At the Smithsonian Institution, we discuss ‘Black History is American History: Presenting the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History’ on Sunday, Feb. 4, in Warner Hall on the Midtown campus. The talk will be free and the public is invited.

“This is a new model for us,” Franklin said about the museum, which celebrated the anniversary of its site selection at the end of January. “We’re not waiting for the building to be constructed for our work to start. We’ve already been traveling across the nation to talk about the museum, because the museum needs to present the American African experience not only over time, but also in the different parts of the country.”

During his talk, Franklin is expected to preview what the new museum will encompass in terms of its collections and programs. He said there are numerous repositories of African American biographical and historical memorabilia held currently in higher education, museum, research and professional institutions all across the country and “history is hidden in all these places.”

The challenge of the museum will be to represent the richness of the African American experience and share this complex story in Washington,” he said. “Our history is intertwined and overlapping.”

Before taking his current position, Franklin was program manager for the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage at the Smithsonian and curator for Smithsonian Folklife Festival programs about the Bahamas and Cape Verdean Culture. His work in these arenas has throughout the festival will be in the Student Center Theater on the Midtown campus. All screenings will be free and the public is invited.

Professor of Anthropology Dr. Rob Whittmore, who coordinates the annual festival, will lead an open discussion following the screenings.

This year’s series will feature three movies released in 2004 by directors in South Africa, Angola and Namibia, as well as a 2005 release from the west central African nation of Niger. Economic exploitation, civil and regional warfare, racial discrimination and political repression are recurring themes in the four films, offering an evocative, frank and sometimes whimsical African perspective on the continent’s crises and challenges during the past century.

“A BUILDING A BRIDGE TO IMPROVE STUDENT SUCCESS”

A collaborative project between Western Connecticut State University and area high schools

by Robert Taylor

“A BUILDING A BRIDGE TO IMPROVE STUDENT SUCCESS”

A collaborative project between Western Connecticut State University and area high schools

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WestConn’s successful collaboration with two local high schools to reduce the need for remedial instruction prompted a recent meeting of educators who vowed to change the American classroom.

David G. Carter, chancellor of the Connecticut State University (CSU) System, convened the meeting in the Ancell Midtown campus in December. Carter said he wanted to use WestConn’s program, called “Building a Bridge to Improve Student Success,” as a template. The four-year-
Got game? Murphy offers research perspectives

by Robert Taylor

Scanning the audience assembled for WestConn’s third annual Psychology Day, Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Shane Murphy reminded the students presenting their research findings that afternoon what they had accomplished.

“The day is a success,” Flanagan observed in her remarks introducing the morning poster presentations on Dec. 15 in Warner Hall. “The 49 students whom we celebrate today have all done genuine research work this semester. Some have finished their most valuable empirical work; some have gone into the community to reflect on psychology in the field; some have completed projects as their capstone research experience.”

The WestConn psychology department sponsored the annual fall research presentation as an opportunity for students in the curriculum to share their experience of designing, organizing, executing and analyzing the results of a psychology research project with the peers, their faculty instructors and the university community. Members of the faculty committee who planned the 2006 Psychology Day program included Flanagan, Professor of Psychology Dr. Norine Jalbert, Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Patricia O’Neill and Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Daniel Barrett.

Every student majoring in psychology at WestConn must complete at least one empirical research study, and fulfillment of this requirement marks “their entry into the world of scientific research,” Flanagan noted. “It’s important for everyone to do empirical research, to look at our assumptions and hidden biases and see what actually is, as opposed to what we hope is true,” she said. “The focus in these projects is on the research tools, and how to use these tools effectively.

Naturally, I hope that many of my students will go on to become scientific researchers for a career. But whatever these students go on to do in life, it’s useful for them to gain the capability to discern stereotypes and prejudices from realities.”

