Budget woes force study of museums, Grad School

by Karen A. Grava

University President Michael Hogan, responding to budget cuts, has begun to explore the implications of curtailing the operations or closing the William Benton Museum of Art and the state Museum of Natural History/Connecticut Archaeology Center.

Hogan said that while he is searching for ways to absorb budget reductions that will minimize effects on the University’s core mission, he is also initiating an examination of the implications of closing the Graduate School and re-distributing its administrative and support services to colleges and other units that more directly oversee graduate programs.

“We have some operations that are nice to have,” he said, “but may be in areas we need to curtail at a time when our top priority has to be protecting operations that are most central to our mission.”

UConn’s budget gap for the coming fiscal year, which is forecasted for the next fiscal year, “said Hogan. “Addressing the growing budget deficit is of highest importance. This is a challenging period, and we need to chart a realistic path to address the fiscal imperative for the University.”

The Cost, Savings, and Revenue Enhancement Task Force (CORE) issued a preliminary report this month that recommended initiatives that could save $5 to $7 million by the end of Fiscal Year 2010.

More than 50 suggestions about cutting costs and enhancing revenues were made to the task force, which also conducted several town meetings to solicit opinions from faculty, staff, and students. Among the suggestions received were ones that proposed studying the consequences of closing or reducing hours of facilities like museums, performance venues, recreational facilities, and libraries.

“I am not contemplating selling our collections, but we must ask the question as to whether we can continue to staff and operate the museums at the current level,” Hogan said.

“They are nice to have, but like every other program and activity, we have to ask if we can continue to support it at the current level.”

Hogan also said he is investigating closing the centralized Graduate School, which is the heart of our academic programs.”

Managers face wage freeze, furloughs

University President Michael J. Hogan today informed UConn managers that their compensation in Fiscal Year 2010 will be reduced to offset anticipated reductions in state support.

Hogan notified managers that they will lose their annual increases, take furlough days, or some combination of the two as part of his program to achieve major cost savings in light of the challenging national and state financial crisis. The fiscal year begins July 1.

The announcement affects managers at Storrs and the regional campuses, and the Schools of Law and Social Work.

“As the state’s financial situation continues to decline, it is becoming increasingly clear that we must take extraordinary steps to address the growing budget deficit that is forecasted for the next fiscal year,” said Hogan in an e-mail to the 103 administrative managers who are not unionized.

“Budget realities require that we sacrifice even more, and I’m confident you share my belief that sacrifice should begin with the University’s administrative managers.”

Hogan has already asked the 103 administrative managers to take by March 1 a “day on at UConn” – a day at work without pay, and has done so himself. He said he appreciates the cooperation he has received from managers who supported this initiative.

Regarding the wage freeze Hogan said, “The dollar savings resulting from this action may seem modest in comparison to the total reduction the University may be required to implement. Yet, every dollar of savings we can generate is important. Your sacrifice will be real, and I know it will be appreciated by our students, faculty, and staff.”

Hogan said he wanted to allow managers to plan for the cuts and that he appreciated the leadership managers have offered.

“Let me note how difficult I know this news is for you. Many of you have risen to the challenges over the past year with innovative solutions to address them. Indeed, the quality of our already-excellent programs has continued to rise, our students continue to excel, and UConn’s reputation continues to soar. You have played a key role in producing these remarkable outcomes and deserve all forms of recognition,” he said.

“Yet these are extraordinary times calling for extraordinary measures.”

To date, UConn has ordered each of its departments to achieve 3 percent savings this year, as a result of a more than $12
Freshmen Kimberly Ellison, left, and Christina Panowicz dance during Huskython 09, a 24-hour dance marathon Feb. 21-22. The event raised more than $100,000 for Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and the Children’s Miracle Network.

**Laptops available for loan at Babbidge Library**

**By Suzanne Zack**

Patrons of Homer Babbidge Library will soon be able to borrow a laptop computer and use it within the library for up to three hours.

Ten Apple iBook computers, acquired by the Neag School of Education through a grant five years ago, were recently donated to Babbidge Library for this purpose.

The pilot program, expected to go into effect after Spring Break, will enable students and other members of the campus community who don’t have a computer with them to study wherever they choose within the building.

Although the library currently has 140 public computers available for use, students have expressed an interest in being able to borrow a laptop and study in our designated quiet areas on Level 4 or Level A, says Marian Farley, assistant vice provost for University Libraries. “This pilot program will afford them that flexibility and, at the same time, allow us to assess interest.”

The laptops, which will feature Internet access and the full Microsoft Office suite, will be available for loan similar to other materials placed in Course Reserves at the iDesk on Babbidge Library’s Plaza Level. Users interested in borrowing a laptop, should go to the iDesk and request one. The laptops will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. As with other materials on Reserve, a fine will be assessed if a laptop is not returned in a timely fashion.

