As I look back on the past academic year – my first full year as president of CCSU – I find that, as with any new job, there were many things I expected and some that I did not. Equally, as with any new job, there were long stretches of smooth road and some bumps and potholes along the way. All in all, however, I cannot imagine having a more enjoyable first year, and that has given me great excitement for the second and beyond. My original thoughts about the great potential for the future of this institution have been clearly confirmed during this year. There are many wonderful things to build upon and a lot of work to do. I invite you to view the University’s 2005-2006 annual report on our website at www.ccsu.edu/annualreport.

One of the most pleasant aspects of the past year has been my contact with CCSU alumni. Collectively and individually you tell the story of a great institution with the possibilities of an even greater future. As testament to your support, this edition of Central Focus includes the University’s Honor Roll of Donors, a listing of all the individuals, corporations and organizations that supported the University in the past fiscal year. I am grateful to all who have invested in the future of Central Connecticut State University.

Academic programs like the Polish and Polish American Studies program, featured in this edition, have been the beneficiaries of private support and continue to grow through the generosity of CCSU’s wider community. Individual donors, like Professor Emeritus Dr. Justus Beach, have made a commitment to ensuring scholarship support for deserving students. These are just two examples of how generosity has made a difference at CCSU.

The support of alumni and friends is critically important as we work to develop strategic goals to guide our efforts to realize the promise of this fine University.

Dr. Jack Miller,

President

CCSU Alumni Association Board of Directors:

Feature Story: Polish Studies
Program Distinguishes CCSU

A CCSU Original:
“J.B.’s” Influence Lives On

Sports: Fiedorowicz Humbled
by Hall Selection

special insert

2005-2006 Honor Roll of Donors

departments

Happenings
Class Notes
In Memoriam
Upcoming Events

FROM US TO YOU

When Stan Blejwas joined CCSU’s faculty in 1974 as its first professor of Polish and Polish American Studies, little did he know that over the next 25-plus years, he would help propel a fledgling program into national prominence as one of only two endowed chairs in Polish studies in the United States. The fact that the only other such chair resides at Harvard University speaks volumes about CCSU’s commitment to excellence. This edition’s feature story explores this unique program.

Speaking of history, CCSU’s history has been distinguished by many dedicated, accomplished academicians. Among them is Justus Beach, the retired professor of teacher education who at age 86 still takes great joy in challenging convention. We look back at the career and influence of this one-of-a-kind educator.

And with the new year upon us, it’s again time to thank all of our generous donors and alumni whose continued support is so critical to CCSU’s mission. Our annual Honor Roll of Donors is featured in the center section.

Until next time, Happy New Year!

The Central Focus Editorial Staff
In the autumn of every year, the people of Poland and those of Polish heritage around the globe gather for community-wide celebrations known as Dozynki. The traditional Dozynki, rooted in centuries-old Polish tradition, celebrates the end of the farming season; a Dozynki festival is a grand, community affair, a time when farmers gather with servants, farm workers and townspeople to reap the reward of a bountiful harvest.

In New Britain — a well-documented, Polish American stronghold in the Northeast — CCSU today is in many ways quietly but excitedly celebrating its own Dozynki. It is reaping the reward of a different kind of bounty, a bounty sowed by decades of work and dedication to build the University’s very first endowed chair, the Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies.

CCSU’s Blejwas Endowed Chair, held by renowned scholar Dr. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski, and the Polish and Polish American Studies program have entered a new phase of maturity since the program’s founding more than 30 years ago, and are currently engaged in a variety of exciting, landmark initiatives. If the Chair had not already put the University on American academia’s national map, then it is surely there today.

“There are probably only a handful of universities in the country that have programming of this nature,” says Nicholas Pettinico, Jr., the University’s vice president for institutional advancement. “Harvard is one of them. So it’s fabulous for Central to be in that league, to be considered a peer institution with respect to this program.”

The analogy to the Polish Dozynki festival is an apt one, for CCSU’s Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies is not only a reflection of its community, but was built, in a sense, on sweat equity. In fact, unlike most academic endowments of this nature — traditionally established at major, private universities with access to a stable of wealthy benefactors — funding for this chair was a true grass roots effort supported by members of Greater Hartford’s Polish community and others, and engaged in over a period of more than 20 years.

And the leader of this grass roots effort was Stan Blejwas.

Blejwas was CCSU’s first professor of Polish and Polish American Studies. He arrived at Central in 1974, after having completed his doctorate in modern East European and Polish history at Columbia University and serving briefly as the assistant director of Columbia’s Institute on East Central Europe.
The young Blejwas was selected by a search committee tasked with establishing a Polish Studies program at CCSU. It was all part of a wide-ranging effort by prominent members of Connecticut’s Polish American community to commemorate, in 1973, the 500th anniversary of the birth of Polish astronomer and mathematician Nicolaus Copernicus. The effort bore fruit in a variety of ways — including the naming of Copernicus Hall and the Copernican Planetarium and Observatory on campus — but more significantly with the procurement of $50,000 in seed money from the State of Connecticut General Assembly to establish a Polish and Polish American Studies program at CCSU.

