Homecoming Weekend October 12-13

Perfect Storm, Perfect Plan
CCSU Co-Op Program Has the Answers
Central Connecticut State University is a leader among Connecticut universities in creating programs to promote both human and economic development. We have long enjoyed a mutually beneficial working relationship with the state and its business community; a significant example is the University’s School of Engineering and Technology, which is helping to fill the demand for qualified engineers statewide. Additionally, the Institute of Technology and Business Development now hosts the Connecticut Small Business Development Center, which provides counseling in starting and establishing a small business, limited liability company, partnership or corporation.

But these examples are only just the start. Offering more than 100 majors in 80 fields of study, CCSU prepares students to fill vital roles in most every workplace in Connecticut. In the last academic year alone, CCSU awarded nearly 2,300 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees; with more than 80 percent of our alumni living and working right here in the state, the tremendous impact CCSU has on Connecticut’s economy is evident.

Each year, some 300 students participate in off-campus internships at area companies, schools, government agencies and nonprofit organizations. They acquire real-world skills, gain career-starting work experience and learn about potential employers. Several hundred more participate in CCSU’s cooperative education program, gaining experience while earning income. CCSU co-op students annually earn about $4 million, and some 65 percent are offered full-time jobs by their co-op employers.

CCSU is clearly stepping up to the plate in helping Connecticut’s economy and businesses, which rely on our human and intellectual capital to meld knowledge, ideas, creativity and innovation. These ideals are at the very core of Central Connecticut State University’s goal of being the premier developer of human potential for the state of Connecticut.

I look forward to again celebrating your vital role in these and so many more of our shared successes on Homecoming Weekend October 12-13. See you then!

Dr. Jack Miller
President

ConnCAP Celebrates 20 Years

Central Connecticut State University’s Collegiate Awareness and Preparation Program – ConnCAP – celebrated 20 years of assisting New Britain secondary school youth at a July 11 anniversary party on the lawn of the Robert C. Vance Academic Center. ConnCAP works with New Britain educational and youth service organizations, workforce and career development groups, businesses, parents and other civic organizations to help New Britain middle and high school students with their college preparatory courses so that they may qualify for a postsecondary education.
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From Us To You  CCSU’s campus is a busy place, with thousands of students, instructors, administrators and visitors going about their daily pursuits. But no one is busier these days than the fine folks in the University’s Career Services and Cooperative Education Office, which administers one of the largest and most successful co-op programs in the Northeast. We take a look at this program in this edition, and visit with some alumni — and former co-op students — who are now successfully building their careers.

Mike Ryan ’85 has been a success by any measure — both personally and professionally. The head trainer of the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars tells us about how CCSU impacted his life in Sports.

Sports is a passion of Jessica Cabanillas ’97, MS ’07 — as is world travel and family. Learn about why this CCSU alumnus and employee is passionate about supporting the University in our back cover donor profile.

Enjoy!

The Central Focus Editorial Staff
Mention the “Perfect Storm” to movie buffs and they’ll conjure images of George Clooney waging war with Mother Nature in the North Atlantic. But ask a human resources professional about the perfect storm, and Hollywood blockbusters will be the last thing on their mind.

They’ll be thinking future labor shortage, as in what’s been popularized in business, industry and academic circles as the “Perfect Labor Storm,” the dearth of talent projected to impact American business and industry in some five to 10 years.

Pat Deloy ’68, MS ’80 knows all about the Perfect Labor Storm. As CCSU’s veteran director of the Career Services and Cooperative Education Office, she and her staff are working to ensure two things: 1) that the student – and alumni – talent pool from Central Connecticut State University is equipped and positioned to take advantage of career opportunities now and in the future, and; 2) that Connecticut employers understand how CCSU can be their partner in human resource development, thereby heading off – at least in part – their own perfect labor storms.

“I see it more and more every day; employers are really seeing CCSU and this co-op program as a human resource development tool,” says Deloy, in her 23rd year with the office. “This generation coming up is much smaller than the baby boom generation, and there is an anticipated shortage of talent.

“So the strategy is, get these people sooner, determine if there is a fit – and you’ve got ‘em.”

CCSU’s commitment to experiential learning – i.e., cooperative education – is working so well that Central’s program, whereby undergraduates work full-time for six-month periods in their field of study, gaining valuable real-world experience and entrée to full-time employment, has become renowned throughout the region. Central’s co-op program is the largest in Connecticut and one of the largest in the Northeast; over the last 10 years, CCSU has worked with more than 260 companies – including major Connecticut employers such as Aetna, ING, the Barnes Group, Hamilton Sundstrand, Northeast Utilities, Pratt & Whitney and the State of Connecticut itself – placing in excess of 3,000 co-op students.