“We realize that students work in many different ways, whether collaboratively in group study areas like the Learning Commons, or individually,” says Farley. “We strive to create an environment that supports students’ different styles of learning.”

Library users themselves have an important role in creating an environment that is conducive to learning, she adds. They need to respect the designated quiet areas on Level A and Level 4, and be thoughtful and courteous toward each other, including speaking quietly.

“Those who wish to use their cell phones are welcome to use the Plaza Level of the building, or Bookworms Café,” she says. “Most of our users come here to do work. It’s our goal to provide them with an environment in which they can easily do so.”

**Student poll shows support for tuition hike**

**By Richard Veilleux**

More than 92 percent of 18,855 responses to a recent survey sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government indicated support for a tuition increase of 8.7 percent for the 2009-10 academic year, one of four options on the one-question survey.

“I think the results were amazing,” said USG President Meredith Zaratheny. “I’m proud of the UConn students. They want to move in a positive direction, and they opted for the middle ground.”

The survey asked students: Of the following options regarding tuition for the 2009-2010 academic year, which do you prefer? The options were no increase, or increases of 6 percent, 8.7 percent, or 13.67 percent. Each option other than 8.7 percent received fewer than 5 percent of the votes. Zaratheny said she will deliver the student tally to the trustees during their March 10 meeting, when they will consider next year’s tuition and fees. She also will discuss student concerns, she says.

Zaratheny said she undertook the survey because University President Michael Hogan asked her to attend the trustees meeting and discuss students’ opinions regarding tuition. But Zaratheny said she couldn’t make a report in a vacuum.

“I couldn’t just say this is what the students are thinking,” she said. “I had to do something to get a feel for how the majority of students felt, and a survey was the best way to reach the most students. Now I know what they want. Now I can help communicate what the students want with a measure of confidence.”

The USG also sponsored a town-hall style meeting Feb. 24, at which Hogan appeared briefly to welcome students and encourage a discussion with a panel of administrators, including Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard Gray, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Barry Feldman, Vice President for Student Affairs John Saddlemyre, and Hogan’s Chief of Staff Lisa Troyer.

“This may be one of the most important decisions for the University that you can weigh in on for years to come,” Hogan told the students, referring to tuition decisions.

During the forum, students cited a range of concerns regarding the budget crisis, and asked administrators to continue the dialogue and involve them in the difficult decisions that would be made.

The opinion poll, which was sent to students the week before the town meeting, briefly outlined the potential effects of the four alternative tuition increase scenarios. In the face of the deficit facing UConn during the next two years, the poll said, a too-low tuition increase would likely result in program cuts, job losses, and a reduction in financial aid, leaving students with fewer and larger classes. Too high an increase, however, would make it difficult for many students to continue.

“This is an extraordinary display of student engagement,” Hogan said of the town meeting and survey. “President Zaritheny and the USG should be commended for rallying the students to become involved in this decision. We take their input very seriously—and their concerns.”

**Photo by Jessica Tommaselli**

Zachary Colombo, a sophomore, and Sabrina Jara, a senior, examine the new laptops on Level 4 of Babbidge Library. The iBooks will soon be available for loan.
Health Center survey shows employees feel connected

BY CHRISS DEFRANCESCO

Know Better Place, a workplace culture program in the UConn Health Center’s human resources department, announced the results of “engagement08,” the Health Center’s first employee engagement survey.

Nearly 1,600 employees responded to the survey between Oct. 22 and Nov. 12, a participation rate of 30 percent.

More than nine in 10 respondents say they have a good overall understanding of what they’re supposed to be doing in their job, and that they recognize or praise others for doing good work. Nearly eight in 10 say they understand the Health Center’s mission.

The survey results are available on the Web at http://employeesUCHC.engagement/engagement08.html

“This survey is a way for us to measure employee engagement at the Health Center,” says Cindy Couture of Know Better Place. “Engaged employees feel a real sense of connection to their workplace. They believe in what they do, feel valued, and have a stronger commitment to stay with the organization.”

Roughly three in four say that they feel motivated to contribute their best ideas and efforts, that they believe their unit or department contributes to the Health Center’s success, and that what they do in their job contribute to the Health Center’s vision.

“The overall findings are encouraging,” says Dr. Carlo T. Laurencin, the Health Center’s vice president and dean of the School of Medicine. “These findings identify consistent areas of strength, as well as opportunities for improvement within our organization.

About half say that they feel their opinion counts and that the Health Center provides opportunities for development in their job, while 36 percent say they work in a group that deals with conflict openly and effectively.