Psychology student Jennifer Maciasco, who conducted one of four projects featured in the oral presentations during Psychology Day, explained that she chose to investigate “Cooperation in a Public Good Dilemma” because the ability to balance self-interest with the common good holds important implications for resolving a wide array of policy issues. Such issues demand that individuals “function as a team, a society, a country or even a global community,” she said. Her study of how participation levels in charitable giving responded to differing levels of persuasion or punishment yielded inconclusive evidence that stronger leadership would result in more generous donations. But she noted the project had given her a deeper appreciation of the research process and refinements in methodology that would produce more statistically significant results.

Explaining her poster presentation on a study of reading comprehension, senior Melissa Ferrara described the task of designing and implementing a research project involving 30 student participants as a challenging but rewarding experience.

“It was a privilege to be able to work with other students and to have the opportunity to do a research study like this,” she said. Her research findings confirmed her hypothesis that readers would find it easier to comprehend scrambled words when they retained their correct first and last letters, she noted, “but I also found that a lot of people in the control group were looking for problems where there weren’t any.”

For nontraditional student Elizabeth Rudolph, who combines her bachelor’s degree studies in psychology with a full-time job as a human resources consultant to regional health care institutions, her study of multivariate therapy (MST) treatment of disorder cases offered another rewarding experience.

Psychology students take notes from poster displays outlining the methodology and results of research studies completed during the fall semester by 49 participants in WestConn’s third annual Psychology Day.

Psychology Day introduces empirical world

by Robert Taylor

Psychology students take notes from poster displays outlining the methodology and results of research studies completed during the fall semester by 49 participants in WestConn’s third annual Psychology Day.

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Managing Editor

Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Shane Murphy

For WestConn Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Shane Murphy, many of his best research ideas have come from his children. So it’s no surprise that their recent interest in interactive video games has inspired his father to begin exploring the psychological impact of these games on their youthful players.

Why study video games playing? Murphy asked an audience of about 100 students and faculty members in a fall semester “PsychMatters” faculty forum at the Student Center on the Midtown campus. “For psychologists, the interesting thing about these games is that they are social and interactive. They encourage, in fact, they demand a great deal of collaboration. Video games are a very big part of growing up today — they’ve become a part of the culture of adolescence.”

While most of the psychological research on video games to date has focused on the hypothesis that violent games promote aggressive real-life behavior among players, Murphy proposed a broader research framework that would explore not only their potentially harmful effects but also their possible social and behavioral benefits. “An exclusive focus on violent content overlooks the key factor in modern video game play — social interaction in an online environment.” Murphy said. “Instead of looking only at the effects of violent content, psychologists must realize what it is that players are learning from their participation in these environments. These possibilities include teamwork, leadership, cooperation, competition, conflict resolution and social skills, as well as the problem that some players may greatly over-invest their time in these environments.”

Murphy, an internationally recognized expert and author in the fields of health and sport psychology, suggested that many of the same factors that motivate individuals to participate in sports — skill development, accomplishment, the thrill of competition and the excitement of the game — also inspire video game players. The prestige and prize awards already accorded video game players in some Asian nations may be a precursor to the emergence of online games as “the new competitive sports of the 21st century,” he said.

The current generation of so-called “massively multiplayer online role-playing games” — exemplified by interactive games such as “World of Warcraft” that attract millions of subscribing players worldwide — typically bring together thousands of participants playing simultaneously in the same online game environment, Murphy noted. A report published in October by the Federation of American Scientists found that video and digital computer games can promote positive skills ranging from strategic thinking and resource management to multitasking and compromise.

“There’s a lot of learning going on within the game in terms of basic statistics and mathematical systems, managing complex relationships, and developing team-building leadership, negotiation and collaboration,” Murphy said.

February 2007
Music lovers can enjoy a trio of Mozart compositions while helping to create student scholarships when WestConn presents “An Afternoon of Mozart,” featuring a woodwind faculty from the university’s music department and the world-renowned Manhattan String Quartet (MSQ).

