Nick Bellantoni ’76

A Passion for Discovery

Annual Report of Donors
Honoring Alumni & Friends
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Not all of our students graduate to become elite archeologists, but in many ways Nick Bellantoni ’76 epitomizes our students’ success. As you will see, working with talented teachers at Central Nick developed his passionate interest in a field where he later excelled. And, just as 85 percent of our graduating students do, Nick chose to remain in Connecticut, making extraordinary contributions to the vitality of our state.

So too for students such as Maxine Ursery, profiled in this issue as the first Lindgren Fellow. Already making a difference as a teacher when she came to us, she will continue to do so as she becomes an education leader after completing her studies here. In so doing, Ms. Ursery demonstrates how our students benefit from scholarships supported by our generous alumni.

You will also meet in this issue the Lindgren brothers—two alumni but all three with lifelong connections to Central. They have followed the wisdom of their parents and have created a legacy for others who, as they say, have “a love and a passion” for education.

This all shows that our students’ success is part of a larger process. Others—teachers, loyal and devoted alumni, the citizens of Connecticut—have “invested” in them and made it possible for our students to succeed. But their success when they leave Central and follow their chosen paths brings a truly remarkable return on that investment. Its deep dividends enrich us all.

Jack Miller
President

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**P R E S I D E N T ’ S C O R N E R**

This issue marks several changes. First, thanks for a job exceptionally well done to Cynthia B. Cayer, Dorothy Finn, Joseph Gordon, and Catherine Jost. They launched the Central Focus eight years ago, and provided Central with its first alumni magazine. In doing so, they offered the Central community great stories about the University, its people and programs, and its many extraordinary alumni. We hope to continue that tradition. Dot and Cathie will still provide news about alumni and alumni events. Cindy and Joe are now focusing on critical fundraising activities to ensure our students’ success.

**Invitations to Our Readers**

As President Miller has noted, community engagement is one of CCSU’s top institutional priorities. In keeping with the spirit of that engagement, we would like to extend these invitations to our readers.

**Letters to the Editor**

We welcome letters from our readers on topics in the focus or on other matters concerning your University. Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Anonymous letters will not be published. We encourage letters of 300 words or fewer. Write: Central focus, Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT, 06050. Or email: Centralfocus@CCSU.edu.

**What Have You Written Lately?**

From children’s stories to scholarly texts, Central alumni have written just about any kind of book one can imagine. That’s a great tribute to a Central education, of course, but it’s also a testament to our alumni’s own restless need to communicate their thoughts.

Starting with the next issue, which will be published this summer, we want to regularly showcase works written and published by our alumni. If you’ve recently published a book, please let us know about it by sending an email to alumnibooks@CCSU.edu, and, by all means, please include a jpg of the book cover. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Advertising**

To help defray the costs of publication, we invite Central alumni and friends to advertise in our issues. The focus has a circulation of more than 50,000 and an estimated readership of 80,000. Please send inquiries to: ads@CCSU.edu.

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Cover photo: Connecticut State Archeologist Nicholas Bellantoni ’76 at the Venture Smith burial site, East Haddam, CT. Photo credit: Collin Harty, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History. Used by permission.

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On the last day of April, 1945, as Soviet soldiers fought their way into the heart of Berlin, Adolf Hitler took his own life rather than surrender. Aides burned his body, and that of his young bride, Eva Braun, in a nearby bomb crater. Two days later, Berlin fell.

For more than 60 years, the question of what happened to Hitler’s remains has been shrouded in mystery. Then, in the spring of 2009, the History Channel decided to investi-gate the authenticity of a human jawbone and skull (with a prominent bullet hole) thought to have been Hitler’s. The bones had been recovered by Russian troops near Hitler’s underground bunker, buried elsewhere, later exhumed and then kept, for many years, in Russian state archives.

To evaluate the remains, the History Channel turned to a man rich in experiences digging into old mysteries and ferreting out answers. Nicholas “Nick” Bellantoni ’76 has been Connecticut’s state archaeologist since 1987. His experience with archaeological and burial excavations — and as a consultant on many police investigations — is both broad and deep. The dirt under his fingernails is nothing less than the soil of history.

Last April Bellantoni flew to Moscow to examine the skull, some contemporaneous records, and a sofa thought to have been stained with Hitler’s blood after he shot himself through the temple. The hour that Russian officials allowed him seemed like a pret ty narrow window. But Bellantoni has more than 30 years of experience. And once he got a look at the bones he didn’t need an hour to see that something was wrong.

“I Love Making Discoveries”

Whipcord lean and seasoned by four years as an aircraft carrier signalman in the North Atlantic, Bellantoni arrived at Central in the fall of 1974. He had just spent two years at Middlesex Community College, where an introductory anthropology course altered his life. “I knew I had found what I wanted to do with my life,” he recalls.

At Central he wasted no time seeking out Prof. Fred Warner, then chairman of the Department of Anthropology, and Prof. Michael Park, the current department chair, who had arrived at the College in 1973 as an instructor. “Nick was part of a group of students who were extremely interested in anthropology,” recalls Warner. “They were really invested.”

Park concurs. “He was already passionate about the field when I met him,” he says. “We didn’t have a biological laboratory class at Central then. Nick was one of three students who imposed upon us to create one.”

That’s how Bellantoni cut his teeth as an archaeologist. “Central gave me a well-rounded education,” he recalls. “It was excellent preparation for grad school.”

Assisting Warner, he participated in his first “digs” in 1974, excavating the site of Waterbury’s earliest brass mill and 1975, unearthing the history of Groton’s Fort Griswold. For his senior project, he drove Connecticut’s back roads for months, collecting road kills in order to assemble a display of the skeletons of local mammals.

This work reinforced a growing awareness. “I’m happiest doing field work,” he says. “I tell my students all the time that they need to get out in the field. We live in such a simulated world. It’s essential for students to get real, hands-on experience. I love making discoveries and interpreting them.”

CCSU awarded Bellantoni his BA in anthropology, magna cum laude, in 1976 and a master’s in biological sciences in 1979. He earned his MS in anthropology from UConn in 1980 and his PhD, seven years later. By then he was already establishing a reputation as a scholar, with papers in such distinguished journals as Archaeological Quarterly, the American Journal of Physical Anthropology and North American Archaeologist.
The “Jewett City Vampire”

Soon after receiving his PhD, Bellantoni bested a large field of candidates to become Connecticut’s second state archaeologist. The job description had been thoroughly redefined by the General Assembly in response to growing awareness that Connecticut’s historic and prehistoric archaeological sites were being looted or inadvertently destroyed. It now fell upon Bellantoni to preserve those antiquities and educate the public about their importance.

His job required more than 20 field excavations, review of hundreds of municipal land use proposals, and dozens of academic and public presentations every year. He also had a statutory duty to investigate the discovery of human bones over 50 years old, often as not native American. That’s how he became involved with the famous “Jewett City Vampire” case in 1990.

Three boys playing in a Jewett City gravel pit on a crisp autumn afternoon discovered two human skulls at the base of a hill truncated by backhoe operators. Griswold police dutifully called Bellantoni in, though they speculated the bones might be victims of serial killer Michael Ross, who murdered four young Griswold women in the early 1980s.

When he got to the quarry, however, Bellantoni could see that the bones were much older. Long exposed to microorganisms and Connecticut’s acidic soil, they were discolored and had begun to flake. He looked up at the hill where the boys had discovered the remains and saw six dark rectangles staining the packed gravel. “They were burial shafts,” he recalls. “The excavators had dug into the first row of an old graveyard no one knew was there.”

Research soon proved it was the “lost” cemetery of the Walton family which had settled in Griswold in 1692 and farmed the land for a century. It took Bellantoni’s team four months to painstakingly exhume the bodies for reburial in Griswold’s Hopewell Cemetery. They were well along with the painstaking process when they found the grave of Nathaniel Bennett.

“We can tell a lot about a person by examining a skeleton,” Bellantoni says. “Bones reveal information about age and sex, how much exercise the person got and how nutritious his or her diet was. We can tell some things about life stresses and biological ancestry and, sometimes, about the cause of death.”

None of that prepared him for the discovery that Bennett’s grave had already been disturbed. Someone, a long time ago, had dug up the body of the 55-year-old man, decapitated him and arranged his femurs, ritualistically, across his rib cage.

With the help of prominent folklorist Michael Bell, PhD, Bellantoni embarked upon an investigation that was a study in interdisciplinary anthropological archaeology. Cross-referencing information gathered from forensics, folklore, genealogy, and literature, the two determined that Bennett’s body had been altered by 19th-century relatives who believed he was a vampire draining the life from his survivors.

The survivors had unquestionably been dying when they disrupted Bennett’s repose. But what was killing them was no vampire, “They were dying of tuberculosis,” says Bellantoni. “It was the leading killer of adults before the Civil War, but before germ theory, no one understood what caused it.”

The remarkable discovery of Bennett’s bones led to awareness that many similar “vampire” graves existed throughout New England. Widely publicized, the case dramatically raised Bellantoni’s profile, professionally and publically. To this day he makes many public presentations about it.

Debunking Hitler’s Skull

While cases like that afford Bellantoni opportunities to educate the public about archeology, they are the exceptions. Year in and year out, he works on hundreds of more prosaic projects.

He is, for instance, principal curator for over 600,000 artifacts and more than 5,000 field site files and maps. When native American remains are discovered, he works closely with the state’s tribes to ensure the remains are respectfully excavated and reinterred according to sacred traditions. More than anything, he consults with municipalities on land use decisions.

Opportunities to investigate human remains and historic sites outside the “normal” parameters of his job are far less common. So when the History Channel asked him to study the skull and blood samples thought to have been Hitler’s, he was quick to agree. So when the History Channel asked him to study the skull and blood samples thought to have been Hitler’s, he was quick to agree. When he first laid eyes on the skull, in Moscow, his immediate reaction was, “Gee, it’s more like a woman’s or a very small man; somebody I would expect to be 20 to 40 years of age. Hitler was 56 when he died. He was a middle-sized man, and the bones of men are thicker. This bone was very small, very fragile and thin.”

