

HILLEL EXPANSION AIDED WITH \$1 MILLION GIFT

The silent phase of a multiyear campaign to enhance the educational and cultural landscape of the Storrs campus has been aided greatly by a \$1 million donation from a major benefactor of Jewish programs at UConn.

Morris N. Trachten '48 and his wife Shirley Trachten presented the gift toward an eventual \$6 million expansion of Hillel House and its programs at UConn, centered at the Jewish student center on North Eagleville Road.

"Those who have been fortunate throughout their lives see that now it's time to give something back," says Trachten, who remembers his studies at UConn as a time when there were neither facilities nor social programs for Jewish students.

In 2003, Trachten also donated \$150,000 to help create the Morris N. Trachten Kosher Dining Facility at the Towers apartment complex, the only kosher facility on campus. He believes the University will be able to recruit a greater range of Jewish students with both the plans for Hillel and the new dining facility.

"After the kosher kitchen opened, a number of parents called to ask me about it and find out what else UConn was doing for Jewish students," he says. "Now with Hillel, we'll be able to attract an element of Jewish students, including graduate students, who we just couldn't before. It's the old saying – if you build it, they will come."

Hillel at UConn is part of the international organization Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, which serves to enrich the lives of students through cultural programming, social events, social action projects and religious programs. It partners with the University to attract and retain outstanding Jewish students, collaborating

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MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars Program Kicks Off

Sixty Hartford high school graduates who may never have had the chance to attend a highly selective four-year university will now be able to attend the University of Connecticut thanks to an innovative partnership between the Hartford schools, the University of Connecticut and the MassMutual Foundation for Hartford, Inc.

The MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholar Program was announced in May when the first 15 student beneficiaries – representing Hartford's public high schools – were introduced during an upbeat event at Bulkeley High School. It is being funded by the MassMutual Foundation through a \$584,000 contribution.

"I've always dreamed of going to UConn, but I never would have made it there without this kind of support," said Crystal Cruz, a senior at Hartford Public High School. "I know some day I'll be back here talking to future students about how education made a difference in my life, and I'll always be grateful to



Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez speaks during the press conference at Bulkeley High School announcing the MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars Program. On the left is Crystal Cruz, a senior at Hartford Public High School and one of the first recipients of the Huskies Scholars award.

MassMutual, UConn and the City of Hartford for making it happen."

The MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars Program will eliminate some of the barriers to college facing Hartford public school graduates, provide momentum to UConn's push to provide quality education to a diverse student

population and support Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez' goal of increasing by 25 percent the number of Hartford youth attending four-year colleges.

"This is a wonderful program that gives Hartford students exactly what they need to succeed: opportunity. That it is matched with financial assistance,

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Dr. Marysol Asencio

Ford Foundation Grant Explores Latino Sexuality Research

Through a two-year grant from the Ford Foundation of New York, UConn's Institute of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies is conducting an extensive study of research into Latino sexuality.

Spearheaded by Dr. Marysol Asencio, associate professor of Family Studies/Puerto Rican & Latino Studies, the \$304,400 grant will enable an assessment of research in the field of Latino sexuality. It will also promote the assembly of a 10-member, nationally acclaimed peer board of scholars to identify uncharted research areas, Latino scholars in the field, and eventually disseminate the findings through publication and other venues.

"Sexuality is a lens. In the same way that gender, socioeconomic status and race allow us to examine society and social interaction, so does sexuality. We view a number of broader issues through it," says Dr. Asencio, a national expert in issues of Latinos, sexuality, gender, migration and race/ethnicity issues. "The study of Latino sexualities examines practices, meanings and contexts, not only because they provide information to assist in health related issues and social concerns such as HIV/AIDS and pregnancy, but for what they tell us about the larger culture and societal organization. Research with Latinos in the broad field of

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SUPPORTING THE MIND-BODY CONNECTION

Marianne Hartly, an artist and passionate supporter of the mind-body approach to mental health care, left the bulk of her estate to the Psychiatry Department to support research and treatment. With the pending state's match, the value of the gift is expected to total more than \$3 million.

At Hartly's request, Andrew Winokur, M.D., Ph.D., will be the first holder of the Dr. Manfred J. Sakel Distinguished Chair in Psychiatry established with the gift.

Hartly's bequest is in memory of Sakel, a close friend of hers in Vienna in the 1920s and later in New York City, where she assisted him in his research. After he died, she decided to memorialize Sakel and his work with an endowment in his name. "Sakel was ahead of his time, trying to develop therapies that relied on an understanding of biology and the workings of the brain. I view him as a pioneer," says Winokur, who adds that he is deeply honored by the gift.

The Hartly gift also will provide financial support for training and professional development of students and others with the potential to be significant contributors to the field. "Both Mimi and her husband Roy Cohen, who was very involved in the planning for the gift, wanted to support promising young people in the field of psychiatry. Their goal was to seed the future with people who would follow the Sakel tradition," says Winokur.