“In today’s healthcare environment, it is vital for us to identify employee engagement levels in order to attract and retain the best workforce possible,” Couture says.

“This quantitative and qualitative data provide a benchmark for future surveys, which will allow us to track our progress. Plus it’s a tool to help us identify best practices, as well as areas where we can improve.”

The questions were separated into four categories. Those related to connection and commitment returned the highest employee engagement score, 36 percent, followed by those related to vision or mission, 26 percent, teamwork and trust, 19 percent, and manager and organizational support, 19 percent.

The engagement score is based on the number of respondents who answered “strongly agree” to a given survey question.

“Improvements in staff retention, productivity, and customer satisfaction have all been linked to an engaged workforce,” Couture says. “We want to create an environment that supports a high level of employee engagement.”

Three of the survey questions matched questions from a 2005 culture and diversity survey, with the results showing modest improvements in the areas of understanding the Health Center’s mission, motivation to contribute best ideas and efforts, and feeling that the individual job is rewarding.

“This is an important step in moving the Health Center toward the vision of being nationally known as an essential destination for outstanding health care,” Laurencin says. “Based on information from this survey, we already have started looking into ways to make positive changes. This will be a continual process.”

Officials plan to administer the survey every other year.

New nonprofit leadership program offers first managerial skills course

BY Sherry Ostrout

People working in nonprofit organizations who would like to take up the career ladder can take a course that will help them do just that.

Last fall, UConn’s new Nonprofit Leadership Program in the Center for Continuing Studies offered its first course, Leading Nonprofit Organizations: A Learning Experience for Emerging Leaders. Held at the Greater Hartford Campus, the six-month, noncredit course is filled to capacity, with 20 students attending from around the state.

The class is designed to prepare mid-level managers for higher responsibilities and potential directorships, says David Garvey, director of the Nonprofit Leader- ship Program. “The focus is to take young professionals who have three or four years of experience and help them develop their managerial skills so they become candidates for change within their organization and the nonprofit sector.”

The program was created to meet the needs of the nonprofit workforce in Connecticut.

“Nearly 10 percent of Connecticut’s workforce is employed in the nonprofit sector, yet the state lacks sufficient managerial-level professional development programs for this workforce,” Garvey says. “The nonprofit workforce often faces a dramatic loss of management capacity in the coming decade, due to retirement of current senior leaders and a projected increase in demand for services.”

Garvey says the nonprofit sector manages a large part of Connecticut’s needs. “Nonprofit organizations managing $60 billion in assets – yet there is a significant lack of higher education programs dedicated for the professional development of its managers.”

“The key fundamentals of social service organizational management practices, accounting, marketing, revenue development, and product and service design and delivery are different for for-profit business operations,” he says. “So it’s a large market player, vital to society for the services it provides, that needs appropriate opportunities for education and professional development of its leadership in Connecticut.”

National studies show that about 90 percent of students who are hired as executive directors or for other high-level positions in nonprofits are promoted from within their organizations, says Garvey.

“One of our program’s goals is to reverse that trend,” he says.

The academic core of the emerging leader’s course is focused on the internal management practices in Jim Collins’ book, Good to Great; to the external alliance building; and leadership principles in Force for Good by Crutchfield and McLeod, and other texts in the field. The course readings provide the framework for applied discussion with guest specialists from the nonprofit world and for class web-based role-playing exercises.

Along with Garvey, the course is facilitated by Peter DelBasis, executive director of the Access Community Health Centers. Core topics include organizational leadership, nonprofit accounting, human resources, fund and resource development, marketing and advocacy, with a focus on developing strategic networks between government, business, and nonprofits.

Participants come from a variety of nonprofits across the state, including youth intervention programs, community action agencies, museums and arts programs, drug rehabilitation programs, and elder care programs.

Garvey says the class offers an atmosphere where participants can learn from each other’s experiences.

“There’s a lot of discussion,” he says. “We talk about what’s happening in their organizations. Real learning occurs when people are coming from different perspectives.”

Sherry Ostrout decided to take the course because she was recently appointed director of government initiatives at Connecticut Community Care, a service for the elderly and adults with disabilities.

“I was interested in the com- radeship of those dedicated to the nonprofit world, the peer process of learning, and the incredible opportunities to hear speakers,” Ostrout says.

“It’s a winning combo: incredible guest speakers, interactive and emerging leaders,” she says. “And for me, as president of the Con- necticut chapter of the National Association of Social Work Leaders, I’m also looking at it from the viewpoint of the professional guild.”

Beth Hines, program operations director at Community Partners in Action, a program that assists people leaving the criminal justice system to successfully re-enter the workforce, says the course has been “extremely rewarding. The required readings for this course correspond quite well to my daily work responsibilities. I’ve found a great deal from the readings and incor- porate the learning into my work.”