“I don’t think at the time any of us ever thought that this would evolve in such a marvelous way.” Michael Alfred Peszke.

Over some 20 years Blejwas, who became widely published and built an enviable record of academic distinction as a highly sought-after authority on Polish history and heritage, worked at building the program. In the mid-1990s, when the General Assembly offered matching grants for program development to the state’s public colleges and universities, the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies was born. Naturally, Blejwas was selected to occupy it.

“I don’t think at the time any of us ever thought that this would evolve in such a marvelous way,” says search committee member Michael Alfred Peszke,
Today’s Polish and Polish American Studies program at CCSU is a reflection of the vision and grassroots foundation laid by Blejwas, and the present-day scholarship and influence of Biskupski. The program offers CCSU students, visiting scholars and the community at large a rich combination of academic coursework, historical archives, cultural programming and special events that is truly unique in American higher education.

As part of the Department of History, the program offers a variety of courses in Polish history, culture, politics, civilization, language and the Polish community in America. Additional program-related resources include the Polish Heritage Book Collection, which houses some 25,000 catalogued books and periodicals to supplement course offerings, and the Connecticut Polish American Archive, a research depository open to the public, scholars and students of the Polish community in America. Both are located at Elihu Burritt Library.

Regular programming includes the annual Fiedorczyk Lecture in Polish American Studies; the annual Milewski Lecture in Polish Studies; the biennial Godlewski Evening of Polish Culture; the Koproski Lecture on Polish Business and Economy Series; and the Rudewicz Evening of Polish Music. Noted politicians, scholars and artists ranging from Lech Walesa and former Polish ambassador Dr. Przemyslaw Grudzinski, to Yale scholar Piotr Wandycz, to Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki, along with many others, have all visited the CCSU campus.

The program offers CCSU students, visiting scholars and the community at large a rich combination of academic coursework, historical archives, cultural programming and special events that is truly unique in American higher education.

Biskupski earned his undergraduate degree at UCLA, where he was awarded a Yale Fellowship, and ultimately spent nine years in New Haven, teaching and earning his doctorate. He has served as a Fulbright Research Professor at the University of Warsaw and, in 1997, was a fellow of the Central European University of Budapest.

Former President George Bush visits with Dr. Stanislaus Blejwas at CCSU in 1999. With them is Visiting Professor Ewa Nowakowska of Jagielloniana University in Poland.

Biskupski earned his undergraduate degree at UCLA, where he was awarded a Yale Fellowship, and ultimately spent nine years in New Haven, teaching and earning his doctorate. He has served as a Fulbright Research Professor at the University of Warsaw and, in 1997, was a fellow of the Central European University of Budapest.

Under the auspices of the Blejwas Endowed Chair, CCSU presented a major touring photographic exhibit in 2003 marking the 25th anniversary of the pontificate of Pope John Paul II.
Humor, particularly that of the satirical variety, was always the tool of preference in the classroom of Justus Beach, the long-retired and beloved CCSU professor of teacher education who, now 86 years of age, still maintains close ties to the university with which he has been associated for nearly 70 years.

Perhaps no story better captures the essence of "J.B." — as he is affectionately known — than one of his favorite tales from "The Saber-Tooth Curriculum," which was text de rigueur in his classroom. The book is a 1939 satirical reflection upon the educational establishment. The story goes something like this:

A staid college professor enters a tourist bar in Tijuana, Mexico that claims to be the longest in the world. A firm believer in the science of education and the testing of hypotheses (and certified teetotaler, to boot), the professor demands to know how the bar can claim to be the longest in the world in the absence of scientific measurement.

“What is needed in the Tijuana-tourist educational system is an increase in careful measurement and a decrease in fantastic humbug!” proclaims the professor.

A former student who happens to be in the bar, enlightened by a life of world travel since his college days (not to mention the four “Tequila Daisies” he has just consumed), takes issue with the professor’s rigid stance, pointing out the “potentially important social purpose served by this (untested) hypothesis.”

And just what might that purpose be? “The integration of the human personality,” proudly states the student.

The “human personality” and its role in education has long held a special place in the heart of J.B., a true CCSU original.

“The moral of that (Tijuana) story is that in education, life is the curriculum,” says former student David Barrett ’80. “It opened up our minds to the fact that there is more than one way to teach; I still use that theory today.”

J.B. spent 30 years at CCSU opening minds, blazing trails and rattling cages (though gently), all in the interest of enlightening, inspiring and motivating young teachers-to-be. “He was very, very popular because he was so creative in his approach,” says colleague and Associate Professor, Emeritus Marilyn Hott M.S. ’74, former chair of the Teacher Education Department.

A 1943 graduate of the then-Teacher’s College of Connecticut, J.B. joined CCSU in 1960. A New Britain native who still lives in the same Osgood Avenue farmhouse that his ancestors acquired in 1779, J.B. retired in 1989. Centuries ago, his ancestors walked the very farmland upon which CCSU would be built.

“Students loved being in J.B.’s class and the atmosphere was electric,” says Anthony Rigazio-Digilio, current chair of the Department of Educational Leadership. “He wanted all students to be successful and part of the process — there was never a student marginalized in J.B.’s classroom.”