Noting that private funding can be invaluable to researchers, Winokur continued: "We are trying to develop innovative approaches based on science and apply them to the treatment of mental disorders. It is often difficult to get the necessary funding to support new work. A gift like this is often the key first step in getting an innovative program off the ground."

Plans to Relocate Medicinal Garden Underway

A UConn *Advance* article from 1956 about the opening of a new School of Pharmacy building on the Storrs campus includes just a brief mention of a "drug garden" planned for the grounds.

Walk by this spot today and the chances are good you'll encounter Diana Stanzione and other members of the UConn Master Gardener Program as they work to maintain the plantings, whose original purpose was a means to educate pharmacy students about "the manufacture of medications and dietary supplements."



Diana Stanzione has applied her UConn Master Gardener skills to maintaining the School of Pharmacy's medicinal garden.

Now that the School of Pharmacy has relocated to its new home in the Science Quad, Stanzione and others are mounting efforts to move the medicinal garden adjacent to the Pharmacy/Biology and Chemistry buildings.

Diana, who is married to Ralph Stanzione, a 1972 graduate of the School, worked for many years in the pharmaceutical industry. After retiring, she enrolled in the Master Gardener Program sponsored by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

She notes that one of the steps to certification through the Program is to perform 20 hours of community outreach, and so each year for the past five years Diana has organized a group of fellow master gardener candidates to work with her at the School of Pharmacy.

"I always had a love for the medicinal garden," she says. "Plants were the basis for modern pharmacology and I believe it is important for today's pharmacy students to understand where modern medicines got their start."

Many common garden plants have properties that can be used to treat illnesses and injuries. Varieties like foxgloves, hops, belladonna, horehound and valerian have a documented history of popular use in the United States well into the 20th century, but in recent years this knowledge has been eclipsed by the advent of modern pharmaceuticals.

When the School of Pharmacy unveiled plans for its new location, the medicinal garden was included, but then things changed and for a time it did not seem like the garden "was going to make the cut," Stanzione says.

That's when Dean Robert McCarthy became involved, working with the University's Building and Grounds Committee to win preliminary approval for relocating the garden.

"The medicinal garden has a long history and many of our former students have a strong sentimental attachment to it," says Dean McCarthy. "It is an important connection to our past and so should be preserved."

Mrs. Stanzione and Joseph DeLucia '65 (PHAR), are now co-chairing a group seeking to raise funds for relocating many of the current plantings and brick walkways, as well as for purchasing new stock.

"We hope to recreate the look of the old garden as closely as possible in the new space, including a new sitting pavilion," says Stanzione. "And we have a committed group of volunteers who would like to support an endowment to cover the expense of maintaining the garden on an ongoing basis."

McCarthy adds, "There's an expression that 'the old will become new again,' and even today there is great value in understanding the natural properties of plants and their potential use in modern pharmacy studies. We're very grateful to Diana, Joe and the rest of the volunteers who are helping us to preserve this wonderful resource."

Information about supporting the School of Pharmacy's medicinal garden is available by contacting Anne Margaret Gaffney, Director of Development, at 860.486.5000 or agaffney@foundation.uconn.edu. 🌞

MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars

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hands-on academic support and even a computer makes it phenomenal," said Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez.

MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars will receive financial aid and academic fees help with four years (or eight semesters) of academic advising, use of a laptop or desktop computer, and social support to enhance their overall college educational experience.

The program will focus on the recruitment, retention and graduation of low-income, first-generation Hartford students through UConn's Student Support Services Program.

The students chosen will be introduced to University life prior to their freshman year by attending a six-week, pre-collegiate

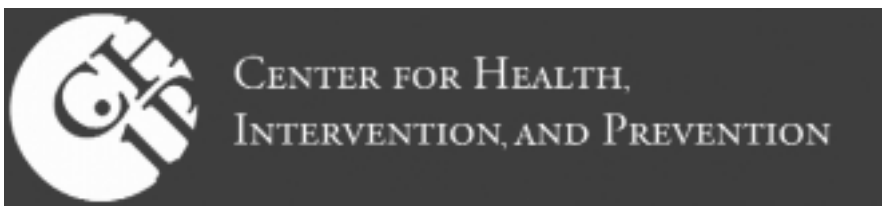
summer program. The Student Support Services Program will then guide them through their college careers.

"As Connecticut's flagship public university, UConn endeavors to open its doors to every academically qualified student in the state," said University President Philip E. Austin. "We are proud of our progress in maintaining a student body that is culturally and economically diverse, and the MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars program will take us an important step forward. We greatly appreciate their support."

The Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company has a long history of supporting education. The company strongly promotes—through financial assistance and volunteerism—the belief that providing educational opportunities effects long-term improvement within communities. Among its current educational programs in Hartford are the MassMutual Academic Achievement

Program, which encourages and supports academic achievement in the city's high schools, and its MassMutual Scholars Program, which provides \$28,000 in college scholarships (\$7,000 per year over four years) to 50 college-bound students from the counties of Hartford and Hampden, MA.