Pamela Maütte is director of the Valley Substance Abuse Ac- tion Council, part of Binghamton Group Health Services. “We need to nurture and build upon people who have the potential to be great leaders in their community or organization,” she says. “I feel this class gives us the basic skills, enhanced. The course is like giving us a mini MBA.”

The Nonprofit Leadership Program also plans to offer an undergraduate concentration in nonprofit leadership.

Another key initiative under de- velopment is Encore!Connecticut, a program to provide an inter-agency education and employment pipeline for people from the corporate and public service sectors who want to make mid-career and traditional retirement age transitions into managerial positions in the non- profit sector. The pilot program is a partnership with the Department of Labor and the Capital Workforce Partners of Hartford, the United Way of Central and Northeast- ern Connecticut, and Leadership Greater Hartford.

“We’re developing Encore! Con- necticut to bring the experience of mid-career and traditionally retired individuals into the nonprofit sector,” Garvey says. “The state’s workforce is aging. We want to help the state develop a strategy for retaining a skilled workforce, understand the assets that he or she brings, and how to best use them in the state.”

Women’s health program set for March 19

Windham Hospital will host an afternoon program on women’s health issues at UConn’s Alumni Center on Thursday, March 19, from 3 to 8 p.m. The program, “Solving the Mysteries of Women’s Health,” will discuss health-related issues, including issues surrounding women’s health and will feature a keynote speech by mystery writer and artist Janice Law Trecker, adjunct professor of English. The afternoon will begin with a 3 p.m. high tea and a 4 p.m. panel discussion on “Hormones, Healthcare and You” by Rusty Oldfield, exploring Women’s Issues.” The conference will also feature sessions on “Guard Your Heart” and “New Options in Plastic Rejuvenation.”

The event costs $50, and is limited to 100 women. Reserva- tions should be made by March 12 online at www.windhamhospital.org, or by calling 860-456-6700.
Hartford's budding mathematicians enjoy enrichment program

BY ROBERT A. FAUSTMAN

Nine-year-old Calvin Morgan-White of Hartford is exactly the kind of budding mathematician who might once have been overlooked in school. But thanks to a curriculum developed by M. Katherine Gavin, an associate professor in residence at the Neag School of Education, bright kids like Calvin are learning advanced math concepts such as algebra, geometry, and probability—skills often thought to be well beyond their years.

In a school system where too many students still struggle to catch up in math, progress is especially crucial for fourth-graders at four Hartford elementary schools are surprising even their parents with skills learned in after-school math enrichment clubs operated by Gavin. "I find it amazing. I think it's a wonderful thing," Calvin's mother, Tamara Morgan, said at a recent family night math club meeting at Breakthrough Magnet School. "It's all [Calvin] would talk about," she said. "He'd come home and do the work. He wasn't assigned to do it. He was just doing it because it was fun." The clubs for gifted students started last spring at Breakthrough Magnet School, Batchelder, Burr, and Noah Webster Schools with the help of a $150,000 grant from The Travelers Companies Inc. The company recently announced another $100,000 grant for the program.

"We have a special interest in supporting mathematics skills, as they relate directly to our business," says Tara Spain, Travelers' director of community relations. The clubs are the outgrowth of a curriculum developed by a research team led by Gavin under a $3 million federal grant she received in 2002. Known as Project M^2 (Mentoring Mathematical Minds), the curriculum produced significant achievement gains in field tests at schools in Connecticut and Kentucky. Gavin, who is based at the Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development, developed the project for children in grades three through five. Two years ago, her research team received another grant—$2.1 million from the National Science Foundation—for Project M^3 to create curricula for children from kindergarteners through second grade.

"Under Project M^3, a key goal is to provide challenging mathematics for students who have traditionally not had this opportunity in their regular curriculum," "like the kids in Hartford," says Gavin. In the past, the focus in Hartford has been mostly on remedial programs and test-taking skills to help low-performing students catch up, she says. "These [gifted] kids are beyond that, and they get left out."

Children are selected for the after-school clubs based on teachers' recommendations and an ability test. "We're looking for kids with math talent potential," Gavin says. "Do they think out of the box? We're not looking for kids who are smart in good computation. We want good thinkers, good problem solvers."

At the math club's family night at Breakthrough School, children demonstrated math problems they had created, games with names such as "Magical Math Path," "Mathiland," and "Volcano Island." "I'm learning algebra," said fourth-grader Yazinda Baz, who played "Pink Math Jeopardy" with her parents. "I like doing the puzzles."

The games often required players to recognize patterns and develop math strategies. One of the questions in Yazinda's game was, "If I wrote my name Yazinda 67 times, what would the 158th letter be?"

