

Points of Pride 2008

Student Quality

- Average SAT scores of 1192 for this past fall's incoming freshmen at Storrs were up 80 points since 1997.
- Our 2006 to 2007 freshman retention rate at Storrs is 93 percent and ranks us among the top 20 public universities in the nation.
- Forty percent of Storrs freshmen entering in Fall 2007 were ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class.
- Minority freshman enrollment at Storrs in the Fall 2007 is up 100 percent since Fall 1995.
- The academic credentials of students enrolled in UConn's Honors Program are impressive. In Fall 2007, 275 freshman registered for UConn's Honors Program. On average, these students had SAT scores of 1409, an 11-point increase compared to 2006.
- UConn's Fall 2007 entering class at all campuses included a record number of 143 valedictorians and salutatorians. Since 1995, UConn has recruited 929 valedictorians and salutatorians.
- Applications have doubled in 10 years and topped 21,000 for the Storrs campus in Fall 2007 including more than 11,300 from out-of-state students.
- Today, UConn boasts median LSAT scores of 162 for entering students at our School of Law.
- Each year, between 13 percent and 19 percent of UConn's School of Law J.D. graduates serve as judicial law clerks, in state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels.
- Applications to the University's School of Medicine have risen by nearly 10 percent over the past decade, with 3,000 applications for 80 seats in the class entering in 2007.

Distinguished Accomplishments

- For nine years running, UConn has been rated by *U.S. News & World Report* as the No. 1 public university in New England – and today also ranks among the top 25 public universities in the nation.
- In 2007, more than 40,000 prospective students and their families toured the UConn campus in Storrs – a number that's more than tripled since 1995.

- *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* ranks UConn in the top 30 best value among public colleges. *Kiplinger's* bases its rankings "on a combination of outstanding academic quality plus an affordable price tag."
- The University's Annual Fund raised a record \$4.6 million for the fiscal year 2007.
- At the close of fiscal year 2007, the University's endowment was valued at approximately \$336 million, having grown nearly 71 percent over the past five years.
- In 2007, John Dempsey Hospital was named one of the nation's top 100 hospitals – one of only 15 hospitals nationwide recognized in the major teaching hospital category – by Solucient, a leading health care information company that conducts the study annually. It was the third consecutive year the UConn Health Center was recognized by Solucient. During the previous two years, the UConn Health Center was named a Top 100 Performance Leader.
- The UConn Health Center has been awarded a \$12.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to research and develop sophisticated tools and technologies to measure, manipulate and model the function of biochemical networks in living cells. With the grant, the Health Center becomes one of only five National Technology Centers for Networks and Pathways in the country.
- John Dempsey Hospital admissions reached 10,001 in 2007, the first time patient admissions surpassed an annual rate of 10,000. Hospital admissions have risen steadily in recent years, up more than 40 percent since 2000.
- Ninety-five percent of UConn's School of Law graduates are employed within nine months after graduation.
- UConn's School of Law offers the only Masters of Laws (LL.M.) degree program in Insurance Law in the nation.
- In 1999, UConn's School of Education was the recipient of a \$21 million gift – a contribution from Raymond Neag, Class of '56, and the largest gift ever given to any school of education in the nation.
- The Neag School of Education is ranked the top public graduate school of education in New England by *U.S. News & World Report*. Four core programs – elementary education, secondary education, special education, and curriculum and instruction – rank among the nation's top 20.
- The Neag School of Education's doctoral program in kinesiology is ranked No. 1 in the nation by the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education.
- Two national research centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education are based at the Neag School – the National Research Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development

and the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs Technical Assistance Center for Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports.

