President James R. Roach & his wife, Dr. Denise Hogan, at the 2002 University Ball.

In September 2003, WCSU President James R. Roach announced that he will be retiring in July 2004. See story page 10
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Annual Fund Success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Alumni Friends &amp; Circle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Centennial Campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Estate Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Colonial Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>School of Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Alumni Entrepreneurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Alumni Profile: Michael Sauvageau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ancell School of Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- NSF Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Donation to Arts on the Quad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cover Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Dr. James R. Roach Retrospective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Timeline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>School of Professional Studies Alumni Honored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Phi Alpha Honor Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Music students &amp; alumni benefit from Yamaha partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Sports Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Colonial Fall Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Baseball Team Heads for Higher Temps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Men's Tennis Back in Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- WestConn's Softball Season Opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Women's Lacrosse back home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- McCarthy Named Men's Lacrosse Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Graduate programs continue to grow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- MFA writing program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Thinking of graduate school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Alumni Notes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correction: Peter Howland is a member of the Alumni Board - listed as Peter Howbel
“Reminiscing...”

In 1992, when Denise and I arrived at WestConn, we were warmly welcomed into a wonderful university community. This welcome has remained constant over the years and has been a great source of satisfaction to both of us.

On July 31, 2004, I will retire from Western Connecticut State University. At that time, I will have completed twelve years as President.

The university has made great strides academically in this past decade. The approval of the masters program in Justice Administration, the MFA in Visual Arts, the Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership, the affiliation with the Jane Goodall Institute and the National Center of the JGI Roots and Shoots program, and the academic possibilities available as a result of our affiliation with the Smithsonian Institution are some of the programs that have strengthened the university.

The university has seen wonderful physical changes as well. The Midtown campus has seen the addition of the parking garage, the Quad with walkways and the university gates, Warner Hall, Alumni Hall, and University Hall, along with million dollar renovations to the Student Center and Haas Library. The acquisition of Roberts Avenue School and the construction of the new science building and an additional parking garage will complete the transformation of the Midtown campus. On the Westside campus, the addition of Pinney Residence Hall, the Observatory and Planetarium, the new athletic stadium, and the construction of another residence hall and parking garage, a student center and a fine and performing arts building will completely transform Westside.

Danbury Normal School has evolved into Western Connecticut State University over the last 100 years. Few presidents have the opportunity to celebrate a Centennial. Last year's centennial celebration allowed us to see the strong role alumni play at this university. It was wonderful to see two and three generations of alumni return to campus to be honored for their accomplishments, to reenact traditions such as the Ruth Haas tea and to reconnect with faculty and friends. It was a time to discover the important role of the alumni in the development of the university and a time to forge plans for the future.

I am very grateful to the faculty, administration, staff, students, alumni, and members of the greater Danbury community whom I have come to know and respect for their support and encouragement in the tasks we have shared together.

As WestConn begins its second century of growth, Denise and I wish you continued success in taking the university to greater levels of academic excellence and alumni involvement.

Meet your Alumni Board

Dr. James R. Roach
University President

Alumni Board of Directors 2003- 2004, standing left to right: Dr. James R. Roach, WCSU President; Eric Wellman ’64, Leonard Genovese ’74; Jack Quinlan ’67 & ’93; Gordon Hallas ’90, Alumni Board President; Neil Wagner ’52; Amy Davis ’98; Virginia Crowley ’69 & ’74; Tom Crucitti ’89; seated left to right: Sharon Fusco ’67; Jan Marie Jagusch ’75 & ’81; Theresa Esherbach Ash ’64 & ’72; Kay Schreiber ’79. Not pictured: Richard Stabile ’89; Jeff Heyel ’90; Peter Howland ’88; and Mark Boughton ’95.
Alumni & Friends Circle in full bloom

Circle back after long, cold winter!

Now in its fifth year, the circle was created on the Midtown campus as a fundraising and campus beautification program for all to share. Several brick paths lead into the circle, making it highly visible to students, faculty, staff and campus visitors.

This spring, we will unveil something new - a dedication marker commemorating the circle. Donated by the WCSU Alumni Association, the marker will add a new dimension to the circle.

“The Alumni Association Board feels strongly that alumni are the heart of every university and our alumni are no exception. We also feel it is important to give back to the school that helped us prepare for our future lives with family, work and friends,” said Kay Schreiber, chair of the University Gifts Committee.

Each fall, the circle is rededicated to celebrate the growth of the circle and the breadth of the university. For more information or to receive a brochure about the Alumni & Friends Circle please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (203) 837-8298.

Gifts That Make a Difference

Alumni & Friends Circle in full bloom

Annual Fund Campaign

The Annual Fund supports many needs at WCSU - scholarships, academic programs, publications and the alumni association. One excellent example is this issue of Alumni News, paid for with Annual Fund gifts.

This year’s honorary chairs of the Annual Fund Campaign are Tom ’69 and Lois (Stefanelli) ’71 & ’97 Crucitti. Those who know them recognize their active involvement in the Alumni Association.

We were very busy this fall, planning the annual fund drive. In their capacity as co-chairs, Tom and Lois sent out annual fund letters which most of you may have received. Additionally, a number of WestConn students made phone calls to talk to you about the benefits of a contribution to the Annual Fund. It seems most of you appreciated the personal touch from the student phone calls and responded with a gift or pledge. Thanks for your feedback and your generous gifts!

If you are considering a gift, it’s not too late. Send your check, payable to the WCSU Foundation/Annual Fund 181 White Street, Danbury, CT 06810.

A HEARTY THANK YOU to all current and future donors!
Gifts That Make a Difference

Centennial Campaign
Exceeds $4 Million Goal!

On December 23, WestConn’s Centennial Campaign reached its $4 million goal when alumna Isabelle T. Farrington ’43 increased her contribution to $150,000. With her increased commitment, WestConn’s first capital fund drive totaled $4,134,652 in payments and pledges by year’s end.

“Christmas came two days early for WestConn in 2003,” said Richard J. Gerber, vice president for institutional advancement, in thanking Farrington for her generous increase.