"We're especially proud of this new MassMutual Hartford Huskies Scholars Program because it was designed to fulfill a specific need in Hartford where so many students deserve the opportunity to continue their education at Connecticut's flagship university," said Ronald A. Copes, executive director of the MassMutual Foundation and corporate vice president of Community Relations for MassMutual. "We've helped foster a culture of academic achievement in Hartford. By helping send 60 new students to UConn, we're taking the natural next step in opening doors to education." 🌞



Scholarship Supports Promising Research of Women's Health Issues

A new scholarship fund will benefit students researching women's health issues, thanks to a \$25,000 endowment from a UConn alumna who was once helped in her own studies by similar support.

Christine N. Witzel, Ph.D. '81 (CLAS) of Palo Alto, CA, recently made the gift to support promising graduate and undergraduate students working with the innovative Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) in Storrs. It is the Center's first major gift since the program's expansion in 2002.

During her own graduate studies at UConn in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Witzel was aided by a fellowship that allowed her to focus on research in women's health and healthcare

evaluation. She sees her gift, especially in the face of the global growth of HIV/AIDS, as a means of 'giving back' by supporting emerging research.

"I'd love for the scholarships to promote new talent who may otherwise not be able to conduct their research," she says. "I hope it helps young people find a career, and for that career to benefit a lot of people."

Witzel has been personally active in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the San Francisco Bay Area for many years. She became involved in women's health issues in the 1970s by helping to found Connecticut DES Action, an organization for those affected by the use of the drug diethylstilbestrol during pregnancy. Witzel, a 'DES daughter,' sees research and social change as the key to preventing similar healthcare crises.



Christine N. Witzel, Ph.D. '81

"HIV/AIDS is a terrible pandemic that doesn't have to be. Many of the reasons for its spread are actually cultural and social values. Good research can help drive change," says Witzel.

Part of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, CHIP is a multidisciplinary research center studying the dynamics of health behavioral changes in individuals and targeted at-risk populations. Its researchers create new theoretical frameworks and behavior change interventions for preventing the spread of HIV infection, increasing medical adherence, diabetes management, cancer prevention, nutrition and other health risks. The Center's faculty represents nearly all the schools and colleges within the University, as well as individuals in other University systems. In addition to supporting research focused on American health issues, CHIP also has projects planned or underway in Africa, Asia and Europe.

When seeking an appropriate venue for her philanthropy, Witzel was pleased to learn more about CHIP.

"I shared my values and priorities with the organization, and I'm confident they'll use the gift in the best way possible to honor those values," she says.

To qualify for the Christine N. Witzel Awards, students must be recommended by a CHIP faculty member and write a three- to five-page draft proposal for innovative research in the area of women's health. The proposal must also show particular promise for future funding from a private foundation or a federal agency such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Jeffrey Fisher, Ph.D., professor of social psychology and the director of CHIP, says that because of the gift's focus on research, it is not only supporting the students of today, but the entire field tomorrow.

"We have many marvelous graduate students, with great ideas for projects, but there's never enough available funding for pilot research, which is often needed before they can apply for external funding," he says. "Christine's support is an engine that drives that preliminary research and is very helpful for those working in the areas of HIV and cancer prevention." ■

For more information about the Christine N. Witzel Award Fund scholarship, interested students should contact the Office of Student Financial Aid Services at 860.486.2819 or online at <http://financialaid.uconn.edu>. For more information about the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention, please call 860.486.2438 or visit their web site at <http://www.chip.uconn.edu>

Senior Class Gift to Help Fund Bookworms Café Expansion

One of the most popular and often most crowded places to study and socialize on campus will soon have more breathing room.

The 2006 senior class earmarked that its graduation gift be used toward the expansion and renovation of Bookworms Café in Homer Babbidge Library.

"Due to its popularity, Bookworms is currently of insufficient size to adequately accommodate students," says Sarah Baldwin, senior class gift chairperson. "Our goal is to provide more space for students in an environment conducive to learning. Bookworms is a good balance, because it serves both social and educational purposes."

Under the proposed plan, the north wall of the facility will be extended 25 feet, creating 625 square feet of additional space.

In addition, coffee shop-style counter seating will be installed along the entire west wall, and tables for group meetings will be added. The expansion is expected to begin this summer and be completed by October.

So far, the class has raised more than \$28,000 toward its \$20,000 goal. The Library will contribute the remaining funds needed for the work.

According to David Avery, facilities librarian, the facility's popularity is constrained not only by its limited space, but by the current seating, which does not accommodate either single individuals who wish to study or eat alone, or large groups of people.

Since its opening in 1998, Bookworms Café has attracted students as a place to eat and engage in group study and social activity.