- The University of Connecticut has positioned itself at the forefront of today's highly promising field of stem cell research. Its stem cell program is a cross-campus enterprise, involving researchers and laboratories at the Center for Regenerative Biology located on the Storrs campus, and at the UConn Health Center in Farmington. On both campuses, research teams are unlocking the secrets of stem cells in modern, state-of-the-art facilities.
- UConn has received nearly \$15 million in grants funded by the state of Connecticut to carry out groundbreaking stem cell research. Research projects supported by these grants include those led by Akiko Nashiyama, associate professor of physiology and neurobiology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Theodore Rasmussen of the Center for Regenerative Biology.
- Research awards to UConn faculty in fiscal year 2007 exceeded \$185 million last year, an increase of more than \$75 million since 1999.
- UConn is ranked third in the nation by the National Science Foundation for federal research funding in psychology.
- According to a 2007 survey by UConn's Center for Survey Research and Analysis, 77 percent of UConn alumni living in Connecticut say they think state residents should be very proud of the University. Eight out of 10 UConn alumni living in Connecticut say they would recommend UConn as a top choice for their son or daughter.
- Among recent undergraduates, 94 percent would recommend UConn to others.
- Among recent undergraduates, 94 percent are either employed or are in graduate/professional school.
- Among recent undergraduates, 68 percent of those working full-time are doing so in Connecticut.
- Ninety-two percent of Connecticut's general population says that state residents should have pride in UConn.

Notable Alumni

The University has graduated a number of very prominent alumni:

- Matthew Adiletta, '85 (ENG), Director of Communication Processor Architecture for Intel
- Celia Bobrowsky, '80 (CLAS), Director of Community Affairs, Major League Baseball

- Michael J. Callahan, '95, J.D., Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary for Yahoo! Inc.
- Dan Carlin, '76 (CLAS), '77, Ph.D., Chair of Berklee College of Music's Film Scoring Department
- Swin Cash, '02 (CLAS), three-time Big East Championship All-Tournament team member, 2004 USA Olympic gold medalist, WNBA Seattle Storm player and founder of Swin Cash Enterprises and charitable organization Cash for Kids
- Franklin Chang-Diaz, '73 (ENG), founder of Ad Astra Rocket Company, as well as retired NASA astronaut and veteran of seven space flights
- Cheryl A. Chase, '78, J.D., Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Chase Enterprises
- Joseph Courtney, '78, J.D., U.S. Congressman for Connecticut's 2nd Congressional District
- Scott Cowen, '68 (BUS), President of Tulane University
- Chris Donovan, '69 (SFA), television director, including the Golden Globe Awards
- Jennifer Dorn, '77, M.P.A., President and CEO of the National Academy of Public Administration
- Charles Duelfer, '74 (CLAS), Director of Central Intelligence Special Advisor for Strategy regarding Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Program
- Greg Economou, '88 (CLAS), Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Charlotte Bobcats Sports & Entertainment
- J. Robert Galvin, '96, M.P.H., '07, M.B.A., Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Marilda Gandara, '80, J.D., President, Aetna Foundation
- Bill Geist, '92, M.B.A., Senior Vice President, Finance Programming and Ad Sales, ESPN
- David Grimaldi, '79 (CLAS), curator of invertebrate zoology for the Museum of Natural History
- Ned Kahn, '82 (CANR), prominent sculptor and scientist

- Robert Kaplan, '73 (CLAS), correspondent for *Atlantic Monthly* and best-selling author
- Wally Lamb '72 (CLAS) '77 M.A., best-selling author and recipient of a Connecticut Governor's Arts Award, a National Endowment for the Arts grant for fiction, and a Missouri Review William Peden Fiction Prize
- David M. Lee, '55, M.S., 1996 co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics
- Rebecca Lobo-Rushin, '95 (CLAS), leader of UConn's 1995 NCAA championship basketball team and member of the 1996 gold medal-winning U.S. Women's Olympic Basketball Team, as well as one of the first professional female basketball players in the WNBA; currently a television analyst for college basketball and member of the University's Board of Trustees
- Michael Maslin, '76 (SFA), cartoonist for *The New Yorker*
- Richard Mastracchio, '82 (ENG), mission specialist for NASA who has flown space shuttle missions in September 2000 and August 2007
- Anita Bevacqua McBride, '81 (CLAS), Assistant to the President of the United States and Chief of Staff for the First Lady
- Brett H. McGurk, '96 (CLAS), Director for Iraq, National Security Council
- Chris Murphy, '02, J.D., U.S. Congressman for Connecticut's 5th Congressional District
- Kathleen Murphy, '87, J.D., CEO of ING's U.S. Wealth Management
- Emeka Okafor, '04 (BUS), 2003-2004 National Player of the Year for the NCAA champion UConn basketball team, member of the 2004 U.S. Olympic Team, NBA Charlotte Bobcats player, and contributor of a \$250,000 gift to the Neag School of Education's Husky Sport Program
- Les Payne, '64 (CLAS), associate managing editor and syndicated columnist for *Newsday* and a Pulitzer Prize Award recipient
- Joseph W. Polisi, '69 (CLAS), President of the Julliard School of Music
- Narissa Ramdhani, '90, M.A., CEO of the Ifa Lethu Foundation in South Africa
- Stuart Rothenberg, '78, Ph.D., political analyst for NBC, Roll Call, and The Rothenberg Political Report
- Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D., '73 (CLAS), director of the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center, immediate past president of the American Cancer society and a member of the National Cancer Advisory board