The benefit concert will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 11, in Ives Concert Hall on the Midtown campus. Tickets will be $15 for adults, and $10 for senior citizens and non-WestConn students. WestConn students with valid ID will be admitted free. To buy tickets, call (203) 877-8499 or visit www.wcsu.edu/tickets. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to the student scholarship fund.

The afternoon’s program will include Mozart’s Quartet for Flute and Strings in D major; Quartet for Oboe and Strings in F major; and Quartet for Flute and Strings in G major. Featured performers will be WestConn music faculty Dr. Jerry Walker, on flute; Dr. Mark Snyder, on oboe; and Jo-Anne Sterenberg, on clarinet, and the members of the MSQ: Eric Lewis, violin; Calvin Wiersma, violin; John Dickalty for alto; Chris Fadick, viola; Lewis also is a member of the WCSU music faculty.

Dr. Lewis also is a member of the WestConn’s Career Development Center. “Students who have been to Washington Center internships,” said Cwikla, “have taken advantage of Washington Center internships. The Washington Center provides placement, supervision, seminars and housing. Currently there is some funding available to subsidize costs for this program. The Washington Center may also offer some matching funds for housing costs. To qualify for an internship through the Washington Center, a student must have a minimum 2.75 GPA, although some companies may require higher GPA’s. Once a student is accepted for an internship, every effort will be made to match the student’s major and career ambitions with a job opportunity, said Tricia L. Martin, a recruiter for the Washington Center. ‘We work with students and their interests. Students drive their own experience.’”

Dr. Dan Golbe, chair of the music department, said the concert will provide the opportunity to showcase the university’s woodwind faculty as they perform with the MSQ. “This is one way we can raise awareness about the great teachers we have here.,” Golbe said. “Students don’t have to travel far and spend tens of thousands for a great education when we have such a fantastic faculty at WestConn.”

Examples of the level of musical ability of the faculty are abundant. Walker, a professor of flute, studied under — and has performed duets with — renowned flutist Julius Baker. She also has performed with the various woodwinds in the Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra, and she also performs with the Ives Orchestra, All New England Orchestra and several chamber groups. Walker, a Yamaha performing artist and clinician, directs the Julius Baker Master Classes and the National High School Flute Institute held annually at WCSU. In addition, she is coordinator for the WCSU music department, presented his New York recital debut to critical acclaim in 2002 at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in a prizewinner of the Artists International Competition. An instructor of oboe and English horn, Snyder also teaches double reed chamber music at the Children’s Orchestra Society, Manhasset, N.Y.; the Ridgewood Conservatory, Ridgewood, N.J.; and New York Youth Symphony for the United Nations. Sterenberg, an instructor of clarinet, is a member of the New York Woodwind Ensemble. She performs regularly with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, St. Luke’s Chamber Orchestra, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Musicians from Marlboro and New York Philharmonia. Sterenberg also works with fullilude’s graduate degree consortium and is on the faculty at Princeton University.

Lewis, a professor of violin at WestConn, was a principal founder of the MSQ at the Manhattan School of Music in 1968. Since then, the quartet has gained renown as a touring and recording ensemble for classical music lovers all over the world. Lewis also invests a great deal of time performing concerts for young people and working with children on the violin. “The MSQ has been committed to building a national string program at WestConn for the last 25 years,” Lewis said. “That commitment has included playing chamber music repertoire at WesConn, giving workshops, coaching string groups, guest lecturing, running a chamber music summer camp and teaching and speaking about WestConn’s music department with prospective string students during children’s concerts while on tour. This concert is the most recent manifestation of the quartet’s resolve to raise scholarship funds to bring more string students to WCSU.”

Golbe explained further. “Teaching is our No. 1 priority,” he said. “But equally important is the need to provide scholarships for musically talented students so we can attract the best students in the nation. When the MSQ ranks in the lowest five percentiles in ability to provide scholarships for music students who are graduating from schools of similar size and scope in the country. Said we’re still attracting significantly talented students. Imagine what we could do if we had scholarships to offer.”