In the years since then, traffic there has increased considerably, often rendering the space inadequate for the demand. In response to that need, in 2004-05,



The Bookworms Café in the Homer Babbidge Library, a popular gathering place for students, will undergo a significant renovation thanks in part to the 2006 senior class.

the library purchased additional furniture for the west entrance, west alcove and the area adjacent to the north exhibit space to provide an overflow space, which has found a ready audience.

In the fall, Baldwin e-mailed all seniors asking them to join the volunteer-based senior class gift committee. Following a series of meetings, the group decided to focus their fundraising efforts on Bookworms.

Baldwin says their decision was aided by the Undergraduate Student Government, which had surveyed students and found a strong interest in expansion of the facility.

Previous graduating classes have designated that their gifts be used for scholarships. Baldwin said her classmates considered following suit, but the members of the committee felt a tangible gift would be more appealing to the senior class.

"I hope that our senior class gift will improve UConn," says Baldwin, "and leave a lasting impression of the Class of 2006 for the UConn community in years to come." ■



Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D., director of the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center and the current president of the American Cancer Society, addresses the 20th Annual Beach Society Luncheon.

Beach Society Luncheon Celebrates 20 Years of Planned Giving

More than 80 attendees celebrated the contributions of planned giving and learned how research has led the fight against cancer when the Charles Lewis Beach Society held its 20th annual luncheon in Storrs on May 12th.

The keynote speaker for the event was Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D., director of the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center and the current president of the American Cancer Society. Author of the book *"The Answer to Cancer,"* Runowicz delivered a presentation filled with the hope of advances in cancer prevention and treatment, and drove home the value of continued research and development.

"It's important for us to see the connection between the need for ongoing research and long-term planning in support of that research," said Hal C. Reed, J.D., CFRE, assistant vice president for planned giving at The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc.

Beach Society members attending the luncheon were recognized for their generous contributions to the University community. The Society honors those who provide for the University through their wills and other planned gifts, including life insurance, charitable gift annuities and other methods, regardless of the size of the donation. Building upon nearly 80 years of planned giving at the University, the Society members' contributions have helped to fund scholarships, professorships and academic programs.

Charles Lewis Beach served as president of the University from 1908 to 1928 and was instrumental in the growth of the institution, as well as an active philanthropist. His private art collections donated to the University formed the basis of what is today The William Benton Museum of Art. 🌟

For more information about the Charles Lewis Beach Society or planned giving, please contact Hal Reed at 860.486.6135 or by email at hreed@foundation.uconn.edu.

Pharmacy Students Match Senior Citizens With Proper Drug Plans

A group of students in UConn's School of Pharmacy has been helping many of the Connecticut Department of Social Services' 48,000 ConnPACE clients find the appropriate Medicare Part D plans to pay for their medications.

Each of the ConnPACE clients – some seniors, some disabled people – takes between three and six "maintenance" medications a month, not including occasional other prescriptions for infections or other problems.

The students' job is to review each person's medication regimen and narrow the choices down from the 44 options available in Connecticut to three plans that cover all the person's medications, wherever possible.

The partnership between the School of Pharmacy and the state – believed to be a first nationwide – has been lauded by the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and has drawn inquiries

from other states hoping to duplicate it, says Peter Tyczkowski, educational outreach coordinator for the School.

The students recently took second place in a national competition for Medicare outreach programs held by the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives.

In addition to the 16,000 cases the students are currently working on, they may also be asked to review 4,000 additional patient profiles with slightly more complex drug regimens.

"The students are performing an invaluable community service by providing individualized reviews of our clients' medication regimens," says Department of Social Services Deputy Commissioner Michael Starkowski.

"They also are helping reduce confusion at the pharmacy counter and reduce the need for doctors and pharmacists to request exceptions for non-formulary drugs."

The students, in turn, "are receiving first-hand knowledge of Medicare Part D and the complex combinations of medicine on which our seniors rely," he adds.



Katie Myers, a senior pharmacy major, works on patient profiles for the Medicare Outreach Program with fellow group leaders at the School of Pharmacy.

The students, organized and led by five student "captains" who review their work before handing it to Tyczkowski for quality assurance, say the project has not been without challenges.

The workload is heavy, and time is tight. Also, no two patient profiles are identical, so each one involves finding solutions to different problems. But the students say the rewards far outweigh the challenges.

"It's astounding the number of seniors we have been able to help with this project, says Meghan Scagliarini, a fifth-year pharmacy student and one of the captains.

"We are all proud that the state of Connecticut looked to student pharmacists as a valuable resource in such a project. Knowing we can make a difference in our state as students is exciting and makes all the hard work worthwhile." 🌟

Neag School of Education Climbs into U.S. News & World Report's Top 25

The Neag School of Education has made a meteoric rise in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, climbing into the top 25 schools of education nationwide for the first time.

The Neag School leapt eight slots from last year to rank 21st among all graduate schools of education in the country. In addition to remaining the top public graduate school of education in the Northeast, the School is now regarded as one of the top two public graduate schools of education along the entire east coast, second only to the University of Virginia at Number 19.