"I think it helps kids think in different ways to approach problems," says Eliezer Baez, Yazinda's father. "They're not just dealing with numbers."

Calvin Morgan-White, the fourth-grader who takes his math club work home, likes the challenge. "It's different from regular classroom assignments, he said. "The math we do here is advanced math," he said. "Once I tried doing it, it wasn't that hard."

Animal science professor takes the mystery out of meat

BY SHERI FISHER

When consumers buy meat in the supermarket, they want it to be red, not purple or brown, says Cameren Faustman. "We judge the quality of food on its appearance and have very set ideas about it, says Cameren Faustman. "We judge the quality of food on its appearance and have very set ideas about it, based mostly on what is taught to us by our parents. It's a hard thing to change," Faustman said. It is packed in modified-atmosphere packages, which are not produced in the local supermarket. Consumers also like their eggs, certain color. "The color of salmon is due to carotenoids," Faustman said. "A carotenoid is a molecule that is present in many foods, including carrots, which is what causes carrots to be orange. If you catch a wild salmon in Alaska, they'll be very red. They get their color by eating organisms that have the ability to synthesize carotenoids." Salmon raised on farms without organisms to synthesize carotenoids will not have the color, he said, noting that the second most expensive element that goes into food feed for farmed fish are carotenoids to make them pink. "That's what people want," he said.

Carotenoids are also used in poultry for coloring the yolks of eggs, and the fat and skin of fowl. Faustman said meat can be defned as the skeletal muscle of an animal. "But interestingly, there are other things that we eat that come from animals that are not skeletal muscle-based, and many of those are not particularly liked in our country," he said. Here, they're called 'variety meats.' "I've tried them all, and they're pretty good, if prepared right," Faustman said. Hogs, maws, for example—pig's stomachs—can be served sliced in soy sauce. "In Ireland, you have your Irish breakfast," he said. "When I was asked if I'd like pudding, I thought I was going to get good, old-fashioned Irish black pudding. But it's just this blood sausage that's been fried up in slices and accompanies your eggs." He added, "We don't embrace variety meats in our country, but we do export a lot of them." Faustman said that the age of the animal influences the tenderness of the meat. When USDA graders go into a slaughter plant, they look at the carcass and the degree of ossification of the bone. Pork comes from pigs that are six months old or less, so there's no tenderness issue, Faustman says. But beef and lamb are graded based on the age and the amount of marbling. "Generally speaking, highly marbled meat obtained from young animals is what you're looking for," he said.

Faustman is often asked about the content of hot dogs. "One of the common questions I'm asked is if hot dogs [contain] lips," he said. "There are certain beef products in which they will add lips. One of the typical added ingredients in blood kishka, the traditional Polish sausage, is lips, but if they are added, they have to be declared on the label. Anything other than skeletal muscle meat that is added into a processed meat product must be labeled and identified as such."

Faustman also gave a brief history of food safety, and presented many examples of products purchased at local grocery stores that were preserved in different ways to ensure quality and shelf life.
CHIP director’s book explores social psychology of reconciliation

BY BETH KRANE

Lasting resolutions to long-standing global conflicts will remain elusive until peace brokers address the emotional barriers to reconciliation, not just the equitable distribution of coveted resources, according to a new book with its roots at UConn.

“The Social Psychology of Intergroup Reconciliation,” recently published by Oxford University Press, grew out of an international conference held at the Center for Health, Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) five years ago.

“There has been a great deal of social sciences research conducted in the areas of conflict and conflict resolution, but an equally important area that has received little attention is reconciliation,” says Jeffrey D. Fisher, a professor of social psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who is a co-editor of the book. “Our goal is to jump start a new field of research, to put the social psychology of reconciliation on the map.”

Fisher is director of CHIP. “CHIP became involved in the conference and subsequent book because conflict and war obviously wreak a terrible toll on the physical and mental health of those on both sides,” Fisher adds. “Conflict resolution and reconciliation, on the other hand, create favorable health outcomes.”

The book’s other editors are Thomas E. Malloy, a professor at Rhode Island College, who earned a Ph.D. in psychology in 1986 at UConn, and Professor Arie Nadler of Tel Aviv University, a graduate school colleague and lifelong friend of Fisher’s. Nadler says years of conflict create emotional barriers to permanently ending the conflict, including distrust and possible feelings of humiliation. “If these emotional barriers are not removed,” he says, “even after an agreement for the division of resources has been achieved, the conflict is likely to simmer beneath what look like harmonious relations and erupt again.”