Golbe added that one of his priorities is to build the university’s orchestra. A primary way to do that is through the offering of scholarships, he said. “The “Afternoon of Mozart” will provide music lovers the opportunity to help WestConn work toward that goal.”
Building a bridge to improve student success (cont’d.)

old project was developed by WestConn professors and teachers at Danbury and Bethel high schools who together developed classes and tested addressing remedial learning. As a result of their work, the number of seniors at the two high schools who need to take remedial math and English classes when they enroll at WestConn has dropped significantly.

“Using the Bridge program as a catalyst, Carter, in collaboration with President James W. Schmotzer, asked a number of education experts to discuss how to improve remedial learning that could be put in place at all of the four CTU schools.”

During the meeting, Carter pointed out that there is much in the American education system that needs fixing.

“…and it is morally right,” Carter said. “Now I say do it right because it’s economically important. And I am naive enough to believe that when you bring brilliant people together, focusing on a problem, we are able to transform a society.”

Dr. James P. Comer, the Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry at the Yale University Child Study Center, said WestConn’s “Bridge” program is an example of what all U.S. schools should be striving for.

“The Bridge program is a model for schools to work together to address the interest of the children.”

Comer described his program, which requires teams of adults to work together at the interest of the children.

“The Comer Program was first put into place in 1996 in a school that quickly closed the learning gap between poor and wealthier students. Now schools across the country are using the process.

“Members of the audience included local education business people and representatives of community groups.”

Dr. William Glass, associate supervisor of the Comer program, said Danbury schools, said Danbury and the surrounding towns have the resources to do more for children in local schools, but “we have a tremendous amount of work to do to connect the dots. All of us have some of the tools needed, but, “we have a tremendous amount of work to do in order to come together.”

Nonetheless, the consensus of the group was that it would be worth a try.

As Schmotzer said in opening the meeting, the problem is not to raise a child, but the university stands ready to do its part in the effort.

The public is invited to view the exhibit, which will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. On loan from the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia, the exhibit depicts key moments in the history of school desegregation since the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Brown v. Board of Education.

Mary Lauderdale, coordinator at the Black History Museum, said the traveling exhibit — part of a larger installation featured at the museum in 2004-05 for the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education — has traveled extensively throughout the Northeast except in Philadelphia.

“The exhibit helps you learn more about some of the background players in the movement whose names are not as recognizable but who inspired the key players like Thurgood Marshall,” Lauderdale said. “To see where we are today — 50 years later — and look back at the steps that were taken that led us here, is very moving.”

Professor of History Dr. Burton Peretti said there are many reasons why it’s important to study black history.

“When Negro History Week began in the 1920s, in much of the country African Americans were treated as second-class citizens and it was often denied that they had an important heritage,” Peretti said. “Today, the status of African Americans has improved, and the contribution of black people to the building of the United States is widely as acknowledged. These are reasons why Black History Month should continue to be observed.”

Diversity, recognizing racial inequality and debates about the causes of that inequality and its potential remedies also make black history very relevant. In addition, since the histories of other ethnic groups also deserve attention, Black History Month would facilitate the comparative study and evaluation of these groups.”

Some events for February 2005 include:

• Keynote address in celebration of South Africa’s national holiday in “The banality of evil” by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., delivered by Dr. Harry Hughey (see story on page 2). The public is invited to view the exhibit, which will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Also scheduled for the 11th Annual Festival of African Films (see story on page 1) and events sponsored by the

A student looks on as an Assistant Professor of Biological and Environmental Sciences Dr. Ruth Gyure talks about her work.
In the mid-1970s, when Marjorie Echols enrolled at WestConn, her intention was to take the necessary courses to convert her Registered Nurse degree into a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art. The decision was a “third career.”

“My first career was as a mother and my second was as a nurse,” Echols explained. “I thought I’d take electives in different areas where I could learn something new while working toward my B.S.N. degree. But I especially liked the art courses and I ended up being a member of the first graphic design graduating class at WestConn. I had a wonderful time learning this whole new thing!”