When Bellantoni returned to Connecticut, he brought along bloodstained fabric from the sofa and tiny fragments that had crumbled off the bone. Using modern scientific tools, Dr. Linda Strausbaugh, a molecular and cell biologist and director of UConn’s Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, extracted DNA from the samples.

The blood on the sofa was from a male, but the bullet hole in the skull fragment didn’t align with descriptions of Hitler’s self-inflicted wound. And DNA proved the skull was that of a young woman.

Bellantoni thinks the jawbone, which was discovered not long after Hitler’s suicide, may have been the dictator’s. The skull was discovered separately, a year later. He wasn’t allowed to examine the jaw while he was in Moscow, though.

“Someone found the skull near the bunker,” he says. “It was burnt and there was a bullet hole. That it was Hitler’s bones was an understandable assumption. It turns out to have been the wrong assumption, though.”

For the state archaeologist it’s all in a day’s work. “I’ve been involved in over 50 burial and cemetery projects and excavated over 80 archaeological sites,” Bellantoni says, matter-of-factly. “I’ve consulted on more than 30 police investigations. Over the years I’ve taught thousands of students and I’m pleased to say several have gone on to careers in the field. It’s been a very gratifying career.”
“We could not be happier to have someone of her caliber chosen,” says Adjunct Professor Robert Lindgren. He and his brothers, Richard Lindgren (also a faculty member) and Ronald Lindgren, established the fellowship to honor their parents, lifelong advocates for education. (See adjacent story.)

Ursery, who grew up in Hartford, still holds dear the memory of some very influential educators in her life, especially sixth-grade teacher Raymond Wesley and principal Shirley Childs, both from the Mark Twain School. But she says that college was the biggest turning point for her as a student. That was when her passion for learning really bloomed and when she realized she could be more than just a good student—she could hold herself to the highest standards and enjoy working for excellence. She also realized she wanted to teach children in the younger grades “because I wanted to address the formative years.” To this day, she asks herself, “How can I turn that light bulb on that was turned on for me in college?”

As a 10-year veteran teacher, Ursery knows that now, more than ever, there are obstacles keeping students from developing a passion for learning and from achieving their potential. Popular culture, she notes, has helped to create a Nintendo generation that craves instant gratification and novelty. In addition, she knows that many of her students have economic issues and other difficulties at home that adversely affect their education. “Yes, we have to push content, but there are so many needs that students have that I think we need to start building them up from within,” she says. “We need to help them become invested in themselves and their learning.”

One of Ursery’s teaching successes at her own school is the States Fair Project, an engaging, interdisciplinary 12-week curriculum she developed for fifth-graders. Each student chooses a state to research and then produces a variety of projects incorporating history, geography, science, math, art, music, and writing. For example, students might create an itinerary and budget for a family traveling from Connecticut to their chosen state and its main tourist destinations. Relating their state-focused studies to broader topics, students might research their state’s agricultural products within the context of good nutrition and the FDA food pyramid. The culminating event is a States Fair at the school, where students dress up as contemporary or historical figures from their state, sing songs, and display their work. The States Fair has become such a highlight of the school year at Norris Elementary that children in the younger grades can’t wait until it’s their turn to participate.

From the beginning of her teacher training in the late 1990s, Maxine Ursery set her sights on earning a doctoral degree and becoming an administrator. However, she set her goals aside for several years when her husband, Robert Ursery, a probation officer in Hartford, became ill with cancer. (Nicknamed “Spider,” Robert was well-known in Connecticut for being co-captain of the UConn men’s basketball team that won the 1988 National Invitational Tournament.) His death in 2008 was a tremendous loss for Maxine and her two children and three stepchildren, who range in age from 14 to their mid-twenties. She says her experiences with her husband’s illness had a profound impact on her. “One thing that stuck out in my mind was how many people did not have an advocate as they were going through major health issues,” she says. The Urserys had each other and the support of family, friends, and their church community. Notes Maxine, “Robert would say, ‘I have help. What about the people who don’t?’” Maxine believes her goal of finding a way to make a difference in the lives of the terminally ill is part of her late husband’s legacy.
When she was ready to resume her education, Ursery knew that CCSU offered the ideal program for her. She says, “One factor that I really liked was the cohort—that group experience—because I do think you can learn from a lot of different people.” She calls the teachers and administrators in the doctoral program in educational leadership a “rich mix of individuals.”

Honored by her selection as a Lindgren Fellow, Ursery says the award became all the more meaningful when she met the Lindgren brothers and listened to stories about their parents’ strong belief in the value of education. Says Ursery, “That was rewarding, that family continuity. I’m glad to be connected to a fellowship like that.”

While Ursery hasn’t determined exactly where her path will lead after she earns her degree, she is strongly considering a principal-ship abroad, particularly in Jamaica, where she was born. This, in turn, is another affinity with the Lindgrens, who have mentored educators and are forging an educator network in that country.

Wherever she goes, though, Ursery sees herself as the kind of administrator who keeps one foot in the classroom. The best administrators, she believes, need to know what teachers and students are experiencing day to day. What’s more, Ursery does not want to lose the joy she feels when working directly with students. She says, “When you feel like you’ve touched the life of a student—that’s the precious moment.”

THE LINDGRENS:
Nurturing a Passion for Educational Leadership

This fall, Central Connecticut State University named fifth-grade teacher Maxine Ursery its first ever Lindgren Fellow in Educational Leadership. The fellowship, which will ultimately provide financial assistance to two outstanding students every year, was established by three brothers: Dick Lindgren, PhD, a retired principal and current CCSU adjunct professor; Ron Lindgren, a former South Kensington fire chief; and Bob Lindgren, PhD, former principal and superintendent and current CCSU adjunct professor.

To really understand where the fellowship began, though, it’s necessary to go back a generation, to Leonard E. Lindgren (1907-1998), a plumber who believed that “Our future legacy will be determined by how we guide our children,” and Elizabeth C. Lindgren (1910-2000), a homemaker who asserted that “We need to serve and uplift others and humble ourselves.” The couple shared a belief in the importance of education, as well as a belief in leadership through service. The Lindgrens raised their three sons on Stanley Street, about half a mile from CCSU, then known as Teachers College of Connecticut. As Ron Lindgren explains, “All three of us went to Stanley School, which was a teaching school for the students of the college. So we were always associated [with Central], one way or another, from kindergarten on.”

As the boys grew up, they walked by the campus on their way to school every day. They witnessed the institution’s growth and expansion, watched homecoming floats coming down their street, and served as bat-boys for the college’s baseball team. They also listened to their parents’ exhortations about education and service.

All three boys attended New Britain High School. Ron then began working for the New Britain Water Department, later finding his true calling and serving as a firefighter in Berlin for the past 46 years. Dick and Bob attended Central as undergraduates. A four-year baseball player, Bob remembers how his teammates would often gather at the Lindgren household on Friday afternoons for his mother’s home cooking. His father, meanwhile, forged friendships with coaches and athletic directors over the years and became one of Central’s biggest sports fans.

For Dick and Bob, their undergraduate study marked the beginning of a lifelong passion for education. “Central has been good to us,” notes Bob. “We got an excellent education here as a start.”

Both went on to earn numerous advanced degrees. Dick earned his MEd at the University of Hartford, a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study at Central, and a PhD at the University of Connecticut. Starting out as an eighth-grade social studies teacher, Dick devoted the majority of his career to serving as an elementary and then middle school principal. Among the very first recipients of the prestigious Milken Educator Award, Dick was principal of Illing Middle School in Manchester when it became one of the first schools in the state to be recognized with the Blue Ribbon Award for National Excellence.

Bob followed up his undergraduate work with an MS in curriculum development from Central, a CAGS and a PhD from UConn, and postdoctoral study at the University of Massachusetts. He was a teacher, elementary school principal, middle school principal, and finally Litchfield’s superintendent of schools. During his tenure, two of Litchfield’s schools earned the Blue Ribbon designation.

As adjunct professors in educational leadership for more than three decades each, both have been keen to blend theory with the practitioner’s perspective. “For the last 15 years we’ve been concentrating on working with people who want to be exemplary school principals,” says Dick. “We probably have about 60 out there now that we have mentored.” The two are currently co-teaching the internship course in educational leadership.

Bob states that the brothers established the fellowship for two main reasons: “To honor our parents, and to give back to the University. And the best way to do that was to start something that could assist others who had a love and a passion for school leadership.”

All three of the Lindgren brothers are enthusiastic about the selection of Maxine Ursery, a dedicated educator and top student, as the inaugural Lindgren Fellow. As Bob Lindgren notes, “She sets very high standards for the subsequent recipients to meet.”

— Leslie Virostek
“My Jewish life really developed when I came to CCSU. I’m so glad to be involved.”

Pam Majidy, speaking of Central’s Hillel student organization. Since taking up the reigns as president early last year, Majidy has brought the club to new levels of exposure and influence on the CCSU campus.

Now a senior, Majidy recalls that she initially struggled as president but was quickly able to adapt: “Every step of the way I’m learning. It’s the first leadership position I’ve really been in.”

Majidy describes herself as a “cultural Jew,” putting more emphasis on programming events related to culture and history than to religion. She is quick to note that the club is nondenominational: “You don’t have to be religious to join, and, in fact, most of those in attendance at our programs and meetings are not Jewish. I want to stress that all are welcome.”

Jewish Student Life Coordinator of Hillel’s chapter at CCSU Beth Brenner remarks that “Pam has embraced her heritage and brought enthusiasm to Hillel. In the time that I have worked with Pam, she has shown her

commitment to Hillel and to the furthering of her knowledge of Jewish culture.”