- Harriet Sanford, '70, M.P.A., President and CEO of the NEA Foundation
- Paige Turco, '88 (SFA), television and film actress
- John Yearwood, '86 (CLAS), world editor of *The Miami Herald*
- Dona D. Young, '80, J.D., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Phoenix Companies, Inc.

Notable Faculty

Notable University of Connecticut faculty include:

- Lawrence Armstrong, Ph.D., professor of kinesiology in the Neag School of Education with joint appointments in the Department of Nutritional Sciences and the Department of Physiology and Neurobiology. As author of two books, several book chapters, and numerous scholarly research articles, his areas of expertise include exercise and nutrition, exercise and heat, and sports drinks.
- Yaakov Bar-Shalom, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor and Marianne E. Klewin Professor in Engineering. A fellow in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), he develops computer algorithms to track objects. His work has been used in Boston by Logan Airport's ground traffic monitoring system, by the U. S. Navy, and in Israeli and U.S. missile defense systems.
- Regina Barreca, Ph.D., professor of English, author, and an expert on women's writing and feminist theory and 20th-century British literature.
- Robert Birge, Ph.D., Harold S. Schwenk Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, whose research, focused on molecular biophysics and molecular electronics, may one day have applications in artificial intelligence, data storage, and biomolecular electronic devices, such as an artificial retina.
- Mark H. Brand, Ph.D., professor of ornamental horticulture and co-chair of the University's Arboretum Committee. Brand has developed and propagated a new variety of ornamental grass that has been patented and licensed to two separate ornamental breeder plant companies for wholesale production.
- Ann Bucklin, Ph.D., professor and director of marine sciences, leads an international research project conducting a census of zooplankton in the world's oceans.
- Janine Caira, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in ecology and evolutionary biology and the 2003 UConn Alumni Association Distinguished Professor.

- Daniel Civco, Ph.D., professor of natural resources management and director of the Center for Land Use Education and Research, which provides information, education, and assistance to land use decision makers, in support of balancing growth and natural resource protection.

- Craig Coleman, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice and an expert in pharmacoeconomics.

- Ronald W. Cotterill, Ph.D., professor of agricultural and resource economics, director of the Food Policy Marketing Center, which conducts research on food and agricultural marketing and related policy questions in order to provide information that can contribute to improved performance of the food production and marketing system. Cotterill also was the 2005 recipient of UConn Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award in Research in Humanities.

- Roy Goodwin D'Andrade, Ph.D., professor of anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. His research interests are cognitive anthropology, quantitative methods, and American culture.

- Kenneth Dautrich, Ph.D., associate professor in the department of public policy, author of numerous books on elections, public opinion and voting, and founder and former director of the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut. He also has directed a number of national polls on voting in presidential elections, including a series of polls for TIME Magazine on the 2004 and 2008 presidential elections.

- John DeWolf, Ph.D., professor of civil and environmental engineering, has spent more than two decades monitoring the performance, wear and safety of bridges throughout the state of Connecticut. His latest studies involve low-maintenance solar-powered remote sensors.

- Deborah Fein, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has received more than \$1 million in research grants from the National Institutes of Health to conduct research into autism in children.