Gerber said six of the top 13 campaign commitments were from the university’s wonderful alumni and their businesses. “Gifts of $100,000+, like those from Farrington, account for more than 45% of the total funds raised.”

Alumni played vital roles as members of the Campaign Committee, solicitors and planned gift donors as well, he said, adding that alumni responses to the campaign’s direct mail and phonathon efforts also exceeded expectations.

In sum, more than 90% of the funds raised by the Centennial Campaign benefit endowment programs for student scholarships in each of WestConn’s three schools, establishing a wide variety of new funds in faculty development and special projects.

A Centennial Campaign plaque will be unveiled and placed in a permanent campus location. A complete listing of campaign donors and beneficiaries will be published later this year.

Estate Planning

Thinking about creating or revising your will? Meeting with your financial advisor about other estate plans? When you do, please don’t forget to include us on your list of favorite charities.

If you would like some advice on estate planning, attend one of J. Michael Stuart’s free seminars hosted by WestConn. Later this year, Stuart will present another free seminar full of advice and without obligation. Assisted by attorney Jim Powers, he will cover major federal and state changes in tax law.

Give us a call if you would like more information or would like to be placed on the mailing list. You also may call WCSU Director of Institutional Advancement Michael Driscoll at (203) 837-8419 for confidential assistance.

Colonial Club

Are you a fan of WestConn athletics? Do you have a favorite team? If you answered “yes” to both questions, then join WestConn’s Colonial Club and be part of the “team behind the teams.”

What’s the Colonial Club? It’s the new donor recognition program for supporters of WestConn athletics. Just pick a team to receive your gift; or spread your generosity across the entire athletics department, the Athletic Hall of Fame or the athletics trainers.

The Colonial Club helps our athletics department prepare winners — in sports, in the classroom, and for a lifetime. Athletic competition is an integral part of university life for student-athletes — it’s also an exciting form of entertainment for our many fans.

All donations to the Colonial Club are welcome; however, a gift of $100 or more entitles you to full membership and benefits. To join, simply send a check, payable to the WCSU Foundation, with a notation in the memo section that it’s for the Colonial Club. Don’t forget to mention the team you wish to support.

For more information, call Michael Driscoll in the Office of Institutional Advancement at (203) 837-8419 or Athletics and Recreation Director Ed Farrington at (203) 837-9013.
Support the Arts and Sciences – We Need You!

What were you doing on Valentine’s Day? Hopefully, some of you were with us at the Westside Observatory and Planetarium marveling at the alignment of Venus, Mars and Saturn! What we also hope is that if you are interested in public education and/or astronomy, and especially if you’ve worked with telescopes, planetariums or museums, we would like to invite you to consider volunteering at the WCSU Observatory and Planetarium. We had such a wonderful time this past August with the Earth’s “close encounter” with Mars. Over one thousand people came to look through our telescopes into the night sky. Thinking about it further, we realize it would be even more fun to have some of you work with us on these public events. If you are interested in learning more about becoming an Observatory Volunteer, please contact Dr. Dennis Dawson at (203) 837-8671 or email at dawsond@wcsu.edu.

In March, the theatre program produced William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night, a comedy about disguised and deceptive love. The Alumni Dinner Theatre was a marvelous opportunity to get friends together for great food and wonderful production. If you are interested in helping with a future production in some way and becoming a Theatre Volunteer, please let us know by calling Professor Frank Herbert at (203) 837-8253 or emailing at herbert@wcsu.edu.

I also want to mention our new debate team, the Roger Sherman Debate Society. The team was formed in the fall semester, 2003 and already they have moved out in front of many of the long-standing, 100 well-established university teams. Of the 165 debate teams across the country nearly 100 become official ADA members. WCSU is #51. Bravo team! If you are a former debater and want to help out with your time and expertise or funding (they really need help!), become a Debate Society Volunteer and contact Dr. Chris Kukk at (203) 837-8257 or email at kukkc@wcsu.edu.

Alumni Entrepreneurs on Danbury Main Street

Like most things in life, you get out of your college experience pretty much what you put into it. The friendships you make can slowly fade away … or they can become rewarding lifelong relationships.

WestConn alumni Jeffrey Heyel ’90; Peter Howland, ’88; Paul Finnerty, ’90; and Frank Forzano, ’93, have taken that concept on step farther — in addition to being friends, they’re also business partners. Heyel is an attorney practicing

WestConn graduate turns playful pastime into profession

Ten years ago, Danbury native Michael Sauvageau graduated from WestConn with a communications and theatre arts (CTA) degree and a passion for a hobby he calls sphereplay. Some call it contact juggling; others say it’s Hakey Sack for the hands. Regardless of what it’s called, sphereplay is an art form involving the manipulation of round objects that can be traced back to ancient China; yet becomes innovative and unique in the hands of each new enthusiast.

Sauvageau’s goal is to introduce this skill to as many people as possible via live performances, instructional videos and a presence on the Web. Current CTA students Chris Lombardi of Stratford and Kevin Munn of Bristol, both juniors, assisted him in that endeavor recently when they volunteered their time during the intercession break to man the cameras for an instructional video Sauvageau plans to market through his New Hampshire-based company, TryOut Toys Entertainment.

For about a week after Christmas, the Reimold Student Theater in Berkshire Hall was transformed into a video production studio. There, a cast of experienced sphereplayers from across the country demonstrated their skills while the cameras rolled. More than 100 hours of combined footage will be edited down to a double-DVD running at least three hours. In addition to the valuable filmmaking experience, Lombardi and Munn will receive videographer credits.

This is Sauvageau’s second instructional video. His first, “Sphereplay—Art of the Sphere,” was professionally shot, edited and produced. This time, he pitched the project to WestConn’s CTA department’s Professor Bill Walton,
Peter Howland ’88 and Jeffrey Heyel ’90 in front of their historic revolutionary war building at 68 Main Street in Danbury.

in the areas of employment, disability, sexual harassment and divorce law. He also is co-owner of Hire-essentials, a Danbury-based healthcare recruitment and consulting firm, Howland, an award-winning writer, is director of marketing services at an advertising and marketing firm in Newtown. Finnerty is a director and plant manager for a food processing company in Nashville, Tenn., and Forzano is a senior clerk with the Connecticut State Senate, as well as a licensed realtor.

