Innovation, Exploration, Excellence, Opportunity, Expansion, Achievement.

These are but a few of the important characteristics that help define the University of Connecticut in 1999 – 2000.

In this annual report, we recognize the many facets of the University that are helping to propel the most dramatic transformation in our history.
President's Letter

Brick by brick and building block by building block, during the 1999-2000 fiscal year the University of Connecticut experienced exceptional achievement in multiple arenas as our dramatic transformation continues to unfold.

Maintaining the momentum established by UConn 2000, we reached the halfway mark in the transformation of our physical plant into a statewide network of campuses that will be among the most attractive and technologically advanced in the nation. The pool of entering students was remarkable for its size, strength and diversity. Our outstanding faculty was enhanced by the recruitment of scholars of extraordinary talent in a wide range of disciplines. Private financial support rose to new heights. We continued to strengthen the quality of student life and to enhance academic programs at all levels. And we proudly lived up to a tradition of excellence in intercollegiate athletics as we cheered our women's basketball team on to their second NCAA championship and applauded our men's basketball program and other successful athletic teams, took a major step forward toward construction of a new football stadium where we will play football at the Division I-A level, and were recognized as one of the nation's outstanding institutions implementing equity between men and women in collegiate sports.

As a public research university, we have a mission that goes beyond the borders of our campus. In 1999-2000 we expanded our reach and vision by strengthening our ties with South Africa's African National Congress and initiating a partnership with the University of Fort Hare, the oldest and most prestigious traditionally black university in South Africa. Closer to home, our scientists were called upon to help study and track the spread of the mosquito-borne West Nile virus and to seek ways to end the economic calamity produced by a mysterious lobster kill in Long Island Sound. UConn researchers developed potential treatments for cancer, breakthroughs in genetic engineering, and innovations in elementary/secondary education.

The year was not without its challenges. Foremost among them was developing a response to the financial problems that confronted the University of Connecticut Health Center and specifically John Dempsey Hospital — problems common to academic health centers across the nation in the age of federal funding restrictions and managed care. We acted forcefully and effectively, guided as always by a clear commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and patient care, and we secured vital support from Connecticut’s elected leaders as we pursued our plans. On other fronts, we worked hard to get new student housing started in time to meet anticipated enrollment growth, broke ground for a much-needed conference center and hotel on campus, and worked with our neighbors in Storrs to create an active, attractive college community.

The pages that follow highlight some of the more significant elements of our success during the past year. Indeed, when we consider the achievements of the recent past, I am confident it can be said that the University of Connecticut is building swiftly, and it is building well.

President Philip E. Austin
When state and regional health officials wrested this year with a series of environmental problems that threatened human health as well as the coastal economy, they turned to University of Connecticut pathobiologists for help. UConn researchers responded quickly to the call and went to work identifying the problems, determining their causes and developing solutions.

In 1999, six people in Brooklyn, N.Y. died mysteriously. UConn pathobiologists, Herbert Van Kuuyningen, Richard French, and Antonio Garmanza, teamed with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to come up with the first definitive proof that West Nile Encephalitis was to blame. The virus, which until then had never been detected in the U.S., spreads to birds and humans by the bite of infected mosquitoes.

Since the discovery, dead birds (mostly crows) collected from communities throughout Connecticut, have been delivered to UConn laboratories where they are examined for evidence of West Nile virus. "This kind of investigation is one of society's first lines of defense in what could be an epidemic situation," says Van Kuuyningen, professor of pathobiology.

Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection, along with state and local health officials, rely on these UConn scientists to identify the infection rate of birds, and determine the geographic extent of the diseased bird population. With this information, Connecticut communities, and others in New York and Massachusetts, investigate options that will help control exposure to the disease. Meanwhile, Vermont, which so far has been unscathed by the virus, has enlisted UConn's expertise to help monitor the health of its bird population.

Not only are these scientists testing birds to track the disease's progress across the Northeast, but they are also looking for antibodies that could lead to a long-term solution in controlling the spread of the disease.

As the West Nile virus investigation continues, another environmental event demands the proficiency and attention of the UConn pathobiologists. Last fall, a massive lobster kill in western Long Island Sound crippled the regional multi-million dollar industry. When Professor French first learned of lobstermen pulling up traps containing dead or dying caulis, he offered the assistance of UConn's pathobiology laboratories to the Department of Environmental Protection.