- Jeffrey D. Fisher, Ph.D., director and principal investigator of the Center for HIV Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) and professor of psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He has been awarded four major HIV risk reduction grants since 1989, totaling more than \$8 million, and was named to the Center for Disease Control's AIDS education programs evaluation committee.

- Kenneth Fuchs, Ph.D., Head of the Department of Music in the School of Fine Arts, has received numerous awards and honors for his music, including the Charles E. Ives Scholarship from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, grants from Meet the Composer, the ASCAP Foundation, the American Bandmasters Association, and residencies at The MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, and the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation of New

Mexico. He is a prolific composer whose pieces have been performed by the New York Philharmonic, the London Symphony Orchestra, and the American String Quartet.

- Jon Goldberg, Ph.D., director of the Center for Biomaterials at the Health Center and the inventor – with colleague Charles Burstone – of FibreKor, a composite material named one of 25 innovations that changed the world by the Association of University Technology managers, professionals who work to commercialize research for the public good. The material, which is used in dental bridges, crowns, splints, and posts, has exceptional strength and cosmetic qualities.

- Robert Gross, Ph.D., the Shirley and James Draper Chair in Early American History. His first book on the American Revolution, *The Minutemen and Their World*, published in 1976, won the Bancroft Prize in American History.

- Kent E. Holsinger, Ph.D., professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and adjunct professor in the department of statistics. He also was the 2007 recipient of the UConn Alumni Association Faculty Award for Research Excellence in Sciences.

- V. Kumar, Ph.D., ING Chair Professor of Marketing and Executive Director, ING Center for Financial Services, in the School of Business. His pioneering research has been widely published and has been recognized as one of the top scholars in marketing worldwide.

- Leslie Loew, Ph.D., director of the Center for Cell Analysis and Modeling at the Health Center and a professor of cell biology and computer science and engineering. He has developed voltage sensitive fluorescent dyes capable of recording the electrical activity of the cell membrane. He has also developed innovations in microscope imaging to detect the optical signals from the dyes and helped upgrade computers to handle massive calculations for modeling and simulating cellular processes.

- Joseph J. LoTurco, Ph.D., professor of physiology and neurobiology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and principal investigator in embryonic stem cell research project funded by the state of Connecticut.

- Ronald L. Mallet, Ph.D., professor of physics and author. Mallet's innovative research, based on Einstein's theories, is focused on time travel and the creation of a time travel machine.

- Harris Marcus, Ph.D., professor of materials science and engineering, director of UConn's Institute of Materials Science since 1995, and an advocate for furthering nanotechnology research at the University. Marcus has co-written one book, co-edited 18 books and proceedings, has 25 patents and has published more than 300 papers on a wide range of research topics.

- Sally McBrearty, Ph.D., professor of anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a major Old World archaeologist. In 2004, McBrearty found the world's first fossil evidence of chimpanzees.

- Patricia McCoy, J.D., professor of law and one of the nation's foremost experts on the law governing the provision of financial services. McCoy is the author of two books and numerous articles on predatory lending, bank director liability, post-socialist business law reforms, corporate governance, and global convergence in banking.

- Akiko Nishiyama, Ph.D., associate professor of physiology and neurobiology, serves as the principal investigator in a project focused on stem cell research funded by the state of Connecticut.

- Nejat Olgaç, D.Sc., professor of mechanical engineering and director of the University's Advanced Laboratory for Automation, Robotics and Manufacturing (ALARM) Lab. Olgaç and his research team have devised a microscopic device that can transfer genetic material into cells with greater accuracy and effectiveness than ever before achieved. This breakthrough microinjection method – made possible through nanotechnology – has enormous implications for the future of many medical fields, including stem cell research and in vitro fertilization.

- Amii Omara-Otunnu, Ph.D., professor of history, and holder of the first and only UNESCO chair in human rights in the United States.

- Rachel O'Neill, Ph.D., associate professor of molecular and cell biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, studies the evolution of the chromosome and comparative genomics. Her work provides models for studying epilepsy, placental defects, cancer metastasis, and evolutionary development.

