

UConn Greater Hartford Campus *UPDATE*

Welcome Home!

Dear Faculty and Staff,

It's great to have you all here. While you were on recess we've made several upgrades to our facilities and programs, which are detailed in this letter. These include:

- Advances in International Web Conferencing, Internet Security, and a web page for you*
- New furniture, virtual learning clusters and computers in our library*
- Launching our new, four-year English baccalaureate curricula*
- Welcoming a highly-qualified freshman class representing 87 high schools*

We've spent the summer moving forward with improvements to our facilities and grounds. These are extremely costly projects and many of the funds being spent are not visible, but are vital to the infrastructure and health and safety of all faculty, staff and students. (See enclosed report.)

We will also launch a number of new initiatives over the academic year aimed at fulfilling the promise of our campus Academic Plan and shaping the future direction of our campus. In particular, my vision for the upcoming year encompasses:

- Working with University deans to provide additional baccalaureate majors and certificate programs*
- Increasing the number of minors to complement the programs of study already in place at our campus*
- Expanding our implementation of High-Impact Educational Practices, as identified by the American Association of Colleges and Universities, AAC&U. These are teaching and learning practices that "have been widely tested and have been shown to be beneficial for college students from many backgrounds. ... (and, which) "Research suggests increase rates of student retention and student engagement," according to AAC&U. We have a number of high-impact practices already in place, including:*
 - First Year Seminars*
 - Undergraduate Research*
 - Writing Intensive Courses*
 - Service-Learning and Internships*

My vision for our Greater Hartford Campus is to have more students participate in these programs and to expand our high-impact practices with:

- Learning Communities*
- an Honors Program*
- Study Abroad*
- Senior Capstone Projects*
- Diversity and Global Learning*

I will once again be seeking and trusting your input and expertise as we develop new programs and take on new challenges. Please stop by and share your insights, needs and suggestions.

Respectfully,
 David W. Williams, Ph.D.
 Director, UConn Greater Hartford Campus
 Room 204, Library Building

KICK OFF SEASON!

Connecticut State Employees' Campaign — As Connecticut savors this harvest season, we are asked to reflect on the abundance in our lives and help those in the community less fortunate than we are. I am asking each of you to please make a contribution to the campaign this year, when the economy has so adversely impacted families within our Greater Hartford Campus community and beyond. Learn about new, easy ways to donate to your favorite organizations by contacting julia.yakovich@uconn.edu or jui.shrestha@uconn.edu, campaign representatives.

WEEK OF METANOIA

The University will spend a week of reflection on Violence Against Women from October 4—10. I am asking all faculty, staff and students to participate in the Week of Metanoia through dedicated class discussions, attending guest lectures, and by becoming aware of safety on our campus. You have already received a letter from me regarding the Week of Metanoia, and more information for class discussions and on Greater Hartford Campus and University programs (speakers, panel discussions, events, etc.) will be posted on our webpage. To become involved in planning our campus activities or for more information, contact our campus Metanoia Coordinator Susan.Graham-Handley@uconn.edu

SERVICE-LEARNING FALL INSTITUTE

Plan to attend the 3rd Annual Service-Learning Fall Institute: Moving from Theory to Practice, on Friday, November 6th, 9AM - 3:30 PM, in the Zachs Community Room. Lunch included. Dr. Rick Battistoni, Political Science Professor from Providence College, is our featured speaker at the institute, which is funded in part by a grant from Connecticut Campus Compact. For more information contact:

julia.yakovich@uconn.edu

We also welcome Intern Jui Shrestha, a Masters in Public Administration graduate student, who recently interned with the Corporation for National and Community Service assisting the Budget and Performance office.