Majidy ensures that at every Hillel event information is available on the history and significance of what is taking place. “We’re trying to promote religious tolerance on campus,” she notes, “by providing educational opportunities through cultural and interfaith programming. We’re trying to spark an interest.”

Majidy has worked hard to expand the group. She put together a guide to Jewish Connecticut for those new to the state and helped coordinate a joint dinner with the Hillel chapter at the University of New Haven.

The club has hosted a number of events. “Last year we held our first-ever Hanukkah dinner and last spring we held the first meeting of our interfaith dinner series.” In this series, members of the various religious groups on campus meet for food and conversation: “We come together to discuss stereotypes, holiday misconceptions, dietary needs, and various other factors that affect us all.”

The club’s biggest cultural program, Sukkot, ran in early October for the third straight year. The week-long program featured a sukkah, a dwelling representative of the structures used to house the Israelites on their 40-year wanderings in the desert. As part of the festival, the Hillel club partnered with the Office of Diversity and Equity to sponsor a lecture on “Israel and Palestine: What Happens in 2009?” by Pulitzer Prize winner and Israel Bureau Chief for The New York Times Ethan Bronner.

With a laugh, Majidy notes, “Hillel has taken over my life. My Jewish life really developed when I came to CCSU. I’m so glad to be involved.”

Majidy, a criminal justice major with a minor in psychology, has hopes to enter one of two career paths: that of criminal rehabilitation or working to develop Jewish life on college campuses. A foundation for the latter certainly has been laid through her successful endeavors at CCSU.

IN MEMORIAM: GLORIA CALIENDO

Associate Professor of Modern Language Gloria Marie Caliendo died unexpectedly July 30, 2009. Caliendo spent time in Ecuador and El Salvador where she founded teaching education centers and also served on the executive board of the International Centre for Desuggestology. During her time at CCSU, she served as director of professional studies in Modern Languages and as the associate director of the Center for Caribbean and Latin American Studies. Caliendo was also an active member of the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee and other committees.

In the words of her colleague Professor of Modern Languages Antonio Garcia-Lozada, “It was impossible to know Gloria and be untouched by her. She was rigorous about maintaining high standards for the teaching profession, and always caring and empathetic to the needs of those students who brought pedagogical concerns to her. Those who knew her always left conversations with Gloria feeling touched, encouraged, and more hopeful than we had been only moments before. She possessed the skills of a serene person, but, more importantly, those intangible qualities that helped bind people when they were feeling broken, and encouraged when they felt hopeless.”

The University held a widely attended memorial gathering for Dr. Caliendo in September, 2009.
James Mallory, senior running back for the Blue Devils, has amassed a string of accolades for his spectacular accomplishments on the field this year. A finalist for the Walter Payton Award in 2009, he was named a Third Team AP All-American, an ECAC All-Star, an AFCA All-American (only the second Blue Devil to win that honor), the 2009 Northeast Conference Offensive Player of the Year, and a member of the New England Sports Writers All-New England team. He is also second in Central history for yardage and for career points. As remarkable as that is the way he has wholeheartedly thrown himself into preparing himself for his career in the classroom.

Football helped Mallory discover his natural leadership skills, and now he’s investing them in his future profession. The social work major, who began interning last fall at Hartford’s Clark Elementary School, works with students from kindergarten through eighth grade, counseling individuals and leading group therapy sessions. Many of those he works with are troubled kids from the inner city. “That’s the population that really needs help,” says Mallory, noting that he came from a similar background in Buffalo, NY. “There are lots of good, talented kids that just need some guidance. We all need a little help sometimes.”

“James is a committed, enthusiastic learner who fosters enthusiasm for learning in others,” says Assistant Professor of Social Work Delia J. González Sanders, LCSW. “He consistently demonstrates cultural sensitivity and a willingness to work with at-risk populations, employing professional social work skills.”

On top of school work, football practice, and numerous other obligations, Mallory spends two full school days per week at Clark Elementary. “When you’re doing something you love, the days fly by,” he says. “I enjoy being able to help people, and I’m glad I can support these kids.”

Sanders commends Mallory’s initiative, noting that he and another social work student have brought “students they mentor to CCSU in an effort to help them begin to think about their own future college educations.” She notes that Mallory’s “professional social work leadership skills are reflected in his commitment to social justice and service to others.”

Mallory, in turn, is quick to give credit to his professors. “They have been very helpful,” he says. “They sincerely care about their students. Dr. Sanders helped me to stay motivated with social work. She helped me with my writing, with everything.”

Mallory says the most valuable aspect of his internship has been the experience of working in real-life situations. “There are lots of things you can’t learn in the classroom. This experience was a great opportunity,” he notes, adding that the transition from classroom to field work “wasn’t too difficult. I’ve always been a people person. It’s second nature to me.”

“James has proven to all of us that with hard work, dedication, and commitment, one can succeed in anything one tries,” says Grace. As a mentor and counselor to today’s children, Mallory is sure to encourage their future success.
President Barack Obama has honored Jane Callery, BS ’92, ’MS 97, 6th YR ’01 with the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. One of 89 national recipients, Callery received the award in January at a White House ceremony.

Callery is magnet schools science curriculum and instruction specialist at the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC). A veteran educator, skilled in shaping Connecticut public school science curricula, she received the CCSU Alumni Association and the School of Education and Professional Studies Outstanding Teacher awards in 2004.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is presented annually to the best pre-college-level science and math teachers from across the country. Winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process at the state level.

Winners receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, DC and several days of educational and celebratory events, including visits with members of Congress and science agency leaders. They also receive $10,000 awards from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion.

Callery plans to use the award to pursue her doctorate in science and science education.

After receiving the award she joined 17 other outstanding pre-college teachers in a workshop for master pre-college teachers of atmospheric science topics. Presented by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) at the National Weather Service (NWS) Training Center in Kansas City, Missouri, the program is called “Project Atmosphere: Sensing, Analyzing, and Forecasting.” Its aim is to promote minority participation in science by enhancing teachers’ abilities to generate interest in and understanding of science, technology, and mathematics.
One of 16 children born in a thatched hut with a dirt floor in Clarendon Parish, Jamaica, Asburn Pinnock believes in the power of a good education to transform lives. “Education pulled me up and many others, too,” says Pinnock, MS ’96, EdD ’06. Recently appointed principal (comparable to president) of Sam Sharpe Teachers College in Montego Bay, Jamaica, he’s now in a position to put a high-quality education in reach of all Jamaicans.

For more than a decade Pinnock has been the on-site coordinator of the CCSU-Sam Sharpe Teachers College master’s programs in educational leadership and in reading and language arts. CCSU has a contractual arrangement with Sam Sharpe, a government-owned and -operated teachers’ college in Jamaica, to offer master’s degree programs to educators wishing to update their educational credentials. Pinnock is one of about 5,000 students who have graduated since the institution’s inception in 1975.

“Since 1997 more than 500 Jamaican educators have completed degrees in educational leadership and in reading and language arts, and Dr. Pinnock has been the point person for this effort,” says Dr. Anthony Rigazio-DiGilio, who was Pinnock’s graduate professor. “He’s an outstanding educator, recognized throughout the island for his abilities in technology, social studies, and organizational leadership.”

Pinnock first came to CCSU in 1994 on a two-week exchange program underwritten by a USAID grant. “I was inspired to study at CCSU for a master’s degree and talked to Dr. Rigazio-DiGilio and Dr. Karen Beyard about working part-time in teacher education while I pursued my master’s,” he explains. Before he completed his degree in 1996, Pinnock was contacted by Dr. Cecile Walden, then principal of Sam Sharpe, to explore ways CCSU could help strengthen faculty credentials there. “(Dr. Rigazio-DiGilio) thought a master’s in educational leadership would be the best way to go,” remembers Pinnock. Thus was the partnership between CCSU and Sam Sharpe created, with Pinnock as the site coordinator in Jamaica.

Now that Dr. Walden has retired, Pinnock, as the principal designee, envisions Sam Sharpe offering a four-year baccalaureate full-time program. “Currently, students with an associate’s degree diploma can upgrade to a bachelor’s degree offered through a consortium of nine teachers colleges in Jamaica,” he says. “I’d like to phase out the diploma program and replace it with a baccalaureate degree. This would be in keeping with the Jamaican government’s mandate that in the next five years teachers hold a bachelor of education degree.”

Pinnock credits CCSU with helping to train hundreds of educators in Jamaica. He explains that during the 1980s, when the late Professor George Miller was resident tutor at Sam Sharpe, “our first computer lab was set up through the math/science program thanks to the shipment of hundreds of computers. Students could transfer up to 15 credits to CCSU, and many took the opportunity to study there. Many Jamaican CCSU alumni are now in key positions, such as reading specialists, principals, and education administrators or officers. I am so proud to hold two degrees from CCSU, this center of excellence in international education.”
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ODYSSEYS
An ancient ruler, laid out on a cape of 20,000 shell beads, surrounded by dozens of companions in death. What land holds such an ancient site? Illinois. Really. Professor of Anthropology Kenneth Feder is creating an exciting guide book to 50 of the most significant prehistoric sites in the US, with the aim of inspiring readers to visit them—alone or with family in tow (as Feder did while researching the book). The sites, some reaching as far back into antiquity as 4,000 years ago, have been preserved and are usually supported by museums. According to Feder, Archaeological Odysseys will showcase “our nation’s first inhabitants…. Ancient bison hunters and first farmers, builders of earthen pyramids and adobe cliff houses, stone calendar makers, cave painters, and makers of giant animal images in earth and stone, all lived here, in America, and left behind in great profusion evidence of their artistic and technological genius.”