French, whose research interest is shellfish diseases, along with fellow veterinary pathobiologists Sylvain DeGuise and Salvatore Frasca, began to examine dozens of lobsters. Within a week they determined a probable cause: a parasitic paramoeba which causes an infection in a lobster's nervous system leading to its death.

French's continued research suggests that other factors may be causing conditions that render the lobster susceptible to the paramoeba. As French and his team work towards identifying all the factors, research funding has arrived through the Environmental Protection Agency's Long Island office and the Connecticut and New York Sea-Grant programs.

Faculty researchers and staff in the Department of Pathobiology continue to work tirelessly to help stem the tide of diseases that threaten our environment, our health and our economy. As French and his team at UConn continue their important investigative work, a region waits anxiously for answers.
Innovation at the School of Business

From the innovative Connecticut Information Technology Institute (CITI) at the Stamford regional campus to the new state-of-the-art business facility on the main campus in Storrs, the University of Connecticut's School of Business is leveraging its acumen and expertise to further strengthen its excellent business education programs and outstanding research productivity.

Overall, UConn's School of Business is highly regarded, known for creating financial success for graduates, anticipating and meeting corporate needs, and advancing business research. Princeton Review ranks UConn's MBA program the best graduate business program at a public university in New England. In February 2000, Forbes said that the return on investment from a UConn MBA places the program among the top 15 in the nation in its regional university category. And, Computerworld magazine ranks UConn among the nation's top 25 in technology leadership, recognizing the School's outstanding job preparing students for executive positions in technology management. A recent study, "Real Estate Research: Ranking of Individuals and Institutions," (Louisiana State University) places UConn among the top 15 programs in the country for real estate research.

The University's ability to meet the need for technology talent in the Northeast is a critical part of its success and crucial for the nation's future. To meet the growing demand for IT professionals, CITI, in partnership with area corporations and business associations, has developed targeted programs covering a full range of career needs. These programs include nine months of state-of-the-art training for those entering the IT field; an information technology-focused undergraduate degree in business; and an MBA with a graduate level IT concentration offered at UConn's Stamford and Greater Hartford campuses.

Recognizing the University's leadership role in educating tomorrow's business leaders, Actera Financial Services announced a contribution of more than $2.7 million to the School of Business. Combined with nearly $1.3 million in state matching funds, the total value of Actera's contribution will be $4 million. Actera's gift will endow a faculty chair, as well as establish the Actera Center for Financial Services, which will conduct research on long-term savings, investment, and income management, and address related public policy issues.

While rankings and endowments may help attract outstanding students, the ongoing quality of the programs — with plenty of hands-on challenges — keeps them here. Take, for example, a group of market-savvy students who belong to the UConn Student Portfolio Management Team, which won the 2000 Tucker Anthony Big East Stock Challenge contest. Despite the market's volatility during the four-month contest period, UConn's team earned an impressive $147,000 on an imaginary $250,000 stock portfolio, achieving a stunning 71.98 percent total return — and beating out 12 Big East schools.

UConn is also the only public research university in New England with a student-managed investment fund. During 1999-2000, the UConn Foundation awarded students with decision-making authority over certain investments. Chosen through a competitive application process, a team of undergraduates and a team of graduate students were each awarded $500,000 of the Foundation's $210 million endowment. Investment results from both teams were superior to benchmark indices. The incoming teams for 2000-2001 will continue the program by investing the balances achieved by the 1999-2000 teams.

By every objective measure, UConn's School of Business is emerging as a comprehensive business education and research center that is well equipped to move at the speed of business through the new millennium.

John E. Kim, UConn alumni and CEO of Actera Investments Management Inc., an independently managed subsidiary of Actera Inc., meets with colleagues.
The University of Connecticut has strengthened its position as a top choice for the most accomplished graduating high school seniors, thanks in large measure to its research-based education programs and responsive, student-centered faculty and administration. The much-sought annual listing in U.S. News and World Report, America's Best Colleges rates UConn the top public university in New England.

The University's own research suggests that students are attracted to UConn's nationally recognized Honors Program, spirited academic environment, innovative and personalized approach to undergraduate education, championship athletics and residential experience that integrates campus living and learning.

The numbers are, indeed, impressive. Over the past two years, UConn has experienced a 34 percent increase in the size of its freshmen class, while the number of freshmen minority students has increased by 34 percent. The academic strength of incoming students to the main campus, as measured by SAT scores, increased by 24 points over the last two years.

Moreover, 53 of Connecticut's high school valedictorians and salutatorians chose to attend UConn in 1999. The number of out-of-state freshmen in the entering class nearly doubled over the previous two years.