- Fotios Papadimitrakopoulos, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, a leader at the University in nanotechnology research. Among his studies is a project focused on developing an implantable, wireless glucose sensor that will monitor blood glucose levels in real time for patients with diabetes.

- Richard Parnas, Ph.D., associate professor of chemical engineering and director of the University's chemical engineering program. Parnas also is member of the Polymer Program in the Institute of Materials Science and the director of the University's Biofuel Consortium, for which he has been recognized for his efforts to reduce the CO₂ footprint of the University and position UConn in the forefront of sustainable energy development.

- Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, Ph.D., professor of nutritional sciences and an internationally recognized scholar in the areas of domestic and international community nutrition. He also serves as principal investigator and director of the Connecticut Center of Excellence for Eliminating Health Disparities among Latinos, which seeks to contribute to the elimination of health disparities among Latino(a)s through the formation of human resources, community-based research, and culturally appropriate outreach/extension.

- Michael J. Pikal, Ph.D., professor of pharmaceutical sciences and the first Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology. A nationally recognized researcher, he is an authority on freeze-drying technology.
- Sally Reis, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor and Teaching Fellow in Educational Psychology, is one of the country's leading scholars in gifted education and talent development. The American Psychological Association has cited her as one of the 10 most influential psychologists in the world in the area of talent development and gifted children. Reis also has written or co-authored more than 200 publications relating to her research and belongs to an active research team that has generated more than \$35 million in grants and contracts in the Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development.
- Joseph S. Renzulli, Ed.D., Neag professor of Gifted Education and Talent Development and director of The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented as well as co-founder of Renzulli Learning Systems.
- David Rowe, M.D., professor of genetics and developmental biology, director of the Center for Regenerative Medicine at the UConn Health Center, and leading stem cell scientist.
- Margaret Rubega, Ph.D., associate professor of ecology and environmental biology and the Connecticut State Ornithologist.
- Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D., director of the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UConn Health Center, immediate past president of the American Cancer society, and a member of the National Cancer Advisory board.
- Alexander Shvartsman, Ph.D., professor of computer science and engineering, directs the Voting Technology Research (VoTeR) Center at UConn, which is helping to assess, for the state of Connecticut, the performance of new optical scanner voting technology and validate voter counts.
- Linda D. Strausbaugh, Ph.D., professor of molecular and cell biology and director of UConn's Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, a University-wide initiative to provide infrastructure support for research and training in genetics, genomics and bioinformatics.
- George Sugai, Ph.D., Neag Chair of Special Education, is renowned for the program he co-created, the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports system, designed to improve student achievement while fostering a safe school environment. He is director of the Neag Center for Behavioral Education Research and is co-director of the National Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, a federally funded research center that develops programs for more than 6,000 schools in 40 states to implement effective school-wide behavioral approaches.
- Steven Suib, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and head of the chemistry department. Suib, a specialist in

inorganic chemistry, conducts research involving the synthesis by molecular design of catalysts, surfaces, ceramics, adhesives and other materials.

- William Stwalley, Ph.D., professor of physics, an expert in the field of ultra-cold matter and recipient of the 2005 Connecticut Medal of Science, the state's top science award.

- Robert Thorson, professor of geology with a joint appointment between the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

- Jeff Volek, Ph.D., associate professor of kinesiology in the Neag School of Education. His areas of expertise include exercise and nutrition, weight loss and dieting, and low-carb diets.

- David L. Wagner, Ph.D., associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and director of the University's Center for Conservation and Biodiversity, which promotes research and training in the conservation of biodiversity on the local, national and international scene. Wagner is well-known for his involvement in invertebrate conservation.

- Walter Woodward, Ph.D., assistant professor of history and the Connecticut State Historian.

- Ren-He Xu, Ph.D., a developmental biologist at the UConn Health Center, an internationally known expert in the culture of human embryonic stem cells, and the director of UConn's new human embryonic stem cell core laboratory.

- Quing Zhu, Ph.D., professor of electrical and computer engineering. She is a pioneer in breast cancer detection and characterization whose novel detection device blends near-infrared light and ultrasound technologies for superior accuracy.