Barrett, who remains close to J.B. today, recalls the learning “marathons” that J.B. used to coordinate at the Student Center. “They were typical J.B.; anything went. For two or three days, students would make presentations about anything in the world. It was exciting, stimulating.”

“It was like a mini-educational Mardi Gras,” laughs Rigazio-Digilio. “They were very cutting edge.”

In addition to teaching, J.B. was a leader in Connecticut’s formal development of alternative schools, and to this day serves as a consultant to the Connecticut Association of Alternative Schools and Programs.

Today’s students continue to reap the benefit of J.B.’s influence. The Justus Beach Scholarship assists students of economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds enrolled in one of the University’s teacher preparation programs.

For his part, J.B. looks back fondly, but modestly, on his career.

“I think teaching is very important,” he says matter-of-factly. “A teacher is in a unique position to shape the next generation.

“I just had a great time every day.”
Members of the 1954-61 undefeated track teams at a recent reunion.

These alumni couples from the class of 1956 will celebrate 50 years of marriage: (l-r) Donald and Murva (Ennis) Deneen, Joan (Swets) and Donald R. Knapp, Constance (Pappalardo) and William P. Ward. The Deneens and the Wards got engaged the night of their senior class prom.

Steve Villanti ‘87, Steve Van Voorhis ‘87 and John Hannon ’90 at a CCSU Alumni Association-sponsored lunch featuring football coach Jeff McInerney as speaker.

(l-r) Kevin Micinilio ’93, Lisa Bourque ‘92 and Darren Lyons ’91 at Fairfield-area networking social.

(l-r) Joe Catanese ’81 and Domenic Parillo ’05 at Fairfield-area networking social.

Social Work alumni reunion: front (l-r) Kristine Stickney ’05, Brittany Bonchuk ’05, Diana Gay ’00, Dr. Patricia Henry-Hensley ’74, Jennifer Bennett ’00, Dr. Catherine R. Baratta; back (l-r) Dr. Barbara Candas, Katherine Sampson ’05, Joan Joan Jett” Osborn ’00.

Class of 1956 at 50th reunion celebration.
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*deceased*
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John J. Albert
Patricia A. Acione
Frank A. Castello
Dona Cianne-Covellio
L. Leanne Gleason
Eric R. Grisler
Catherine B. Mastrianna
Brian D. Mays
Mark V. Smith
David J. Nelson, Jr.
Jane F. Williams
Brian R. Murphy
Jeanne (Wheeler) Anastasio

Class of 1997
Liesl (Morgan) Skilton
Karen (Ford) Giangregorio
Leanne (Misisco) Gagliardi

Class of 1996
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James W. Riotte
Donald C. Phelps, Jr.
Cynthia (Di Santis) Latina
Mark J. Fong
Emily (Caughey) Celino

Class of 1995
Marilyn J. Toback-Reveley
Michael J. Horvith
William J. Clark

Class of 1994
Jane F. Williams
Robin S. Rabideau
Patricia A. Porch
Suzanne Maiolo
Gloria G. Long
David R. Bonola

Class of 1993
Kathleen M. O’Brien
Walter J. Cikusn
Michael F. Morrin
Nancy (Bodner) Morrin

Class of 1992
David J. Allison
Jane (Hoff) Callery
Cynthia S. DeRosier
Kristin (Johnson) Gebsmann
Margaret A. Giordano
Lori A. Gosselin
Kenneth M. Hall

Class of 1991
Sandria (Marr) Adams
Nancy S. Bihlmeier
Debbie N. Douglass
Kim E. Martin
Barbara (Therou) Smith
Patricia A. Stambis
Carole (Lavigne) Swanson
Thomas D. Warburt III

Class of 1990
Teresa P. Anello
Marco Pace
Joseph C. Migliore
Michael J. McCarthy
Lynn G. Goldaper
Teresa R. Johnson
Kaydean A. Jackson
Eddie S. Hohl

Class of 1989
Teresa P. Anello
Marsha H. Bednarski
Mark E. Churin
Wayne R. Alce
Debra (Archambault) Gluz
Lyra G. Galdapier
Peter G. Hill
Michael J. McCarthy
Joseph C. Migliore
Jill M. Nolan
Eloise M. Ousch-MacDonald
Marco Pace
Jonathan A. Richmond
Lase D. Rinaldi
Ana (Oliveira) Rodrigues

Class of 1988
Jill (Cady) Dynia
Michele (Fillion) Forstch
Kimberly (LHeureux) Gray
Elizabeth (Hyatt) Harlow
Deborah (Deborah) Hayes
Gary D. Hewitt
Paul J. Humphreys
Nancy A. Janszek
Sonya (Branca) Richmond
Janet (Scarrano) Sabo
Sharen (Gyllenhammer) Scaramella
Elizabeth (Derech) Thompson