Our Visitors Center staff provide vivid examples of the increasing numbers of extraordinarily talented students who are making UConn their school of choice.

A TOP CHOICE FOR TOP STUDENTS

UConn distinguishes itself among research universities by engaging undergraduate students in the process of critical academic investigation. The Undergraduate Research Office encourages students to explore topics of particular interest and allocate funds to support them. Whether students are writing a script, analyzing texts in the humanities, evaluating data in the social sciences or running experiments in a lab, the undergraduate research experience has become a hallmark of the University.

The Honors Program – for which students from all schools are eligible – also takes UConn's high-quality education to the next level, by encouraging independent inquiry and creative thinking. Ranked nationally in Sullivan & Rudoff's Ivy League Programs at State School Price, the program was named one of the two best in the northeast, including New England, New York and New Jersey.

The level of personal attention that UConn provides is another important factor for students and their parents. With a faculty/student ratio of 15:1, students benefit from close interaction with UConn professors. In the 1999-2000 annual student ranking of faculty, all students – from entering freshmen to returning undergraduates to graduate students – gave the faculty an "A" in the area of interest and concern.

An enriched campus life also contributes to UConn's popular standing with undergraduates. The newly renovated Northwest Quadrangle, for example, is a supportive residential community for approximately 800 first-year students, as well as 160 upper class mentors. As part of the Freshman Experience, this supportive environment gives new students the opportunity to merge classroom and co-curricular activities to create a more comprehensive learning experience, including programs developed to strengthen freshmen skills.

From day one, the University of Connecticut offers an outstanding educational experience – one that combines first-rate academics with a rich and varied cultural, social and recreational program. With advances in every area of university life, UConn is moving swiftly to the forefront of public higher education in the nation, becoming the school of choice for more and more young scholars.
REALIZING A VISION WITH UCONN 2000

UCONN 2000 is the State of Connecticut’s 10-year, $1 billion commitment to renew, rebuild and enhance the University of Connecticut’s infrastructure. A landmark building program nationally, UCONN 2000 is creating the physical capacity to assemble a faculty that is second to none and provide the highest quality academic programs in the country. UCONN 2000 passed its half way point during 1999-2000.

Recently completed projects include the new $15.5 million Agriculture Biotechnology facility, which includes laboratories for biotechnology and transgenic plant and animal research, seminar and conference rooms and office space, as well as the new $17.8 million music and fine arts additions and renovations, which include a band and orchestra building, music library and studio and classroom building. At the same time, work continues space on the new building for the School of Business, which promises to be one of the finest business school facilities in the nation when it opens in 2001. The $26.6 million, 100,000 square foot building will house classrooms – many of which will feature teleconferencing and distance learning capabilities – offices, a cafe/commons area, a 40-seat boardroom and a spacious courtyard.

A comprehensive renewal of the Northwest residential campus neared completion during the fiscal year. This $32 million renovation includes student rooms, the addition of study areas, meeting and game space, and the Northwest Marketplace, a 550-seat dining facility. The Northwest Experience program is designed to assist freshmen in reaching their highest achievement potential.

In 1999-2000, design and construction began for additional residential facilities, including suite-style rooms that will provide a new option in residential housing at UConn. Apartment-style housing, planned for completion in 2001, will also accommodate nearly 1,000 graduate students and upperclassmen and provide the privacy and flexibility of apartment-style-living right on the main campus.

Also on the main campus, ground has been broken for a new hotel, which is expected to be completed in the spring of 2001.

UCConn’s regional campuses also continue to experience major changes. With a $22 million state investment, the UConn campus at Waterbury will be relocated downtown, while at Avery Point, a $31 million marine sciences building, currently under construction, will be completed in 2001.

On time and within budget, UCONN 2000, along with other related capital projects, reflects a public commitment to quality education that is transforming the University into a vital educational resource for the 21st century.

While girders frame the new School of Business on the main campus, UCONN 2000 projects sweep the University.
A new tool in the fight against cancer has shown promising results in multi-center clinical trials, thanks to the work of Pramod Srivastava, Ph.D., director of the Center for Immunotherapy of Cancer and Infectious Diseases at the University of Connecticut Health Center. But while Dr. Srivastava is one of thousands of researchers worldwide who are racing to discover a cure for cancer, his approach is anything but routine.

Believing that each tumor is unique, Dr. Srivastava has developed individualized vaccines of purified heat shock proteins taken from each patient’s tumor. This vaccine alerts the body’s immune system to attack the invading cancer, without harming healthy cells. More traditional cancer therapies—chemotherapy and radiation—kill healthy cells along with cancer cells, often resulting in seriously debilitating side effects.