Dean Richard Schwab believes the rankings exemplify the growing national reputation the Neag faculty, research and programs enjoy, especially among the school's peers.

"The Neag School is now a school of choice," Schwab says. "We are proud to have some of the nation's top graduate students and highly-respected scholars calling us, which has created a significant talent pool to draw from."

In 2005, the Neag School recruited George Sugai, one of the nation's most prominent scholars in behavioral practices, to fill the Carole J. Neag Chair in Special Education. Don Leu, who holds another endowed chair, the John and Maria Neag Chair in Literacy and Technology, also is regarded as one of the top national experts in his field.

In addition, the Neag School's talented faculty members hold leadership positions in some of the nation's top professional organizations and peer-reviewed journals, including the presidencies of the National Association for Gifted Children, the National Reading Conference, the Higher Education Consortium for Special Education and the Council of Academic Deans from Research Institutions.

"While we're proud of our ranking, ultimately, this is all about improving learning for children here in Connecticut and nationwide," Schwab says. "We are in a far better position today to accomplish this because of the \$21 million investment Ray Neag made in our school along with other generous individuals who have helped raise our endowment to over \$32 million. We're able to hire top people, recruit top students and increase our research efforts on the critical issues facing our schools and communities."

In addition to Mr. Neag's gift, other critical investments have also contributed to the School's rise, funded an increase in the number of scholarships and supported an aggressive faculty recruitment effort that has attracted some of the brightest scholars in the country to UConn.

Among these are the \$5 million gift the Neag School and College of Liberal Arts & Sciences received from the Carnegie Corporation as part of its innovative *Teachers for a New Era* education reform effort, \$2 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



The Neag School of Education has the prestigious reputation of producing competent educators, while also striving to advance and serve the field of education.

to provide professional development of the state's superintendents and principals, and several multi-million dollar federal grants to improve reading and literacy skills among children in low socio-economic school districts. 🌟



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- The amount of research grants and contracts awarded to the Neag faculty has tripled in six years, reaching \$15.5 million in the 2006 rankings report.
- The average GRE score of incoming education students rose 23 points within the past year alone, to a combined score of 1201.
- The Neag School's doctoral program in kinesiology was ranked No. 1 in the U.S. this year by the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education, one of the highest honors in its field.

Ford Foundation Grant

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sexuality is still rather limited and many areas are still unexplored. Moreover, there has been a history of pathologizing Latinos and sexualities which needs to be addressed."

The Institute of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies (PRLS) is now in its 12th year of operation on the Storrs campus, and serves as a multipurpose, interdisciplinary research and teaching program with a focus on the Puerto Rican, Mexican and other populations of Latin American origin across the state and nation.

Dr. Asencio notes that PRLS is an ideal setting for coordination of the project because of its focused work on Latino populations, its multi- and interdisciplinary approaches and the tremendous support and commitment by the University's

Office of Multicultural and International Affairs, where PRLS is housed, to further this type of research. Through the support of this grant, Dr. Asencio believes there is wonderful opportunity to move the field of Latino sexualities research to a new level.

"Through the Ford Foundation, we have a wonderful commitment and chance to engage scholars across the nation, assess the field and encourage dialogues and mechanisms to move it forward," she says.

Two major components of the grant will be to publish the research analysis for wider dissemination in the second year of the grant, and a national conference based on this work in October 2007. Broadening the field of experts in the topic of Latino sexualities will be a priority, as well as linking the research to policy and programmatic initiatives, both at UConn and beyond.

"We view this as a mentoring opportunity, to identify junior researchers and pair them with senior experts in the field, as well as to cultivate an entirely new generation of students and scholars, in particular Latino students and researchers," says Dr. Asencio.

The Ford Foundation grant fulfilled some of the needs discussed at an earlier PRLS conference coordinated by Dr. Asencio in 2005, when six nationally known Latino scholars convened to discuss the state of research in the field. The Ford Foundation was supporting sexualities research and was also interested in filling in the gaps in sexualities research, in particular among minority populations. This convergence of issues and interest served to build the momentum for moving this initiative forward, Dr. Asencio says.

"The grant is about bringing all of the pieces together," she says. "It's assessing what we already know, and allowing us to look into the future."

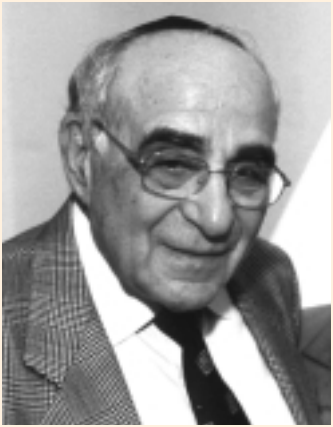
The Ford Foundation is an independent, nonprofit grant-making organization, now in its 70th year of operation. For more than half a century it has been a leading resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide, guided by its goals of strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, promoting international cooperation and advancing human achievement. With headquarters in New York, the foundation also has offices in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Russia. More information about the Ford Foundation is available at www.fordfound.org. 🌟

HILLEL EXPANSION

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with other campus ministries and Greek life, and participating in summer orientations for parents and first-year students. Approximately 1,600 UConn students are Jewish, or about 10 percent of the student body; of these, an estimated 1,200 are served by Hillel in some capacity.