The book distinguishes between instrumental and socio-emotional reconciliation. Instrumental reconciliation aims to build trust between the former adversaries in the present. Peace building projects in the Middle East in the post-Oslo Agreement years, in which Israelis and Palestinians were encouraged to work together toward common goals, are an example of an instrumental approach to reconciliation. A socio-emotional approach to reconciliation aims to dispel feelings of victimization or guilt through an apology-forgiveness cycle, perhaps best epitomized by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in post-apartheid South Africa. The Commission invited former perpetrators to publicly take responsibility for past wrongdoings in return for readmission into the community.

Palatable aid

In a chapter he wrote, Fisher highlights how early research interest in recipients’ reactions to aid with his current research on health behavior change, outlining how much aid should be expected if it is to lead to reconciliation between parties with a history of negative relations. He highlights the U.S. government and pharmaceutical companies’ roll-out of anti-retroviral therapies to African countries hardest hit by the HIV epidemic, but says the concept is broadly applicable to aid offered after a natural disaster or public health emergency.

“Unfortunately, emergency aid often doesn’t lead to the consequences the donor hopes for,” Fisher says. “In fact, the type of help most likely to be given is often the type least likely to lead to negative reactions.”

For aid to lead to reconciliation, Fisher argues, it must be psychologically acceptable to the recipient. Because aid often flows from a more powerful donor to a less powerful recipient, it tends to be dependency-oriented, but the type of aid desired by the recipient is often autonomy-oriented.

For instance, African countries might not respond favorably when the U.S. government, through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), first tried to sell anti-retroviral medicines to them because the countries could only use the funds to purchase brand name drugs, which cost 10 times as much as generics.

The countries were very frustrated that they were restricted to buying only brand name drugs with PEPFAR funds,” says Fisher. “Because of this, they could save far fewer lives and they would not be able to sustain the program once U.S. aid ended.”

When the U.S. made generic versions of anti-retroviral therapies available, and even allowed countries such as South Africa and India to manufacture versions of the drugs themselves at a much lower cost, the distrust began to dissipate, he adds.

Behavior change

Fisher says that aid must include behavior change that facilitates long-term recipient autonomy.

Within the context of the HIV epidemic and roll-out of anti-retroviral medicines, Fisher suggests the donor also should contribute a behavior change intervention that promotes greater acceptance and adherence to the medicines. He notes that this is a huge task to sustain over time. Non-adherence can have negative health consequences, particularly the creation of drug resistant strains of HIV, he says.

In this scenario, both the recipient and the donor are making a substantial contribution to improving the recipient’s health, and that helps equalize their power in a way that may be more conducive to true reconciliation, Fisher says.

Among the book’s other contributing authors with UConn ties are and or former social psychology professors Felicia Pratto, Reuben Barin, and John Dovidio, and recent Ph.D. graduates in psychology Tamara Saguy and Danny Glasford.

Health Center offers help to children with sleep disorders

BY CAROLYN PENNINGTON

Sleep deprivation is not just a problem for adults, and the Sleep Disorders Center at the UConn Health Center is treating more pediatric patients than ever before.

According to a survey by the National Sleep Foundation, two-thirds of children experience frequent sleep problems. “Whether you have a newborn or a teenager, some kids just can’t sleep and others sleep too much,” says Dr. Daniel McNally, medical director of the Sleep Disorders Center. “Each phase of a child’s life can bring a new sleep pattern, but it’s important to realize that good sleep is essential to good health – no matter what the age.”

Children need enough sleep to stay healthy and grow, McNally says. Sleep also promotes alertness, memory, and performance – key factors for success in school. Children who get enough sleep are more likely to function better, and are less prone to behavioral problems and moodiness. That’s why it’s important to identify sleep problems early on.

The multidisciplinary Sleep Disorders Center offers state-of-the-art care to evaluate and treat sleep disorders. It is accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine. Patients receive a comprehensive evaluation with diagnostic equipment in a restful atmosphere.

The Center’s Dr. Jennifer Papa Kanaan, has a special interest in treating children and teens. She and McNally also work with Dr. Craig Schram, chief of pediatric pulmonary services at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center.

“Children and adults behave differently as a result of sleep,” says Kanaan. “Adults usually become sluggish when tired, while children tend to overcompensate and speed up.”

A Journal of Sleep Research study involving nearly 2,500 children aged 6-15 found that children with sleep problems were more likely to be inattentive, hyperactive, and impulsive, and to display oppositional behaviors. For this reason, sleep deprivation is sometimes confused with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children. For some ADHD children, studies have found that treating sleep problems may be enough to eliminate attention and hyperactivity problems.

