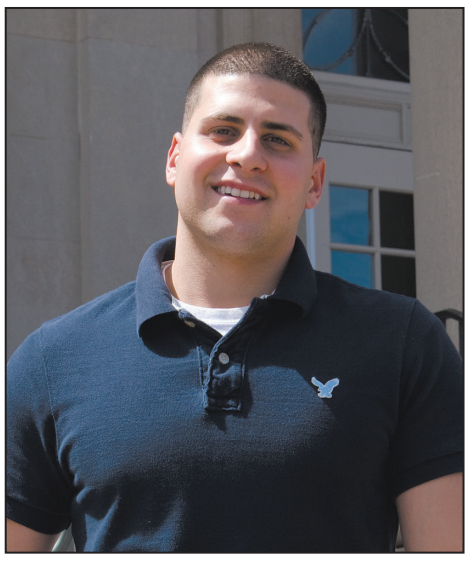

Photo by Frank Dahlmeyer

Jean-Paul Atallah, Business

by Sherry Fisher

Two of Jean-Paul Atallah's personal goals as a UConn student were to get involved and make a difference on campus.

A finance major in the School of Business, Atallah has done just that.

"Becoming involved in the Student Entrepreneurial Organization, now as pwresident, has allowed me to help other students," he says. He is also actively involved in the Multicultural Business Society.

The Student Entrepreneurial Organization connects students with entrepreneurs from the region, such as the president of Munson's Chocolates.

"We want our members to learn from the local entrepreneurs' successes and failures," Atallah says. "We want them to learn about getting start-up capital, how they marketed their business, and other tips.

"When a student comes up to me and says, 'I loved that speaker,' or 'that field trip was amazing,' it makes me feel very good," he adds.

Atallah says running the Student Entrepreneurial Organization is like operating a small business: "We're engaged in human resources, because we interview candidates for officer positions. We charge dues because we have limited resources and have to stick to a budget. We also do event planning and marketing."

For the first time this year, the School of Business is giving its own senior class gift. As a member of the 2009 Senior Class Gift Subcommittee, Atallah worked with the technology office in the business school to design a web site where seniors could vote on possible class gifts.

Atallah, who has been working at the Bursar's office since his freshman year, began his college career studying engineering, but switched first to studying management in the business school, and then to finance.

"I did an internship at a financial advising company during the summer, and that sealed the deal for me," he says. "I knew that sI wanted to become a financial advisor."

He has already accepted a position at a financial company in Wethersfield.

Atallah's advice to other students: "If you're going to do something, it has to be something that you love. If you start a business, you'll be spending 50, 60, or 70 hours a week at first. You really have to be committed."

Benjamin Gruenbaum

by Cindy Weiss

Graduating senior Benjamin Gruenbaum plans to attend medical school. He has already tested his career choice.

He spent one summer during college as an emergency medical technician in Israel, as one of 40 students worldwide who were accepted into the Magen David Adom volunteer program.

He spent another summer as a fellow at Hartford Hospital, shadowing an anesthesiologist and observing a liver transplant, a heart transplant, and a Caesarian section delivery, among other things.

In between, the honors scholar and psychology major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was a three-time Babbidge Scholar (consecutive semesters of perfect 4.0 grade point averages), and did an independent research project with psychology professor Etan Markus on navigation systems in the brain. He also played intramural basketball, served as a Community Assistant in his residence hall for three years, and won a UConn video contest that inspired the University's 30-second commercial, "A Perfect Fit."

Benjamin's video skills also made him one of 10 national winners in the Association of American Medical Colleges' "Aspiring Docs" video contest.

And recently, he won the psychology department's William D. Orbison Award in Recognition of Excellence in Psychological Studies.

His adviser, psychology professor David B. Miller, says Gruenbaum is the most well-rounded individual of the more than 23,000

Photo by Daniel Buttrey

Benjamin Gruenbaum, CLAS

students that he has taught over the years.

Gruenbaum says he appreciates the opportunities he's had on campus. "UConn has really given me the opportunity to do so many cool things," he says.

"A lot of things, I just asked to do," he adds. Like helping to teach a Freshman Year Experience class in psychology, which he did for three semesters, winning the John T. Szarlan Memorial Outstanding Student Mentor Award.

In his spare time, when he's not in the lab or presenting a research poster or collecting hair donations for wigs for cancer patients, he likes to make short videos with special effects.

Gruenbaum was weighing his medical school choices at press time.

To see his award-winning video on why he wants to be a doctor, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXOpwIEKQHk

Jessica Newcomb

by Sherry Fisher

Jessica Newcomb was a junior majoring in history when she decided to switch to nursing.

"I have a lot of interests," she says, "and even though I love history, I thought that nursing would be a better fit for me."

Newcomb, a student in the Honors Program, started to take her basic sciences courses and was hooked. "I hadn't taken many science courses in high school, and I found them very interesting," she says.

She says the opportunities at UConn are "amazing. There is a lot to do here and it's so accessible. I've always been involved in campus activities."

She took fencing, played the French horn in the University's concert band, and drove campus buses 20 hours a week.

How did she find time to keep up her academics – she has a 3.6 GPA – and participate in so many extracurricular activities?

"I like being busy," she says. "When I'm interested in something, as I have been here with my course work, it's not hard to do well. I'm really interested in what I'm learning, so it doesn't feel like work."

Prioritizing and setting goals helps, she adds: "You have to be organized."

Newcomb's capstone experience has been in Hartford Hospital's cardiac intensive care unit.

"I'm dealing a lot with families and assessment, which I find very satisfying," she says.

Her honors research involved working on a project with Patricia Neafsey,

Photo by Jessica Tommaselli

Jessica Newcomb, Nursing

a professor of nursing and principal investigator at UConn's Center for Health, Intervention and Prevention.

She and another nursing student tested a computer-based education program to reduce adverse self-medication behaviors in people with hypertension.

"I've enjoyed working with Professor Neafsey," Newcomb says. "She's inspirational."

Newcomb has accepted a nursing position in the cardiac step-down unit at the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven.

Over a period of several weeks, the Advance is publishing short profiles of some of this year's graduating students.

Those featured were selected from among those recommended by each school and college.