CONNECTICUT & THE CIVIL WAR
The nation’s bloodiest conflict is the subject of a major commemoration in April 2011. CCSU will be at the center of events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. Coordinated by Professor of History Matthew Warshauer, the Sesquicentennial Commemoration Committee is focusing on Connecticut’s role in the struggle that defined the nation. Topics include slavery and the legacy of race; reactions to secession; interstate politics and its intersection with national politics; home front efforts (especially those by women); the war industry; the memory of war and the rise of monument building. The commemoration will include an academic conference, a documentary film by Emmy Award-winner Karyl Evans, Warshauer’s forthcoming book, Civil War Connecticut: From Slavery to Commemoration, a special issue of Connecticut History, teaching workshops, as well as re-enactments of encampments and battle skirmishes. The multi-event, multi-venue commemoration will be a collaboration with more than 40 organizational partners, including the Hartford Courant and many historical societies and museums. More details at: www.ccsu.edu/civilwar.

SURVIVORS’ STORIES
Part personal memoir, part oral history, Hiroshima in My Memory and Imagination, a forthcoming book by Professor of Modern Languages Shizuko Tomoda, presents a seldom seen perspective. Using interviews and oral testimonies of survivors of the war-ending atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Tomoda will examine those events from the viewpoint of the second generation of the survivors, recounting how the horrific events shaped and continue to shape their lives. Tomoda is the daughter of a survivor of the Hiroshima bombing, and she is deeply interested in the legacy of the event from women’s perspectives. She writes, “Meeting with these women and listening to what they needed to say made me re-examine my understanding of the war, Japan’s role in it, and the commonality of victimhood, irrespective of nationality.”
ALCOHOL ABUSE ON CAMPUS
It is no secret that alcohol abuse is a major problem at colleges and universities. Studies have shown that over 40 percent of all students report drinking in a high-risk manner. Fully 20 percent say they drink in a high-risk manner often. To learn more, professors of psychology Carol Shaw Austad (principal investigator), Carolyn Fallahi, and Rebecca Wood (co-investigators) have embarked on a five-year study investigating the impact of alcohol intake among college students in order to better understand its effects on brain development, cognitive functioning, and academic performance. Funded by a $2.6 million grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), the study joins CCSU researchers with those from the Olin Neuropsychiatric Center, Trinity College, the University of Connecticut Alcohol Research Center, and Yale University.

TRACING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
This summer, students at CCSU will have the opportunity to physically trace this nation’s civil rights movement in a course offered by African American Studies lecturer Stephen Balkaran. The class will travel first to Alabama to explore such historically resonant cities as Montgomery, Birmingham, and Selma—homes to bus boycotts, the originating church for many in the quest for civil rights, and the police brutality faced by all those who struggled for freedom and justice. The class will then journey to the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN and conclude at the King Center in Atlanta, enabling students to deeply consider the death and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Balkaran believes that students will come away with a fuller understanding not only of one of the most critically important eras in modern American life, but also of the enduring significance of race in the nation’s history.

HOPE FOR WRIST INJURIES
Wrist injuries are notoriously tricky to diagnose. MRIs and X-rays cannot reveal damaged ligaments which, if untreated, can lead to a lifetime of painful arthritis. Assistant Professor of Manufacturing and Construction Management Haoyu Wang is working to change that. Using 3-D CAD animation software, he is developing a critical measure that will enable hand surgeons to quickly and accurately determine whether an injured patient has ligament damage and then intervene to spare the patient years of pain.

When wrist ligaments are damaged, they initially displace small bones in the wrist before evaporating to create bone-on-bone agony. Wang’s research has developed a way to define the minimum range of displacement that signals ligament damage. This has led to his creation of a 3-D modeling software application enabling surgeons to “see” the extent and nature of damage. Though Wang and his SUNY Upstate Medical University collaborators are still in the data-gathering stage, they have already achieved over 85 percent accuracy.
ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY:
CCSU’S COMMITMENT TO CONNECTICUT
by Luke Albertson

In the spring 2009 Central focus, we explored “Central’s Commitment to Connecticut.” The lead article detailed how Central provides more than a great education through our annual economic impact of nearly $600 million and the enormous contribution our alumni make to Connecticut’s quality of life. Community engagement is a top institutional priority, and it’s clear that CCSU faculty and students embrace this priority. In so doing, as President Miller has observed, they make “a real difference in the individual lives and the livelihood of the people of Connecticut.”

Developing that theme, the 2009 Student Learning Colloquium, sponsored by Academic Affairs and the Center for Teaching Excellence and Leadership Development (CTLD), showcased some of our faculty’s and students’ work in engaging the community.

• Professor of Psychology Marc Goldstein and Associate Professor of Psychology Joanne DiPlacido collaborated with the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health, Inc. CADH targeted Connecticut health inequities which, they noted, represent “discrepancies in health outcomes among racial and socioeconomic groups and reflect the inequitable distribution of society’s financial and social resources.”

• Psychology students conducted focus groups to assess the usefulness of the PBS documentary “Unnatural Causes: Is Inequity Making Us Sick?” as a tool to stimulate community discussion and action.

• Assistant Professor of Psychology Carrie Andreoletti and Professor of Physics and Earth Sciences Kristine Larsen developed a First Year Experience learning opportunity for elementary education majors. The students collaborated with elementary science teachers at New Britain’s Smalley Academy to design and teach fifth grade lesson plans.

• Assisted by CCSU students, Associate Professor of Sociology Catherine Baratta started a Tuesday night tutoring program and a Saturday youth recreation program and worked on revitalizing an inactive tenants’ council for residents of New Britain’s Malikowski Circle.

• Associate Professor of Art Cassandra Broadus-Garcia worked with Cynthia Cormier, director of education and curatorial services at Farmington’s Hill-Stead Museum to display CCSU students’ art interpreting the museum’s landscape, the first time art from outside of the museum’s collection has been displayed there.

• Students in Professor Charles Button’s Geography Field designed and implemented a project for the town of Manchester, which uses shallow aquifer wells on land adjacent to the Hockanum River. Students helped the town comply with state regulations by gathering information about the laws, identifying land uses not in compliance, and performing environmental assessments.

• Working with Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., three biomolecular sciences professors — Thomas R. King, James P. Mulrooney and Michael A. Davis — developed a mentoring project for high school students from Pathways/Senderos, a youth development program that nurtures disadvantaged youngsters and encourages a pathway to careers rather than early parenthood.

• Music Professors Julie Ribchinsky and Dan D’Addio and members of the Connecticut Trio collaborated with the New Britain Symphony Orchestra to engage CCSU music majors in teaching weekly lessons to students at HALS Academy, Pulaski Middle School, and New Britain High School.

• Three biomolecular sciences professors — Kathy Martin-Troy, Michael A. Davis, and Neil M. Glagovich — joined with the UConn Health Center to provide after-school laboratory experiences for students at three Hartford middle schools and Hartford’s magnet Sports and Medical Sciences Academy. These programs prepare students for college-level science courses and target an audience that can help diversify Central’s student population.

• Karen Ritenhoff, associate professor of communication, engaged CCSU students, faculty, and staff, as well as community members, at the second “CCSU Night at the Museum” event, “When Art Meets Nature.”

Another University-community collaboration took place at New Britain’s Jefferson Elementary School where a “naturescape” playground, butterfly garden, and sensory garden were created. CCSU also involved Jefferson Elementary School students in workshops at the Eli Whitney Museum in Hamden.

• Associate Professor of Art Elizabeth Langhorne helped curate two exhibits—“Aviary” and “SUSTAINABLE?” — addressing the UMC theme of nature and the environment. The CCSU Department of Teacher Education and community public schools brought over 160 public school students to the gallery.

The current tough economic times make such community outreach efforts doubly important, and President Miller has set the bar very high for the kind and extent of community engagement he believes CCSU must accomplish: “Every person in New Britain and, for that matter Connecticut and beyond, should have an answer to the question ‘Why is my life better because there is a CCSU?’ We are all in this together, and rather than the University drawing back to a ‘core business’ mode, it is time to think all the more about what we need to do to improve our commitment to community building.”

Attention Education Leaders: We Have a Website Just For You!

Recognizing that there is strength in numbers, brothers Bob and Dick Lindgren (see story page 5) have established the Lindgren Family Leadership Network, a website designed to keep school superintendents, principals, and other education leaders connected and informed.

According to the Lindgrens, “The technological opportunities inherent in the Lindgren Family Leadership Network provide the ability for leaders to greatly enhance collaboration. This will enable educators to more readily realize their obligation that ‘those who dare to teach, must never cease to learn,’ as John Dana Cotton noted. The scope of this Leadership Network is not limited by geographical boundaries, and thus will facilitate CCSU’s goal to be a leader in International Education.”

The site provides information about education resources, career advice, legal resources, events of note, jobs, support, a database of education leaders, and an online discussion forum where education leaders can share ideas and concerns. The site address is www.ccsu.edu/LFLN.
Highlighted by three Northeast Conference championships, the fall athletics season at Central Connecticut State University was one of the most successful on record.

Central won NEC titles in men’s cross country and football and garnered a regular season league title in women’s soccer. The success of those three teams, and also a second-place regular season finish for the volleyball squad, has pushed the Blue Devils into the top spot in the Commissioner’s Cup standings at the end of the fall season. It marks the first time since the 1998-99 athletics year that the Blue Devils have led the standings after the finish of fall competition.

“We have put an emphasis this season on striving to win the Commissioner’s Cup,” Director of Athletics Paul Resetarits said. “We are tremendously pleased with the way we have started the 2009-10 campaign, and look forward to continued success as the winter teams begin competition.”

The NEC Commissioner’s Cup points are awarded in each NEC sponsored sport. For men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, women’s volleyball, football, women’s bowling, softball, field hockey, women’s lacrosse, and baseball, the final regular season standings are used to determine Cup points. In all other sports, points are awarded based on the finish at NEC Championship events.