Even more remarkable than those numbers is the fact that approximately 65 percent of CCSU co-op students are offered full-time employment with their co-op employer.

“Our students really sell the program,” says Deloy. “One thing we try to get students and faculty to understand is that, yes, we help people get jobs, but our true role is to be a career educator, to help people develop a self awareness about how they are going to fit in the world.”
When Deloy says that the students sell the program, it is not just current students, but alumni as well. It is not uncommon for CCSU alumni who were once co-op students themselves to now be in management positions looking to hire—who else?—CCSU co-op students.

“It’s really become our strategy,” says Al Salemme ’97, director of operations for ING’s defined contribution customer service team in Hartford. Salemme himself was a co-op student with ING (then-Aetna Financial Services) and was hired full-time. “We’ve found Central to have a particularly good talent pool and we have a very successful hire rate.

“It really is a win-win for the school and for us in terms of turning quality talent into full-time, long-term relationships.”

Salemme estimates that ING has anywhere from five to 10 CCSU co-op students working at any given time, typically in a financial services support role such as operations analyst. He further estimates that more than 80 percent of Central co-op students are offered full-time positions, and of ING’s approximately 600 Hartford employees in defined contribution customer service, many are Central graduates, including at least 40 former co-op students.

“We’ll take students out of many different programs at Central. We’ve hired history majors, business majors, liberal arts students,” he says. “Central students are not afraid of going out and finding a job where you’ve got to work hard. It’s a good fit for us.”

Jackie Geraci ’97 echoes that sentiment. Yet another former co-op student, Geraci is today a human resources specialist with Rexel CLS in Hartford, the New England division of Rexel Inc., the largest electrical distributor in the world.

“I work with a lot of schools, but what I like about Central is that the students are very down to earth,” says Geraci, who has at least one CCSU co-op student every semester and counts a division president—and former co-op student—among the company’s successful recruits. “A lot of them have to work through college; they understand what accountability means. They understand the concept of having to build their own futures.

“I don’t have that same experience with other schools.”

As for the impending perfect labor storm, Geraci says nurturing relationships like the one she enjoys with Central is critical to the company’s future. “Most of our knowledgeable workers are getting close to retirement, and we see this as being a critical time to transfer that knowledge. Our success rate with Central has been unbelievable.”

Walter Zera ’84, manager, internal control for Barnes Group Inc. in Bristol, an international aerospace and industrial component manufacturer and full-service distributor, agrees that “getting ahead of the curve” talent-wise is a prudent plan; that’s why his company just recently started recruiting at CCSU.

“We are expanding, growing. It’s a tough market now and recruiting talent this way is something we need to do,” he says. “We have an international presence, and both co-op students we have recruited so far speak foreign languages. And as for CCSU, well, we are just very impressed with the program—they are on top of it.”

One of the keys to the success of the CCSU program is, in fact, the office’s ability to build and maintain successful working relationships, both externally with regional employers and internally on campus with students and academic departments. Salemme, too, says his company’s experience working with the office “couldn’t be any better.”

“They are here like clockwork about two-thirds of the way through each semester, meeting with students, my managers, always trying to figure out what they need to do to prepare students for their co-op experience,” he says. “Their willingness to come in and understand our needs keeps me from having to do that. I consider them an extension of my recruiting staff.”

Luis Abarca, left, and Jaime Wilkinson are two of many former co-op students now building careers at ING. Abarca is an operations supervisor, Wilkinson an operations manager.
On campus, the old days of simply scheduling a career development workshop, only to have a handful of students show up, are gone, says Deloy. The office now takes its mantra of self-awareness and career development straight to the classroom to reach instructors and students directly – early and often. Students interested in the co-op program must enroll in a one-credit career development seminar prior to their first co-op semester. That course prepares them for the working world; the office’s motto is “Don’t Wait Until You’re a Senior.”

“We decided that the best strategy was to work directly with faculty to tie our presentations into their classes; we do a lot of presentations to freshman year experience classes,” says Deloy. “Each of our staff has developed an expertise in their particular area, an understanding of the curriculum, and solid relationships with employers – they understand the job market.”

Deloy supervises a staff of seven. Associate Director Ken Poppe ’78, MS ’80 is the cooperative education coordinator for computer science, management information systems, networking technology and math majors. There are five assistant directors: Domingo Arias handles finance, management, marketing and business majors; Sally Cobrain works with liberal arts majors; Joe Zeoli handles engineering, industrial technology and science majors; and Linda Sershen is responsible for on-campus recruiting and resume referrals. Deloy herself works with accounting majors and is the career advisor for alumni.