CAREER&NETWORKING FAIR

Representatives from over 25 corporate and non-profit organizations will be on campus to talk about volunteer, internship, and full-time job opportunities. Local and international organizations will be here on Tues., Sept. 22, from 2-6 PM in the Zachs Community Room. Please encourage your students, freshmen through graduates, to stop by and learn what organizations are seeking in job candidates, and what opportunities exist for students in your classes, so that you might better advise them or set up your own Service-Learning opportunity. For information contact: Meghan.Hanrahan@business.uconn.edu Phone: (860) 570-9258.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Our Campus will swoon with Latin American dance lessons, an International Day of Chocolates, a Colombian Festival, guest speakers, film screenings, artifact displays and more during International



Education Week (IEW) Nov.12-19. Plan the festivities with our GHC World Club, 12:30-1:30 PM, Tues.& Thurs. in Undergraduate Building Rm 308. For information contact tatiana.serebriakova@uconn.edu

ERGONOMIC CLASSROOM

Have a seat in the new ergonomic furniture installed in Undergraduate Building Room 304. We hope to be refurbishing all classrooms with this furniture in the future.

SUPERHOMER, VIRTUAL LEARNING AT TRECKER

Thanks to the Mortensen Foundation's \$7,000 grant to the Trecker Library, seven, state-of-the-art Super Homer computers have been purchased. We are most grateful for this gift and for the Adaptive Technology Workstation, which was funded by the foundation last year. New signage in the library points the way to Advanced Technology Stations, as well. But that's not all! I encourage you to visit our library to see the new furniture and seating arrangements designed to promote Virtual Learning among students, faculty and staff.

SMARTBOARDS

We are in the process of installing three new SmartBoards in the Undergraduate classrooms, just in time for training sessions at the **Q CENTER** on the diverse uses of this wondrous technology. In early October Quantitative Center Coordinator Esteban Diaz will conduct classes on SmartBoards, which allow you to display and annotate PowerPoint or any computer screen. Stop by the Q Center in Room 309 of the Undergraduate Building, and let Esteban give you a preview. Math and Science tutoring are also available at the Q Center.

???? DID YOU KNOW ????

Our new Associate Student Government President Mike Baczewski is also an elected member of the Board of Education for the Town of Berlin. Read more about Mike's vision for our campus at: <http://hartford.uconn.edu>.

GOING GREEN—Please keep our lush Greater Hartford Campus green and clean. We have installed four-stream recycle containers with easy-to-read markings and covers to separate your glass, plastic and metal containers, and white paper. White paper recycling bins have been distributed to classrooms and offices, and I ask you to please empty them into the recycling barrels for pick-up. **Our campus is charged fines if we violate state protocols for keeping trash and food waste separate from recyclable materials.** We need your help in role-modeling these environmentally-protective habits throughout our campus.

Classroom Clickers! Want to know if your students or meeting participants grasp what you are saying? Try our classroom clickers to poll students or meeting attendees and display results in real time on a bar chart. The instructor simply asks a question: T/F, Y/N, Multiple Choice, to which students respond through their clickers. The results are instantly tabulated by PC and displayed on screen. This is a superb tool to gauge comprehension, stimulate discussion or collect opinions on sensitive topics. For more information, contact:



steven.mcdermott@uconn.edu.

INTERNATIONAL WEB CONFERRING

Connect with colleagues at other UConn campuses and with institutions and individuals around the world through video conferencing, now available in the Library Building. Large-screen, iTV systems enabling two-way video and audio communication have been installed in the Library Building Conference Room 308 and the Campus Director's Conference Room. Each iTV display can also be used for laptop PC presentations and playback of DVD/VHS video programs. These systems complement the iTV system in Tech Building Room 101, which receives significant use for inter-campus classes. Reservations for the new iTV conference rooms can be made through the Director's Office at 570-9208. Sign

up and save time and travel costs through video-conferencing.

High-Tech Classroom Up-graded

New state-of-the-art, flat screen TVs, plus a video projector, document camera and touch-screen control system were installed in High-Tech Classroom 330 in the Undergraduate Building. The equipment is now easier to use, more reliable and provides more vivid images. For more information on videoconferencing or high-tech classrooms, contact steven.mcdermott@uconn.edu or (860) 570-9326.