Echols’ “whole new thing” yielded a very successful third career working with contemporary Danbury artists at the Downtown studio, sympatizing with and favorites. But the community needs and priorities better and are more effective in external partnerships thanks to Gary’s contacts, wisdom and advice.”

In recent years, the family has contributed nearly $50,000 to create an endowed scholarship that will benefit graduating seniors from the city’s three high schools who wish to pursue a major offered by the Allied Health Department of Business. Students who qualify for the Gary, David and Ervie Hawley Family Endowed Scholarship will receive a scholarship of at least $1,000. They expect to begin offering scholarships to WestConn students in 2007-08.

Hawleys has built her professional legacy at WestConn over nearly 20 years, with stints as the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and associate vice president for Academic Affairs before she assumed the helm of the new School of Visual and Performing Arts in 2006. Yet Hawley has helped build the university’s future in many other ways. Schmotter said. “As the former president of Endicot College, she always has understood the importance of external support for higher education. Thus, her service as a member of the WCSU Foundation Board has been especially valuable.”

Even as she has worked to get others to offer financial support to the university, Hawley has been making gifts to WestConn throughout her tenure. “As soon as I knew about the WCSU Foundation, I wanted to do all I could,” she said. “I believe that concerned members of the larger community, together with students, faculty, staff, and alumni, make up the living university. They give their work, their talents, and often material support to help fulfill the university’s mission of education and service. I believe very strongly that we have a responsibility to provide access to education.” Hawley added. “The public colleges and universities are making the American dream accessible and available for people to achieve to their level of ability. If we believe we should have this kind of opportunity for the community, we should support it.”

To join the WestConn Society or get more information about the March luncheon, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at (203) 837-8298.
Tutoring Resource Center helps students excel

The WCSU Tutoring Resource Center is committed to working with students in any area or stage in their lives. That's why in late fall, the center held a workshop to help students excel during the hectic mid-term exam period, according to Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Jennifer Frederick at WestConn. Frederick explained that more than 50 students attended a talk on communicating professionally with their professors.

Students in attendance found the event to be useful and thought it would be particularly helpful for underclassmen. Frederick's talk was one of a series of workshops for freshmen and sophomores who still don’t quite understand what it takes to be a successful college student and maintain a social life.

The workshop helped give me perspective on communicating professionally with my professors,” said one student.

Many students come here and are not aware of how to balance their schedules,” said another student. “My goal is to help students balance their academics with their social affairs.”

The workshop was small, which helped students share dialogue and experiences openly, while listening effectively. "The section about collegiate communication was most helpful,” business major Daniel Elysee said. “The workshop helped give me perspective on communicating professionally with my professors.”

The Tutoring Resource Center is located in Room 104 of Berkshire Hall.

Excellence in Research Methodology winners named

The Certificate of Excellence in Research Methodology has, since 1989, been an intra-departmental award. It is given to students who demonstrate superior motivation, persistence and discipline in the demanding Research Methodology in Justice and Law Administration (JLA) course taught by JLA Professor Dr. David Machell.

This course helps students to become literate and critical analysts of the practitioner-oriented experimental design literature in the social science portion of the criminal justice/public administration fields, including statistical interpretation, and to become practiced in the technical writing of research through a sequential series of technical writing exercises.

The fall 2006 recipients are Dorothy Monaco, Yasmin Ortiz, Nicole Perry and Michele Piekos.

If you have an announcement about a recent accomplishment you’d like to share in this section, please e-mail the information to pr@wcssu.edu.

Congratulations!
Campus architect retired from WestConn for the second time

Donald Desteefano
by Dean Golombeski

Like the buildings he helped design and build, Don Desteefano never as an architect featured many interesting twists and turns. From assisting renowned architects Frank Lloyd Wright and Edward Durrell Stone, to running his own architectural firm, to helping redesign the WCSU campus, Desteefano also found a way to combine his creative interests with his work.