YOU CAN ALWAYS GO HOME

Speaking of alumni, the office enjoys a dynamic and multi-faceted relationship with former students. Alumni are a critical part of the office’s outreach efforts and mission, not only through maintaining relationships with alumni in positions to hire co-op students, but in terms of direct career services. In fact, says Deloy, one of the most rewarding parts of her job is assisting CCSU alumni.

“It happens more times than I can count; people go out and work for five, 10 years and discover they are in the wrong field, or simply don’t know how to find another job,” Deloy says. “These alumni need to know we are here to help.”

Maureen Strong ’02 typifies the kind of alumni success story that makes Deloy beam. A non-traditional student in a classic sense, Maureen married and raised a family in East Hampton before deciding to go back to school to study accounting when her two boys were in high school.

While at CCSU she gained co-op experience with the State of Connecticut Auditors of Public Accounts, and eventually landed a job with the Middlesex Transit District.

Five years after graduating, Strong decided she needed a career change, and the first call she made was to Deloy.

“I had met Pat at an open house when I was a freshman, and she said to me if I ever needed anything, to give her a call,” says Strong. “That stuck with me. I feel that when I was there, even as a non-traditional student, they were very supportive, and really worked to find opportunities that would be personally satisfying for me.”
Strong made an appointment with Deloy. They discussed career options and reviewed her resume. Strong attended the Spring Career Fair, where she met employers and learned about various opportunities. Ultimately, she landed a job as a staff accountant for Keeney Manufacturing in Newington, where she started in June.

“I’m learning a lot, and am excited about the job because it’s a big change for me,” says Strong. “I would recommend taking advantage of Career Services to any alumni. I can’t say they were anything less than great.”

In its 150-year-plus history, Central Connecticut State University has grown from a small, single-structure “State Normal School” to a highly regarded, rapidly growing and diverse regional university with ties across the globe.

During its first 50 years, the State Normal School was a two- and three-year teacher-training institution. It added BS and MS degrees upon becoming the Teachers College of Connecticut in 1933. Central’s current-day growth truly took off in 1959, when upon becoming Central Connecticut State College studies in liberal arts and non-teaching professions were added to the academic mix. University status was granted in 1983, and in 2002, CCSU became the first institution in the Connecticut State University system to offer a doctoral program.

The impact of the dynamic institution of higher learning that is today’s CCSU is considerable. In the one-year period between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007, Central awarded nearly 2,300 undergraduate and graduate degrees in fields ranging from business to education to engineering (see chart).

**CCSU Degrees Awarded by School**

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<th>School</th>
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Source: Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness.
CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship awardees, and members of the CCSU graduating class of ’07, greeted Alumni Day guests on April 28: (l-r) Kelly E. Dennis, Bizu N. Irving, Olutayo A. Sogunro.

The Department of Educational Leadership and the CCSU Alumni Association honored the above distinguished educational leaders at a networking reception in April: (l-r) Brian J. Benigni MS ’98; Robert G. Hale Jr. ’76, MS ’81, 6th Yr ’84; Jill L. Hale 6th Yr ’97; and Dr. Carol Carter-Lowery.

Celebrating their 70th reunion at Alumni Day festivities are members of the class of 1937: (l-r) Jeanette H. Coppa, Doris (Andrews) Abbatello, Margaret (Bradshaw) Curtin, Josephine (Bertino) Tansey, Ruby (Gorman) Holt, and Helen (Schrieber) Steinberg. Also participating but missing from the photo is Adelma (Hodgkins) Tomkiel.

(l-r) Lucas Papageorge Jr. ’05, Raymond Bryk ’65, Tricia Marinko ’94, Howard Flaster ’70 and John Sarra ’74 at Fairfield networking happy hour in June.

(l-r) Stephen Rowe ’02 and Russell Hayden ’81 at Fairfield networking happy hour in June.

(l-r) 6th annual CCSU baseball alumni golf outing participants Bill Detrick ’50 and Ray Rondini ’56.

(l-r) Randy Cartier ’86 presents check for proceeds of the 6th annual CCSU baseball alumni golf outing to CCSU baseball head coach Charlie Hickey on July 13.
Eight distinguished alumni were feted in early May as honorees at the 2007 CCSU Alumni Association Awards and Athletic Hall of Fame Induction.

Dr. Kristine M. Larsen ’84, recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Service Award, was a brilliant student at Central, graduating magna cum laude with a BA in Physics, and earned her master’s and Ph.D. in physics at the University of Connecticut. A member of the CCSU faculty since 1989, she is professor of physics and astronomy and director of the CCSU Honors Program. Dr. Larsen has been the recipient of numerous awards and has been profiled in national journals.

Darren Sweeney ’98, the 2007 Young Alumni Service Award winner, earned a BA in communications at CCSU. A highly-rated TV meteorologist with WFSB Channel 3 in Hartford, Sweeney teaches popular news and broadcasting courses at CCSU. He earned a master’s degree in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University’s Newhouse School of Communications and completed his meteorological studies at Mississippi State.