The women’s soccer team has been near or at the top of the NEC for the last decade. This season they posted a 9-0-1 league record and won the regular season league championship. They earned the right to host the NEC Championship but eventually lost to Monmouth in overtime in the championship game. Senior Leah Blayney (top photo) was named the NEC Offensive Player of the Year after leading the league in scoring. Head coach Mick D’Arcy was named the Coach of the Year for the fourth time.

The men’s cross country team won the NEC title for the first time in its history. Under first-year head coach Eric Blake ’02, the Blue Devils captured the title with a dominating performance, placing three runners in the top 10 at the meet. Sophomore Sam Alexander led the way for the Blue Devils, placing fourth overall. Sophomore Jeremy Schmid and freshman Craig Hunt took sixth and seventh place. Blake was named an NEC Coach of the Year.

The most visible championship won in the fall was by the football team, whose 7-1 NEC record was good for the school’s first outright NEC title. It was the third title in six seasons for the Blue Devils. With the win came a trip to the Gridiron Classic to face Butler University. It marked the first post-season game for CCSU since moving to Division I. Head coach Jeff McInerney was named an NEC Coach of the Year for the first time in his four seasons with the Blue Devils. Senior running back James Mallory earned national honors and was named a First Team American Football Coaches Association FCS All-American. He was also named the NEC Offensive Player of the Year. Freshman linebacker Lawton Arnold was named the league’s Defensive Rookie of the Year. In all, 10 Blue Devils were named to the NEC All-Conference teams.

The volleyball team’s second place finish in the NEC regular season standings earned the Blue Devils some key points in the race for the Commissioner’s Cup. The Blue Devils advanced to the NEC semifinals. Emily Cochran was named the league’s Rookie of the Year, and teammate Kaitlin Petrella was named the Libero of the Year.

“We had a great fall in 2009,” Resetarits said. “Our student-athletes, coaches, and administrators all answered the challenge put forth by the University to finish higher in the standings. We look forward to continuing that success. We have not reached our goal yet, but we are on our way to one of our best finishes in recent years.”
Fearon-Juran Scholarship Fund
Established

CCSU and the Juran Institute recently announced the creation of the David Fearon-Juran Institute Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is named in honor of CCSU Professor of Management & Organization David Fearon, an esteemed scholar and educator whose commitment to promoting performance excellence was recently honored when the Juran Institute recognized him as a Juran Fellow.

The Fearon-Juran Institute Scholarship will be awarded to CCSU students who have “distinguished themselves by their demonstrated desire to learn beyond today’s conventions of management thought and practice, by their passion for delighting customers, and by their excellence as students,” according to Vice President for Institutional Advancement Christopher Galligan. President Jack Miller congratulated Fearon and thanked the Juran Institute for “its warm generosity” in creating the scholarship fund. “Gifts such as these enable Central to honor its dual commitment to access and to academic excellence.”

The Juran Institute provides a wide range of training and consulting services designed to improve overall business performance, using Quality, Lean, and Six Sigma methodologies.

Farmington Bank Sponsors 2009-2010 Basketball Season

Farmington Bank has become the official title sponsor for the Blue Devil men’s and women’s basketball 2009-2010 season. In announcing the news, President Jack Miller said, “We are very grateful to John Patrick, Jr., Chairman, President and CEO of Farmington Bank, said "Teamwork is an important attribute of any winning sports team."

Teamwork is also a driving force behind everything we do at Farmington Bank, to bring the best products and services to our consumer and business clients throughout Central Connecticut. It’s thrilling to see CCSU’s academic and athletics programs thriving under the leadership of President Miller and head basketball coaches Howie Dickenman and Beryl Piper.”

Veterans Day Ceremonies

Veterans Day was a time for reflection and for the dedication of CCSU’s new Veterans Monument. President Jack Miller recognized Marine veteran Raymond Carrier with the University’s community veterans award while honoring CCSU student Ross Michael Alexander (right) with the University’s Student Veteran Excellence Award, which this year brought with it the first Veterans Excellence Scholarship.

The Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and other University offices hosted a panel discussion reflecting on women’s roles in the military. Dr. Linda Schwartz, Commissioner of Connecticut Department of Veterans’ Affairs, gave the keynote address, and CCSU student veterans Amy Otzel and Despina Mavroudis provided their perspectives on their involvement in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

A website slideshow of the ceremonies (which at the time of publication has over 800 unique views) is available at this address: www.ccsu.edu/veteransmemorial.

Contributions to the Veterans Scholarship Fund can be made online at www.ccsu.edu/vetsgiving.
“Grace under pressure” has a new exemplar: Coleen V. Marren ’75. Barely two months after Marren became the news director for Pittsburgh’s KDKA, the city hosted the G-20 Summit gathering of finance ministers and bank governors from around the globe — and thousands of protesters.

To create enthusiasm for science and engineering, the Northrop Grumman Foundation sends groups of teachers on a specially modified airplane to experience firsthand the effects of weightlessness and gain a better understanding of Isaac Newton and gravity. CCSU alumnus Geoffrey Bergen ’00 (top right), a teacher at the Whisconier Middle School in Brookfield, CT, was quoted in a story in the New York Times, saying that teachers struggle with traditional teaching methods in an age of video games and fast-paced technology. “It’s really hard to teach out of a textbook when you consider the world we live in.” The zero-gravity flight “gives you a new tool for Newton’s laws.”
HAPPENINGS
HOME COMING 2009

NEC reporter Dave Popkin and Charles "CJ" Jones at CJ’s Homecoming retirement ceremony at halftime.

Iota Kappa Tau (IKT) sisters (l-r): Pattie (Sailer) Panetta ‘71, Linda (DeRose) Carlson ‘71, Dee Dee Bednar ‘73, Carol Koniushesky ‘74, Cathie (Healy) Jost’74

Donna Fiedorowicz ’80 and (l-r) her brothers Thomas J. Fiedorowicz ’78 and Bruce L. Fiedorowicz ’76, nephew (and CCSU student) Ryan Cortese, and nephew Craig Cortese ‘07.


Barbara Shepardson Burruano ’89, Kim Ventres Sadowsky ’88, Shawn Fox Tirczali ’87 (below w/ baseball cap on), Linda Karram Maesa ‘88, Linda Norman Langdon ’86, Sharyn Izzo Walsh ’87, Julie Woodfield Burdette ’87, and, holding Gallaudet 6 sign, Kathy Palmiotto Lyons ’87.

Enjoying good times with “Victor-E” are (l-r) Marty Smith, Elizabeth Smith ’07, and Pam Theriault ’87.
and her husband, Richard, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary with their family in Avon, where they have lived for 45 years. Eileen is the daughter of Dr. Herbert D. and Dr. Aletha B. Welte, who was president of CCSU for 39 years.

55
Joan Inga (Schwartz) Boldt, in partnership with her husband, Jim Boldt, provides counseling services through the Boldt Counseling & Hypnotherapy Center in Ventura, CA.

56
Patricia (Brenn) Luke is serving her third term on the Connecticut State Board of Education. She chairs the Finance and Audit Committee and is a member of the Policy Development Committee.

59
Aurelia (Bonsignore) Liapes MS ’68 is retired from the Wallingford Board of Education and enjoying life in St. Augustine, FL.

60
Dr. Ernest J. Manfred, professor of mathematics and former department chair at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, has retired after more than 40 years of service.

61
Charles (Chad) De Bonis MS ’76, who retired to Whispering Pines, NC in 1998 after 38 years of teaching and administration work in Connecticut, recently moved to Foxfire Golf Resort, NC.

64
Claudia (Wiegand) Hopkins MS ’68 is enjoying retirement after 36 years of teaching in Southington and tutoring for three years at Sylvan in Virginia.

65
The Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System has elected former Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives Richard J. Balducci vice chair of the CSUS Board of Trustees. A member of the board since 1995, Balducci is vice president of Doyle, D’Amore and Balducci, a government relations firm in Hartford. Marilyn (Curtin) Jarvis retired in June after 31 years of teaching. She began her career in Groton and spent the last 19 years in a small elementary school in Greensboro, VT. She can now spend time visiting children and grandchildren and her mom, Margaret Bradshaw Curtin ’37.

66
Judith (Ohlson) Devokaitis MS ’73, of Rocky Hill, was elected International Vice President, Northeast Region of Alpha Delta Kappa, an international honorary sorority of women educators, at the 2009 international convention in Greensboro, NC.

67
CCSU Professor of Art, emeritus Dr. Michael R. Cipriano MS ’69 and former student and current CCSU art professor Dr. Barbara A. Clark ’79, MS ’87 collaborated on an exhibition titled “Closing the Circle” at City Hall Gallery in New Britain. The show’s title refers to the ongoing relationship between teacher and student. Proceeds of the sale of the art to benefited various anti-homelessness projects in New Britain. Ronald E. Pape is the new business manager of the Arc of Southington, a provider of housing and support for developmentally disabled persons. He is responsible for all financial activity of the main office and its seven group homes.

68
Sandra A. Tajmajer has joined Fairfield County Bank in its Darien office as a senior loan officer specializing in reverse mortgage origination. Sandra has more than 21 years experience in banking, most recently as a residential mortgage.
originator for Webster Bank and, prior to that, for 10 years at Yonkers Savings and Loan/Atlantic Bank of New York.

69 Sandra (Hartwell) Becker, a sales associate for Coldwell Banker in Avon, won election to the Litchfield Board of Education in November. The National Association of State Boards of Education has honored Beverly (Redman) Bobroske MS ’71, a member of the Connecticut State Board of Education and a longtime school guidance counselor, with its annual distinguished service award for outstanding service to public education.

Mitchell W. Mazur MS ’79 retired from IBM in 2008 after 29.6 years and, going back to his roots, is now a substitute teacher at Plainville High School. He and Beverly (Lashetski) Mazur ’70, parents of two and grandparents of four, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary in 2010. Carolyn (DeMarco) Miranda MS ’84 is director of the Child Development Center at Tunxis Community College. Retired teacher Karen (Dutton) Paradis won election as first selectman in the Town of Morris.