These four alumni have pooled their talents — and finances — to purchase a historic post-Revolutionary War building at 68 Main Street in Danbury. Their shared vision is to make improvements to the structure and rent office space to other professionals, especially those with a WestConn connection.

Heyel and Howland recently took a break from the refurbishing to reflect on some history: both their own, and that of the building, which served as a saddlery in the early 1800s.

“We enjoyed our WestConn experience tremendously,” Howland said, “especially the time we spent working and socializing at the campus newspaper, The Echo. We’ve spent a great part of our lives here, in downtown Danbury, and we derive many benefits from keeping a positive connection to WestConn.”

“Home is where the heart is,” Heyel added. “My heart has always been with WestConn, so now it’s nice to give something back.”

What these alumni are giving back is a discount to WestConn graduates who rent office space in the building or utilize the services of the tenants at 68 Main Street, many of whom also are alumni.

It’s networking — with a twist.

“Jeff learned of the availability of this building and saw a way to help some of his WestConn friends and classmates,” Howland said. “This even extends to other alums that we don’t know … yet.”

James Lamontagne ’88, a real estate, criminal, bankruptcy and civil litigation attorney, was the first to sign on. “Having an office here is fantastic,” Lamontagne said.

“It’s more comfortable and less stressful than being in a typical office building, and it’s great to be with friends and fellow WestConn graduates. My clients all say they much prefer doing business here.”

Looking ahead, Heyel and Howland are keeping their eyes open for another property to purchase and refurbish. They also plan to offer “virtual offices” at 68 Main Street and elsewhere.

“Due to corporate downsizing, there are a lot of laid-off middle managers who are now consulting from their homes,” Heyel explained. “A ‘virtual office’ will give them a Main Street address, custom stationery, a phone line, Web site presence (www.68onmain.com), and shared use of a handicapped-accessible reception area and conference room — all at a significantly lower cost than renting actual office space in Danbury.”

The WestConn alumni discount will apply to the rental of a “virtual office,” as well, Howland said.

“Imagine,” Howland quipped, “we’re using an 18th century structure to conduct cutting-edge business.”

And they’re succeeding. With a little help from — and for — their friends.

who gave him invaluable support.

Besides its soothing properties, Sauvageau believes there are many potential practical applications for sphereplay, such as occupational therapy, training people to become ambidextrous and possibly reducing the symptoms caused by carpal tunnel syndrome. Acrylic balls in a range of diameters, weights and colors are manipulated through fingers, across palms, up and down arms and legs and torsos in a rhythmic motion Sauvageau likens to gear theory. It’s athletic and requires practice, patience and discipline; yet it also resembles yoga or a form of dance.

“It’s something I love to do and I’m making a living at it,” Sauvageau said, smiling.
Spring at the Ancell School

In an effort to introduce you to our many talented students, this edition’s column focuses on some recent student achievements.

Last semester, Management Information Systems Professor Dr. Marie Wright worked with the Connecticut Information Systems Security Association (CTISSA) to create and fund scholarships in information security management for MIS students. The four students who benefited from the partnership and received the scholarships are Vincent Ierace, Erin Mikkelsen, Ashley Gular, and Ellen Murphy. The CTISSA has expressed an interest in forming a partnership with the MIS Department to fund undergraduate educational opportunities in the information security field. This will help increase the supply of highly trained information security professionals in Connecticut.

Another student, accounting major Sidrah Wahidy, received a scholarship and an internship opportunity from computer chip manufacturer, ATMI Corporation of Danbury. This is a result of a newly created ATMI scholarship fund. The Ancell School’s student advisory board is currently working on projects that involve Ancell alumni, local corporations, and student clubs. Students in the club are contacting alumni to assist with projects and also to serve as mentors. It is my hope that when you are approached, you will take advantage of this rewarding opportunity to interact with our current students.

Several of our MBA students have started an investment club to practice and learn the concepts related to stock selection and analysis, financial planning, and portfolio construction. Club members recently determined the value of Starbucks stock and would welcome the help of alumni in the financial service industry with further projects. Please contact the club president at wesunvestelab@aol.com if you would like to help our students with this exciting project.

These are just a few of the initiatives involving our students. If you would like to know more, please contact me at mortona@wesu.edu or call 203-837-9600.

WestConn nets NSF grant for Information Assurance

In September 2002, the Connecticut Office for Workforce Competitiveness invited representatives of regional colleges and universities to a meeting to discuss the integrity of key information technology (IT) systems within the state.

As a result of that meeting and the subsequent efforts of WestConn Management Information Systems Professor Dr. Marie Wright and Chair and Associate Professor of Justice and Law Administration Dr. Michael Foley, WestConn has received a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to plan a Regional Advanced Technology Education Center for Information Systems Security. A primary goal of the center will be to meet the constantly increasing demand for highly trained IT professionals by offering certificate and degree programs, as well as professional development opportunities, in the information systems security field.

“There’s never been a more crucial need for our country to protect our critical infrastructure,” Wright explained. “A coordinated effort between government, business and academia is essential to protect critical infrastructure elements, such as the electrical power grid, water supply, oil and gas production and storage facilities, banking and financial institutions, telecommunications and transportation systems, from concerns such as terrorism.”

“The infrastructure is far-reaching; it’s not just about homeland security and national defense,” Foley said. “From a law enforcement perspective, investigations into identity theft, bank fraud and other crimes would not be possible without secure information systems technology.”

The NSF grant, one of only two awarded, will enable a coordination of efforts in the investigation and assessment of the information systems security needs of New England and, ultimately, the nation. Academic reform, professional development and technological workforce levels are among the areas that will be studied. WestConn was selected to administer the grant due to the university’s reputation in information security education.