“I have been examining heat shock proteins and their role in the immune system for years,” says Dr. Srivastava. “These proteins are the oldest, most common molecules in all cells. Each time I think that the outlines of their role have become clear, the view turns on me, as in a kaleidoscope, and an entirely new view unfolds. These views have kept me mesmerized for the better part of my scientific life,” he noted.

Dr. Srivastava’s work is aligned with a new strategic plan developed by the University of Connecticut Health Center. The new plan focuses on cutting-edge research and medical care in select areas of health science, thereby building on specific areas of strengths to create signature programs. The areas of focus are brain and human behavior, genetics/immunology and cancer, bone biology and musculoskeletal disease, and health in Connecticut. The continued development of Dr. Srivastava’s vaccine is a cornerstone of the cancer component of the Health Center’s vision.

Dr. Srivastava is the scientific founder of Antigenics Inc., a New York-based corporation that develops and tests his individualized vaccines. Through such corporate partnerships, the University is transferring discoveries made by faculty researchers to the private sector, where the new developments can be turned into commercial products and services.

If it is successful in clinical trials and wins the approval of federal regulators, Dr. Srivastava’s vaccine could herald a new era of medicine—an era in which therapies are tailored to each cancer patient.
EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA

The University of Connecticut continues to emerge as an educational institution with global influence. Its leadership in the area of international human rights was strengthened in 1999-2000 when the United Negro College Fund awarded UConn a $460,000 grant funded by the U.S. A.I.D. for a unique partnership with the University of Fort Hare in South Africa.

The three-year Tertiary Education Linkages Project (TELP) will include training South Africans in archives management and oral history techniques, as well as ongoing educational exchange between faculty, students, staff and administrators from UConn and the University of Fort Hare. The project, together with the historic partnership announced last year between UConn and the African National Congress, will also help form the basis of a major comparative human rights program at UConn.

At the core of UConn's partnership with South Africa is a new model for international interaction, based on the concept that each side can learn from the other. It's a model designed to foster international understanding and cooperation.

"This grant represents a vote of confidence in the University of Connecticut by the people of South Africa. It shows that UConn's approach to building partnerships is distinct and has international appeal," says Amili Omara-Omonu, an associate professor of history at UConn and project manager for the grant.

Since the end of apartheid in 1994, Fort Hare and South Africa's other traditionally black colleges – long deprived of resources – have faced new challenges as the country's well endowed, historically white institutions have begun offering grants and scholarships to top black students. With enrollment at these struggling black colleges declining substantially, the Tertiary Education Linkages Project was established to provide needed support.

Fort Hare, founded in 1916, boasts an impressive roster of alumni. They include the late Oliver Tambo, a long-time anti-apartheid activist and president of the African National Congress, and Goven Mbeki, father of the current president of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki. Former South African President Nelson Mandela also studied at Fort Hare.

Fort Hare also houses the archives of the African National Congress. In 1999, UConn entered into a partnership with the ANC to serve as the North American repository of copies of the party's comprehensive body of archival materials. The value the University attaches to its partnership initiatives in South Africa gave UConn the competitive edge among other applicants for the linkages grant, says Derrick Swartz, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Fort Hare.

"Our choice of the University of Connecticut during the TELP bid process was deliberate as we were looking for a solid and reliable long-term international partner," Swartz says. "We see the University of Connecticut as a major asset."

Academic links between the two universities are being forged in the areas of comparative human rights, education and agriculture. UConn is also considering a study abroad program at Fort Hare.

"Institutions, like individuals, are known for the company they keep," says University President Philip E. Austin. "We are deeply honored to be linked with the Republic of South Africa, and specifically with the African National Congress and University of Fort Hare, in this historic endeavor."

Andrew Billard, a South African student studying at UConn, and Oscar Mahoney, a visiting student from the University of Fort Hare, reflect on our emerging ties with South Africa.
The dramatic transformation of the University of Connecticut – leading to new developments in undergraduate education, student life, faculty research, intercollegiate athletics, and facilities and services – is being supported by a substantial increase in private investment.

Private support for UConn, in fact, reached historic levels for the 1999-2000 fiscal year, with the University of Connecticut Foundation receiving $37 million in private gifts. This is an $11 million, or 44 percent increase, over the previous year – an increase that continues five years of record-setting private-investment growth.