71 Dr. Doris Brodie MS ’72 is assistant principal at the AF (Allied Forces) NORTH American Section (DeMarco) Miranda MS ’84 is director of the Child Development Center at Tunxis Community College. Retired teacher Karen (Dutton) Paradis won election as first selectman in the Town of Morris.

72 As executive director of the new Dana-Farber/Brigham Women’s Cancer Center at South Shore Hospital, in South Weymouth, MA, which opened in September, Frances (Noyes) Friend has been overseeing construction of an $89 million one-stop-shop and parking garage for cancer patients. Fran, who lives in Plymouth, previously oversaw the opening of a similar comprehensive cancer center in Connecticut. She has been involved in health-care administration since 1976. Diane Ross Gary MS ’74 serves as program manager for the Connecticut State Teacher of the Year Program. Although retired from her former job as an elementary school teacher, Wendy (Lawson) Oberg MS ’90 remains actively involved in education as a member of the steering committee and co-chair of the curriculum committee of the Shoreline Institute of Lifelong Learning (SILL), which provides continuing education to adults and seniors along the Connecticut shoreline. She and her husband, Walter ’71 live in Madison.

74 David K. Ferry’s (MS) next career, after retiring from 30 years as an art educator, is developing his own art - cartooning. One of two new projects is illustration of dietician Carol Blanchard’s 12-Step Program to Health & Nutrition: A 16-month calendar for 2010. Paul V. Hoagland was appointed treasurer and CFO of Five Star Quality Care Inc., a senior living and healthcare services company headquartered in Newton, MA. Ken Koharki is a sales associate with ReMax Preferred Professionals in Bridgewater, NJ. Victoria (Penta) Megofna is vice president, global treasury management operations, for Bank of America. Kathleen (Parker) Morgan MS ’99, a kindergarten teacher at Anna Reynolds School, is the 2009-10 Teacher of the Year for Newington public schools. Patricia (Olszewski) Rutkowski has been chosen as the director of the New Britain Public Library. An employee of the library for 40 years, she served in nearly every position before being named head of Adult Services in 2002. Mike Schumann retired from the Connecticut Department of Transportation in 2003 and keeps active hiking, biking, kayaking, motorcycling and catching up on projects.

75 Barbara (Sawicky) Crolla, executive director of the Day Care Center of New Canaan, was honored for 25 years of service to the school. Barbara started with the center in 1984 as the after-school program director. She is credited with “turning the program around” after becoming the executive director, and with helping myriad families in crisis by creating an environment in which the welfare of the entire family is considered. Linda (Rikkind) Grossman is an executive assistant at metroPCS, a wireless carrier, and also operates an antique business, The Chair Man and The Tea Lady, in Abington, MA with her husband. Jeff. Richard W. Kosta is the athletic director at Fitch High School in Groton. Colleen Marren has been chosen as the news director at KDKA TV in Pittsburgh, PA. She has worked in TV news since landing a freelance job for ABC News during a G-8 summit in Ottawa in 1981 when she was a journalism graduate student at Carleton University. William F. (Skip) Meyer, Jr., a member of the athletic training staff for Notre Dame since 1979, helps with the healthcare and treatment of all Fighting Irish varsity student-athletes in addition to traveling with the men’s basketball team. He also works with the men’s and women’s golf teams. David L. Ryan is the CFO and finance director for the town of Harwich, MA.

76 Bonnie (Maguder) Frascadore MS ’86, an eighth grade language arts teacher at Irving A. Robbins Middle School, was honored as Farmington’s Teacher of the Year. She has been a reading instructor at Robbins since 1985. New Britain born and raised Paul G. Salina (MS) culminated a 33-year career as a teacher and administrator with a three-year term as principal of New Britain High School in 2003, but hasn’t stopped giving to the youth of the city and his adopted hometown of Berlin. A photographer since adolescence, he routinely documented school events during his teaching career and continues to take pictures, mostly of sports and musicians, and distributes them freely. Daniel S. Johnson is the history department chair at St. Thomas Moore School, a preparatory school for boys in Oakdale. John J. Malinoski works for Travelers as a senior talent acquisition consultant in the Hartford office.

77 Scott A. Bannell, vice president of corporate brand management at Stanley Works, was elected president of the Hardware Marketing Council. John J. Belli is a global procurement analyst/program manager at Stanley Works, and the proud father of a 2009 CCSU graduate, his son John. George J. Caffrey retired as chief of police of Meriden, and is an adjunct professor of sociology at Southern Connecticut State University.

Joseph P. Wolnick is chief investment officer and portfolio manager for Halcyon Asset Management LLC in New York City.

78 John P. Colonghi MS ’90 was hired as the principal of Stevens and Moser Schools, two elementary schools in Rocky Hill. He had previously spent nearly nine years as assistant principal at Griswold Middle School. Prior to being hired in Rocky Hill he was a principal and reading consultant in North Stonington. Mark H. Bernacki, owner of Sir Speedy Press of New Britain, was honored with the 2009 Small Business Champion Award by the National Federation of Independent Business, which annually singles out a small business owner in each of the 50 states for special recognition.

Allen E. Mitchell is director - compliance programs for Waste Management in Houston, TX. W. Michael Tiagwad is president and CEO of Conneer Strong Companies Inc., an insurance brokerage and consulting firm headquartered in Marlton, NJ.

79 Thomas J. Letendre works at Hartford Steam Boiler as a senior systems analyst in Hartford. Paul B. Penney, managing director at CTL Capital in New York City, is responsible for the origination and structuring of federal, corporate and credit tenant loans. Penney has been involved in securitized credit lease financing for nearly 20 years and was a founding principal of Bostonia Incorporated, and its predecessor Highland Funding.
Group. He has also provided extensive financial advisory services on structured real estate and project finance transactions throughout Europe and Latin America. Paul worked in the New York City office of Cushman & Wakefield for over 10 years, serving as a vice president in the financial services group.

80 Clifford W. Pliarski has been appointed controller of Lake Compounce Family Theme Park in Bristol/Southington.

81 John S. (Jack) Carlton is the national accounts manager at Boston Globe Media in Boston, MA. Robert K. Nelson is a research specialist in the department of marine chemistry and geochemistry at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Woods Hole, MA. Former Hartford Courant reporter Judy Mandel has published a memoir, Replacement Child, about her family and the long-term effects of a plane crash. Kenneth C. Wentworth, a vice president of Western Management Corporation in New York City, is responsible for all leasing, construction and property management of the firm’s New York area properties.

82 Mary W. Manguse, a paralegal at Varnum Attorneys at Law in Grand Rapids, MI, has been certified by the Internal Revenue Service as an enrolled retirement plan agent, allowing her to practice before the IRS with respect to qualified retirement plans. She is the first professional in Michigan to become certified. Dr. William H. McDonald (MS) has been appointed the vice president for academic affairs at Post University in Waterbury.

83 Andreas L. Diakidis MS ’85 is manager of the engineering department of the Sub Prefecture of Dodekanese Eparhio Karpathou (the municipality government of 162 Greek islands) based on the island of Karpathos, Patia Eparrxeiou, Greece. Richard A. Leone is president and CEO of Connecticut On-Line Computer Center, Inc., an Avon-based customer-owned outsourcing and software development company that provides complete enterprise processing solutions for community banks throughout the northeastern US. Wayne F. Shuhi is the technology coordinator for Oxford public schools. W. Scott Steinhagen is coordinator of the monitoring assistance program for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in Phoenix, AZ. Carolyn A. Kennedy works as a field specialist for Brother International. Carolyn lives in Frisco, TX. Lisa (Lincoln) Bartell is a hairdressing instructor at J. M. Wright Regional Vocational Technical School in Stamford. Eileen (McDonough) Calli is an accountant and administrative assistant for Grady & Riley LLP in Woodbury and just celebrated 25 years with the company. She is enjoying being a grandmother of two grandsons.

84 Anthony M. Coppola is a senior manager - finance and desktop engineering lead for Computer Sciences Corporation in South Windsor. He and Cheryl (Elliott) Coppola ’84 live in Glastonbury and recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Their son, TJ, is currently a student at CCSU. Malcolm D. DeMayo has joined Diversified Information Technologies as vice president of sales and marketing. Ann (Mulligan) Rousseau, CPA has joined Nathan Accounting Group in Avon as a manager after 18 years with Blum Shapiro and Company, PC where she was most recently tax supervisor. Stan Simpson has left his position as columnist as The Hartford Courant to take a job as director of journalism and media for the new Journalism & Media Academy at Weaver High School in Hartford. The art of painter Debi Pendell was recently exhibited at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts’ Gallery 51 in North Adams, MA. Debi’s work is in the permanent collections of museums and corporations nationally and internationally. Photos of her work are included in the book Rethinking Acrylic: Radical Solutions For Exploiting The World’s Most Versatile Medium by Patti Brady. Diana B. Pilis has worked for a number of companies, including Xerox, GE, MasterCard and Yellowbook. From 2004-2009 she was an accounts receivable manager at Hearst Newspapers. She lives in Westbrook.

85 Brian J. Newman, CPA has been elected president of the Mandell Jewish Community Center in West Hartford. Brian is partner-in-charge of the tax department at Kostin, Ruffkess & Company, LLC.

86 Parker E. Elmore is president and CEO of Primoris Benefit Advisors, Inc. in Colchester. Keith J. Kummick, a principal of Colliers Dow & Condon, a commercial real estate firm located in Hartford, was honored by the Simsbury Main Street Center with the 2009 Connecticut Light and Power Company Award for Outstanding Contributions to Main Street Revitalization. Marie (Pisano) Pascale is a registered associate at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in New Canaan. Sharon M. Malone MS ’93 has been appointed senior vice president for BeamPines, Inc., a global human resources consulting firm headquartered in New York City. Sharon has more than 20 years of talent management and leadership experience with CIGNA and ING. Cynthia Neereo-Pearson, a licensed clinical social worker, is director of clinical services in Middlesex County for the Child and Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut.