Dr. Dino Iorli ’57, MS ’61, the 2007 Kaiser Alumni Service Award recipient, has had a long association with CCSU. He earned his BS in education at then-Teachers College of Connecticut and his master’s in technical education. A member of Central’s unbeaten 1954 football team, he excelled in track as well. He went on to a stellar teaching and coaching career at Plainville High School and counts two state championships among his achievements. He is currently an educational consultant.

Kevin Hightower ’84 is one of only two players in CCSU basketball history to serve as captain for three seasons. Hightower’s 1,477 career points places him in Central’s all-time top 10 and in his senior season he was honored with the Frederick M. Gladstone Award as Central’s top male student athlete. Hightower has held executive-level positions with three Fortune 500 companies and is currently in management with MassMutual Financial Services.

Ron Pringle ’57 played basketball and football while at Central and was a high school teacher and coach for a number of years before returning to CCSU as assistant coach in men’s basketball and soccer. He went on to a long tenure as CCSU’s head women’s softball coach, during which time his duties included the actual building of a softball field. Pringle’s former student-athletes speak eloquently and emotionally of his mentoring and claim his guidance as the key to their successes.

Joseph “Jake” Salafia ’56, competed in football and track at CCSU and went on to a legendary teaching and coaching career in basketball and cross country at Cromwell High School. Among his basketball accomplishments were a career record of 445-188, five straight Class S state championships (seven total) and 24 straight appearances in the state tournament. Salafia has earned a Connecticut Sportswriters Alliance Gold Key Award and is a member of the New England Basketball Hall of Fame.

Michael Walton ’76 is widely regarded as the greatest center in CCSU football history. Named all-conference and all-New England multiple times, Walton was chosen as a first-team All-America by Kodak and the American Football Coaches Association in his senior season, when he was honored as CCSU’s top male student athlete with the Frederick M. Gladstone Award. An insurance industry executive for more than 25 years, he is a noted authority in the field of health-care professional liability insurance.

2007 Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Jacqueline Adams Cheney ’93, an outstanding track and cross country athlete and scholar, established high jump and pentathlon records during her senior season at CCSU. She was the first women’s track and field coach at the University of Hartford, coached at Boston College and, as head women’s track and cross country coach at UConn earned multiple New England championships. Cheney continues to work in education with gifted and talented programs.
The CCSU community is poised to benefit from new energy and leadership on both the academic and administrative fronts with the naming of two new vice presidents as well as two new deans.

Christopher J. Galligan has been named vice president for institutional advancement. Galligan, who had been acting dean of the School of Business since March, 2005, holds a corporate finance certificate and master of science degree in management (executive program) from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; a master of education degree in administration and supervision from the University of Hartford; and a bachelor of science degree with a specialization in management, as well as an MBA, from Nichols College.

Dr. Carl R. Lovitt is provost and vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Lovitt came from Penn State Berks-Lehigh Valley College, where he was chief academic officer and a professor of English. He was formerly founding director of the Roy and Marnie Pearce Center for Professional Communication at Clemson University. A widely published scholar, Dr. Lovitt earned a Ph.D. in comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, his license (master’s equivalent) at the Université de Paris II, and a bachelor's degree at Washington University, St. Louis.

Dr. Mitchell Sakofs is the new dean of the School of Education. Dr. Sakofs joined CCSU as associate dean of the School of Education in 2003 and has been acting dean since August, 2004. He was formerly a faculty member at Eastern Connecticut State University, where he served four years as director of educational experience and as state certification officer. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Dr. Siamack Shojai has been appointed dean of the School of Business. Dr. Shojai was formerly with Georgian Court University in New Jersey, where he served as dean of the School of Business. He previously was dean of the School of Business and Economics at Plattsburgh State University in New York. Dr. Shojai holds a Ph.D. in economics from Fordham University.

Dr. Justus S. “J.B.” Beach ’43, innovative, challenging and motivational professor of education, emeritus at CCSU for almost 30 years, died August 10, 2007 at age 86. After completing his undergraduate degree at Teachers College of Connecticut (now CCSU), “J.B.” earned a master’s in education and doctorate in education administration from Columbia University. A U.S. Navy officer in World War II, he was an elementary school teacher and principal before joining the CCSU faculty in 1960 as professor of education. He served several terms as chair of the education department, retiring in 1989.

Dr. William M. Ellis, associate professor of accounting, emeritus, died December 18, 2006. He joined the CCSU faculty in 1975 and retired in 1992. The veteran educator, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, was also a practicing certified public accountant and attorney. He was a longtime member of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Eugene J. Riel Jr., who spent nearly a quarter of a century as a member of the CCSU faculty, died March 12, 2006. He retired in 1992 as assistant professor of mathematics, emeritus. Prior to joining CCSU, the Webster, Mass., native taught at Bacon Academy in Colchester. He was treasurer of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut.