But these days, Desteefano is no longer focused on work and, instead, is refining his talents as a painter. That’s longer focused on work and, instead, is working on improving his skills and talents, and the university received a transformed and enhanced campus.

Rich Sullivan was vice president what work he gave me his confidence and let me feel like I could accomplish something here. He was always encouraging me, so it was a productive and enjoyable position.”

Desteefano considers his major accomplishment at WestConn to be the geographic and visual “unification” of the campus. When he first arrived, the Midtown campus was divided by Seventh Avenue and the area where the Quadr is now located was a parking lot. Administrators were considering abandoning Midtown in favor of the Westside campus, but that proved unsuccessful.

So Desteefano and others began working to make the downtown campus more traditional and appealing. The on-campus parking lot was eliminated and a parking garage was constructed across from Old Main on White Street. Part of Seventh Avenue was closed off, and Desteefano pushed for the university to acquire what is now Alumni Hall and Murphy shares gaming research (cont’d.)

observed. Role-playing games are designed specifically for “social play” involving large numbers of online participants, and frequently require players to form alliances to achieve goals together that they would be unable to accomplish alone.

“Usually, what’s needed in these cooperative endeavors is a real leadership,” he said. “Somebody has to step up and get everybody to act on the same page, or else everybody fails.”

Given the dearth of research on the psychology of participants in sophisticated online game play on its participants — especially children and pre-college adolescents — Murphy urged a broad-based initiative to conduct new studies exploring such questions as participant motivation, pro-social qualities of game play, and the effects of game participation on moral development and aggressive behavior. He also recognized a need for more extensive psychological investigation of potentially harmful effects such as the stereotypical, physical addiction.

“One of the things that makes these games potentially addictive, and certainly addictive, is the ‘social’ element,” he said. “There’s a constant progression. As soon as you reach one goal, there is always another challenge to meet.” A recent study indicated that virtual game participants average roughly the same amount of time per week at online play as American households spend on television viewing — and more than half reported having played for continuous periods of 10 hours or more.

Murphy currently is investigating research funding to launch a study next year comparing the psychological factors that motivate individuals to participate in sports and in online video games. He emphasized the need for psychologists to gain a more comprehensive understanding of this field given the significant influence of online role-playing games on the rapidly expanding range of participants.

“People who play these games are investing a part of themselves in this online environment,” he observed. “The way to conduct research in this area is to recognize this is not ‘make-believe’ — it is a real environment that has real effects on players.”

Psychology Day (cont’d.)

opportunity to explore human behavior: “I got started in this program because I was spending so much time doing discussions and counseling, it just made sense to go back to school and study psychology,” Rudolph said. “I had this NEST strategy of mobilizing simultaneous and comprehensive team intervention to address conduct disorders that was based on similar outcome-oriented strategies to resolve problems in the corporate environment. “A number of subjects investigated by student researchers underscored the far-reaching scope of psychological questions that can be explored through empirical studies, ranging from the effect of background television exposure on children required for completion of class assignments, to the relationship between altruistic behavior and perception of physical disability. As presentations wrapped up for the day, O’Neill noted the enthusiastic response of students and faculty made the event “a real success.”

“I think it’s extremely important for our [WCSU] STEM students to see this sort of research being explored in a university setting where they are presenting their work, in posters, PowerPoint and oral presentations. I hope that this is a chance for our psychologists share their work with their colleagues in the scientific community.”

For more information, call Murphy at (203) 837-0988.

For more information, call Flanagan at (203) 837-8471.

现场式方向) Psychology faculty Nicholas Gallard and Patricia O’Neill enjoy a Psychology Day presentation.
FEB. 10 & 16 PLANETARIUM SHOW/TELESCOPE VIEWING: WestConn will host a 5 p.m. "Worlds with Rings" planetarium show, followed by telescopic viewing from 6 to 9 p.m. at the WestConn Observatory and Planetarium on the Westside campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-9700.