Class of 1987
Kenneth Bernstein
Lawrence Buchas
Gregory R. Burns
Judith (Bloom) Fishman
Yvonne (Swanson) Gardiner
Judith (Costello) Ginty
Theresa V. Gomez
Marianne M. Grace
Nancy J. Howard
Vennie M. King
Frances (Benedict) Lannen
Christy N. Marinelli, Jr.
William P. Marino
Claudia A. Maynard
Daniel H. Meyer
Elaine (Wasikowski) Morneault
Melissa A. Mytych
Gary L. Peresada
Ann (Temple) Pronovost
Susan (Hill) Trujillo
Thomas E. Zinti

Class of 1987
Lori A. Gosselin
David J. Allison
Thomas D. Warburt III
Sandra (Marr) Adams
Elizabeth (Derech) Sharon (Gyllenhammer)
Nancy A. Janeczek
Paul J. Humphreys
Elizabeth (Hyatt) Harlow
Jill (Cady) Dynia
Class of 1990
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Marco Pace
Joseph C. Migliore
Michael J. McCarthy
Lynn G. Goldaper
Teresa R. Johnson
Kaydean A. Jackson
Eddie S. Hohl

Athletic Donors
Class of 1942
Robert M. Dorsey

Class of 1948
Elizabeth (Wood) Marina
Gloria G. Long
Edward A. Vazelnis

Class of 1956
Carmen E. Espinosa
Arthur N. Bristol

Class of 1963
Carol (Ward) Pastuszak
Robert J. Reagan
Richard P. Rogers

Class of 1964
Carol (Ward) Laneese
John S. Pazdar
Philip J. Spring

Class of 1965
Marcie (Knowlton) Gareck
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Images of Homecoming ’06

Central alumni, friends and family shared good memories and good times before, during and after the Blue Devils’ 62-21 Homecoming victory over St. Francis (PA).

1. (l-r) Jane Kelley, Benjie Coleman, Rodney Baron ’91, Lynn (Colaccio) Walsh ’86;
2. (l-r) Bill Glueck ’86, Jeanne (Smith) Lobaugh ’54, Norm Hausmann ’54, Mel Lobaugh, John Wilson ’98;
3. Enjoying the CCSU Alumni Association barbeque;
4. (l-r) Gigi Brown ’74 and Kevin Cranford ’89, Wheeeeee!;
5. Family fun;
6. (l-r) Paul Caramanica ’88, Scott Piofi ’88, George Redman, Ralph Marchant ’88, Kevin Porter ’88;
7. Jim Jost ’70, MS ’71, Brendan Kennedy ’70, MS ’72, Raquel Kennedy, Cathie Jost ’74.
As Biskupski explains it, the Endowed Chair, program and University are all heavily committed to most any worthwhile endeavor to advance a greater understanding and awareness of Polish and Polish American history, culture and its place in the world.

“If there is something happening in this country relative to Polish studies, we want to be involved with it. If there are books being published, we want to help,” he says. “If there is a major academic or cultural initiative regarding Poland and its people, we will support it.

“The message here is that CCSU is committed to being a major player in this arena.”

Under Biskupski’s leadership, the Polish and Polish American Studies program is engaged in several groundbreaking initiatives. Biskupski has already played an instrumental role in locating the headquarters of the Polish American Historical Association on the CCSU campus. In addition, he and members of the program’s advisory board — a group of regional business, education and community leaders including CCSU administration — are in the midst of planning a permanent, major exhibit at the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks honoring members of the Kosciuszko Squadron, a Polish-manned fighter squadron that teamed with Great Britain during World War II and claimed the highest number of enemy kills against Nazi Germany during the Battle of Britain.

But perhaps the most significant initiative that the Chair is currently involved with is a long-range plan to establish a Polish ethnographic museum and genealogical center at the University. According to Biskupski, CCSU stands to receive a massive collection of outstanding Polish folk art, including paintings, wood carvings, tapestries and more, from a local benefactor who has willed the collection to CCSU.

“Certainly, genealogy and heritage today are of universal appeal, and we are in a unique position here, with our history and our current archives and the collection we are in line to receive, to create something special,” says Waldemar Kostrzewa ’68, MS ’74, chair of the Polish and Polish American Studies Advisory Board. “The pieces are all in place. But we need a central locus for this; we need to move it from paper and concept to reality.”

“All of these efforts are really in their initial stages now,” adds Biskupski. “I consider one of my major goals to be finding the space, building the space, acquiring the space to create this museum and genealogical center. There is nothing like it in the country. This, as you would imagine, is not an inexpensive undertaking.

“My predecessor created virtually everything we have here now. The task is to take this to another level,” he concludes. “When I leave here, I would like to leave a place for my successor to be, a place where anyone can come and know that this is the home of Polish studies and history at CCSU. I think that kind of palpable reality will do a great deal toward furthering the stature of the program and this institution.”

The seeds of success continue to be sowed. Stan Blejwas would be proud.

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**Campus Obituaries**

**Dr. Joseph R. Dunn, Jr. ’50**, director of research, emeritus, died August 23, 2006. Prior to joining CCSU, Dunn was employed by the North Haven Public School system and the Hamden Hall Country Day School. He was a World War II veteran who served in the Pacific Theater.