Dr. Robert Rinas ’65, MS ’66, associate professor of technology and vocational-technical education, emeritus, died April 20, 2007, at the age of 80. Rinas earned his undergraduate and master’s degrees at Central and his Ph.D. in education from the University of Connecticut. The World War II U.S. Army veteran was a member of the Central faculty for 38 years, retiring in 1992.

Memorial gifts may be made to the CCSU Foundation, P.O. Box 612, New Britain, CT 06050.
Ryan Credits Success To Krein, CCSU

Mike Ryan has accomplished a great deal in the two decades since leaving CCSU. The head athletic trainer of the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars has been a recipient of the NFL Trainers Association’s most prestigious award; he’s been elected chairman or president of several key committees at the pinnacle of his profession; and he has earned a Super Bowl ring.

As if that’s not enough, Ryan has competed in marathons and triathlons all over the world; he even has finished the exhausting Empire State Building Run-Up four times. And just for good measure, he has also run with the bulls in Pamplona.

But the indefatigable Ryan wants to accomplish even more – much more.

Ryan credits much of his success to Carl Krein and the training program he founded at CCSU. “Carl is a legend in this field, a Hall of Famer. He is always professional, but always personable and approachable as well. Going to Central gave me the opportunity to work in the athletic training room from day one, which I would not have had at a lot of the so-called ‘big-time’ schools. It gave me a very real competitive edge.”

Ryan says Kathy Pirog, Krein’s successor, has earned a national reputation in her own right and that he never hesitates to hire or recommend interns from CCSU. “You know they’re going to work hard and work well,” he says.

As for his own future, Ryan would like to add to the Super Bowl ring he has already won as an assistant with the New York Giants. “I’d love to win one as the head trainer for Jacksonville,” he says. He’d also like to serve as a trainer for the U.S. Olympic team one day, just as Krein did. A distance running standout at CCSU, Ryan continues to follow the fortunes of the Blue Devils and has frequent contact with at least two former Central stars; Dave Campo ’73 is the Jaguars assistant head coach, and PGA executive Donna Fiedorowicz ’80 lives just down the street from Ryan and his family.

Cloud ‘Reigns’

It didn’t take CCSU women’s golf coach Paula (Morris) Cloud long to make an impression upon her Northeast Conference colleagues. Cloud guided the Blue Devils to a second place finish at the NEC Championship in Hershey, Penn., and was named conference Coach of the Year following her first season.

A four-year member of the University’s club team and a member and frequent champion at Simsbury Farms, Cloud frequently competes in Southern New England Women’s Golf Association events and the Connecticut State Women’s Amateur tournament.

Paula’s son, Kevin, a golf professional in Virginia, and his wife recently blessed Paula and her husband, David, with their first grandchild, Brady. Paula and David have two other sons and reside in Simsbury.

Piper to Coach Women’s Hoop

Hard at work recruiting, hiring a staff and planning for a fast-paced future, which begins with the start of practice in mid-October, Beryl Piper brings a stellar resume and a deep, emotional commitment to her new job, head coach of women’s basketball at her alma mater.

Before taking the reigns of the CCSU program, Piper built New Britain High School into a perennial power, winning three state championships, including the last two in a row while compiling a 289-151 record.

“This was the perfect time for me to make this transition. Central Connecticut gave me a chance to be a player and now is giving me a chance as a coach,” said Piper. “I feel I worked hard to become successful as a player. As a coach, I will use the same work ethic to make the University and community proud of the women’s basketball program.”
Some 35 years after graduating together as physical education majors in 1972, (l-r) Ann (Humphrey) Malafrance, unified sports director at CIAC, Barbara Startup, athletic director at Glastonbury High School, Tina (Mazurski) Yenkner, adapted physical education teacher for Glastonbury schools, and Rita (Hickey) Ford, sports program director for Special Olympics, Eastern Region in Connecticut, all came together on April 28, 2007 to coordinate an Elementary Unified Sports Day in Glastonbury for 164 area special athletes and partners.

Dr. Marcia (Zawilinski) Giza retired from the Berks County Intermediate Unit in Reading, PA, where she was responsible for the curriculum, staff development, Head Start and child care for 18 school districts, as well as administrator of Reading First under No Child Left Behind for Pennsylvania. Marcia and husband, Don, reside in Palm Harbor, FL.

Retired middle school principal Marilyn (Veneziano) Feldman MS ’82 and her husband, Gerald, sold their home on Cape Cod, put their belongings in storage and traveled as full-time RVers for three years, settling in Melbourne, FL in 2004.