Clearly spurred by the excitement of UConn’s transformation, moreover, the number of individual gifts to the University has increased by 27 percent, with individual contributions making up 48 percent of the total.

Alumni and parents of students represent a large segment of these individual donors. Alumni giving actually increased to 25 percent, placing UConn in the top tier of public universities in the United States for alumni participation.

A sizable number of contributions also came to the University from non-alumni friends, people who understand the importance of UConn’s expanding role in society and who want to support its continued success and growing influence.

Fifty-two percent of all gifts to UConn came from corporations, charitable foundations, and other organizations. Higher than the national average, this percentage reflects the University’s strong standing among business and industry. Over 300 corporate contributors provided 26 percent of total giving.

Effective financial management has also made a significant contribution to the growth of the endowment. During the 1999-2000 fiscal year, the Foundation realized an enviable return on investment of 16.5 percent – almost double the composite index benchmark. These investment returns continue a trend of exceptional portfolio performance that is a fitting tribute to the outstanding group of volunteers – business and community leaders throughout the nation – who provide the UConn Foundation with strategic oversight and investment counsel. Superior returns complement the generosity of the University’s benefactors and provide added financial muscle to strengthen and expand important programs.

Overall, endowment accounts increased dramatically to $221 million, a $45 million increase over the prior year. Two thirds of the endowment support was directed to faculty positions, scholarships and student aid. Facilities, equipment and programs were also supported with endowment funds.

Thanks to a continual increase in scholarships, fellowships and awards – made possible through the generosity of thousands of benefactors – the University of Connecticut is attracting some of the best and brightest students and faculty, enhancing university programs and facilities, and expanding the frontiers of knowledge.
The spring of 2000 marked a victorious season for University of Connecticut athletics, both on and off the field. Not only did the women's basketball team win a national championship - its second since 1995 - but UConn also won a major victory in the arena of enhanced opportunity, earned with the same kind of intensity and hard work that you will find on any championship team.

The victory in opportunity came in the form of the University's most recent Title IX progress report. Title IX is a set of federal regulations established in 1972 that require colleges to offer male and female student-athletes opportunities, scholarships and amenities roughly equivalent to their proportion in a school's enrollment. Last spring, Lamar Daniel, a national consultant in gender equity and sports management, reported that UConn's Division of Athletics not only succeeded in achieving the goals it had outlined for the third year of a five-year plan, but also, in a number of cases, exceeded those goals.

"The voluntary commitment to full compliance sets the University [of Connecticut] apart from the great majority of universities in Division 1, and the openness of its actions makes it unique among intercollegiate institutions," Daniel said.

WINNING IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

The University's philosophy for Title IX has always been to expand its athletics programs by increasing opportunities for women, not decreasing them for men. Since the Title IX plan was adopted by UConn's Board of Trustees in 1996, women's crew and women's lacrosse have been added to the roster of intercollegiate sports. And beginning in the 2000-2001 academic year, the number of female student-athletes will increase as women's ice hockey becomes UConn's 24th varsity sport. Plans are also underway to award additional scholarships to women who participate in sports that are not now fully funded.

"We have worked very hard to achieve compliance," says Lew Perkins, UConn's director of athletics. "Our student-athletes, male and female, enhance this University's sense of spirit, pride, and achievement, while representing UConn in an outstanding fashion. They, in turn, deserve the best academic and athletic experiences we can provide for them."

While the University has expanded athletic opportunity, its level of success across all areas of athletic competition continues to reach new heights. UConn's 23 intercollegiate athletic programs achieved a winning record of 326-134-1 during the 1999-2000 academic year. The 12 women's programs were 179-65, and the 11 men's programs were 147-69-1. The athletic accomplishments of the 600 student-athletes are matched, moreover, by their achievements in the classroom. UConn student-athletes have an academic retention rate of 99 percent. Even more impressive, nearly 40 percent of those young men and women achieved a "B" or better grade average.

1999-2000 Team Achievements

Women's Basketball
National Champions
BIG EAST Tournament Champions
BIG EAST Regular Season Champions
Field Hockey
NCAA Tournament Semi-finalists
BIG EAST Tournament Champions
BIG EAST Regular Season Champions
Ice Hockey
MAAC Tournament Champions
Men's Soccer
NCAA Men's College Cup Semi-finalists
BIG EAST Tournament Champions
Women's Soccer
NCAA Women's College Cup Quarterfinalists
BIG EAST Northeast Division Champions
Men's Track & Field
New England Indoor Champions
New England Outdoor Champions
Women's Track & Field
New England Indoor Champions

The UConn Huskies are the NCAA national champions - again.
New Interdisciplinary Degree Programs Added

UConn has added two exciting degree programs to meet business and technology needs of the future. Degrees in Biomaterials Engineering and Engineering Physics are jointly offered through the School of Engineering and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The B.S. in Biomaterials Engineering responds to the growing commercial sectors that combine the fields of engineering and biology, while the B.S. degree in Engineering Physics provides a strong foundation in physical science and engineering.