87 Judith (Wheeler) Baker was promoted to director of financial products for Accu-Med Services in Anacortes, WA. Robert M. Brough is northeast regional manager for Honeywell International. Ya-Jane Chu is a senior programmer analyst for Capital Group Inc. investment companies in Irvine, CA. Brendan Connelly, an investment advisor, representative, and vice president for Index Funds Advisors, Inc. manages the Midwest regional office in Madison, WI where he lives with his wife and four children. Brendan is a triathlete, sailor and advocate for worthy causes such as the DuRunRun, a nine-event statewide duathlon for kids that he started in 2003 as a fundraiser for Special Olympics. Arthur “Lee” Hilliard is principal producer/director of Hilliard Creative Group LLC with 30 years experience in broadcast, government, consumer and corporate communications using digital media production, video, audio, film and print for advertising, marketing, promotions, employee communications, training and performance nationally and internationally.

88 Steve H. Kremidas is senior vice president and chief development officer of Windsor-based SS&C Technologies, software and software-enabled services for the global financial services industry.

89 Bryant C. Pearson is a sergeant with the New Britain Police Department.

90 Associate Athletic Director Michael J. Karwowski, a 17-year veteran of the Notre Dame athletics administration working primarily in the area of NCAA rules compliance, has assumed a new role focused on the development and implementation of a comprehensive athlete performance program for Notre Dame student-athletes.

91 Wendy M. Lux joined the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain as executive director of development.

92 Kathleen (Breen) Allen is director of community development for the City of Gillette, WY. Jane (Hoff) Callery MS ’90 was honored by President Obama as one of 89 national recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Jane has taught science at the Capital Region Education Council (CREC) Two Rivers Magnet Middle School since 2002, and is currently the Science Curriculum and Instruction Specialist for all 12 CREC magnet schools PK-12. David M. Clarke has begun his
tenth season as the head coach of Quinnipiac University's women's soccer team. Tracy A. Dumont is the administrative director of Partnership for Strong Communities in Hartford. Jill (Stotler) Hall is sales coordinator for M. I. Integrated Media in Norfolk where she also lives with husband, Ken, and children. Brian A. Maddix is an active directory administrator with PBS&SJ University in Austin, TX. Luke Giroux, account supervisor at Maier Advertising in Farmington, was appointed to the executive advisory board of the Connecticut region of For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST). Eric Wahl is director of services at Scribe Software Corporation in Bedford, NH.

Siobhan M. Becker is owner and president of EOTO Marketing and Communications Solutions, a West Hartford company specializing in strategically partnering and empowering small business. Jason O. Gibson is director of the Boys and Girls Club of New Britain. Raymond E. Grasso, Jr., a licensed, professional counselor with 14 years experience in behavioral health services, was appointed a service director for Chrysalis Center in Hartford.

David E. Corbitt, a partner at Krieg DeVault Attorneys at Law in Indianapolis, IN is the chair of the firm's privately and closely held business service group. His practice concentrates in the transactional areas of mergers and acquisitions, securities laws and corporate law. Jennifer (Graves) Flatow is the manager at Family Centers, Inc. in Greenwich. Louis J. “Chip” Malafonte is the University of Connecticut beat writer for the New Haven Register and has also covered Yale and Quinnipiac hockey for the paper since 1999. Christopher Martiner is a lender representative for Alliant Asset Management Co., LLC in Tampa, FL. Karen (Masotti) Roe is a computer-communications officer in the United States Air Force Reserve stationed in Germany. Tomas J. Nenortas is program director of the Hartford Preservation Alliance in Hartford. Gregg W. Ricco and Lauri Miskella ’95 celebrated their 10-year wedding anniversary in July. Christina T. Rossini is a family care concierge for D’Esopo Funeral Chapel in Wethersfield.

Luke Anthony Paventi, a 19-year veteran of the British Police Department, was promoted to captain. He now commands the professional standards division, which includes the department’s training division, POSTC satellite police academy, internal affairs division, community relations division and state accreditation program. Conrad M. Sienkiewicz is employed as a volunteer coordinator at EMOR Humanitarian Assistance Programs in Hamden. Dr. Katie R. Terezakis is an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY.

Kimberly (Dievert) Bobin is a self-employed marketing consultant located in Wethersfield. Dr. Thomas Castonguay is an assistant professor of physical chemistry at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. Kevin G. Giancola has been named head coach of men’s golf at Central. He is an accomplished tournament player and won the Connecticut Section PGA Championship at Waterton Golf Club in September. Computer animators Todd Grimes and T. J. Sullivan III won Emmy Awards for Best Animated Children’s Series (special) — Back at the Barnyard — at the Creative Arts Emmy Awards August 29 in Los Angeles, CA. Todd and T. J. are directors of the series. Theresa M. Mainuli is a lieutenant, Judge Advocate General’s Corps, United States Navy, stationed in Annapolis, MD. Michelle Piccolo, a 5th-grade teacher at Booth Hill School, was named Shelton Teacher of the Year.

James M. O’Rourke has been appointed executive director of the Greater Waterbury YMCA. He has been with the Y since 1990 and its associate executive director since 2008. Paul J. Suter MA ’99, associate vice president for development at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, has been named a certified fund raising executive by CFRE International.

Maria M. Oliveira is a manager - marketing communications, at Fletcher-Terry Company in Farmington. Wendy (Shumway) Hummel is a solutions consultant for IBM in Southbury. Robert Riccobon, an officer with the West Hartford Police Department, is responsible for coordinating the department’s College Police Academy, a 10-day introduction to police work that teaches students the demands of the profession and tests participants’ suitability for a police career. It is the only program of its kind in New England. John P. Ryan MS ‘04, 6th Yr ’09 is teacher of the gifted for Bristol. Ileana Fred is business development/marketing analyst for Golden Compass, Inc. in Madison.

Douglas M. Haddad MS ‘00, a seventh grade science teacher at Henry James Memorial School in Simsbury, has published his second book, Save Your Kids…Now! The Revolutionary Guide To Helping Youth Conquer Today’s Challenges. Jeremiah Nelson MS ’01 is director of professional student services at the Belk College of Business at UNC Charlotte in Charlotte, NC. Joseph D. Hartig is a social studies teacher at Hicksville Middle School in Hicksville, NY. He was honored by the PTA of Hicksville Public Schools with the Founders Day Award for teaching excellence and service to the community.

Keely A. Gould (MS) has directed the Skylarks Youth Symphony, a classical string orchestra, in Vernon, NJ for the past eight years. Keely is a recipient of the distinguished music teacher award from the Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation. Jennifer A. Sexton, CPA is a supervisor with Simione & Macca & Larrow, LLP in Rocky Hill. Annemarie (Gorcy) Sirotnak is a freelance graphic designer in Granby. Jason Vincent was named a vice president at Planimetrics in Avon, a firm offering planning, zoning, and land use assistance to communities.

Everett L. Condit, a seventh grade technical education teacher at Swift Middle School in Oakville, has been honored as the Connecticut Middle School Technical Education Teacher of the Year by the International Technical Education Association. Dina (Masotto) Powers is director of human resources for Volvo Aero Connecticut in Newington. Michael B. Reed works as a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley in New York City. Colleen M. Seadale (MS) is a licensed marriage and family therapist with a private practice in Edgartown, MA. Robert A. Tilden, Jr. (MS) started a private practice, Connecticut Synergy Therapeutic Solutions, LLC, in West Hartford. Barbara B. Ventura has been appointed assistant principal of Catherine M. McGee Middle School in Berlin.

The South Windsor Board of Education has appointed Kathleen M. Carter (6th Yr, Ed.D. ’07, Sup Cert ’09) assistant superintendent for personnel and administration. Shawn R. Clifford - who, with his brother, Ryan J. Clifford ’05, owns the True Value store in Bethel - was a speaker on the True Value Retail Best Practices Panel at the 2009 National Hardware Show in Las Vegas, NV. He was also featured in a recent edition of Home Channel News, a tools of the trade quarterly. Vincent Lapollo started a new job as a statistics associate with ESPN in Bristol. Chris McHugh works in the engineering department at Volvo Aero Connecticut in Newington.
Malvezi Rosenblatt (MS), Ashleigh Holt ’06 and Janine Falco are Lady Luck, a brand new female vocal trio specializing in swing, jazz and cabaret-style standards accompanied by piano - Jane Russell Bate (MS ’89) - bass and drums.

04
Janet L. Haley (MS), autism consulting teacher for the town of Simsbury, has been chosen as the town’s Teacher of the Year. Mary Therese Munson is a teacher at the new, state-of-the-art Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School in Bloomfield. Jeremy D. Race is director of development of Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, Inc. in Hartford.

05
Melissa M. Bengtson is community affairs assistant for the Metropolitan District Commission. Attorney Bryan E. McEntee has opened a law firm in Waterbury. Elaine Perez is the business manager for Camp Courant in Hartford. Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Ramadan Salahu-din graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.

06
Victoria A. Ganges is a special events manager for the American Heart Association in Wallingford. Daniel S. Holmes, a graduate engineer with a design background in civil/site and transportation engineering at Tighe & Bond, Inc. in their Middletown office, has become a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional. Tina (Jock) Muzzy is an intellectual property compliance associate at Yale University in New Haven. Laura Yering is an account executive at IKON Office Solutions. Megan L. Terrillion is a staff accountant at H & T Waterbury, Inc. in Waterbury.

07
Anna J. Bedard is a Spanish teacher at Suffield High School in West Suffield. Craig J. Bryant is an assistant facility supervisor for Highlands Ranch Community Association in Highlands Ranch, CO. Jeffrey A. Chism is a plan manager at The Hartford in Windsor. Rachel F. Gary has accepted a position as associate editor of Best Events Magazine at Red 7 Media in Norwalk. Marc Gregory works as a service desk technician for The Stanley Works in New Britain. Melissa (Lora) Renouf works as a health and safety coordinator for Cintas Fire Protection of Plainville, CT.