Merry (Sheldon) Lewis MS ’70 is the reading room librarian at her church and, having served as state president, is active in the Kappa Gamma Society International.

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Kellyann Chester ’89 & Richard R. Ouellette Jr. 6/30/07
Sharon Grubb ’01 & Michael Vickers 8/9/07

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Marriages

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Mary J. Balyeat teaches 7th grade social studies at Carson Middle School in Tucson, AZ. She is currently lead site teacher working with the Teaching American History three-year grant. Peter A. Molinaro is vice president for federal and state government affairs for Dow Chemical Company in Washington, D.C.

Charles Karno (MS) is the new town planner for Winchester, having served previously as director of development for East Hartford, economic development director for Berlin, and economic development coordinator for Groton. Dr. Raymond R. McCarthy ’MS 02, technology education teacher at Williams Middle School in Longmeadow, MA, delivered two presentations of his research on women in technology education at the 69th Annual International Technology Education Association Convention in San Antonio, TX.

Raymond R. McCarthy ’MS 02

David R. Woike is general manager of Techalloy Welding Products in Baltimore, MD.

U.S. Marines Col. Stephen R. Cote is a senior military analyst for Northrop Grumman Corporation. He and his wife, Lori (Matthews) ’78 live in Virginia Beach, VA. A 28-year career educator, Patricia S. Peck is currently an elementary physical education teacher for the school district of Palm Beach County in West Palm Beach, FL.

Robert J. Virgalla is manager of sales and business development, TALON and Cee Products, for Brewer Science Inc.

Janet (Schneider) Bacon is a forensic fraud examiner for the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services. Kathryn A. Josefow is a physician assistant, occupational medicine at St. Luke’s Medical Center in Meridian, ID.

Ronald C. Roy is partner/founder of Digit Play LLC, a company specializing in mobile/wireless technologies and camera-based gestural software in St. Louis, MO. Previously he partnered for several years with rock icon David Bowie in UltraStar, blazing trails for online fan clubs, e-ticketing and e-commerce for music clients such as the Rolling Stones and 20 major league franchises in sports including the New York Yankees. He and his wife and four children live in Chesterfield, MO.

Michael J. Foran MS ’90, 6th Yr ’92, a 20-year veteran of New Britain schools, starting as a social studies teacher at Slade Elementary School, was chosen as the new principal of New Britain High School. Michael R. Garvey, CPA, managing member of Garvey & Associates LLC and Professional Payrolls LLC located in Mystic, was appointed to the board of directors of SI Financial Group Inc. and to the boards of directors of SI Bancorp, MHC and Savings Institute Bank & Trust Company. Marc A. Palazzo is vice president for public affairs for Flint Hills Resources, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Koch Industries Inc. and leading producer of fuels and other petrochemical and commodity products, located in Wichita, KS. He leads the company’s public and government relations, corporate communications, philanthropy and community involvement.

Longtime Connecticut radio personality Michael J. "Mike" Stacy was re-elected to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Connecticut Chapter, board of trustees. Mike has been with Lite 100.5 WRCH FM in Farmington for more than 15 years, serving as the station’s morning show host and promotions director. He and his wife, Carol (Weldon) ’87, and their two sons live in Rocky Hill.

Elizabeth A. Crooks MS ’97 was named associate principal of New Britain High School. William H. Kirkby is an administrator of the Achievement Reinforcement Center for Santa Ana Unified School District in Santa Ana, CA. John J. Tedone was promoted to vice president-finance at Kaman Corporation in Bloomfield. He serves as the company’s principal accounting officer and oversees the corporate accounting functions, including internal and external reporting forecasting, budgeting and compliance.

John F. Cridland is the co-founder and general manager of Island Cleaners in George Town, Grand Cayman, where he lives with spouse, Corina (Zocco) ’93, and their three children.

Erik M. Jones MS ’97 is a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the State of Connecticut Board of Education and Services for the Blind in Windsor.

Amy E. McCluskey is a senior graphic designer for ESPN in Bristol. Byron B. Smith is a detective for the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office in West Palm Beach, FL.
95 Kimberly C. Forster began a new position as outpatient sales representative at Gaylord Hospital in Wallingford where she has been employed since 1998, most recently as a public relations specialist. Alfred F. Struna is employed by Hachette Filipacchi Media U.S. as creative services director for Flying magazine.

96 Monica (Pirog) Kreuzer, a biology teacher at Watertown High School for 10 years, was honored with the Connecticut Outstanding Biology Teacher Award for 2007 by the Connecticut Association of Biology Teachers. Luciana Rabay MBA ’99 and Gareth L. Butcher MBA ’99 are married and have a 3-year old son, Lucas, and have been living in Brazil since November 2003. They manage their own company, Brasilian, which offers consulting in international business, international export expertise, and counseling and assistance for students seeking work/study, student athlete scholarships, and other types of international student experiences.