Experts from the Sleep Disorders Center often counsel parents on their children’s sleep patterns, including issues such as nightmares in young children, and adolescents who sleep too much or at the wrong time. Kanaan says children also suffer from some of the same sleep disorders as adults. For instance, sleep apnea is a serious disorder in which there are pauses in breathing during sleep. Children with sleep apnea may struggle to stay awake during the day, and sleep and be sleeping during the day. Enlarged tonsils or adenoids, allergies, weight problems, and other medical problems may contribute to sleep apnea. Apnea sufferers may also be diagnosed with narcolepsy. Children with narcolepsy experience excessive daytime sleepiness and uncontrollable “sleep attacks,” even when they get enough sleep. It’s often first noticed in puberty, but may occur as early as 10 years of age. Children with narcolepsy will be a relaxing experience, without TV or videos. Studies show that watching television before going to bed can lead to difficulty falling and staying asleep. Instead, McNally says, a child’s favorite non-stimulating activity should be saved until last and take place in the child’s own room.

If a child continues to have sleep problems and is very tired during the day, his or her physician should be consulted as to whether a comprehensive sleep evaluation is needed.
Couple’s gift establishes family studies scholarship

BY JENNIFER HUBER

Neither Jeanne Bartman ‘43 nor Raymond Bartman Jr. ‘41 majored in family studies, but that is the area where they hope to make a difference.

Through a gift to the University, they have established the Bartman Scholarship in Family Studies for sophomores, juniors, and seniors who need financial assistance and are committed to helping families cope with the challenges they face.

“It is our hope that the broad field of family studies will interest men and women to study problems and help with solutions that will strengthen the well-being of the family,” says Raymond Bartman. “We believe strong family ties strengthen the culture of a country, and in turn help to build a stronger and more cohesive society.”

Adds Jeanne Bartman, “We hope our gift will help students complete their education, and that their training will enable them to work for change in guiding and influencing our diverse population to once more understand the value of the strong family unit and its benefit to our entire society.”

Professor Ronald Sabatelli, head of the human development and family studies department, says the Bartmans’ gift will help students go on to become human service providers, educators, counselors, and therapists.

“The strength of our society is tied to the strengths present within families,” says Sabatelli. “I am grateful to the Bartmans for their effort to make an impact on society through the support of students committed to working in the service of individuals and families.”

The first Bartman Scholarship in Family Studies has been awarded to Chelsea Ambrozaitis, who is majoring in human development and family studies, with a minor in political science, in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Honors student Chelsea Ambrozaitis is the first recipient of the Bartman Scholarship in Family Studies.

“We have watched with interest the development of the small college from which we graduated to the great university it has become,” says Raymond Bartman. “Now UConn is known throughout the academic world for its progress in research and innovative programs. And it’s also known for its outstanding athletic teams. We’re pleased to be a small part of UConn’s growth.”

Possible closings continued from page 1 handles administrative aspects of graduate programs, provides professional and financial support to students, monitors graduate curriculum, and audits students to ensure they have met all graduation requirements. It also deals with academic misconduct and other issues of impropriety among graduate students.

“Much of the work of managing a graduate program is done in colleges, schools, and departments. Admissions decisions and most academic decisions are made in departments,” said Hogan. “We must look at whether an additional school adds adequate value at a time when resources are very tight.”

Hogan plans to look at whether some of the Graduate School’s administrative and support functions (such as degree auditing, promoting diversity, and providing professional development funding and opportunities for students) might be consolidated with similar functions in other units to generate efficiencies, economies of scale, and enhance overall coordination across different parts of the University.

“These activities are important to building strong graduate programs,” Hogan noted. “We certainly need to continue them, but we should also ask if they can be done in ways that are more efficient and well-coordinated.”

Hogan has acknowledged the dire straits facing the state economy, and told the General Assembly’s Appropriations Committee on Feb. 13 that the governor’s proposed budget, if not adjusted, would make it nearly impossible for the University to continue its quest to become one of the nation’s top public universities. He said it would also have serious implications for the future of the UConn Health Center.

**Couple’s gift establishes family studies scholarship**
Monday, March 2, to Monday, March 16

**Conference Room, Pharmacy**

**Vitro Release Testing Methods**

Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; closed

Recess hours: 3/7-3/14, Monday–Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m.; Friday, Waterbury Campus.

Thursday, 9:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m.; closed weekends.

Recess hours: 3/6-3/14, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–noon & 1–5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.–2 a.m. Recess hours: 3/6-3/14, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–11 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.–9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Monday, 3/16 – Darwin Bicentennial Seminar. Discussion by Marc Hauser, Harvard University. 6 p.m., Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center.

Thursday, 3/11 – Advanced Ocean Technology Seminar. “Pseudelectric Single Crystals for Underwater Sonar Transducers,” by Lynn Ewart, Undersea Warfare Center Division. 3 p.m., Room 103, Marine Sciences Building, Avi Point Campus.