08
Justin G. Haberern is a financial analyst at Ensign-Bickford Aerospace and Defense in Simsbury. Meghan Kenney is assistant director of study activities at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Boston, MA. Sovin Kang is a quality engineer for CooperSurgical, Inc. in Trumbull. Kevin A. Lathrop is a project engineer for Waters Construction Company in Bridgeport. Harrison S. Levy is an assistant estimator for Petra Construction Corporation in North Haven. Bethany (Fish) Muscara (MS) is a second grade teacher at South Side Elementary School in Bristol. Michelle L. Nelson is the assistant director of student conduct at the University of Hartford. Basia E. Pontello is the owner of Pontello Construction Management, LLC in Danbury. Eva L. Schreffler is working in contract compliance at Louis Dreyfus Highbridge Energy (LDH Energy) headquartered in Wilton. Jennifer J. Skinnon is an administrative assistant at the Office of Institutional Research and Policy Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA. Nicole B. Thorgood is working as a readiness project manager for MassMutual. Stacey A. Uccello has joined Farmington Savings Bank as the vice president and director of its new cash management services. The Perfect Promotion appointed Kelly A. Wytsa to inside sales and marketing assistant. Gary W. Whitehill, Jr.’s newest initiative was New York Entrepreneur Week (NYEW), which took place November 16-20th. It is the largest entrepreneurial movement throughout New York, offering thousands across the state the opportunity to actively engage the foremost entrepreneurs, investors and dealmakers both locally and globally.

09
Chantaal Goodwater is the executive director of Writers Block Ink in Norwich which provides workshops and performance opportunities for children to “ignite social change on stage and on the page.” Christopher M. Grandieri (MS), an eighth grade science teacher at Chesapeake Bay Middle School in Pasadena, MD, recently joined 30 other teachers on a unique trip. Part of Northrop Grumman Foundation’s Weightless Flights of Discovery Program, it enables teachers to experience a stomach-churning flight in planes operated by the Zero G Corporation of Fort Lauderdale, FL. Using the same method that NASA uses to train astronauts, the planes fly in a series of vertical parabolas to simulate zero gravity as well as the low gravity found on the moon and on Mars.

New Arrivals
Births / Adoptions
Jennifer (Graves) ’94 & Kevin Flatow: a son, William Elliott
Kerrin (Armstrong) & John M. Furnare ’05: a son, Jack Christopher

Marriages
Melissa R. Hebert ’88 & John Meola 4/16/09
Melissa J. Damiata ’93 & Adam Chilberg 10/11/08
Sharon E. Belden & Thomas C. Castonguay ’96 7/19/09
Rachelle E. Hill ’97 & Jody Mitchell 5/24/09
Elizabeth A. Gillard & David C. Zuffelato ’00 8/27/09
Kelly Roman & James J. Flynn ’01 6/28/08
Carrie L. Mennen & Jason M. Smith ’03 8/23/08
Kerrin N. Armstrong & John M. Furnare ’05 8/09/08

Lauren B. Whitney ’05 & Edward J. Kelley ’06 10/18/08
Amanda M. Taltagie ’07 & Roberto R. Padua ’04, MS ’08 10/3/09

In Memoriam
1931
Mary Pauloz Kogelman 8/17/2009
1932
Gwendolyn Olds-Lewis 7/8/2008
1935
Lillian Carlson Beanzon 10/12/2009
Mary Coleman Walsh 8/10/2009
1936
Elizabeth Dunigan Billingslea 4/20/2007
1937
Harriet Robinson Lyman 7/23/2009
1938
Francis E. Geissler 7/13/2009
Winifred Hirth Leonard 1/12/2009
1939
Harriet Miller Morgan 9/9/2009
1941
Mary Fox Marsh 1/20/2009
Helen Reed Tonkin 9/9/2009
1942
Navio Ottavi 2/22/2009
Ruth Boyd Spanenberg 12/16/2008
1943
Edna Boskoski Koubus 8/10/2009
Gloria S. Levine 7/16/2009
1950
Johnie M. Floyd 9/30/2009
George P. Gustin 6/20/2009
Hugo R. LaPenta 5/28/2009
Jennie Markowski Marconi-Javorski 6/22/2009
Lincoln O. Nystrom 10/18/2009
1952
Marcelyn Poppel King 8/16/2009
Frank L. Toro 10/16/2007
1953
Wesley S. Gill 6/12/2009
1956
Jeanne Caron Bouyea 8/29/2009
1957
Barbara Zuppe Hill 10/16/2009
1958
Frank J. Mute 8/14/2009
1959
Richard P. Beruk 9/15/2009
June Nejame Bedrice 5/1/1985
Thank You

In 2008-09, more than 4,000 donors contributed over $2 million to the University. CCSU alumni generously increased their level of giving to over $477,000, a 35.4% increase over last year’s record-breaking amount! Your remarkable generosity provided scholarship support for our students, helped create exciting academic enrichment programs, kept our athletics strong, and enhanced the Central educational experience. Your contributions enabled CCSU to remain both excellent AND accessible.

These remain troubled economic times, particularly for our students, and for them we thank you for your exceptional generosity. We hope you will join us by continuing to support our efforts. A postage paid envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Your gifts do make a difference in the lives of our students and the life of the University.

We deeply appreciate all that you do for CCSU.

Christopher J. Galligan
Vice President, Institutional Advancement
THE TIMING OF GIFTS
There are basically two opportunities for the timing of gifts to the CCSU Foundation: now or later. Giving now refers to gifts made at the present or within a short period of time. These gifts may support current operations or they may be placed in endowment to produce a future source of revenue. Giving later refers to planned or deferred giving. This type of giving refers to those gifts where the donor makes a promise to the Foundation, but the money does not come right away. Planned giving allows the donor to maximize the contribution without depleting current assets.

WAYS OF GIVING NOW
Outright Gifts of Cash - Writing a check to the Foundation or using our secure, online giving website (www.ccsu.edu/give) is convenient and offers immediate tax savings for the donor. Some donors plan cash gifts as part of their family budget. Many donors welcome the opportunity for three to five year pledges, payable monthly or quarterly, enabling them to contribute more than would otherwise be possible through a single outright gift.

Securities - Mutual funds, company stock, corporate bonds, municipal bonds, or certain government bonds offer a number of income tax advantages when given after they have appreciated in value more than 12 months. Gifts of appreciated, marketable securities can be sold and reinvested by the Foundation free from capital gains tax, while at the same time entitling the donor to a federal income tax deduction for the full fair market value of the securities at the time of the gift. Gifts of securities often enable the donor to make a larger gift than would otherwise be feasible using cash.

Tangible Personal Property and Real Estate - Gifts such as special collections, valuable artwork, houses, or land can be used for educational purposes or sale by the University. And a variety of arrangements with the University can enable the gift to benefit the donor in several ways. Special tax rules apply, and donors should consult their tax counsel and the University Development Office.

Life Insurance - Donors can make current gifts using life insurance by assigning annual policy dividends to the Foundation. Or they may give paid up whole life policies which no longer needed due to changes in family situations or unanticipated prosperity.

WAYS OF GIVING LATER
Bequests - Many people use their wills as a means of making gifts to the Foundation. Such gifts are known as charitable bequests and are the most common form of planned giving. There are varying tax benefits which provide incentives to making charitable bequests. Such details can be more fully explained by an attorney. Existing wills can be modified by codicil to benefit the University. Bequests are a practical alternative to making a sizable gift to the Foundation which a donor may not be able to do in his or her lifetime.

Life Insurance - Life insurance provides a convenient means of making a gift to the Foundation. Sometimes the owner of a policy simply names the Foundation as the beneficiary. In other cases, the donor purchases the policy which the Foundation owns and the donor continues to pay the premium each year, or makes gifts to the Foundation each year that at least cover the premium. Under this arrangement, the donor realizes the added benefit of a tax-deductible contribution while guaranteeing a sizable gift to the Foundation at the time of his or her death.

Charitable Remainder Trusts - Charitable remainder trusts - unitrusts and annuity trusts - provide a means of making a sizable gift to the Foundation without sacrificing the income the gift property will produce, and they can provide significant tax benefits to the donor. Trusts are complicated legal documents, and a qualified attorney would work with the Foundation to take into account the donor's personal circumstances and financial situation.

This information is, by necessity, quite general. An individual donor's personal and financial circumstances will affect the tax consequences of giving, and will dictate the form of giving that is most advantageous. Above all, an attorney or tax accountant should be consulted when planning a major gift to the CCSU Foundation.

For further information, contact:
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Email: GalliganC@ccsu.edu
CCSU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

• Provides scholarship support for the children and grandchildren of CCSU graduates or its predecessors.
• Matriculated undergraduate students at CCSU with 54 hours of earned academic credit and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average.
• Student must be registered for at least 9 credits in the semester to which the scholarship is being applied.
• Student must demonstrate qualities of service, leadership and academic achievement.
• Preference will be given to a student with documented efforts to finance higher education costs through full or part time employment.

Special Application Instructions

• Applicants shall submit an essay stating why the candidate believes he/she deserves the scholarship.
• Please include with your application the name, degree and class year of the alum.
To apply: www.ccsu.edu/scholarships

CCSUCCESS: New Campaign for Annual Giving

The University recently launched a new fundraising campaign for annual giving. Its theme, “CCSUCCESS: Success Begins with CCSU,” epitomizes what takes place at Central, thanks to the efforts and the generosity of many. Annual giving supports a wide range of the University’s most important needs, including academic scholarships, the library, and academic programs and research. Your generosity ensures that the University remains a place where students succeed and where learning thrives. Donations may be made online at www.ccsu.edu/giving.