UConn Waterbury Campus - Growing to Meet Market Demands

A $22 million state investment is bringing UConn's regional campus to downtown Waterbury. This financial commitment, proposed by the Governor and approved by the legislature, will help UConn's Waterbury campus grow to accommodate 900 undergraduate students and several hundred graduate students. The move, from the city's outskirts to the center of downtown Waterbury, underscores UConn's continuing commitment to provide access to quality education in new and renovated facilities across Connecticut. The new campus in Waterbury will include state-of-the-art classrooms and research facilities and will be home to a variety of innovative undergraduate and graduate programs.

Health Center Awarded $1.6 Million to Expose Minority Students to Careers in Health Fields

A $1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will help a coalition of educators reach minority and disadvantaged students at a pivotal time early in their high school experiences. The goal is simple: to introduce students to college and careers in medicine and other related fields.

Trustee's Gift Supports Business, Human Rights and Athletics

University of Connecticut Trustee Richard Trebick has donated $1 million to the University on behalf of the Trebick Family Foundation to support three areas of excellence within UConn: electronic commerce, the study of human rights and women's athletics. Funds for the School of Business will support the Trebick Electronic Commerce Initiative for technical research and development in this emerging field. Another portion of the gift will be added to a previous donation from the Trebick Foundation to help support the Driold Program for the Study of International Justice and Human Rights. A fund established through the gift will also provide scholarships to gifted student-athletes in women's tennis and women's crew.

UConn Ranked in Top 10 as Disability-Friendly Campus

UConn has been ranked as one of the ten most disability-friendly campuses in the nation by “Where”, a disability lifestyle magazine. The rankings were published in the September 1999 issue. The magazine highlighted UConn’s special education program, the disability awareness program included in new student orientation, on-campus van services, attendant services for students with needs, a full-time disability resource office and career counseling.

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Financial Markets Endorse UConn's Strong Fiscal Management

The University has received top marks for its financial management — including its system-wide oversight of UConn 2000 — and a strong vote of confidence from a number of leading bond agencies.

In March 2000, ratings for the UConn 2000 Debe Service Commitment Bonds were increased to "AA" by Standard & Poor's; "Aa3" by Moody's Investors Service; and "AA" by Fitch Investors Service, the same as the State's General Obligation Bond rating. The bonds were subsequently covered by municipal bond insurance and upgraded to an "AAA" rating category at Fitch and Standard & Poor's, and "Aaa" at Moody's.

School of Education Named

This year, UConn's School of Education became the Neag School of Education in recognition of a record donation of $21 million from Raymond Neag, 1956 UConn alumnus. In 1998, Neag's gift made history as the largest donation provided to the University, and the largest gift ever given to a School of Education in the United States. Jonathan Kozol, award-winning author and education advocate, speaking at the dedication of the Neag School, provided an impassioned plea for public education and dedicated teachers.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Speaks on Global Economy

Addressing an audience of students, faculty and financiers, U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers spoke of the strategic interest the U.S. has in promoting open global markets. Covering issues of global capitalism, the free market economy and the value of the dollar, Summers provided his insight on the Federal Reserve's strategy for managing inflation. Summers was invited to speak at the University as the second lecturer in a series of economic seminars sponsored by Greenwich Capital Markets. The series began with a lecture by Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.
All Creatures Great and Small

Scientists associated with UConn's research vessel Connecticus were part of a team that returned two whales, found beached on Cape Cod and named to health, back to their ocean homes. It was a bittersweet moment for marine scientists as they guided the whales off the stern and into the dark, churning waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Richard Cooper, professor of marine sciences and director of the Marine Sciences and Technology Center at UConn, participated in the release. Said Cooper, "As a public institution, not only are we committed to research and education, but we also have a duty to serve the public. By supporting the efforts to save the whales, we're fulfilling our responsibilities, as well as playing a role in the advancement of marine sciences."