**Jeanne H. Heckler**, assistant professor of education, emerita, died October 15, 2006, at the age of 94. Heckler spent more than 40 years at Vance Elementary School in New Britain training student teachers from Central Connecticut State College, now CCSU.

**Dr. Lyle Joyce**, professor of physics and earth science, emeritus, died on March 19, 2006. Dr. Joyce served his students, the Department of Physics and Earth Sciences, and the University with distinction for 24 years, retiring in June 1992.
Fiedorowicz Humbled by Hall Selection

The first thought Donna Fiedorowicz ’80 had when informed she’d been chosen for induction into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame was of her CCSU coach and mentor, Dr. Brenda Reilly. “My immediate reaction was a mental image of Coach Reilly. The honor was as much for her as it was for me and everything she did for me as a coach, mentor and role model.”

Fiedorowicz did a lot for Central in return. She was an extraordinary player and a gifted student. Her name can still be found all over the Blue Devils record book. She is the school’s sixth all-time leading scorer with 1,233 points. She’s third in number of points scored in a single season and second all-time in scoring average (25.9 points per game as a senior). The former star is also second in field goal average and second in single-season rebounding average with 11.6. She scored 39 points twice.

She has been equally successful in her career. Associated with the Professional Golfers Association Tour for more than 20 years, she currently serves as a vice president of the PGA Champions Tour. Her responsibilities include sponsor renewal, scheduling and oversight of the growth and development of each tournament, both fiscally and operationally.

Several other Blue Devils were members of the New England Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2006: Gene Reilly ’67 in the Division II player category; Jere Quinn ’78, honored for his long and successful coaching tenure at St. Thomas More Prep School; Cromwell High School boys coach Jake Salafia ’56; and Old Saybrook High School girls coach Bill Reagan ’65.

“I was proud to see other CCSU athletes included in the evening’s celebration. It is always a rewarding experience to share celebratory moments with fellow alumni,” said Fiedorowicz, who was inducted in the Division I player category.

Hairston All-America Selection a CCSU First

Senior running back Justise Hairston became CCSU’s first Division I-AA All-American after setting the single-season school rushing record with 1,847 yards. The old mark (1,413 yards) was established by Stan House in 1997. Hairston was the Division I-AA national rushing leader, averaging 167.9 yards per game. In addition to being named to the American Football Coaches Association All-America team, Hairston earned a number of other major regional and national honors and was a finalist for the prestigious Walter Payton Award.

The former New Britain High School standout also set a new single-game CCSU rushing mark when he gained 332 yards vs. St. Francis of Pennsylvania before a large Homecoming Day crowd. He also tied Central’s single-game school record for touchdowns with five. Corey Harge was the previous single-game record-holder with 331 yards. Hairston transferred to CCSU from Rutgers.

Green Scores 200th Victory

Men’s head soccer coach Shaun Green recorded a milestone victory during this past season. The veteran coach earned his 200th career win when the Blue Devils topped Quinnipiac, 4-1. They finished with a 6-8-2 overall record.

Green has been on the CCSU sidelines for 22 seasons and has a 200-170-41 overall record. He was Northeast Conference Coach of the Year in 2003.

Green was also the head coach in 1995 when Steven Jarvis became the first player in school history to be named a Division I All-American. Eighteen of his players have gone on to professional careers while many others have represented their respective nations in World Cup qualifying and at the World University Games.

Coach Green lives in Southington with his wife, Laurie, and their sons, Kenneth, Shane and Adam.
Mary (Eason) Campo is active in the Rolling Readers Space Coast, AAUW, Hospice of Health First and Bright Star, which helps grieving children learn to cope with death, and would like to be in touch with others from the class of 1939.

Sylvia (DelGioirno) Schmitt published her first book, Candy with Flowers and an Empty Heart, and is holding book signings in Old Saybrook and surrounding towns.


J anice (Folcik) Klimczak retired after 41 years of teaching. 40 of them in Dracut, MA, grades 7 and 8. Christine (Fernee) Posik is a teacher for the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, NV.

William R. Burk began his career at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1979 where he is head of the biology library, comprised of two branches—botany and zoology. He is a Fellow of the Ohio Academy of Science and a member of the board of directors of the North Carolina Academy of Science, has published numerous articles, authored two books, and is completing a third on the history of botany at UNC in Chapel Hill. Karen (Tibbals) Martinson MS ’72 and her husband retired to Clearwater, FL, where they enjoy growing prize-winning orchids. Eric H. Hartleb MS ’68, CCSU associate registrar, emeritus, received a 10-year pin for service as AARP tax aide volunteer in Newington.

Susan (Bengston) Bastura (MS) retired after 35 years of teaching, the last 31 in Regional District 13 – Durham and Middlefield. Joseph A. Shelto, Jr. M ’71 retired from the State of Connecticut after 19 years as a social worker and is moving to Orlando, FL.

Robert C. Schwartz retired from teaching social studies at Deer Park High School, and coaching football, wrestling and lacrosse at Half Hollow Hills and Deer Park on Long Island, NY. Robert lives in Central Islip, NY, with wife Susan and is a new grandfather of twins. Deborah Intravia Wilson MS ’78 retired from Stafford Public Schools, celebrating with a 10-day trip to Spain, and is looking forward to a new time schedule without bells.