NEW WEBPAGE FOR YOU

*Visit our new **Greater Hartford Campus Faculty and Staff page** created for you. While there, click on our new Veteran's Support, Virtual Learning Commons, and Online Campus Scholarship pages so that you can further guide your students.

* The **state-mandated encryption process** prevents data stored on your PC's hard disk from being accessed by unauthorized persons. You will be notified by email a few days before your area is scheduled for encryption. Those with laptops or computers on loan are responsible for making them available for encryption.

***All office computers have been updated** with improved Symantec Antivirus protection, which includes enhanced malware, spyware and intrusion prevention. Microsoft critical updates and patches have been installed.



Return to college. Secure your future. We can help.

Graduate!Connecticut - is a collaboration of the Greater Hartford Metropolitan Region universities, community colleges, Metro Hartford Alliance, several state agencies and educational consortiums to facilitate the transition back to school for individuals who have college credits but no degree. Graduate! Connecticut brings schools together to streamline the process of completing a degree and to support individuals in this transition. UConn's Bachelor of General Studies Program is designed especially for these students. Staff representing our traditional GHC degree programs and our BGS program will participate in Graduate! Connecticut's first "Return to Learning College Fair" at Hartford Public Library, 10:00 AM - 2 PM, Oct. 4th, and 4:00 - 7:30 PM, October 26th. For additional information, contact susan.graham-handley@uconn.edu or colleen.brochu@uconn.edu



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!!

The first classes of the University extension program began 70 years ago on Oct. 2, 1939. Close to 40 students enrolled in classes held at Hartford Public High School. Today we have over 1400 undergraduate students.

ENROLLMENT

Our Greater Hartford Campus Admissions Coordinator Dennis Seymour reports that SAT scores for our incoming freshmen class are 22 points higher than last year's class, and the average class rank of incoming students is also higher. We welcome their agile minds. The number of new and transfer students, 412, is down slightly from last year's 443, but Dennis expects that number to change after the first 10 days of classes. "There's a reflection of the economy in admissions pools this year," Dennis says. "New enrollments are down slightly at all the University regional campuses," but, "We are by far still the flagship campus of the regionals, with over 150 more freshmen at our campus," Dennis said. "We continue to attract very fine students from a wide area. Some are commuting 30-40 miles" and come from 87 high schools in Connecticut.

ART EXHIBIT

The UConn Greater Hartford Campus Art Gallery will launch the new academic year featuring works of **Xenia Oyola** throughout September. Xenia is a student employee in my office and will be graduating



with degrees in Psychology and Human Development and Family Studies in May. Her serene photographs of nature provide respite as we gear up for a new year. For more information on Xenia, visit: xeophotos.ning.com.

AUTISM COURSE

Our Greater Hartford Campus Disabilities Office is offering a trial, First Year Experience course this fall to assist students on the autism spectrum with their transition to college. INTD 1820 will follow a model used in Storrs, but is modified to address our students' needs. Each

class addresses a different skill with which students with Autism Spectrum Disorder struggle, such as time management, study strategies, organized writing and thinking, social skills development, career planning and stress management. The course will be co-taught by **Jackie Santiago**, our Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities, and **Jessie Mayo**, a Psychology graduate student from the Storrs campus.

UNIVERSITY LOSES 100+ YEARS OF SERVICE

Three of our long-term Greater Hartford Campus Faculty and Staff members, **Bob Brown**, **Tessie Naranjo** and **Ralph Snyder** are retiring. Together they have given over 100 years of service to the University. Prof. Ralph Snyder has taught and tutored innumerable students through rigorous physics classes. Bob Brown, who started his UConn career in Storrs, built and expanded our Student Support Services Program, and Tessie Naranjo has kept our budget, payroll and taxes in tight order with her know-how. My administrative assistant **Patty Toupin** has also retired and will be missed. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

NEW VICE PROVOST

Many of you know that **Vice Provost Veronica Makowsky** has decided to return to her tenured English professor position. **Douglas Cooper, Ph.D.**, professor and teaching fellow in Chemical, Materials, and Biomolecular Engineering, has been appointed interim Vice Provost for Regional Campus Administration and Continuing Studies. We are grateful for Prof. Makowsky's support to our campus during years of renovation and growth in programs and enrollment, and we welcome Dr. Cooper's leadership as we fulfill our mission to serve our students and the Greater Hartford Community.