Also participating in the research will be the Connecticut Community College System, community colleges in several New England states, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, regional school districts, the New England Board of Higher Education, the Connecticut Office for Workforce Competitiveness, and a number of major corporations including General Dynamics’ Electric Boat and Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company.

If successful, the team will be able to demonstrate the necessity for — and feasibility of — making the proposed Advanced Technology Education Center a reality.

Foley, who has assumed the role of lead investigator in the project, traveled to Washington, D.C., in mid-October for the first of many planning meetings with the NSF team. At the end of October, the first meeting of institutions interested in participating in the planning project met at Springfield Technical Community College in Springfield, Mass. Present at the meeting were representatives...
As the unofficial “ambassador” for the international students of the late 80’s and early 90’s, Mohammed “Joe” Quaisar keeps WestConn alumni connected to the university and each other. The libraries at the University have always served as a hub for the global students, who congregate between classes and part-time jobs.

“During college, Joe’s work-study position at the Haas and Young libraries, combined with his ready smile and engaging personality, enabled him to make many friends from around the world. Joe laughed as he recalled “hanging out and making noise on the mezzanine at Haas library.”

Originally from India, Joe attended high school in Kuwait and junior college in Florida before moving to Danbury to join his extended family. He soon realized that WestConn was where he wanted to continue his education, drawn by “the decent class sizes and the attentive professors.” Joe recalls that his business professors were always ready “to encourage the good students and mentor the poor ones.” Friends who attended larger universities never received that personal attention. Joe especially remembers Professor Allen Morton for his ability to make difficult material understandable, and Professor John Butler, whose outside work experience with international companies led to great real-life examples in class.

While earning his bachelor degree in finance and marketing (1989) and his master’s in management (1991), Joe was determined to have a career in the apparel industry. A part-time job in Sears’ administrative offices gave him valuable experience, but he wasn’t prepared for the down-turn in the economy.

A family member offered Joe a job in his medical equipment business, where Joe has now attained the position of Vice-President. The company sells medical equipment and supplies for home health care.

A dedicated alumnus, Joe maintains his ties to the University. Joe’s company is a sponsor for Arts on the Quad, a large art show scheduled for fall 2004 on the Midtown campus. And, every summer, the Quaisars host a picnic reunion for international alumni, which draws friends originating from Turkey, Colombia, Hong Kong, China, Korea, Canada, Taiwan, Finland and Norway - to name a few. Together they talk about good times at WestConn and the success they’ve shared due to their education.

Joe and his wife Saleha also keep busy with their three young children. Joe coaches his son’s soccer team and fits in exercise when his schedule allows.
President Roach Announces Retirement

by Dr. G. Korye Anim-Wright

Western Connecticut State University President James R. Roach on September 30 announced his retirement from the university, effective July 31, 2004. At that time, he will have completed 12 years as president.

“The past 11 years have been memorable ones, academically rewarding and personally fulfilling,” Dr. Roach wrote in his retirement letter to the campus community. “Western Connecticut State University has made great strides in the past decade, and I have been privileged to be part of its growth and development.”

Connecticut State University (CSU) System Chancellor Dr. William Cibes described Roach as a “distinguished leader.”

“His focus on scholarship has been particularly appropriate for WestConn,” Cibes said. “He will be remembered for continuing WestConn’s tradition of excellent faculty, students and academic programs, and also for guiding the university during a time of record enrollment and unprecedented development of campus facilities designed to improve the learning experience.”

WestConn has experienced unparalleled infrastructure growth and program development since Roach took over as president in 1992. He is credited with the more than $100 million in campus construction projects that have rejuvenated and transformed both campuses during his tenure. The development of new academic programs that have contributed to and strengthened the university’s offerings also are attributed to him.

“When I arrived at WestConn, the university was just about to embark on a very significant renovation and building program,” Roach said. “With support from the CSU System Office and the Governor’s Office, we have really changed both the Midtown and Westside campuses.”

Some of the significant construction projects under Roach’s oversight include the $13.5-million addition and modernization of the Ruth Haas Library; the $6.6-million renovation of the Student Center; construction of Pinney Hall, a $22-million, 425-bed residence hall on the Westside campus; a $41-million science building to be completed by fall 2005; and a new $5.2-million Athletics Complex that handles all field sports, including football, lacrosse, soccer and field hockey. A multipurpose recreational field and eight tennis courts, all located on the Westside campus, also are new: Additionally, the university installed 100 lights and planted more than 150 trees on the Midtown campus to create a Quadrangle. The new and refurbished buildings, trees, walkways, and lights all have contributed to a complete transformation of both campuses.

“There is no doubt the Midtown campus was in very great need of restoration, and WestConn recently acquired the Roberts Avenue Elementary School. Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton ’95 signs the papers approving the acquisition papers as Dr. Roach looks on.
for the past 10 years, we’ve embarked on an extensive renovation of Midtown. The result is the establishment of a college campus, where everyone feels the campus spirit,” Roach said.

While work was progressing on the construction of capital projects, there also was significant progress and change in the academic area. For Roach, it was crucial to grow the university academically.

“It was important for me to continue to strengthen the academic programs and meet the needs of the citizens of Connecticut while the campus construction was going on,” Roach said.

Under Roach’s guidance, the university has added many new programs and made useful academic changes.

“We changed some courses, rearranged others, closed some and added new ones,” Roach explained. “In essence, we’ve streamlined, strengthened, and added to undergraduate and graduate programs.”

New programs include the university’s first doctoral program, the Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts, a computer information security option for undergraduates, and a certificate program in Interdisciplinary Gerontological Studies. The university also now has a branch campus in Waterbury and offers courses there.

Chairman of the CSU Board of Trustees Lawrence D. McHugh credited Roach with the academic growth of the university.

“He’s an individual who really stresses the academic side — the academic programs and the importance of education,” McHugh said. “He’s been a very strong force in getting that message out.”

Roach said one of his greatest pleasures has been working with the faculty.