R icardo Albu is founder and president of Albu Consulting Inc., a business development firm with a focus on growth strategy planning and implementation located in Stamford. Dick’s 30 years of corporate and consulting experience include serving as vice president of a New York City-based international business development consulting group, and senior management positions in both the U.S. and Switzerland for 16 years with Nestlé.

Arlene H. Pollack retired from teaching at Norwich Public Schools after 32 years and was surprised, at a party in her honor, by CCSC roommates Karen (Berti) Marut ’73, MS ’95, J ane (Whelan) Angelico ’73, Debbie (Roy) M cAloney ’73, MS ’77, Debbie (Dixon) Bourbeau ’73, and Ruth Wheeler ’73. Peace Corps Director for the Eastern Carribean, Kate C. Raftery is living in Castries, St. Lucia.

Rosanne (Rouleau) Bednarz teaches third grade at Saint Brendan’s School in New Haven. Robert F. Heenan is U.S. HUD grants manager for the Seminole County Government in Sanford, FL.

Nancy P. Goudemant is a Title 1 remedial reading teacher for the West Haven Board of Education. Anne Y. Raftery is back in Connecticut after a 30-year absence, during which time she lived in Ecuador, Ohio, Kansas, Texas and North Carolina. She is now with NORCOM Mortgage in Avon and back in her hometown of Collinsville. Susan (Stoddard) Stough is a vision therapist in Wheaton, MD. Former FBI agent Charles E. Urso retired as deputy commissioner, Connecticut Department of Transportation, and was appointed to an oversight panel charged with investigating construction practices at the University of Connecticut.

Retired music teacher Patrick J. Benedict MS ’04 is now teaching pre-kindergarten music part time in the greater Waterbury area. Richard A. Bucchi is senior vice president and chief information officer at Evolution Benefits in Avon. The former CIO of American Payment Systems has held various senior-level IT positions in banking, distribution and software companies. Susan (Shaw) Harless is co-founder and academic director of College Excel, a nationally recognized support program for college-age youth, in Bend, OR.

Stephen M. Guest, CPA and partner at Blum Shapiro in West Hartford, was elected secretary of the Estate and Business Planning Council of Hartford for 2006-07. Russell W. Lubik is director of quality assurance and process engineering at Williams Advanced Materials in Brewster, NY. Richard L. Poirier was promoted to assistant vice president of the Risk Management Services division at R. C. Knox & Co. Insurance in Bridgeport.
John J. Quinn, J.r. is vice president and head of global human resources information technology at Marsh & McLennan Companies in New York City.

Richard A. Guerrini joined the Group Benefits Division of The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc. as vice president and director of distribution development. Rick previously served as vice president of marketing management for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, was in group benefits at The Phoenix Companies, and directed sales, operations and marketing efforts at Genworth Financial. Brian K. Mignault M S ’88 is principal of Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School in Danielson.

Loraine (Pfaff) Seder completed a master of arts in organizational communication at Fairfield University.

Daniel A. Monat is senior director at Marriott Corporation in Knoxville, TN.

Joseph Coco, CPA joined Blum Shapiro in Bloomfield as a tax manager, serving a wide range of clients in the areas of tax planning and compliance, including tax services for corporations, partnerships and individuals. Robert J. Locke is an actor, filmmaker, producer, director and president of August Sun Productions in New York, NY, and Studio City, CA.

Donald M. Casey, J.r., and his Stepney Elementary School students in Monroe received an educational grant from the Connecticut Association for the Gifted and Talented to support a multi-disciplinary program entitled Dr. Seuss Characters Come Alive during the 2006-07 school year.

Pierre W. Gouvin is president of Geo-Instruments in Wakefield, RI. Pauline T. McDougall was named director of planned giving and the annual fund for the UMass Memorial Foundation. Prior positions include director and interim vice president of institutional advancement at Eastern Connecticut State University and planned giving development officer at Columbia University in New York. Stanley J. Mitz III has joined Anchor Engineering Services Inc. in Glastonbury as a senior inspector. Dimitrios S. Varsos is manager at MSI Hellas in Athens, Greece.

Paul C. DaCruz is national sales manager for TV Technology Magazine and lives in Santa Rosa, CA. Sandra (Gelada) Harrison is a self-employed CPA in Woodbury.

George M. McDowell, U.S. Air Force Lt. Col., is a pilot and chief, wing plans, C-17 aircraft commander, at Charleston AFB. He resides in North Charleston, SC, with his wife Sherry, daughter Madison and son Konnor. Terri (Whitney) Switzer is self-employed, doing tax work and selling employee benefit plans in Waynesboro, VA.

David F. Anderson recently joined Great River Golf Club in Milford, in charge of membership and corporate sales. Eugenia Hatzigiaiлюides is a counselor at The Moraitis School in Athens, Greece.

J ohn D. Kulungian is director of performance excellence at Raytheon in Andover, MA.