March 21 – Recital. Performance by advanced music students, with special guest, poet Jeanne Collier. 7:30 p.m., Fraustadt Recital Hall. $7, students $5, $10. For more information, call 860-486-4226.

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UConn's cultural attractions benefit state, report says

BY MICHAEL KIRK

A few days before a law school conference on whether rail travel can help revitalize Connecticut's cities, a reporter called the dean to ask what role the law could possibly play in the issue of railroad transit.

"That's a little like asking what role the mother plays in Freudian psychology," joked Jeremy Paul, dean of the law school, during his opening remarks for the Feb. 20 event.

As Sara Bronin, an associate professor of law who organized the conference, later explained: the law plays an integral role in the expansion of rail travel, including property law such as eminent domain, condemnation of land, and environmental law.

The issue of the conference could be summed up by longtime Hartford Courant columnist and editor Tom Condon.

"The time is right to break down the silos — in state and local agencies," he said, adding that Connecticut must also work with neighboring states in the region to meet transportation challenges.

"If it stops at the border," he said, "it's not going to do anything to rejuvenate our cities."}

Future of rail travel in Connecticut discussed by law school panel

This is the last in a series of excerpts printed in the Advance from a report by the Office of University Communications. The report, produced in conjunction with a study by Stanley McMillen, chief economist at the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, outlines the many ways the University is vital to the state's economic well being. The full report and facts are available at www.uconn.edu/ucommunity.

State residents and visitors benefit from the University’s array of culturally rich attractions, such as museums, performance venues, and athletic events. In enhancing the quality of day-to-day life in Connecticut, the University also helps employers attract talented workers and attract tourists.

• Artistic exhibitions covering a wide array of subjects, media, time periods, and points of view are presented throughout the year at the William Benton Museum of Art on UConn's Storrs campus. The Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and von der Mehden Recital Hall, also in Storrs, host world-class performance pieces in music, theater, and the performing arts.

• More than 100,000 students, residents, and Connecticut tourists visit the Dairy Bar each year to enjoy dozens of flavors of UConn's own homemade ice cream.

• Pride in UConn athletics — "Huskymania" — has drawn fans from across the state and region to attend games, boosting demand for UConn-branded products and encouraging corporate support.

• UConn athletics annually draws more than 320,000 fans to Hartford's XL Center for basketball games and nearly 225,000 to East Hartford for Division I football at Rentschler Field. UConn's ability to attract fans has resulted in Connecticut's hosting NCAA women's basketball tournaments in Bridgeport in 2004, 2006, and 2008. In addition, Hartford has become the home of the Big East Women's Basketball Championship, thanks to the anchoring support of UConn fans.

• Based at UConn's campus at Avery Point, Project Oceanology is a nonprofit marine science and environmental education center offering recreational and learning opportunities for children, tourists, and teachers. About 25,000 people a year experience the marine environment firsthand through a variety of programs and activities, including water-front lab experiments and Long Island Sound cruises aboard Project Oceanology's research vessels.

• With an ever growing collection of more than 1,300 books written by Litchfield County authors, the nonprofit Litchfield County Writers Project at UConn's campus in Torrington enhances community and literary relationships with an exciting schedule of free readings, workshops, performances, and lectures each year. Author events have featured Frank McCourt, Candace Bushnell, and many others.

• The Connecticut Repertory Theatre, the School of Fine Arts theater production group, presents traditional dramatic works along with musicals, new productions, and workshops, entertaining upward of 20,000 patrons annually.

• The Connecticut State Museum of Natural History at UConn's main campus in Storrs serves UConn's students and faculty, K-12 educators, community groups, and the public with outreach activities, campus programs, and exciting exhibits that promote an understanding of New England's natural and cultural heritage.

• With more than 2,000 puppets, the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry in the School of Fine Arts holds one of the most extensive collections in the country. The museum provides educational exhibitions, tours, and programs for students, schoolchildren, and the community.

• Through the Connecticut 4-H Youth Development Program, area youth participate in educational and recreational activities in community or camp settings, including clinics, contests, and special events sponsored by UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

• Connecticut-based vendors produce UConn-branded items sold in retail outlets throughout the state, from family-owned businesses to local outlets of national firms, generating income for businesses and state sales tax revenue. Demand for UConn consumables has expanded the line of UConn Husky products from tortilla chips and salsa to bottled water, chocolate bars, and other products manufactured, sold, and licensed by Connecticut companies.

A Man for All Seasons

A performance of A Man for All Seasons by The Connecticut Repertory Theatre, the School of Fine Arts theater production group.

Tom Condon, longtime columnist and editor at the Hartford Courant, moderates a panel on rail travel in Connecticut at the Law School Feb. 20. 