INTERNAL MOVES

Kashema Jennings, Program Assistant, has moved from the Psychology Faculty to serve in the Administrative Services Office for students, faculty and staff in the Undergraduate Building, Rm.102, ext. 9408.

Kathy Foley, administrative assistant for the State Historian's Office, has assumed additional Administrative Assistant responsibilities for the Psychology Department and has relocated to Rm.206 in the Library Building, ext. 9213/ 9341.

Recognition And Awards...

Congratulations to Our Outstanding Greater Hartford Campus Faculty!

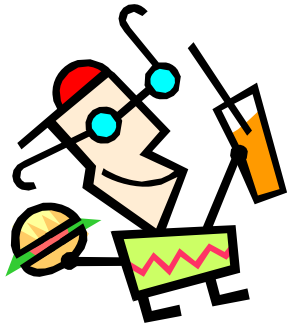
LAWRENCE GOODHEART, Ph.D., Professor of History, packed his bags for Turkey, where he will serve as a Fulbright Scholar from September 2009 until May 2010. Congratulations, Larry. We look forward to hearing about your adventures when you return. Try out our new iTV International audio-visual communications system to tap into one of Larry's overseas tours or lectures.

STEPHEN L. ROSS, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, Interim Director of Urban and Community Studies, received the first College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Excellence in Research Award at the recent commencement exercises. Stephen won the newly-established award in Social Sciences and receives, with the honor, \$1000 to continue his research.

CLARE EBY, Ph.D., Professor, has been selected for one of five, highly-competitive University of Connecticut Faculty Fellowships for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year. The University of Connecticut Humanities Institute granted the award to Clare to complete work on a non-fiction book

FELIX COE, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, at the Greater Hartford Campus, earned tenure this spring in recognition of his expertise in his field, his commitment to international botany research, involving students in research, and mentoring students to pursue science majors.

WALTER WOODWARD, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Connecticut State Historian, was honored as a Friend to the Connecticut Council for the Social Studies, for his creative efforts to expand and enrich social studies instruction throughout our state schools.



Marketplace *by the* Co-op

The UConn Co-op will be providing the Food Services with a new store, Marketplace by the Co-op, to be set up in the existing cafeteria. The store will offer a wide selection of convenience store items including pre-packaged sandwiches, hot dogs, microwaveable foods, coffee, cold drinks, ice cream, healthy snacks and much more.

In the interim the Co-op Bookstore will have pre-packaged sandwiches, microwaveable foods, cold drinks, and snacks available for purchase.

Thank you for your patience during this transition. I think you will be pleased with the outcome and what the Marketplace by the Co-op will bring to the campus.

NEWS FLASH—University Provost Peter J. Nicholls will be visiting our campus on November 2. His schedule has not been determined yet, but save the date, as this is your time to provide input and discuss matters critical to our campus.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CAREER AND NETWORKING FAIR— Tues., Sept. 22, 2-6 PM, Zachs Community Room.

WEEK OF METANOIA—Oct. 4-10 University-wide

CARING ABOUT “U”CONN PROGRAM:

FINANCIAL PLANNING 101 - Tues., Oct. 20, 12:30-1:30PM, GHC Library Building, Room 308

MANAGING YOUR STRESS - Thurs., Oct. 27, 12:30-1:30PM, GHC Library Building, Room 308

GRADUATE!CONNECTICUT INITIATIVE—Oct. 4, 10AM-2PM; Oct.26, 4-7:30PM, Hartford Public Library.