“It’s wonderful to provide the support faculty members need to enable them to do what they do best — teach,” Roach said. “That’s what academic leadership is all about — finding talented, creative and educated people, and turning them loose.”

All of this has led to an increase in the student body at WestConn — the enrollment is up by about 30 percent since 1992. The new dorm on the Westside campus also means the campus is more residential, which changes the campus environment.

“We’ve seen extensive growth in student enrollment,” Roach said. “This seems to be the culmination of more than 11 years of hard work.”

Roach is proud of the many accredited programs the university has, including the recent accreditation of the music department and the coveted American Chemical Society accreditation. Accreditation, Roach said, “guarantees excellence and assures that students are receiving a good education.”

“President Roach has done a great deal for this university,” said Executive Assistant to the President for Disability Services and Multicultural Affairs Barbara Barnwell. “There’s no doubt he will be greatly missed.” McHugh agreed. “I know he did a terrific job at WestConn in terms of the growth of the campus and the excellent faculty and staff,” McHugh said. “All he’s done has really moved the university forward. We will miss him.”

Dr. Roach with Jane Goodall in Africa this spring.

1998-1999
- Opening of Pinney Residence (WS)
- Opening of Warner Hall (MT)
- Not-for-profit “Executive Forum” established by Social Work Dept.
- WCSU selected to host NCAA D-III Final Four Women’s Basketball
- Roach appointed U.S. delegate from MUP to UN Higher Ed. Conference in Paris, France

1999-2000
- President’s Kill visits WCSU
- MFA in Art first offered
- Newly-renovated Haus Library reopens
- Quad/Pedestrian Mall completed (MT)
- WCSU Institute for Holistic Health Studies established
- Women’s Lacrosse team installed

2000-2001
- Hancock donates $1M
- “WestConn at Waterbury” opens at WCC campus
- WCSU Gate constructed (MT)
- Athletic Hall of Fame est.
- Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching est.
- Roach presents on financing higher education

2001-2002
- Day of Prayer for victims of Sept. 11, 2001
- Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership: WCSU’s first doctoral program approved
- WCSU hosts president of University ofTrade, Lodz, Poland
- WCSU establishes community-wide Centennial Committee

2002-2003
- Centennial Celebration begins; Janice authors centennial book
- $1M capital campaign initiated; Macrostilas’ pledge $1.1M
- WCSU named Smithsonian affiliate
- WCSU named national center for Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Center for the Study of Culture & Values est.
- Roach receives honorary degree from Bristow College

2003-2004
- Athletic stadium opens (WS)
- Planetarium at Observatory opens on Westside campus
- WCSU acquires Roberts Ave. Elementary School
- Construction begins on $34M science building (MT)
- Roach named honorary citizen: Delphi, Greece

Gordon Hallas ’90, President of the WCSU Alumni Association with Dr. Roach, Priscilla O’Harra Wallace and Tom Donahue (both ’62) at Homecoming ’02 halftime.
The School of Professional Studies is lucky to count you as friends and alumni. Over the years, you have generously supported us with your time and talent and support, and we are grateful for your lifelong connection to WestConn and our School. While the beauty of WestConn's Midtown and WestConn campuses is one of our greatest assets, WestConn is still best defined by the many ways in which its dedicated faculty engages energetic students. Through an unparalleled academic experience, our students continue to learn and grow in a supportive and challenging environment. In this issue of Alumni News, we want to recognize our outstanding alumni and current students.

Our students continue to amaze us with their accomplishments. Chile native Juan Mesa, a junior year music organ performance major, was featured in the American Organist's October 2003 issue. The article focused on his recent two recent wins: first prize in the 2003 George Markey Scholarship Competition sponsored by the Metropolitan NJ Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), and first place for Region I (New England) of the AGO/Quimbly Regional Competitions for young organists. Mr. Mesa has been invited to perform as part of an honors recital at the American Guild of Organists National Conference to be held in Los Angeles, CA in June 2004.

Under the leadership of student club officers Michaela Hoffman and Jessica Davis, the Education Club won first place in the 2003 Class Grant Awards for its Guiding Lights Program for fifth grade Danbury students and their families at the National Education Association's conference in New Orleans in June. Two of our MSN students have also distinguished themselves. Glynis Jordon, MSN '03, a faculty member at Mercy College, was awarded the 2003-04 Zeta Omega Schar's Award by the Zeta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau for her outstanding master's thesis on “The Lived Experience of Women Who Have Had Gynecologic Surgery.” And, thanks to a research grant funded by CT Burns Foundation, Sharon Makowski, MSN '03, conducted an outstanding master's thesis research on preventive burn program for toddlers. Makowski works in Bridgeport Hospital's Burn Unit, is an adjunct professor at St. Vincent's College of Nursing, and is a member of the American Burn Association's Education Committee. Her data will be shared with the CT Department of Health toward their development of a statewide preventive burn program for toddlers.

In May 2003, the School bid farewell to the following distinguished faculty who retired: John Devine (Education and Educational Psychology), Stephanie Golub (Nursing), Lawrence Huntley (Music and Music Education), and Jeannette Tedesco (Health Promotion and Exercise Sciences). In September 2003, we greeted the following new full-time faculty members: Daryle Brown (Nursing), Marjorie Callaghan (Music and Music Education), Edward Duncanson (Education and Educational Psychology), Ana Silverstein (Education and Educational Psychology), and Michael Wilson (Education and Educational Psychology).

Thanks for your continuing support. We hope to see many of you at our Spring 2004 events.

Dedicated faculty engage energetic students
Thanks to a placement program through Yamaha Corporation of America, WestConn’s music department recently received 10 Yamaha Professional Upright, Grand and Disklavier pianos for the 2003-04 academic year. The Yamaha College Piano Placement Program allows qualifying institutions to benefit from a wide range of assistance from Yamaha. The National Association of Schools of Music has adopted the program as a model for how similar programs might best be implemented.