Students Pull an All-Nighter to Benefit Children

This all-nighter was different than most, as it did not involve hitting the books, but rather hitting the dance floor. UConn students gathered together en masse to participate in the first Husky Midnight Marathon dance, proceeds from which were donated to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Students hope to make the Husky Midnight Marathon an annual event.

UConn is a Leader in Women's Athletics

UConn is a leader again, in women's athletics. The editors of Sports Illustrated for Women ranked the University as one of the top 20 schools for women student-athletes in the country. UConn was the only public university in New England to make the top 20 list. Key factors in determining rankings were women's championships won, varsity and intramural opportunities for women, as well as facilities, recreation programs, financial aid, graduation rates, and fan support for women at the University.

Aquaculture Project Hooks $2.5 Million

A five-year aquaculture project under the direction of Dr. Thomas Chen, director of UConn's Biotechnology Center, has landed a $2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Using transgenic technology, in which the DNA from one species of fish is transferred to another species, Chen, a world leader in finfish biotechnology, is exploring the development of disease-resistant, fast-growing fish. Improving the growth rate and disease resistance of fish could have worldwide impact on a vital food source.

New Breakthroughs in Cloning

Dr. Xiangzhong (Jerry) Yang, head of UConn's Transgenic Animal Facility, has succeeded in taking adult cells from the ear of a prize Japanese bull and growing them for three months to create cloned bull calves. Disproving those who believed that the long-term culture of donor cells prevented cloning, he found that longer incubation periods actually improve cloning efficiency, enabling scientists to modify genetically donor cells. Such discoveries have fueled Dr. Yang's international reputation in animal embryo transfer and embryo biotechnology. News of this scientific breakthrough spanned the globe. "This is sensational news here," said Chikara Kuroha of Japan's Kagoshima Cattle Breeding Development Institute, whose laboratories worked closely with Dr. Yang's team in the U.S. Mr. Kuroha has now joined Dr. Yang at UConn, where the two scientists plan to expand their collaboration.

Celebrating Diversity through Music

The Indigo Girls were the headline act of the Advocacy Fails, an event created to bring attention to the issues of inclusion and diversity at UConn and to demonstrate how a rich and varied campus community endures university life. Participating in the Fair and then playing to a crowd of 2,500, the Indigo Girls lauded UConn's diversity and outreach efforts.
Innovations at the Neag School of Education

The Accelerated Schools Project, one of the nation’s best-known school reform programs, has relocated from Stanford University to UConn, where it is combining forces with the Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. The Neag Center will benefit from the Accelerated School Project’s extensive experience in schools that serve at-risk children. In turn, the Project will benefit from the Center’s experience in targeting student strengths and providing strategies for high-end learning.

Also this past year, UConn recruited innovative and prominent reading expert Donald Leu to fill an endowed chair in literacy. At UConn, Leu explores how new technologies, like the Internet, can change the way teachers and students work. “By using emerging technologies to improve literacy, we can have a profound impact on the educational process and, ultimately, the society in which we live,” notes Dean Richard L. Schwab.

The Best in the Business

It’s hard to select the best of the best. But choose UConn Trustees did as six members of the University faculty were chosen as the first to be recognized as Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors.

The six, Stanley Biggs, professor of accounting; Lynn Blohm, professor of English, Howard Lamikis, professor of linguistics; Joseph Remulli, professor of educational psychology; Bruce Stueve, professor of history; and Michael Turvey, professor of psychology, have been cited for achieving “exceptional distinction in scholarship, teaching and service.” The program permits individuals to use the title Board of Trustee Distinguished Professor.

Award Winning Tradition Continues

The Connecticut Repertory Theatre (CRT) continues its winning tradition, receiving the 1999 Connecticut Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Ensemble Cast. The CRT production, *The Boys Next Door*, had a nine-member cast, including one equity actor, two graduate students and six undergraduate students who performed under the direction of Jerry Stephen Kranz, associate professor of dramatic arts. With 89 professional productions included in the evaluation process, this award recognizes the Connecticut Repertory Theatre as a vibrant leader within the state’s theater community.

The Dirt on Pollution Clean-up

Faculty affiliated with the School of Engineering’s Environmental Research Institute (ERI), collaborating with researchers from the United Technologies Research Center, have pioneered a valuable new technique for removing dangerous chemical solvents from contaminated soil. This new process, patented this year, was developed to decrease chlorinated solvents such as Trichloroethylene (TCE) at industrial sites where soil and groundwater are contaminated with a solvent commonly used to degrease industrial equipment. With thousands of sites across the country polluted with TCE, the successful outcome of clean-up efforts currently underway by ERI may point the way to economical remediation of industrial locations nationally.