The existing Hillel facility was constructed with private funds in 1950 as a religious center. It has long been in need of repair and renovation. The proposed plan is to raze the existing structure and build a new, much larger facility in the same location. Hillel officials plan a number of improvements, including a coffee house, dedicated study space, a new kitchen, and religious and social facilities.



Morris N. Trachten '48, whose gift of \$1 million has helped the planned expansion of Hillel at UConn.

"When you think of Hillel across the country, you can see they are viable and important parts of their university communities and serve as gathering places for both Jewish and non-Jewish students alike," says Henry M. Zachs, co-chairman of the Hillel campaign with Claude Bernstein, a member of the Hillel Governing Board, and Herbert L. Dunn '61, a member of the UConn Foundation's Executive Committee. "The University has been very supportive of our campaign, both by endorsing the need for a new building and by offering the support of its staff as well. A gift to the Hillel campaign is a gift to the University."

Zachs says that the campaign is well on its way for a summer kickoff, by which time it is hoped that \$3 million will have been raised for the new building.

For more information about Hillel at UConn, please call 860.429.9007 or visit them online at: <http://www.uconnhillel.org>

Scalia Tells Law Students Constitution 'Cannot Bend'

joking that he goes to law schools to "make trouble," U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia spoke out against what he called "judge-moralists" in an address on his judicial philosophy to 350 guests at the School of Law on April 12.

The talk was sponsored by the Hartford firm of Day, Berry and Howard, as well as the Connecticut Law Review.

During the hour-long appearance, Scalia described himself as a constitutional "originalist," based on his view that the Constitution is a rigid document that cannot bend to include new rights for Americans or to address social ills.

He criticized judges, including his own Supreme Court, for viewing it as a "living" document, which he said is a fairly new phenomenon.

"We have become addicted to abstract moralizing," Scalia said. "A change occurred in the second half of the 20th century, and I'm sorry to say my court was responsible."

Scalia, described by many as a conservative, touched on what he called "moral" issues that are some of the more controversial topics in the American



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

judicial and political scenes: abortion, same-sex marriage, assisted suicide and the death penalty.

He said the framers intended the Constitution to be interpreted the same way today as when it was written, and he criticized those who suggested that interpretation of the Constitution can and should change and expand through time.

Scalia said he takes issue with those who would prefer to see nominees for the courts with a moderate interpretation of the Constitution.

"What in the world is a moderate interpretation of the Constitution?" he asked. "Halfway between what it says and what you'd like it to say?"

Scalia took questions at the end of his talk, which were submitted beforehand and read by UConn law professor Paul Schiff Berman. One question involved when justices should recuse themselves from a case. Scalia cited a 2004 case involving Vice President Dick Cheney.

At the time, it was suggested that Scalia should recuse himself because he and Cheney were friends. Scalia stood by his decision not to step aside.

"The proudest thing I did on the bench was not to allow myself to be chased off the case," he said.

"The opportunity for our students to hear directly from a sitting justice on the U.S. Supreme Court is a very special experience," said Nell Newton, dean of the law school.

Said Berman, "Justice Scalia was, as usual, a provocative speaker, and his visit galvanized students of all political views on campus in a way that I think is ultimately very productive." ☀

Foundation Welcomes New Development Staff

The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. is pleased to welcome two dynamic, experienced professionals to fill key roles on the development staff:

Hal C. Reed, J.D., CFRE has been named assistant vice president for planned giving. Originally from Wellington, KS, Hal is a graduate of Southwestern College and the University of Kansas, where he received his law degree. After practicing law for five years, he entered the trust banking field and was a personal trust officer and manager for more than fifteen years. Prior to coming to the UConn Foundation, he served as the assistant vice president for planned giving at the University of Central Florida in Orlando for six years. Hal has been an active member of the National Committee on Planned Giving and the Association of Fundraising Professionals. He may be reached at 860.486.6135 or via email at hreed@foundation.uconn.edu.

Wendy M. Lux, CFRE has joined the Foundation as a director of development for the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. A graduate of Central Connecticut State University, Wendy is an experienced fundraiser, bringing over fourteen years of experience in the advancement of healthcare to her new role, including three years as Director of Development at New Milford Hospital and eleven years at New Britain General Hospital, where she worked in public affairs and marketing prior to serving as Director of Development. Wendy is the current president of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Connecticut Chapter, and has served on its board of directors since 1999. Wendy's primary focus at the UConn Health Center will be on raising major gifts from individuals for the Health Center's clinical, research and academic priorities. She may be reached at 860.679.6032 or via email at wlux@foundation.uconn.edu. ☀



Hal C. Reed



Wendy M. Lux



Founders Society Induction

More than 175 guests, including UConn President Philip E. Austin, attended the 2006 Founders Society Dinner and Induction Ceremony on Saturday, April 22nd at the Hartford Golf Club in West Hartford.