“Students and faculty in the music department are thrilled about the Yamaha Pianos,” commented Dr. Russell Hirshfield, assistant professor of music. “These instruments greatly enhance the level of music making in our practice rooms, rehearsal halls, and performance spaces.”

As part of the program’s benefits, the WestConn community will have a chance to purchase these pianos at a significantly reduced price. The pianos will be available for sale at the end of the semester during a public sale on the Midtown Campus from Friday, June 4 through Sunday June 6. Yamaha’s local affiliate, Fry’s Westport-Fairfield Piano Corp., will conduct the sale and offer delivery, financing, and service. It is expected that the pianos will be in excellent condition for the sale. In addition to being impeccably maintained by the music department, each piano will carry a full 10-year Yamaha warranty.

In ensure that there is a wide selection of models and furniture styles from which to choose, Fry’s Pianos will bring additional inventory from its three Connecticut locations. These additional instruments also will be at similarly reduced prices. WestConn alumni, administrators, faculty and staff will receive an added 6% discount off the already substantially reduced prices during special pre-sale hours on Thursday, June 3, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

“ This program certainly is a prime example of the commitment of the Yamaha Corporation to supporting university music programs,” said Hirshfield.
Colonials Fall Season Outstanding!

The Colonials enjoyed an outstanding fall season with two programs capturing league championships and advancing to the NCAA Tournament. The five fall sports went 64-29-9, winning 69.2 percent of their games in 2003.

The women's volleyball team went 25-7, had its best record in 21 years and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The netters extended their win streak in the Little East Conference to 35 regular-season games and five straight league post-season titles. This past fall, Rich Myers’ team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the third time since making their fifth straight tournament appearance.

Sixteen-year veteran coach Wayne Mones led the Colonials to their third LEC championship and an automatic berth into the NCAA Tournament. WestConn has now made seven NCAA Tournament appearances since 1989. They went 14-5-5 overall and advanced to the NCAAs second round before falling to the # 3 team in the nation. Williams College defeated WestConn on a sudden death-victory penalty kicks after 110 minutes and a 1-1 tie.

For the seventh straight year, WestConn's women's soccer program won 13, or more, season games. Head Coach Joe Mingachos led the Colonials to a 13-6-4 season and third Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Tournament. The women's soccer team has appeared in a post-season tournament in seven of its last eight seasons.

The football team went 6-4 in Head Coach John Burrell's second season. Several Colonials earned league, regional and national All-Star honors in 2003. WestConn missed out on a trip to the ECAC Tournament after falling to Norwich University, 33-26 in overtime in the last week of the season.

Alex Aitchison's first season at the helm of the WCSU women's tennis program ended with a 6-4 record and third-place finish in the Little East Conference Championships. Aitchison also coaches the Colonials' men's tennis program during the spring.

Baseball Team Heading For Higher Temperatures...Twice

For seven days in February, the WestConn baseball team welcomed the higher temperatures in sunny Florida. The teams trip to Clearwater, FL had them playing eight games in six days. It all began when the Colonials embarked on the 2004 season Feb. 20, when they made their third-straight appearance in the Chowan Invitational in Murfreesboro, North Carolina.

The Colonials will opened their home schedule at Westside Field against archrival Keene State College at noon on April 3. Log on to the athletics homepage at www.wcsu.edu/sports for schedules and times.

WestConn Softball Season Opens

The Women's Softball team opened the 2004 season in the by-invitation only National Fastpitch Coaches Association Leadoff Classic in LaGrange, GA on March 12. They played a five-game schedule over three days against some of the highest-ranked teams in the nation. The 2004 NFCA Leadoff Classic featured teams which had to meet a rigorous criteria—the teams had to be ranked in the national Top 24, should have made an appearance in the NCAA Tournament and have registered one of the nation's highest winning percentage during the 2001 and 2002 softball seasons.

During the 2001 and 2002 stretch, the Colonials won 69 of 82 games (84%), appeared in two NCAA Tournaments, advanced to the Division III College World Series in 2002 and were consistently ranked among the nations best.

Women’s Lacrosse Back Home

WestConn's Women's Lacrosse team is entering its fifth season of Division III competition. The team has high hopes of advancing past their semifinal performance in the 2003 Little East Conference post-season tournament. A year ago, Head Coach Denna Stachelek Grasso led the Colonials to a 7-10 overall and 4-2 Little East Conference record.

With the construction of the Westside Athletics Complex last spring, the women's lacrosse team was forced to play its home games at nearby Danbury High School. It went a perfect 5-0 at its home away from home including a 16-8 victory over UMass Dartmouth in the first round of the LEC Tournament.
McCarthy named men’s lacrosse coach

Rick McCarthy, former head coach of Eastern Connecticut State University’s men’s lacrosse team, was named Head Coach of the newly formed Western Connecticut State University men’s lacrosse program.

“It’s very exciting to come in on the ground floor and to elevate the men’s lacrosse program at Western Connecticut State University,” stated McCarthy, who coached the team at Eastern since its inception as a varsity team in 1996 through 2002. “It is a thrill to devote my full energies to an institution like WestConn with an athletic programs that has such a tremendous reputation.”

With 35 years of coaching under his belt, McCarthy’s involvement in coaching mostly lacrosse and ice hockey began after his 1968 graduation from Yale University. His first job after graduation was serving as head freshman coach and assistant coach of the Bulldogs. He began his collegiate head-coaching career at Babson College in 1975. There, he compiled a 34-13 mark in four years, and took the Beavers to an NCAA Division II Tournament appearance in 1979.

During his seven seasons at Eastern, McCarthy posted a lofty 91-19 record. He was a three-time conference coach of the year, and served as co-coach of the North squad at the 2002 STX/USILA North-South Division III senior all-star game, the showcase of Division III talent in the nation.

Last spring, McCarthy was an Assistant Coach at Wesleyan College where he led the Cardinals to an 11-5 win and helped them advance to the NESCAC semi-finals during the 2003 campaign. He coached in the New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (NEILA) East-West senior all-star game in 1996 and served as its president in 2002.