FEB. 1 – 15 COFFEEHOUSE: WestConn will present the Middletown Coffeehouse at 6 p.m. in Alumni Hall on the Midtown campus. The Coffeehouse will include open mic performances at 8 p.m., followed by the featured act at 9 p.m. Admission will be free for students and a sliding scale charge for others. Call (203) 837-9700 for more information.

FEB. 3 – 4 HOME SHOW: WestConn will host the "Midstate Home Show" from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the D’Heoir Center on the Westside campus. Tickets will be $6 for adults, $5 for seniors, and $4 for children under 12. Attendance can save 20% off the cost of an adult ticket by bringing a nonperishable food item for the Giving Pantry to the event. Call (860) 562-2171 for more information.

FEB. 3 TRIBUTE ENSEMBLE CONCERT: Trondborres de Costa Rica will perform their signature blend of classical, contemporary and Latin American music at 10 a.m. in the North Concert Hall on the Midtown campus. The public is invited; tickets will be $10 for adults, $5 for seniors and $2 for non-WestConn students. WestConn students with valid ID will be admitted free. For more information, call (203) 837-8355 or visit www.wc.edu/whitehall.

FEB. 5, 11, 16, 22 & 29 MASS: The Newman Center will host a Mass at 11 a.m. and at 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall on the Midtown campus. The worship services will be free and the public is invited. For more information, call (203) 837-9407.

FEB. 4 BLACK HISTORY MONTH LECTURE: John W. Franklin, program manager for the Smithsonian Institution’s new National Museum of African American History and Culture, will discuss "Black History in American History: Presenting the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture" at 7 p.m. in North Concert Hall on the Midtown campus. The talk, in celebration of Black History Month, will be free and the public is invited. For more information, call (203) 837-8466. See story on page 7.

FEB. 4 – 5 ONE INTEGRATION EXHIBIT: WestConn will host "Staying the Road Descending America’s School," an exhibit chronicking 50 years of school integration, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on March 1, in Warner Hall on the Midtown campus. The public is invited to view the exhibit, which will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 2. For more information, call (203) 837-9466. See story on page 7.

FEB. 5 POETRY SLAM: The WCSU Black Student Alliance will host "PoeTary Slam 2.0" at 8 p.m. in Alumni Hall on the Midtown campus. Music, poetry and more will be featured at this event in celebration of Black History Month. Admission will be free and the public is invited. For more information, send an e-mail to davidho@wcu.edu. See story on page 7.

FEB. 6 ART SLIDE LECTURE: Painter Cathleen Toelke will discuss her work at 11 a.m. in Viewing Room 1 of White Hall on the Midtown campus. The event will be free and open to the public, and will be presented as part of the university’s Master of Fine Arts slide lecture series. For more information, call (203) 837-8686.

FEB. 6 WORKSHOP: The WCSU Tutoring Resource Center will host the "Housing/Personal Learning Profile" workshop at 2 p.m. in Room 104 of Berkshire Hall on the Midtown campus. The workshop will be free and the public is invited; for more information, call the center at (203) 837-9245.

FEB. 6 GAME SHOW: The WCSU Black Student Alliance (BSA) will host a "Sweetest Heart Game Show" at 8 p.m. in the Student Center Theater on the Midtown campus. The public is invited to this USA fundraising event in celebration of Black History Month. General admission will be free; admission for participants will start at 6 p.m. For more information, send an e-mail to davidho@wcu.edu. See story on page 7.

FEB. 7 & 8 AFRICAN FILM SCREENINGS: "L’Art de la Vie," (The Life of the Artist) by Pierre Gimonville will be screened at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 7, and at 7 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 8, in the Student Center Theater on the Midtown campus. The screenings will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-8686. See story on page 7.