97 Christine M. Wojdyla is a communications professional in investor relations for Entrepreneur Partners in Philadelphia, PA.

98 Camilla Urbano is a relocation coordinator for Calcagni Associates Real Estate in Cheshire.

99 Allison (Rolls) Delaney is a mathematics teacher and coach for Montville Public Schools.

01 John R. Stewart received a masters degree in elementary education at the University of Bridgeport. Atty. Mindy S. Tompkins is an associate in the law firm of Reid & Riege P.C. in Hartford, specializing in the area of health care. Christopher J. Tremblay is a federal agent with the U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector Special Response Team, in Tucson, AZ.

02 Christine (Distasio) Wiesner is an outside sales representative for Ganz USA in New York.

03 Jennifer S. King (MS) is a foreign affairs officer for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL), U.S. State Department. Previously she was an Arabic translator for the United States Navy.

04 Emily A. Doran is an executive in sales and marketing for the Monaco Government Tourist Office in New York City. Kelly J. McDermott is a grants writer for the City of Bridgeport. Officer Alex B. Rodriguez recently joined the Middletown police force.

05 Jessica L. Aliff (MS) teaches first grade for Bristol Public Schools. Jennifer L. Brochu is assistant vice president and credit officer at Connecticut River Community Bank in Wethersfield. Michelle T. Pratt is health and wellness director for the Wallingford Family YMCA.

06 Lauren A. Jensen is sales coordinator at Barker Specialty Company in Cheshire.

In Memoriam

1931
Mary Chanda Zetarski 5/8/07

1932
Esther Epstein Rosenbaum 4/6/07

1934
Alice M. Ledger 5/8/07

1937
Alphonse E. Anthony 4/15/07
Clariel Durfee Rendos 4/13/05

1941
Carolyn Hines Holt 6/13/06
Elizabeth Slack Ikehara 2/24/07
Dorothy Welch Korn 2/12/07

1942
Evelyn A. Cooke 3/29/07

1943
Justus S. “J.B.” Beach 8/10/07

1950
Louis J. Bibisi 5/25/07
James MacFarlane 5/6/07

1953
Joseph W. Tarrant 1/5/07
Jean Frangione Hiltpold 4/28/07
Mary Jane Costa O’Hara 8/23/04

1956
Warren O. Johnson 6/8/07

1957
Mary Jane Costa O’Hara 5/6/07
Regina Walter Woods 4/22/07

1958
Veronica Thomas Taylor 5/2/07

1959
Elizabeth Schulze Lowrey 6/22/07

1961
Elaine Conrad Burkart 6/14/07
Anthony Mazurowski 8/14/04

1964
Mary Jane Cromwell 3/18/07
Robert Rinas 4/20/07

1965

1967
George P. Spring Jr. 6/14/07
Evelyn Zettervall McCurry 6/29/07
James W. Bates 6/11/07
Lillian Sargis Pera 5/1/07

1968

1969
George A. Breault 3/22/07
Jean Norris Linton 5/9/07

1970
Bradford A. Ames 4/1/07
Regina Haddad Nero 6/11/07

1974
Raymond P. Greene Jr. 3/13/07

1975
Thomas N. Procko 5/14/07
Katherine Williams Rudolph 7/7/07
Cheryl Cook Worthing 6/5/07

1976
Christine Marselli Larosa 6/15/07

1978
Judith Ransom Frauenglass 4/15/07
Eileen M. Loehfelm 7/6/07

1980
Eileen M. Tateo-Beebe 5/27/07
Susan Whitney Westerman 4/16/07

1981
Bruce W. Bartlett 6/17/03

1982
Robert L. Caron 6/22/07
Sue-Ellen Murphy Lyons 6/8/07

1983
Jane E. Jones 6/25/07

1984
Robert P. Vaughan 5/13/07

1989
Anne “Nancy” Crane Cianci 6/1/07

1992
Marshall A. Kendrick 4/22/07

1996
Teresa C. Chin 3/25/07

Memorial gifts may be made to the CCSU Foundation, P.O. Box 612, New Britain, CT 06050.
Homecoming Weekend

Friday, October 12, 2007

**CCSU Blue Devils Touchdown Club Golf Classic**
Stanley Golf Course – 12:00 noon Shotgun Start
Cost: $110 per person includes greens fees, lunch, shared golf cart and buffet dinner

**Women’s Soccer** – CCSU vs St. Francis (PA)
3:00 pm – Arute Field

Saturday, October 13, 2007

**2007 CCSU Homecoming 5K Fun Run**
8:30 am registration – 9:30 am start – Stanley Quarter Park
Pre-registration form online at http://www.ccsu.edu/Alumni/PDF/2007_Homecoming_Fun_Run.pdf