McCarthy has been a member of the Division III men's lacrosse national poll committee, the weekly NEILA rating board, the ECAC Division III men's lacrosse advisory board and the USILA All-America advisory board.

More class notes on page 18
Dr. Ellen Durnin
Dean
Graduate &
External
Programs
including WestConn
at Waterbury

Graduate Programs Continue to Grow

WestConn’s graduate students continue to break new ground and represent the university and their respective fields in a positive and professional manner.

The first cohort of students in the Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership program (see photo) kicked off their program with an orientation session in October and a doctoral seminar led by Dr. Dennis Shirley of Boston College in November 2003.

Our doctoral students have completed their first course, Leadership Assessment and Development, with Dr. Marcia Delcourt, and currently are studying Team Building with Drs. Aram Aslanian and Michael Gilles.

Upcoming courses this summer will address foundations of instructional leadership, emerging technologies, and state and national policy and educational reform.

WestConn’s English department faculty received approval from the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to offer a new Masters of Fine Arts in Writing program, which will commence in Fall 2005. This low-residency program was designed to address the needs of the professional writer, and will utilize guided self-designed courses, mentor-guided writing, and online multi-genre workshops. Visiting writers will serve as mentors and faculty members, and will provide intensive artist-in-residence workshops where students will receive individual and group mentoring.

M.F.A. in Professional Writing combines creativity with practicality

By Sherri Hill

According to English department faculty members Drs. John Briggs, Edward Hagan, Oscar De Los Santos and James Scrimgeour, “The reality of most professional writers in today’s society is that they need to be able to cross writing genres in order to express their creative insights and put food on the table.

To accomplish both usually requires proficiency in more than one type of writing.”

With that reality in mind, WestConn recently requested and was granted a license by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to offer a multidisciplinary, low-residency, distance-learning program that will culminate in an M.F.A. in Professional Writing.

The program will meet the needs of professionals who, in most cases, are already working in a writing field. It will enable them to acquire and demonstrate professional-level proficiency in both the creative and practical writing genres.

Research has indicated the demand for such a program. Only seven M.F.A. programs in professional writing exist among New England’s 242 colleges and universities; and in Connecticut, only Yale University offers an M.F.A. degree in professional writing but limits the focus to playwriting.

None of the existing programs combine the “creative” and “practical” components inherent in WestConn’s curriculum. This two-sided approach incorporates recent neurological research indicating that creative-emotional thinking and rational-logical thinking are closely related.

A national search is underway for the program’s coordinator. The first students will be enrolled in 2005.

“The plan is to have the M.F.A. coordinator on-board by this summer so he or she will have a year to facilitate the seminars and details of the program,” De Los Santos said. “We want the coordinator to bring his or her vision and his or her own contacts in the publishing field into the mix.”

Thinking of attending graduate school?

WestConn provides high-quality, affordable and conveniently scheduled programs in the arts and sciences, business, and professional studies. Each program is led by a graduate coordinator, who provides academic advisement to students. For further information, contact the Division of Graduate Studies and External Programs at (203) 837-8244 or online at www.wcsu.edu/graduate.
The WCSU Alumni Association offers its active members the lowest rate available for membership to the Smithsonian Institution. As the Smithsonian Affiliate Membership, members receive the Smithsonian Magazine, 10% discount on purchases from the Smithsonian Catalogue & SmithsonianStore.com, discounts on shopping and dining at the Smithsonian, travel programs, study tours, access to the members-only website and much more.

Go to the WCSU Alumni Association website for more information and application materials.

www.wcsu.edu/alumni/Smithsonian

Not an active member of the Alumni Association? Receive your membership as a benefit of making an unrestricted donation to the WCSU Foundation for a minimum of $25 and you receive membership in the WCSUAA as a Thank You for your gift. The Alumni Association then provides you with another extensive set of benefits and discounts. A win-win for your and your family for an entire year!

---

**Smithsonian Affiliate Program**

**Heading to Washington DC for your Summer Family Vacation?**

| May 1 | University Ball – Southbury Hilton |
| June 3 – 6 | Yamaha Piano Sales Event |
| June 5 | All Alumni Picnic on the Quad |
| June 18 | Roach Community Retirement Dinner |
| July 6 | Alumni Golf Outing – Watertown |
| July 19 | WCSU Alumni Day at Lake Compounce |
| August 1 | Yankees vs Baltimore |
| September 11 & 12 | Arts on the Quad |
| October 1 | Golden Circle Luncheon |

---

**Join the U-Save Program.**

Introduced the new WCSU Save card program! WCSU Alumni can now save on great goods and services. Just show your alumni membership card at these locations:

| Company | Address | Phone | Discount | Code 
|---------|---------|-------|----------|-------
| Molten Java | 102 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT 06801 | (203) 739-0313 | 10% off any order | 
| Plumtrees Animal Hospital | 65 Newtown Road, Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 748-8878 | 10% off any order | 
| Alaska Smokehouse | 21616 87th Avenue S.E., Woodinville, WA 98072 | (800) 422-0852 | 15% off all orders | 
| FTD | (800) Send-FTD, www.FTD.com/newcorporate | 15% off all orders (code #2578) | 
| Fair Honda | 102 Federal Road, Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 730-5699 | 15% off parts and service | 
| Powerhouse Gym | 71 Commerce Drive, Brookfield, CT 06804 | (203) 775-8548 | 10% off all regular memberships | 
| Carriage Limousine | 1432 Old Waterbury Road, Southbury, CT 06848 | (800) 782-0570 | 10% off all limo services | 
| Smithsonian Institution | Call the WestConn Alumni Office |
| | (203) 837-8290 | $20 individual membership (save $29) | 
| A Tax Center LLC | 10 Old Shelter Rock Road, Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 797-9785 | 5% off tax preparation services | 