Q CENTER SMARTBOARD TRAINING—Oct., dates to be announced.

PROVOST NICHOLLS WILL VISIT CAMPUS—Nov. 2

SERVICE-LEARNING FALL INSTITUTE—Friday, Nov. 6, 9AM-3:30PM

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK—Nov. 12-19



SWINE FLU

I'd like to reiterate the University Guidelines for H1N1 Virus to keep us all healthy this semester:

1) “CDC is not currently recommending that institutions cancel or dismiss classes or other large gatherings.”

2) “Students, faculty or staff who have influenza-like illness should self-isolate (i.e., stay away from others) or home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone except to get medical care for other necessities (fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine). Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from making others sick.” The UConn Student Health Service requests that you not send students to them for written excuses because of the dangers of spreading the illness and overwhelming the caregivers who need to work with the very ill.

3) Consider “Alternative educational delivery such as distance learning, web-based learning, or other ways to increase social distancing.” Do what you do ordinarily if you are ill or have an emergency, namely, **HAVE A BACK-UP PLAN IN CASE YOU CANNOT TEACH** and consider ways that students can do work from home or make-up work just as you would for students during the usual flu season or any kind of illness or family emergency.

4) We have installed hand sanitizer at several locations around campus to help reduce the spread of germs. I will update you if the situation changes. Please check Student Health Services website for any UConn updates: http://www.shs.uconn.edu/swine_flu.html. and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Interim Guidelines for Institutions of Higher Education regarding the H1N1 Virus at http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/guidelines_colleges.htm#

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Over the past ten months we have been actively involved in addressing deferred maintenance issues on campus: New plumbing has been installed in many restrooms; all interior, fire-rated doors in the Undergraduate Building have been replaced to meet new code requirements; new signage has been installed in strategic locations on campus; and new picnic tables have been placed on campus, with additional tables to be installed. As these projects continue, there may be some inconveniences for all of us, but it is important for us to keep these projects on target and to work with the architecture and engineering staff so that the projects are completed in a timely manner. Ongoing projects include:

TRECKER LIBRARY

- Roof replacement and façade repair will start early in October. Funding is \$1,155,000.
- Mechanical design for boiler replacement was completed and is under review by the code office. Initial pricing \$400,000.
- Restroom floors have been refinished.
- Funding was obtained for replacement of a direct expansion cooling unit. Funding is \$300,000.

SOCIAL WORK

- Facade and roof repair work are slated to begin this fall with window sealant work also to be done in the fall. The Board of Trustees has approved this \$1 million funding and bids have been solicited.
- Some road regrading will be done to keep water away from the building, but work on replacing the road is on hold pending funding.
- Funding was obtained to replace the chiller. Funding is \$300,000.

UNDERGRADUATE BUILDING

- The Chemistry Lab make up air system was assessed. Bids were submitted to architectural and engineering design services for a full scope programming and renovation of the entire lab area or the makeup air system.

CAMPUS

- Demolition and removal of outdated kitchen equipment was completed.
- Campus-wide HVAC Master Plan Bids are underway.
- Electrical upgrade work, testing of transformers and investigation into replacing switchgears. Funding is \$550,000.
- The ADA assessment recommendations include:
 - Installing handrails, a landing and regrading of ramp on south end of Library.
 - Adding handicapped parking spaces and signage
 - Upgrading 2nd floor restroom accessibility in Undergraduate Building.

LANDSCAPING

- What a difference a year makes! Now that landscaping has been contracted out, the grass is thriving, the trees have been trimmed, and all damaged concrete by the Undergraduate Building has been replaced and painted where necessary. Two new flower beds were also created at the Undergraduate Building.



FLOODING REPAIRS

- The flooding which occurred in July has added to expenses and facility projects, necessitating the ripping up of saturated carpets and cutting away water-stained sheetrock in walls. Repairs are underway and will be completed in October.