Underlining the importance of philanthropy on research, Dr. Robert Gross spoke about how the James L. and Shirley A. Draper Chair of Early American History, established in 2000 by Founders Society member Mr. James L. Draper, has allowed him to expand his studies of early American history and the Revolutionary War in exciting new directions. Entertainment for the evening was provided by The UConn Conn-Men, a student á cappella singing ensemble.

More than 70 couples and individuals were recognized as new members, or members who ascended into a higher giving circle during 2005, including five couples who joined the 1881 Circle for lifetime giving of more than \$1 million.

Established in 1996, The Founders Society recognizes UConn's most generous benefactors: individuals and couples who have made significant cumulative and annual contributions and documented pledges for the advancement of the University. Donors are enrolled as life members in the prestigious Founders Society, recognized at several giving levels.

The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. greatly appreciates the outstanding generosity toward the University of Connecticut shown by the following new members in their giving circles, or members ascending into a higher giving circle, between January 1 and December 31, 2005.



President Philip E. Austin with Rodney R. and Janice B. Reynolds, who have entered the 1881 Circle.

1881 Circle

Lifetime giving between \$1,000,000 and \$4,999,000

Arnold L. and Sandra M. Chase
Cheryl A. Chase '78 and Stuart D. Bear
David T. and Rhoda L. Chase
Marianne Hartly* and Irving Cohen
Rodney R. and Janice B. Reynolds

Charter Oak Circle

Lifetime giving between \$500,000 and \$999,999

Richard W. '78 '90 and Ellen S. Cartun
Helen D. Fyler
Erwin Jausz
Eric A. '80 and Penelope Marziali
John W. '71 and Dyanne M. '73 Rafal

Charles and Augustus Storrs Circle

Lifetime giving between \$250,000 and \$499,999

Charles Dean Bakes
Alan R. Bennett '69
Richard A. '65 and Patricia Demsey
Peter S. '64 and Hinda M. Drotch
Byiung Jun and Chunghi Park
Robert J. and Nihla Lapidus
John P. and Judith A. Maloney

Michael E. '81 '94 and Barbara A. McPhee

Robert G. Oneglia
Anthony Rizza '87
Pat L. '51 and Josephine '50 '55 Sinatra
Peter J. Werth III '80 and Suzanne Werth

Constitution Circle

Lifetime giving between \$100,000 and \$249,999

Elias F. '74 and Annette W. Aburdene
Samuel '50 and Nancy Jo Altschuler
Carmen J. '68 and Marlene T. '68 Ammirato
Timothy J. '79 and Suzanne '80 '84 Arborio
Karen H. and Carl S. '63 Balko
Paul F. and Barbara E. Barbour
Michael D. and Deidra L. Baum
Scott F. '80 and Sandy Beecher
Andy F. Bessette '75 and Cheryl Noel-Bessette '87
Louis A. '67 and Claudia Boggio
Jeffrey L. '78 and A. Elaine '78 '80 Brickman
Louis and Gertrude Y. Brown
Peter S. and Sally R. '90 Burgess
Peggy A. Busse '94 and Deborah E. Lynch
Christopher J. Buzaid '86

Samuel and Ann D. Charters
Eugene A. Crocco, Jr. '77 and Ingrid M. Crocco
William A. '71 and Mary Anne '71 DeGrazia
Delphis A. Dufresne II and Stephanie P. Dufresne
Mark D. '76 and Shari M. Fichman
William A. Fochi, Sr. '63 and Patricia A. Fochi
Stuart M. and Laurie Foster
William D. Fowler, Sr.
Seymour '51 and Annette Gavens
Thomas H. '72 and Virginia N. Gorin
Norman '97 and Suzanne V. Hascoe
George E. '78 and Theresa M. Hatzikostas
Jessie N. and Reginald L.* Hazen
Michael C. '75 '78 and Linda C. Jainchill
Michael E. and Pamela J. Joyce
Seeley C. and Margaret B. Kellogg
Robert A. '74 and Karen A. Klein
Robert A. Landino and Kelly M. Marshall
Peter C. '63 and Judith R. Larson
Timothy and Jennifer Leahy
John F. Lenard '61 and Jean Lucas-Lenard
Billie M. Levy and Nathan Levy, Jr.*
John F. '54 and Carol L. '97 Mele
David A. Milardo
Joseph R. and Eleanor W. Miller
Roger S. Newton '74
Francis A. Perrotti, Jr. and Francis A. Perrotti, Sr. '55 '63
John R. and Marianna S. Riemer
Mark S. Rudy '66 and M. Victoria Cochran
Lawrence T. and Iona S. Scanlan
Selma Cagatay-Searfoss '94 and David W. Searfoss '76*
Earl P. '58 '67 and Doris F. '59 Simoneau
Arthur K. '76 and Deborah K. Stengel
Nora B. and Norman D. Stevens
Laura Z. and Mark C. Yellin

*Deceased

UNIVERSITY TO PUBLISH HUMAN RIGHTS JOURNAL

The *Journal of Human Rights*, a major international scholarly publication, will be based at UConn now that Richard Hiskes, professor of political science, has been named editor.