If you know of a business that would like to participate in this program, please call (203) 837-8298.
70s
Ronald P. Blois BS ’71 made a workshop presentation at ATMNE’s Centennial Celebration in Manchester, NH in November. His topic was on Discrete Math in the elementary grades. Ronald’s daughter, Amanda, started as a freshman at WCSU last Fall.
Julius Adams BA ’73 wrote, “Well, I finally did it, changed careers to what I wanted to do when I graduated from WestConn. I am now a full time Music Teacher in a New York City elementary school. Having found no positions in 1973 (budget crisis, you know), I went into theater and then the media business. But circumstances, and a soul that could not be fulfilled in business, prevailed. In 2002 I started down the road to become licensed and wound up in a great K-5 school in Queens, NY. Thank you WestConn for putting me on the path many years ago that I have finally gone down. Tough to change but worth it. Say Hi to Frank Herbert and Harry Kathryn (Hill) BBA ’94, and Harry Colonis, New London, a daughter, Angela Mary, June 17, 2003.
Karim (Tyrian) BBA ’98 and Robert Miller, Tarrytown, NY, a son, Aiden Jiles, November 5, 2003
Scott Fawcett BBA ’88 and Dawn, Danbury, a son Adam Christopher, February 17, 2004.

80s
Ival Stratford-Kovner MS ’86, MFA ’02 and her Springer Spaniel Marley were walking back home in Dedham and were suddenly asked to appear on “The Practice” television show. Their “role” was to walk back and forth in front of the Superior Courthouse. Ival said, “We had fun and I don’t know exactly when the segment will appear - but we were immortalized on film. Actually, you can only see my nose since I had a large black fur hat on and a huge raccoon coat - but you can recognize a slightly aging (13 yrs old) Springer sniffing the ground while strolling by the Dedham Courthouse.”
Rebecca Glynn Holbrook BBA ’97 is currently performing in various theatrical productions in Southern New Hampshire.
Wesley Inman BS ’00 graduated from Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Nov 2000. Employed by the US Dept of Justice (Border Patrol, DEA and ATF) April 2001. Later in 2001 he was accepted by the Secret Service Uniformed Division.

Class of ???
Karim (Tyrian) BBA ’98 and Robert Miller, Tarrytown, NY, a son, Aiden Jiles, November 5, 2003
Scott Fawcett BBA ’88 and Dawn, Danbury, a son Adam Christopher, February 17, 2004.

Stay Current!

Name (maiden if applicable) Grad Year Spouse’s Name (maiden if applicable) Spouse’s Grad Year
Employer Spouse’s Employer
Address E-mail address
Information

Use additional paper if necessary. Please print or type and return to Alumni Office, WCSU, 181 White Street, Danbury, CT 06810. If you include photos, please also include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like them returned.

Yes! I want information about the Alumni Association Board and its volunteer committees.
Yes! I want to help organize an event in my area.
Yes! I would be interested in developing an internship site with my company.

More Class Notes

Summer Band and Jazz
for band instrumentalists grades 6-12
July 18 thru July 24, 2004
Application Deadline May 15, 2004

Summer Strings
for string instrumentalists grades 5-12
July 11 thru July 17, 2004
Application Deadline May 15, 2004

Summer Flute Institute
For high school students
July 25 thru July 30, 2004
Application Deadline June 1, 2004

Julius Baker Flute Master Classes
For professional and serious students of all ages
July 11 thru August 5, 2004
Application Deadline May 15, 2004
For more information please go to www.wcsu.edu/summermusic

$100 off tuition for children of WCSU Alumni

To apply, call (203) 837-8641, fax (203) 837-8650, or e-mail littmore@wcsu.edu and request a brochure.
181 White Street, Danbury, Connecticut
These selections are brought to you from a variety of University sources. Thanks to Peter Stumpf in the WCSU Bookstore and Richard Sullivan, Vice President for Finance & Administration for making this selection possible.

A. Adjustable Cap in Navy with WestConn Colonials logo in Copper stitching, $17.98 (Also in Youth size for $16.98, Toddler size with WestConn logo for $14.98)
B. T-shirt/Cap package (Grey T-shirt with WestConn logo on front, 90/10 Cotton/Polyester, Navy Cap with WestConn logo), $24.98, M-XXL
C. Hooded Sweatshirt in Navy or Grey or White with WestConn logo on front, 50/50 Cotton/Polyester, $34.99, S-XXL
D. Women's Zip-up Hooded Sweatshirt in Light Blue or Pink with WestConn logo on front, 80/20 Cotton/Polyester, $44.98, S-XL
E. T-shirt in Navy or Grey or Light Blue with WestConn logo on front, 100% Cotton, $14.98, S-XL
F. Crewneck sweatshirt in grey with Western Connecticut State University Alumni logo on front, 80/20 Cotton/Polyester, $39.98, S-XXL
G. Children's Navy Hooded or Grey Crewneck Sweatshirt with WestConn logo on front, 50/50 Cotton/Polyester, by Champion, $19.98, S-XXL
H. Children's T-shirt in Navy with WestConn logo on front, 100% Cotton, $14.98, S-XL
I. Diploma Frames: Regency or Gallery styles: $125, seal and school name gold embossed on black and gold museum double matting, (H3) Signature style frame: $150, 23K jewelry-quality medallion, black & gold museum double matting, gold embossed WCSU, cherry.
   (please specify H1, H2 or H3)
J. WCSU Boston Rocker or Standard Chair—Classic Maple & Black with engraved seal, $295
K. WCSU Afghan, Full Color, 5'x8', $50
L. WCSU Cat's Meow Collectible—an authentic, $19.99
   (Be sure to specify Fairfield Hall, White Hall or Old Main)

*Shipping Costs: $5 first item; $1 each additional item; chairs: $25; diploma frames: $10

Make checks payable to and send orders to:
WCSU Alumni Association, 181 White Street, Danbury, CT 06810.
Since the September Sept. 23 groundbreaking ceremony for WestConn’s new $38-million science building, construction has been moving along rapidly. Groundbreakers didn’t let a morning-long downpour dampen the celebration and the construction workers have not let the cold and snow slow them down either.

Also new to the campus is the Westside stadium, now being used by the Colonials

The new Westside residence hall is scheduled to open in September.