**Alumni Reunions** – Marching Band, Residence Life Staff, School of Business, WFCS Radio
Contact the Alumni Office for details

**Pregame Activities** – 11:00 am – Kaiser Parking Lot
Family activities – Giant slide, sand art, photo key chains and more

**Barbeque** – $5.00 per person
Contact the Alumni Office for reservations

**Football Game** – CCSU vs Robert Morris
1:00 pm – Arute Field

**Halftime** – Arute Field – Alumni Tent
Complimentary lemonade and giveaways

**Postgame Party** – Immediately following the game
Student Center – Semesters (old Pub area)

**New Britain Museum of American Art**
Complimentary admission for alumni
The featured exhibition is Contemporary Combustion: Chinese-American Artists

phone: (860) 832-1740
email: alumnidept@ccsu.edu
website: www.ccsu.edu/alumni

Save the Date!

CCSU Alumni and Friends Florida Reunion
Sunday, February 24, 2008
Fort Myers, FL

CCSU Alumni Day Trip to Boston
Saturday, September 29, 2007
CCSU faculty-led tour of
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum
Afternoon at Quincy Market
Optional walking tour of historic Boston

Graduate Studies Open House
Thursday, October 4, 2007
4:00 – 7:00 pm
Alumni Hall, Student Center, CCSU campus

Gridiron Update Lunch
with football head coach Jeff McNerney
Wednesday, October 24, 2007
12:00 noon
Angelico’s Café
New Britain

New Haven-Area Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, November 8, 2007
5:30 pm
Location TBA

Hoop Group Lunch Series
with men’s basketball head coach Howie Dickenman
Tuesday, November 6
Tuesday, December 4
Tuesday, January 15
Tuesday, February 12
Tuesday, March – TBA
12:00 noon
Angelico’s Café
New Britain

Basketball Game Half Time Receptions
Saturday, November 17 – Men vs New Hampshire – TBA
Saturday, December 1 – “Brenda Reilly Day”
Women vs UW-Milwaukee – 12:00 noon
Men vs Lehigh – 2:00 pm
Saturday, December 8 – Men vs Mount St. Mary’s – TBA
Sunday, December 16 – Men vs Delaware – 1:00 pm
Kaiser Hall

Information / Reservations
Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs
phone: (860) 832-1740
e-mail: alumnidept@ccsu.edu
website: www.ccsu.edu/alumni

Check our website and E-News, the alumni association monthly electronic newsletter, for the latest event updates. To receive E-News contact the alumni office.
Jessica Cabanillas' Peruvian heritage dictates that family means everything. So it’s no wonder that upon accepting a position on the University's staff, she adopted the CCSU family as her own, as well.

“Central has always been kind of a second home to me,” says Jessica, an associate in the University’s Office of Multicultural Affairs, which coordinates the University’s efforts to promote, develop and support a culturally diverse community.

Jessica came to Central out of Lewis Mills High School in Burlington partly because she wanted to stay close to her parents, who emigrated from Peru in their teens. With her father assigned at the time to a position with General Motors in Maryland, Jessica preferred to remain home with mom and commute to college.

As a student, Jessica worked part-time in the Human Resources Department and was offered a full-time position in the department upon graduation.

“It was great because I had the experience and we had a great team,” says Jessica, who left CCSU after about three years to try her hand at corporate life, only to return in 2002. “Central is such a great place to work; it has so many wonderful things to offer that I had to come back.”

Those great things include, says Jessica, her work to promote cultural diversity on campus and to assist current students – those in her “extended” family – in any way she can.

“I always have my door open, so if the occasional student happens by, I can offer help,” says Jessica, whose sister, Natalie (Cabanillas) Ford ’94, also works on campus in the University’s Learning Center. “I like being on campus with students who are just trying to realize their dreams, who may not know where to turn for help.”

Jessica’s dream as a supporter of the University’s endowed scholarship fund is to help other CCSU students benefit from the kind of education she was privileged to enjoy. One of her defining experiences as an international business student was a study abroad trip to Italy, which she says “opened my eyes to the rest of the world.”

“From that point on I promised myself that every year, I would visit someplace I’ve never been before.”

Jessica’s voyages have included trips to countries such as her family’s native Peru, Japan and Iceland. But domestic travel can also be special, she laughs – especially her annual excursions to Tampa, Fla., each spring to see her beloved New York Yankees.

But there is more than enough room in Jessica’s heart for CCSU, too.

“I appreciate the quality of instruction I had at Central,” she says. “So much of what I learned here can be applied to everyday life. So when I contribute, it’s my hope that in some small way I’m making it a little easier for someone else.”