The journal was previously based at Wellesley College, where it was founded five years ago and edited by Thomas Cushman, a Wellesley professor of sociology.

It is published quarterly, with seven to 10 peer-reviewed articles in each issue from scholars in what Hiskes calls "a tremendously growing field" in academia.

Academic study of human rights used to be centered on the law, but the liberal arts disciplines of political science, philosophy, sociology, anthropology and history are increasingly involved, he notes.

The Human Rights Institute and the human rights endowed faculty chair, established this year with a gift from Judi and Gary Gladstein '66, along with the establishment of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center 10 years ago, and now the transfer of the journal to UConn, are making the University a major center of human rights research, Hiskes says. "UConn is really riding the wave," he adds.

Richard Wilson, the Judi and Gary Gladstein Distinguished Chair in Human Rights and director of the Human Rights Institute, is associate editor of the journal.

Richard Goldstone, former chief justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, who is a member of the Humanities Institute's board, is on the journal's editorial board.

The journal has benefited from the commitment of the University to human rights and from support by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School, Hiskes says.

He characterizes the journal's editorial style as "a little edgy," addressing topics that challenge orthodoxy. The first issue under Hiskes's editorship examines the treatment of Israel by the human rights community.

A 2004 *Times Literary Supplement* review of the journal said that it takes "an impressively wide-ranging and imaginative approach to its subject."

Scholarship Sees Its Roots in an Immigrant Family's Past

Two new scholarship funds at the University of Connecticut's Waterbury campus will not only allow students to attend college who may not otherwise have the financial means to do so, but also provide a sterling example of the value placed on education among one immigrant family with deep ties to UConn.

Five adult children of the Aburdene family, who arrived in Waterbury as young Palestinian immigrants during the 1950s, have established the funds through an endowment worth more than \$100,000. One is in the name of their parents, Felix and Olga Aburdene, and the other in the name of Philip V. Benevento, an English teacher at Crosby High School who

influenced the life of the youngest Aburdene child, Elias '74 (CLAS), now aged 53 and an investment banker in Washington, D.C.

Felix Aburdene arrived in March, 1956 from Bethlehem, in what was then part of the country of Jordan, and where he had served as the deputy mayor of the town. Not knowing anyone in America except a friend in Waterbury, over the next three years the family left the tumultuous Middle East in search of a better way of life for the children. The friend helped the Aburdenes settle into the community and assisted Felix in finding a job at a factory on Baldwin Avenue in Waterbury.

"You could say that [our parents] sacrificed their present for a better future for their kids," says Elias.

All five siblings - Aida, Bassam, Elias, Maurice, and Odeh - are UConn alumni, and now professionals working as bankers, professors and teachers. Elias said they all



Elias Aburdene '74 addresses the crowd during Aburdene Family Day in Waterbury on April 1. To the right is Philip V. Benevento, a former teacher of Aburdene's who has been recognized in a scholarship gift from the Aburdene family.

remember their father's 13-hour nighttime shifts - and their parents' constant emphasis on education.

"My parents had a vision," Elias says. "They stressed that, for immigrants, education was the step up and a way to assimilate into our new society. They arrived here at square one and with empty pockets. It was made clear to us all that education is critical to success in America."

The primary scholarship, in the names of their parents, places a priority on applicants who are first-generation college students attending the Waterbury campus. The scholarship fund named for Benevento will benefit students who pursue studies in the Humanities or Social Sciences in Waterbury as well.

"Because they benefit those right within the Waterbury community, their gifts really hit home," says William J. Pizzuto, interim director of the UConn Waterbury campus. "It represented the family's past in such a personal way, and showed their genuine passion for both the city and their own education."

Along with the scholarships to UConn, the Aburdenes also contributed to the Silas Bronson Library in Waterbury. On April 1, 2006, more than 180 people attended a 50th anniversary celebration of Mr. Aburdene's journey to Waterbury, and the day was proclaimed Aburdene Family Day in the city.

"We're just trying to thank the community of Waterbury for all it's done for us, and recognize the importance of our teachers and education," says Elias. "These scholarships are a way to remember and honor where we all started." 🌟

For more information about the Olga and Felix Aburdene or the Philip V. Benevento scholarships, interested students should contact the Office of Student Financial Aid Services at 860.486.2819 or online at <http://financialaid.uconn.edu>.

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