Living with HIV

Advances in the treatment of HIV often do not resolve how HIV-positive individuals can maintain healthy lifestyles. With a $35 million grant this year from the National Institute of Mental Health, University of Connecticut professor of psychology Jeffery Fisher has developed a program to assist clinicians who counsel HIV-positive patients regarding safe sex. The clinicians are central to counseling intervention. Fisher says, because they tend to develop close relationships with people who are HIV-positive, while providing them with medical treatment for extended periods of time. This recent research grant brings Professor Fisher’s total grant awards for theory-based research on HIV intervention to approximately $8 million since 1989.

Door to Door Neonatal Care

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the UConn Health Center celebrated 25 years of service to Connecticut families this year, and added two new, state-of-the-art mobile units to its resources. Now, the high quality intensive care services of the unit can go on the road, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to bring babies born prematurely or with serious illnesses to the Health Center. The vehicles are equipped with controlled lighting, custom-designed incubator set-ups and back-up generators. Mechanical ventilation, IV therapy, full cardia-pulmonary monitoring, and blood gases can be provided in the vehicles.

The Health Center is the neonatal referral center for the northern Connecticut region. Since 1975, it has been a leader in neonatal care in Connecticut and has cared for more than 6,000 babies.
Private Investment

- The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. achieved record fundraising levels during FY 1999-00 as gifts received from private sources increased 44% over FY 1998-99.

- In FY 1999-00, the pooled endowment portfolio registered a 16.5% return, outperforming the composite benchmark which posted a 9.1% return.

- Contributions to academic programs at the main and regional campuses increased 32% over the previous fiscal year, while gifts to the University's athletic programs recorded a 61% gain. Support for the UConn Health Center was up 168%.

- The number of individuals making gifts to the University increased by 32% in FY 1999-00. Alumni giving jumped from 178 to 25%, boosting UConn into the top tier of public universities nationwide for alumni participation.

Endowment Assets (in millions)

Allocation of Endowment Support

- Fellowships 1%
- Faculty Awards 1%
- Scholarships & Student Aid 33%
- Faculty Positions 35%
- General Program Support 30%

Gifts Received on Behalf of the University of Connecticut (in millions)

Source of Gifts

- Foundations 20%
- Parents 4%
- Alumni 25%
- Corporations & Corporate Foundations 26%
- Other Organizations 6%
- Other Individuals 19%

Revenues & Expenditures

- University operating expenditures for FY 1999-00 totaled $952.7 million.

- Authorised capital budget expenditures in FY 1999-00 for the UCONN 2000 infrastructure program totaled $130 million. Since the inception of the landmark program in 1996, authorised expenditures total $512 million.

- Implementing new practices stemming from a PricewaterhouseCoopers analysis of institution-wide indicators, the University improved its operational efficiency across a variety of administrative operations. Changes in the purchasing process alone resulted in savings of $4.4 million.
Research, Training & Public Service

- The University of Connecticut is nationally ranked 70/557 among all institutions and 48/293 among public institutions by the National Research Foundation in research and development spending.
- FY 1999-00 sponsored activities (excluding financial aid) totaled $123.2 million, with 54% or $66.3 million, as at the main and regional campuses and 46% or $57.1 million at the Health Center.
- Funding for sponsored programs increased from $109.4 million in FY 1998-99 to $123.2 million in FY 1999-00, a gain of nearly 13%.

Funding Sources for the $123.2 million

- Federal 61%
- Private/Other 21%
- State 18%

Our Students

- Freshmen enrollment leaps from 3,225 to 3,648 in FY 1999-00, an increase of 13%. What's more, this increase follows a 17% jump in enrollments for FY 1998-99.
- Mean SAT scores for incoming freshmen increased by 16 points in FY 1999-00. This follows an 8 point gain posted in the previous fiscal year.

- The number of national vdewentorics and adutsentators making UConn their school of choice has increased by more than 15%.
- Over the past two years, the number of freshmen minority students has increased by 34%.

Degrees Awarded 1999-00

- Bachelor's 2,802
- Master's 1,145
- Medicine: 44
- Dental Medicine: 44
- Law: 209
- Doctorate: 275
- Total Degrees: 6,608

Ethnic Diversity of Incoming Freshmen

1999-2000 Board of Trustees

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Changes to Board
Effective July 1, 2000
Christopher J. Albanese was elected to replace Alyssa D. Benedict.