FEB. 7 BLACK HISTORY MONTH TALK: The WCSU Black Student Alliance will host a film, "The Ras, Ivan Pitts," of Dartany's New Hope Baptist Church, who will speak about "Slavery and the Civil War" in Black Connecticut at 7 p.m. in Warner Hall on the Midtown campus. The public is invited to this free event in celebration of Black History Month. For more information, send an e-mail to davidho@wcu.edu. See story on page 7.

FEB. 7 & 14 HOUR OF POWER: The Newman Center will host the Hour of Power (Holy hour) at 9 p.m. in the center’s director at (203) 837-8445. For more information, call (203) 837-9407.

FEB. 8 BASKETBALL GAME: The WCSU Black Student Alliance will host a women's basketball game in celebration of Black History Month at 7 p.m. in the William Gills Gymnasium in Berkshire Hall on the Midtown campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-8390. See story on page 7.

FEB. 11 MUSART CONCERT: WCSU woodwind faculty and the Music in the Schools will perform at noon in the Music Hall on the Midtown campus. The public is invited to the concert, which will benefit WCSU music student scholarships. Admission will be $15 for adults, and $10 for seniors and non-WCSC students. WestConn students will be admitted free with valid ID. For tickets, call (203) 837-8499 or visit www.wc.edu/whitehall.

FEB. 11 MOUNTZ STUDIO CONCERT: WCSU woodwind faculty and the Music in the Schools will perform at noon in the Music Hall on the Midtown campus. The public is invited to the concert, which will benefit WCSU music student scholarships. Admission will be $15 for adults, and $10 for seniors and non-WCSC students. WestConn students will be admitted free with valid ID. For tickets, call (203) 837-8499 or visit www.wc.edu/whitehall.

FEB. 12 JAZZ ORCHESTRA CONCERT: The WCSU Jazz Orchestra will perform at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Concert Hall in White Hall on the Midtown campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-8590.

FEB. 14 TELESCOPE VIEWING: WestConn will host a telescope viewing from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the WestConn Observatory and Planetarium on the Westside campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-9811.

FEB. 20 VISITING PROFESSOR SERIES: Western Connecticut State University will host Dr. Daniel Barrett for a discussion at 10 a.m. in the Science Center on the Westside campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-9528.

MARCH 1 4 & 15 AFRICAN FILM SCREENINGS: "O Nata Love Letter" by Rwandan filmmaker will be screened at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 14, and at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15, in the Student Center Theater on the Midtown campus. The screenings will be open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-8627.

MARCH 1 & 5 PLANETARIUM SHOW/TELESCOPE VIEWING: WestConn will host a 7 p.m. "Intriguing Edges" planetarium show, followed by a telescope viewing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the WestConn Observatory and Planetarium on the Westside campus. The event will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (203) 837-8627.

MARCH 1 SCIENCE SEMINAR: WCSU Biology Professor Dr. Frank Oye will discuss "Biosassay, ECD and Student Research Opportunities" at 10 a.m. in the Science Building on the Midtown campus. Part of the continuing "Research Seminar" series hosted by the department of biological and environmental sciences, the event will be free and the public is invited. For more information, call (203) 837-8713.

MARCH 1 – 3 & 8 – 10 THEATRE PRODUCTION: The WCSU Theatre department will present "Coriolanus," a modern musical adaptation of William Shakespeare’s "Romans and Juliet." The show will be at 7:30 p.m. on Opening Night, Thursday, March 1, and at 9 p.m. on all other performances, in the Beirne Theatre on the Westside campus. Ticket prices will be $17 for adults, $14 for seniors and $10 for WestConn students. WestConn students will be admitted free with valid ID. For tickets, call the Box Office at (203) 837-9732. See advertisement on page 7.

President’s Lecture Series
"Raped Dead Cats and Dogs: the Day the Revolution Began: Ideology and Popular Resistance 1775-
Dr. Timothy H. Breen
Monday, March 12, 2007
7:30 p.m.
Science Building, Room 125
Western Connecticut State University
Midtown campus
181 White Street, Danbury