Lisa (Mingel) Burr and Jonathan L. Burr ’91 moved to Vermont where they own and operate a lodging establishment, The Woods at Wihakowi. Michael L. Ryan is director of sports performance at Champion Sports Medicine in Trussville, AL, where he and wife, Amy, also live. He had been working on the Professional Golfers Association Champions Tour as one of two head strength and conditioning coaches. Mike continues to guest lecture in the Athletic Training Department at CCSU. West Hartford police officer Kimberly A. Sullivan was one of two persons in Connecticut chosen to attend a luncheon in New York City, hosted by New York Gov. George Pataki, honoring the country’s first responders who helped with 9/11 recovery work. Sullivan, a 12-year veteran of the WHPD, was called to Ground Zero following a request for officers from employee assistance teams to counsel rescue workers. Five years later, Kim continues in this role and is now the coordinator of a team of five counselors.

Christine (Reed) Davis was appointed associate dean of students at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Kathleen P. Siddons (MS) was honored by the National Network of Early Language Learning (NNELL) for excellence in teaching, mentoring and use of technology as a Spanish teacher in grades 2-5 in Mansfield Public Schools. Jodi L. Lovegrove is the lead cooperative educational services teacher for the RISE program, a post-secondary regional special education program in collaboration with Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. LeAnn (Murphy) Cassidy (MS) completed a certificate of advanced study in educational leadership.

Brenden M. Healy is a tax manager with the Glastonbury firm of Haggett Longobardi LLC.

J. Reid Gorman ’94 was promoted to president of MacGregor Golf, manufacturer of golf equipment in Albany, GA. Reid has worked 18 years in the golf equipment industry, most recently as vice president of sales for MacGregor, and before joining MacGregor was senior director of sales at Callaway Golf Company.

Sameer Kamani is a principal consultant for Oracle Corporation in Reston, VA. Kyle D. Macci, an 11-year veteran of the New Britain Police Department, was sworn in as an attorney in June. He will continue with the NBPD, providing legal expertise on constitutional law and laws related to arrests to officer trainees, while beginning practice as a defense attorney. Ryan J. Maloney is a professional comedian, actor and producer based in New

New Arrivals (Births/Adoptions)

Luisa Calabrese Guerrera ’00 & Peter Guerrera: a daughter, Adriana Luisa
Michelle Bartholomew Kehaya ’01 & David Kehaya: a daughter, Lily Marie Elizabeth
Stephanie & Scott P. Dunn ’02: a daughter, Ava
consultant for The Hartford. Elizabeth (Chiarello) Vane is a family advocate working for Head Start.

02 Kathleen (Piscottano) Gilbert is a diversion investigator for the Drug Enforcement Administration, and a member of the Air National Guard, in Tucson, AZ. Christopher J. Mientus, music teacher at Sunset Ridge School and choral director at East Hartford Middle School, was named District Teacher of the Year in East Hartford. He was cited for his vivaciousness, energy and commitment to the community.

03 Erin (Potter) McEnaney is coordinator of alumni relations and the annual fund at Southern Vermont College in Bennington, VT. Lauren V. Seabourne is a labor reporter for American Tower Corporation.

04 Travis J. Behan is an economist for the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC. Ryan P. Collin is a financial advisor at AXA Equitable in

In Memoriam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Hazel Purinton Stark</td>
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<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Virginia Parkhurst Lamkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>Jennie Klimovitch Cushing</td>
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<td>1932</td>
<td>Selma Bergstrom Peterson</td>
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<td>Veronica Small Gleason</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Dorothy M. Anderson</td>
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<td>1941</td>
<td>Ruth Fortier Fagan</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Kavasch Clem</td>
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<td>Harold S. Elovich</td>
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<td>1944</td>
<td>Mary Yacobucci Jacob</td>
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<td>Frances Phillips Wilcox</td>
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<td>Jane Iles Juszli</td>
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<td>Frances Bradley Prokop</td>
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<td>Eleanor Cherniak Bayer</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>Gene C. Fusco</td>
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<td>Rosemary Doyle Reilly</td>
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<td>Catherine Spena Tamburro</td>
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<td>Neil G. Gordes</td>
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<td>Mary Lou Billig Poulin</td>
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<td>Nancy Quinlan Walters</td>
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<td>Catherine Carney Beinhorn</td>
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<td>Susan Haller Eckart</td>
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<td>1972</td>
<td>Nancy Burns Grieco</td>
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<td>Mark K. Thresher</td>
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<td>Susan Bartlett Wilson</td>
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<td>Richard J. Donnelly</td>
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<td>Corinne Delucco Byko</td>
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<td>Catherine Campbell</td>
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<td>Lloyd W. McCurley</td>
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<td>Adalyn V. O’Connell</td>
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<td>Julius Hoffman</td>
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<td>Rosalie Mancuso Rotatori</td>
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<td>Steven L. Fortin</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>William J. Costello II</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Hannah L. Green</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>Joseph P. Savidge, J r.</td>
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Correction:

1974

1982

Memorial gifts may be made to the CCSU Foundation, P.O. Box 612, New Britain, CT 06050.
Charlotte, NC. Gabriel Gajecki, architect, Life IT/Finance at The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc., received the 2005 Chairman’s Award for collaborating on the design of a new software application model that helps manage potential risk exposure for The Hartford’s variable annuity products.

Michael J. Jannitto joined the firm of Woodard & Curran in Portland, ME, as a technical support specialist and geologist, working in the corrective action and real estate group on investigation and remediation projects. Michael G. Maiscalco is business manager for The Barn Yard Enterprises Inc. in Ellington. Krystle M. McMillan is a case manager at Community Mental Health Affiliates Inc. in New Britain. Michelle T. Pratt is program manager for MediFit Corporate Services in Trumbull.

Erica M. Bordonaro is teaching first grade at Highland Elementary School in Cheshire. Kelly Detwiler (MS) is athletic trainer at South Kent School. Jacqueline Y. Lavoie is a project administrator at Universal Conferences and Incentive Travel. Lisa M. Pereira is working as a marketing assistant for Barnum Financial Group in Shelton. Vanessa L. Stacy is a chemist for Pfizer.

CCSU Alumni Association-Sponsored

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hoop Group Lunch Series
w/ Men’s Basketball Coach Howie Dickenman
Tuesday, February 6, 2007
Tuesday, February 27, 2007
12:00 noon
Angelico’s Café
New Britain, CT

CCSU Florida Alumni & Friends Reunion
Sunday, February 11, 2007
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Gatsby’s Boca
Boca Raton, FL

Read Across America
Friday, March 2, 2007

Alumni Networking Party
Thursday, March 8
5:00 pm
Vaughan’s Public House
Hartford, CT

CCSU Alumni Association Awards & Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions
Friday, April 27, 2007
Farmington Club
Farmington, CT

Alumni Day & CCSU Alumni Association Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 28, 2007

Blue Devil Golf Classic
Friday, May 4, 2007
Tunxis Plantation
Farmington, CT

HOMECOMING
October 13, 2007

Reservations / Information
phone: (860) 832-1740
e-mail: alumnidept@ccsu.edu
website: www.ccsu.edu/alumni

Please check website and e-news for latest event updates.

Don’t Throw it Away!

Our history is your history here at Central. Whether you’ve known us as CCSU, CCSC, Teacher’s College of Connecticut – even the State Normal School – your role in helping preserve our legacy is vital. The University Archives is seeking yearbooks for 1936, 1933 and the years prior to 1926, and alumni memorabilia – photographs, dance programs, flyers, graduation programs, diaries, banners and the like – for all past years. Please contact Frank Gagliardi, University Archives, Elihu Burritt Library at (860) 832-2098 or gagliardi@ccsu.edu.

Get in the Know with ENEWS

Stay on top of the latest CCSU news and events – receive the CCSU Alumni Association’s E-News, a monthly bulletin of all things Central tailored especially for alumni, transmitted directly to your inbox. Send the e-mail address where you would like to receive E-News and other alumni e-mails to alumnidept@ccsu.edu and get in the know!
Luverne Mott MS ‘93
Teacher, Seminarian, Annual Fund Donor

Luverne Mott’s life is firmly centered upon the children she teaches in the Hartford Public School system. A family and consumer sciences teacher, Luverne has worked hard for 25 years in Hartford’s schools, helping her students learn the lessons needed to meet life’s every day challenges and achieve success in whatever endeavors they pursue.

“The highlight of my professional career is the pride I have, knowing that my classes have provided students with a foundation upon which they can build their lives,” says Luverne. “It is my hope that they will become lifelong learners and take an active role in serving their community.”

Luverne, a Hartford native, taught for 15 years at Hartford Public High School and now teaches at Batchelder and Kennelly Schools in the city. No matter the classroom that Luverne occupies, prominently displayed for all her students to see is a favorite quote from Malcolm X: “Education is your passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for the future.”

Luverne draws inspiration from her spirituality. She is an active member of Hopewell Baptist Church in Windsor where she serves in various church ministries, including singing in the church choir, and over the past four years has been actively involved with the Hartford Seminary. Luverne graduated from the seminary’s Women’s Leadership Program in 2003, and in 2005 received a graduate certificate in spirituality.

In November, Luverne traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, with the People to People Ambassador Program for the 2006 Education Conference between the United States and Russia as a member of the Family and Consumer Sciences Education Delegation.

Also active in her community, Luverne is a board member for a nonprofit Hartford-based housing developer, Sheldon Charter Oak Central, as well as the arts and crafts advisor for The Storytellers Club, an afterschool program for children.

Luverne, who obtained her undergraduate degree at Norfolk State College, looks back fondly upon her time as a graduate student at Central, where she earned a master’s in vocational technical education, and is happy to support CCSU.

“As a graduate student at Central, I had some great teachers and many valuable learning experiences,” she says. “I would encourage others to attend CCSU.

“During my undergraduate years, I received financial aid. Without this help, it would have been impossible for me to attend college; therefore, I encourage others to give,” Luverne continues. “Any financial contribution made to the University, large or small, will help someone reach their educational goals.”

Luverne Mott MS ’93 (center) with two students of her Baby Think It Over class at Batchelder School in Hartford.